
COURSE OF STUDY

UPPER SCHOOL
2021-2022



EPISCOPAL
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

Jackson T. Stephens Campus

1701 Cantrell Road

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

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episcopalcollegiate.org

UPPER SCHOOL CORE COURSE SEQUENCE

	9th	10th	11th	12th
	Standard Course Load			
	6 or 7	6 or 7	6***	6***
1.	English	English	English	English
2.	Math	Math	Math	Math
3.	Biology	Chemistry **	Physics*	
4.	Civics and Economics	World History	United States History	Elective
5.	World Language	World Language	World Language	Elective
6. 7.	Upper School PE (1/2), Upper School Health (1/2), Religious Studies (1/2), Communications (1/2), Visual and Performing Arts (1) OR Elective OR Study Hall			

*Physics may be taken in 11th or 12th grade.

**Students must be concurrently enrolled in Algebra II to take Chemistry.

***Students enrolled in 4 or more AP courses are only required to take 5 courses per semester.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must earn a minimum of twenty-four credits and must satisfy the subject area requirements listed below. In addition, students must fulfill the community service requirement and the senior chapel talk requirement. Any exceptions to these requirements must be approved by the Head of School and the Head of Upper School.

Course	Required Credits
English	Four
Mathematics	Four
Science	Three
History and Social Sciences	Three
World Language	Three
Visual/Performing Arts	One
Health	One-half
Physical Education	One-half
Religious Studies	One-half
Communications	One-half
Additional Courses	Four or more

STANDARD COURSE LOAD

Ninth- and tenth-grade students take six or seven courses per semester. Eleventh- and twelfth-grade students take at least six courses per semester, with a study hall during the spring semester of the junior year and the fall semester of the senior year to accommodate college planning. Students enrolled in four or five AP® courses can elect to take only five courses per semester.

At least four courses each semester must be taken from among the following subject areas: English, math, science, history and social sciences, and world language.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Episcopal Collegiate encourages students to become independent learners in an environment where high standards, personal responsibility, individual growth, and spiritual development are valued. Students develop strong skills of analysis and independent thought in courses that help them to understand the existing body of knowledge while also pushing them to imagine solutions to problems in a future that doesn't yet exist. They develop personal responsibility, an appreciation of difference, intellectual curiosity, self-awareness, and self-efficacy in a community where every

person is valued as a child of God, worthy of dignity and respect.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Advanced Placement (AP®) courses are college-level courses taught by trained high school instructors using a curriculum approved by the College Board through the AP® Course Audit. These AP® courses offer students greater depth in the study of the subject, and students selecting these courses should anticipate higher expectations with regard to writing, reading, and critical thinking skills. Students in AP® courses typically spend additional time during the week, over weekends, and during vacations to meet these high expectations. All students completing Advanced Placement courses take the corresponding AP® examination in May, and successful performance on the AP® exam can result in college credit or placement.

Many factors affect the readiness of a student to be successful in advanced coursework. In considering student requests for advanced courses for the following school year, the School uses a holistic approach that brings together the perspectives of the student's advisor, his or her current teacher, the anticipated teachers of the advanced course or courses being requested, and the Department Chair. These conversations may also include the Academic Dean, faculty from the Academic Achievement Center, College Counselors, and the Division Head.

- When considering student requests for advanced courses, the School typically includes the following factors in an effort to make sure that each student is appropriately challenged.
- a demonstrated interest in the subject area
- performance in prerequisite and/or comparable courses (typically B+ or higher)
- standardized test scores, when available and appropriate for the course being considered
- a history of completing work consistently and on time
- a demonstrated willingness to seek extra help when needed
- the anticipated workload of the overall requested schedule of academic courses, relative to the current year
- intended area(s) of study in college or other post-graduation plans
- time for participation in school activities outside of coursework, including athletics, fine arts, clubs, and/or service

COMMUNICATIONS

Requirements: Each student must earn 1/2 credit.

Competitive Speech

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Fall only)

Course Description: This course will satisfy the Communications requirement for graduation. Competitive Speech offers direct instruction and practice for modes of speech and acting events that take place at state and national forensic tournaments. These include Original Oratory, Humorous and Dramatic Interpretation, Duo, and others. Through the lens of forensic tournament events, students will develop skills in speech writing, literary interpretation, vocal skills, and acting. No prior experience in forensics is required, but all students will be required to participate in at least one tournament as part of the semester's course work.

Debate

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Fall) or 1 Year

Course Description: This course will satisfy the Communications requirement for graduation. Debate is a course that allows students to gain a deeper understanding of research, writing and competitive speaking. The course provides students with opportunities to use oral argumentation in a variety of settings, gather evidence from a variety of sources, participate in a debate, and use logic to reason clearly. Students learn the purpose and principles of parliamentary procedure, learn the purposes of each of the types of motions, write a formal proposal, debate the proposal, and vote upon it. Additionally, they review the different purposes of public speeches, compare various methods of speech delivery, and construct public speeches including planning, researching, and outlining.

Oral Communications

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester or Summer

Course Description: Oral Communications is a skills-based course that explores a broad range of communication topics including Intrapersonal and Interpersonal communication, vocal production, workplace communication, public speaking, and debate, with public speaking receiving the most emphasis.

ENGLISH

Requirements: Each student must earn one credit per year toward the four credits of English required for graduation. AP® courses are year-long and count as one credit. Seminar courses are semester-long and count as 1/2 credit.

English I: Great Traditions in Literature

Prerequisites: English 8

Grade Level: 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: In this course, students will read and analyze challenging fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama, including works of Dickens and Shakespeare, as well as contemporary literature. Close reading, annotation skills, critical thinking, and analytical writing will be emphasized. Students will demonstrate mastery of the conventions of standard written English and hone personal writing style and voice by writing literary analysis, as well as other essays and projects. Research will be a focus, incorporating current technology and software. Regular vocabulary study from Greek and Latin roots will increase proficiency in reading comprehension, writing, and taking standardized tests.

English II: The Hero with a Thousand Faces

Prerequisites: English I

Grade Level: 10

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: In this course, students will be introduced to a variety of genres in world literature, including Shakespearean tragedy, Homer's epic poetry, novels by Hemingway, Achebe, Hugo, and Martel, and short stories and poetry. This course will further develop strategies to enhance critical reading, annotation skills, grammar and usage, and effective communication. Emphasis is placed on strengthening composition skills through a variety

of analytical and creative writing assignments. Students will continue to learn literary terminology, as well as vocabulary from Greek and Latin roots.

AP® English Language and Composition

Prerequisites: Two consecutive English seminar courses and recommendation of current English teacher OR English II and recommendation of current English teacher.

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This college-level course follows a curriculum approved by the College Board and is designed to cultivate the reading and writing skills that students need for college success and for intellectually responsible civic engagement. The course guides students in becoming curious, critical, and responsive readers of diverse texts and in becoming flexible, reflective writers of texts addressed to diverse audiences for diverse purposes. The reading and writing in this course should deepen and expand students' understanding of how written language functions rhetorically: to communicate writers' intentions and elicit readers' responses in particular situations. The course includes instruction and practice in the close reading of essays, letters, speeches, images, stories, and poems from a body of work that includes fiction and poetry but that is predominantly nonfiction. Students will develop a sophisticated view of language and will consider ideas about the origins, development, and uses of language. Students will also engage in exam-specific preparation, including timed writings and multiple choice exercises.

AP® English Literature and Composition

Prerequisites: Two consecutive English seminar courses and recommendation of current English teacher OR AP® English Language and Composition and recommendation of current English teacher

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course is a college-level course that engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the

ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Students will write original expository, analytical essays, as well as a formal stylistic analysis paper. Students will also be required to write frequent in-class timed essays based on AP® style writing prompts. The course assumes that students have mastered English grammar and annotation and note-taking skills. Students who elect this course must be serious about honing a personal writing style. This AP® course is designed to prepare students to read, write, and think with the same skill as would a college literature course.

English III & IV Seminar Choices

Each of the following courses satisfies 1/2 credit of English III or English IV.

American Modernism (1914-1945)

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students are introduced to the major authors and periods of American literature from 1914-1945, known as the interwar period dealing with the modern world. This period refers to work that represents the transformation of traditional society under the pressures of modernity, and that breaks down traditional literary forms in doing so. Major literary works by Faulkner, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and Steinbeck are included, along with short stories and poetry by Cummings, Eliot, Frost, and Pound. Students will practice close reading, critical analysis, and research. Analytical writing will be required. Students will write to understand and evaluate complex texts. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

Studies in Dystopian Literature

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students will examine dystopian works of literature to explore how authors from various cultures and time periods, including Margaret Atwood, Ray Bradbury, Ursula Le Guin, Aldous Huxley, George Orwell, Jules Verne, and H.G. Wells have attempted to answer the philosophical questions: Can a perfect utopian society ever truly exist? In reading a variety of dystopian novels, short stories, and non-fiction texts, and in viewing dystopian film, students will identify and analyze how dystopian authors turn an inquisitive eye on their own societies. Close reading, critical analysis, research, and analytical writing will be required. Students will write to understand and evaluate complex texts. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

Gothic Literature – Mania and Madness

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students will study the development of the genre of Gothic literature. The psychological theories of Freud and Jung will provide a basis for the analysis of character, setting, and plot in poetry, short fiction, and novels. Students will read poetry such as Browning's "Porphyria's Lover" and Poe's "Annabel Lee"; short fiction, including works by Poe, Irving, Hawthorne, Faulkner, O'Connor, and others. Novels will include Shelley's *Frankenstein*, R. L. Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and Stoker's *Dracula*. Close reading, critical analysis, research, and analytical writing will be required. Students will write to understand and evaluate complex texts. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

The Harlem Renaissance

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students will examine the explosion of cultural and literary African American artistic expression during the first part of the twentieth century known as the Harlem Renaissance (1920s-1930s). Artists associated with the Harlem Renaissance reinforced the theme of slavery versus freedom, highlighting the progress still to be made before blacks would achieve total emancipation in equal rights and privileges. Though centered in New York, the Renaissance was part of a political unrest that reached around the globe. In addition to the fiction and poetry of the Harlem Renaissance writers including Countee Cullen, W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Zora Neal Hurston, Nella Larson, the course will include literary manifestos of the writers and intellectuals reflecting upon their own work, graphic arts, including sculpture and painting, and music, including blues and jazz. Students will practice close reading, critical analysis, and research. They will write to understand and evaluate. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

The Literature of War

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students will examine the paradoxical concept of waging war as an aspect of the human condition, although human beings vow they prize peace. This paradox was expressed by General Robert E. Lee who reflected, "It is well that war is so terrible, lest we become too fond of it." Students will study the experiences of wartime as depicted in the novels *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien, *All Quiet on the Western Front* by Erich Remarque, *Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut, and in the graphic novel *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi. Additionally, students will study poetry

from World War One to Iraq. Students will view war through a variety of perspectives and reflect on the nature of conflict, the essence of heroism, the impact of war on civilians, and their own personal convictions. Close reading, critical analysis, and research will be essential aspects of the course. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations, ranging from Socratic Seminar to leading presentations on popular protest music from the Vietnam Era. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

Southern Literature

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students will examine the regional interests shaping the emergence of Southern literature and the distinctive characteristics of that literature, focusing especially on the writings of William Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor, and Tennessee Williams. Students will identify common themes and characteristics in history, music, film, photography, fiction, poetry, and drama in order to understand how the art and culture of this region function ideologically, religiously, politically, rhetorically, and aesthetically to imagine constructions of Southern and national identities. Students will practice close reading, critical analysis, and research. They will write to understand and evaluate. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

Studies in Literature: Monsters and Magic through the Ages

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students will study monstrous characters and the marvelous realms of the otherworld. Devils,

death, ghosts, goblins and fairies, dragons, Grendel, and gargoyles are all creations from earlier periods of Western culture that have inspired the imaginations of writers and artists since ancient times and continue to engage contemporary audiences. Readings will include the epic Beowulf, Grendel, Tolkien's classic *The Hobbit*, and T. H. White's Arthurian legend, *The Once and Future King*, as well as fairy tales and poetry. Close reading, critical analysis, research, and analytical writing will be required. Students will write to understand and evaluate these complex texts. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

Studies in Literature: Rebellious Women

Prerequisites: English I and English II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this semester seminar course, students are introduced to a survey of literature written about strong women who transgressed, questioned, and did the unexpected in order to remain true to themselves. The course is designed to foster an awareness of the social and historical forces that have affected women's lives during various eras. Readings include Walker's *The Color Purple*, Nafasi's *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, and Portis's *True Grit*. Close reading, critical analysis, research, and analytical writing will be required. Students will write to understand and evaluate complex texts. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through oral discussion and class presentations. Annotation skills will continue to be emphasized to prepare students for readings and lectures at the college level. Consistent vocabulary study will include words in context and application.

ENGLISH ELECTIVE COURSES

The following courses may be taken as an elective, but they do not satisfy the graduation requirement for English.

Creative Writing

Prerequisites: Recommendation of Instructor.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Literary discovery and self-discovery are goals of Creative Writing. The course will provide opportunities for the imaginative exploration of the genres of short fiction, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction. Students will read examples of a variety of genres, learn how to use literary elements, descriptive writing techniques, critiques, and evaluation as part of the writing process, and generate original pieces in a workshop atmosphere. The students will also publish *Reverie*, the literary magazine of Episcopal Collegiate School.

Film Studies

Prerequisites: Recommendation of Instructor

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Stories are an essential part of every human culture; they help us to glean life lessons and to understand ourselves and our place in the world with others. The means by which these stories are told—whether written, spoken, or performed on stage or screen—influence the way we approach and interpret them. While it may be influenced by written work, film should be considered an entirely unique art form for the purposes of critique and analysis. This course explores the complexities of film genres, use of cinematic techniques to convey stories, and directional styles. Students will view, research, and analyze films and produce a variety of written and creative assignments.

Shakespearean Drama: The Play's the Thing

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this course, students will read and study Shakespearean plays not currently covered in the English curriculum. Through reading a history, a comedy, and a romance, in addition to a tragedy, the student will be able to grasp the breadth and depth of Shakespeare's genius. Student writing will include informal,

reader-response pieces and more structured, analytical essays. Students will read examples of each genre and learn how to use literary elements, descriptive writing techniques, and evaluation as part of the writing process as students generate original works in each genre. When possible, students will see live performances of Shakespearean plays.

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Requirements: Civics and Economics, Survey of World History or AP® World History, Survey of United States History or AP® United States History.

Civics and Economics

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This required freshman history course will introduce students to important concepts in civics and economics. The course covers all of the civics and economics standards as outlined by the Arkansas Department of Education. The scope and sequence weaves the curricula together, highlighting the constant interaction between the two concepts. The Civics course work will focus on the structure and function of government at the national, state, and local levels. Special emphasis will be placed on constitutional principles, the rights of individuals in a democracy, the roles of political parties and interest groups, and the participation of an informed citizenry in democratic processes. Economics course work will emphasize economic fundamentals, the role of the market in a global society, and personal finance.

World History

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 10

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course provides students with a survey of World History from its beginnings to the present. It includes an exploration of the geographic influences on history, the evolution of nations, and the scientific and technological revolutions, all of which created new economic conditions and produced critical social and political changes. Emphasis is placed on recognizing

historical themes and writing about them analytically.

AP® World History

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 10

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course develops greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contact and interaction with different types of human societies, building on an understanding of cultural, institutional, technological, and geographical precedents. It is designed to help students think critically and analytically, write persuasively, discuss articulately, and read extensively with content mastery and discernment. This course is writing intensive and is designed to promote sophisticated research and writing appropriate for students of history entering college.

United States History

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 11

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course covers the broad aspects of U.S. history beginning with pre-Colombian settlements and continuing through Modern America. Major topics covered include colonization, the creation of the nation, territorial expansion, Reconstruction, the emergence of modern America, and the wars and conflicts in which the United States has been involved. The course also focuses on the continued development of writing and critical analysis skills.

AP® United States History

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: AP® United States History is a challenging course that is meant to be the equivalent of an introductory-level college course. This course examines American history from pre-Colombian settlements to the present, focusing on key events and figures. Emphasis is placed on reading, essay writing, critical and evaluative thinking skills, and interpretation.

AP® European History

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Advanced Placement European History focuses on the basic chronology, events, and trends from the Renaissance to the present. This course also introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping modern Europe. The goals of this course are to develop an understanding of the principal themes in modern European history, to learn to analyze historical evidence, and to express historical understanding in writing.

AP® Psychology

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: AP® Psychology is a college-level introduction to psychological and brain science. The course is designed as an introduction to the environmental and biological processes that affect human thought and behavior. Students will use biological, behavioral, social, perceptual, and cognitive approaches to evaluate major developments in psychological research.

AP® US Government and Politics/ AP® Comparative Government and Politics

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Using a Socratic seminar approach to teaching and learning, this course introduces students to political philosophy, federal institutions and policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the political culture of the United States from its inception through the current election cycle. The course examines politically significant concepts and themes, and the conflict and connections between policy and politics. Through the application of sound reasoning, critical thinking, and analytical writing, students will assess causes and consequences of political events, interpret data to develop

evidence-based arguments, and engage in today's political culture within the United States and abroad through the study of international relations.

Students will be required to take both the AP® United States Government AP® exam and the AP® Comparative Government AP® exam in May.

Seminar in Southern History: The Antebellum South: Sectionalism, and Slavery, 1787-1861

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This elective history course, available to tenth through twelfth graders, emphasizes a particular topic in Southern history from 1787 to present. Although the topics vary annually, the goals of the course remain static. Students will analyze and synthesize prominent historians' arguments and produce a brief and scholarly history of a chosen topic. While the course is reading-intensive, much of the evaluation will rely on ability to participate in class discussions, demonstrating proper understanding of course materials through essays and projects.

Latin American Studies

Prerequisites: None

Grade Levels: 10 -12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This elective history, geography, and cultural studies interdisciplinary course explores the history, languages, culture, human geography, sociology, politics, and global connections of pre- and post-colonial Latin America. While this course will consider a variety of perspectives on issues and topics researched, Latin American Studies will target the agency of the indigenous peoples of the regions, beginning with the first settlers tens of thousands of years ago to the modern Mayans still living in Guatemala and Mexico. This interdisciplinary course is intended as an introduction to the rich and diverse cultures and societies of Latin America, spanning many different types of economic and political systems, religions, and cultures. Latin American Studies is recommended for any students with an interest in the Spanish language or contemporary life in the Western Hemisphere.

Economics and Entrepreneurship

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 10- 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Economics and Entrepreneurship focuses on basic economic influences in society, how they work and how to work with them. Students analyze the micro- and macro-economic concepts associated with entrepreneurship in a market economy, including: measurements of economic activity, growth, inflation employment/unemployment, and business cycles. Students also are provided with opportunities to research, write about, and participate in entrepreneurship activities. Additionally, students will interact with local guest speakers and have opportunities in the Little Rock community to understand and engage in entrepreneurship. Central goals of the course are: to develop and strengthen students' analytical abilities that they can use to analyze important and complex economic questions; and to have students participate in real-world entrepreneurship.

Vietnam

Prerequisites: Survey of U.S. History or

AP® U.S. History

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This course focuses on the origins, events, consequences and legacies of the Vietnam conflict. Through an emphasis on the role of the United States in Vietnam, the course begins with a brief history of French colonialism and the rise of Vietnamese nationalism which led to the First Indochina war, and continues until the end of U.S.involvement in Vietnam. Through the use of books, film, music, and primary source documents, students gain an understanding of the conflict and the controversy surrounding it.

AP® Capstone Program

“AP® Capstone is an innovative diploma program from the College Board that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. AP® Capstone is built on the foundation of two AP® courses - AP® Seminar and AP® Research - and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study experienced in other AP® courses.”

AP® Seminar

Prerequisites: Oral Communications or Debate and approval

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: “AP® Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.”*

* College Board. AP® Seminar. N.p.: College Board, 2016. College Board. College Board, Dec. 2016. Web. 20 Jan. 2017. <<http://media.collegeboard.com/digitalServices/pdf/ap/ap-course-overviews/ap-seminar-course-overview.pdf>>.

AP® Research

Prerequisites: AP® Seminar

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: “AP® Research, the second course in the AP® Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic problem, issue, topic, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a year-long investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP® Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. In AP® Research, students cultivate the skills and discipline necessary to conduct independent research and

inquiry in order to produce and defend their scholarly work. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000 to 5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.”*

* College Board. AP® Research. N.p.: College Board, 2016. College Board. College Board, Dec. 2016. Web. 20 Jan. 2017. <<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/ap/ap-course-overviews/ap-research-course-overview.pdf>>.

MATHEMATICS

Requirements: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus. Four credits of Mathematics.

Algebra I

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 8, 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course focuses on the relationships between functions, graphs and tables as well as the use of functions to model real-world relationships. Algebra I studies linear functions. Students develop proficiency in writing and simplifying mathematical expressions, performing operations with polynomials, and solving both equations and inequalities. Algebra I also integrates geometry throughout the course.

Advanced Algebra I

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra or Advanced

Pre-Algebra and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 8, 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Like Algebra I, this course focuses on the relationships between functions, graphs and tables, as well as using functions to model real-world relationships. The functions studied in Advanced Algebra I include both linear and quadratic. Students develop proficiency in writing and simplifying mathematical expressions, performing operations with polynomials, and solving both equations and inequalities. Students are expected to apply concepts in this course, thus allowing them to cover more topics in preparation for Advanced Geometry and Advanced Algebra II.

Geometry

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 9, 10

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Geometry is an integrated study of Euclidean and 3-D geometry as well as the geometric foundations of trigonometry. This is a one-year course in the figures of geometry and the nature of proofs, including work with points, lines, angles, polygons, and circles. Algebraic skills will be applied to solving problems in plane and space geometry, trigonometry, area, and volume. Emphasis will be on problem solving and applications. The course will also include development of conjectures into theorems. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

Advanced Geometry

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 9, 10

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Advanced Geometry is an integrated study of Euclidean and 3-D geometry and beginning trigonometry. The course content contains the traditional tools of geometry in addition to problem-solving and standardized test skills, as well as trigonometric concepts. Proof is used to develop reasoning skills and to gain an appreciation of the relationships among geometric principles. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

Algebra II

Prerequisites: Geometry and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 10, 11

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Algebra II presents more complex ideas and applications of algebra and provides the skills necessary for students to advance through Pre-Calculus and beyond. The course offers a broad survey of advanced algebraic skills, as well as a comprehensive study of real-world applications. In addition to application problems and skill development activities, students will hone their standardized test and problem-solving skills. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

Advanced Algebra II

Prerequisites: Advanced Geometry and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 10, 11

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Advanced Algebra II provides a faster-paced learning environment that extends and builds upon algebraic concepts and helps to build problem-solving skills. Students will investigate the basic functions and their relationships, with an emphasis on graphing functions, solving equations, and real-world applications. The course is designed to prepare students who will continue into Advanced Pre-Calculus, and then continue on to AP Calculus or AP Statistics, as well as advanced college math courses. Graphing calculators are used extensively. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The course further develops students' abilities to problem-solve, communicate, and reason mathematically. This full-year course contains a thorough investigation of the basic functions and their relationships. The functions studied include polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric. Students will be prepared to continue these investigations in calculus. This course relies heavily on the use of graphing calculators. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

Advanced Pre-Calculus

Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra II and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Advanced Pre-Calculus, a combination of advanced algebra and trigonometry is a thorough preparation for Advanced Placement Calculus for students of strong mathematical maturity. Exponential, Logarithmic and trigonometric functions will be studied both graphically and analytically. Also included are

such topics as the polar coordinate system, conics, vectors, and an introduction to sequences, series, and limits. This course relies heavily on the use of graphing calculators. The TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

College Algebra

Prerequisites: Algebra II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course is offered in conjunction with the University of Central Arkansas for college credit and is equivalent to MATH 1390. It is the expectation that eligible students enrolled in the concurrent credit course will sign-up for the concurrent credit and take the exam. This course provides a solid foundation of algebraic concepts. The course includes the study of functions, relations, graphing, and problem solving, and provides knowledge of how to apply these concepts to real problem situations. The TI-84 graphing calculator is required. functions, relations, graphing, and problem solving, and provides knowledge of how to apply these concepts to real problem situations. The TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Probability and Statistics

Prerequisites: Algebra II

Grade level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 semester

Course Description: This course is offered in conjunction with the University of Central Arkansas for college credit, and is equivalent to Elementary Statistics (MATH 2311). It is the expectation that eligible students enrolled in the concurrent credit course will sign-up for the concurrent credit and take the exam. This course introduces the student to the necessary building blocks to develop statistical techniques in order to infer about the population of interest based on the sample data collected from the population. They include understanding different types of data, different methods of collecting sample data, descriptive analysis of sample data, probability theory, sampling distributions and techniques, including point estimation, interval estimation, and hypothesis testing. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

Calculus

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This course focuses on strengthening foundational algebra techniques. Calculus topics include introductions to limits, derivatives, optimization, and marginal analysis. Problem solving and calculator technology will be emphasized. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

AP[®] Calculus AB

Prerequisites: Advanced Pre-Calculus and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This Advanced Placement course in calculus focuses on developing a strong understanding of the concepts, applications, and methods of calculus. AP[®] Calculus AB encourages students to approach learning concepts and problems graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The topics covered include differentiation and integration of polynomial, logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometric functions. The AP[®] Calculus AB exam is intended to cover the equivalent of a semester of college calculus at a depth appropriate for a science or engineering major. Additional topics not required by the AB exam may be covered if time permits. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

AP[®] Calculus BC

Prerequisites: Advanced Pre-Calculus and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: AP[®] Calculus BC will cover all topics of Calculus AB with the addition of indeterminate forms, infinite series, vector calculus and calculus of polar graphs. Emphasis will be placed on the analysis of functions graphically, numerically, algebraically and verbally. The AP[®] Calculus BC exam is intended to cover the equivalent of a full year of college calculus at a depth appropriate for a science or engineering major. The TI-84C graphing calculator is required.

AP® Statistics

Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra II/ Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The statistics course is designed to be similar to an introductory, algebra-based college course in statistics. The topics for Advanced Placement Statistics are divided into four major themes: exploratory analysis, planning a study, probability, and statistical inference. Exploratory analysis of data makes use of graphical and numerical techniques to study patterns and departure from patterns. Data must be collected according to a well-developed plan if valid information or conjecture is to be obtained. Probability is the tool used for anticipating what the distribution of data should look like under a given model. Statistical inference guides the selection of appropriate models. Students will be required to use technology, including graphing calculators, internet applets, and statistical software to make connections in each area.

Three-Dimensional Modeling

Prerequisites: Algebra II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In this class students will explore, model, and design two- and three-dimensional objects. The course will integrate a variety of 21st-century tools including but not limited to 3D printing, 3D modeling software and dynamic mathematics software. Students will learn how to use equations such as linear, quadratic, polynomial, conic, square root, rational and trigonometric to create and model objects and animations. Students will present and critique work, and they will compile a digital portfolio that documents their innovations.

Coding and Logic

Prerequisites: Algebra II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Effective computer programming begins with a solid understanding of math, especially logic. This class explores logical reasoning and the process of applying logic

to computer programming. Students will then apply these concepts to design and development of computer and web-based applications.

Advanced Topics

Prerequisites: AP Calculus BC

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course will serve as an introduction to ordinary differential equations. This course will demonstrate the usefulness of ordinary differential equations in a wide array of situations. Topics to be discussed are: first order differential equations, second order linear equations, and higher order linear equations. The course will then transition to include an introduction to multivariable calculus. Multivariable calculus topics will include learning how to describe lines, planes, and a variety of other surfaces in space. They then apply the tools of calculus to functions in three dimensional spaces. We will introduce vector-calculus skills, partial derivatives, and multiple integration. In spring semester, we will study the equivalent of an introductory semester college curriculum in logic. This will include analysis of arguments in ordinary language, traditional syllogistic arguments, and modern symbolic logic.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Requirements: One semester Physical Education course and one semester Health course

Physical Education

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This course will fulfill the physical education requirement. It is a foundation course, which emphasizes concepts of an overall health, fitness, and wellness education, particularly improvement of health-related fitness components. The main activities to achieve this goal are the following: aerobics jogging, physical conditioning, stress management, strength training, and recreational activities. Classes will focus on helping students take responsibility for their own activity,

fitness, and health and prepare them to be physically active and healthy throughout their daily lives.

Health

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: rising 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This course will fulfill the Health requirement set forth by ANSAA. The course will focus on eight major topics of concern today: nutrition, community, personal and environmental health, human anatomy, safety and first aid, mental health, drugs, and sexuality. Additional topics may be covered at the instructor's discretion. Each subject is pursued with peer group reflection, when applicable, on the benefits of choosing a healthy lifestyle as well as the hazards of living a non-healthy lifestyle.

Health (Online)

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 9 - 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester or Summer

Course Description: This course will fulfill the Health requirement set forth by ANSAA and will be administered online. The health course will focus on eight major topics of concern today: nutrition, community, personal and environmental health, human anatomy, safety and first aid (including CPR), mental health, drug abuse, and sexuality. Additional topics may be covered at the instructor's discretion. Each subject is pursued with peer group reflection, when applicable, on the benefits of choosing a healthy lifestyle as well as the hazards of living a non-healthy lifestyle. The instructor will have posted office hours for face-to-face meetings during the semester course. Additionally, students taking the online course during the school year will be required to attend three face-to-face meetings scheduled at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of the semester. Students who take the summer course will be required to complete an equivalent of 60 hours of work in order to satisfy the semester requirement. The course will span a nine-week period with dates to be announced in early March. Students who take the summer online course are required to attend an on-campus orientation on the last day of semester exams.

Wildcat Wellness, Strength, and Conditioning

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester or Summer

Course Description: This course will meet the physical education requirement or can be taken as an elective. This course will teach students the various aspects of personal fitness, including proper nutrition and weight management. It will also focus on strength training, using free weights and machines. Students will learn correct lifting and spotting techniques to promote safety. It will be a goal of the class to help students develop an understanding of lifetime fitness and the knowledge to develop a program of their own. Students who take the summer course will be required to complete 60 hours in order to satisfy the semester requirement. Students will meet on campus three days a week (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday) for three hours (9 am - noon) per day and will complete an additional three hours per week off-campus. The course will span five weeks, with dates to be announced in early March. Students who do not complete 45 hours will not receive credit for the course.

Wildcat Wellness, Strength, and Conditioning: Introduction to Stretch, Strength, and Balance

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This course will meet the physical education requirement or can be taken as an elective. It is a foundation course with an emphasis on simplicity, repetition, and ease of movement. Students will learn basic postures that are practiced to align, strengthen, increase flexibility and promote balance in the body. Students will develop an understanding of individual differences and acquire a non-competitive, positive self image in regard to their own body. It will be a goal of the class to help students develop, achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness and gain the knowledge to develop a program of their own.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Requirements: 1/2 credit of Religious Studies

World Religions

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9-12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: An exploration in the human experience of the sacred and secular, this course is a study of the world's major religions: Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. This course presents an intellectual foundation for comprehending and appreciating the unique beliefs and practices of each religion, as well as presenting pluralism as one of the great spiritual challenges of our times.

SCIENCE

Requirements: Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Advanced Physics

Biology

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Biology is the study of living things—from bacteria and fungi to plants and animals, from single-celled to multicellular organisms, from the extinct to the extant. The course focuses on several major unifying principles that are the underpinnings of introductory biology: the nature of science, chemistry, cell structure and function, central dogma, genetics, evolution, ecology and diversity of life. With extensive laboratory investigations, students interpret analytical data and learn research techniques.

AP[®] Biology

Prerequisites: Biology and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Advanced Placement Biology is for students who wish to learn the biological principles presented in a first-year college course. Lab work will be extensive. The student is expected to gain knowledge of facts, principles, and chemical processes. Scientific

reasoning, interpreting data, and designing experiments are a major focus.

Chemistry

Prerequisites: Biology

Co-requisite: Algebra II

Grade Level: 10, 11

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The Chemistry course is designed to prepare students for college-level chemistry. Chemistry emphasizes both a conceptual and mathematical understanding of chemistry. Students will perform a variety of laboratory experiments to gain first-hand knowledge of how chemical reactions occur and how these changes are the basis for understanding chemistry. First semester topics include laboratory and measurement techniques, atomic structure, nuclear chemistry, the periodic table, and chemical bonding. Second semester topics include chemical reactions, organic chemistry, gas laws, equilibrium, and solution chemistry.

AP[®] Chemistry

Prerequisites: Chemistry, Algebra II, and

Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The AP[®] Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of a first-year college chemistry course. The course is geared to meet the needs of highly-motivated high school students with solid backgrounds in math and science. The course provides an intensive qualitative and quantitative study of the structure and states of matter, chemical reactions, equilibrium, thermodynamics, and kinetics. Emphasis will be placed on developing analytical thinking, communication skills, problem-solving skills, and laboratory techniques.

Physics

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Chemistry

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Physics brings the world around the student to life. The goal is for students to gain an appreciation of their physical world in a way they have not considered before. The fundamentals of physics are emphasized in a

conceptual manner. Students will perform a variety of laboratory experiments and other hands-on activities throughout the year. Topics include classical mechanics, waves, optics, electromagnetism, and relativity. These will be covered at the algebra- and geometry- based level with an emphasis on physical concepts.

Advanced Physics

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Chemistry with recommendation of an instructor.

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course is an advanced introduction to physics, emphasizing both the conceptual and the mathematical underpinnings of physics. Advanced Physics is designed for students who have a passion for science and want to experience and understand their physical world in a deeper manner. With greater mathematical rigor, this course prepares students to take AP® Physics as seniors. Students will perform a variety of laboratory experiments and other hands-on activities throughout the year. Course topics include classical mechanics, waves, optics, electromagnetism, and relativity.

AP® Physics C

Prerequisites: Advanced Physics and recommendation. Prior or concurrent enrollment in Calculus is required.

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course is designed to be the equivalent of a first-semester university physics course with enrichment. Topics in classical mechanics will be covered at the calculus-based level. During the fourth quarter, the course will be enhanced with special topics selected based upon student interest. Past topics have included circuits, particle physics, and relativity. Calculus is used freely in formulating principles and solving problems. Incorporated into the course are opportunities for students to design their own labs to test physical theory.

Anatomy and Physiology

Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry

Grade Level: 11, 12 or Instructor Approval

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Anatomy and Physiology is intended for students who are curious about the human body and want to know more about how this amazing machine works. The study of the human body will be organized by systems. Each system will be investigated from three approaches: 1) the individual organs and their tissue makeup, 2) how the organs function individually and collectively, and 3) the more common diseases and defects. This course involves a considerable amount of memorization. Laboratory investigations, including microscope work and dissections, are also a part of the course.

Astronomy

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 11, 12 or Instructor Approval

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This is a survey course providing an introduction to the field of astronomy. The course will present a basic understanding of the history of astronomy, orbits, gravitation, optics and the properties of light and matter. With these basics, the course will go on to explore the Sun and the other components of the Solar System as well as properties of the universe beyond our solar system, including stars, nebulae, pulsars, black holes, galaxies, quasar, and the Big Bang. Students will examine a range of natural phenomena that includes different types of stars and how these fit together in the general scheme of a galaxy. Evening observing sessions with telescopes and visits to an observatory and/or planetarium may be included.

Environmental Science

Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry

Grade Level: 11, 12 or Instructor Approval

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Environmental science seeks to understand and to solve real-world problems, problems that have a scientific basis but also a social context. While environmental science embraces a wide variety of topics from different fields of study, the following unifying themes provide the structure of the course: science is a process; energy conversions underlie all ecological processes; the earth itself is one interconnected system; humans alter natural systems; environmental problems exist within a

cultural and political framework; and human survival depends on developing practices that achieve sustainable yields. Lab work, field studies, projects and off-campus excursions will be significant components of the course.

Genetics

Prerequisites: Biology

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This course will provide an overview of the branch of science that studies the form and function of genetic code in living organisms. The curriculum will include Mendelian Genetics, Molecular Genetics, and Genetic Therapy in the possible treatment of genetic diseases.

TECHNOLOGY

Coding and Video Game Design

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 semester

Course Description: Coding and Video Game Design will give students a chance to explore ways to create digital assets; from 3D models and textures to scripts and programs. The class will offer examples of different coding languages and give students an understanding of where each one could be best used for different applications. Along with programming, students will learn how to make images, icons, and models for user interfaces and gameplay. Each new program will have a challenge or project associated with it so that students can further develop problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Upper School Exploratory Design

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 semester

Course Description: Exploratory Design will offer engaging learning experiences across a broad spectrum of skills and disciplines. Over the course of the semester, Exploratory Design will challenge students to model, build, test, and iterate

on designs using additive and subtractive manufacturing, computer-aided design, and hands-on tools and fabrication methods. In working through these projects, students will grow their abilities to problem solve, think critically, and work collaboratively.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Requirements: One Credit Elective

Competitive Speech

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Fall only)

Course Description: This course will satisfy the Communications requirement for graduation. Competitive Speech offers direct instruction and practice for modes of speech and acting events that take place at state and national forensic tournaments. These include Original Oratory, Humorous and Dramatic Interpretation, Duo, and others. Through the lens of forensic tournament events, students will develop skills in speech writing, literary interpretation, vocal skills, and acting. No prior experience in forensics is required, but all students will be required to participate in at least one tournament as part of the semester's course work.

Debate

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Fall) or 1 Year

Course Description: This course will satisfy the Communications requirement for graduation. Debate is a course that allows students to gain a deeper understanding of research, writing and competitive speaking. The course provides students with opportunities to use oral argumentation in a variety of settings, gather evidence from a variety of sources, participate in a debate, and use logic to reason clearly. Students learn the purpose and principles of parliamentary procedure, learn the purposes of each of the types of motions, write a formal proposal, debate the proposal, and vote upon it. Additionally, they review the different purposes of public speeches, compare various methods of speech delivery, and construct

public speeches including planning, researching, and outlining.

Oral Communications

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester or Summer

Course Description: Oral Communications is a skills-based course that explores a broad range of communication topics including Intrapersonal and Interpersonal communication, vocal production, workplace communication, public speaking, and debate, with public speaking receiving the most emphasis.

Video Production I

(formerly Introduction to Broadcast Journalism)

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Video Production I is an introductory video production class. Students in this semester-length class will become proficient in the fundamentals of shooting, writing, editing, and storyboarding in a collaborative setting for the purpose of storytelling for film or broadcast. Students will learn the terminology of video production and use this terminology competently. They will gain skills in camera operation, audio control, basic directing, lighting, and editing on the digital nonlinear program, Final Cut.

Video Production II

(formerly Advanced Broadcast Journalism)

Prerequisites: Video Production I (Intro. To Broadcast Journalism) and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Video Production II is a year long course that expands upon the Video Production I course for the student who wishes to further expand his or her proficiency in production. Students in this advanced course are members of the leadership staff which produces “ECTV News” and special projects and productions. In addition to the contributions to the school community. Video Production II students will represent Episcopal Collegiate School at state, regional and national level competitions.

Publication Design

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester or 1 Year

Course Description: Students explore ideas and gain skills in the following areas: creative and journalistic writing, editing, page design, advanced publishing techniques and tools, and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook to document school memories and events. The course emphasizes journalism skills, and participants gain useful experience with software tools, time management, marketing, blogging, teamwork, and design principles. Students can take one or both semesters.

Art Foundations

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: An introductory survey course for students in grades 9 - 12. This class is designed to give students the opportunity to explore a variety of art such as drawing, painting, printmaking, 3D (ceramics or sculpture) and art history. Students will develop a visual and structural understanding of processes, techniques, materials and concepts for developing ideas in sketchbooks and creating art. A variety of projects will be created including drawing, painting, collage and 3D. Students will also become critical thinkers through analysis of art, the art elements and design principles within composition, and reflection of work.

Drawing I-III

Prerequisite: MS Art or Art Foundations

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Drawing builds and extends the basic drawing knowledge gained in previous studio courses and refines the student's skills. Students will work on varied surfaces and use different drawing media. The subjects of study will be based on direct observations and the artist's imagination. Art history and current art movements will be introduced into the lessons throughout the semester to enhance the students' final pieces. Students will be required to maintain an art binder

to keep sketches, classroom handouts, and reflections that critically analyze the work completed in class.

Painting I-III

Prerequisite: MS Art or Foundations

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Painting builds and extends the basic knowledge of painting gained in previous studio courses and refines the student's skills. Students will work with wet media on varied surfaces and with watercolor, tempera, ink, and acrylic. The subjects of study will be based on direct observations and on the artist's imagination. This course will support and refine the student's painting skill set and will help the student develop personal style, media, and voice. Students will use basic drawing skills to lay out the painting compositions. Art history and specific art movements will be introduced into the lessons to enhance student work. Students will be required to maintain an art binder to keep sketches, classroom handouts, and reflections that critically analyze work completed in class.

Printmaking I-III

Prerequisite: Drawing I

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Printmaking is designed to explore and introduce different printmaking processes. Students will learn how to work with the printing press and how to create a variety of plates to create a print. The manipulation of ink, paper, and print transfers will open a whole new way of manipulating the artist's art-making skills. The processes the course will explore include relief and intaglio. Students will learn how prints differ from other traditional forms and how to develop their personal voice within the lessons. Students will be required to maintain an art binder for sketches, classroom handouts, and reflections that critically analyze the art work completed in class.

Ceramics I-III

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Ceramics, the art and craft of working with clay, is a class where students will be learning the basic principles of art and design through handbuilding and wheel throwing clay. Students will learn and explore a variety of handbuilding construction methods and learn technical skills to create functional work, like monster mugs or a teapot animal with tea cups, to conceptual work, such as looking at identity or the environment for inspiration. Students are encouraged to develop personal expression throughout all artwork. Students will also learn how to glaze their ceramics and use alternate methods to paint the clay surface.

Students who take Ceramics II, and III will expand on skills and ideas from Ceramics I. Students will be encouraged to develop more skills and further their personal expression through more independent work. In all Ceramics Classes students will explore historical and contemporary works as well as use critical thinking methods to write and critique art. Most of all though, working with clay is a lot of fun!

Digital Mixed Media I-III

Prerequisite: MS Art, Art Foundation, Drawing, or Painting

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Digital Mixed Media Class is designed for students interested in learning the art and practice of digital photography and mixed medias. Students will learn how to use their camera and its functions, understand composition and explore traditional digital printing and alternative printing. The primary focus of the class will include shooting with a camera (not a cell phone), but also editing images in photoshop and learning various processes of printing, thus mixing media with photo. Students will learn the history of photography and design, research artists, create photo assignments, and expect to keep a binder and/or sketchbook for ideas and homework. Students will be required to supply their own digital camera and flash drive.

Senior Studio Art Seminar

Prerequisites: Art Foundations, Drawing, Painting, or Sculpture AND Instructor Approval
Grade Level: 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: For the committed artistic Senior that would like to create a body of work for a show at the end of the semester. The student will develop ideas and concepts through sketchbook and material experimentation, to create a directed series of artwork in the media of their choice. The teacher will support, guide, demonstrate techniques, and give feedback to the student for composition and deeper meaning in their work. Sketchbook inquiry drawing, critique and reflection of work is expected in class. At the end of second semester Seniors will exhibit their work as a show; learning the fundamentals of how to hang and present their work in a professional gallery setting. Seniors will also create their own website for the culmination of their work.

AP® Studio Art: 2D, Drawing, 3D

Prerequisites: Art Foundations, Drawing, Painting, or Sculpture AND Instructor Approval
Grade Level: 11, 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: AP® Studio Art is a college level yearlong art class for the serious and motivated art student. It is a course designed and graded by AP College Board Standards. Strong skills in drawing, painting and composition required for 2D. Students in 3D must have strong knowledge in ceramics or sculpture with a variety of materials experience and methods of construction from previous sculpture or ceramic courses. Students will create a sustained investigation(s) throughout the year that grow and develop their ideas and concepts for creating their portfolio. Students will create 8 – 15 works of art in a year. It is expected of the student to document the inquiry and process of their work in their sketchbooks by guiding questions, practice, experimentation and revising, that will be included in the final portfolio. Sketchbook documentation, research of artists, history and influences are expected part of the students' work as part of the required AP® Portfolio as well.

Concert Choir

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Concert Choir is the premiere vocal ensemble at Episcopal Collegiate. Theoretical and historical musical knowledge is extended through this course as students rehearse and perform literature from various cultures and stylistic periods. The ongoing development of proper singing technique and music reading skills are practiced on a daily basis in rehearsal. Concert Choir members perform studied literature regularly in chapel, concerts, competitions, and special events.

AP® Music Theory

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: AP® Music Theory will serve to strengthen and enhance the student's oral, aural, and analytical skills. This will be accomplished through the study of the elements of music (pitch, rhythm, melody, harmony and texture) and through the development of composition, analytical, and sight-singing skills. Possessing a greater understanding of the structure of music enables the performer to make informed choices of interpretation and the listener to appreciate at a deeper level what he or she is hearing. This course will not only benefit those students who are in a performing ensemble at Episcopal Collegiate, but also those who are interested in continuing music studies in college as well as those who merely seek to achieve a deeper understanding of music.

Music and Culture: A Cultural History Viewed from the Lens of Music

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: Music and Culture is a study of the different ways the human experience is reflected in the musical arts. Students in this course will develop skills necessary to appreciate western music in a meaningful way by studying and evaluating basic musical terminology and notation as well

as standard formal designs used within western musical repertoire. A study of the stylistic elements that characterize historical periods and their composers, relationships between music and society and effective listening techniques will be featured prominently in the curriculum. Attendance to live performances with written reflections will round out this rich and informative course offering. (Fall 2021/ Spring 2022: Early Renaissance - 20th Century)

Orchestra

Prerequisites: Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course is for those students who have mastered the fundamental techniques involved in playing a string instrument and would like to further develop their playing ability. The music will become increasingly more difficult as the year progresses and as students work on advancing their technique and sound. Orchestra members will perform regularly at concerts, competitions, and special events.

Percussion Ensemble I

(formerly Beginning Percussion Ensemble)

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This beginning percussion course will introduce students to all of the instruments that make up the percussion section, including mallet and keyboard percussion, snare drum and timpani, and drum set. The class also focuses on world percussion and music created by different cultures from around the globe, including West Africa, Brazil, Cuba, and the Middle East. Not only do the students study this music, they have the opportunity to perform the music in a variety of venues, including chapel performances, community events, school-sponsored events, home football games, pep rallies, and the annual percussion ensemble concert.

Percussion Ensemble II

(formerly Intermediate Percussion Ensemble)

Prerequisites: Percussion Ensemble I (Beginning Percussion)

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Percussion Ensemble II puts into practice and further explores the skills and techniques acquired in Percussion Ensemble I. While world percussion is still a feature of the course, there is a greater emphasis put into the traditional percussion ensemble repertoire. Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to play a greater number of the accessory percussion instruments involved in Western percussion repertoire, including bass drum, cymbals, triangle, tambourine, timpani, and other accessory instruments. In addition, the repertoire will increasingly feature one player per part, developing the student's ability to play independently of other instruments. Students will continue their study of percussion through the use of Teaching Percussion by Gary Cook. Intermediate percussion students will maintain the performing schedule found in beginning percussion classes.

Percussion Ensemble III

(formerly Advanced Percussion Ensemble)

Prerequisites: Percussion Ensemble II (Middle or Upper School)

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Percussion Ensemble III serves as an extension to the concepts started in Percussion Ensemble II. This course will further develop the student's understanding of percussion, not only through the ability to perform on the individual instruments of the percussion family, but through focused reading and research of drumming and the percussion heritage of different cultures from around the world. Students will become proficient at playing the individual instruments that make up the percussion family, including, but not limited to: orchestral percussion (snare drum, timpani, cymbals, accessories), drum set, mallet instruments (marimba, xylophone, bells, chimes), and world percussion (African and Afro-Cuban). The course will also emphasize chamber music performance.

Acting

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This one-semester course

examines the role of the actor in the theatrical process. The course focuses on developing each actor's unique physical and vocal instrument and honing that instrument toward performance of scripted and improvisational actions in the presence of an audience.

Technical Theatre

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: This one-semester course examines the role of technical theatre in the overall theatre production process by teaching the basic skills and vocabulary used by theatre technicians. The skills include basic set construction, manipulating stage lighting, basic theatre maintenance, and basic set design.

Theatre Practicum

Prerequisites: Acting or Technical Theatre
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Course Description: In Theatre Practicum, students will spend the semester working on at least three self-guided theatrical projects of their choosing and will assist in the production of the school play. Projects may include an audition sequence, a set design, a playwriting project, or any other theatrical project approved by the instructor.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Requirements: Three credits of the same world language while in the Upper School

French I

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 7 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The goal in French is two-fold: first, to introduce students to essential grammar and vocabulary in the target language, and second, to create a connection with the francophone world through consistent study of and interaction with authentic cultural materials. The purpose of this is to form a bond between the student and the language, while giving him or

her tools needed to interact and to communicate in France and other French-speaking regions of the world. Students will be exposed to the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), and will be required to exercise them daily through oral and written activities.

French II

Prerequisites: French I
Grade Level: 8 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: This course will expand upon content and skills from French I. Students will continue to develop speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. More advanced grammatical structures and complex tenses, such as the past perfect and object pronouns, will be introduced. Grammar lessons will be reinforced through daily conversation practice and varied written activities. Francophone culture will continue to be explored, with a focus on France.

French III

Prerequisites: French II
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: French III is intended to serve as an immersion into the French language. Students will improve their competence with the language through both in-depth analysis of grammar previously learned as well as the introduction of more complex structures such as the imperfect, simple future, and conditional tense. The focus will be on improving communication skills, both written and oral. Students will also start discussing and analysing world issues such as access to education and the practices of a healthy lifestyle. Conversations will be more in depth than previous years and will be inspired by a continued study of francophone cultures.

French IV

Prerequisites: French III
Grade Level: 10-12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The focus of French IV will be francophone cultures. Additionally, all four language skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) will continue to be developed. Students will gain a depth of knowledge of French culture and society through various mediums such as

literature, informational texts, and audio sources. Students will learn to both intake information and produce language at a higher level, through the continued development of reading strategies, analytical skills, written expression, and daily spoken output. This course is taught primarily in French, and students are expected to respond primarily in French. The daily opportunities for spoken French will further the development of proficiency and confidence as students continue to acquire the skill of circumlocution.

AP® French Language

Prerequisites: French IV and Instructor Approval (or French III and Instructor Approval, on a case-by-case basis)
Grade Level: 11, 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The AP® French Language course will work to build an advanced oral and written proficiency level in the French language. Students will study vocabulary in a cultural and literary context and converse only in French on a daily basis. This course is taught entirely in French and students are expected to respond only in French. Advanced vocabulary and grammar will continue to be addressed, and students will become increasingly proficient in the four fundamental areas of language: reading, speaking, listening, and writing. The ultimate goal of the course is to prepare students for the AP® Language examination in May as well as to give students the skills and confidence to interact entirely with authentic French resources.

Latin I

Prerequisites: None
Grade Level: 8 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Latin I establishes a firm foundation in vocabulary and grammar principles. Students develop comprehension through practice readings and translations. In addition, the course introduces students to the lasting connections of the Classical World to our own, in particular through exploring English derivations, mythology, and an overview of the social and political history of Ancient Rome.

Latin II

Prerequisites: Latin I
Grade Level: 9 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Latin II builds upon the foundational grammar, vocabulary, and cultural knowledge that students developed in Latin I, preparing them to read more syntactically complex texts in Latin III. There is a strong emphasis on vocabulary building, reading comprehension, and syntax. New grammatical constructions will include: the perfect, pluperfect, future perfect and future tenses; the passive voice; personal, demonstrative, and relative pronouns; degrees of adjectives and adverbs. In addition to language skills, students' learning is augmented by research projects relating to ancient history, art, and culture.

Latin III

Prerequisites: Latin II
Grade Level: 10 – 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: In Latin III students transition from beginner to intermediate level. Foundational knowledge is strengthened while more advanced structures are also being introduced. Students will transition from the textbook Latin of the earlier levels to the authentic Latin prose of Pliny the Younger and Augustus. There is a continued emphasis on vocabulary building, reading comprehension, and syntax. New grammatical constructions will include: deponent verbs; participles; subjunctive forms; subordinate clauses; indirect questions, commands, and statements. These language skills are enriched throughout the course by research projects relating to ancient history, culture, and literature.

Latin IV

Prerequisites: Latin III
Grade Level: 11, 12
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: The aim of Latin IV is to develop each student's ability to apply the foundational grammar, vocabulary, and cultural knowledge acquired in Latin I-III as she or he translates authentic Latin texts from poets such as Catullus, Ovid, and Vergil. New grammatical constructions will include gerunds and gerundives, and the

passive periphrastic. In Latin IV, students will also begin to perform literary analysis of Classical texts in the original language. These language skills are enriched throughout the course by research projects relating to ancient history, art, and literature.

Advanced Latin V

Prerequisites: Latin IV and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 12

Time Allotment: 1 year

Course Description: In Advanced Latin, students will read from authentic Latin texts of prose or poetry from a wide range of Roman authors. Students will continue to develop their facility with the more complex syntactical and grammatical structures introduced in Latin III and IV. Although our focus will be reading comprehension and translation, students will also continue to develop their listening and writing skills in support of that goal. Through the reading selections and class discussions, students will practice identifying and analyzing the effects of the literary and stylistic devices employed by the authors we treat. Scholarly readings, projects, and presentations on aspects of Roman history and culture relevant to the texts we read also form an integral component of the course.

Spanish I

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Spanish I focuses on a beginning level of communication by developing competency with the four skills of language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will use these components to perform a variety of language functions, such as listening, asking questions, describing, giving and following directions, and expressing opinions using the present, present progressive or preterit tenses. Students will gain a basic overview of the Spanish language and culture. The course is an immersive one and will be conducted in the Spanish language.

Spanish II

Prerequisites: Spanish I

Grade Level: 8 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Spanish II is designed to build on the student's level of communication through listening, speaking, reading, and writing competencies. Grammatical concepts and vocabulary will be expanded through a cultural framework that students will be able to apply to everyday life. Increased emphasis on vocabulary and verb tenses (preterite, imperfect, and commands) will enable students to comprehend and produce more complex material that they can apply to the in-class opportunities as they communicate with others. The course is an immersive one and will be conducted in the Spanish language.

Spanish III

Prerequisites: Spanish II

Grade Level: 10 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Spanish III is designed to build grammar and communicative skills as well as cultural awareness. This course focuses on grammatical skills encompassing past, future, perfect, progressive and subjunctive tenses. Literature and aspects of the culture also are explored. The course includes the reading of short stories and a sequence of activities designed to engage students as readers, writers, and speakers of Spanish. Students will develop conversational and speaking skills by communicating primarily in Spanish. The course is an immersive one and will be conducted in the Spanish language.

Spanish IV

Prerequisites: Spanish III

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Students will continue to use the Spanish language in various formal and informal contexts with proper pronunciation, aural comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar skills. They will continue to learn how and where to say what to whom and why. Students will further appreciate the concept of living in a global community by exploring Hispanic cultures worldwide and understanding that culture is the foundation of language. Students will further develop listening, speaking, reading, writing, and visual skills. The course is an immersive one and will be conducted in the Spanish language.

AP® Spanish Language and Culture

Prerequisites: Spanish IV and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: AP® Spanish Language is intended for students who wish to develop proficiency and integrate their language skills, using authentic materials and sources. The course will be conducted entirely in Spanish, and students will be expected to speak only Spanish in the class. Throughout the course, students will: improve communicative abilities in formal and informal situations, gain increased accuracy and fluency in speaking and writing, comprehend Spanish intended for native speakers in a variety of settings, produce Spanish comprehensible to native speakers, and increase their understanding of Hispanic cultures. Students will also improve their writing skills, primarily through writing letters and essays, and their speaking skills through simulated conversations and short formal presentations.

Ancient Greek

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 11, 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Course Description: Ancient Greek is a year-long elective that introduces students to the Greek language, as well as Greek history and culture. Since many English technical vocabularies are built on Greek words, the language is valuable for students who plan to enter those professions (e.g., legal and medical professions as well as New Testament studies and several fields of science). The class focuses on beginning and intermediate vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and translation, as well as the enhanced study of Greek mythology, important cultural, historical, and political events of the Classical World, and their relation to the modern world. Course content will include the works and major authors of Greek epic and dramatic literature, as well as an introduction to Greek philosophy and historiography.





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RESPECT. REVERENCE. RESPONSIBILITY