



SECOND BAPTIST SCHOOL
UPPER SCHOOL
COURSE CATALOG 2021-2022

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UPPER SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG
2021-2022

Second Baptist School
6410 Woodway Drive
Houston, Texas 770057

secondbaptistschool.org

PHILOSOPHY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Second Baptist School recognizes that Christian education is both Christ-centered and excellent. This education is provided within a caring community for the honor and glory of God.

CHRIST-CENTERED

Second Baptist School operates according to biblical principles, without apology or compromise. God reveals Himself to us in the natural world, in Jesus Christ, and in His Holy Word, the supreme and absolute source of Truth. As students pursue Truth and knowledge to understand the world around them, they are inspired to know God more deeply. (John 1:1; Psalm 19:1-3; Hebrews 1:3; 2 Samuel 22:31)

Second Baptist School roots its teaching in the Word of God to develop a biblical worldview across academic disciplines and all areas of life. We exist because of our dedication to God, our devotion to Truth, our value for intellectual curiosity, and our concern for the young people committed to our care. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:104-105; Romans 12:2)

Second Baptist School affirms that, through faith in Jesus Christ, we are entrusted with the sacred privilege and high responsibility of maturing in our own walk with God and helping our students do the same. In loving God, we are humbly committed to putting the needs of others above our own and trust this effort will bear fruit in the lives of our students. (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20; Isaiah 55:11)

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Second Baptist School proclaims that our students' education must be both Christ-centered and academically excellent. All excellence, academic and otherwise, is an ongoing pursuit for the honor and glory of God. We equip our graduates to perform at the highest levels of their respective fields and disciplines so that they can serve as the next generation of Christian leaders. As representatives of the Second Baptist community, students are challenged to become increasingly Christ-like and held accountable to seek excellence in all that they do. (Colossians 3:23)

Second Baptist School commits to a mission-driven, vertically-aligned academic program to develop students capable of making a global impact. Teachers consistently collaborate with one another and pursue professional learning opportunities to improve as educators. Students acquire a strong foundation of knowledge and skills, which are employed in a variety of contexts and situations as they attain the problem-solving and critical thinking necessary for success in the 21st century. (Matthew 25:40; Hebrews 10:24-25)

Second Baptist School extends its education beyond the classroom through co-curricular activities, leadership programs, and creative learning experiences. These opportunities build character and integrity so students can compassionately engage and relate to others. We seek to develop the whole student by cultivating his or her interests and passions in a variety of areas, including athletics, the arts, service initiatives, clubs and organizations. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Psalm 139:14; Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 3:17)

CARING COMMUNITY

Second Baptist School believes in a balanced partnership and consistent communication between family, church and school. Through our collective commitment to intentionally shepherd students, we ultimately seek to produce ambassadors for Christ. God ordained the family as the place for children to learn and grow, and the Christian school humbly serves in a complementary role as it supports the academic development and spiritual formation of students. (Proverbs 22:6; 2 Corinthians 5:20)

Second Baptist School recognizes that every student is uniquely created in the image of a good and loving God. It is our responsibility to equip and support students as they navigate challenges and opportunities in pursuit of God's calling for their lives. We empower students to discover their individual passions and interests so that they may realize their divine potential and serve the world around them. (Genesis 1:26-27; Jeremiah 29:11; 1 Peter 4:10-11)

Second Baptist School understands that students flourish within the context of strong relationships with faculty and staff. We value Christian educators, empowered by the Holy Spirit, who are called into their vocation to disciple, mentor and invest in students. Second Baptist School hires and develops faculty and staff who are excellent within their field, committed to professional growth and dedicated to the biblical truths and guiding principles upon which the school was founded. (Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 2:13-16)

Introduction

This catalog contains the descriptions of courses we will offer for the 2020-2021 academic year as well as information regarding important academic policies. We strive for a curriculum that reflects our mission of challenging students to think critically, live biblically and lead courageously.

When it comes to course selection, we encourage students to keep the following in mind:

- Choose courses that will challenge them to reach their divine potential in the classroom while maintaining appropriate balance out of the classroom. It is imperative that students and families view course selections in a manner that is individual to each student, and not based on what friends or classmates are doing.
- Pay attention to the four-year plan. Decisions made in the freshman and sophomore years can have implications for future years. This will also keep students on track to meet all graduation requirements. The upper school counselor will assist families in this process.
- Consider areas of interest for college and consider taking courses that allow for in-depth exploration of those and prepare you for the college application process.
- Limitations do exist. We make every effort to give students their first choice in course selections. We do not take into account faculty preference when assigning classes.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A diploma from Second Baptist School signifies the completion of a rigorous, college-preparatory program. As a result, each of the following are the required units for upper school graduation:

English (4)

Mathematics (4)

Science (4)

Social Science/Economics (4)

Bible (4)

World Language (2)

Arts (1)

Physical Education (1)

Electives

Interim Term

- Six graded courses must be taken each semester.
- Two credits of the same world language must be taken while a student is enrolled in the upper school at SBS.
- To be eligible for graduation, a student must complete Biology, Chemistry and Physics in science.

- To be eligible for graduation, a student must complete courses through Precalculus in math.
- To be eligible for graduation, a student must have a Second Baptist School cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- A student is not eligible for graduation with an F on his/her transcript, regardless of the number of units of credit that have been obtained. For any course with a final grade designated as an F, a student must complete credit recovery through a summer school program outside of SBS.

VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN AND HONOR GRADUATES ELIGIBILITY - CLASS OF 2022

Students must have attended Second Baptist School for four (4) semesters during their junior and senior years in order to be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors. Grade point average, numeric average, number of credits earned at Second Baptist School and National Merit status are factors used to determine the valedictorian and salutatorian honors. The determination of valedictorian and salutatorian honors is left to the sole discretion of the school administration and is not subject to appeal.

Honor graduates fall into three categories: *Cum Laude*, *Magna Cum Laude* and *Summa Cum Laude*.

1. Cum Laude shall be awarded to any senior whose cumulative GPA is 3.5 to 3.79.
2. Magna Cum Laude will be awarded to any senior who has a cumulative GPA of 3.8 to 3.99.
3. Summa Cum Laude will be awarded to any senior who has a cumulative GPA of 4.0 or higher.

VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN AND HONOR GRADUATES ELIGIBILITY - CLASS OF 2023 AND BEYOND

Students must have attended Second Baptist School upper school for six (6) consecutive semesters in order to be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors. Grade point average, numeric average, number of credits earned at Second Baptist School and National Merit status are factors used to determine the valedictorian and salutatorian honors. The determination of valedictorian and salutatorian honors is left to the sole discretion of the school administration and is not subject to appeal.

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3. Summa Cum Laude will be awarded to any senior who has a cumulative GPA of 4.0 or higher.

TOP TEN PERCENT RANKING AND QUARTILE PLACEMENT - CLASS OF 2022

Second Baptist School is a non-ranking school. Students are ranked solely to identify students who fall within the top ten percent of each grade level.

For graduating seniors, a notation indicating the student falls in the top 10% is placed on qualifying senior transcripts. No other individual ranking designations appear on the transcript. Students qualify based on their cumulative GPA at the end of the summer prior to their senior year. This note is updated at the end of the first semester of their senior year.

Students achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher will be placed in the first quartile. Quartile rankings are noted on transcripts.

CLASS RANKING AND TOP TEN PERCENT - CLASS OF 2023 AND BEYOND

Second Baptist School is a non-ranking school. Because class rank does not accurately communicate a student's ability in a selective, college preparatory program, many colleges, universities and scholarship programs are accustomed to evaluating students from non-ranking independent, college-preparatory schools.

The only designation related to individual ranking is reserved to identify students who fall within the top ten percent after the summer of the junior year. To qualify for the top ten percent, students must be enrolled in the Second Baptist School upper school for a minimum of four semesters prior to senior year.

A notation indicating the student falls in the top ten percent is placed on qualifying senior transcripts. No other individual ranking designations appear on the transcript. Students qualify based on their Second Baptist School cumulative GPA at the end of the junior year and upon completion of enrollment for the next school year. Communication with families will typically occur in August prior to the school year's beginning. Top ten designation is necessary because public universities in the state of Texas (with the exception of the University of Texas at Austin) offer automatic admission for students in the top ten percent. The top ten percent designation is updated at the end of the first semester of the senior year.

UPPER SCHOOL CREDIT TRANSFER POLICY - CLASS OF 2022

- Core academic courses taken in middle school for high school credit will not be included in the GPA, although they will be listed on the transcript.
- Additional GPA weighted points will be offered for AP and Honors courses offered by Second Baptist School. Courses that are not offered by Second Baptist School will not receive additional GPA weighted points.
- Pre-AP, Pre-IB, IB, AP and Honors courses may receive additional weighted points if SBS offers an equivalent course.
- Numerical grades earned in Physical Education and Supervised Study classes will not be included in calculating the GPA. Supervised Study will not be reflected on an SBS transcript.
- Specific transfer courses that meet Second Baptist School requirements will be credited as such. Other miscellaneous credits will be acknowledged as elective credits. They will count toward the Second Baptist School GPA.
- Online courses taken for original credit outside of Second Baptist School will be reflected on the transcript as credit earned. They will not count towards the Second Baptist School GPA.
- Upon invitation as a new student to Second Baptist School, all original credit must be received from Second Baptist School.
- All credits are accepted at the discretion of Second Baptist School and must be listed on an official school district transcript.

UPPER SCHOOL CREDIT TRANSFER POLICY - BEGINNING WITH CLASS OF 2023

- Upon enrollment, students begin a transcript that reflects academic performance at Second Baptist School only.
- Previous transcript(s) will be kept on file and sent to colleges and universities. Official transcripts must be sent to the office of the Registrar. This is the responsibility of the family.
- The Second Baptist School transcript will determine placement in the top ten percent ranking.
- Core courses taken in middle school for high school credit will not be included in the GPA. They will be listed on the transcript and accepted toward graduation requirements at the discretion of Second Baptist School.
- Online courses taken for original credit outside of Second Baptist School will be reflected on the transcript as credit earned. They will not count toward the Second Baptist School GPA.
- Upon invitation as a new student to Second Baptist School, all original credit must be received from Second Baptist School.
- All credits are accepted at the discretion of Second Baptist School and must be listed on an official school district transcript.
- Homeschooled students will be reviewed on an individual basis and may be required to take placement exams.

SCHEDULING CLASSES

Parents and students should be aware that the master schedule may vary somewhat from year to year, and course availability is subject to student need and teacher availability. There are inevitable conflicts that may cause a student to make choices between elective courses. Every effort is made to ensure that each student will have the opportunity to take the courses he/she desires as well as those that are required. Students are permitted to update their course requests until May 31, at which point their courses are finalized for the following school year.

Parents should be assured that Second Baptist School makes every effort to provide the best possible educational experience for each student. However, the school is not able to honor requests for course/class placement or specific faculty as a part of this process. All upper school students are required to enroll in a minimum of six graded courses each semester. For additional information, please refer to the graduation requirements above.

HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Second Baptist School offers Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) courses. These courses move at an accelerated pace and are significantly more in-depth than academic classes, which results in an increased workload for students. In order to be eligible for Honors and AP classes, a student must meet at least three of the four requirements listed below.

- Be recommended by a teacher in the academic area of the course under consideration.
- Be highly motivated, possess good study habits and be self-disciplined.
- Excel in the subject during the previous year by making a grade of 90 or above.
- Score in the 90th percentile in the subject area of the school's adopted standardized test or obtain a minimum raw score on the designated access test.

The administration of Second Baptist School has the authority to admit or deny students for Honors and AP courses based on the above criteria. Placement in Honors and AP courses is not based upon student or parent requests but upon the criteria listed above. All AP students are required to sit for AP exams in May. A student's enrollment in Honors or AP courses is not changed unless at the direction of the course instructor. Placement changes may be made only with teacher recommendation either at the end of the first grading period or the end of the fall semester.

SUPERVISED STUDY

Students may take up to seven grade courses. All students are required to take a minimum of six graded courses. Supervised Study may be taken by Freshmen and Sophomores as an elective. It does not receive a grade. The purpose of Supervised Study is to provide an appropriate setting for studying and homework completion. Additionally, any student in the upper school may be assigned to a Supervised Study if the head of upper school determines it to be in his or her best interest based on semester GPA.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BIBLE

Biblical Theology engages in a study of the entire biblical narrative that establishes the foundation of basic Christian doctrine. Students will understand the Bible not as a collection of sixty-six separate books but as a sweeping story of God and His redemptive plan for humankind. The freshman year is a pivotal one in a student's development; this course will prepare students to make educated decisions as to who they are and who they will become based on God's calling for their lives. Students will explore God's attributes, as well as his purpose for humanity. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

Biblical Discipleship emphasizes the personal application of biblical texts to students' lives and the development of disciplines in order to aid students in adopting a biblical worldview. Topical studies in this course will engage students with issues they face on a daily basis. Instruction and discussions in this course will encourage and educate students on their personal responsibilities as believers and the associated consequences of their decisions and actions. Note: sections for this course are separated based on gender. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10.

Biblical Exposition encourages students to develop and build a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Students are introduced to both the person and works of Christ by examining the Gospel of John and developing a strong understanding of the doctrine of salvation as presented in the epistle to the Romans. Through reading, writing and discussion, students will learn and utilize skills such as exegetical methodology and theological thinking. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11.

Biblical Practicum recognizes that students' senior year is a launching pad to life, so this course equips each of them with the tools necessary to navigate life outside the walls of SBS while instilling in them a passion to glorify God in all they do. The curriculum for this course is unique and topical in nature with an emphasis on apologetics. Through reading, writing and discussion, students learn about defending their faith and how to converse with people of different belief systems. Students will also continue to grow in their ability to practice spiritual disciplines, conduct close readings and think deeply. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

ENGLISH

English I offers students the opportunity to survey a variety of literary genres, including texts written by American and British authors. Ultimately, this course will prepare students for English instruction throughout their upper school experience. Students will learn how to compose literary analysis, how to transfer their knowledge of grammar into their writing, how to apply the learned SAT vocabulary into their writing, how to develop their own authorial voice and how to think critically through the close reading of text. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

English II offers students the opportunity to survey a number of different pieces from American literature. Students will improve their vocabulary, learn correct grammar usage, develop as effective writers and continue in their growth when it comes to reading critically. Some primary course elements include JER grammar instruction, Jane Schaffer writing and the study of poetry and literature. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10.

English III supports students with their understanding of the development of British literature. Students will learn the elements of literary analysis, develop vocabulary and grammar skills and write clearly and persuasively during this interactive and challenging course. Students will read a variety of fiction, drama and poetry while they also hone their grammar, annotation and vocabulary skills. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11.

AP English Language & Composition surveys a variety of literature and nonfiction texts as the students examine rhetoric and the details of language. The course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who can form and express clear, effective arguments. Both students' writing and reading will enhance their understanding of interaction between an author's purpose, the audience's expectations and the subject matter, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to the effectiveness of a piece of writing. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11.

English IV offers students the opportunity to read and understand a variety of literary and informational texts. Students will compose a variety of written texts with a clear controlling idea, coherent organization and sufficient detail. They will also conduct research using relevant sources and will evaluate, synthesize and present ideas and information in a variety of forms; students will apply oral and written conventions of the English language in speaking and writing. Students will engage in activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing and oral language skills. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

AP English Literature & Composition engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of a variety of literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and enjoyment for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as literary elements such as figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I helps students develop and use algebraic skills with automaticity and accuracy so that they can apply algebraic reasoning while solving a variety of problems. Major topics for this course include linear equations, inequalities, functions and systems, quadratic equations and functions, polynomial expressions and radicals. Students will use the language of algebra to read, write, think and problem-solve mathematically. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

Geometry enables students to grow in their ability to think and reason logically through analysis, synthesis and the application of geometric ideas and concepts. Major topics for this course include the study of two and three-dimensional objects, logical reasoning and proofs, right triangles and trigonometry, spatial reasoning and circles. Students will use algebra learned in their previous coursework to explain, answer questions and solve problems related to both two-dimensional and three-dimensional space. Students will also learn to use definitions, postulates and theorems to determine the validity of a statement, prove hypotheses and solve problems. Prerequisites: Algebra I. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-10.

Honors Geometry strengthens and enhances students' math background and understanding. Students will review algebraic concepts and learn geometric concepts and properties while developing conceptual understanding of the material. Some important topics in this course include triangles, basic trigonometry and proofs. Students will apply algebra, logic, problem solving and a variety of other concepts as they learn in this rigorous, thought-provoking course. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Grade Level(s): 9-10.

Algebra II offers students the opportunity to investigate and understand multiple functions in their three basic forms: numerical, graphical and analytical. Students are introduced to the complex number system, matrices, conic sections, sequences and series. Students will graph multiple types of functions using transformations, gain skills needed to solve more complex equations, factor higher degree polynomials, and make connections between the graphs, factors, and solutions of functions, complex numbers, matrices and conic sections. Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-11.

Honors Algebra II seeks to provide diligent, hard-working students with a solid algebra foundation, problem solving skills and strategies, conceptual understanding and the ability to solve and graph a variety of functions. Some important topics in this course include linear, quadratic, polynomial and radical functions, as well as conic sections. Students will solidify their foundation in algebra in order to prepare for higher-level math, solve and graph functions and apply learned concepts and skills to new situations. Prerequisites: Honors Geometry and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-11

Precalculus prepares students for calculus and any other future math courses awaiting them at the collegiate level. This course also strengthens students' mathematical foundation as they prepare for college entrance exams such as the SAT and ACT. Sample topics from this course include the unit circle and graphing conics. Students will improve in a number of skills, including their abilities to problem solve and factor. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Honors Precalculus helps students to solidify their understanding of the algebraic and trigonometric concepts needed to continue their math education in a calculus course. Students will study trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and analytic geometry in this class. Students will develop a strong understanding of the trigonometric functions, while also being able to apply them. Students will also examine a variety of algebraic functions, including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Calculus enables students to make connections between mathematics and real-life situations as they find solutions to everyday problems. This comprehensive and highly applicable course covers a variety of topics, including limits, derivatives, optimizing areas and integrals. This course will challenge students to explain, justify, verify and interpret information, all while thinking critically about the subject matter. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Precalculus. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

AP Calculus AB helps students understand that calculus is a tool for understanding the world around us. This course emphasizes making connections between mathematics and real-life situations and finding solutions to everyday problems. Topics include limits, derivatives, integrals and series/sequences. Students will think critically and justify their answers, increase in calculator proficiency and verify theorems and proofs. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, Honors Precalculus and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

AP Calculus BC helps students understand that calculus is a tool for understanding the world around us. This course emphasizes making connections between mathematics and real-life situations and finding solutions to everyday problems. Topics include limits, derivatives, integrals and series/sequences. Students will think critically and justify their answers, increase in calculator proficiency and verify theorems and proofs. This course builds upon the content and skills taught during AP Calculus AB. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Honors Geometry, Honors Algebra II, Honors Precalculus, AP Calculus AB and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

Statistical Methods helps students develop a foundational understanding of the importance of statistics. During this course, students will better understand how to efficiently gather and interpret data. This project and discussion-based course addresses a number of topics, including Z-scores, standard curves and probability. Students will spend a considerable amount of time interpreting and organizing data and then presenting their findings to authentic audiences afterward. Prerequisites: Four Upper School Math Courses, Including Precalculus. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

SCIENCE

Biology offers students the opportunity to gain knowledge and grow in their appreciation of the life around us, from microscopic aspects, including biomolecules and cells, to macroscopic aspects of creation, including the effect of organisms on their environment. Students will study cells, genetics, body systems, plant systems, biochemistry and ecology. They will use scientific equipment, participate in laboratory exercises, interpret data, analyze organisms and their interactions with one another and their environment and further develop critical thinking skills. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

Honors Biology provides students with an in-depth knowledge of the structure and function of living organisms. with an emphasis on molecular biology, cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy and ecology. Students will further develop critical thinking, reading comprehension and reasoning during this fast-paced challenging course. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

Chemistry provides a broad foundation in the subject by having students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods and make informed decisions using critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Topics for this course include the characteristics of matter, the use of the Periodic Table, the development of atomic theory, chemical bonding, stoichiometry, gas laws, solution chemistry and acid/base properties and reactions. Students will investigate how chemistry has a profound impact on their daily lives. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10.

Honors Chemistry offers students the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive survey of general chemistry. Students will apply the concepts of atomic theory, chemical bonding and nuclear chemistry to quantitatively and qualitatively describe matter and its changes. Students will also learn about concepts related to gases, liquids, solids and solutions. Students will also apply the concepts of reactions, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics and thermodynamics to a variety of contexts and problems. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10.

Physics offers students the opportunity to have a better understanding of the world around them, while also further developing their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. During this course, students will examine a variety of topics related to physics, including kinematics, Newton's Laws and energy. Prerequisites: Algebra II or Honors Algebra II. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

Honors Physics helps students develop their creativity and their critical thinking skills as they obtain a solid foundation in their ability to articulate their knowledge and understanding of advanced concepts in physics. This challenging, engaging course instills in students a strong foundational understanding of physics from both physical and mathematical approaches. Key topics include Newtonian mechanics, rotational dynamics, energy and momentum. Students will question, analyze and reason throughout this course as they find unique solutions and manipulate multiple problems in order to find common solutions and trends. Prerequisites: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry, Algebra II or Honors Algebra II and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

AP Biology assists students in developing the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in college-level science. Students will grow in their appreciation of life around us, from microscopic aspects such as biomolecules and cells to macroscopic aspects like the ecological effect of organisms on their environments. Topics in this course include biochemistry, cells, gene expression, phylogeny and evolution, plant and animal systems. Students will design and carry out laboratory investigations, further develop skills in using scientific equipment, interpret and analyze data, build critical thinking skills and analyze interactions between cells, organisms and their environments. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Biology or Honors Biology, Chemistry or Honors Chemistry and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based enables students to leave Second Baptist School with a university-level knowledge of introductory physics. Students will develop their creativity and their critical thinking skills. They will also have a solid foundation in their ability to articulate their knowledge and understanding of advanced concepts, including auditory mechanics (sounds and waves) and electrodynamics (circuit analysis). Students will question, analyze and reason throughout this course as they find unique solutions and manipulate multiple problems in order to find common solutions and trends. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Physics or Honors Physics and Departmental Recommendation; Honors Precalculus (Highly Recommended). Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

Honors Anatomy & Physiology focuses on the structure, functions and systems of the human body. Students will investigate maintenance of homeostasis, electrical interactions, transport systems and energy processes as they study the major systems of the human body. Some additional study will examine the role of medicine in improving the living conditions of the population. Laboratory work will include cat dissection and hands-on activities with models, specimens and computer simulations. Case studies on disorders of each system will also be written. Prerequisites: Biology or Honors Biology and Chemistry or Honors Chemistry. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

Scientific Entrepreneurship & Design provides students with extensive opportunities to apply scientific knowledge and academic skills to a wide variety of interesting real-world problems. In this dynamic, hands-on course, students will become more familiar with the design process and other aspects of science and engineering. Students will develop a sense of greater responsibility for their learning and cultivate analytical thinking and problem-solving skills as they engage in exciting work using emergent technologies. Note: This course may be taken for an additional science credit or an elective but not in lieu of Biology, Chemistry or Physics. Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry (Academic or Honors). Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

World Geography offers students the opportunity to better understand how the interactions that humans experience with their surrounding environments affect civilization and the development of human history. Students will undertake a comparative analysis of the economies, religions, governments, social structures, art and literature from a variety of regions and civilizations. Students will also increase their proficiency in utilizing graphical elements such as charts and maps. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

AP Human Geography introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped people's understanding, use and alteration of Earth's surface. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. By the conclusion of this course, students will be able to interpret maps and analyze geospatial data, recognize and interpret patterns, define regions and evaluate the regionalization process and characterize and analyze changing relationships among places from around the world. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

World History illuminates connections between the present-day and a variety of historical eras. This course offers students the opportunity to study and analyze social, cultural, political, religious and economic trends on a global scale over time. Students will be able to analyze historical documents and primary and secondary sources, while also improving their abilities to write and communicate effectively. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes and consider various points of view related to key events and developments in world history. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10.

AP World History investigates five primary course themes as they progress and develop over time. Students will examine history covering six chronological eras from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. Course themes will address the interaction between humans and their environment, the development and interaction of cultures, state building, expansion and conflict, the creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems, and the development and transformation of social structures. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of major trends throughout world history through this challenging and highly engaging course. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10.

United States History helps students to develop a greater perspective on the American experience from a variety of points of view. This extensive, interesting course not only covers historical developments from our country's past, but it also enables students to understand how the past informs and affects our understanding of current issues facing our nation today. Important topics in this course include but are not limited to the Great Depression, World War II and the Civil Rights Movement. In addition to learning the historical content, students will also improve upon their writing skills. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11.

AP United States History offers students the opportunity to examine U.S. history from the 1400s to the present. Extensive reading is required. Students will learn to assess historical materials, analyze primary documents, research historical figures and draw conclusions based upon the results of specific actions and decisions. Students will demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology, use historical data to support an argument or position and interpret and apply data from original documents, cartoons, graphs, etc. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11.

Government sends graduating seniors to university with a thorough understanding of the structure and impact of the United States government, as well as the ability to formulate and support critical observations about its proper role in the lives of American citizens. Students will hopefully feel both a passion and obligation to participate in civic engagement after taking this course, which seeks to improve students' ability to debate, conduct research and empathize with others. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

Economics helps students better understand the financial aspects of life in modern America. Topics for this course include personal responsibility, cause and effect, financial literacy and delayed gratification. Students will evaluate competing ideas fairly and objectively, gain content mastery of the essential structure of micro and macroeconomics and learn to display empathy for other views and opinions within the context of class discussion. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

AP Government & Politics enables students to dissect the American government in order to understand the relationship among its three branches. Students will analyze government systems, federalism and capitalism, the separation of powers, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. Students will examine various political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, mass media, institutions of government and civil rights. They must learn facts and concepts and practice historical and analytical skills, including chronological and spatial thinking, historical research and interpretation. This course also satisfies students' graduation requirement for a semester of Economics. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Departmental Recommendation and Previous AP Course in Department. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Spanish I offers students an introduction to the basic vocabulary, structures, grammar and phonetics of the Spanish language. Students will focus on the five components of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural awareness. Students will learn foundational grammatical structures as they also become better acquainted with the cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-11.

Spanish II further develops the skills, vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in Spanish I. Students will use written and oral target language for communication purposes, incorporating acquired vocabulary and basic structures. They will also begin to develop comprehension skills of authentic sources, both written and spoken. Course topics include travel and vacation, clothing and shopping, daily routine, food, health, the household and well-being. Prerequisites: Spanish I. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Honors Spanish II further develops and builds upon the skills, vocabulary and structures learned in Spanish I. This course focuses on the five components of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural awareness. Students will effectively use written and oral target language for communication purposes, incorporating acquired vocabulary, idiomatic expressions and complex structures. This fast-paced, rigorous course will challenge students as they continue to grow in their understanding of the Spanish language. Prerequisites: Spanish I and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Spanish III enables students to improve and refine their skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural awareness. This course focuses especially on grammar, particularly in regards to verb tenses, and on vocabulary commonly used in conversation. Units within this fast-paced and participatory course build upon students' previous studies in Spanish I and Spanish II. Prerequisites: Spanish I and Spanish II. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Honors Spanish III focuses on the five components of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural awareness. At the end of this course, students will have been introduced to all the components of Spanish grammar. They will comprehend a number of more complex authentic sources, both written and spoken. Students will use written and oral target language for communication purposes in a variety of settings, while also incorporating acquired vocabulary, idiomatic expressions and complex structures. Prerequisites: Spanish I, Honors Spanish II and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Spanish IV supports students as they seek to converse in the Spanish language by tapping into grammar skills and vocabulary from earlier coursework. During this practical, enjoyable and interactive course, students will read the novel *La Catrina* and watch accompanying videos along with the text. Students will improve their fluency and vocabulary when it comes to conversational Spanish so that they can confidently speak the language in the future. Prerequisites: Spanish I, Spanish II and Spanish III. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

AP Spanish Language & Composition continues departmental emphasis on the five components of language learning: listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural awareness. This fast-paced, rigorous course intends to strengthen students' language and critical thinking skills across the three communicative modes: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. Students will explore, understand and discuss global themes that are important across the Spanish-speaking world. Note: all students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Spanish I, Honors Spanish II, Honors Spanish III and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Advanced Spanish Language Seminar is a continuation of AP Spanish Language, designed according to the College Board AP Spanish Language and Culture course requirements. The course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency, in which students use Spanish to communicate in a wide variety of interdisciplinary topics as well as to draw comparisons between their own culture and that of the target language. Per AP College Board standards, students will be able to partake in interpersonal, presentational and interpretive communication. Prerequisites: AP Spanish Language & Composition and Departmental Recommendation. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

Mandarin Chinese I helps students develop basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in Chinese. Some example topics for this course include greetings, names, numbers, food, family, dates and time, and hobbies. Students will learn how to pronounce Chinese phonetic symbols (pinyin) with correct tones, understand short dialogues and statements spoken at slow speed on learned topics, make short statements and ask simple questions on learned topics and recognize some frequently used Chinese characters. This course will also enhance students' awareness of the cultural differences between China and America. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Honors Mandarin Chinese II helps students build upon the basics learned in Chinese I. Students will improve their abilities to communicate and understand spoken and written Chinese by listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language. Some example topics for this course include school life, making appointments, colors, drinks, transportation and travel. Students will learn more daily topics and enlarge their Chinese vocabulary. They will also be able to use a variety of vocabulary and more complex grammar structures for speaking and writing. Students will continue to learn about Chinese culture through a variety of activities and projects. Prerequisites: Mandarin Chinese I. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Honors Mandarin Chinese III ensures students can handle a variety of communicative tasks by utilizing the language associated with the learned daily topics. Some example topics for this course include the weather, dining, asking for directions, birthday parties, visiting a doctor and rooms and furniture. Students will be able to understand sentences that consist of learned vocabulary, talk simply about themselves, perform basic tasks (e.g. ordering a meal, asking directions, etc.), read specially prepared passages on learned topics and perform a variety of practical writing tasks, including short messages, postcards, simple emails and notes. Prerequisites: Mandarin Chinese I and Honors Mandarin Chinese II. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

Honors Mandarin Chinese IV deepens students' understanding of the material learned in the previous course. Students will develop their Chinese speaking, listening, reading and writing skills across three communicative modes: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. Selective themes of contemporary Chinese society and Chinese history may include geography, regional diversity, travel and transportation, holidays and food, current affairs, historic figures, philosophy, traditional arts, etc. By the end of this course, students will be able to conduct spontaneous two-way interaction (interpersonal mode), interpret a range of written and oral texts (interpretive mode) and create a level-appropriate speech or report (presentational mode). Prerequisites: Mandarin Chinese I, Honors Mandarin Chinese II and Honors Mandarin Chinese III. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

TECHNOLOGY

Foundations of Programming & Robotics gives students the opportunity to develop intermediate coding and technical skills by designing, building, programming and controlling robots. Students will learn fundamental programming concepts such as commands, loops, functions and conditional statements, which they will then apply in practical situations within this project-based and highly collaborative course. This course encourages students to think critically and build resiliency as they problem solve and work together in order to create and improve specific products, oftentimes within the context of a team. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. Building on foundational concepts in the field of computer science, this course introduces students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets and emerging topics such as cybersecurity. Students will use current technologies to create computational artifacts for both self-expression and problem solving. Note: This course may be taken for an additional science credit but not in lieu of Biology, Chemistry or Physics. All students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Foundations of Programming & Robotics and Algebra I. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

AP Computer Science A serves as the equivalent to a first-semester, college-level course in computer science. In this self-paced online course, students will develop the skills to write programs that correctly solve specific problems. Students will learn about design strategies, organization of data (data structures), approaching to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions and the ethical and social implications of computing. This course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem-solving using Java as its programming language. Students will develop computing skills that can be applied to a wide variety of projects. Note: A technology fee is associated with this online course, which is offered via SevenStar. This course may be taken for an additional science credit but not in lieu of Biology, Chemistry or Physics. All students enrolled in this course must take the AP exam during the spring semester. Prerequisites: Foundations of Programming & Robotics, Algebra I and Algebra II or Honors Algebra II. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Marching Band develops a student's talent and love for music through performances with a wide variety of styles of music and instruments (woodwind, brass or percussion). The band performs in many campus activities including football and basketball games, pep rallies, Chapel and concerts. Prerequisites: Director Approval. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Honors Marching Band develops a student's talent and love for music through performances with a wide variety of styles of music and instruments (woodwind, brass or percussion). The band performs in many campus activities including football and basketball games, pep rallies, Chapel and concerts. Students compete at the district and state levels by participating in TPSMEA All-State Band auditions. Prerequisites: Director Approval. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Eagle Band facilitates the development of students' quality characteristic sound on their instruments. During this performance-based course, students will develop music reading skills, as well as an understanding of musical notation, playing posture and proper tone production. Students will seek to produce a quality sound from their specific instruments and develop better music reading skills throughout the course. Prerequisites: 2+ Years Playing Experience. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Honors Eagle Band enables students to become better musicians within the context of a challenging, rewarding and exciting course. Students will continue to develop in their proficiency with their specific instruments. This course will assist students with improving at their music reading skills. It will also help them to prepare for auditions. Attendance at specific events and concerts is mandatory for this course. Prerequisites: Director Recommendation (Based on Audition and Interview). Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Ninth Grade Choir helps students become confident in their singing by learning vocal technique and choral singing skills. Students will gain experience in choral singing by participating in required concerts. Students will develop in their ability to sing confidently, listen, communicate and collaborate with one another. This course can be taken for one or two semesters. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9.

Grades 10-12 Choir helps students become confident in their singing by learning vocal technique and choral singing skills. Students will gain experience in choral singing by participating in required concerts. Students will develop in their ability to sing confidently, listen, communicate and collaborate with one another. This course can be taken for one or two semesters. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Grades 10-12 Honors Choir continues to develop students' vocal technique, music reading and choral singing skills. This course requires previous choral experience and instructor approval. Students will improve in their confidence while singing a designated part. Students will also learn listening skills for blend, balance and intonation, while they also sing a more challenging choral repertoire. Prerequisites: Director Approval. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Honors Advanced Select Choir is an audition-based course intended for vocalists who demonstrate exceptional musical ability and desire advanced instruction and performance opportunities in choral singing. Students will study four-part and multipart literature for many genres in this select singing group. Advanced music theory, sight-singing and ear-training instruction will also be provided. Students will be required to participate in the audition process for the TMEA Small School All State Choir. Additional public performances outside of class are also a requirement for this co-curricular course. Auditions for Honors Advanced Select Choir will take place in the spring semester prior to the following school year. Prerequisites: Director Approval. Grade level(s): 10-12.

Introduction to Art + Design offers students the opportunity to explore multiple art-making techniques and mediums. This course introduces students to art history and the elements and principles of art in theory. Students then apply these elements and principles through a variety of mediums in both 2D and 3D forms. This course gives students a lot of variety as they develop basic skills in drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking and digital art. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

2D Art + Design encourages students to explore all 2D art-making mediums and techniques, including drawing, painting, collage, printmaking and digital design. Students will work with wet and dry mediums, and some projects will incorporate the laser cutter and school-issued laptops. This course is perfect for students interested in drawing-focused careers such as fashion design, illustration and animation. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: Introduction to Art + Design. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

3D Art + Design allows students to experience a variety of 3D art-making mediums and techniques, including sculpting in paper, clay, metals, fibers and found objects. Students will create projects that include sculptures and jewelry, and they will have opportunities to use complex tools such as a laser cutter and 3D printer. This course is perfect for students interested in spatially-focused careers such as engineering, architecture and interior design. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: Introduction to Art + Design. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Digital Media provides students with the opportunity to learn digital art-making tools, such as the programs within Adobe's Creative Suite, as they explore graphic design, animation and the creation of digital media content. This class is perfect for students interested in digital art-making careers such as graphic design, advertising, film and animation. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: Introduction to Art + Design. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10, 11, 12.

Film Photography teaches students the basics of 35mm film photography, manual camera operation and beginning darkroom skills. During this course, students will develop a critical eye, learn how to critique and be introduced to some art history pertaining to the subject matter. Students will gain experience with darkroom printing, enlarger operation, film development and camera operation, including shutter speed, focusing and aperture/depth of field. This course is perfect for students interested in visual careers such as photography, film and graphic design. This is a one-semester course. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Honors Art + Design provides students with an in-depth exploration of art history and the elements and principles of art in theory. Students will experiment with higher-level techniques and develop their skills in their preferred mediums and disciplines of choice, including 2D, 3D, Graphic Design or Photography. Students will skillfully apply what they have learned in their respective focus areas while also developing their personal voice within the medium. Prerequisites: Introduction to Art + Design and 2D Art + Design, 3D Art + Design or Film Photography and Departmental Approval. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

AP Drawing gives students the opportunity to create and submit a portfolio to the AP Board for evaluation and hopefully college credit. Students will refine their personal voice through the completion of student-driven projects and critiques resulting in a collection of works demonstrating a "Sustained Investigation." This course involves the advanced application of skills and techniques in students' specified area of study such as painting or drawing. Note: all students enrolled in this course must submit their portfolios for the AP exam in the spring semester. Prerequisites: Honors Art + Design. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

AP 2D Art + Design gives students the opportunity to create and submit a portfolio to the AP Board for evaluation and hopefully college credit. Students will refine their personal voice through the completion of student-driven projects and critiques resulting in a collection of works demonstrating a “Sustained Investigation.” This course involves the advanced application of skills and techniques in students’ specified area of study such as photography, illustration or graphic design. Note: all students enrolled in this course must submit their portfolios for the AP exam in the spring semester. Prerequisites: Honors Art + Design. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

AP 3D Art + Design gives students the opportunity to create and submit a portfolio to the AP Board for evaluation and hopefully college credit. Students will refine their personal voice through the completion of student-driven projects and critiques resulting in a collection of works demonstrating a “Sustained Investigation.” This course involves the advanced application of skills and techniques in students’ specified area of study such as metals, ceramics, architecture or fiber. Note: all students enrolled in this course must submit their portfolios for the AP exam in the spring semester. Prerequisites: Honors Art + Design. Eligible Grade Level(s): 12.

Honors Theatrical Performance is a class for students in all grade levels who seek to be cast in both the fall drama and spring musical in principal roles. This performance-based course involves in-depth character analysis and play development for the fall drama and spring musical. Additionally, each show setting will be analyzed historically. Costumes, sound, set and lighting will be student-designed within period parameters. Specific scene breakdowns will be developed and blocked, vocals will be taught and analyzed for character development and choreography will be taught and reinforced for character study. Furthermore, the Festival of Christmas is blocked and made performance-ready for the all-school event during this course. Prerequisites: Audition. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

ELECTIVES

Yearbook offers students the opportunity to serve on the staff responsible for creating the *Aquila* yearbook. Students will become fully proficient in design principles for print media and in journalistic writing and form. Ultimately, students will create a professional publication that represents the SBS campus and our mission as a church and school. Students will learn the basics of digital photography, graphic design and journalism while also gaining experience in advertising, marketing, sales and business. Prerequisites: Advisor Approval. Eligible Grade Level(s): 10-12.

Honors Yearbook Editors offers a leadership and mentorship role to junior and senior students who edit and oversee the production of the *Aquila* yearbook for SBS. Students will create a framework for the yearbook, increase student coverage and grow as student leaders and journalists. Students must have the ability to mentor and delegate tasks to others in a fair and balanced manner, give and receive peer feedback, problem solve and utilize verbal and written communication skills with peers and the greater community through sales (cold-calling), individual meetings with editors (peers) and staff members (mentoring). Prerequisites: 1+ Years of Yearbook, A (or Above) on Editor Exam and Advisor Approval. Eligible Grade Level(s): 11-12.

Honors Model United Nations equips students with the background knowledge, essential skills and necessary practice to participate productively in Model U.N. simulations and competitions. In this course, students will learn about the origins, functions and purpose of the United Nations. Afterward, they will research and discuss a variety of important historical and current event topics, which will then form the basis for their debate. This course aims to cultivate students' creativity as well as a passion for leadership, public speaking and international relations. Prior experience in Model U.N. and participation in the Upper School Model U.N. Club are not required for this course. Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation and Writing Sample. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Strength & Conditioning provides students with the opportunity to supplement their strength and conditioning or make progress in a specific area of physical development. This course will provide athletes an opportunity to make progress in the areas of flexibility, physical conditioning, speed and agility or strength. Students that are not on an athletic team can earn a P.E. credit by completing this general fitness program. This pass/fail course does not contribute to a student's GPA. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

Supervised Study offers students the opportunity to study and complete homework in a focused setting within a teacher's classroom. This designated study time functions as a non-credited course. This course can be taken for one or two semesters. Prerequisites: None. Eligible Grade Level(s): 9-12.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Second Baptist School is to equip students to think critically, live biblically and lead courageously to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

OUR PASSION

Our passion is to bring every student into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ while equipping them to do with excellence that which God has called them to do.

OUR HONOR CODE

As a member of the Second Baptist School community, I will not lie, cheat or steal; I will do my best to exemplify Christlike integrity in my academic and personal endeavors and encourage others to act accordingly.

We believe that each student should have a strong sense of personal honor and integrity. SBS seeks to promote an atmosphere of trust, honesty and integrity with mutual respect among administrators, faculty and students. The Honor Code challenges us to cultivate both intellectual and moral excellence, be courageous in the pursuit of justice and remain diligent in performing the responsibilities of scholarship. We rejoice in the challenge of these pursuits.