

D3 My Way Virtual School

High School Course Descriptions

English 1

Semester 1

English for grade 9 is an integrated curriculum. Each unit contains thematically related lessons in five domains: reading and the study of literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening, and language study, which includes word knowledge and grammar skills. Topics are presented in ways that help young adolescents relate literacy skills to other aspects of their lives. Writing assignments include narrative, expository, and persuasive/argumentative modes and emphasize the use of details and reasoning to support ideas. Speaking and listening lessons in Semester 1 emphasize collaborative discussion skills and peer review. Vocabulary development instruction is integrated into literature and informational text lessons. Each unit ends with an authentic assessment that presents students with a real-world scenario requiring some of the skills they learned in the unit.

Semester 2

Like semester 1, semester 2 consists of integrated units focused on a theme or mode of study. Literature study in semester 2 focuses on the analysis of different forms of literature and on comparative studies of world literature and literature delivered in different media. Writing and informational text lessons guide students through the stages of research and demonstrate how to evaluate, integrate, and share the information gathered during research. Students are required to share their ideas and analysis using several different modes, including oral and multimedia presentations.

English II

Semester 1

English for grade 10 is an integrated curriculum, with each unit consisting of thematically related lessons in five domains: analyzing literature, analyzing informational text, writing, speaking and listening, and language study, which includes word knowledge and grammar skills. The skills that students practice for this course are similar to the skills in English 9 but require more independence and depth of thought. An introductory lesson at the start of each unit helps students identify any areas of weakness and review those topics before starting the more challenging grade 10 lessons. Writing assignments required in Semester 1 of this course include fiction, expository, and persuasive, and analytical modes, emphasizing the use of details, evidence, and reasoning to support ideas. Speaking and listening lessons in Semester A cover collaborative discussion skills, the peer review process, and how to plan and deliver informative speeches and presentations. Vocabulary development instruction is integrated into literature and informational text lessons. Each unit ends with an authentic assessment that presents students with a real-world scenario requiring some of the skills they learned in the unit.

Semester 2

Like semester 1, semester 2 consists of integrated units focused on a theme or mode of study. Literature study in semester 2 focuses on the analysis of different forms of literature as well as the evaluation of various modes and forms of writing. Writing and informational text lessons guide students through the stages of a rigorous research process and demonstrate how to evaluate, integrate, and share the information gathered during research. Students are required to share their ideas and analysis using several different modes, including oral and multimedia presentations.

English III

Semester 1

English for grade 11 is an American Literature course, with units organized chronologically according to periods in literary history. As students read foundation works of literature and other historical documents written between 1600 and 1900, they'll review and extend skills in five domains: analyzing literature, analyzing informational text, writing, speaking and listening, and language study, which includes word knowledge and grammar skills. Each module or unit begins with a lesson that provides historical context for the era and introduces themes that emerged in the literature of that era. Each lesson provides students with an opportunity to review basic analysis skills before applying those skills to works of literature or key historical documents. Lessons focused on more difficult historical documents include activities that help students comprehend the complex ideas in these works.

Writing modes addressed in Semester 1 of this course include narrative, reflective, persuasive, and analytical modes. Assignments emphasize the use of details, evidence, and reasoning to support ideas; writing lessons include model essays that demonstrate key features of each mode. The speaking and listening lessons in Semester 1 cover rhetoric, the peer review or writing workshop process, and performance skills. Vocabulary development instruction is integrated into literature and informational text lessons. Each unit ends with an authentic assessment that presents students with a real-world scenario requiring some of the skills they learned in the unit.

Semester 2

Semester 2 of English 11 consists of units focused on historical eras and literary movements of the 20th and 21st century, such as Naturalism, Imagism, the Harlem Renaissance, and Postmodernism. Literature analysis lessons in semester 2 focus on the forms of literature that were most commonly written during the Twentieth Century and how the forms, styles, and techniques of that century inform literature written today. Students will also evaluate various modes and forms of language expression, including single media and multimedia messages. Writing and informational text lessons guide students through the stages of a rigorous research process and demonstrate how to evaluate, integrate, and share the information gathered during research. Students are required to share their ideas and analysis using several different modes, including oral and multimedia presentations.

English IV

Students examine major works of literature organized into thematic units. Each unit contains poetry, short stories, and a novel that revolves around the theme for the unit. Themes include the self, relationships,

alienation, choice, and death. As students read these works, they have the opportunity to reflect on these important themes by writing in multiple modes and creating cross-disciplinary projects.

Speech

This course covers fundamentals of the communication process important for successful interaction in a variety of social and professional settings. Students can use the course to gain and apply knowledge about communication theories, characteristics of language and language use, interpersonal relationships, group dynamics, and public speaking in order to interact more effectively with others.

The course seeks to help students expand their knowledge and skills as communicators so that they may achieve the following goals:

- Know and understand aspects of communication theories and processes appropriate to both social and professional settings.
- Use interpersonal communication strategies appropriately in social and professional settings.
- Effectively communicate in social and professional group settings.
- Plan, prepare, deliver, and evaluate formal and informal personal and professional presentations.

In attaining these goals, students will be better equipped to use communication to hone other life skills, including exchanging information, fulfilling social obligations, developing relationships, and understanding and meeting the needs of others.

Pre-Algebra

Semester 1

Pre-Algebra 1 will help students move from the world of simple mathematics to the exciting world of Algebra and Geometry. They will develop skills that will be necessary throughout their life. Students will stretch their thinking by learning to solve real world problems. Learning math and algebra concepts can be fun. Abstract ideas can be challenging for many students but the challenge is one they can meet. Concepts are presented with a little humor, making the learning fun. Students will enjoy learning each new concept and develop a deeper understanding of the math skills they already have. Each concept is presented using examples of the skills, concepts, and strategies students will need. Scaffolding of ideas is provided to ensure student learning. The course is offered in a six-unit format containing 5 lessons each for a total of 30 lessons. Students will study text pages, watch videos, interact with flash presentations, and complete practice problems. The pace is controlled by the student and reviewing the material is encouraged.

Semester 2

Pre-Algebra semester 2 will continue to move students into the exciting world of the unknown, Algebra. Building on what they have learned in mathematics and Pre-Algebra, students will expand their skills. They will be introduced to increasingly abstract concepts. Pre-Algebra will provide the student with a concrete understanding of the basics for algebraic thinking. With numerous hands-on activities and demonstration videos, they will have multiple opportunities to enhance their process solving skills. Students will be given different assessment opportunities to demonstrate mastery of each skill. The course is offered in a six-unit format containing 5 lessons each for a total of 30 lessons. Students will study text

pages, watch videos, interact with flash presentations, and complete practice problems. The pace is controlled by the student and reviewing the material is encouraged.

Algebra IA

Algebra 1A is designed for students to master the skills of Algebra I at a slower pace. Algebra IA is a year-long course broken into Semester 1 and Semester 2 that covers the concepts of Algebra I semester 1. Algebra IA introduces students to the world of Algebra through expressions and equations. Students will evaluate algebraic expressions, solve linear equations and graph them. This course also steers students through various real-world scenarios with the emphasis on using basic statistics to interpret the information given and found. Students learn through online lesson materials, videos and interactive activities. The end of each unit tests students' understanding with a self-check quiz with feedback. Also included is a unit exam and project for students to apply what they have learned. Teacher feedback is provided throughout the semester.

Algebra IB

Algebra 1B is designed for students to master the skills of Algebra I at a slower pace. Algebra IB is a year-long course broken into Semester 1 and Semester 2 that covers the concepts of Algebra I semester 2. Algebra 1B builds on the concepts learned in Algebra IA by providing a strong foundation in solving problems. Students will work with problems and applications that involve exponents, quadratic equations, polynomials and factoring methods, rational and radical equations, data analysis and probability. Students will interact with course materials through online lessons, videos, interactive questions and real-world applications. Each unit ends with a self-check quiz to confirm knowledge of the concepts learned. There is also a unit exam and project. Teacher feedback is given throughout the course.

Algebra 1

Semester 1

Algebra 1 semester 1 introduces students to the world of Algebra through expressions and equations. Students will evaluate algebraic expressions, solve linear equations and graph them. This course also steers students through various real-world scenarios with the emphasis on using basic statistics to interpret the information given and found.

Students learn through online lesson materials, videos and interactive activities. The end of each unit tests students' understanding with a self-check quiz with feedback. Also included is a unit exam and project for students to apply what they have learned. Teacher feedback is provided throughout the semester.

Semester 2

Algebra 1 semester 2 builds on the concepts learned in the first semester by providing a strong foundation in solving problems. Students will work with problems and applications that involve exponents, quadratic equations, polynomials and factoring methods, rational and radical equations, data analysis and probability. Students will interact with course materials through online lessons, videos, interactive questions and real-world applications. Each unit ends with a self-check quiz to confirm knowledge of the concepts learned. There is also a unit exam and project. Teacher feedback is given throughout the course.

Algebra 2

Semester 1

Algebra 2 semester 1 further extends the learner's understanding of major algebra concepts such as expressions, equations, functions, and inequalities. An emphasis will be placed on the use of appropriate functions to model real world situations and solve problems that arise from those situations. A focus is also on graphing functions by hand and understanding and identifying the parts of a graph.

Semester 2

Algebra 2 semester 2 builds on the concepts learned in the first semester and prepares the learners with the building blocks needed to dive deeper into trigonometry, pre-calculus and advanced probability and statistics.

Geometry

Semester 1

Geometry is the study of the measurement of the world. What makes Geometry so engaging is the relationship of figures and measures to each other, and how these relationships can predict results in the world around us. Through practical applications, the student sees how geometric reasoning provides insight into everyday life. The course begins with the tools needed in Geometry. From these foundations, the student explores the measure of line segments, angles, and two-dimensional figures. Students will learn about similarity, triangles and trigonometric ratios.

Semester 2

This course builds on the foundation of the first terms in Geometry. As in previous courses, deductive and inductive reasoning are emphasized, while applying problem-solving techniques to real-world problems. Students explore quadrilaterals and circles, and learn how an object is transformed, as well as how to represent that transformation algebraically and geometrically. Students calculate area and volume of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional objects.

Consumer Math (Semester 1 & 2)

This course focuses on the mathematics involved in making wise consumer decisions. Students explore the many ways in which mathematics affects their daily lives. The first semester will cover paychecks and wages, taxes, insurance, budgets, bank accounts, credit cards, interest calculations, and comparison shopping. Second semester topics include vehicle and home purchasing, investing, and business and employee management.

Personal Financial Literacy

This course is designed to help students budget, keep a checkbook and filing system, deal with debt and credit, and become wiser consumers. Students will learn how money and the dynamics surrounding it affect their relationships, their lifestyles, and their retirement.

Biology

Semester 1

Biology semester 1 introduces students to the scientific method and the major concepts of biology from an historical and practical viewpoint. The three major themes of this course are the cell, the molecular basis of heredity, and the interdependence of organisms. Students who take this class will have a deeper appreciation for the complexities of living organisms. Life on this planet, unlike anywhere else in the observable universe, is complex and highly organized. Whether examining life on the molecular or the planetary level, it exhibits a highly organized structure that inspires awe by its genius and complexity. In the last 50 years, discoveries have launched new branches of biology that have transformed the daily routine, from conception to death. New challenges await, such as the current crisis in ecology, global warming, and the resurgence in viral disease. To make rational choices in the 21st century, the citizen must have a basic understanding of biological concepts and the reasoning behind them. Biology semester 1 is presented in a multimedia format using interactive modules, labs, narrated animation, text, and videos to present the study of life on this planet. Students work through and complete several self-check activities and quizzes for practice, and participate in self-reflection. In each unit, students complete the unit exam and deliver a unit project. Teacher feedback is provided throughout the course.

Semester 2

Biology semester 2 is a continuation of the basic course in biology. The major concepts covered are population dynamics and evolution. Students explore population dynamics through the study of mutualism, predation, parasitism, and competition. The theory of evolution is presented, along with the many evidences and details that make evolution the backbone of modern biology. From biochemistry to evolution, biology fascinates people. Biochemists first astounded the world by showing that life obeys the same chemical principles as all creation, but that life engineers chemistry to its own needs. Decades later, Darwin shocked the world by suggesting that life evolves according to the conditions of the environment it inhabits. Evolution, often debated and derided, has survived to become a key concept of biology. This second course in biology examines the wonder of life and its mechanisms. Students work through and complete several self-check activities and quizzes for practice, and participate in self-reflection. In each unit, students complete the unit exam and deliver a unit project. Teacher feedback is provided throughout the course.

Earth Science

Semester 1

The first three modules of Semester 1 cover Scientific Inquiry, the Structure and Composition of the Universe, and the Features of the Solar System. Students learn the importance of scientific inquiry and how to communicate the results of scientific investigations. They then have material on the formation of the universe, including the Big Bang Theory, the motions of celestial objects, and stellar evolution. The third module covers material related to the Solar System, including features of the Sun and the planets and the movements of Earth. The second three modules of Semester 1 cover Weather, Climate, and Earth's Water Cycle. Students first learn in Module 4 about the atmosphere and clouds, as well as the factors that influence local and global climate. In Module 5 they continue by learning about weather and air masses,

meteorology and storms. Module 6 then discusses the water cycle, including groundwater and ocean features, as well as water scarcity and pollution.

Semester 2

The first three modules of Semester 2 cover the physical structure of the Earth and Earth's tectonic system, including the rock cycle, tectonic activity, and mountain building. It then covers weathering and erosion and soil formation. The next material in the course then addresses the concept of systems; it addresses the Earth as a system, feedback in systems, and Earth's major nutrient cycles. The second three modules of Semester 2 cover geologic history, including the evolution of Earth's atmosphere, the geologic time scale, and the fossil record. It then goes over natural resources and the effects of human population on natural resources. The course wraps up with a discussion of human society and its interconnectedness with the Earth's environment, how science and technology work together, and the technological design process in earth science applications.

Physical Science

Semester 1

This is an introduction to the Physical Sciences and scientific methodology. The objectives are to impart a basic knowledge of the physical properties and chemistry of matter. Skills are developed in the classroom, and reinforced through homework reading, and interesting labs that relate to everyday life.

Semester 2

This is an introduction to the Physical Sciences and scientific methodology. The objectives are to impart a basic knowledge of the physical properties and chemistry of matter. Skills are developed in the classroom, and reinforced through homework reading, and interesting labs that relate to everyday life.

Anatomy & Physiology

Semester 1

The aim of this course is to expand upon what was learned in your Biology class, while emphasizing the application of this material to human structures and functions. This course begins the study of human beings at the microscopic level and works its way up to an in-depth study of select organ systems. Special emphasis will be placed upon applying and demonstrating the information learned in this course through, not only tests and quizzes, but through special projects and collaboration as well.

Semester 2

Semester 2 is designed to give the student an understanding of how structure and function are related in the human body. The student will study the human body from the cellular level to the organ system level. All of the major body systems will be studied in great detail. Additionally, biochemistry, cell biology, histology, biotechnology, bioethics, and pathology will also be studied. This course is highly recommended for students seeking a career in science or a health-related profession.

Government

This course will guide students through an in-depth study of the history, structure, and guiding principles of American government. The first unit will review the origins of government in general and American government in particular—from the earliest models for democracy to the founding documents that created a federalist system of government in the U.S. Several units will help students explore the roles and responsibilities of each branch of government as well as the impact that the Constitution has had and continues to have on the way government works and on the lives of individual Americans. The course's final unit will guide students through a series of projects that require them to apply what they have learned about American government to an issue that interests them.

World Geography & Cultures

Semester 1

The student will be taught to use the basic skills of map reading and development, geographic technology, and the recognition of geographic themes to make sense of the world. The course examines world regions including the nations, people, and cultures of the Americas and Western Europe.

Semester 2

This second-semester course continues to teach the basic skills of map reading and development, the use of geographic technology, and the recognition of geographic themes. The focus examines the world regions, including the nations, people, and cultures of Central Europe and Northern Eurasia, Central and Southwest Asia, South Asia, Africa, East Asia, and the Pacific.

American History

Semester 1

This course covers the discovery, development, and growth of the United States. Major topics include; American Indian cultures, European colonization of the Americas, and the causes and effects of the American Revolution. Geographical, economic, and political factors are explored as the key factors in the growth of the United States of America. American History is a survey of the struggle to build the United States of America from the colonial period to the beginning of the twentieth century. By means of reading, analyzing, and applying historical data, students come to appreciate the forces that shaped our history and character as an American people. Not only are the topics of American history discussed, but students also explore research methods and determine accurate sources of data from the past. Knowing the facts and dates of history are just the beginning: each student must understand how history affects him or her.

Semester 2

American History semester 2 begins with a study of American life before the 1929 Stock Market crash and how the Roaring Twenties influenced society in the late 19th through early 20th centuries. Students will examine the causes and consequences of the Great Depression and move on into a detailed study of World War II with an emphasis on America's role in the conflict. The course continues with an analysis of the Cold War struggle and America's rise as a superpower. The Civil Rights and Women's rights movements, pollution and the environment, and American domestic and foreign policy will be examined.

The course wraps up with a summary of current events and issues, including a study of the Middle East. This course begins with an assessment of life in the United States pre-World War I and ends with the conflicts of the new millennium. Students look at the nation in terms of economic, social, and political trends. The experiences of the last century are summarized, including a look into the civil rights issues that have embroiled the nation in conflict. The development of the United States of America into a superpower is explored within a global context.

World History

Semester 1

World History begins with a focus on the skills needed to read, understand, and analyze history, also demonstrating how historians and social scientists arrive at their conclusions about human history. Semester A covers the history of civilization from hunter-gatherer societies through the characteristics of the earliest civilizations to the Enlightenment period in Western Europe. The second half of Semester 1 explores early intellectual, spiritual, and political movements and their impact on interactions among world cultures.

Semester 2

Semester 2 applies the reading and analytical strategies introduced in Semester 1 to the events and movements that created the modern world. In the second semester, World History emphasizes the effects of the Industrial Revolution and changing attitudes about science and religion as well as the impact of European colonization. Students are encouraged to make connections between World War I and II and events related to the Cold War and between 19th-century imperialism and modern independence movements.

Spanish I

Semester 1

Spanish I, Semester 1, is an introduction to Spanish language and culture. Students learn to start with the basics of greetings and basic conversation, working to incorporate ideas from their life and experiences in Spanish conversation. This will be accomplished through written and verbal expression of the Spanish language.

Semester 2

Building upon Semester 1, Spanish 1 Semester 2 expands to asking questions and conversational Spanish throughout one's neighborhood and daily life. Through real-life scenarios and learning examples, students will describe situations, in Spanish, both verbally and written.

Spanish II (Semester 1 & 2)

Students build upon the foundation developed in Spanish 1. They continue to build vocabulary, learn new verb tenses and other grammar concepts, and they increase their ability to communicate with others. They learn new concepts, like reflexive verbs, infinitive expressions, commands, and imperfect tense. Semester B will continue building on vocabulary, grammar concepts and communicating effectively in the target

language. You will explore new countries where Spanish is spoken and continue to keep abreast of current events in the Spanish-speaking world.

French I (Semester 1 & S2)

French I focuses on developing listening skills by repeated exposure to the spoken language. Speaking skills are encouraged through recommended assignments using voice tools. Reading and writing skills, as well as language structures, are practiced through meaningful, real-life contexts. The use of technology enhances and reinforces authentic language development and fosters cultural understandings through exposure to native speakers and their daily routines.

French II

Semester 1

Semester 1 focuses on the continuation and enhancement of language skills presented in Level 1. Vocabulary and grammar structures are revisited and expanded to provide students an opportunity to move towards an intermediate comprehension level. Speaking and listening skills are enhanced through recommended real-life voice activities. Listening skills are honed through online dialogues. Reading and writing skills are developed through access to completion of meaningful activities, reading of culturally-related articles of interest and responding to reading in the target language. The use of technology enhances and reinforces authentic language development and fosters cultural understandings through exposure to native speakers and their daily routines.

Semester 2

Semester 2 continues the enhancement of language skills. Vocabulary and grammar structures are revisited and expanded as students explore other French-speaking areas. Speaking and listening skills are enhanced through recommended real-life voice activities. Listening skills are honed through online dialogues. Reading and writing skills are developed through access to completion of meaningful activities related to travel, to the Olympics, to natural disasters, and to the space program. Reading of culturally related articles of interest and responding to reading in the target language, along with the use of technology, reinforces authentic language development and fosters cultural understandings through exposure to native speakers and their daily routines.

German I

Semester 1

This course is an introductory course teaching basic comprehension and communication in German. It coordinates the study of language with culture through the use of video, audio and mass media production. This course assumes prior or no knowledge of the German language. It introduces the fundamentals of conversational and grammatical patterns of the German language with presentations to present the material. Students who complete the course successfully will begin to develop a functional competency in the four primary language areas: speaking, reading, listening and writing, while establishing a solid grammatical base and exploration into German culture.

Semester 2

The second semester course will expand on the knowledge gained from German 1 semester 1 and further develop their skills in pronunciation, grammar skills, grammar structures and vocabulary. Oral practice (via Voice Tools), homework assignments, games, songs, watching videos, quizzes, tests, projects and other activities such as writing wikis and journal entries, will be emphasized to accomplish this goal. The different cultures of the German-speaking world are emphasized through readings, videos and other activities. Taking the time to learn another language is a mind-expanding activity that can open up a world of opportunities and advantages.

Accounting

In this semester course, you will explore accounting, including investigating accounting careers. You will learn basic accounting skills and procedures both with and without a computer for general journals, general ledgers, cash payments journals, cash receipts journals, sales journals, accounts payable ledgers, and accounts receivable ledgers. You will also learn how to reconcile a bank statement and to prepare payroll records. This course covers the basic principles of financial accounting for individuals and for companies with attention to both the mathematical formulas and to the ethical side of accounting. Each unit has practical exercises including a project at the end of the unit.

Art Appreciation

What makes an artwork a masterpiece? Why do artists create art? What is the difference between Rococo and Art Nouveau? In this course, students will discover the answers to these questions and more. We examine the elements of art and principles of design, and explore how artists have used these elements and principles in the creation of art for centuries.

Basic Web Design

In this course, students will learn how to design a beautiful and functional website. Students will learn how to take their design and translate it into a live website using Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) programming languages. HTML5 and CSS3 will be the standard versions used in the class. Students will understand design components of websites, including the use of color, layout and when to use different techniques, typography rules, and the importance of imagery. At the conclusion of the course, students will present a website to the class. Upon completion of this course, each student will have hands-on experience creating a fully functioning website. Students do not need to have a previous technical background with HTML or CSS prior to taking this course.

Career Planning

The Career Planning course guides students through the essential elements of the career planning process and the development of a defined career plan. Students will consider the many factors that impact career success and satisfaction. Using a process of investigation, research, and self-discovery, students will acquire the understandings critical to the career planning process. Upon completion of the course, students will have created a practical and comprehensive college or career transition portfolio that reflects their skills and abilities, as well as their interests, values, and goals.

Child Development

This course is designed to help prepare students for their responsibilities as parents and caregivers of children. Topics include prenatal care, growth and development through age six, teen pregnancy, maternal health, parenting skills, and child guidance.

Digital Arts

Digital Arts is a project-based survey of different forms of digital media, such as digital audio, imaging and illustration, movie editing, and animation. It's oriented toward teaching broad, flexible tools and concepts that are not tied to any one platform or program. Each module ends with a culminating task (like a podcast or short film), and students will be able to draft and develop their projects as they build their skills over each lesson.

Health

In this course, students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to lead a healthy life. The course focuses on the impact of personal decisions on the student's own health. Students learn how to find, evaluate, and use reliable information related to a variety of health topics. They also study the basic science behind nutrition, exercise, stress, and psychology, and examine how these factors affect a person's overall health. Each lesson in the course guides students in applying what they have learned in the lesson to their own lives and choices—and gives them a chance to discuss the topic with peers and instructors. Part of the course emphasizes what students can do to improve or maintain their own health and encourages them to be a positive influence on family and friends. Each lesson helps identify ways that students might use what they have learned in the lesson in their own lives.

Intro to Health Sciences

This course provides students with an introduction to healthcare, with emphasis on modern, clinical medicine. Students review basic human anatomy and physiology, then study major health concerns affecting people in the U.S. and the world. This comprehensive, 10-unit course examines such topics as infectious diseases, cancer, traumatic injuries, and healthcare career opportunities.

Intro To Business

This course introduces students to the basic business concepts that will help them understand how a business survives in today's economy and the role that consumers play in the same economy. Students will learn how to balance a checkbook, save for the future, and use credit wisely. Students will also learn how to create a resume and how to participate in a job interview.

Music Appreciation

Students will gain a thorough understanding of music by studying the elements of music, musical instruments, and music history, as well as music advocacy. Students will be introduced to the orchestra and composers from around the world. They will be required to be a composer, performer, instrument inventor, and advocate.

Physical Education

Physical Education encompasses learning how to live and maintain a healthy lifestyle. This course covers physical fitness, why it is important, how to have a healthy attitude, and how to stick with a healthy game

plan. In this ever-changing world, physical fitness becomes more important and more difficult to find the time for. This course allows the student to discover how to make physical fitness not only a part of their daily life, but also see that it is attainable. This course leads the student to discover healthy behaviors and sets the tone for physical fitness as well as healthy exercise. PE for a Healthy Lifestyle will examine the emotional, physical, and scientific factors that influence physical performance. This course is designed for anyone, ranging from the beginner to advanced abilities.

Psychology

In Psychology, the student begins with a brief history of psychologists and their experimental methods. Next they examine personality theories. Then human development from the infant stage through the adult stage is explored. Finally, the last part of the course is about consciousness: sleep, dreams, and conscious-altering substances. Students are encouraged to increase their own self-awareness as they move through the course. Students examine the nature of intelligence in humans and animals, including the origin of intelligence and how to measure it. They learn about learning with an emphasis on classical and operant conditioning. Students also investigate social psychology and psychological disorders. They demonstrate their understanding by completing projects in which they play roles like teacher, parent, and psychologist.

Physical Fitness

In this course, students are introduced to exercise and physical fitness and the general recommendations for physical activity, while examining the benefits of exercise, lifestyle choices that can help prevent disease, and tips for kick-starting a healthier lifestyle. Students will explore each type of fitness, include the benefits, and the federal guidelines for exercise in detail. Students will also learn about bones and joints and the functions of the skeleton, and the different types of movements that occur at various joints. Students will learn about the different types of muscle in their bodies, and how they are structured, with particular attention to the different types of muscle fibers. Students will explore the functions that muscles perform, how they work, and their interaction with the central nervous system and special considerations for safe and effective exercise.

Students will learn how the cardio and respiratory systems work and interact with each other and about the different blood vessels that make up the circulatory (vascular) system. Students will learn about the body's energy systems and how eating and drinking relates to exercise. Finally, students will learn about the psychology of exercising.

Sociology

Sociology examines the basics of sociology, which is the study of society including individuals, human groups, and organizations. The course is divided into four main areas: the sociological perspective, social structures, inequality in society, and social institutions and change. Students will examine controversies around social change, inequality, gender, and race. The course revolves around an overview of the field with projects that offer the student a chance to explore from a sociologist's perspective.

Theater Studies

Have you ever wondered how a play goes from the playwright's mind all the way into a multi-million dollar Broadway production? In this course, you'll learn the whole process! This course provides a

thorough introduction to the theater by providing an overview of major topics in theater studies, with a blend of theoretical and practical lessons. In the first half of this course you will learn about the definitions of theater, theater history, and contemporary theatrical genres. The second half of the course will guide you through all of the elements of putting on a professional theatrical production. You will learn about the entire production process, from playwriting through opening night, including elements of technical theater, the rehearsal process, and audience response. Whether you're an aspiring actor, technician, director, or producer, or even just an avid theater-goer, this course is for you.

Yearbook

The yearbook publication is a student conceived, planned and produced publication, as well as a product of an academic program, that requires students to be able to use writing skills to communicate with their readers. Journalistic in nature, the publication attempts to inform and entertain its audience in a broad, fair, and accurate manner on all subjects that affect readers in the areas of lifestyles, academics, clubs, and sports. The entire student body of prospective readers constitutes the target audience for the book with secondary audiences including parents, school personnel, community members, and other scholastic journalism groups.

Student Leadership

Student leadership is a class where students work towards creating and developing a school community through organizing and carrying out events at all grade levels (K-12). Students in leadership serve as advocates and role models for all learners within the student population. Student leaders support the school through representation at district level meetings as needed. In addition to school wide events, students in leadership participate in community service throughout the year as well. Throughout this course students are encouraged in developing their own unique leadership skills. Student leadership is by teacher appointment only.

Beginning Painting

This course introduces students to classical and contemporary painting, techniques and concepts, with emphasis on the understanding of its formal language and the fundamentals of artistic expression. Painting from still life, landscape, and life models from observation will be geared towards realism; at the same time, various other painting styles could be explored. Color theory, linear perspective, compositional structure, figure/ground relationships, visual perception, spatial concepts, and critical thinking skills will all be emphasized. Students will study and research major painting styles and movements in historical context. The hope is that students will use this global approach to develop a "critical eye" in evaluation of contemporary painting. Acrylic and watercolors are the mediums used in this class. The main emphasis of this course is to encourage and nourish individuality and creativity.

Basic Drawing

In Drawing, students will experiment with several different art materials and tools to see what each tool can do best. Students will explore ordinary things around them to become more observant of the structures and meanings of things which can be seen in their home and community. Your work will be your own study of the forms, textures, movements, and patterns of the things that you see everyday. Each project and each lesson is based on the one before it; so always do the lessons in the order they are given. Be sure to follow the directions exactly regarding which materials, sizes, and subject matter to use for each project. Each lesson will be a study of a new way of drawing. The examples given will show only the method and materials to be used, never the same subject or size as the project assigned. The examples are never to be copied. An example will only show one way of using the technique described. By becoming more observant, by experimenting with new materials, and by exploring a variety of methods, students will continue to grow in artistic skill and enjoyment. Beyond fundamental skills are various levels of creativity. Each lesson provides room for expressing the technical skill learned in a unique, creative way.

Creative Writing

At the beginning of the semester, students consider the importance of word play exercises in improving their facility with language while building a compelling and creative writing style. Focusing on word nuances and precision, later lessons guide students to write in a variety of short modes—including poetry, song lyrics, prose poetry, short short stories, and creative nonfiction. There are several opportunities for peer review in this semester, during which students learn best practices for participating in writing workshops, and then revise their work using feedback from their peers. Students also learn basic techniques of plot and character development along with strategies for creating suspense and building a theme, and they have opportunities to write in several different genres. Lessons cover a few special topics as well, including graphic novels, animation, comedy, and improvisation. Students apply what they have learned about writing workshops and revising to the longer pieces of writing they create.