

THE SAVANNAH COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

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# UPPER SCHOOL COURSE GUIDEBOOK 2022-23

This guidebook is meant to be a resource for faculty, students and parents when planning courses during the Upper School years. All decisions made about course scheduling must be in consultation with school officials, including the Class Dean, College Counselor and Department Chairs. Students and parents are encouraged to consult the Student Handbook for additional information on academic requirements in the Upper School.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
(21 UNITS MINIMUM):**

- ENGLISH: 4 UNITS
- MATH: 4 UNITS
- HISTORY: 3 UNITS (US HISTORY REQUIRED)
- SCIENCE: 3 UNITS (PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY REQUIRED)
- WORLD LANGUAGE: 3 UNITS (3 YEARS OF THE SAME LANGUAGE)
- FINE ARTS: 1 UNIT
- FRESHMAN FOUNDATIONS: 1 UNIT (FRESHMAN YEAR)
- ELECTIVES: 2 UNITS

Global Online Academy: Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors may enroll in no more than one Global Online Academy (GOA) course each semester. GOA courses may not replace required courses in our curriculum that are taught on our campus.

Savannah Country Day School students are limited to 9 total Advanced Placement Courses. Sophomores may take 1, Juniors may take up to 4 and Seniors may take up to 4.

Students must take 6 courses each semester.

The availability of some courses is subject to change.

As always, contact your child’s Dean if you have any questions related to course placement.

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# FINE ARTS



## VISUAL ART

**AR 101 ART AND DESIGN** (I-Semester) 1st Semester. Any grade level may take this. It is the gateway to all other Visual Art classes.

**AR 102 ART AND DESIGN** (I-Semester) Second semester. Any grade level may take this. (Prerequisite: AR 101)

**AR 201 PAINTING AND DRAWING** (I-Semester) Any grade level. May repeat. Must have had 101

**AR 321 CERAMICS** (I-Semester) Any grade level. May repeat. Must have had 101.

**AR 241 DIGITAL/2-D ART** (I-Semester) First semester. Any grade level may take this. (Prerequisite: AR 101)

**AR 341 DIGITAL/3-D** (I-Semester) Second semester. Any grade level may take this. Must have had 241 or 234 and AR 101.

**AR 400 ART AND DESIGN** (Year Long) Juniors and Seniors by recommendation. May repeat.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**AR 234 DIGITAL PHOTO** (I-Semester) This is an introductory class for students interested in using Adobe Photoshop and Digital Cameras. A digital camera is required for the class. It is populated by all grade levels. (Its prerequisite is AR 101 and can be used as a prerequisite for Digital/3-D.)

**AR 334 ADVANCED DIGITAL PHOTO**

## CHORUS

**US CHORUS** (Year Long) - CH131 is open to all US grade levels. The teacher may ask for a vocal placement appointment. Students in this class will sing a wide variety of music and acquire music reading and theory skills.

## DRAMA

**DR 125 INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE** This introductory class is open to all US grade levels but is mostly populated by Freshmen and Sophomores. It is the prerequisite for DR 225.

**DR 225 THE ACTING ENSEMBLE** This is an advanced acting class mostly comprised of juniors and seniors. Its prerequisite is DR 225 or an audition with Mr. Queenan.

## JAZZ BAND

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE JE231 / JE241** is a big band (18-22 musicians) that performs a wide variety of traditional styles. JE231 is generally for freshman and sophomores, and JE431 is for the more advanced musician. Students who have been participating in the Middle School jazz program may sign up without auditioning. Students new to the program need to play for the director to determine placement.

**JAZZ COMBO JE450** is a small ensemble (4-10 musicians) that performs a wide variety of modern styles, as well as traditional styles. This group is for the more advanced student who is very good at improvisation and is thinking about pursuing music at a higher level. Students for this band are selected by the director.

**MUSIC TECH JE331** is aimed at students who are interested in learning about sound and light design that are part of live performances. One tech person is needed for each band (Ensemble and Combo). Students interested in this will be learning about sound hardware and software, as well as theatrical lighting systems. Previous musical experience is not necessary, but helpful. Interested students should talk to the band director. Selected students will be a part of each jazz performance. Please note: this course will be considered as an elective credit and will not be counted toward the Art requirement of 1 unit for graduation.

## ORCHESTRA

**SE231 US ORCHESTRA** (Year Long) Students with continuous, previous experience in orchestra classes are welcome and encouraged to participate in SE231. Students new to the school or who would like to join/rejoin orchestra should speak with the Director of Fine and Performing Arts.

## MUSIC THEORY

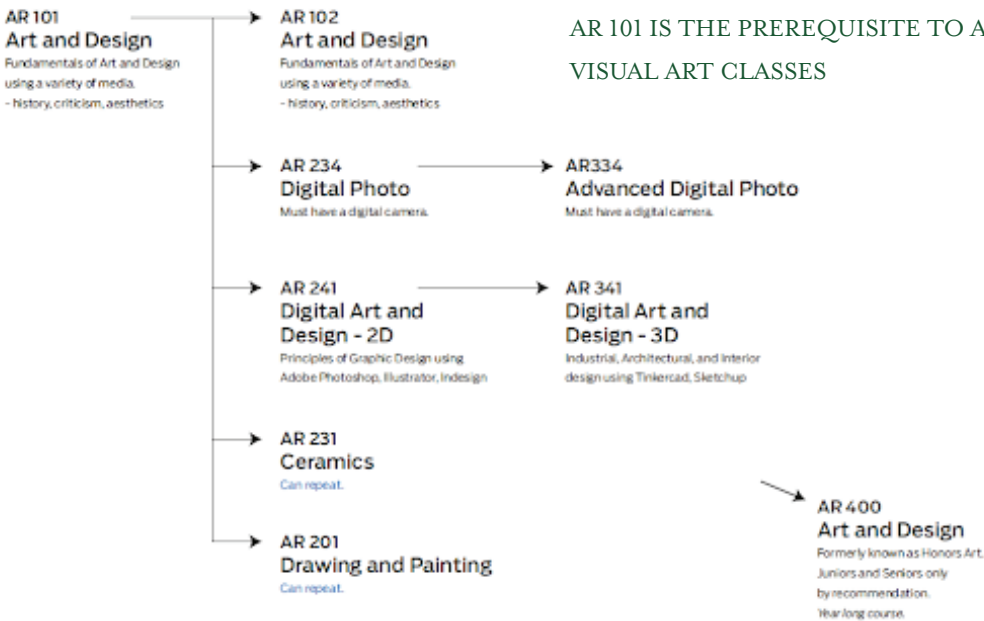
**AP MUSIC THEORY - MT490** (Year Long) is an advanced academic class. You must receive permission and or recommendation to take this class. Please note: this course will be considered

as an elective credit and will not be counted toward the Art requirement of 1 unit for graduation. This course will count toward the AP cap.

**MUSIC THEORY II - MT450** (Year Long) is a continuation of MT 490 for students wanting to continue exploring music theory, composition and recording. Permission of instructor is required, along with successful completion of MT 490. Please note: this course will be considered as an elective credit and will not be counted toward the Art requirement of 1 unit for graduation.

**MUSIC APPRECIATION FA100** (Year Long) examines how to listen to music and to think dynamically about the role that music plays in our lives on both personal and interpersonal levels. The course will teach you how to listen for the different components that make the music you like. We trace the history of western music and the coinciding historical movements of which it was a part. We will cover ancient music, choral music, orchestral music, solo classical instrumental music, jazz, rock/pop and even learn why hip-hop sounds the way it does! While this is an academic class, it is light intensity and will have several creative projects. Please note: this course will be considered as an elective credit and will not be counted toward the Art requirement of 1 unit for graduation.

ALL COURSES 1 SEMESTER EXCEPT AR400  
AR 101 IS THE PREREQUISITE TO ALL OTHER VISUAL ART CLASSES



# HISTORY

9TH GRADE	HI 100 – Ancient World History
10TH GRADE	HI 200 – Modern World History or HI 290 – AP World History
11TH GRADE	HI 300 – US History or HI 390 – AP US History
12TH GRADE	HI 490 – AP European History HI 492 – AP US Government HI 493 – AP Micro Economics

## 10TH/11TH/12TH ELECTIVES (Semester Courses)

- HI 454/463 – Eastern World Religions (Honors Option)
- HI 455/464 – Western World Religions (Honors Option)
- HI 400 – The American South (Honors Option)
- HI 405 – Savannah and the American South (Honors Option)
  - HI 350 – Contemporary Global Issues I
  - HI 355 – Contemporary Global Issues II
  - HI 420 – History of Human Rights

## 9TH GRADE

**HI 100 – ANCIENT WORLD HISTORY** This course begins with a study of pre-history and ancient civilizations including Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, Persia, Rome and Native America. The course emphasizes patterns and trends in history to provide students with a broad foundation. Particular attention is paid to the world’s faith traditions and their origins.

## 10TH GRADE

**HI 200 – MODERN WORLD HISTORY** This course examines the world since 1492. It includes the Columbian Exchange, Atlantic slave trade, global capitalism, nationalism, fascism and communism. The cultures of Africa, India, Asia are studied beyond their colonial re-

lationships with Europe. The World Wars and the making of the Modern World are discussed. Research and writing skills are emphasized.

**HI 290 - AP WORLD HISTORY** In AP World History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from around the world between 1200 and the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course is organized around themes such as trade networks, land-based empires, revolutions, global conflicts, and decolonization. Students are required to take the AP Examination upon completion of the course.

## 11TH GRADE

**HI 300 – US HISTORY** US History is a broad survey course which examines life from the Native Americans through colonial settlement to the present day. Topics include the American Revolution, Civil War, America’s rise as a world power, the World Wars, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam.

**HI 390 - AP US HISTORY** In AP United States History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes between 1491 and the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course is organized around themes, including (1) national identity, (2) politics and power, (3) culture and society, (4) migration and settlement, (5) geography and the environment, (6) work, exchange, and technology, and (7) America in the world. Students are required to take the AP Examination upon completion of the course.

## 12TH GRADE

**HI 490 – AP EUROPEAN HISTORY** This course provides intensive coverage of major topics from the Renaissance to the present including the Reformation, Age of Absolutism, and the Scientific, French and Industrial Revolutions as well as the rise of nation states. Attention is paid to social, intellectual and political history.

Students are required to take the AP Examination upon completion of the courses.

**HI 492 – AP US GOVERNMENT** This course exposes students to the workings of the US government, the American political system, and makes clear the rights, privileges and responsibilities of US citizens. Emphasis is placed on the Constitution, the three branches of government and modern developments in US politics. Curriculum includes 15 Supreme Court cases,

9 foundational documents, and a required civic-engagement project. Students are required to take the AP Examination upon completion of the courses.

**HI 493 – AP MICRO ECONOMICS** This course provides an understanding of the principles of economics within the larger economic system. It places emphasis on the nature and functions of the product market, and the role of government in providing greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Given the mathematics involved in this course, a high B average in the previous year’s math class is strongly recommended.

Students are required to take the AP Examination upon completion of the courses.

## 10TH/11TH/12TH ELECTIVES (Semester Courses)

**HI 454/463 – EASTERN WORLD RELIGIONS (HONORS OPTION)** This course provides students with an overview of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism. Each religion is examined through various lenses including: doctrine, ethics, mythology and institutions. Subject to availability.

**HI 455/464 – WESTERN WORLD RELIGIONS (HONORS OPTION)** This course provides students with an overview of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Each religion is examined through various lenses including: doctrine, sacred places, rituals and experience. Subject to availability.

**HI 400 – THE AMERICAN SOUTH (FALL)** Students will investigate the culture, history and art of the South primarily in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Looking closely at a particular time and place, the course will also ask students existential questions about their place within a wider context. Subject to availability.

**HI 405 – SAVANNAH AND THE AMERICAN SOUTH (SPRING)** Students will explore the history of Savannah from its colonial beginnings to present day. Savannah has inspired numerous artists as well and the course will include an investigation of the city’s rich cultural



history. Subject to availability.

**HI 350/355 - CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES SEMINAR (I & II)** In this cross-disciplinary course students will explore a range of key contemporary global topics, and think creatively about possible solutions to these issues. We will explore different perspectives, from the local to the international, on subjects ranging from climate change to migration. Subject to availability.

**HI 420 - HISTORY OF HUMAN RIGHTS** This course provides an overview of the history of human rights, from the development of the concept of the “Rights of Man,” through various transgressions of said rights throughout histo-

ry, to the institutions that eventually formed to guarantee their protection. The course is organized in two parts: in the fall, we will examine the prehistory of human rights in the contradictory age of the Atlantic Slave Trade and the Enlightenment and lead them through some of the human rights violations and early humanitarian movements of the nineteenth century. In the spring semester, we will focus on the twentieth century as an age of extremes: a time of genocide and massive human rights violations, from the Holocaust to Apartheid, but also of countless international human rights movements and institutions that arose in their aftermath. Subject to availability.

# SCIENCE

## CORE SEQUENCE COURSES

**SC100 PHYSICS** This course covers the traditional physics topics of Newtonian mechanics, waves, sound, light and electricity. The course emphasizes hands-on activities along with theoretical discussions. While there will be some computation and problem solving, the primary aim of the course is to make sure the students get a solid foundation of the techniques needed to clearly and accurately study science.

**SC180 HONORS PHYSICS** This course is composed of curriculum similar in scope to SC100, but significantly more computational; algebraic and trigonometric relationships will be used to solve complex problems. It is assumed that the honors physics student has an excellent understanding of mathematics and is well above average in their reading comprehension skills. Admission to this course is by pretest administered by the US Science Department.

**SC200 CHEMISTRY** This course is the second course in the science core sequence. It is a general college preparatory course in which the nature and properties of matter and its interactions are explained in a real-world context. Students will have the opportunity to gain personal understanding of chemical principles by utilizing a hands-on approach to chemistry.

**SC280 HONORS CHEMISTRY** This course is also a general college preparatory course with similar scope and sequence to the General course. Key differences include a more computational approach to understanding chemical properties and a greater complexity in the problem-solving activities done in class, in lab activities and out-of-class practice. It is assumed that the honors chemistry student is a strong analytical thinker, did well in his/her physics class, and is well above average in their reading comprehension skills.

**SC300 BIOLOGY** This course is an introductory high school survey with a focus on ecology and living organisms. It is the third course in the science core sequence and provides an introduction to biological principles and integrates the student’s previous background in physics and chemistry into living systems.

**SC380 HONORS BIOLOGY** This course is an introductory high school Biology course with a focus on molecular biology and the cell structure of organisms. Drawing on the student’s previous background in physics and chemistry this course focuses on a molecular approach to the traditional topics. It is assumed the Honors Biology student is an analytical thinker, did well in chemistry and is an above average reader.

## SENIOR/JUNIOR ELECTIVES

Each of these courses requires a prerequisite; they may be taken as a stand-alone course or as a second science course.

**SC450 AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE** The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Students are required to take the AP Exam. Pre/Co-requisite: Biology

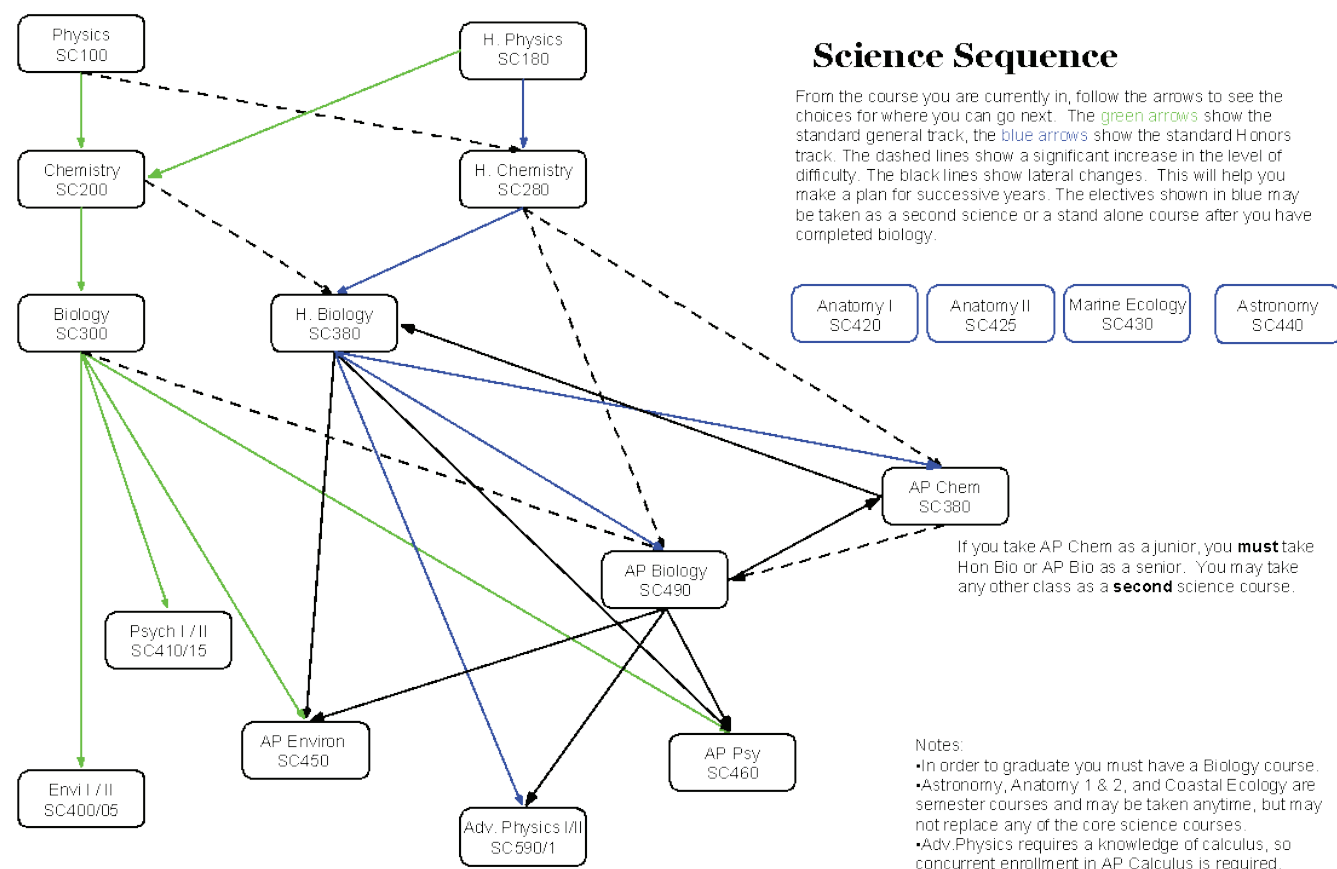
**SC460 AP PSYCHOLOGY** This survey course is designed to develop a deeper understanding of the self and will explore many issues within this science including, but not limited to, the development of the human from conception to death, the function and structure of the brain and its relation to behavior. Students are re-

**SC490 AP BIOLOGY** The AP Biology course is an introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year of college. This course provides students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. The course includes the development of laboratory skills of observation, recording, experimental design, data interpretation, and statistical analysis. All students are required to take the AP examination in Biology. Prerequisite: Chemistry

**SC591 CALC-BASED PHYSICS II – ELECTRICITY, MAGNETISM AND LIGHT** This course is modeled after a second-semester, calculus based college physics course with emphasis placed on the study of electrostatics, electric currents, magnetism. A thorough knowledge of algebra and trigonometry is required as well as a basic understanding of calculus. All students will be prepared to take the AP Physics C: E&M exam if they choose. Prerequisite: SC590 (see above)

**SC420/425 HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY I&II** This course is provided in two semester parts. Part I provides an overview of the anatomy and physiology of the human skeletal, muscular, nervous, sensory, cardiovascular, and lymphatic systems with a particular focus on form and function. Part II explores the human respiratory, digestive, endocrine, urinary, and male and female reproductive systems. Part I is offered in the fall and Part II in the spring. The courses are independent from one another and need NOT be taken sequentially.

**SC433 ASTRONOMY** (subject to course availability) This course is an introduction to astronomy through a broad survey of what we know about the universe and how we know it. We start with a review of physics and chemistry to understand how we can infer particular properties of celestial objects based on our observations of phenomena here on earth. We begin with our Solar System and gain an understanding of size and the relative positions of our closest neighbors. We study different types of stars, their mass, size, and luminosity as well as their life cycle and location on the H-R Diagram. Finally, we look at special objects such as neutron stars, quasars and black holes.



# WORLD LANGUAGE



SCDS requires three sequential years of coursework in one language in the Upper School for graduation.

## FRENCH

Upper School – Below are the paths available to students. Bold classes in each path are required; additional classes are encouraged.

LF 100 → LF 200 → LF 380 → LF 480 and/or LF 403-404

LF 200 → LF 380 → LF 480 (and LF 403-404) → LF 590 and/or LF 503-504

LF 380 → LF 480 (and LF 403-404 when available) → LF 590 (and LF 503-504) → LF 603-604

## LATIN

Upper School – Below is the path for students. Bold classes in each path are required; additional classes are encouraged.

LL 100 → LL 200 → LL 300 → LL 480

LL 200 → LL 300 → LL 480 → LL 580

## SPANISH

Upper School – Below are the five different paths available to students. Bold classes in each path are required; additional classes are encouraged.

LS 100 → LS 200 → LS 300 → LS 400 and/or LS 403-404

LS 100 → LS 280 → LS 380 → LS 480 and/or LS 403-404

LS 200 → LS 300 → LS 400 (and LS 403-404) → LS 503-504

LS 280 → LS 380 → LS 480 (and LS 403-404) → LS 590 and/or LS 603-604

LS 380 → LS 480 → LS 590 → LS 603-604

## FRENCH

**LF 100** French 100 is an introductory course, which is open to students who are new to our school, who have no prior knowledge of French, who would like to add a second foreign language to their course of study or whose background in the language is at the novice level. Moving

through the theme-based, first-level textbook, students acquire contemporary vocabulary and develop elementary sentence structures through activities that focus on listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence.

**LF 200** French 200 continues to move through the theme-based, level two textbook, where

students work on building their foundation by continuing to acquire contemporary vocabulary and by developing skills – at the sentence and at the paragraph levels – through activities that focus on listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence. This course is open to students who have completed both LF 2 and LF 3 French in the Middle School or LF 100 in the Upper School or the equivalent, per a placement test.

**LF 380 HONORS** Conducted almost exclusively in French, this course helps students to refine and expand their skill sets – listening, reading, writing, speaking and cultural competence. Students will be able to use the language with greater accuracy in a variety of situations; they will manipulate complex features of the language, including more abstract concepts. Expressing their own thoughts and interacting with speakers in the target language is paramount. Students will be expected to understand complex oral and written messages and give oral presentations in French on an ongoing basis. Students also encounter their first original texts of francophone literature in several genres. Successful completion of LF 200 is a prerequisite to enrollment in LF 380 Honors.

**LF 480 HONORS** French 480 Honors is designed to increase the student's proficiency in the four basic language skills using both structured and unstructured conversation, expanded vocabulary and usage study, cultural exploration, reading from selected authors and directed compositions. The course includes a thorough grammar review. Students are required to give oral presentations and written reports on selected cultural topics with an emphasis on structural understanding and clarity of expression. The almost exclusive use of French (on both the part of the teacher and the student) occurs in the French 480 Honors. Successful completion of LF 380 Honors is a prerequisite to enrollment in LF 480 Honors.

**LF 590 - AP FRENCH LANGUAGE & CULTURE** The emphasis of this course is the continued development of skills for advanced use of French in conjunction with targeted preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam. Speaking skills are honed through class discus-

sion, voice recordings and presentations; listening skills are strengthened through the use of news broadcasts, music and other authentic media. Selected texts, along with other print media, serve as a basis for reading comprehension, class discussion and writing practice. The themes of this course mirror but are not limited to the recommended contexts as outlined by the College Board. The exclusive use of French (on both the part of the teacher and the student) occurs in the AP French Language Course. Successful completion of LF 480 is a prerequisite to enrollment in LF 590.

**LF 403, 503 OR 603 - FRENCH CONVERSATION** This course provides the advanced student of French with a means for improving their oral-aural proficiency. Special emphasis is placed on the acquisition of idioms and vocabulary. Students read a variety of authentic texts and discuss them in relation to cultural topics of current interest. In addition to print texts, a series of short films are used as a further resource for cultural discussion. The goal of French Conversation is to strengthen the students' French communication skills by (1) providing a place for regular guided oral practice of basic patterns and vocabulary through topics of current interest, (2) helping add to their active vocabulary, reinforcing it with readings and written exercises, and (3) helping students improve comprehension by listening and completing oral exams and conversations.

**LF 404, 504 OR 604 - FRENCH COMMUNICATION THROUGH CINEMA** This course is designed to support French students as they improve and strengthen their language skills while learning about Francophone cinema. Students view feature-length films from around the Francophone world. They also read about and discuss the cultural phenomena and the socio-political issues they present. Students also compose written reactions, summaries and analyses based on the films. The class therefore includes work in both conversation and composition. The goals of French Conversation are to strengthen the students' French communication skills and to augment their knowledge of Francophone film and the cultural issues presented therein.



## LATIN

**LL 100 (LATIN I)** In Latin 100, students are introduced to the fundamentals of Latin morphology and syntax. Emphases of the course include the five noun declensions; cases and their uses; all tenses of the indicative mood, active and passive; noun-adjective agreement and comparison; relative and demonstrative pronouns; participles and infinitives; and, indirect statement. By the fourth quarter, students are prepared to begin translating authentic Latin texts by one of the major authors.

**LL 200 (LATIN II)** The primary emphasis throughout the course is upon solidifying and developing the students' grasp of the fundamentals of Latin grammar, with emphasis on key constructions based on infinitives and participles, through concentrated work with grammatical reference materials. Significant time is also given to vocabulary building. Students will read authentic Latin prose, including a number of short, selected passages from Eutropius' *Breviarum*, which chronicles the legendary history of the Roman kings, the republic and empire. The second semester is dedicated to Latin selections from Curtius' *History of Alexander*. Students are tested frequently for grammatical detail and memorization of approximately 12-15 lines of text. In addition, they will read primary source histories in English, from Plutarch (*Lives of Pompey, and Caesar*), and Curtius Rufus (*History of Alexander*).

**LL 300 (LATIN III)** In this course, students translate a broad range of selections from two prominent writers of Latin prose (Cicero, Livy, or Quintilian in the first semester, and Seneca in the second). The focus of the course is on translation, grammatical review, and detailed, open-note reading checks on English texts, including Plato's *Republic* in its entirety. Students complete a graded, in-class translation exercise about once per week, and are tested for memorization and grammatical details over approximately 30-35 lines of text. In the fourth quarter, students prepare a presentation on a topic related to rhetoric, or philosophy.

**LL 480 (LATIN IV HONORS)** In this honors course, students read extended passages from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. They complete a graded, in-class translation exercise about once per week, and are periodically tested for both memorization and grammatical detail over approximately 50-60 lines of text. Abundant secondary reading is provided (and assessed), both to provide background information, and to broaden the students' understanding of art, mythology, and poetic technique.. In the fourth quarter, students prepare a presentation (on a topic of their choosing, cleared by the instructor).

**LL 580 (LATIN V HONORS)** In this honors course, students are introduced to two genres of Roman poetry: elegy and (in the second semester) satire. Authors translated include Propertius, Tibullus, Ovid, Horace and Juvenal. Familiarity with elegiac meter and the dactylic hexameter is assumed throughout. Emphasis is on the following areas: fluid translation of prepared materials, crafting of brief essays that respond to nuances of poetic technique, allusion, metrics and grammatical and rhetorical figures, as well as unifying devices of individual works; and, fluid oral recitation. Secondary literature, consisting of critical essays on the authors listed above, is introduced throughout the year to facilitate discussion and for purposes of assessment. In the fourth quarter, students prepare a presentation on an aspect of Roman daily life.

## SPANISH

**LS 100** Spanish 100 is an introductory course, which is open to students who are new to our school, who have no prior knowledge of Spanish, who would like to add a second foreign language to their course of study or whose background in the language is at the novice level. Moving through the theme-based, first-level textbook, students acquire contemporary vocabulary and develop elementary sentence structures through activities that focus on listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence.

**LS 200** Spanish 200 continues to move through the theme-based textbook where students work on building their foundation by continuing to

acquire contemporary vocabulary and by developing skills -at the sentence and at the paragraph levels- through activities that focus on listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence. This course is open to students who have completed both LS 2 and LS 3 Spanish in the Middle School or LS 100 in the Upper School or the equivalent, per a placement test.

**LS 280** Spanish Honors 280 continues to move through a theme-based curriculum. In this course students are expected to be highly self-motivated, to be willing to actively engage in class and to prepare thoroughly outside of class. Moving at a faster pace and exploring Spanish and Hispanic studies in greater depth, students in this honors class continue to develop skills through activities that focus on listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural competence. This course is open to students who have been recommended by their teacher and have excelled in LS 3 Spanish in the Middle School, LS 100 in the Upper School or the equivalent, per a placement test.

**LS 300** Spanish 300 is designed to guide students through the final components of the initial grammar sequence, while continuing to develop their language skills. The theme-based textbook, applicable to daily life and routines, provides the basic structure of the course in addition to the incorporation of outside resources. To support students as they develop their proficiency, frequent presentations, participation in debates, viewing authentic short films, reading authentic literary and journalistic texts from various Hispanic authors and writing are commonplace in this dynamic course.

**LS 380** While continuing to develop their language skills with precision, Spanish Honors 380 is designed to guide students through the final components of the initial grammar sequence. In addition, this course serves as an introduction to the type of rigorous cultural and literary studies that will be required in more advanced courses. This honors course approaches the expansion of language skills in the same manner as LS 300 but with more rigorous expectations, more challenging material, and a stronger emphasis on student participation and leadership. The almost exclusive use of Spanish occurs in

the LS 380 Language Course. Departmental approval is required.

**LS 400** Spanish 400 is designed to increase students' proficiency in the four language skills and broaden their cultural knowledge of Hispanic world. While the course includes a thorough grammar review, the broader focus of LS 400 is improving language proficiency in authentic situations and contexts. To develop proficiency, students give frequent presentations, participate in debates, watch authentic short films, read authentic literary and journalistic texts from various Hispanic authors and write reaction papers and formal compositions. Vocabulary acquisition focuses on expansion of previously studied lexical groups.

**LS 480** Spanish 480 Honors is a course designed to increase students' proficiency in the four language skills and broaden their cultural knowledge of Hispanic world. While the course includes a thorough grammar review, a concurrent focus of LS 480 is the use of authentic materials to expand students' communicative competency and cultural literacy. In short, this honors course approaches the expansion of language skills in the same manner as LS 400 but with more rigorous expectations, more challenging material, and a stronger emphasis on student participation and leadership. The almost exclusive use of Spanish occurs in the LS 480 Honors. Departmental approval is required for LS 480 Honors.

**LS 590 - AP SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE** The emphasis of this course is the continued development of skills for advanced use of Spanish in conjunction with targeted preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam. Speaking skills are reinforced through class discussion, voice recordings and presentations, and listening skills are strengthened through the use of news broadcasts, music and other authentic media. Students explore selected readings along with other print media, serve as a basis for reading comprehension, class discussion and writing practice. The themes of the course mirror but are not limited to the recommended contexts provided by the College Board. The exclusive use of Spanish occurs in the AP Spanish Language Course. Successful completion of LS



480 is a prerequisite to enrollment in LS 590.

**LS 403, 503 OR 603 - SPANISH CONVERSATION** This course provides the advanced student of Spanish with a means for improving their oral-aural proficiency. Special emphasis is placed on the acquisition of idioms and vocabulary. Students read a variety of authentic texts and discuss them in relation to cultural topics of current interest. In addition to print texts, a series of authentic short films are used as a further resource for cultural discussion. The goal of Spanish Conversation is to strengthen the students' Spanish communication skills by (1) providing a place for regular guided oral practice of basic patterns and vocabulary through topics of current interest, (2) helping add to their active vocabulary, reinforcing it with readings and written exercises, and (3) helping them improve comprehension by listening and completing oral exams and conversations.

**LS 404, 504 OR 604 - SPANISH COMMUNICATION THROUGH CINEMA** This course is designed to support students of Spanish as they improve their language skills while learning about Hispanic cinema. Students view important feature-length films from around the Hispanic world, and read about and discuss the cultural phenomena, and the social and political issues they present. Students also compose written reactions, summaries and analyses based on the films. The class therefore includes work in both conversation and composition. The goals of Spanish Communication through Cinema are to strengthen the students' Spanish communication skills and increase their knowledge of Hispanic film and the cultural issues problematized in it.

# MATHEMATICS

All students must complete four years of high school-level mathematics. Required courses and electives develop strong reasoning skills and broad conceptual understanding and are offered at various levels, including several college-level classes. Graphing calculators are integrated throughout the math curriculum. A student's initial course selection is dependent upon his or her previous math background. Placement is determined every year and is based on academic achievement in previous math classes and department recommendation.

**ALGEBRA I - MA100** The beginning algebra course substitutes letters for numbers and shows how expressions containing variables can represent real world quantities. Solving equations through the use of algebraic axioms leads naturally into word problems with practical applications. Students explore both linear and quadratic equations along with topics such as exponents, rational expressions, and inequalities. The course ends with the idea of function and how it pertains to more advanced topics. Prerequisites: None.

**GEOMETRY - MA200** This course offers a clear introduction to the fundamental concepts and operations of plane geometry. Students use sequential logic and deductive reasoning skills throughout the course to provide informal justifications and arguments as well as formal ones that are the basis for two-column and paragraph proofs. Students see the development of Euclidean proofs and attain a working knowledge of trigonometry as it applies to right triangles. Areas and volumes are examples of additional topics. There is an expectation of algebraic proficiency, and algebra is used throughout. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I

**HONORS GEOMETRY - MA280** This course is intended for students with a strong mathematical ability and desire to deeply study the structure and applications of mathematics. The class includes a more sophisticated and faster

paced study of all of the topics of the Geometry class as well as many concepts which the regular course will not have the opportunity to address. Superior algebraic skills are assumed and flexibility is necessary for application to the geometric concepts. The whole course is proof based. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors Algebra I and/or teacher recommendation.

**CP ALGEBRA II - MA330** This course provides the essential concepts and skills of algebra and the study of functions that are needed for the further study of mathematics. Topics include linear and quadratic, higher polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry

**ALGEBRA II - MA350** Accelerated Algebra II combines a rigorous study of algebra with an introduction to the family of functions. Students will gain a strong foundation in algebraic skills while exploring linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Applications are also used to reinforce theory and concepts. All of the topics of the Algebra II course are covered in depth with a larger emphasis placed on students developing skills in making connections more independently. Right triangle trigonometry is introduced, as well as some trigonometric graphing. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry with a 75 or better.

**HONORS ALGEBRA II - MA380** This course is intended for students with a strong mathematical ability and desire to study deeply the structure and applications of mathematics. The class includes a more sophisticated study of all of the topics of the Algebra 2 class. The faster pace also allows for an in-depth study of trigonometry; circular functions, graphing, and identities are all included. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors Geometry and/or teacher recommendation.

**CP PRECALCULUS - MA400** CP Precalculus continues the study of functions begun in Algebra II. Elementary functions are revisited in greater depth, and an emphasis is placed on properties and transformations of graphs. Polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions and their graphs are studied thoroughly. Additionally, trigonometry is covered in depth. Students review the basic trigonometric functions in preparation for discussions about the unit circle, trigonometric graphs, trigonometric formulas and identities, and applications of trigonometry. Prerequisites: Successful completion of any level of Algebra II.

**PRE-CALCULUS - MA401** This course is designed to prepare students for a college level calculus class. Students will study properties of polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions. An in-depth study of trigonometry includes the properties of circular functions, inverse trigonometric functions, identities, vectors, and polar graphing. Limits, parametric functions, and continuity are used to study each family of functions. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra II with a 75 or better.

**HONORS PRE-CALCULUS - MA485** This course is intended for students with a strong mathematical ability and desire to study deeply the structure and applications of mathematics. This course uses limits to continue the study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. The faster pace allows the class to begin the study of differential calculus. If time permits, additional topics may include sequences and series, conics, and matrices. Prerequisites: Successful completion of

Honors Algebra II and/or teacher recommendation.

**INTRODUCTION TO CALCULUS - MA505** This course provides a numerical, graphical, and analytical introduction to the study of calculus. Functions are revisited before expanding upon the theory of limits in order to develop the concept of the derivative and the definite integral. The definition of the derivative and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus form the basis to study the mechanics of derivatives, anti-derivatives, and definite integrals. Applications that focus on real world situations are emphasized. Technology is used throughout. While this course gives a sound foundation for the study of calculus in college, it is not intended as preparation for the advanced placement test. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Precalculus and/or teacher recommendation.

**AP CALCULUS AB - MA590** This course follows closely, but is not limited to, the guidelines of the Advanced Placement Calculus AB syllabus. Following a short review of functions, trigonometry, and graphing, the concept of a limit and the definition of the derivative are introduced. The theory and techniques of differential calculus are developed and applied to topics including optimization techniques, related rates, and the study of change in physics, economics, and life science models. Numerical approximation methods and integration techniques are applied to the contexts of areas, volumes, and curvilinear motion. The distinctions between antiderivatives, definite integrals, and improper integrals are addressed. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors Precalculus with an 80 or better.

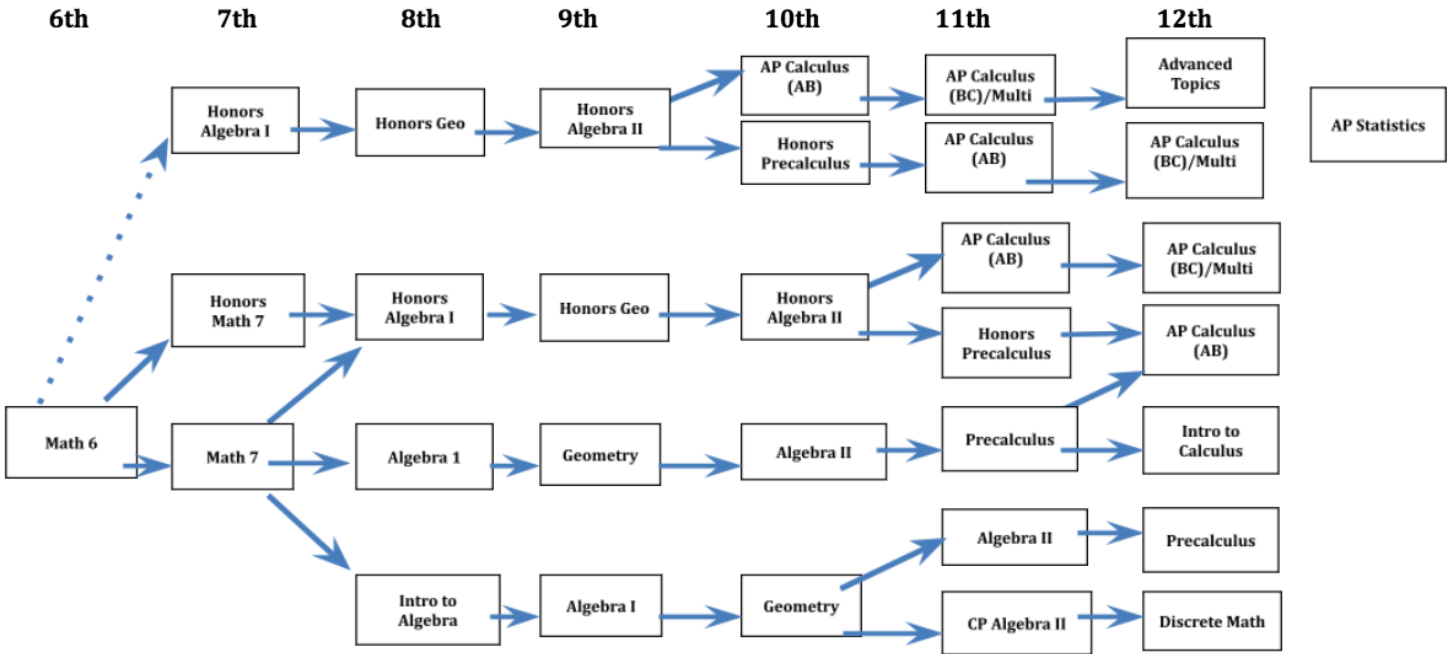
**AP CALCULUS BC - MA593** A continuation of the honors math curriculum, this course follows closely, but is not limited to, the guidelines of the Advanced Placement Calculus BC syllabus. After a brief review of limits and the fundamentals of differential calculus developed in the Honors Precalculus class, students apply these ideas to their perspective of functions. Topics include optimization techniques, related rates, and the study of change in physics, economics, and life science models. Numerical approxima-

tion methods and integration techniques are applied to the contexts of areas, volumes, and curvilinear motion. The distinctions between antiderivatives, definite integrals, and improper integrals are addressed. Other topics include series convergence, vector theory, and polar and parametrically defined functions. Prerequisites: Successful completion of AB Calculus with an 80 or better.

**AP STATISTICS - MA592** The Advanced Placement Statistics course is designed to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The four major conceptual themes of the course are exploring data, planning a study, making inferences from data, and modeling. Many real world situations will be explored and students will learn to gather and analyze their own data. Students will use the TI-83 calculator and will also be asked to communicate their analyses through formal writing assignments. The course will follow the College Board's curriculum, and the students will take the AP test in the spring. AP Statistics section-

ing is based on previous grades, teacher recommendation, and a math aptitude profile. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Precalculus and teacher recommendation or currently enrolled in Honors Precalculus.

**ADVANCED TOPICS IN MATHEMATICS - MA600** Advanced Topics in Mathematics is designed primarily for students who completed an AP calculus course in their junior year and are interested in continuing their math education beyond high school. The course introduces students to various topics in advanced mathematics. While every year's curriculum may be different, in the past such topics as advanced techniques of integration, partial derivatives, extrema and saddle points of 3-dimensional functions, linear and Bernoulli differential equations, hyperbolic functions, and factorials of fractions have been covered. In addition, students in the past had researched and presented papers on various topics such as linear algebra, number theory, mathematics of economics, and others. Prerequisites: Successful completion of an AP Calculus course.



# ENGLISH

### EN 100 - FOUNDATIONAL STUDIES

Ninth grade English trains students in the foundational skills required to think, write and read effectively. By studying literary works, vocabulary, and grammar and by writing personal and expository essays, students learn to achieve their purposes in writing and to see how other authors do the same.

**EN 200 - GENRE STUDIES** Tenth grade English develops the ability to read and write critically about a variety of literary genres: short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Students become familiar with literary and thematic analysis through diverse, multicultural texts. The course builds on the basic structures of writing and analysis in EN100 to include various types and movements within each major genre and literary time period.

**EN 300 - AMERICAN LITERATURE** Eleventh grade English surveys American literature as it moves from the 1500s to the present. Critical thinking, active reading, and analytical writing shape the class through discussion, oral presentations, assessments, journals, and a variety of writing assignments ranging from rhetorical and syntactical analyses of prose, speeches, poetry, and research.

**EN 390 - AP LANGUAGE** Eleventh grade Advanced Placement Language offers a survey of American literature in addition to a rigorous overview of rhetorical analysis. Students will be asked to critically examine modes while reading deeply in texts and focusing on the manipulation of language. Students are required to take the AP Language and Composition Examination in May. Teacher permission is required.

**EN 461- TWELFTH GRADE CREATIVE NONFICTION** This course is a semester elective. The primary focus is studying elements of

style and structure and writing in several subgenres: personal narrative, personal essay, opinion essay, portrait, and essay of place. Students use language to focus and articulate their unique view of their own experiences and of public issues. In short, students learn to write about real-life topics in compelling ways. This course is available as an elective to juniors, but must be taken in conjunction with a 300-level English course.

**EN 463 - TWELFTH GRADE LITERATURE OF SHAKESPEARE** This course is a semester elective. The primary focus is on the tragedies and comedies in Shakespeare's great works. Students will examine the Bard through his plays, biography, historical context, film, response papers, and reader's journal. This course is available as an elective to juniors, but must be taken in conjunction with a 300-level English course.

**EN 464 - WORLD LITERATURE AND SHORT STORIES** This course is a semester elective. The primary focus is on examining the best of the American short stories. Students will analyze the elements of composition, sense of place, and narrative voice through reading and writing applications. These courses are available as an elective to juniors, but must be taken in conjunction with a 300-level English course.

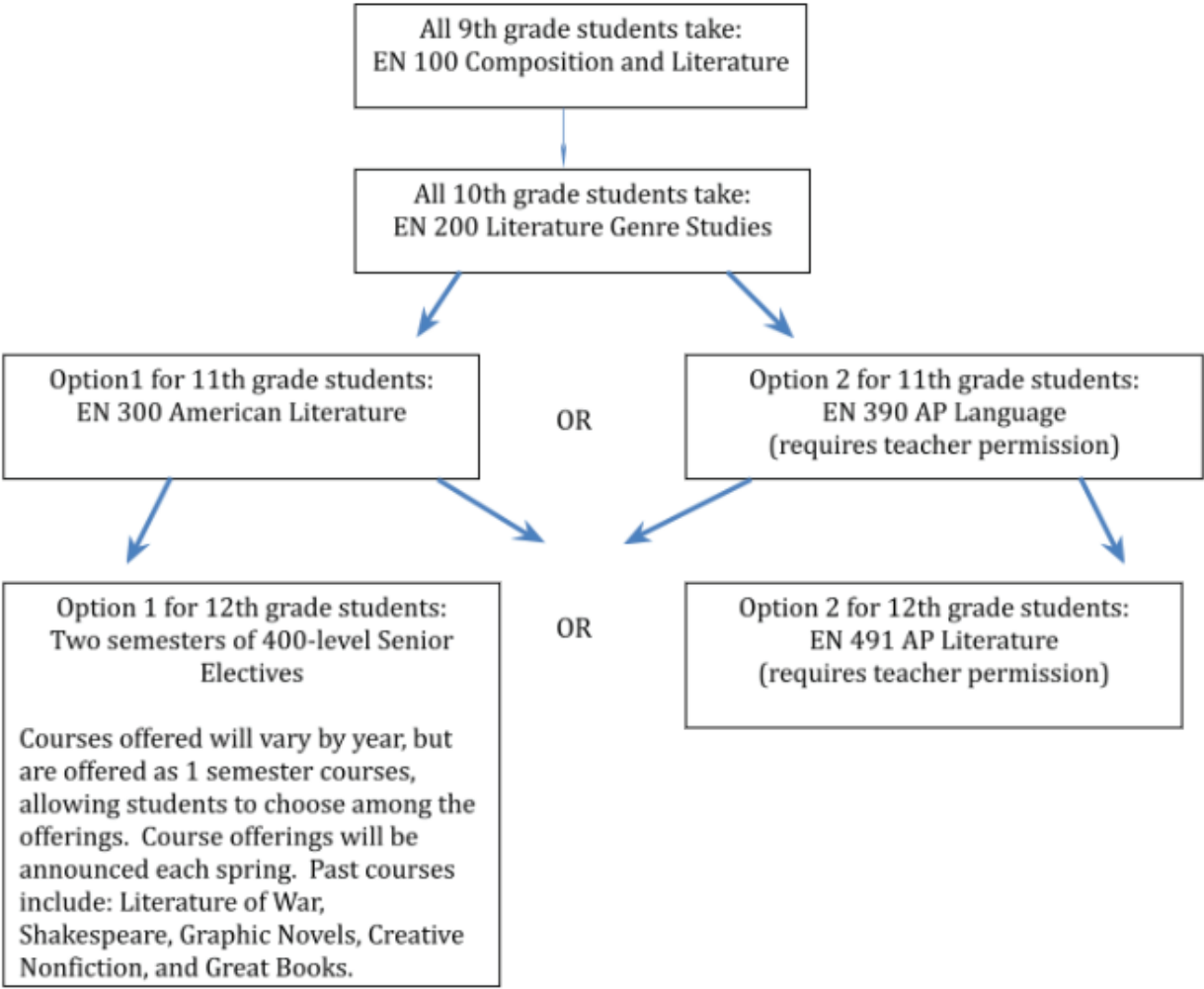
**EN 473 - WORLD LITERATURE AND THE MODERN NOVEL** This course is semester elective. The primary focus is to explore graphic novels. By reading graphic novels and producing their own sequential art, students improve their abilities to understand not only what they read but also how writers and artists create meaning. Students examine the interplay of words and images as well as the ways in which a series of static panels can convey psychology,

action, and time. These courses are available as an elective to juniors, but must be taken in conjunction with a 300-level English course.

**EN 491- AP LITERATURE** Twelfth grade Advanced Placement Literature surveys major European literary masterpieces from classical antiquity to the modern era. Students investigate philosophy, art and history to discover thematic and symbolic objectives. Students focus on critical reading, written responses and project-based learning. Students are required to

take the AP Literature and Composition Examination in May. Teacher permission is required.

**ESOL COURSES** English to Speakers of Other Languages is available for English language learners who are new to the country or non-native speakers. Students work to master the skills necessary for success in the English language and in cultural studies through reading, writing, grammar and vocabulary acquisition. Ideally, no student will need more than two years of ESOL supplementation.





# OTHER ELECTIVES

**JO 100 – YEARBOOK** Offered both semesters. This course will be listed under the English Department but it will not satisfy the core English requirement of 4 units.

Enrollment Capacity is 10 students.

Prerequisite: 250 word essay that addresses the following qualities necessary to be successful in this course:

- Ability to meet deadlines on time
- Strong writing skills, including proper spelling, punctuation, and word choice
- Self-driven to complete assignments
- Strong communication skills (checking emails, writing emails to parents or other constituents, etc.)
- Attention to detail

**MA 450 – PERSONAL FINANCE** (One semester) Personal Finance aims to provide students a brief overview of the financial terms, calculations, and government policies that will affect them as they enter the real world. We will begin with a look at our tax system and proceed to discuss topics such as mortgages, bank accounts, credit cards etc. The goal of the course is to aid students in being intelligent consumers, and citizens for life.

This course will be listed under the Math Department but will not satisfy the core Math requirement of 4 units. This course is subject to availability.

**MA455 - INTRO TO MONEY AND BANKING** (One semester): Money and Banking aims

to provide an introduction to the role of money, financial markets, financial institutions, and monetary policy in the economy. There are three main components of the course. First, the role of financial markets in the economy will be considered with a particular emphasis on bond markets and interest rate determination. The course will then cover the main aspects of banks and other financial institutions before turning to an investigation of the role of money, central banking and monetary policy. This course will be listed under the Math Department but will not satisfy the core Math requirement of 4 units. This course is subject to availability.

**AISI - ATLANTIC INSTITUTE SEMINAR:** The Atlantic Institute Seminar is a selective, pass-fail elective course, open to students in grades 10-12. Selected students - 'Institute Fellows' - engage in a year-long program facilitated by the Director of the Institute for Atlantic Studies. The IAS Seminar is an opportunity for students to explore the interdisciplinary possibilities of hands-on learning in the specific context of our own location: Savannah and the coastal southeastern United States. Institute Fellows engage in campus and community-based learning experiences, focussing on a sense of place, and taking full advantage of our city, region, and beyond - both in person and using virtual technologies. Students collaborate and creatively explore critical issues through the lens of the Atlantic World, interacting with experts and local partners. Fellows also design and implement service activities and promote social and civic engagement while developing intercultural competencies. Course content explores many aspects of an annual theme, and students

are expected to dig deep into the topic(s) which are of particular interest to them, in the process taking ownership of their own learning. Fellows' work includes 'demonstrations of learning', and culminates in a capstone project of their own choosing which is presented to the School and the greater Savannah community in

April. Interested students complete an application during the Upper School course selection process in the spring. Applicants provide a statement of interest, details of referees, and examples of previous work, and are interviewed by members of the IAS Advisory Group.

# GLOBAL ONLINE ACADEMY

**THE SAVANNAH COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL** was invited to join the Global Online Academy (GOA) in 2016. GOA is a consortium of 64 independent schools from around the U.S. and the world (12 different countries, 30 different U.S. states). The organization's mission is to provide a positive, interactive, and academically rigorous environment for students to learn through online courses that connect students to topics they care about, and peers as passionate as they are. These online courses are taught by teachers from member schools and are made up of students from a variety of member schools, with sections kept small (capped at 18 students). Course grades are included in a student's transcript and calculated into his or her GPA.

Most of the work at GOA is asynchronous: the teacher sets the pace, but the student can complete work on his or her schedule (no time or place the student needs to be every day). These are courses that require regular interaction — you can't save your work for one day a week. Most students spend 5-7 hours a week working on their GOA courses. Synchronous meetings in small groups or 1-1 occur via video chat and happen about every two weeks. Students are expected to make and keep their own appointments. They are also expected to learn how to manage communicating with teachers and peers in a variety of time zones.

Course offerings are subject to change, but parents and students can explore current course options at [www.globalonlineacademy.org](http://www.globalonlineacademy.org). For questions about GOA classes and requirements, please contact our GOA Site Director, Rob Curran ([rcurran@savcds.org](mailto:rcurran@savcds.org)).

