

# CURRICULUM GUIDE



2022 – 2023 UPPER SCHOOL

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# POPCS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits	Course
<b>Core Course Requirements</b>	
4 credits	English
4 credits	Mathematics
	<i>(Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II are required)</i>
4 credits	Science
	<i>(Biology and Chemistry are required)</i>
4 credits	Social Studies
	<i>(Geography, World History, U.S. History, Govt/Econ req'd)</i>
<b>Other Course Requirements</b>	
4 credits*	Theology (*1 credit for each year enrolled at POPCS)
	<i>(Metanarrative and Senior Summit are required)</i>
2 credits	Languages other than English
	<i>(Two years of the same language are required)</i>
2 credits	Electives
	<i>(1 credit of Fine Art is required)</i>
1 credit	High School Athletics
0.5 credit	Communication Applications (Speech)
25.5 minimum total credits required	

Honors (H) courses are given an extra weighted grade of .5 added to the GPA of the course because of the added level of difficulty.

AP® (P) courses are given an extra weighted grade of 1.0 added to the GPA of the course because of the added level of difficulty.

# QUICK REFERENCE | COURSE OFFERINGS

## ENGLISH

- English I / English I (Honors)
- English II / English II (Honors)
- English III / AP® English Language and Composition
- English IV / AP® English Literature and Composition

## MATHEMATICS

- Algebra I / Algebra I (Honors)
- Geometry / Geometry (Honors)
- Algebra II / Algebra II (Honors)
- Pre-Calculus (Honors)
- AP® Statistics
- AP® Calculus AB
- Business Math
- College Algebra

## SCIENCE

- Biology / Biology (Honors)
- Chemistry / Chemistry (Honors)
- AP® Physics
- Physics
- Human Anatomy and Physiology (Honors)
- Sports Medicine
- AP® Chemistry
- Engineering Design
- Environmental Science / AP® Environmental Science

## SOCIAL STUDIES

- World Geography / AP® Human Geography
- World History / AP® World History \*
- American History / AP® U.S. History
- American Government / AP® US Government and Politics
- Economics / AP® Microeconomics

## LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

- Sign Language I / II / III
- Spanish I / II / III / IV
- AP® Spanish Language and Culture \*

## COMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS

- Actor's Studio
- Debate (1 semester) \*
- Speech (1 semester)
- AP® Seminar

## FINE ARTS

- Actor's Studio
- Art I / II / III / IV
- Band I / II / III / IV (Honors)
- Show Choir I / II / III / IV
- Culinary Arts
- Graphic Design (1 semester)
- Performing Arts I / II / III / IV
- Photography (1 semester)
- Stage craft I / II / III / IV
- Yearbook
- Video production I / II / III
- Video Practicum

## ELECTIVES

- AP® Capstone Seminar
- AP® Capstone Research
- AP® Computer Science Principles
- AP® Psychology (1 semester)
- Sociology (1 semester)
- Debate \*

## THEOLOGY

- Metanarrative
- Praise and Worship
- Christian Finance (1 semester)
- Gospel and the Arts I / II (1 semester)
- Scripture Art (1 semester) \*
- Leadership (1 semester)
- Video Production I / II / III / Video Practicum
- Current Events (1 semester)
- Senior Summit (1 semester)
- Deep Dive (1 semester)
- Sociology (1 semester)
- World Religions & Apologetics

\*New for the 2022/2023 school year

# ENGLISH

## **English I - The Hero Through the Ages (9th)**

This course includes the study of short stories, novels, drama, non-fiction, and poetry from various cultures with an emphasis on analysis of various elements of literature while focusing on various types of heroes. Grammar study is integrated directly with composition skills to develop clarity in all forms of discourse. Thus, the goal of this course is to enable each student to initiate his/her own search for literacy acumen. A documented research paper is also required in this course.

## **English I (H) The Hero Through the Ages (9th)**

This course explores similar material to the English I and English 8(J) courses with a focus on various types of heroes. Students are introduced to AP® College Board demands and requirements for reading, writing and analysis. It is meant to enrich and challenge the superior student. A literary, documented, research paper is also required in this course. **Prerequisite: 80 or higher in English 8 (J)(H) or 90 or higher in English 8 with teacher recommendation.**

## **English II - Discovering Ethics and Morality in a Fallen World (10th)**

This course will include the study of short stories, novels, drama, non-fiction, poetry, and world literature, focusing on ethical and moral issues, as students analyze the various literary elements. Grammar study is integrated directly with composition skills to further develop clarity in all forms of discourse. Thus, the goal of this course is to enable each student to continue his/her own search for literary acumen. A documented research paper is also required in this course. **Prerequisite: Completion of English I.**

## **English II (H) Discovering Ethics and Morality in a Fallen World (10th)**

This course explores similar textual material to the English II course but in greater depth and detail with assignments and essays formulated to reflect the demands and requirements of the AP CollegeBoard. Additional texts, analysis, essays, and other projects are assigned. A literary, documented, research paper is also required in this course. **Prerequisite: 85 or higher in English I (H) or 90 or higher in English I.**

## **English III - Exploring the American Dream (11th)**

This course focuses on the literature of the United States. Students work to consider diction, imagery, detail, syntax, point of view and tone concentrating on American works of recognized literary merit. This course includes the in-depth reading of texts drawn from multiple genres and from major periods within American history. Writing is an integral part of this course and is focused on the critical analysis of literature. A documented research paper is also required in this course. **Prerequisite: Completion of English II.**

## **AP® English Language and Composition (P) Exploring the American Dream (11th)**

This is a college level course that includes both reading and analysis of discursive prose and the study of the process of writing. Students will study examples of prose and poetry from various fields and periods. These examples will be used for the study of different styles and tones of authors. Students will discover, analyze, and use complex discursive patterns such as semantic, structural, and rhetorical resources of the language. Through study and practice, students gain an understanding of the principles of effective writing and become effective writers themselves. **Recommended: 85 or higher in English II (H) or 90 or higher in English II. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® English Language and Composition Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor**

### **English IV – Making an Impact: Choices and Consequences, Vice and Virtue (12th)**

This course is designed to introduce the student to authors of British literature. The student will be expected to demonstrate his/her knowledge of the course content through tests and various assignments including documented research. Students should expect to analyze critically classic works of literature as to language, themes, characters, and action as well as discover structure, meaning, value and relationship of the literature to the contemporary experience. **Prerequisite: Completion of English III**

### **AP® English Literature and Composition (P) Making an Impact: Choices and Consequences, Vice and Virtue**

**(12th)** This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature and poetry with increasing complexity and sophistication. This course includes the in-depth reading of texts drawn from multiple genres, periods, and cultures as well as the students' pre-critical impressions and emotional responses. Writing is an integral part of this course and emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity, which includes variety in vocabulary, sentence structure, organization, balance, and effective use of rhetorical tools. This course also includes a literary, documented, research paper. Students who earn a composite score of a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement® Examination may obtain college credit, depending on the performance requirements of the college or university. **Recommended: 85 or higher in AP® English Language and Composition (P) or 90 or higher in English III. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® English Literature and Composition Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor.**

# MATHEMATICS

## Algebra I (9th)

Algebra I is the study of algebraic methods and the practical application of these methods. Students work on solving equations, polynomials, fractions, linear equations, and quadratic functions. Students will also justify, verify, interpret, draw, and label problems as well as represent verbally, numerically, geometrically, and symbolically, algebraic information.

## Geometry (10th)

The focus of geometry is to allow students to experience the interplay between geometry and algebra, therefore strengthening the ability to formulate and analyze problems within and outside the realm of mathematics. This course includes elements of geometry: angles; perpendicular lines; parallel lines and planes; congruent triangles; similar polygons; right triangles; circles; areas and volumes; constructions; coordinate geometry; and transformations. It also extends the knowledge of algebra and develops an understanding of proof. Practical applications are provided throughout the course. **Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I.**

## Geometry H (9th)

This course explores the same material as the Geometry course but in greater depth and in greater detail. It is meant to enrich and challenge the superior student. Additional projects and assignments are required.

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I.**

## Algebra II (11th)

This course reviews and expands the concepts and methods mastered in Algebra I. Factoring, polynomials, rational expressions, real numbers, equations, and inequalities are studied and related to practical problems. In preparation for trigonometry and pre-calculus, irrational and complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences, and series will be introduced. **Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I and Geometry.**

## Algebra II (H) (10th-11th)

This course explores the same material as the Algebra II course but in greater depth and in greater detail. It is meant to enrich and challenge the superior student. Additional projects and assignments are required.

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I and Geometry.**

## Pre-Calculus Honors (11th-12th)

Analytic Geometry and Trigonometry are integrated with other important topics in mathematics by an approach that stresses the use and understanding of functions. Study will include such topics as rational and irrational numbers, vectors, polar coordinates, sequences and series, matrices, probability, and trigonometry. **Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II.**

## College Algebra (11th-12th)

This course reviews and expands upon the concepts learned in Algebra II. Equations and inequalities, functions, graphs, polynomials, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions, systems, matrices, sequences, series, and probability will all be explored. This course will enhance the students understanding of the broad range of algebraic concepts and prepare them for any math that they may encounter in college including Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus and Calculus. **Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II.**

## Business and Consumer Math (11th-12th) (In class, online course, 2 semesters)

This course includes a comprehensive study of personal and business-related math issues as well as an analysis of basic business operations such as loans, investments, taxes, business technologies, costs, sales, and marketing. Students will also develop a comprehensive plan for starting a business, including balance sheets, income statements, break-even analyses, and advertising expenditures. **Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II.**

### **AP® AB Calculus (P) (11th-12th)**

This course is for high school students who have completed four years of mathematics and demonstrate a mastery of Algebra, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus. Course topics include: the study of elementary functions with analytic geometry, limits, derivatives, integrals, and the application of these topics as outlined in the advanced placement calculus curriculum. This course is meant to enrich and challenge the students. Since this course includes the Advanced Placement® option, students who earn a composite score of a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement® Examination may obtain up to 3 hours of college credit depending on the performance requirements of the college or university. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Calculus Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus Honors.**

### **AP® Statistics (P) (11th-12th)**

Reasoning based on probability and statistics gives modern society the ability to cope with uncertainty. It has astonishing power to improve decision-making accuracy and test new ideas. It is a key analytical tool used in education, the social sciences, and business administration and is often a required college subject for majors in those areas. Statistics is frequently used for data analysis in the sciences and forms the mathematical basis for quality control in manufacturing. AP® Statistics is a college level class for students who have been highly successful in Algebra II or Pre-Calculus. It covers the topics needed for the American College Board AP® Statistics exam. Students passing this test may receive college credit. In today's world, most statistical analysis is done on calculators or computers. Students will learn how to perform statistical analysis on TI-84 calculators as well as more traditional techniques. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Statistics Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Calculus Honors.**



# SCIENCE

## Biology (9th)

Biology is a laboratory-oriented survey of the structure and function of living organisms. This course will explore the microscopic/macroscale, biotic, abiotic, fauna and flora components of our biosphere. Students will use problem solving and thinking skills, through the scientific method, to draw conclusions and communicate scientific data.

## Biology (H) (9th)

This course explores the same material as Biology, but in greater depth and in greater detail. It is meant to enrich and challenge the superior student. Additional projects and assignments are required. **Prerequisite: 85 or higher in previous Science class.**

## Chemistry (10th)

This course is a laboratory-based survey of the concepts of chemistry. Topics include: atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical bonding, moles, pH equilibrium, oxidation-reduction reactions, chemical reactions as well as an introduction to organic chemistry. Problem solving is taught using the mole concept, gas laws, ionization, and acid-base theories. **Prerequisite: Biology**

## Chemistry (H) (10th)

This course extends concepts for the student who has a high interest in Science, has done well in Science and Mathematics, and is able to grasp high level skills. Topics are the same as Chemistry but show greater depth and complexity. Laboratory activities are presented that are appropriate for the topics under study and provide opportunities for individual research. **Prerequisite: 85 or higher in Biology Honors.**

## AP<sup>®</sup> Chemistry (P) (11th-12th)

This course is a college level course that focuses on chemical problem solving. *Topics include:* atomic structure, kinetics, chemical equilibrium, and basic thermodynamics. Lab procedures and techniques are also emphasized and are equivalent to a college lab course. Students who earn a composite score of a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup> Examination may obtain up to 4 hours of college credit, depending on the performance requirements of the college or university. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP<sup>®</sup> Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP<sup>®</sup> courses are required to take the AP<sup>®</sup> Chemistry Exam at the end of the course. If the AP<sup>®</sup> exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry (H).**

## Physics (11th-12th)

This laboratory-oriented course explores a wide variety of topics in physics such as: the study of motion, force and energy, thermodynamics, electromagnetism, electricity, electromagnetic radiation, optics, as well as sound and nuclear energy. Students will develop their knowledge of content within a conceptual framework with an emphasis on analytical problem solving. They will also enhance their critical thinking skills while practicing experimental design and interpretation. **Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry.**

## Engineering Design (11th-12th)

Students will use the Engineering Design Process to build things like the way scientists use the scientific inquiry process to extend human knowledge. Students will be introduced to civil, mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering activities using kits and programs in the SmartLab. These activities include Punch Home Design, Sketch-Up, Fusion 360, Snap Circuits, Arduino, LEGO Mindstorm, Code Combat, Oculus Go, Bridge Designer and Drones. Students will design and build life size trebuchets. The course ends with the Smart Tank where students propose a project for a panel of administrators to approve before they can build to a panel concluding with a presentation of their final project. **Prerequisite: Completion of Biology, Chemistry.**

### **AP® Physics (P) (11th-12th)**

The AP® Physics 1 course outlined in this framework reflects a commitment to what physics teachers, professors, and researchers have agreed is the main goal of a college-level physics course: to help students develop a deep understanding of the foundational principles that shape classical mechanics. By confronting complex physical situations or scenarios, the course is designed to enable students to develop the ability to reason about physical phenomena using important science practices, such as explaining relationships, applying, and justifying the use of mathematical routines, designing experiments, analyzing data, and making connections across multiple topics within the course. To foster this deeper level of learning, the AP® Physics 1 course defines concepts, science practices, and understandings required by representative colleges and universities for granting college credit and placement. Students will practice reasoning skills used by physicists by discussing and debating, with peers, the physical phenomena investigated in class, as well as by designing and conducting inquiry-based laboratory investigations to solve problems through first-hand observations, data collection, analysis, and interpretation.

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II or Algebra II (H). 85 or higher in previous Science class.** Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP Physics Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor.

### **Human Anatomy & Physiology (H) (11th-12th)**

The Human Anatomy and Physiology course is designed for those students who want to study the relationships between systems in the human body. The student will acquire a general understanding of the basic terminology used in human biology. The following concepts will be covered in this course: the interrelationships between body tissues, organs, and systems; understanding the cell as the unit of structure and function; distinguish anatomical regions using slides, models, diagrams, and specimens; acquire skill in identifying anatomical organs both structurally and functionally; and express biological information in appropriate literary form. **Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry.**

### **Sports Medicine (10th – 12th)**

The Sports Medicine course is a science elective that gives the opportunity to learn about sports medicine in not only the classroom, but also through hands-on skills workshops. Sports Medicine bridges the gap between a health class and clinical rotation for students interested in both medical and sports related careers. This course provides an opportunity for the understanding and application of the following sports medicine topics: sports medicine related careers, organizational and administrative considerations, prevention of athletic injuries, recognition, evaluation, and immediate care of athletic injuries, nutrition, sports psychology, human anatomy and physiology, therapeutic modalities, and therapeutic exercise. It will also include practical hands-on skills work in rehabilitation, injury management, taping and bandaging, first aid/CPR/AED, and emergency procedures, as well as opportunities to shadow a professional in this career path and gain hours of direct observation. **Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry.**

### **Environmental Science (11th-12th)**

The Environmental Science course is designed for those students who want to study the relationships between humans and the world in which we live. Environmental Science is considered an applied science that focuses on three main areas: conservation and protection of natural resources, environmental education and communication, and environmental research. The following topics are covered in this course: the science of environment; ecology: how natural systems work; the dynamics of population; our natural resources; water, air, and land; energy sources and waste; and biodiversity in the future. The students have the opportunity to participate in various outdoor activities throughout this course. **Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry.**

### **AP® Environmental Science (P) (11th-12th)**

The goal of the AP® Environmental Science 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 both natural and human made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Environmental Science Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. exam by the classroom instructor.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## World Geography (9th)

The focus of this course is on the two major branches of geography: human geography, which centers on the historical, political, economic, and cultural activity; and physical geography, which involves the study of the earth's natural features and variations. This course is designed to develop an understanding about the earth, the use of the earth, as well as how humans interact with their surroundings; it also hopes to develop student appreciation of differing worldviews and their origins.

## AP® Human Geography (P) (9th)

This Advanced Placement® course is a college level course designed to introduce students to the study of patterns and processes that have shaped the human understanding, usage, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students are required to use spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socioeconomic organization and the environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools used by geographers in their research. The curriculum of this Advanced Placement® course reflects the goals of the National Geography Standards and is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. (Taken from the AP® College Board Economics Course Description.) Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Human Geography Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: 85 or higher in previous Social Studies class and approval of Social Studies Department Chair.**

## World History (10th)

This course surveys world history from the ancient river valley civilizations to the twenty-first century. Students focus on the contributions of the Greeks and Romans to modern civilization, the impact of the Renaissance and Reformation on Europe, the rise and effects of nationalism and imperialism on Western Civilization, and the effects of conflicting ideologies on present-day world affairs. This course hopes to further develop student appreciation of differing worldviews and their origins. **Prerequisite: World Geography.**

## AP® World History (P) (10th)

In AP World History: Modern, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to 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 provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. (Taken from the AP® College Board Economics Course Description.) Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® World History Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: Students must have a 90 or higher in World Geography or an 80 in AP Human Geography, both semesters. Students who do not meet the grade recommendation must have recommendations from the Instructor and Department Chair.**

## American History (11th)

This survey course examines American development from the post-Civil War period of Reconstruction to the present. Emphasized are the basic principles of societal and political systems, basic qualities of individual rights, representative government, and the equality of opportunities included in the system of free enterprise. The course fosters appreciation for American history and provides insights to people and ideas that have shaped our present society. **Prerequisite: World Geography or Human Geography and World History.**

### **AP® US History (P) (11th)**

In AP U.S. History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills 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. The course also provides eight themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures. (Taken from the AP® College Board Course Description). Students who earn a 3, 4, or 5 on the Advanced Placement® Examination may obtain college credit, depending on the performance requirements of the college or university. **Recommended: 80 or higher in AP World History or 90 or higher in World History.** Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® US History Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: World Geography or Human Geography and World History.**

# GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS

## **American Government (12th) (1 semester)**

This course examines the U.S. Constitution and the foundations and workings of the U.S. Federal Government, including the foundations of Capitalism and Socialism. The necessity of informed and involved citizens in the continuation and enhancement of our democratic system permeates the course. **Prerequisite: Geography and World History, American History.**

## **AP® US Government and Politics (P) (12th) (1 semester)**

This Advanced Placement® course is a college level course designed to give students a critical perspective on politics and government. It involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up the American political reality. Students who earn a composite score of a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement® Examination may obtain up to 3 hours of college credit, depending on the performance requirements of the college or university. (Taken from the AP® College Board Economics Course Description.) Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® US Government and Politics Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: A final grade of 80 or higher in U.S. History (P), or a 90 or higher in U.S. History, both semesters. Students who do not meet the grade recommendation must have recommendations from the Instructor and Department Chair.**

## **Economics (12th) (1 semester)**

The goal of this course is to understand the organization and operation of the American free enterprise economy so that the student is able not only to participate knowledgeably in a market system, but also to assess the economic ramifications of political initiatives. Primary focus will be on the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price determination, measures of economic performance, economic growth with emphasis on the impacts of monetary and fiscal policies, and international economics. **Prerequisite: World Geography or Human Geography, World History, and US History.**

## **AP® Microeconomics (P) (12th) (1 semester)**

The purpose of the AP® course in microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. (Taken from the AP® College Board Economics Course Description.) Students who earn a composite score of a 3, 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement® Examination may obtain up to 3 hours of college credit, depending on the performance requirements of the college or university. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Microeconomics Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. **Prerequisite: Geography, World History, and US History.**

# THEOLOGY

## **Metanarrative Class – (9th)**

The Metanarrative Class covers God’s overarching plan for humanity and gives context and meaning for our lives. Students will see the Bible, Genesis through Revelation, as one large metanarrative woven together from many smaller stories that all point to Jesus. Every student will be given a Bible that will be used throughout the class and each student will begin a Spiritual Life Portfolio that will be updated and reflected on each semester. (Required)

## **Senior Summit – (12<sup>th</sup>)**

The final semester of senior year students complete Senior Summit, a class that takes all of the theological concepts taught throughout their time in high school and answers the question “Now what?”. As students prepare for life after high school, this class teaches various habits to help them be successful in life and in their faith as they move on from Prince of Peace. The class includes a look into college life, discusses relationships, reviews personal finance, and ends with a mentor project; all while looking to see God at work around us and engaging in His word. (Required)

### **One semester-based theology offerings:**

- Leadership (10th-12th)
- Gospel and the Arts I (10th)
- Gospel and the Arts II (11th-12th)
- Christian Finance (10th-12th)
- Scripture Arts (10th-12th)
- Current Events (10th-12th)
- Sociology (10th-12th)
- Deep Dive (10th-12th)
- World Religions (10th-12th)
- AP® Psychology (10th-12th)

### **Two semester-based theology offerings:**

- Praise and Worship (9th-12th)
- Video Production I (9th-12th)
- Video Production II, III, IV (10th-12th)
- Video Production Practicum (11th-12th)

# LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

## ASL I (9th-12th)

This course introduces the fundamental elements of American Sign Language within a cultural context. Emphasis is placed on the development of basic expressive and receptive skills. Upon completion, students will be able to comprehend and respond with grammatical accuracy to expressive American Sign Language and demonstrate cultural awareness.

## ASL II (9th-12th)

American Sign Language II is a continuation of American Sign Language I. Students will continue to learn basic vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and cultural foundations of American Sign Language with a greater emphasis on proper facial expressions. Students will begin to learn to express themselves through signing by using concrete ideas, fingerspelling, and grammar. Using age-appropriate activities, students develop the ability to perform the tasks of the novice language learner. **Prerequisite: ASL I.**

The novice language learner, when dealing with familiar topics, should:

- Understand short, signed phrases when attending and respond expressively with learned material
- Produce learned signs, phrases, and sentences
- Detect main ideas in familiar material that is signed
- Transcribe American Sign Language (ASL) into English gloss
- Recognize the importance of communication and how it relates to the American Deaf culture
- Recognize the importance of acquiring accuracy of expression by knowing the components of ASL, including grammar.

## ASL III (10th – 12th)

American Sign Language III students will continue their study of American Sign Language as well as the culture and history of the American Deaf Community. Students communicate in this visual-gestural language with its own vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and idioms. Students participate in a comprehensive study of a variety of sign systems and modes of communication used within the Deaf community. Students will go out into the community to practice their skills. Experiences with American Sign Language and Deaf literature are broadened.

**Prerequisite: ASL II.**

## Spanish I (9th-12th)

Students in level 1 learn the foundational vocabulary, grammar, and syntax of the Spanish language. From the first day, they work to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through all modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. They also begin to make connections and comparisons between English and Spanish and their own culture and those of the Spanish-speaking world. Students are exposed to a variety of resources, including authentic resources created by and/or for native Spanish-speakers, and various teaching techniques to enhance and develop language skills.

## Spanish II (9th-12th)

Students in Level 2 build on the foundational vocabulary, grammar, and syntax they learned in Spanish 1. They greatly increase their vocabulary as well as learn the remaining verb tenses in the Spanish language. Students expand and further develop their reading, writing, listening, and speaking abilities through interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational communication. In addition to expanding their communication abilities, students also make deeper connections and comparisons between the English and Spanish languages and Spanish-speaking cultures. Students are exposed to a greater variety of authentic resources, including, but not limited to, newspaper articles, short stories, videos, documentaries, audio, music, etc. created and produced for native Spanish-speakers. **Prerequisite: Spanish I.**



### **Spanish III and IV (10th-12th)**

Spanish 3 and 4 are intermediate to advanced level Spanish courses and their purpose is to prepare students interested in taking AP® Spanish Language and Culture in the future or pursuing opportunities outside of school. Students not only review the complex structures in the Spanish language, but they also work to become more proficient in the different modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational. Through various opportunities such as 3P projects, compositional writing and conversation practice, students specifically work to hone and expand their skills in presentational speaking, interpersonal speaking and formal writing. At this level, students learn to compare and contrast their own culture to those of the Spanish-speaking world as well as make connections to other disciplines and areas of study. Students are exposed to a wide variety of authentic resources, including, but not limited to, newspaper articles, short stories, videos, documentaries, audio, music, etc. created and produced for native Spanish-speakers. **Prerequisite: Spanish II.**

### **AP® Spanish Language & Culture (12<sup>th</sup>)**

AP® Spanish Language & Culture is designed to prepare students for the corresponding AP® exam in the Spring. Students who complete this course and score high enough on the exam have the potential to earn college credits. Class is conducted almost entirely in Spanish, and students are provided ample opportunities to improve their reading, writing, listening, and speaking proficiencies by practicing interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational communication across the six thematic units. The six thematic units, as outlined by the AP<sup>®</sup> Spanish Language & Culture Course Guide by College Board<sup>®</sup>, include: art and beauty, science and technology, global challenges, identities, families and communities, and contemporary life. Students not only review the grammar and syntax structures of the language, but also use the target language to discuss and explore other disciplines. AP® Spanish students are continually exposed every week to a vast array of authentic texts and resources designed and created for native Spanish-speakers as well as review an idiomatic expression or phrase commonly used in a Spanish-speaking culture. By the end of the course, students' proficiency enables them to express and communicate their ideas and opinions eloquently and easily, and to respond in situational contexts. (Taken from the AP® College Board Economics Course Description.) Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Spanish Language Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor. exam by the classroom instructor.

**Prerequisite: Spanish III or IV with instructor approval**

Students are encouraged to satisfy the graduation requirements for foreign language with our on-campus offerings. If a student is interested in taking an online offering for a foreign language course that is not offered at POPCS, please reach out to Mrs. Rebecca Weiss at [Rebecca.Weiss@popcs.org](mailto:Rebecca.Weiss@popcs.org) to discuss further.

# ELECTIVES

## Debate (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

Students will develop skills in argumentation and debate related to current events and controversial topics or prompts. This course is designed to help develop critical thinking and sharpen communication skills. Students will examine how debate impacts individual decision-making and how it contributes to democratic processes in society today. In this course students will evaluate propositions, analyze and create defensible positions supported by evidence and argument, utilize cross-examination strategies, recognize fallacies of reasoning, and prepare refutations of opposing arguments. Students will be expected to use effective communication skills throughout the course. This course is designed to promote research, analysis, and public speaking skills.

## AP<sup>®</sup> Seminar (P) (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

AP<sup>®</sup> Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. Students taking this course will receive either elective or speech credit. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP<sup>®</sup> Testing - \$144.00. All students enrolled in AP<sup>®</sup> courses are required to take the AP<sup>®</sup> Seminar Exam at the end of the course. If the AP<sup>®</sup> exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor.

## AP<sup>®</sup> Research (P) (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

AP<sup>®</sup> Research, the second course in the AP Capstone<sup>®</sup> experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP<sup>®</sup> Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense. **Prerequisite: AP<sup>®</sup> Seminar is a prerequisite for AP<sup>®</sup> Research. Completing AP<sup>®</sup> Seminar and all its required assessment components is necessary for students to develop the skills to be successful in AP<sup>®</sup> Research.** Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP<sup>®</sup> Testing - \$144.00. All students enrolled in AP<sup>®</sup> courses are required to take the AP<sup>®</sup> Research Exam at the end of the course. If the AP<sup>®</sup> exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor.

### **AP® Computer Science Principles (P) (9th-12th)**

The course introduces students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity, and how computing impacts our world. Students will develop the computational thinking skills needed to fully exploit the power of digital technology and help build a strong foundation in core programming and problem-solving. *Engaging Students New to Computer Science:* The course is designed to engage students from diverse backgrounds and those new to computing – and excite students with a curriculum that focuses on the core ideas that shape the landscape of computer science and its impact on our society. *Project-Based and Collaborative Learning Approach:* Using project-based lessons and materials throughout, students will work to address real-world problems and design solutions to put computational thinking into practice. These culminate in a capstone Performance Task project where students can demonstrate what they have learned - to become creators, instead of merely consumers, of the technology all around them. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Computer Science Principles Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor.

### **AP® Psychology (P) (9th – 12th)**

The AP® Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims, and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. Fee: 2021-2022 Fees for AP® Testing - \$96.00. All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® Psychology Exam at the end of the course. If the AP® exam is not taken the student will be given a final exam by the classroom instructor.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

## **Communications Applications (Speech) (9th-12th) (1 semester)**

This course is an introduction to the art of public speaking, including the four major speech types: informative, persuasive, extemporaneous, and oral interpretation. Basic speech structure and outline formation are taught. Through research and practice, students will write and present speeches, using a variety of presentation approaches effectively to gain confidence in their skills as a public speaker. \* This course is required for graduation.

Contact Mrs. Rebecca Weiss for information about additional elective Communication Applications offerings at [rebecca.weiss@popcs.org](mailto:rebecca.weiss@popcs.org) . Or visit the [online options page, page 23](#).

# FINE ARTS

## **Actor's Studio (9th-12th)**

This course introduces the student to the theater program at the secondary level. The focus will be acting technique while featuring theatre history and the fundamentals of play production. The course ends with a live, in-class student performance.

## **Art I (9th-12th)**

Art I is an introductory level design course with an emphasis on developing the skills necessary to produce art in a variety of media. The focus is on two-dimensional design with an introduction to three-dimensional design during the second semester. Problem-solving is a critical component in the exploration of drawing, painting, printmaking, and mixed media. Students are encouraged to be playful and experiment as they learn the element/principles of design. Art History is an integral part of the class. Students will be researching artists for individual projects. Students will keep a “visual diary” of their work and learn how to critique their own and fellow students’ artwork.

## **Art II, III, IV (10th-12th)**

These classes continue the study of the elements/principles of design. Building on the skills begun in Art I, students are encouraged to find their individual voice as they continue to explore mediums ranging from drawing, painting, watercolor, mixed media, printmaking, and three-dimensional sculpture. Art History is an integral component of the class and students are expected to research artists as inspiration for their individual projects.

## **Band I, II, III, IV (H) (9th-12th)**

Students will learn basic music techniques, expand sight-reading proficiency, and will gain skills in performing various types of music on their instrument. Skills mastered in this course will boost student confidence in order to perform successfully at concerts and instrumental contests. Teacher approval is required for this course.

## **Show Choir I, II, III, IV (9th-12th)**

Students in choir enhance and develop individual vocal and choral skills through learning and performing various types of music. Students also develop appropriate skills in teamwork by working with their counterparts to accomplish successful performances. Students will perform in several concerts throughout the year as well as participate in the regional and state TAPPS vocal/choral competition.

## **Graphic Design I (9th-12th) (1 semester)**

This course focuses on the procedures commonly used in the graphic communication and design industries. Students will gain experience in creative problem solving and the practical implementation of those solutions across multiple areas of graphic communications. Graphic designers develop the overall layout and production design of magazines, newspapers, journals, corporate reports, and other publications. They also produce promotional displays, packaging, and marketing brochures for products and services, design distinctive logos for products and businesses, and develop signs and signage systems—called environmental graphics—for business and government.

## **Performing Arts I, II, III, IV (9th-12th)**

This course focuses on the production process as the means to learn acting technique, technical theatre, and theatre history. The course requires students to participate in the TAPPS One Act Play, Upper School Musical, TAPPS Speech Competition, and the Junior Directs. **Prerequisite: Actor's Studio.**

## **Photography I (9th-12th) (1 semester)**

Students in Photography will develop and expand their skills in producing both artistic and commercial photographs using digital DSLR cameras and equipment. Students learn to take artistic digital photos following rules of composition, light, exposure, elements of art and principles of design which also enhances their ability to produce quality commercial work. Adapting and updating student’s skill set to the ever-changing software and hardware technology is a constant goal of all the photography courses.

### **Stagecraft I, II, III, IV (9th-12th)**

This course introduces the student to the theater program at the secondary level. The focus will be the backstage elements of producing a live theatrical performance, such as, set construction, prop and costume building as well as lighting and sound techniques. Although not mandatory, it is highly suggested that students participate in productions beyond the classroom.

### **Video Production I (9th-12th)**

Students in Video Production plan, film, and edit great videos in service to POPCS and the surrounding community. Emphasis is on storytelling and students produce multiple short film documentaries in the course. Students work in three-person production teams and regularly communicate with clients to set up interviews, film roll, and schedule screenings before distributing videos to the community. Projects change every year depending on the needs of the community.

### **Video Production II, III, IV (10th-12th)**

Students in subsequent years of Video Production are challenged to refine their communication skills with clients, use new production equipment, integrate advanced graphics/titles, submit videos for competition, and take on leadership roles in filmmaking. Once students are adequately prepared to work with clients on their own, they are encouraged to work as interns in Video Production Practicum.

### **Video Practicum (11th-12th)**

Building upon the concepts taught in Video Production I, II, or III, students develop advanced technical knowledge and skills needed for careers in the arts, audio/video technology, and communications. Students work as paid or unpaid video production interns for local businesses, organizations, or nonprofits to create and distribute video that supports their mission and vision. Throughout the course, students report their growth by writing weekly reflections and submitting their final video projects. **Prerequisite: Video Production I, II, with approval by Mr. Weiss**

### **Yearbook (9th-12th)**

Students will use Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator software to produce the POPCS yearbook that includes ELC students through 12th grade. Students will be involved in taking photos, photo processing, interviewing, writing stories, designing, and constructing layouts, selling advertisements, and developing ad copy according to customer/client instruction, and other tasks related to the process of producing a yearbook. Students will work individually and as a team to develop a themed book with periodic time constraints/deadlines and participate in fund-raising events to off-set publication expenses. Outside class time is required in order to meet production deadlines. The yearbook will be submitted for at TAPPS Academic competition and other national competitions. Students will expand their digital portfolio of their work for use in future courses and for submission to colleges.

### **Culinary Arts (9th-12th)**

Students will learn the fundamentals of the art of cooking and the science of baking in this course. We will explore the principles of nutrition, kitchen safety, food preparation, storage, and presentation. Students will participate in both learning/research and actual hands-on cooking experiences. Fees: All students will be required to purchase supplemental materials.

# ATHLETICS

## **Upper School Athletics (9th – 12th)**

POPCS Athletics is an integral part of the total educational process of Prince of Peace Christian School. Athletics at POPCS exists to provide our student body with the opportunity to build relationships, values, and work ethic through participation in a competitive environment. Being involved in athletics provides the student with opportunities to learn game specific skills, good sportsmanship, develop leadership abilities and learn the benefits of fair play, ethical behavior, and time management which are necessary for an impactful existence in our society. It also provides POPCS student-athletes with unique opportunities for self-discipline, self-sacrifice, and loyalty to the community, our school, and their teams. POPCS encourages all students to participate in athletics by offering a well-rounded program of interscholastic athletics for young men and women. Students do not need to be in a sport to participate in this course.

## **Upper School Physical Education (9th – 12th)**

This course is designed to introduce the student to lifetime physical and social skills by participating in various team as well as individual sport activities.

Contact Mrs. Rebecca Weiss for information about additional elective P.E. or Athletic offerings at [rebecca.weiss@popcs.org](mailto:rebecca.weiss@popcs.org). Or visit the [online options page, page 23](#).

# ONLINE OPTIONS

*Online offerings are intended as elective and enrichment opportunities for courses that are not offered at POPCS. Online courses should be taken through the selected program by POPCS. All requests for online courses must be approved by the Academic Dean before registration to ensure that credit transfer will be approved*

## COMMUNICATIONS APPLICATIONS

### **Public Speaking (Online Course – 1 semester; 10-12)**

This course is an introduction to public speaking. It is media intensive and filled with several speeches and examples of various stages of speech development.

## ELECTIVES AND ATHLETICS

### **Computer Science Part I & II (9th-12) (Online Course)**

This course is an introduction to computer science. It is designed to help you understand and develop computational thinking through the study of human and computer interaction; the information processing cycle (involving data); networks and the web; communication methods; ethical responsibilities; software program design and coding; and the problem-solving process. This course is fun and filled with a variety of learning assignments that will prepare you for computer science courses you may want to take in the future.

### **Introduction to Digital Photography (9th-12th) (Online course, 1 semester)**

This course focuses on the basics of digital photography, and the basics of photography in general. Studies include using the camera, file transfer and storage, post-production, elements of composition, the properties of light, black and white conversion, watermarks, and image selection for portfolios. Students are required to read lectures, respond to discussion questions, view the work of their classmates and professional photographers, photograph images out on assignment and make necessary corrections to photos before submission in this course.

### **Psychology (11th-12th) (Online course, 2 semesters)**

This course explores the basic psychological concepts of human and animal behavior in such areas as learning motivation, perception, growth and development, personality, and social behavior. Important historical psychological theories will be introduced and analyzed. The course is academically challenging, designed for advanced college bound students. Prerequisite: Student must earn a 75 or better in both semesters of previous Social Studies course.

### **Sports and Activities (9th-12th) (Online course, 1 semester)**

This course will emphasize the importance of physical sports/activities in reaching and maintaining a healthy/active lifestyle. The course will include an overview of the physical benefits, as well as, the basic skills that are needed for various team/individual sports and activities. Students will set personal/individual fitness goals and be able to experience what sports/activities will help them to achieve these goals, both now and as their physical needs change. **Prerequisite: Foundations of Fitness.**

### **Fitness for Living Well (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) (Online course, 1 semester)**

This course is designed to lay a foundation to help students live a healthy lifestyle. Selected scientifically based wellness principles will enable students to choose positive attitudes toward their whole selves and others, to live a physically active lifestyle, to eat wisely, to realize the importance of getting adequate rest, and to follow safety precautions for injury prevention. This course requires students to sustain efforts to improve their fitness and overall health over a period of several weeks.



### **Video Game Design 1A (9th-12th) ([Online course, 1 Semester](#))**

Are you a gamer? Do you enjoy playing video games or coding? Does the idea of creating and designing your own virtual world excite you? If so, this is the course for you! Tap into your creative and technical skills as you learn about the many aspects involved with designing video games. You will learn about video game software and hardware, various gaming platforms, necessary technical skills, troubleshooting and internet safety techniques, and even the history of gaming. And to top it all off, you will even have the opportunity to create your very own plan for a 2D video game! Turn your hobby into a potential career and go from simply being a player in a virtual world to actually creating one!

### **Video Game Design 1B (9th-12th) ([Online course, 1 semester](#))**

We live in a technologically advanced world where virtual reality and video games play a major role. Have you ever thought about designing your own video game? By signing up for Game Design 1b: Building a Game, you will learn the skills needed to conceptualize, design, and fully create your very own video game. Explore various video game software and hardware; sharpen your coding skills; and learn about game storylines, player progression, and algorithmic decision making. Learn to analyze player goals, actions, rewards, and challenges, among many other gameplay components. Use your creativity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and technical skills. When you sign up for Game Design 1b: Building a Game, you are putting yourself at the forefront of a future in technology!

### **Business Law (9th-12th) ([Online course, 1 semester](#))**

This course focuses on the foundation of the U.S. legal system in the areas of business and personal law. Students will explore the evolution of our legal and court systems, and understand criminal, civil, property, employment, and contract laws, including legalities in business and financing. Activities include, but are not limited to, discussion questions, weekly summaries, lectures, and multi-media activity.

### **Online Offerings for Foreign Language (9th-12th)**

Students are encouraged to satisfy the graduation requirements for foreign language with our on-campus offerings. If a student is interested in taking an online offering for a foreign language course that is not offered at POPCS, please reach out to Mrs. Rebecca Weiss at [Rebecca.Weiss@popcs.org](mailto:Rebecca.Weiss@popcs.org) to discuss further.