

Upper School Course Catalog

2020-21

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Introduction

The American School Foundation, a college preparatory School, strives to help students achieve their potential within a multicultural and multilingual environment. Its diverse curriculum offers a wide variety of courses that range from a comprehensive and challenging academic program to a balanced program in visual and performing arts. In addition to the program that meets the requirements of U.S. universities, a complete program designed to prepare students for admission to Mexican universities is also offered.

In 2001 and 2003, The American School Foundation was authorized to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) and Middle Years Programme (IBMYP), respectively. In keeping with the IB educational philosophy, the curriculum in grades 9 through 12 ensures that students receive an education focused on the ideals of international understanding and responsible world citizenship.

The purpose of this catalog is to make the selection of the most appropriate courses easier by explaining the requirements for Upper School graduation and the additional requirements for students enrolled in the Mexican university program. In addition, this booklet briefly describes the course offerings and their prerequisites.

It should be read thoroughly.

The class counselors urge active participation by parents and students in the process of course selection. To ensure the development of the student's potential and progress toward attainment of the Upper School diploma, all students receive individual guidance. Class counselors must approve all course selections. Any questions about the available options should be directed to the Counseling Office.

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Graduation Requirements

The successful completion of each yearlong course earns one unit of credit; a semester course counts as one half unit of credit. The American School Foundation requires 27 units for graduation. All units must be completed in grades 9 through 12. In addition to the minimum credits, ASF requires four years (eight semesters) of Upper School for graduation from ASF. Students must take a minimum of seven courses per semester in grades 9-11 and a minimum of 6 in grade 12. The head of the Upper School, based upon the prior recommendation of the class counselor, must approve any exemptions/waivers from the requirements. Within the global requirements, students must meet the following academic requirements in Upper School:

Requirements Beginning in 2020-21*	
4.0 units of English (one per year)	
4.0 units of Language and/or Literature other than English (one per year) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 2.0 units of Spanish for students not enrolled in the Mexican Program (can be met with ACTFL placement) 	
3.5 units of Humanities in English (one per year – U.S. and Mexican Programs) Students are required to take World History and a course that satisfies the ASF U.S. History Requirement. The following courses fulfill this requirement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. History • AP U.S. History • IB History of the Americas HL (Y2) 	
.5 additional units of Humanities in English (U.S. program only) To include: Survey of Mexican History (one semester)	
.5 additional units of Humanities in English (Mexican Program only) To include: Psychology (one semester)	
4.5 additional units of Humanities in Spanish (Mexican Program only) To include: <i>Historia de México I, Geografía, Historia de México II, Filosofía*, Derecho</i> (one semester)	
* <i>Filosofía</i> can be substituted by <i>Antropología</i> (one semester) in conjunction with TOK for Non Full IB Students (one semester)	
4.0 units of Lab Science (one per year)	
To include 1.0 unit each of: Biology	

Chemistry Physics
Minimum 3.0 units of Mathematics (must include completion of Algebra II)
Minimum 1.5 units of Arts and Design
Minimum .5 unit of Coding Can be met by any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Coding (.5) • Web Design (.5) • AP Computer Science A (1.0) • AP Computer Science Principles (1.0)
.5 unit of Health (preferably taken in grade 9)
Minimum 1.0 unit of Physical Education (<u>participation in sports at the junior varsity or varsity level can substitute</u>)

**Italicized courses are taught in Spanish.*

Additional Grade-Level Requirements

Grade 9 Requirement: Week Without Walls: All grade 9 students are required to complete a Week Without Walls experience to build an inclusive and integrated School community. The purpose of the trip is for students to expand their learning beyond the scope of the traditional classroom. If a student is unable to participate in the trip, an alternative project will be proposed to and approved by the dean of students.

Note: Week Without Walls is pending and may or may not take place. ASF will follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health regarding the COVID-19 health emergency.

Grading System

Students will demonstrate their learning on formative and summative assessments. The precise weighting of each will be determined by the department. Student grades are based on a percentage, with 100 being the top grade awarded and 60 being the lowest passing score. Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB) courses are weighted by multiplying the grade by 1.099, with the exception of Theory of Knowledge, which is weighted at grade multiplied by 1.049. The overall grade point average (GPA) is calculated as a percentage as opposed to using a 4.0 scale. The additional weight for advanced courses is reflected in the cumulative GPA, which appears on the transcript. Grades below 70% in any course will not be given additional weight. If a student fails to take the AP or IB exam in May, no additional weight will be given for those courses and the AP or IB designation will be removed from the transcript. The American School Foundation does not rank students.

Failure Policies

If a student fails a course at ASF, the transcript will reflect the failing grade earned in the course and that will be the grade used in the calculation of GPA.

Grade 9 Course Failures: Any student who fails a semester of any course during grade 9 must retake and pass the class before being able to enroll for grade 10. In some cases, summer School to recover the credit may be required. Some courses may be made up online, depending on the circumstances, in order to progress to grade 10. The student's

counselor must be consulted when arranging the details of making up the class. *Any student who does not comply with this requirement, or who qualifies for probation for both semesters of grade 9, will not be allowed to register at ASF for grade 10 and will be required to enroll at another School.*

In addition to recovering credit for each failed course(s), returning students who are on academic probation will be required to enroll in the Academic Coaching course for the subsequent semester, during the School day, in lieu of an elective course.

Please note that re-enrollment will be withheld for students who have been placed on their first probation in grade 9. If the student comes off probation, he or she will be allowed to re-enroll.

Grade 10 and 11 Course Failures: Students in grade 10 or 11 who fail a semester of any course must retake and pass the class before moving up to the next grade level. Courses may be made up online, but the student's counselor must be consulted when arranging for the details of making up the class. *A student who neglects to comply with this requirement, or who qualifies for probation for a third time, may be asked to leave the School and enroll at another institution to continue his or her studies. Final decisions in these cases will be made by the Upper School administration.*

In addition to recovering up to one credit for the failed course(s), returning students who are on academic probation will be required to enroll in the Academic Coaching course for the subsequent semester.

Please note that re-enrollment will be withheld for students who have been placed on their second probation in grades 10 and 11. If the student comes off probation, he or she will be allowed to re-enroll. Re-enrollment will also be withheld for students who fail a course until the credit for the course is recovered.

If a student fails more than two academic classes in one semester, then the student may not be eligible to return the next semester and may be asked to repeat the grade level.

Grade 12 Course Failures: Senior students who fail a course in either semester must meet with a counselor and Head of Upper School to determine how the course will be made up. Students who fail more than one course in either semester of senior year will not be permitted to take part in graduation activities, including the ceremony, unless the failures have been rectified beforehand. Students who fail more than two academic courses senior year may be required to repeat the year. A student who goes on a third academic probation during senior year may not be eligible to participate in graduation activities including capping and the commencement ceremony.

Online Course Policies

ASF partners with external providers to offer students the opportunity to take courses online. ASF will not report grades in these courses on ASF transcripts, nor will they count toward the student's GPA. All enrollments in online courses must be approved by the Upper School administration and must meet one of the following conditions:

- Student is working to recover a credit.
- Student is approved to enroll in a more advanced version of a course than that which is offered at ASF.
- Student is approved to enroll in a course that is not offered at ASF.
- Student is approved to enroll in an online course during the summer in order to enroll in a more advanced course during the following School year.
- Student is enrolled in the most rigorous course of study offered at ASF and is taking a one-semester course online in order to make room for a study hall.

Families are responsible for any additional costs associated with enrolling in an online course. For credit recovery courses and for UNAM online courses, students may be required to take the final exam for the online course at ASF under ASF faculty supervision.

Reporting Online and Transfer Courses

ASF will report any course taken outside of ASF as a transfer credit on the ASF transcript. This applies to online courses and courses taken at other institutions. No grade will be reported and the transfer grade earned will not count toward the student's ASF GPA.

Student Schedules

Student schedules are made in conjunction with the grade-level class counselor to ensure an academically challenging program. Students are scheduled during second semester for the coming School year. Student-initiated schedule changes must be completed by the end of the second week of each semester. Schedules are only changed to correct a system-generated error or to adjust the academic level of a course. Students may not change their schedules to change teachers. New students are scheduled upon their entry to the Upper School.

Add/Drop and Withdrawal Policy

Please note each year, the counselling team notifies students of the last date a course can be added to a student's schedule--and, as importantly, the last day on which a student can drop a course. These dates, which are clearly articulated in the Course Catalogue, provide guidelines by which students can assess their academic progress in a course (successful or otherwise) and make an informed *and* timely decision to remain, drop, or select another course, pending whether or not there is room in that course to do so.

Students wishing to register for a course against the advice of their grade counselor and/or the Academic Dean, will be requested to meet with their counselor, who will discuss the possible consequences, and will ask them to confirm their decision in written form. It is important to note such conversations and any accompanying documentation will inform decisions about the way in which the course is recorded on a student's official transcript.

Beyond the published add-drop dates in extraordinary circumstances, students may request withdrawal from a course (e.g., due to a health concern, family bereavement, or other unforeseen circumstances). These requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Head of Upper School. Although the student may be approved to withdraw from the course, the student's academic standing in the course at the time of withdrawal will be reflected on a student's official transcript.

A student who withdraws from a course after the published drop date typically will not be permitted to enroll in any other ASF course at that time, as following the lapse of time the student generally will be unlikely to complete the credit successfully, nor will the teacher be able to provide remediation. Hence, withdrawing from a course could result in loss of credit for the course and require the student to complete a credit recovery course. In these circumstances, the student's adjusted timetable will be determined at the discretion of the Head of School and/or the Academic Dean in consultation with the individual's grade-level counselor. Such plans, for example, may include: study hall or an online course, or retaking a course.

Based on the student's academic status at the time of withdrawal, the Head of School will determine whether or not a grade is added to the GPA. As noted above, typically, the student's grade at the time of withdrawal will appear on the transcript.

Ordinarily, an NP withdrawal will not affect the student's entry into, or current status, on academic probation. However, all final transcript designations are determined at the discretion of the Head of School based on the merits of the case.

In the event of a student withdrawing from a course, the following designations will apply:

W NP* (Withdrawal Not Passing). Such a designation is accompanied by an official School letter, which articulates the reasons for the dropped course together with any remediation that may have taken place. The letter will also discuss the student's circumstances and general academic standing.

W P* (Withdrawal Passing)

Such a designation is accompanied by an official School letter, which articulates the reasons for the dropped course and any remediation that may have taken place. The letter will also discuss the student's circumstances and general academic standing.

Advanced Academic Programs

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Designed as college equivalents covering specific content and skills, AP courses may fulfill college freshman requirements in U.S. higher education. Over 1,200 institutions offer credit to students who score well on standardized AP tests. In the calculation of grade point average (GPA), extra weight is given to AP courses by multiplying by a factor of 1.099. **The AP exam is required for all students enrolled in AP classes. Families of students enrolled in AP classes are responsible for paying an additional examination fee of approximately \$124.00 USD** (fee set by the College Board for the current May 2020 AP exam session).

To take these classes, students must have an 85% average in the subject area, obtain departmental approval and consult with their counselor to ensure a well-balanced program. Students may take up to four advanced (AP and/or IB) subjects per year. Typically, juniors and seniors take AP courses, but freshmen and sophomores with superior academic records may also enroll in select AP courses. Students not enrolled in AP courses may take the exams if they receive approval from their counselor and Academic Dean. All AP examinations are administered in May. Visit <http://www.collegeboard.com> for more details. Students who take an AP course but do not take the AP exam will have the AP designation removed from their transcripts and will not receive the GPA boost.

Students who successfully earn credit for eight or more AP courses (or a combination of AP and IB courses) in grades 9-12, are considered to have undertaken the most rigorous course of study offered by the School.

Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID)

The Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID) is a credential that offers students the opportunity to demonstrate outstanding academic achievement on AP exams across disciplines. The APID promotes an international outlook, and indicates to colleges and universities that the student has taken the challenge in multiple subject areas and has succeeded in a course of global perspectives.

The APID is an optional certificate available to students studying outside the U.S. and for U.S. students applying to universities outside the country. It does not substitute a High School diploma, rather it is an additional certification of academic excellence.

In order to obtain an APID, a student must have a grade of 3 or higher on at least five AP exams in the following content areas:

1. Two AP exams in two different languages.
2. One AP exam designated as global perspective.
3. One exam from the Sciences or Math.
4. One exam from any content area other than English and world languages.

AP Capstone Diploma

The AP Capstone Diploma program requires a student to complete two specific courses, AP Seminar and AP Research, plus four additional AP courses of the student's choice.

AP Seminar and AP Research provide students with a strong foundation in seminar-style learning and independent research. The requirement to select four additional AP courses provides flexibility. Students may take courses across several disciplines, or may focus on a specific discipline (such as language or math/science).

The AP Capstone Diploma is a credential that offers students the opportunity to demonstrate outstanding academic achievement. It does not substitute a High School diploma.

ASF plans to offer these AP courses for 2020-21:

Languages	English Language and Composition
	English Literature and Composition
	Spanish Language and Culture
	<i>Spanish Literature and Culture</i> (taught in Spanish)
	French Language and Culture
Social Sciences	Seminar
	Research
	United States History
	European History

	Human Geography
	Macroeconomics/Microeconomics
Global Perspectives	World History
	Government and Politics: Comparative
Mathematics	Calculus AB
	Statistics
Science	Chemistry
	Physics C
	Environmental Science
	Computer Science Principles
	Computer Science A

Arts	Art History
	2D Art and Design

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)

This is a two-year course of study open to highly motivated students in grades 11 and 12. Courses from six academic areas are studied concurrently, exposing students to language, humanities, mathematics and sciences. Theory of Knowledge (ToK) is at the core of the interdisciplinary program and is taken for three semesters. Due to the rigorous nature of the courses, IB grades are weighted towards the student's overall GPA by multiplying by a factor of 1.099 (with the exception of ToK which is multiplied by a factor of 1.049).

In addition to taking IB Diploma courses, full diploma candidates must undertake original research and write an Extended Essay of 4,000 words. Students are also expected to participate in extracurricular activities distributed equally among the areas of Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS) to fulfill eight outcomes that comprise the CAS requirement over 18 months. Moderated internal assessments and external exams are required.

Additional fees must be paid for participation in the IB Diploma Programme. One is an examination fee of \$119.00 USD per exam to be paid by both full diploma and individual course candidates the year each exam is taken. The second is the ASF IB fee of \$300.00 USD for full IB diploma candidates, paid in junior year, or \$75.00 USD per course for individual course candidates, paid the year an exam is taken. These registration and exam fees are determined by the International Baccalaureate organization and are current for the May 2020 exam session.

To enroll in the full IB diploma, students must complete the IB application, have at least an 80%-85% in grade 10 for each subject requested at the IB level, obtain teachers' recommendations, take qualifying examinations in some subjects, obtain parental permission and have their application approved by the Upper School administration.

Students who successfully complete the IB full diploma are considered to have undertaken the most rigorous course of study offered by the School.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at ASF

- Group 1:** English A: Literature SL or HL
English A: Language and Literature SL or HL
Spanish A: Literature SL or HL (taught in Spanish)
Spanish A: Language and Literature SL or HL (taught in Spanish)
- Group 2:** Spanish Ab Initio SL
Spanish B SL or HL
French Ab Initio SL
French B SL or HL
- Group 3:** History HL*
History SL*
Business and Management SL or HL
Psychology SL or HL

Economics SL or HL
Philosophy SL (taught in Spanish)

*These subjects (one or the other) are mandatory for Full IB students in the Class of 2021, 2022, and 2023 who are simultaneously earning their Mexican diplomas.

Group 4: Biology SL or HL
Chemistry SL or HL
Physics SL or HL
Environmental Systems and Societies SL

Group 5: Math Analysis and Approaches SL or HL
Math Applications and Interpretations SL or HL

Group 6: Visual Arts SL or HL
Theater SL or HL
Music SL or HL
Or any second course from another group when possible (excluding Group 5)

Theory of Knowledge (three semesters, for full diploma students only)

Extended Essay (completed independently during grades 11 and 12)

Creativity, Activity and Service (completed outside of class during grades 11 and 12)

IB Individual Courses

Students may opt to take up to four individual IB courses per year (or AP and IB courses in combination) in lieu of the full diploma. These courses are taken over a two-year period with the exception of 20th Century History SL and *Philosophy SL*. Students are awarded an IB certificate after the successful completion of the course and external exam. Presentations regarding academic planning and IB individual courses are delivered to students during the first semester of each School year and applications for the courses must be submitted by February of the preceding year. To take individual IB courses, students must earn an 80%-85% average in the subject area in grade 10, obtain departmental approval, take examinations in some cases and consult with the counselor to assure a well-balanced program. **All students who enroll in an IB course must take the external exam at the end of the course. Additional fees must be paid per course. See details above under IB Diploma Programme.** Students who take an IB course but do not take the IB exam will have the IB designation removed from their transcripts and will not receive the GPA boost.

Students who successfully earn credit for eight or more IB courses (or combination of AP and IB courses) in grades 9-12 are considered to have undertaken the most rigorous course of study offered by the School. HL courses count as two and one year SL courses count as one. Two year SL courses do not count toward the most rigorous course of study.

Summary of AP and IB Courses Offered by Grade Level

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
-----	-----	AP Eng. Lang. & Comp.	AP Eng. Lang. & Comp.
-----	-----	AP Eng. Lit. & Comp.	AP Eng. Lit. & Comp.

AP Span. Lang.	AP Span. Lang.	AP Span. Lang.	AP Span. Lang.
-----	-----	<i>AP Span. Lit. & Culture*</i>	<i>AP Span. Lit. & Culture</i>
-----	-----	AP French Lang. and Culture	AP French Lang. and Culture
-----	AP Art History	AP Art History	AP Art History
-----	AP Seminar	AP Seminar	AP Seminar
-----	-----	AP Research	AP Research
-----	AP World History: Modern	AP World History: Modern	AP World History: Modern
-----	AP U.S. History	AP U.S. History	AP U.S. History
-----	AP Human Geography	AP Human Geography	AP Human Geography
-----	-----	AP Government & Politics: Comparative	AP Government & Politics: Comparative
-----	-----	AP Chemistry	AP Chemistry
-----	-----	AP Physics C	AP Physics C
-----	-----	-----	AP Environmental Science

-----	-----	AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus AB
-----	-----	AP Statistics	AP Statistics
-----	-----	AP 2D Art & Design	AP 2D Art & Design
-----	-----	IB Eng. A: Lang. & Lit. SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Eng. A: Lit. SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Span. Ab Initio SL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Span. B SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	<i>IB Span. A: Lang. & Lit. SL or HL</i>	(Continuation from 11)

-----	-----	<i>IB Span. A: Lit. SL or HL</i>	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB French Ab Initio SL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB French B SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	-----	IB 20 th Century History SL
-----	-----	IB Business & Management SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)

-----	-----	IB History HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Psychology SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Economics SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	-----	<i>IB Philosophy SL</i>
-----	-----	IB Biology SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Chemistry SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Physics SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Env. Syst. & Soc. SL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Math Applications & Interpretations SL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Math Analysis & Approaches SL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Math Analysis & Approaches HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Theater SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
-----	-----	IB Visual Arts SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)
		IB Music SL or HL	(Continuation from 11)

**Italicized courses are taught in Spanish*

Notes:

- AP courses require an 85% in previous courses in the subject area and a departmental recommendation.
- IB courses require an 80% in previous courses in the subject area and a departmental recommendation.
- NWEA Scores, semester grades, and department recommendations are all considered when determining departmental recommendations.

United States University Program Typical[1] Program Sequence

(A slash “/” indicates a semester course)

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English I	English II	English III	Two semester-long English electives
Language (Minimum up to Spanish, French, or Chinese II)	Language	Language	Language
World History	U.S. History*	European History	U.S. Government or Economics/ Survey of Mexican History**
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Anatomy and Physiology
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus or Probability and Statistics
Arts and Design Elective/Arts and Design Elective	Arts and Design Elective/Arts and Design Elective	Coding/Art and Design Elective	Elective/Elective
Health/ PE (9)	PE (10)/Elective	Elective/Elective	Elective/Elective

*Taking IB History fulfills the U.S. History graduation requirement (although the courses are not equivalent).

**One semester of Survey of Mexican History is a graduation requirement for students in the U.S. program. Taking Mexican History I or IB History fulfills this requirement (although the courses are not equivalent).

Graduation Requirements (For U.S. Program Only):

English: 4 units
 Language: 4 units
 Humanities in English: 4 units (must include World History and U.S. History)

Lab Science:	4 units (must include Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
Mathematics:	3 units (must include Algebra II)
Arts and Design:	1.5 units
Coding:	.5 units
Physical Education:	1 unit
Health:	.5 units
Electives	4.5 units
Total:	27 units

Mexican University Program Typical[2] Class Sequence

(A slash “/” indicates a semester course)

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English I	English II	English III	Two semester-long English electives
<i>Spanish Language Workshop I*</i>	<i>Spanish Language Workshop II</i>	<i>World Literature in Spanish</i>	<i>Latin American Literature in Spanish</i>
World History	U.S. History	European History	<i>Mexican Law/</i> U.S. Government or Economics
<i>Historia de México I</i>	<i>Geografía</i>	Historia de México II **	<i>Filosofía or</i> <i>Antropología and TOK</i> <i>for Non Full IB Students</i>
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Anatomy and Physiology
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus or Probability and Statistics
Arts and Design Elective/ Arts and Design Elective	Arts and Design Elective/ Arts and Design Elective	Coding/Art and Design Elective	Elective/Elective
Health/PE (9)	PE (10)/Elective	Psychology/Elective	Elective/Elective

**Italicized courses are taught in Spanish.*

******Historia de México I is a prerequisite Historia de México II. Students who are not at ASF in grade 9 for Historia de México I will have to take Historia de México I before being able to enroll in Historia de México II.

Graduation Requirements (Including the Mexican Program):

English:	4 units
Language:	4 units
Humanities in English:	4 units (must include World History and U.S. History)
Humanities in Spanish:	4.5 units (must include all classes listed above)
Lab Science:	4 units (must include Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
Mathematics:	3 units (must include Algebra II)
Ars and Design:	1.5 units
Coding:	.5 units
Physical Education:	1 unit
Health:	.5 units
Total:	27 units

IB Diploma Programme Typical [3] Course Sequence

For both U.S. and Mexican university programs

(A slash “/” indicates a semester course)

GRADE 11	GRADE 12
IB English SL or HL	IB English SL or HL
IB Spanish SL or HL	IB Spanish SL or HL
U.S. History or IB History SL or HL	IB 20th Century History SL or IB History 2nd year
<i>Historia de México II*</i> or Elective/Elective	ToK and EE/ <i>Mexican Law</i> or ToK and EE/Survey of Mexican History
IB Science	IB Science
IB Math	IB Math
IB Elective	IB Elective or Elective/Elective
ToK and EE	Study Hall

Extended Essay (IB full diploma only)	CAS (IB full diploma only)
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**Italicized courses are taught in Spanish.*

****Anatomy and Physiology may be substituted by an advanced academics course (AP or IB).**

[1] Typical is defined as a suggested course of study. When a student enters ASF, studies abroad, holds an IEP and/or confronts other circumstances, this sequence could change. NOT ALL COURSES CAN BE OFFERED EVERY SEMESTER OR YEAR. This is intended as a planning guide for parents and students.

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IB Diploma Course Requirements:

(Further details can be found on page 9 of this catalog and in the *General Regulations: Diploma Programme* published by the International Baccalaureate.)

Theory of Knowledge (ToK):	3 semesters
Group 1 – Language and Literature:	1 IB course
Group 2 – Language Acquisition:	1 IB course (or a second course from Group 1)
Group 3 – Individuals and Societies:	1 IB course
Group 4 – Sciences:	1 IB course
Group 5 – Mathematics:	1 IB course
IB Elective:	1 IB course

Special Notes:

- IB courses must include at least three courses at the Higher Level (more are not recommended).
- Full IB students prior to the Class of 2024 are required to take IB History of the Americas or IB 20th Century History.
- IB History of the Americas fulfills the U.S. History graduation requirement.
- IB History of the Americas fulfills the Survey of Mexican History requirement for the U.S. Program.
- Semesters 1 and 2 of ToK fulfill the philosophy requirement for the Mexican Program.
- Semester 3 of ToK fulfills the psychology requirement for the Mexican Program.

Special Considerations Regarding the Mexican and U.S. Programs

MEXICAN PROGRAM

Being part of the Mexican Program means that a student has to fulfill the requirements of the U.S. Program as well as take the additional courses required by the Mexican Secretariat of Public Education (SEP – Secretaría de Educación Pública) and the Mexican National Autonomous University (UNAM – Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México).

Both the UNAM and the SEP have approved the Mexican University Program and they require successful completion of courses in order for a student to receive an official certificate, indicating fulfillment of The American School's Mexican Program. No waivers are granted.

Students must have satisfactorily completed all courses required in the Mexican Program for grades 7-9 to be accepted into the program. Courses taken in grades 10-12 will not be credited to grades 7-9. All courses failed must be retaken and successfully completed. If a student is a senior, or for some reason is leaving the School, he or she can recover credit by taking an extraordinary exam. Students who have taken extraordinary exams will not be readmitted to ASF in the future. Exemptions from these requirements may not be given.

Students who wish to receive UNAM accreditation must register in the Student Records Office and pay a fee equal to 4% of annual tuition.

Students coming from foreign countries should have their previous studies accredited (*revalidados*) by the SEP, in order to qualify for the Mexican University Program. Students coming from countries other than the United States or Canada must bring all transcripts and a birth certificate that is apostilled and translated into Spanish by an official translator.

Any student considering study abroad should meet with his or her counselor to map out a plan of study for the year, fill out the study abroad application, obtain the approval of the head of Upper School and see the coordinator of the Student Records Office to make sure the program of study at the other School is compatible with ASF's program. In some cases, the student and his or her family may be responsible for the time and cost associated with making up required credits in order for a student to meet graduation requirements not earned during the time abroad. Students who do not attend ASF at grade 12 level will not receive an ASF diploma and may not participate in the ASF graduation ceremony.

Any requests for graduation requirement waivers must be recommended by the counselor and approved by the head of Upper School well in advance, and preferably in grade 9 or 10 or upon admission to ASF.

U.S. Program

A student will receive a U.S. High School diploma upon graduation. If a student withdraws from ASF prior to graduation, he or she will be provided with an official High School transcript. The student will not receive any official documents issued by the SEP or UNAM. Schools in Mexico that are incorporated with SEP or UNAM, as well as Schools in most Latin American countries and Spain, will not recognize these studies. Acceptance of the U.S. High School diploma depends upon the criteria established by different countries.

Students who are considering applying to competitive universities should exceed minimum requirements and take the most challenging courses they can be successful in.

Any requests for graduation requirement waivers must be recommended by the counselor and approved by the Head of Upper School well in advance, and preferably in grade 9 or 10 or upon admission to ASF.

Upper School Courses by Department

Course descriptions are divided into subject areas: English, Language and Literature, Humanities in English, Humanities in Spanish, Science, Mathematics, Arts and Design, Physical Education and Alternative Education. Each entry gives the course number (first semester and second semester of each year), title, length (semester, one year or two years), prerequisites and a brief outline of content.

English

English Required Courses

DR = Department Recommendation PT = Placement Test

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
English I	US100-US101	9	None
English II	US102-US103	10	English I

English III (or IB or AP English)	US104-US105	11	English II or AP English Lang. and Comp.
Two semester-long electives (one each semester)	Various (see below)	11-12	English III or AP/IB English

Senior English Electives

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
British Lit: Monsters in our Midst	US106	12	English III or AP/IB English
British Lit: Nineteenth-Century Women's Literature	US107	12	English III or AP/IB English
British Lit: Humor and Satire	US109	12	English III or AP/IB English
Area Studies: German Studies	US114	11-12	English II or AP/IB English and World History II/DR

English Electives

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Comparative Film and Novel Study	US116	10-12	English I
Creative Writing	US110	10-12	English I
Graphic Novels	US115	10-12	English I

AP English

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
AP English Language and Composition	AP100-AP101	11-12	85% in previous English course/DR
AP English Literature and Composition	AP100-AP101	11-12	85% in previous English course/DR

IB English

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
IB English A: Language and Literature SL	IB100-IB101 IB102-IB103	11-12	80% in previous English course/DR
IB English A: Language and Literature HL	IB104-IB105 IB106-IB107	11-12	80% in previous English course/DR
IB English A: Literature SL	IB108-IB109 IB110-IB111	11-12	80% in previous English course/DR
IB English A: Literature HL	IB112-IB113 IB114-IB115	11-12	80% in previous English course/DR

Course Descriptions

The goal of the curriculum is to provide students with a literature-based language arts education that emphasizes humanism, cultural literacy and competency in both written and spoken English. To achieve these ends, the curriculum in required and elective courses includes critical thinking, reading, writing, speaking and listening components. The sequence, common to many international Schools, enables students to transfer credits most easily.

The School requires four years of English for graduation. AP English or IB English may substitute the required grade 10, 11 or 12 English courses. Other electives do not replace the core requirements.

GRADE 9 ENGLISH

US100 US101	English I Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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Grade 9 English explores storytelling and examines how stories from a variety of genres and a variety of cultures tell truths, even as they lie about the facts. This course develops English language arts skills – reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing. The course is largely based on the development of expository writing skills as applied to paragraph and essay composition, including a review of grammar, usage, syntax and conventional organization, as well as the writing process. Of equal importance is the development of critical thinking skills, with particular emphasis on the tools of literary analysis as applied to narratives. This course begins to form the foundation required for students to achieve success in upper level classes. Works studied may include but are not limited to the following: *The Catcher in the Rye*, *Speak*, *Persepolis*, a William Shakespeare play, and *Lord of the Flies*, complemented by contemporary non-fiction works selected by the teacher.

GRADE 10 ENGLISH

US102 US103	English II Prerequisite: English I	One-Year Course
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English II is primarily devoted to the study of U.S. literature and is organized into thematic units covering writers from a variety of periods and genres. This course offers students the opportunity to draw connections among U.S. literature, history and culture through a survey of both contemporary works and established classics. While students continue to review, refine and practice reading, grammatical and writing skills learned in previous courses, they are also required to develop vocabulary and gain a historical understanding of works and movements and to write critically and creatively about them. Texts may include *Doubt*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Of Mice and Men* and *Song of Solomon*.

GRADE 11 ENGLISH

US104 US105	English III Prerequisite: English II	One-Year Course
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This course challenges students to explore World Literature with the aim of understanding different cultural perspectives, examine voices previously unheard and learn more about the similarities and difference in style and content. While students continue to review, refine and practice reading, analytical writing skills and grammar skills learned in previous courses, they are also required to develop vocabulary and gain a historical and cultural understanding of works and movements. Furthermore, students will be expected to write reflectively, analytically and creatively about them. Students focus on developing their literary analysis, making links between texts and close reading skills, as well as developing their formal use of language in both written and spoken form.

GRADE 12 ENGLISH

All seniors must take two one-semester English courses (one each semester).

US106	British Literature: Monsters in our Midst Prerequisite: English III or AP/IB English	Semester Course
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"The sleep of reason produces monsters." (Goya)

This course traces the creation of monsters throughout time, moving from very simple but highly symbolic monsters in myths and fairy tales to the very modern, complex and eerily appealing monster of Shelley's *Frankenstein* and finally to modern retellings where the monsters become philosophical ideas or social outcasts. Texts studied include fairy tales and myths, psychological and anthropological theories, the gloomy Anglo-Saxon *Beowulf*, *Grendel* (a modern Beowulf told from the point of view of the original monster, where the real monster is 20th century nihilism), *Eaters of the Dead* by Michael Crichton, *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde, and finally, either a movie or a contemporary novel.

US108	British Literature: Shakespeare and His Times Prerequisite: English III or AP/IB English	Semester Course
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Students will have the opportunity to explore three full-length plays (one comedy, one tragedy and a third play) and scenes from other plays. The course makes connections to the social, political, historical and linguistic background of Shakespeare, although its emphasis is also on approaching the works as stage productions rather than literature. Much of the time will be spent exploring and "playing" with the plays, on our feet as actors. The syllabus will include a tragedy (either *Macbeth* or *Hamlet*), a comedy, *Twelfth Night* and *The Tempest*. Students will present monologues and scenes from plays as class assignments. No previous experience with Shakespeare or drama required. Film versions of the plays will also be studied.

US109	British Literature: Humor and Satire Prerequisite: English III or AP/IB English	Semester Course
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This course in British literature teaches students to look at satire as a means of social criticism. While its focus is on literary works such as Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, Wilde's *The Importance of Being Ernest* or Orwell's *1984*, it also examines humor in classic and contemporary contexts. As such, Dionysian festivals and a bit of Monty Python will be included as well. Students will be able to situate the works in historical contexts that include the Middle Ages, the Enlightenment, Victorian and modern periods. The final project will involve an analysis of a piece of satire in contemporary culture.

US114	Area Studies: German Studies Prerequisite: English II or AP/IB English and World History II/DR	Fall Semester
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German Studies is a one-semester elective course for juniors and seniors. This course will explore the origins and impact of Romanticism not only as an artistic current, but also as a way of life. For this purpose, the philosophical and aesthetic foundations of romantic thought will be explored through the study of some exemplary philosophical and literary texts, music pieces, paintings and films. This exploration will allow the students to link Romanticism with important ideologies, historical events and artistic currents of the 19th century and in this way, discover roots that might have been hidden thus far.

US115	Graphic Novels Prerequisite: English I Open to grades 10-12	Semester Course
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Students will be introduced to the genre of the graphic novel and learn strategies on visual and textual analysis. The course focuses on content, context, language, structure, technique and style in works such as Art Spiegelman's *Maus* and Gene Luen Yang's *American Born Chinese*. Much of the time will be spent on developing visual literacy skills through the study of the base texts. Students will analyze and create various forms of textual and visual texts. No previous experience with graphic novels is required. Supplemental texts will be studied to enrich the discussions and course assessments.

US116	Comparative Film and Novel Study Prerequisite: English I Open to grades 10-12	Semester Course
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This course will look at movies as they move from the novel to the screen. It will go into the decision-making process directors and writers make when adapting the novel to the screenplay, and ultimately to the movie-making process. We will read the novels and then view the movies they were adapted from and make critical analyses of how the movie was created from the novel. What was left out? Why? What was added? Who was adapted for the respective roles? What technical elements were employed in making the movie? How is meaning created from the novel to the big screen? This course, one semester, will cover three novels and the corresponding movies that followed the novel, and their impact on the viewer, on society.

US110	Creative Writing Prerequisite: English I Open to grades 10-12	Semester Course
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The creative writing course allows students to engage in the study of authors' craft to develop their own creative pieces through patient drafting and student centered workshops. The semester is organized around three main units: poetry, fiction and screenwriting. Students study several poetic forms, the elements of short fiction, and screenwriting through a detailed and diverse reading list of authors. Among the specific elements of writing that will be highlighted through the readings are: extended metaphor, imagery, sensory details, description, mood, characterization, and dialogue. Students use their learning and understanding to develop their own creative work through a process of generating ideas, drafting, receiving feedback, and revising. The course requires careful

analytical reading, the courage to write and revise with creativity, active collaboration, and the willingness to both give and receive honest, constructive feedback.

AP ENGLISH

AP100 AP101	AP English Language and Composition Prerequisites: 85% in previous English course/NWEA scores in 80th percentile/DR Open to grades 11-12	One-Year Course
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This demanding course is designed as a first-year university composition course in terms of both material and rigor. Students learn about language as rhetoric and are taught the skills necessary to perform rhetorical analysis through analytical reading and study of language. Students write extensively, and most writing assignments are designed to simulate the three types of essays they encounter on the AP exam. Works studied are from a variety of genres and rhetorical modes and may include *Lolita*, *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, *The New York Trilogy*, *In Cold Blood*, and *Zeitoun*. It is recommended that students take AP Language before AP Literature. A summer project is required. Students are required to sit for the AP exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.

AP102 AP103	AP English Literature and Composition Prerequisite: 85% in previous English course/NWEA scores in the 80th percentile/DR Open to grades 11-12	One-Year Course
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This demanding course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative, college-level literature. Through close readings of all three genres (novels, plays and poetry) students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and creative pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's larger structure, style and themes and also engage with more specific elements of composition and style such as figurative language, imagery and tone. Students explore the culture and context in which the work was written, as well as their own culture and context in perceiving it. Class time is devoted to a seminar-style discussion of the works as well as developing student writing to fit occasion and purpose. Students are required to sit for the AP exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.

IB ENGLISH

IB116 IB117 IB102 IB103	IB English A: Language and Literature SL Prerequisite: 80% in previous English course/DR	Two-Year Course
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IB116 IB117 IB106 IB107	IB English A: Language and Literature HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous English course/DR	Two-Year Course
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The *IB English Language A: Language and Literature SL/HL* course is designed for students who have experience using the language in an academic context. The course is a study of both the English language and literature. Students explore and make connections with English-speaking cultures and other cultures with which they are familiar. In this course, students study a wide range of literary and non-literary texts in a variety of media. By examining communicative acts across literary forms and textual types alongside appropriate secondary readings, students will investigate the nature of language itself and the ways in which it shapes and is influenced by identity and culture. Approaches to studying in the course are meant to be wide-ranging and can include literary theory, media studies and critical discourse analysis among others. All works may be understood according to their form, content, purpose, and audience, and through the social, historical, cultural and workplace contexts that produce and value them. **For both the standard and the higher levels, the IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB118 IB119 IB110 IB111	IB English A: Literature SL Prerequisite: 80% in previous English course/DR	Two-Year Course
IB118 IB119 IB114 IB115	IB English A: Literature HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous English course/DR	Two-Year Course

The IB Literature course focuses exclusively on literary texts, adopting a variety of approaches to textual criticism. Students explore the nature of literature, the aesthetic function of literary language and textuality, and the relationship between literature and the world. Over the course of two years, students electing to take Language A: Literature at the standard level will study a minimum of 9 full-length works, while students at the higher level will study a minimum of 13. Works will represent four genres and a broad spectrum of times and regions of origin. Genres studied include narrative, poetry, nonfiction and drama. Higher level students will also be required to complete an additional written coursework task for the IB that explores a line of inquiry in relation to a studied literary text or work. The outcome is an essay of 1,200-1,500 words in which HL students are expected to demonstrate a deeper understanding of the nature of literary study. **For both standard and higher levels, an internal assessment (Interactive Oral) as well the IB Diploma exams (Papers I & II) are a requirement. The IB Diploma exams take place in May of the second year in the program. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.** (IB Diploma Program. Language A: literature guide. First Assessment, 2021).

Language and Literature

(Italicized courses are taught in Spanish)

DR = Department Recommendation PT = Placement Test

French Courses

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
French I	US200-US201	9-12	None
French II	US202-US203	9-12	French I or equivalent/PT
French III	US204-US205	9-12	French II or equivalent/PT
French IV	US206-US207	9-12	French III or equivalent/PT

AP French

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
AP French Language and Culture	AP204-AP205	11-12	85% in French III or equivalent/DR

IB French

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
IB French Ab Initio SL	IB200-IB201 IB202-IB203	11-12	DR/PT
IB French B SL	IB204-IB205 IB206-IB207	11-12	80% in French III or equivalent/DR/PT
IB French B HL	IB208-IB209 IB210-IB211	11-12	80% in French III or equivalent/DR/PT

Spanish Courses

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Spanish I	US208-US209	9-12	PT
Spanish II	US210-US211	9-12	Spanish I or equivalent/PT
Spanish III	US212-US213	9-12	Spanish II or equivalent/PT
Spanish IV	US214-US215	9-12	Spanish III or equivalent/PT
<i>Spanish Language Workshop I</i>	MX200-MX201	9	None
<i>Spanish Language Workshop II</i>	MX202	10	<i>Spanish Language Workshop</i>
<i>World Literature in Spanish</i>	MX204-MX205	11	<i>Etymology</i>
<i>Latin American Literature in Spanish</i>	MX206-MX207	12	<i>World Literature in Spanish</i>

AP Spanish

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
AP Spanish Language and Culture	AP200-AP201	9-12	85% in Spanish III/DR
<i>AP Spanish Literature and Culture</i>	AP202-AP203	11-12	85% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR

IB Spanish

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites

IB Spanish Ab Initio SL	IB212-IB213 IB214-IB215	11-12	DR/PT
IB Spanish B SL	IB216-IB217 IB218-IB219	11-12	80% in previous Spanish course/DR/PT/minimum three years of Spanish courses
IB Spanish B HL	IB220-IB221 IB222-IB223	11-12	80% in previous Spanish course/DR/PT/minimum three years of Spanish courses
<i>IB Spanish A: Language and Literature SL</i>	IB224-IB225 IB226-IB227	11-12	80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR/PT
<i>IB Spanish A: Language and Literature HL</i>	IB228-IB229 IB230-IB231	11-12	80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR/PT
<i>IB Spanish A: Literature SL</i>	IB232-IB233 IB234-IB235	11-12	80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR
<i>IB Spanish A: Literature HL</i>	IB236-IB237 IB238-IB239	11-12	80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR

IB Language Acquisition Phases and Matrix of ASF Second Language Instruction

Note: This table demonstrates the equivalencies across the language courses offered in the Upper School in relation to one another and coordinated with the phases of language acquisition dictated by the IB. Students must continue to progress through the language acquisition phases. For example, a student cannot take IB French B SL (11) if he or she has already taken French III.

Course Descriptions

Students must enroll in a second language course throughout their matriculation in the Upper School. Spanish Level III proficiency is required of all students except those who enter after grade 10 with no previous knowledge of the Spanish language. At least two years of study in the same language are recommended. Students in the Mexican University Program must take Spanish courses each year. These courses in Spanish count for the second-language requirement.

French

US200 US201	French I Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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This course develops oral language via dialogues and practice drills in the classroom. In addition, it presents insights into the everyday culture of the French people, their songs and poetry. Listening, reading, speaking and writing skills are developed. Verb tenses taught are: *present*, *passé composé*, *futur proche*, recent past, imperative and reflexive verbs. A dictionary is required.

US202 US203	French II Prerequisite: French I or equivalent/PT	One-Year Course
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For students who have already mastered the basics of the French language, this course deepens their knowledge of the civilization, culture and customs of the French people. At the same time, it enables students to improve their linguistic skills via comprehension of texts and gain further oral practice through conversation. They are introduced to various verb tenses, plus grammatical structures. Students will write short essays. A dictionary is required.

US204 US205	French III Prerequisite: French II or equivalent/PT	One-Year Course
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This course further develops French oral language skills and grammatical structures, while reinforcing reading and writing. The culture of France is emphasized. Verb tenses and modes taught include review of preterit, imperfect, future, conditional, present and subjunctive. A dictionary is required.

US206 US207	French IV Prerequisite: French III or equivalent/PT	One-Year Course
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This course is geared to students who would like to keep studying French without having to prepare for the AP exam. The class will concentrate on mastering the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing with an emphasis on conversation, literature and culture. Students are expected to master everyday vocabulary and everyday situations by the end of the course.

AP French

AP204 AP205	AP French Language and Culture Prerequisite: 85% in French III or equivalent/DR	Year Course
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This course is geared to students for whom French is not their native language and who want to prepare for the AP French examination. The class will concentrate on mastering the skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar and vocabulary. In addition to preparing for the AP exam, students will read works of literature, write compositions, deliver oral presentations and view films. **Students are required to sit for the AP exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB French

IB200 IB201 IB202 IB203	IB French Ab Initio SL Prerequisite: DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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IB Language Ab Initio is a language acquisition course designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where the language studied is spoken. The language Ab Initio course is organized into three themes: individual and society, leisure and work and urban and rural environment. Each theme has a list of topics that provide the students with opportunities to practice and explore the language as well as to develop intercultural understanding. Through the development of receptive, productive and interactive skills, students should be able to respond and interact appropriately in a defined range of everyday situations. Language Ab Initio is available at SL only and is appropriate for students with little to no prior study of French. **The IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB204 IB205 IB206 IB207	IB French B SL Prerequisite: 80% in French III or equivalent/DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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This course is designed for students with some previous experience of the language. The main focus of the course is on language acquisition and development in the four primary language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will master the skills to understand and use accurately oral and written forms of the language commonly encountered in a range of situations. Students will also be able to understand and respond appropriately to written and spoken material of average difficulty and assess some subtleties of the language. Students are expected to show an awareness of, and sensitivity to, some elements of the culture(s) related to the French language. **The IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB208 IB209 IB210 IB211	IB French B HL Prerequisite: 80% in French III or equivalent/DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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This course is designed for students with some previous experience of the language. The main focus of the course is on language acquisition and development in the four primary language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will master the skills to communicate clearly and effectively in a wide range of situations and to understand and use accurately oral and written forms using a wide range of vocabulary. Students will be able to understand and analyze moderately complex written and spoken material and assess subtleties of the language. Students are expected to show an awareness of, and sensitivity to, the culture(s) related to the French language. **The IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

SPANISH

Because many students have already taken Spanish, placement in the following courses will be determined through a test. They must achieve level three of proficiency before terminating their study of the Spanish language.

US208 US209	Spanish I Prerequisite: PT	One-Year Course
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A beginning course for students new to Mexico, this course stresses the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing with standard pronunciation. Students will master the ability to communicate in the basic present, past and future in practical situations stressing important cultural values and traditions.

US210 US211	Spanish II Prerequisite: Spanish I or equivalent/PT	One-Year Course
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This course continues to teach simple communication in daily situations with mastery of irregular verbs, more idiomatic expressions and the use of commands. The second semester begins the study of more complex grammatical forms with continuous evaluation of the student's listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and more exposure to the Hispanic culture.

US212 US213	Spanish III Prerequisite: Spanish II or equivalent/PT	One-Year Course
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All verb tenses and major points of grammar are mastered. Students write essays and read short works of literature. Oral and listening skills are at a more sophisticated level. Experience of the Hispanic culture is deepened through lengthier readings, discussions and presentations.

US214 US215	Spanish IV Prerequisite: Spanish III or equivalent/PT	One-Year Course
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For the advanced student, this course is designed to achieve fluency in reading, writing and oral skills. Obligatory readings include those in the textbook that consist of short stories by Spanish and Latin American authors, newspapers and magazine articles. The historical context is explained, as well as the history of some Spanish-speaking countries. Other activities include songs and movies in Spanish. All verb tenses and basic grammar will be reviewed.

The following courses are taught solely in Spanish and are designed to give a more comprehensive view of Latin American and Spanish literature. Students enrolled in the Mexican University Program must take *Spanish Language Workshop, Etymology, World Literature in Spanish* and *Latin American Literature in Spanish*. Students enrolled in the IB Diploma Program may take IB Spanish Language A in place of *World Literature in Spanish* and *Latin American Literature in Spanish*.

MX200 MX201	<i>Spanish Language Workshop I</i> Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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Designed to improve writing skills, this course entails the study of Latin and Greek Etymology in Spanish vocabulary with reference to their modern usage and relevance. The course covers the cultural and historical backgrounds of words: their derivations, definitions, changes and phonetics across time. Additionally, Spanish composition skills will be reviewed throughout the year. Students will learn correct spelling and usage of modern Spanish in order to be well prepared for Spanish Language Workshop II, where they will go in depth into analyzing literature and writing essays.

MX202 MX203	<i>Spanish Language Workshop II</i> Prerequisite: <i>Spanish Language Workshop</i>	One-Year Course
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This course is designed as a continuation of the Spanish Language Workshop I and its main goal is to introduce grade 10 students to a higher level of literary analysis through the reading of basic selected works in Spanish from a variety of genres. The evaluation of the analysis and comprehension of these works will be based on the production of an academic essay. Therefore, among the goals of this course is to help students develop the necessary skills to produce academic papers. This will prepare students to transition to Universal Literature and to the advanced courses offered in IB and AP programs. This course will also determine students' eligibility for advanced Spanish courses.

MX204 MX205	<i>World Literature in Spanish</i> Prerequisite: <i>Etymology</i> Open to grade 11	One-Year Course
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This course offers the student a historical and critical understanding of universal literary movements and specific works. The aim is to develop in the student the understanding of thought, culture and universal human values. In addition, students will be exposed to complex forms of writing ranging from journalism to scientific articles. Class discussions and formal speeches and presentations will develop listening and speaking skills. In second semester, the course includes books of increasing difficulty. Students will explore the universal literary production in depth. The emphasis is on literary analysis and the reinforcement of language skills through composition and essay writing. In addition, students will develop critical thinking and analysis skills through the reading and understanding of literary texts, research and critical writing.

MX206 MX207	<i>Latin American Literature in Spanish</i> Prerequisite: <i>World Literature in Spanish</i> or <i>AP Spanish Language</i> Open to grade 12	One-Year Course
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In this survey of Spanish and Latin American literature, the selected works as well as the level of critical analysis are of increasing difficulty. Students read and thoroughly analyze major works by contemporary Spanish and Latin American writers in different genres. Students refine and polish their language arts skills and write a variety of expository and personal essays. In second semester, students read and analyze full-length 20th century Latin American narrative works representing a variety of genres. In addition, the course reviews and reinforces the language skills necessary to write coherent, analytical, formal essays.

AP Spanish

AP200 AP201	AP Spanish Language and Culture Prerequisite: 85% in Spanish III/DR	One-Year Course
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This course is geared to students for whom Spanish is not their native language and who want to prepare for the AP Spanish Language examination. The class will concentrate on mastering the skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar and vocabulary. In addition to preparing for the AP exam, students will read works of literature, write compositions, deliver oral presentations and view films. **Students are required to sit the AP exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

AP202 AP203	<i>AP Spanish Literature and Culture</i> Prerequisite: 85% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR	One-Year Course
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This course is open to juniors and seniors who have demonstrated outstanding ability in literary analysis and mastery of Spanish composition. It focuses on a detailed understanding of Spanish and Latin American authors, and stresses critical and literary interpretation through lecture, discussion and essay writing. It fulfills the requirements of *Latin American Literature in Spanish*. **The AP exam is required for all students. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB Spanish

IB212 IB213 IB214 IB215	IB Spanish Ab Initio SL Prerequisite: DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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This course is designed for the beginner Spanish student. The main focus of the course is the acquisition of the language required for purposes and situations used in everyday social interaction. In addition, students are expected to develop a basic awareness of the multiple cultures that speak Spanish. **The IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB216 IB217 IB218 IB219	IB Spanish B SL Prerequisite: 80% in previous Spanish course/DR/PT/ A minimum of three years in Spanish courses	Two-Year Course
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This course will concentrate on mastering the skills for students to understand and use accurately oral and written forms of the language that are commonly encountered in a range of situations and to understand and use a range of vocabulary in common usage. Students will be able to understand and respond appropriately to written and spoken material of average difficulty and assess some subtleties of the language in a range of forms, styles and registers. Students are expected to show an awareness of, and sensitivity to, some elements of the culture(s) related to the Spanish language. **The IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB220 IB221 IB222 IB223	IB Spanish B HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous Spanish course/DR/PT/ A minimum of three years in Spanish courses	Two-Year Course
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This course is designed for students with some previous experience in the language. The main focus of the course is on language acquisition and development in the four primary language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will master the skills to communicate clearly and effectively in a wide range of situations in oral and written forms of the language using a wide range of vocabulary. Students will be able to understand and analyze moderately complex written and spoken material and assess subtleties of the language. Students are expected to show an awareness of, and sensitivity to, the culture(s) related to the Spanish language. **The IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB224 IB225 IB226 IB227	<i>IB Spanish A: Language and Literature SL</i> Prerequisite: 80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR/PT	Two-Year Course
IB228 IB229 IB230 IB231	<i>IB Spanish A: Language and Literature HL</i> Prerequisite: 80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR/PT	Two-Year Course

The *IB Spanish Language A: Language and Literature SL/HL* course is designed for students who have experience using the language in an academic context. The course is a study of both the Spanish language and literature. Students explore and make connections with the cultures that speak Spanish and other cultures with which they are familiar. In this course, students study a wide range of literary and non-literary texts in a variety of media. By examining communicative acts across literary form and textual type alongside appropriate secondary readings, students will investigate the nature of language itself and the ways in which it shapes and is influenced by identity and culture. Approaches to study in the course are meant to be wide ranging and can include literary theory, sociolinguistics, media studies and critical discourse analysis among others. All works may be understood according to their form, content, purpose and audience, and through the social, historical, cultural and workplace contexts that produce and value them. **For both the standard and the higher levels, the IB Diploma exam is required in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB232 IB233 IB234 IB235	<i>IB Spanish A: Literature SL</i> Prerequisite: 80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR	Two-Year Course
IB236 IB237 IB238 IB239	<i>IB Spanish A: Literature HL</i> Prerequisite: 80% in <i>Etymology</i> /DR	Two-Year Course

According to the IB Diploma requirements, the *Spanish Language A: Literature* course is designed to prepare students to critically analyze and evaluate language through the study of a varied range of literary texts from different genres, times and places. Students focus exclusively on literary texts and explore them through a variety of approaches to textual criticism, examining the nature of literature itself, the aesthetic function of literary language and the relationship between literary works and the real world. Standard level students read 9 works of literature and Higher level students read 13 works of literature over the two years. **For both the standard and the higher levels, the IB Diploma External Evaluation exams are presented in May of the second year. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

Humanities in English

DR = Department Recommendation

U.S. Program Humanities in English Requirements

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
World History	US322-US323	9	None
United States History	US304-US305	10-12	World History
European History	USXXX	12	U.S. History
Survey of Mexican History*	US307	9-12	None

*Only a requirement for students who are not also concurrently enrolled in the Mexican Program

Mexican Program Humanities in English Requirements

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Psychology	US313	11-12	None

Humanities in English Electives

DR = Department Recommendation

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
ASF Model United Nations	US308-US309	12	85% GPA before and during course/DR/application
U.S. Government	US306	11-12	U.S. History

AP Humanities in English

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
AP Art History	AP700-AP701	10-12	World History/85% in previous art and humanities courses/DR
AP Human Geography	AP507-AP508	10-12	World History/85% in previous humanities courses/DR
AP Government and Politics: Comparative	AP300-AP301	11-12	World History /85% in previous humanities courses/DR
AP United States History	AP302-AP303	10-12	World History/85% in previous humanities courses/DR
AP European History	AP310-AP311	11-12	U.S. History/85% in previous humanities courses/DR
AP Microeconomics	AP106	11-12	U.S. History
AP Macroeconomics	AP107	11-12	U.S. History

AP World History: Modern	AP304-AP305	10-12	World History /85% in previous humanities courses/DR
AP Seminar	AP306-AP307	10-11	World History/85% in previous humanities courses/DR
AP Research	AP308-AP309	11-12	AP Seminar

IB Humanities in English

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
IB Economics SL or HL	IB300-IB301 IB302-IB303	11-12	U.S. History/80% in previous humanities courses/DR
IB History HL	IB304-IB305 IB308-IB309	11-12	U.S. History/80% in previous humanities courses/DR
IB History SL	IB306-IB307	11	U.S. History/80% in previous humanities courses/DR
IB Psychology SL or HL	IB310-IB311	11-12	U.S. History/80% in previous humanities courses/DR
IB Theory of Knowledge (ToK)	IB312-IB313 IB314	11-12	Admission to IB Full Diploma Program
IB Business & Management SL or HL	IB316-IB317	11-12	U.S. History/80% in previous humanities courses/DR

Course Descriptions

Students who transfer to ASF must show proof from their former institution that they have satisfied the ASF requirements for graduation from each grade level in the social studies program, or take any courses they may have missed in previous years.

Students fulfilling only the United States University Program must complete Survey of Mexican History, a semester credit course, in grade 12 provided they have been at ASF for grades 9 and 10.

Students enrolled in IB History HL fulfill the Survey of Mexican History requirement and the U.S. History graduation requirement. Enrollment in AP United States History fulfills the United States History requirement.

Enrollment in Theory of Knowledge (ToK) or *IB Philosophy SL* fulfills the Philosophy requirements for the Mexican Program.

Enrollment in the third semester of Theory of Knowledge (ToK) or IB Psychology fulfills the Psychology requirements for the Mexican Program.

Students not enrolled in the full IB Diploma Programme can apply to take individual IB courses, (with the exception of Theory of Knowledge and Extended Essay) or AP courses, but must have a minimum GPA of 85% for AP and 80% for IB in Humanities in English courses and be recommended by the department.

U.S. Program Humanities in English

US322 US323	World History Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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All grade 9 students must enroll in World History.

US304 US305	United States History Prerequisite: World History	One-Year Course
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United States History is an ASF graduation requirement. The course examines the cultural, economic, political and social development of the United States from the Industrial Revolution of the 1800s, up through today. Key themes include the continual struggle to create a democratic society, the challenge of balancing unity and diversity, the pursuit of the “American Dream” and United States foreign policy. Students sharpen critical thinking and inquiry skills as they look in U.S. history for multiple causations of events, continuity and change, cause and effect relationships and nationalism/internationalism in the nation's past and present. The course includes historical research and an exploration of important modern-day issues affecting the United States.

US	European History Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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US306	United States Government Prerequisite: U.S. History	Semester Course
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United States Government course is a semester elective course open to ASF students after successful completion of U.S. History. It provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. General topics of exploration include: constitutional foundations and the workings of national government.

US307	Survey of Mexican History Prerequisite: None Open to grades 9-12	Semester Course
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Required of all students not enrolled in the Mexican Program or new students with only a basic knowledge of Spanish, this course is a general overview of Mexico's history including pre-Spanish, colonial, independence, revolutionary and modern eras. The many aspects of Mexican geography, culture and politics will be explored. Students will leave this course with a better understanding of Mexico's rich past and complex present.

Mexican Program Humanities in English Requirements

US313	Psychology Prerequisite: None Open to grades 11-12	Semester Course
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This course is designed as an introductory survey for students to understand the historical background of psychology as a science. Students will be able to describe and compare the major Schools of thought in addition to studying the following topics: the biological basis of behavior, states of consciousness, learning and memory, cognition and language, intelligence and mental abilities, psychological disorders and social behavior.

Humanities in English Electives

The Humanities in English Department offers several interesting electives designed to broaden students' intellectual horizons by allowing them to match their course selections with their personal interests and/or academic and professional goals.

US308 US309	ASF Model United Nations Prerequisite: 85% GPA before and during course/DR/application Open to grade 12	One-Year Course
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Throughout this program, students engage in extensive independent research and share their findings with others. Students learn the fundamentals of international law, rules of procedure, diplomacy, the process of writing resolutions and problem-solving techniques, while practicing debate and oral presentation. In the fall semester, students will be attending a required trip to an international conference. Students' families must be prepared to pay for this trip, though some financial aid is available. In the spring semester, participants plan and implement a Model United Nations simulation for the entire ASF student body and visiting Schools. If a student is placed on academic probation while he/she is enrolled in the course, he/she will be asked to leave the course.

AP Humanities in English

AP300 AP301	AP Government and Politics: Comparative Prerequisites: World History /85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
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AP Comparative Government and Politics is a college-level course that introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. Comparison assists both in identifying problems and in analyzing policymaking. By comparing the political institutions and practices of wealthy and poor countries, we can begin to understand the political consequences of economic wellbeing. Finally, comparison assists explanation. Why are some countries stable democracies and not others? Why do many democracies have prime ministers instead of presidents? Six countries form the core of the AP Comparative Government and Politics course. China, Great Britain, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia and Iran are compared throughout the course. By using these six core countries, the course can move the discussion of concepts from abstract definition to concrete example, noting that not all concepts will be equally useful in all country settings. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses, and students can earn advanced college credit with scores of 3 or higher on the AP exam. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

AP302 AP303	AP United States History Prerequisite: Individuals and Societies: Modern World History /85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
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The Advanced Placement course in United States history is designed to provide honors-level students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to address critically the materials and issues found in United States history. Course content covers all major areas of U.S. development from colonization to the 21st century, with an emphasis on U.S. government. Students read and analyze a wide range of primary and secondary sources, and focus intensively on developing historical thinking, research and writing skills. Additionally, students complete a student-initiated, in-depth historical investigation. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses, and students can earn advanced college credit with scores of 3 or higher on the AP exam. This course satisfies the United States History graduation requirement. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

AP507 AP508	AP Human Geography Prerequisite: Individuals and Societies: Global Connections /85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
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The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization at its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. APHuG consists of seven units to cover the realm of Human Geography: 1. Geography, its nature and perspectives; 2. Population; 3. Cultural patterns and processes; 4. Political organization of space; 5. Agricultural and rural land use; 6. Industrialization and economic development; 7. Cities and urban land use. In addition to these units of study, the course will consistently apply concepts learned through the curriculum to analyze and comprehend current events in the world today. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

AP304 AP305	AP World History: Modern Prerequisite: Individuals and Societies: Global Connections/85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
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This advanced level course is designed to provide motivated students who are keenly interested in world history with a sophisticated understanding of the human developments and interactions that have taken place across the globe since 1450. The following four historical thinking skills will be facilitated throughout the course: crafting historical arguments from historical evidence, chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, and historical interpretation and synthesis. In addition, five recurring themes will be examined at length: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; statebuilding, expansion and conflict; creation, expansion and interaction of economic systems; and the development and transformation of social structures. The primary goal of this course is to prepare students for the AP World History Exam offered in May. A high score on this exam entitles the successful student to valuable college credit honored by universities in the United States as well as

in many other countries. *In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.*

AP310 AP311	AP European History Prerequisites: U.S. History /85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
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AP306 AP307	AP Seminar Prerequisite: Individuals and Societies: Global Connections /85% in previous humanities courses/DR, open to grades 10 and 11 only	One-Year Course
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AP Seminar is an introduction to higher level coursework at ASF - open to sophomores and juniors. AP Seminar is a rigorous, cross-curricular exploration of academic and real-world topics analyzed from a variety of perspectives. Students will read and experience multiple sources, learning to synthesize information to produce essays and presentations individually and as part of a team. The focus of AP Seminar is on the skills of analysis and evaluation that help produce and communicate evidence-based arguments. AP Seminar is a pre-requisite for the AP Research course, which together comprise the core of the AP Capstone Program. *In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.*

AP308 AP309	AP Research Prerequisite: AP Seminar/85% in previous humanities courses/DR, open to grades 11 and 12 only	One-Year Course
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AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research based investigation to address a research question. In the AP Research course, students further their skills acquired in the AP Seminar course by understanding research methodology; employing ethical research practices; and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information as they address a research question. Students explore their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of the development of their scholarly work in a portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4000–5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense. *In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.*

AP106	AP Microeconomics Prerequisites: Economics /85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Semester Course
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AP Microeconomics is an introductory college-level microeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like scarcity and markets; costs, benefits, and marginal analysis; production choices and behavior; and market inefficiency and public policy. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

AP107	AP Macroeconomics Prerequisites: Economics /85% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Semester Course
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AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level macroeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like economic measurements, markets, macroeconomic models, and macroeconomic policies. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students are required to take the Advanced Placement test in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

IB Humanities in English

IB300 IB301 IB302 IB303	IB Economics SL or HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous humanities courses/DR	Two-Year Course
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This advanced course seeks to encourage an appreciation of the economic interdependence of countries. It includes the basis of modern microeconomic theory, such as resources and market structures, price determination and consumer behavior and the basics of modern macroeconomics, focusing on the economy as a whole, including national income accounting, unemployment, inflation and fiscal and monetary policies. Special attention is paid to the problems of international economics, such as trade and the balance of payments, and the problems and strategies of economic development. The course includes the topics of the theory of the firm, the relative advantages and disadvantages of fixed and floating rates, absolute and comparative advantages in trade, trade creation and trade diversion, methods of measuring inflation and different theories of taxation. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students in the IB program are required to take the external assessment exam in May and must produce a portfolio consisting***

of commentaries on economic articles of current importance. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.

IB306 IB307	IB History SL Prerequisite: 80% in previous humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
IB304 IB305	IB History HL 1st year Prerequisite: 80% in previous humanities courses/DR NOTE: Students who take this course MUST take IB HOTA HL in grade 12.	Year One of Two-Year Course

Year one of IB History of the Americas HL and IB 20th Century History SL are co-seated courses that cover the same material. This course studies 20th century history from a multi-regional perspective. It approaches history through a comparative methodology in which the same themes are studied in all four IB regions of the world. Due to this comparative approach to studying history, the course is not a comprehensive survey of the 20th century. Instead, two topics are studied, but are studied in depth in each of the four IB world regions. Furthermore, one prescribed subject is studied throughout the year. Students read and analyze a wide range of primary and secondary sources, and focus intensively on developing historical thinking, research and writing skills. Additionally, students complete a student-initiated, in-depth historical investigation. This course prepares students for the required standard level IB examination in History. **In addition to regular college-level course work, students in the IB program are required to take the external assessment exam in May of year two. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB308 IB309	IB History HL (2nd year) Prerequisite: IB History HL 1st year, open only to Seniors	Year Two of Two-Year Course
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This advanced course examines the history of the Western Hemisphere. It approaches history through a comparative methodology in which the same themes are studied in Canada, the United States and Latin America. Due to this comparative approach to studying history, the course is not a comprehensive survey of the history of the Western Hemisphere. Instead, only three themes are studied, but are studied in depth in each of the three above-mentioned regions. The second year of this course is IB 20th Century History (see below). Students read and analyze a wide range of primary and secondary sources, and focus intensively on developing historical thinking, research and writing skills. This course prepares students for the required higher level IB examination in History. This course satisfies the United States History and Survey of Mexican History graduation requirements for the U.S. Program. **In addition to regular college-level course work, students in the IB program are required to take the external assessment exam in May. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB330 IB331 IB332 IB333	IB Psychology SL or HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous humanities courses/DR	Two-Year Course
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IB Psychology is a two-year course of study. Students describe, compare, contrast and evaluate the key ideas of four major perspectives of psychology: cognitive, biological, socio-cultural and abnormal psychology. Students study the historical context, major theorists, key concepts and practical applications of each perspective. The behavior of both humans and animals is examined by the formulation of precise hypotheses, the use of careful observation and measurement and the application of statistical methods for the interpretation of data. Students replicate one experimental study in cognitive psychology in an analytical paper of 1000-1500 words (the internal assessment) in the first semester. This course prepares students for the required standard level IB examination in Psychology. This course satisfies the Psychology requirement for the Mexican University Program. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students in the IB program are required to take the external assessment exam in May. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

IB312 IB313 IB314	IB Theory of Knowledge Prerequisite: Admission to IB Full Diploma Program	Three-Semester Course
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Theory of Knowledge (ToK) examines how we know what we know. It does so through an investigation of the various “ways of knowing” and their interaction in “areas of knowledge.” The course requires both an externally assessed essay as well as an internally assessed presentation. Part of the ToK grade is also the successful completion of the Extended Essay. Semesters one and two of this course satisfy the Philosophy requirement for the Mexican University Program. Semester three of this course satisfies the Psychology requirement for the Mexican University Program. **Successful completion of Theory of Knowledge is a requirement to earn the IB Diploma.**

IB326 IB327 IB328 IB329	IB Business and Management SL or HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous humanities courses/DR	Two-Year Course
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This two-year course seeks to provide students with a strong college preparatory introduction to Business and Management. There is a focus on business functions, management processes and decision-making in contemporary contexts of strategic uncertainty. A specific emphasis is placed on strategic decision-making and the operational business functions of human resource management, finance and accounts, marketing and operations management. Six key concepts underpin the entire course, and are integrated into each of the units; these concepts are change, culture, ethics, globalization, innovation and strategy. The business management course allows students to develop their understanding of interdisciplinary concepts from a business management perspective. Upon completion students are in a unique situation with a strong grasp of business and management understanding that will greatly aid them in their post-secondary aspirations. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students in the IB program are required to take the external assessment exam in May. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

Humanities in Spanish

(Italicized courses are taught in Spanish)

DR = Department Recommendation

Mexican University Program Humanities in Spanish Requirements

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
<i>Historia de México I</i>	MX400-MX401	9	None
<i>Geografía</i>	MX402-MX403	10	None
<i>Historia de México II</i>	MX404-MX405	11	<i>Historia de México I</i>
<i>Derecho</i>	MX406	12	None
<i>Filosofía</i>	MX408-MX409	12	None
<i>Antropología</i>	MX412	12	None
<i>Pensamiento Crítico</i>	MX413	12	None

Humanities in Spanish Electives

DR = Department Recommendation

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
<i>Problemas Políticos y Sociales en México</i>	MX410	12	<i>Historia de México I y II</i>
<i>Problemas Políticos y Económicos en México</i>	MX411	12	<i>Historia de México I y II</i>

IB Humanities in Spanish

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
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<i>IB Philosophy SL</i>	IB400-IB401	12	80% in previous Humanities in Spanish class/DR
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Course Descriptions

Students who transfer to ASF from abroad may have courses revalidated to count towards fulfillment of the Mexican Program requirements but they must coordinate with the Student Records Office and provide all required documentation in order to do so. Students who do not attend ASF for grade 9 must take *Historia de México I* before being able to enroll in *Historia de México II*.

Students enrolled in Theory of Knowledge (ToK) or *IB Philosophy SL* fulfill the *Philosophy I* and *II* requirements for the Mexican Program.

Mexican Program Humanities in Spanish Requirements

To fulfill the requirements of the Mexican University Program, students must complete all the following courses. Those not in the Mexican University Program may take these courses and receive elective credit in either Foreign Language or Social Studies. All these courses are taught in Spanish.

MX400 MX401	<i>Historia de México I</i> Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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Historia de México I examines Mexican history from the post-classic Mesoamerican period to the 20th century. Among other themes, students explore the importance of the meeting of two worlds, the contributions of each of these worlds to the other, the military and spiritual conquest of Mexico and racial mixing. Thus, students seek to understand better the linguistic, religious and racial composition of the Mexican identity. **In the same way students will review the proposals for the conformation of the nation and the international conflicts that they gave rise to.** Students view Mexican history in the context of world history, comparing events in Mexican history with similar and simultaneous trends occurring on the world stage. This course exposes students to a variety of perspectives with the aim of developing the ability to analyze historical sources objectively and to arrive at their own well-supported conclusions. **With the idea that at the end of the course the student develops a social commitment to citizenship by knowing the past to understand this.** This course satisfies the Survey of Mexican History requirement for the U.S. Program.

MX402 MX403	<i>Geografía</i> Prerequisite: None	One-Year Course
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Throughout the course, students will learn that planet Earth is a large, complex system with continuous interaction between the lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere. They will also make connections between themselves and the biosphere and will learn to identify human beings as the force responsible for moderating his environment and determining his own development. One fundamental purpose is for the student to understand relevant problems in the world today, such as the population's behavior, current trends in the global economy and the ever-changing political

map. All of this is designed to help students determine the importance of international socioeconomic and political changes and Mexico's role in the international arena. This should help students value the importance of geographical studies in planning for the development of an integral country, like Mexico, while paying attention to the adequate exploitation of natural resources and preservation of the natural environment, i.e. "sustainable development."

MX404 MX405	<i>Historia de México II</i> Prerequisite: <i>Historia de México I</i> or <i>Survey of Mexican History</i>	One-Year Course
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Historia de México II begins with a broad review of Mexican history from the period of "República Restaurada" to the 21st century, paying particular attention to the latter half of the 19th century and the beginning of the Mexican Revolution. The majority of the course is then devoted to a detailed examination of Mexican history in the 20th and 21st centuries, from the 1917 Constitution to the government of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador. Students will explore a variety of themes including the consolidation of democracy, the formation of civil society, the recognition of minorities, the influences of the United States and the global economy and Mexico's participation in the international community. By working with a variety of perspectives, students continue to develop their ability to analyze historical sources and formulate sound arguments based on historical fact.

MX406	<i>Derecho</i> Prerequisite: None Open to grade 12	Semester Course
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This course examines the Mexican Constitution, form of government and operation of the branches of government. It also includes an analysis of the most representative laws, additional legal theories and legal concepts as applied to contemporary Mexico. The emphasis on historical developments promotes a better understanding of current governmental operations and societal trends. Students will increase their capacity for criticism and analysis in order to get involved and make proposals for our social environment. This one-semester course meets the required Mexican Program hours for a full credit and counts as a full credit on ASF transcripts.

MX408 MX409	<i>Filosofía</i> Prerequisite: None Open to grade 12	One-Year Course
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Students examine the cultural, political and religious structure of the major Schools of thought, from the ancient Greeks to contemporary times, with a philosophical and historical approach to the constant search for possible explanations of human nature, its essence, government organizations, encounters and disagreements between faith and

reason, as well as scientific knowledge versus ethics and the existential quest of humanity, constantly comparing the contrast and similarities between the philosophical ideas of the past and present. Being exposed to a variety of philosophical thoughts, students develop skills and techniques through research, analysis, questioning, doubt and ethical awareness which will increase the ability to think critically and to distinguish between valid arguments and fallacies.

MX412	<i>Antropología</i> Prerequisite: None Open to grade 12	Semester Course
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This course is focused on the study of human beings and their cultural manifestations: art, myths, language, religion and science, among others. The course of study will foster understanding of different cultures and societies with the objective of promoting respect and tolerance through analysis and reflection. During the semester students will learn and apply different anthropological tools such as participant observation, surveys and interviews focused on the study of the interaction of human groups with their natural and social environment, as well as their symbolic production. To take this course it is required that students have previously taken Geography and History classes.

MX413	<i>Pensamiento Crítico</i> Prerequisite: None Open to grade 12	Semester Course
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Critical Thinking (CT) focuses on an introduction to philosophy and epistemology. It does so through a critical analysis of the concept and definition of “knowledge”, “truth”, “belief (ways of knowing)”, and “justification (areas of knowing)”. This one semester course, in addition to one semester of “Antropología” satisfies the Philosophy requirement for the Mexican University Program.

Humanities in Spanish Electives

MX410	<i>Problemas Políticos y Sociales en México</i> Prerequisite: <i>Individuos y Sociedades: Historia de México I y II</i>	Semester Course
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This course provides students with a political and social understanding of Mexico and aims to develop critical thinking skills that allow students to understand problems facing Mexico today. The objective is for students to investigate and criticize social events that have occurred in the country, and their impact on the present and the future of Mexico. Students analyze articles from books, newspapers and professional journals as part of course activities.

MX411	<i>Problemas Políticos y Económicos en México</i> Prerequisite: <i>Individuos y Sociedades: Historia de México I y II</i>	Semester Course
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This course is an extension or complement of the *Political and Social Problems in Mexico* course, but students are not required to take *Political and Social Problems in Mexico* to be eligible for this course. It is designed for the student who is interested in delving deeper into political and economic issues faced by Mexico. The course aspires to generate in students critical and proactive thinking about the political and economic development of Mexico based on themes of student interest, and involves having students branch into an analysis of electronic media.

IB Humanities in Spanish

IB400 IB401	<i>IB Philosophy SL</i> Prerequisite: 80% in previous Humanities in Spanish class /DR Open to grade 12	One-Year Course
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In *IB Philosophy SL*, students develop the creative thinking skills that will allow them to become intellectually independent and to think philosophically. They do so by learning to express ideas in Spanish with logic and coherence. Additionally, they learn to read and analyze closely classic philosophical texts translated into Spanish. Finally, students become familiar with the language, structure and arguments of a number of philosophical texts. They learn to recognize arguments within the texts and evaluate ideas. The end result of this course is for students to develop a systematic form of critical thought. This course prepares students for the required standard level examination in *IB Philosophy*. This course satisfies the *Philosophy* requirement for the Mexican University Program. ***In addition to regular college-level course work, students in the IB program are required to take the external assessment exam in May. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.***

Science

DR = Department Recommendation

Science Required Courses (Four years of lab science are required for all students.)

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Biology	US510/US511	9	None
Chemistry	US512/US513	10	None

Physics	US507/ US508	10-11	None
Anatomy and Physiology	US504-US505	12	Biology, Chemistry, and Physics

AP Science

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
AP Chemistry	AP502-AP503	11-12	Chemistry/85% in previous science and math courses/DR
AP Physics C	AP504-AP505	11-12	Physics /85% in previous science and math courses/DR Co-requisite: Algebra II

IB Science

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
IB Biology SL	IB500-IB501 IB502-IB503	11-12	Biology/80% in previous science and math courses/DR
IB Biology HL	IB504-IB505 IB506-IB507	11-12	Biology/80% in previous science and math courses/DR
IB Chemistry SL	IB508-IB509 IB510-IB511	11-12	Chemistry/80% in previous science and math courses/DR
IB Chemistry HL	IB512-IB513 IB514-IB515	11-12	Chemistry/80% in previous science and math courses/DR

IB Physics SL	IB518-IB519 IB520-IB521	11-12	Physic/80% in previous science and math courses/DR
IB Physics HL	IB522-IB523 IB524-IB525	11-12	Physics/80% in previous science and math courses/DR Co-Requisite: Pre-Calculus, IB Math SL or IB Math HL
IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL	IB516-IB517	11-12	Chemistry/80% in previous science and humanities courses/DR

Course Descriptions

US500 US501	Biology Prerequisite: None Open to grades 9-11	One Year Course
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This course is designed to teach the core concepts and laboratory skills of Biology, its foundations, history, development and characteristics of living things and their relationships with the environment. The content of the Biology curriculum is taught through a hands-on, inquiry-based program emphasizing the scientific method and experimental design. Course topics include the scientific method, laboratory skills, characteristics of life, fundamentals of biochemistry, cell structure, function and transport, cellular respiration and photosynthesis, mitosis and meiosis, genetics, evolution, and ecology.

US502 US502	Chemistry Prerequisite: None Open to grades 9-11	One Year Course
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This course is designed to enhance laboratory and problem solving skills while studying the general fundamental principles of chemistry. Course topics include; matter, atomic theory, periodicity, chemical nomenclature, bonding, chemical reactions, moles, stoichiometry, and gas laws. The class is an exciting combination of theory and practical work designed to prepare students for studying IB or AP chemistry.

US506 US507	Physics Prerequisite: None Open to grades 9-11	One Year Course
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Physics is the most fundamental of the experimental sciences, seeking to explain the universe itself, from the very smallest particles to the vast distances between galaxies. This course is dedicated to the study of laws as concise statements about how nature behaves. The scientific processes carried out by the most eminent scientists in the past

are the same ones followed by students. The course covers both theory and experimental investigation. Course topics include measurement and error, kinematics, dynamics, conservation laws, energy, oscillations and waves, electricity and magnetism and modern physics.

US514	Biology II Prerequisite: Biology I /Chemistry I Open to grades 11-12	Semester Course
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This semester elective course is a continuation of Biology I for students wishing to further explore the biological sciences. Students will learn about cell structure, cell transport, mitosis and meiosis, cellular respiration and photosynthesis, DNA and RNA, protein synthesis, genetics, evolution, ecology and sustainability.

US504 US505	Anatomy and Physiology Prerequisite: Biology/Chemistry/Physics Open to grade 12	One-Year Course
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This course is a one year, one credit Science course. It is intended as a survey course, focusing on building a basic understanding of the human body, and is a required course for the Mexican Program (except for the case of students who opt for an AP or IB science in grade 11). Essential principles of Human Anatomy and Physiology are presented, including basic chemistry, cell and tissue studies, an overview of all the body systems and discussions of current research and trends in health. Course topics include an overview of anatomy and physiology, cells and tissues, skeletal system, muscular system, integumentary system, nervous system, cardiovascular system, immune system, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system and reproductive system.

US508 US509	Environmental Systems Prerequisite: Biology/Chemistry/Physics Open to grade 12	One-Year Course
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This course aims to teach students the scientific and systemic principles that govern our planet through its living (biosphere) and non-living elements (nutrient cycles), the impact our society has had on Earth's ecosystems and through a deep analysis, the possible outcomes if we continue to live unsustainably. We will study how to live more sustainably in order to apply it in our daily lives both at school and at home. This course includes the following topics:

- 1) Thinking systemically: What system are you part of?
- 2) Sustainability: Building a better lasting future for our children.
- 3) Circular Economy: Designing new ways to produce without trash
- 4) Ecosystems: How do they work? Which I am part of? (including urban)
- 5) Conservation of Biodiversity: When differences make the difference
- 6) Atmospheric, Soil and Water systems. They make up your home!
- 7) Human Populations and environmental impact. How to better plan our future!

This is a hands-on course with team and individual projects connected to our campus and our homes. We will use the Greenhouse, gardens, green roofs, aquaria, terraria, recycling center, composting center and water treatment plants of ASF. After this course, students will develop their own environmental value systems and will be prepared to take a stand in ways that will make a lasting impact in their community.

US900	Health Prerequisite: None Open to grade 9	Semester Course
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This is a comprehensive course addressing the students' physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing. Teachers stress the process of making choices for a healthy lifestyle. The following areas of content are covered: CPR, first aid injury prevention, nutrition, lifetime fitness, stress management, sexual education, diseases and disorders, substance use and abuse and environmental health.

AP Science

AP502 AP503	AP Chemistry Prerequisite: Chemistry/85% in previous science and math courses/DR Open to grades 11-12	One-Year Course
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AP Chemistry is intended to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement exam in chemistry, to teach chemistry content and skills equivalent to the typical first-year chemistry course in U.S. colleges and universities and to prepare students for college careers in science, engineering or medicine. Goals are to reinforce lab, critical thinking and independent learning skills; to develop data-gathering, -organizing and -presenting skills as well as basic statistical analysis tools; to become more competent in the application of prior knowledge to new situations; to foster a love of and curiosity about chemistry in the world around us and to be a laboratory of learning methodology and technology integration. Students are responsible for topics previously covered in general chemistry as well as their previous algebra class. Students are required to sit the AP Chemistry exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees. Course topics include: Atomic structure, intermolecular attractions, thermodynamics, kinetics, electrochemistry, equilibrium and acid/base chemistry. It is strongly recommended that juniors who take AP Chemistry have completed Algebra II during their sophomore year. It is also recommended that juniors who take AP Chemistry consider taking Physics at the same time.

AP504 AP505	AP Physics C: Mechanics Prerequisite: Physics/85% in previous science and math courses/DR Co-requisite: Calculus or IB Math Analysis SL or HL	One-Year Course
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This course is intended to be equivalent to the beginning part of a college sequence that serves as the foundation in physics for students majoring in the physical sciences or engineering. Methods of calculus are used in formulating physical principles and in applying them to physical problems. Strong emphasis is placed on solving a variety of challenging problems, some requiring calculus, as well as continuing to develop a deep understanding of physics

concepts. A laboratory component is also included. Since a previous or concurrent course in calculus is required of students taking Physics C: Mechanics, students who expect advanced placement or credit for the AP Physics C exam should attempt an AP course in calculus as well; otherwise, placement in the next-in-sequence physics course (in college) may be delayed or even denied. Either of the AP calculus courses, Calculus AB or Calculus BC, should provide an acceptable basis for students preparing to major in the physical sciences or engineering, but Calculus BC is recommended. Therefore, if such students must choose between AP Physics and AP Calculus, they should probably choose AP Calculus. Students may be required to pass an exam to guarantee placement in this course. Students are required to sit for the AP Physics C: Mechanics exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees. Course topics include: kinematics; Newton's laws of motion; work, energy and power; systems of particles and linear momentum and circular motion, rotation and oscillations and gravitation.

IB Science

All students must complete a 10-hour Group 4 Project, a collaborative experience in which concepts and perceptions from all the science disciplines offered by the School are shared. The interdisciplinary project takes place on a weekend and is a requirement for all IB lab sciences. All students must also complete an experimental portfolio, which is internally and externally assessed, and take the IB exam at the end of their two-year course of study.

IB500 IB501 IB502 IB503	IB Biology SL Prerequisites: Biology/80% in previous science and math courses/DR	Two-Year Course
IB504 IB505 IB506 IB507	IB Biology HL Prerequisites: Biology/80% in previous science and math courses/DR	Two-Year Course

IB Biology SL is recommended for students who enjoy biology and exploring the living world. A student taking this course may or may not be interested in studying biology at the university level. The six core topics build on topics taught in general biology and two option topics are studied in more depth in the second year. **There is a strong emphasis on the laboratory experience and hands on learning. Independent design of experiments is a unique requirement for the IB sciences and all students complete an Internal Assessment portfolio as well as the Group 4 Project.** Moral, ethical and social issues are also addressed throughout the course. **Students take the IB external examination at the end of their two-year course of study. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.** Course topics include: Statistical analysis, chemistry of life, cell structure and function, genetics, ecology, evolution, human health, physiology and two chosen option topics.

IB Biology HL is recommended for students who enjoy biology and are interested in careers such as medicine, biochemistry, genetic engineering, ecology, animal behavior and many other fields. The six core topics build on topics taught in general biology and are studied by both standard and higher level students. Five additional topics are studied at the higher level only and many of these are a more in-depth study of standard level topics. Two option topics are chosen and studied in the second year. There is a strong emphasis on the laboratory experience and hands-on learning. **Independent design of experiments is a unique requirement for the IB sciences and all students complete an Internal Assessment portfolio as well as the Group 4 Project. Moral, ethical and social issues are also addressed throughout the course. Students take the IB external examination at the end of their two-year course of study. See IB Diploma section for information on fees.** Core course topics include: statistical analysis, chemistry of life, cell structure and function, genetics, ecology, evolution, human health and physiology. Additional topics include: nucleic acids and proteins, cell respiration and photosynthesis, plant science, advanced genetics, advanced human health and physiology and one chosen option topics.

IB508 IB509 IB510 IB511	IB Chemistry SL Prerequisites: Chemistry/80% in previous science and math courses/DR	Two-Year Course
IB512 IB513 IB514 IB515	IB Chemistry HL Prerequisites: Chemistry/80% in previous science and math courses/DR	Two-Year Course

The IB Diploma Programme Chemistry course combines academic study with the acquisition of practical and investigational skills through the experimental approach. Students learn the chemical principles that underpin both the physical environment and biological systems through the study of quantitative chemistry, periodicity, kinetics and other subjects. The chemistry course covers the essential principles of the subject and, through selection of options, allows teachers some flexibility to tailor the course to meet the needs of their students. Throughout this challenging course, students become aware of how scientists work and communicate with each other. Further, students enjoy multiple opportunities for scientific study and creative inquiry within a global context. In addition, the course is designed to:

- Provide opportunities for scientific study and creativity within a global context that will stimulate and challenge students.
- Provide a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology.
- Enable students to apply and use a body of knowledge, methods and techniques that characterize science and technology.
- Develop an ability to analyze, evaluate and synthesize scientific information.
- Develop experimental and investigative scientific skills.
- Engender an awareness of the need for, and the value of, effective collaboration and communication during scientific activities.
- Develop and apply the students' information and communication technology skills in the study of science.
- Raise awareness of the moral, ethical, social, economic and environmental implications of using science and technology.
- Develop an appreciation of the possibilities and limitations associated with science and scientists.
- Encourage an understanding of the relationships between scientific disciplines and the overarching nature of the scientific method.

Study at a higher level requires a strong grasp of mathematical reasoning. **Students are required to sit for the IB external examination at the end of their two-year course of study. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB518 IB519 IB520 IB521	IB Physics SL Prerequisites: Physics/80% in previous science and math courses/DR	Two-Year Course
IB522 IB523 IB524 IB525	IB Physics HL Prerequisites: Physics/80% in previous science and math courses/DR Co-Requisite: Pre-Calculus or IB Math Analysis SL or HL	

Physics is the most fundamental of the experimental sciences, as it seeks to explain the universe itself, from the very smallest particles to the vast distances between galaxies. This course is dedicated to studying laws and concise statements about how nature behaves. The scientific processes carried out by the most eminent scientists in the past are the same ones followed by students. At the School level, all students undertake both theory and experiments. This

strong and rigorous course is recommended for students who enjoy physics and are interested in architecture, engineering, mathematics or any other related science careers.

Students are required to complete an Internal Assessment portfolio, the Group 4 Project and the three parts of the IB external examination at the end of their two-year course of study. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees. Course topics include: Physics and physical measurement, mechanics, thermodynamics, oscillations and waves, electromagnetism, field and forces, atomic and nuclear physics, energy and power generation, climate change and two advanced option topics.

IB516 IB517	IB Environmental Systems and Societies SL Prerequisite: Chemistry/80% in previous science and humanities courses/DR	Two-Year Course
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This is a rigorous course recommended for students who are interested in understanding environmental issues and who are comfortable thinking in an interdisciplinary manner. The prime intent of the course is to provide students with a coherent perspective on the environment, one that is essentially scientific and enables them to adopt an informed and responsible stance on the wide range of pressing environmental issues that they will inevitably come to face. Course topics include: Systems and models, the ecosystem, human population, carrying capacity and resource use, conservation and biodiversity, pollution management and the use of global warming and environmental value systems. Students are required to complete an Internal Assessment portfolio and **sit for the IB external examination at the end of their one-year course of study. See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

Mathematics

Pathways

Standard Pathways

Grade Level	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
6	MYP 1	Math 6	Math 6	Math 6	Math 6
7	MYP 2	Math 7	Math 7	Math 7	Math 7
8	MYP 3	Math 8	Math 8	Math 8	Math 8
9	MYP 4	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I
10	MYP 5	Geometry*	Geometry*	Geometry*	Geometry*
11	Precalculus	Algebra II or IB Math Apps SL	Algebra II or IB Math Apps SL	Algebra II or IB Math Apps SL	Algebra II
12	Calculus	AP Calc or Calc or AP Stats or Prob and Stats	Precalculus, AP Stats or Prob and Stats	Precalculus or Probability and Statistics or AP Stats	Precalculus or Probability and Statistics or AP Stats

*Students who want to take IB Math Analysis SL or HL or Calculus as a terminal course are encouraged to take both Geometry and Algebra II in grade 10.

Advanced Pathway

Grade Level	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
6	MYP 2	Math 6	Math 6	Math 6	Math 6
7	MYP 3	MYP 3 (Math 8)	Math 7	Math 7	Math 7
8	MYP 4	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I
9	MYP 5 Ext	Geometry	Geometry	Geometry	Geometry
10	Precalculus	Precalculus	Algebra II	Algebra II	Algebra II
11	IB/AP	IB/AP/Calc	IB/AP/Calc	IB/AP/Precal	IB/AP
12	IB/AP	IB/AP	IB/AP	IB/AP	IB/AP/Calc

DR = Department Recommendation PT = Placement Test

Math Required Courses

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites/Requirements
Algebra I	US600-US601	9	Math 8 Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
Geometry	US602-US603	9-10	Algebra I Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
Algebra II	US604-US605	10-11	Geometry Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)

Math Terminal Courses

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites/Requirements
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Pre-Calculus	US610-US611	11-12	Algebra II/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
Calculus	US612-US613	12	Pre-Calculus/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
Probability and Statistics	US608-US609	11-12	Algebra II/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)

AP Math

AP Calculus AB	AP600-AP601	10-12	Pre-Calculus/85% in previous math course/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
AP Statistics	AP608-AP609	11-12	Algebra II/85% in previous math course/DR

IB Math

IB Math: Analysis and Approaches HL	IB617-IB618 IB625-IB626	11-12	Algebra II/80% in previous math course/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
IB Math: Analysis and Approaches SL	IB615-IB616 IB623-IB624	11-12	Algebra II/80% in previous math course/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)
IB Math: Applications and Interpretation SL	IB613-IB614 IB621-IB622	11-12	Geometry/80% in previous math course/DR Graphing Calculator: TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators not permitted)

Course Descriptions

Three credits of mathematics in grades 9-11 and a minimum of Algebra II are required for graduation. Students are recommended to take a math course every year. Students are required to have a graphing calculator to use in their math class. The recommended graphing calculator is the TI-Nspire cx (TI CAS calculators are not permitted).

Math Required Courses

US620 US621	Algebra I Prerequisite: Math 8	One-Year Course
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The Algebra I course is written to align with the first of three courses in the traditional pathway of the Common Core State Standards. The two Algebra courses contain the bulk of the work in number and quantity, algebra, and functions and contain statistics and probability. The major purpose of Algebra I is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades, working with linear and exponential functions, solving systems of equations and inequalities, and analyzing data. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, create mathematical learning experiences based upon reasoning and sensemaking, building perseverance and problem-solving skills, and rich in mathematical discourse. The scope follows that of the Mathematics Vision Project and its modules: (1) Sequences, (2) Linear & Exponential Functions, (3) Features of Functions, (4) Equations & Inequalities, (5) Systems of Equations & Inequalities, (6) Quadratic Functions, (7) Structure of Expressions, (8) More Functions, More Features, and (9) Modeling Data.

US618 US619	Geometry Prerequisite: Algebra I	One-Year Course
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The Geometry course is written to align with the second of three courses in the traditional pathway of the Common Core State Standards. The Geometry course covers geometry standards from a transformational perspective and includes right triangle trigonometry, and conics, and contains statistics and probability. The fundamental purpose of the course in Geometry is to formalize and extend students' geometric experiences from the middle grades, exploring more complex geometric situations, deepening their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, create mathematical learning experiences based upon reasoning and sensemaking, building perseverance and problem solving skills, and are rich in mathematical discourse. The scope follows that of the Mathematics Vision Project and its modules: (1) Transformations & Symmetry, (2) Congruence, Construction & Proof, (3) Geometric Figures, (4) Similarity & Right Triangle Trigonometry, (5) Circles a Geometric Perspective, (6) Connecting Algebra and Geometry, (7) Modeling with Geometry, and (8) Probability.

US622 US623	Algebra II Prerequisite: Geometry	One-Year Course
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The Algebra II course is written to align with the last of three courses in the traditional pathway of the Common Core State Standards. The two Algebra courses contain the bulk of the work in number and quantity, algebra, and functions and contain statistics and probability. The major purpose of Algebra II is for students to pull together and apply the accumulation of learning that they have from their previous courses. Students add to their catalog of functions types to include polynomial, rational, logarithmic, and trigonometric. They bring together all of their experience with functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, create mathematical learning experiences based upon reasoning and sensemaking, building perseverance and problem-solving skills, and rich in mathematical discourse. The scope follows that of the Mathematics Vision Project and its modules: (1) Functions and Their Inverses, (2) Logarithmic Functions, (3) Numbers and Operations, (4) Polynomial Functions, (5) Rational Functions & Expressions, (6) Modeling Periodic Behavior, (7) Trigonometric Functions, Equations & Identities, (8) Modeling with Functions, and (9) Statistics.

US1040	Academic Coaching: Math Support Prerequisite: DR	Semester Course
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Academic Coaching: Math Support is a pass/fail semester course which will count as a .5 credit elective toward graduation for students who pass. The purpose of this course is to provide time for students to improve foundational math skills and number literacy through collaborative explorations, open ended problem-solving tasks, and presentations. This class is intended to be taken parallel to a grade-level math course, and will reinforce the learning of prerequisite skills that will support the learning taking place in the current year math course. This class may be repeated for credit.

Math Terminal Courses

US610 US611	Pre-Calculus Prerequisite: Algebra II	One-Year Course
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This course is designed for students who will most likely continue their math studies in calculus and beyond. Topics covered include, but are not limited to: triangle trigonometry, trigonometric graphs and identities, equations and applications, sequences, series and the binomial theorem, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and analytic geometry.

US612 US613	Calculus Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus	One-Year Course
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This is an introductory course to calculus, which includes differential and integral calculus. Topics include: limits, continuity, differentiation, application (maxima and minima) and definite and indefinite integration. Other applications include area and volume. Students enrolled in this course may take the AP Calculus AB exam by individual choice.

US608 US609	Probability and Statistics Prerequisite: Algebra II/DR	One-Year Course
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This introductory course is intended for students who plan careers in such diverse fields as business, psychology, economics, etc. The course covers topics in elementary probability theory and statistics including data organization, averages and variations, probability distributions, hypothesis testing, statistical estimations, regression and correlation and non-parametric statistics.

AP MATH

AP600 AP601	AP Calculus AB Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus/85% in previous math course/DR	One-Year Course
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This course covers topics of two semesters of college-level courses in single-variable calculus. It covers topics such as limits and continuity, the derivative and its applications, integrals and applications and differential equations. **Students are required to sit the AP Calculus AB exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

AP608 AP609	AP Statistics Prerequisite: Algebra II/85% in previous math course/DR	One-Year Course
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This course covers topics of two semesters of college-level courses in probability and statistics. The course covers four major topics: 1) Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns, 2) Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study, 3) Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation, and 4) Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. **Students are required to sit for the AP Statistics exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB Math

IB613 IB614	IB Math: Applications and Interpretation SL Prerequisite: Geometry/80% in previous math course/DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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This course is for students who are interested in developing their mathematics for describing our world and solving practical problems. They will also be interested in harnessing the power of technology alongside exploring mathematical models. Students who take Mathematics: applications and interpretation will be those who enjoy mathematics best when seen in a practical context. This course includes topics that are traditionally part of a pre-university mathematics course such as calculus and statistics. The course makes extensive use of technology to allow students to explore and construct mathematical models. Mathematics: applications and interpretation will develop mathematical thinking, often in the context of a practical problem and using technology to justify conjectures. **Students are required to develop an internal assessment and present two paper examinations in May of the second year. See the IB section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB615 IB616	IB Math: Analysis and Approaches SL Prerequisite: Algebra II/80% in previous math course/DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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This course is for students who enjoy the thrill of mathematical problem solving and generalization. This course includes topics that are both traditionally part of a pre-university mathematics course (for example, functions, trigonometry, calculus) as well as topics that are amenable to investigation, conjecture and proof, for instance the study of sequences and series. The course allows the use of technology, as fluency in relevant mathematical software and hand-held technology is important regardless of choice of course. However, Mathematics: analysis and approaches has a strong emphasis on the ability to construct, communicate and justify correct mathematical arguments (IB Analysis and Approaches subject guide). **Students are required to develop an internal assessment and present two paper examinations in May of the second year. See the IB section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB617 IB618	IB Math: Analysis and Approaches HL Prerequisite: Algebra II/80% in previous math course/DR/PT	Two-Year Course
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This course is for students who enjoy the thrill of mathematical problem solving and generalization. This course includes topics that are both traditionally part of a pre-university mathematics course (for example, functions, trigonometry, calculus) as well as topics that are amenable to investigation, conjecture and proof, for instance the study of sequences and series. The course allows the use of technology, as fluency in relevant mathematical software and hand-held technology is important regardless of choice of course. However, Mathematics: analysis and approaches has a strong emphasis on the ability to construct, communicate and justify correct mathematical arguments. Students who wish to take Mathematics: analysis and approaches at higher level will have strong algebraic skills and the ability to understand simple proof. They will be students who enjoy spending time with problems and get pleasure and satisfaction from solving challenging problems. (IB Analysis and Approaches subject guide). **Students are required to develop an internal assessment and present three paper examinations in May of the second year. See the IB section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

Arts and Design

Students are required to take 1.5 units of Arts and Design to graduate. One of these units should be taken in grades 9 and 10, and it is recommended that students take .5 unit of visual art, .5 unit of performing art, and .5 unit of design. DR = Department Recommendation

Art/Design/Technology Electives

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Art I	US700	9-12	None

Art II	US701	9-12	Art I
Ceramics I	US703	9-12	None
Ceramics II	US704	9-12	Ceramics I
Ceramics III	US705	10-12	Ceramics II
Graphic Design I	US718	9-12	None
Graphic Design II	US719	10-12	Graphic Design I
Creative Technologies: Transmedia I	US813	9-12	None
Creative Technologies: Transmedia II	US814	9-12	Creative Technologies: Transmedia I
Industrial Design I	US815	9-12	None
Industrial Design II	US816	9-12	Industrial Design I/DR
Video Production	US807	9-12	None
Video Production II	US808	9-12	Video Production I
Web Design	US806	9-12	None
Fashion Design	US715	9-12	Art I or Graphic Design
Photography I	US723	9-12	None
Photography II	US724	9-12	Photography I/DR
Photography III	US725	10-12	Photography II/DR

Yearbook Publication	US727-US728	9-12	DR/Application required for editor, photo editor, graphic/art editor and copy editor positions
Concert Band I	US710	9-12	Minimum of 1 year band experience and/or DR
Concert Band II	US711	9-12	Minimum of 1 year band experience and/or DR
Jazz Ensemble	US719-US720	9-12	Previous band experience and/or audition/DR
Drama I	US712	9-12	None
Drama II	US729	9-12	Drama I/DR
Drama Production	US713	10-12	Drama I/Audition/DR
Classical Guitar Ensemble I	US706	9-12	Beginner level guitar status
Classical Guitar Ensemble II	US707	9-12	Guitar I/DR
Concert Choir I	US708	9-12	None
Concert Choir II	US709	9-12	Choir I
Music Theory and Technology	US721	9-12	None

AP Art

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
AP Art History	AP700-AP701	10-12	Individuals and Societies: Global Connections and/85% in previous art and humanities courses/DR

AP Studio Art: 2-Dimensional Design	AP702-AP703	11-12	Successful Completion of two of the following: Art I/II, Multimedia Design I/II, Photo I/II or Graphic Design/85% in previous art course/DR
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IB Arts

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
IB Visual Arts SL (11)	IB704-IB705	11	80% in previous visual arts courses (including Art I and at least one of the following: Photo II, Art II, Ceramics II or AP Art History)/application/DR
IB Visual Arts HL (11)	IB706-IB707	11	80% in previous visual arts courses (including Art I and at least one of the following: Photo II, Art II, Ceramics II or AP Art History)/application/DR
IB Visual Arts HL (12) IB Visual Arts SL (12)	IB708-IB709 IB712-IB713	12	IB Visual Arts SL (11)/application/DR
IB Music SL (11-12) IB Music HL (11-12)	IB732-IB733	12	IB Visual Arts HL (11)/application/DR
IB Theater SL (11-12) IB Theater HL (11-12)	IB700-IB701 IB702-IB703	11-12	80% in previous performing arts courses/Drama/DR

Course Descriptions

US700	Art I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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A prerequisite for Art II, AP Studio Art, and Fashion Design, this course provides opportunities for creative expression in a variety of techniques and materials. Students explore the elements and principles of art through drawing, painting and design. In this course, students apply basic skills to acquire a deeper appreciation of art and their visual surroundings. Students are required to have the following supplies: a spiral bound 9" x 12" sketchbook with at least 100 pages, a pair of scissors, two HB pencils, two 6H pencils, two 6B pencils, two erasers, two glue sticks and a small set of natural hair paint brushes (three different sizes).

US701	Art II Prerequisite: Art I	Semester Course
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Students explore a variety of media and techniques such as painting, printmaking, drawing, sculpture and alternative media. This course is recommended for students interested in studying studio art or design in the future. The course is an excellent preparation for the IB Visual Arts Certificate or Diploma. Students will conduct responsible research and learn about various artistic movements from the history of art. Basic supplies include a 9" x 12" spiral bound sketchbook of 100 pages, drawing pencils, paint brushes, two canvases and other supplies as needed.

US703	Ceramics I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This course is an introduction to the art of sculpture done in clay. It emphasizes hand building techniques while studying the art of various ancient cultures as the foundation of one of the most important traditions in ceramics. Students will be exposed to spatial composition through the creation and study of sculptures based on simple geometrical shapes. Specific ceramics vocabulary is learned and applied.

US704	Ceramics II Prerequisite: Ceramics I	Semester Course
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This course will give students the opportunity to rediscover the beauty found in the art of vessel making and sculpture produced in clay, while exploring the elements and principles of design. The student will have the possibility to expand essential skills and understand clay's behavior. Students will create a series of pieces using the potter's wheel and will gain experience and skills in this technique. An additional focus includes examining artwork produced in the past and in present times.

US705	Ceramics III Prerequisite: Ceramics II	Semester Course
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This course offers the advanced ceramics student the opportunity to develop a distinctive style through the understanding of the concepts of traditional ceramics techniques and the new trends found within contemporary artwork. Students will model the human figure through the construction of a collective head planter in large scale, while they explore the various possibilities offered in this format. High temperature clay and firings to be explored as well.

US718	Graphic Design I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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As a prerequisite for Graphic Design II and Fashion Design, this course will provide students with a basic understanding of design elements and principles as well as technical skills in the production of two-dimensional design with Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. The creative cycle will be used to produce exercises in creativity as well as client-based projects. By the end, students will produce an online design portfolio website.

US719	Graphic Design II Prerequisite: Graphic Design I or Multimedia Design I	Semester Course
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This course is intended for students who have mastered the basics of the design software used in Graphic Design I. During the course, students will be observing methods of influencing visual culture through design for a variety of means such as commercial or political using the process of the design cycle.

US813	Creative Technologies: Transmedia I Prerequisite: None/DR	Semester Course
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Transmedia and Creative Technologies is an interdisciplinary course that focuses on experimental and innovative technical approaches to time-based art and design implementing practices such as video, sound, performance, digital, and interactive media. Transmedia means changing or moving media so naturally, it resists a conventional approach to art and design so it challenges students to apply hybrid strategies and a critical approach to problem resolution. The course fosters research around the history of media in art and design as well as contemporary practices that implement emerging technologies.

US814	Creative Technologies: Transmedia II Prerequisite: Transmedia I/DR	Semester Course
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Transmedia and Creative Technologies II is a continuation of section I of the course but with a more student-led, independent approach. Students will propose their area of exploration within the context of Transmedia Studies. They will conduct independent research to develop and realize their projects. Collaborative opportunities amongst students are strongly encouraged so that large scale projects are realized.

US815	Industrial Design I: Prototyping and Fabrication Prerequisite: None/DR	Semester Course
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Industrial Design, Prototyping and Fabrication offers students the ability to conceptualize, build and test the viability of products they design. The course is an interdisciplinary space for Making! Students will learn digital modeling and fabrication tools, experience working with wood, plastics, textiles, and hybrid materials. The course also allows an exploration of issues related to the study of resource conservation, environmental activism, and ecological principles.

The course challenges students to push material boundaries and identify opportunities to produce meaningful, and sustainable product design solutions.

US816	Industrial Design II: Prototyping and Fabrication Prerequisite: Industrial Design II/DR	Semester Course
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Industrial Design, Prototyping and Fabrication II is a continuation of section I of the course but with a more student-led, independent approach. Students will propose their area of exploration within the context of Industrial Design. They will conduct independent research to develop and realize advanced design projects that have a strong consideration for sustainable and responsible manufacturing practices and solutions. Collaborative opportunities amongst students are strongly encouraged so that large scale projects are realized.

US807	Video Production Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This course uses the basic principles of design and production to create short video productions. It will teach students how to plan, produce, edit and release professional videos. Learned skills include camera, lighting & audio techniques via the use of Adobe Premiere and Adobe Audition. Basic digital photography is also included for producing videos.

US807	Video Production II Prerequisite: Video Production I	Semester Course
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This course teaches advanced design and production principles learned in Video Production I to create short video productions employing more advanced techniques. It teaches students how to plan, produce, edit professional grade videos. Learned skills include advanced camera handling, lighting, green screen, compositing, and audio techniques and special visual effects via the use of Adobe Premiere, Adobe After Effects, Cinema 4D and Adobe Audition. The course explores the applications of video production as it relates to the industry as a profession (commercial, documentary, drama, VFX, etc).

US806	Web Design Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This course covers the development and publishing of a website from scratch using Photoshop, Illustrator, HTML, CSS and JavaScript. Students will learn how to design them in Photoshop and Illustrator and make them come alive using Dreamweaver and how to publish them on the web. The course also covers usability, flexibility and responsive design. The use of frameworks such as Bootstrap and the use of libraries such as jQuery for creating advanced website design.

US715	Fashion Design Prerequisite: Art I or Graphic Design	Semester Course
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This course will provide a basic introduction to fashion design, including garment design and construction. Students will be encouraged to search for original sources of inspiration in the creation of a line of clothing. Students will conduct research on the work of a famous designer and make frequent presentations in class. Illustration techniques will be presented and a visiting designer will give students a real-life example of what it means to work in the field. Basic sewing will be taught and students are required to buy a modest list of supplies including a spiral-bound 9" x 12" sketchbook.

US723	Photography I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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The Photography I course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of photography. Starting with the basics, students will learn through their own creative experimentation, to manipulate a camera and editing software, in order to best communicate personal meaning through prints and digital images. We will investigate the history, technology, and techniques of the photography medium to prepare each student-artist for production of successful works. Most importantly, students will learn to view photographic images with a critical eye, and to communicate aesthetic appreciations in an articulate manner.

US724	Photography II Prerequisite: Photography I/DR	Semester Course
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The Photography II course is designed to expand upon the knowledge of acquired in Photography I. In this class, students will continue to develop the art of digital editing, as well as learn to manipulate environmental lighting for photo shoots. By focusing on understanding photography as a form of fine art, students will work to develop a personal aesthetic in the production of their creative images. Most importantly, students will continue to develop their critical eye, and to communicate aesthetic appreciations in an articulate manner.

US725	Photography III Prerequisite: Photography II/DR	Semester Course
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The Photography III course is designed to expand upon the knowledge acquired in Photography I and II. In this class, students will begin to build a portfolio of photographic work that is of high technical quality and of a distinct personal style. Students will work to master techniques that they have previously attempted, and will likely experiment with new concepts, regardless; they will be striving to find define their own creative voice as a collective body of artwork. Most importantly, students will continue to develop their critical eye, and to communicate aesthetic appreciations in an articulate manner. In order to enroll, students are required to provide their own manual 35mm SLR camera and will also need to supply their own film and photo paper. (Due to the high cost of materials, students should be prepared to spend between \$100 and \$200 USD for paper and film to be used over the semester.)

US727 US728	Yearbook Publication Prerequisite: DR/Application required for editor, photo editor, graphic/art editor and copy editor positions This course can be repeated for credit	One-Year Course
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The annual production of the Upper School yearbook requires a staff with strong photographic, writing and graphic design skills. Students should also have an interest in multimedia, professional project management and computers. The class is responsible for planning, constructing, editing and distributing the color annual for the Upper School. Staff members are expected to work independently outside of class (sometimes even on weekends) to cover School activities and meet deadlines for sending work to the printing house. After the final delivery of the yearbook, students will use basic multimedia principles learned to create a media supplement for the yearbook covering events and aspects of student life that occur in the spring. **Applications and interviews for all staff positions are required. Departmental recommendations are required for editor, photo editor, graphic/art editor and copy editor positions.**

US710	Concert Band I Prerequisite: Minimum of one year band experience and/or DR This course can be repeated for credit	Semester Course
US711	Concert Band II Prerequisite: Minimum of one year band experience and/or DR A student may be admitted in the second semester with DR only This course can be repeated for credit	Semester Course

Open to qualified students in grades 9-12 with prior training. Accepted students will learn more advanced music and rhythmic reading skills through the study of graduated technical exercises. Individual and ensemble performance techniques will also be enhanced through the preparation of increasingly challenging music literature in a wide variety of styles. Mandatory concerts are scheduled throughout the School year. These courses can be repeated for credit.

US719 US720	Jazz Ensemble Prerequisite: Previous band experience and/or audition/DR Students with skills on piano, guitar, bass or drums but who have not previously been enrolled in band courses are eligible to audition but must demonstrate the ability to read, understand and interpret written music notation This course may be repeated for credit	One-Year Course
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This course is for advanced instrumentalists who wish to develop their skills in the jazz idiom. Students will learn a variety of jazz, rock, Latin and other popular musical styles, as well as the fundamentals of improvisation. Concerts are scheduled throughout the School year,

US712	Drama I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This course is an introduction to acting. It encourages the development of self-confidence and ease in self-expression through monologues, scene work, and play production. Students will read multiple published play and perform monologues, scenes, and short plays in front of an audience.

US729	Drama II Prerequisite: Drama I/DR	Semester Course
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Drama II builds on the skills acquired in Drama I. This course is designed to help students develop their acting and directing skills. Drama II utilizes more advanced, more complex plays, resulting in advanced scene study, and exercises to improve students stage movement skills and vocal technique. Drama II can also be shaped around the needs of the students in the class. Students have the ability to suggest units of interest for class study. This class is highly recommended as preparation for IB Theatre.

US713	Drama Production Prerequisite: Drama I/Audition/DR (This course may be taken 2 times for credit)	Semester Course
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A "learn-by-doing" course, Drama Production has two aims. First, it introduces the technical aspects of drama production, including stage design, costume, sound, lighting, property and set execution. Secondly, it develops the capacity to plan and produce a play using the knowledge of stagecraft acquired in the class. It is recommended for students with serious interest in "behind the scenes" work.

US706	Guitar I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This is a performance-based course for beginner guitar students. Students will become musically literate while learning to play guitar. The repertoire includes beginning music of all styles and periods. Basics include tablature, musical notation, chord charts, melody and bass lines, plucking and strumming.

US707	Guitar II Prerequisite: Guitar I/DR	Semester Course
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This performance course is a continuation of Guitar I in all aspects: honing musical literacy skills and fine-tuning techniques is the goal. The repertoire will include selected music of all styles and periods for the growing novice. This course represents movement into minor scales, pentatonic scales, blues and very simple improvisation. The course can be repeated for credit.

US708	Concert Choir I Prerequisite: None This course can be repeated for credit	Semester Course
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This is a beginner level choir course. Through the medium of singing, students will learn to read music and the basics of vocal production: stage presence, diction, intonation, breathing, rhythm, volume, timbre and musicianship. The repertoire consists of music from all historical periods as well as varied styles.

US709	Concert Choir II Prerequisite: Concert Choir This course can be repeated for credit	Semester Course
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This performance course is a continuation of Concert Choir I in all aspects, including reading music and honing vocal production skills. A varied repertoire and various styles will be provided. The added opportunity to produce some staged music is offered. This class has a great tradition of high quality and is an acknowledged asset for students interested in continuing with music.

US738 US739	Strings Prerequisite: Previous Strings Course/DR This course can be repeated for credit	One-Year Course
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The Upper School Strings class is designed not only as a continuation in technique from Strings 8, but also a movement into public performance and independent development. While working towards class performances and group technique, students will explore collaborative projects in different ensembles and events. Our repertoire will cover a variety of genres and styles, and students will continue their work on advanced skills and practice technique.

US721	Music Theory and Technology Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This entry-level course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of using digital technology to create and record music. Starting with the basics, students will learn through their own creative experimentation in live digital performance and DAW software to manipulate music in order to communicate meaning. Various styles and periods of music are explored: from digital remixes of classical music to contemporary EDM, video game and film music. Students will develop skills by listening, performing and composing. Most importantly, students will learn to experience music with a critical ear, and to communicate aesthetic ideas in an articulate manner.

AP Arts

AP700 AP701	AP Art History Prerequisite: World History I/85% in previous art and humanities courses/DR	One-Year Course
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AP Art History is an introductory college-level course open to students in grades 10 through 12. Students examine major forms of artistic expression from the ancient world to the present in a variety of cultures. Students will be able to conduct both a formal and a contextual analysis, learning to write about art and architecture with respect to history, religion, patronage, gender and culture. Overall, students will discover how exciting and enriching it is to experience the arts. This course is highly recommended for students planning on taking IB Visual Arts. It can be counted as a Humanities in English elective or as a Fine Arts and Technology elective. **All students must take the AP exam in May. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

AP702 AP703	AP Studio Art: 2D Design Prerequisite: Successful completion of two level I arts courses or a I and II/ 85% in last visual arts course/DR	One-Year Course
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AP Studio Art is an intense college-like art class. Students will have one year to create a 24-piece design portfolio. This class is a great outlet for students who are serious about graphic design or multimedia design, or who want to study communications design. Students will create a 24-piece portfolio focused in two directions: breadth and concentration. In the breadth section, students will create 12 art pieces that demonstrate a variety of artistic skills as related to design. Areas of exploration include (but not limited to): graphic & multimedia design, photography, 3D modeling, animation and printing, video. In the concentration section, students will create 12 pieces focused solely on a single idea like fashion portraiture or urban illustration. The portfolio will be externally judged by the College Board at the end of the course for possible college credit. **All students must take the AP exam. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB Arts

IB704 IB705 IB706 IB707	IB Visual Arts SL or HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous visual arts courses (including Art I and at least one of the following: Photo II, Art II, Ceramics II or AP Art History)/application/DR NOTE: Students who take this course MUST continue to take an IB Visual Arts Class in grade 12	Two-Year Course
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This course offers amazing opportunities for growth in the field of visual arts through a rigorous practice of studio work and research. There are two different levels of participation:

- HL: Process Portfolio, Comparative Study, Curatorial Practice
- SL: Process Portfolio, Comparative Study, Curatorial Practice
- Both HL and SL are in the same classroom. The differences between higher level and standard level are the number of artworks produced over two years and the number of screens submitted as research. In this course, the creation of artwork is integrated with the research, a process that has to be documented at all times in a sketchbook and/or digitally. The Process Portfolio and the Comparative Study will be graded by an IB examiner and uploaded digitally to the IB. At the end of the course there will be an examination exhibition, evaluated by your teacher and uploaded to the IB. **See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB700 IB701 IB702 IB703	IB Theater SL or HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous performing arts courses/Drama/DR	Two-Year Course
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IB Theatre is an IB Diploma arts class (Group 6) composed of four interdependent parts: Theatre in the Making, Theatre in Performance, Theatre in the World and the Independent Project & Journal. Like all IB classes, both internal and external assessments are used to evaluate students. Theatre in the Making is the process-oriented component. There is some theory, but the primary emphasis is on voice, movement, acting, directing and improvisation techniques – the practical process of making theater and not the final product. Theatre in Performance is about the final product. Students will participate (as actors, directors, designers, etc.) in a minimum of three performances that will be evaluated. Theatre in the World is the most theoretical component. Students will read, watch and explore theater and plays from different genres and styles in different cultures and in different eras. The Independent Project & Journal component has two parts. One part is based on the student’s self-evaluation and documentation of his or her own growth and progress over the entire two years (documented in the student’s ongoing journal). The second part is the student’s independent project. The Independent Project is part of the second year. Students will create and present an original work of theater. **See the IB Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

IB700 IB701 IB702 IB703	IB Music SL or HL Prerequisite: 80% in previous performing arts courses/Drama/DR	Two-Year Course
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This two-year course offers amazing opportunities for growth in the field of music through the rigorous practice of performance and research. Like all IB classes, both internal and external assessments are used to evaluate students.

- The course aims to develop student proficiencies in musicianship, perception and analysis in preparation for submission of a portfolio of recordings and the IB Diploma Music exam in their second year.
- SL and HL levels are available.
 - SL students practice individually or as ensembles to prepare 20 minutes of recordings for their portfolios.
- All students study perception and analysis of music throughout history and geography to prepare their Musical Links Investigation (essay) and exam Section A (prescribed works) and Section B (analyzing music from different times and places).
- HL study represents 90 additional coursework hours suggested by the IB and requires students to submit solo performing and creating (improvisation or composition) portfolios. HL students are also expected to demonstrate greater breadth and depth in their music perception and analysis.

Physical Education

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Health	US900	9-12	None
Physical Education 1 (Girls)	US902	9-12	None
Physical Education 1 (Boys)	US903	9-12	None
Physical Education 2 (Girls)	US904	10-12	None
Physical Education 2 (Boys)	US905	10-12	None
Strength and Conditioning (Co-Ed)	US907	10-12	None

Lifeguarding	US901	9-12	None
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Course Descriptions

One full unit (two semesters) of PE is required for graduation. In grade 9, students will take .5 unit of PE and .5 unit of Health. Students who participate on a JV or Varsity team can earn their PE credit through Athletics. Attendance, sportsmanship, and responsibility criteria must be met to receive credit. Students who do not receive credit through Athletics will be scheduled into a PE class in grade 10 or 11.

US900	Health Prerequisite: None Required for all grade 9 students	Semester Course
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This is a comprehensive course addressing the students' physical, mental, emotional and social wellbeing. Teachers stress the process of making choices for a healthy lifestyle. The following areas of content are covered: CPR, first aid injury prevention, nutrition, lifetime fitness, stress management, sexual education, diseases and disorders, substance use and abuse and environmental health.

US902 US903	Physical Education 1 Prerequisite: None Required for all grade 9 students	Semester Course
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Physical Education is an essential element of all Upper School students' education. The purpose of the course is to teach students that maintaining an active and healthy lifestyle is key to mental and physical well-being. Students are expected to participate in all class activities. A daily emphasis is placed on participation with full effort, while maintaining sensitivity and respect for individual talents. Students rotate activities throughout the semester. Compulsory units in this course are soccer, basketball, dance and fitness. Non-compulsory units may include other activities available based on equipment and space. This course is divided into single gender classes and is Pass/Fail.

US904 US905	Physical Education 2 Prerequisite: None Required for all grade 9 students	Semester Course
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This course is a continuation of Physical Education I. Coaches will continue teaching students how to lead a balanced and healthy lifestyle through fitness education, with the hope that each student will leave with the knowledge to continue leading that lifestyle. Students will learn and implement strategic movements, both individual and team oriented, to ensure an increased understanding of game play. A daily emphasis is placed on participation with full effort, while maintaining sensitivity and respect for individual talents. There is a continued expectation for students to reflect critically on all aspects of physical education. Compulsory units in this course are soccer, basketball, dance and fitness. Non-compulsory units may include other activities available based on equipment and space. This course is divided into single gender classes and is Pass/Fail.

US907	Strength and Conditioning Prerequisite: PE 1 or participation on JV or Varsity Sport This course can be repeated for credit	Semester Course
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Students in this course will receive instruction on proper form and technique as well as strategies to employ when pursuing a higher level of fitness. This course is driven by individual goal setting, designing a path to that goal, and then working to achieve that goal throughout the semester. Students will have full access to the fitness center, and all equipment, during their scheduled period. The use of a fitness card/diary, provides students with an opportunity to track progress, make adjustments, and be able to make fitness decisions based on personalized data that they have collected. A strong interest in personal fitness is important, this course is open to beginners and advanced gym goers alike.

US901	Lifeguarding Prerequisite: moderate swimming ability	Spring Semester
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The purpose of this course is to prepare and certify students to become lifeguards. This program builds a foundation in knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to become responsible lifeguards. Students will develop a level of fitness, endurance and technique in swimming, lifeguarding and rescue skills. Upon successful completion of this course, students will obtain an American Red Cross certification in Professional Lifeguarding, as well as First Aid and CPR certification for a Professional Rescuer.

Coding

Students are required to take a minimum of .5 credits (one semester) of coding for graduation. The following courses fulfill this requirement.

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Creative Coding I	US808	9-12	None
Creative Coding II	US809	9-12	Creative Coding I

AP Computer Science A	AP800- AP801	10-12	Creative Coding I and II
AP Computer Science Principles	AP808- AP809	10-12	None

Course Descriptions

US808	Creative Coding I Prerequisite: None	Semester Course
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This course is designed for students with limited or no computer programming experience. It aims to provide students with an understanding of the role computation can play in solving problems as well as how code can be used for creative means. The course aims to give students a non-traditional introduction to the basics of programming through the design of interactive visuals using traditional computer inputs as well as the Kinect.

US809	Creative Coding II Prerequisite: Creative Coding I	Semester Course
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This course is designed for students that have mastered the basics of programming languages taught in Creative Coding I. It aims to provide students with a wider range of problem solving skills by introducing hardware programming. For this course, students will be learning to program Arduino and sensors to create interactive installations.

AP800 AP801	AP Computer Science: A Prerequisite: Creative Coding I and II/DR	One-Year Course
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AP Computer Science A is equivalent to a first-semester, college-level course in computer science. The course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. The course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem solving and design using Java language. These techniques represent proven approaches for developing solutions that can scale up from small, simple problems to large, complex problems. The AP Computer Science A course curriculum is compatible with many CS1 courses in colleges and universities (From <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-computer-science-a/course>). **Students are required to sit for the AP Computer Science exam at the end of the course. See the AP Section of this catalog for information about additional course fees.**

AP808 AP809	AP Computer Science: Principles Prerequisite: Creative Coding I and II/DR	One-Year Course
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The AP Computer Science Principles course is designed to be equivalent to a first- semester introductory college computing course. In this course, students will develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course engages students in the creative aspects of the field by allowing them to develop computational artifacts based on their interests. Students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills by working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and will discuss and write about the impacts these solutions could have on their community, society, and the world.

Alternative Education

Course Title	Course Code	Open to Grades	Prerequisites
Office Cadet	US1006	12	Upper School Admin Approval
Library Cadet	US1005	12	Upper School Admin Approval
Teaching Cadet	US1007	12	Upper School Admin Approval
Academic Coaching	US1010	9-12	Counselor recommendation
Seminar in College Preparation	US1008	10-11	None
Study Hall	US1009	9-12	None

Course Descriptions

Note: Students may only be a cadet for one semester during their time in Upper School.

Office Cadet

US1006	Office Cadet Prerequisite: Upper School Admin Approval Open to grade 12	Semester Course
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Working in counseling or administrative offices, students have general office responsibilities. They will learn organizational skills, responsibility and the ability to deal with others in a positive and polite manner. This course counts as an elective credit but is for a pass/fail grade and does not count toward GPA.

Teaching Cadet

US1007	Teaching Cadet Prerequisite: Upper School Admin Approval Open to grade 12	Semester Course
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Teaching cadets may be scheduled for classes in the Early Childhood Center, Lower School, Middle School or Upper School. Students interested in child psychology, education and child growth and development will apply theoretical knowledge to everyday classroom activities. Students assist the teacher in the preparation, delivery and evaluation of curriculum. This course counts as an elective credit but is for a pass/fail grade and does not count toward GPA.

Study Hall

US1009	Study Hall Prerequisite: Enrollment in at least three advanced courses/ Upper School Admin Approval Open to grade 12	Semester Course
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Students in grades 9-11 can choose to enroll in a study hall. Students must report to the designated room at the assigned period. Attendance will be taken. Students are expected to work silently for the duration of the period. Study hall is not for credit and does not impact GPA but will receive a P/F grade.

Academic Coaching

US1010	Academic Coaching Prerequisites: Counselor recommendation grades 9 - 11	Semester Course
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Academic coaching is a Pass/Fail class lead by grade level counselors to support students with examining their learning processes, working habits and current difficulties or barriers to success. This threefold focus has been shown to improve student academic success rates. Students in grades 9-11 who are placed on academic probation will be required to take this course to improve current academic status. Some grade 9 students identified as at-risk may be invited to take this course at the end of their grade 8 year. This course may be repeated, but it will only count once as a .5 credit for graduation.

College Prep

US1008	Seminar in College Preparation Prerequisite: None Open to grade 11	Semester Course
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This course is designed to help juniors through the college application process for colleges outside of Mexico. Students will examine career aspirations and long-term goals. They will carry out extensive research on colleges that interest them. They will learn test-taking strategies for tests such as the SAT Reasoning Test, the SAT Subject Tests, the ACT and the TOEFL. The course provides a holistic approach to the process that includes interviewing, writing application essays and asking for letters of recommendation. This course counts as an elective credit but is for a pass or fail grade and does not count toward GPA.