

# Junior High/ High School Course Catalog

2024 - 2025





Benjamin Franklin High School

# Course Catalog

Junior High/High School

7th-12th Grade

2024-2025

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
General Information	7
Junior High School	7
High School	8
Material Usage Fees	8
Writing Style	8
Advanced Placement (AP)	8
Dual Enrollment (DE)	8
Graduation Requirements	9
Junior High Mathematics	10
• Course 2	10
• Course 3 (Pre-Algebra)	10
• JH Algebra 1	10
• Geometry	10
Junior High Science	10
• 7th Grade Science	10
• 8th Grade Science	11
Junior High English	11
• 7th Grade English: Ancient World to the Renaissance	11
• 8th Grade English: American Enlightenment to the 20th Century	11
Junior High History	12
• 7th Grade History: Ancient Greece to the Age of Discovery	12
• 8th Grade History: Founding of America to the Present Day	12
Junior High Required Electives	12
• Junior High Computers	12
• Consumer Economics	13
• Introduction to Latin	13
Junior High Electives	13
• JH Physical Education	13
• JH Introduction to Weight Training	13
• Art 1	14
• Ceramics 1	14
• Theater 1	14
• Beginning Band	14
• Concert Band	15
• Symphonic Band	15

• Women's Ensemble	15
• Men's Ensemble	16
• Junior High Honor Choir	16
• String Orchestra	16
• Concert Orchestra	17
• Symphonic Orchestra	17
• Introduction to Ballet/Jazz	17
• Intermediate Ballet/Jazz	18
JH STUCO	18
Yearbook	18
High School English	19
• Honors Classical Literature	19
• Classical Literature	19
• Honors British Literature	19
• British Literature	19
• AP Language and Composition	20
• American Literature	20
• AP Literature and Composition	20
• Modern Literature	20
High School Mathematics	21
• Algebra I	21
• Geometry	21
• Honors Geometry	21
• Algebra II/Trigonometry	21
• Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry	22
• Pre-Calculus	22
• Honors Pre-Calculus	22
• AP Statistics	22
• AP Calculus AB	23
• AP Calculus BC	23
• Data Science	23
• Applied Mathematics	23
High School Lab Sciences	24
• Honors Biology	24
• AP Biology	24
• Honors Chemistry	24

• Chemistry	25
• AP Chemistry	25
• Honors Physics	25
• AP Physics I	25
• Earth Science	26
High School History	26
• Honors Western Civilization I	26
• Western Civilization I	26
• Western Civilization II	26
• AP European History	27
• AP United States History	27
• United States History	27
• AP US Government and Politics	28
• Government	28
• AP Macroeconomics	28
• Economics	28
High School Foreign Languages	29
• Spanish I	29
• Spanish II	29
• Honors Spanish III	29
• AP Spanish Language	29
• French I	30
• French II	30
• Honors French III	30
• Latin I	30
• Latin II	31
• Honors Latin III	31
• German II	31
• Honors German IV	31
High School Fine Arts Electives	32
• AP Music Theory	32
• Beginning Band	32
• Concert Band	32
• Symphonic Band	33
• Wind Ensemble	33
• Bella Voce	33

• Forte Choir	34
• Cantus	34
• Charger Voices	34
• String Orchestra	35
• Concert Orchestra	35
• Symphonic Orchestra	35
• Chamber Orchestra	36
• Introduction to Ballet/Jazz	36
• Intermediate Ballet/Jazz	37
• Advanced Dance	37
• Salatrix (formerly Advanced Dance Elite)	38
• Ballroom Dance	38
• Advanced Ballroom Dance	38
• Art I	39
• Art II	39
• Advanced Art	39
• Ceramics I	39
• Theater I	40
• Theater II	40
• Technical Theater	40
• Guitar	40
• Speech and Debate	41
• Yearbook	41
Additional Electives	42
• HS Physical Education	42
• HS Weight Training	42
• HS Athletic Weights	42
• HS Specialty Dance Technique and Performance	42
• Student Government (STUGO)	43
• Western Classical Civilization and Culture	43
• Yoga	43
• Release Time	44

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

This catalog lists courses available at Benjamin Franklin Junior High and High School (BFHS). Although a course is listed, it will not be offered unless an adequate number of students register for the class. It is important that students carefully make their course selections during the spring pre-registration course selection since course offerings and teacher assignments are based on spring registration numbers.

High school credit will not be given for courses taken in 7th and 8th grade. Only students enrolled in grades 9-12 will receive credit for high school level courses. High school math and world language courses taken in junior high may be placed on the student's high school transcript but will not count towards fulfilling high school graduation requirements. Credits are issued in .5 increments.

BFHS has constructed its core curriculum in such a way that our classes are integrated and fulfill a specific purpose within the context of classical education in order to integrate knowledge between disciplines. High School courses are offered at the traditional, honors or AP level. Please refer to the course selection form or speak with the academic advisor for more information.

BFHS is very protective of our core classes in that each plays as a part of the classical education experience. For this reason, BFHS accepts dual-credit courses in order to satisfy the elective requirements of students, but not as a substitute for English or history. Governing Board policy requires freshmen, sophomores and juniors to take four core classes and two electives for a total of six credits. If a senior has received approval from the academic advisor, and are on track to meet graduation requirements, they may enroll in a minimum of four courses.

Transfer credits from sources outside of BFHS will be accepted from accredited institutions. Credits from unaccredited institutions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. In this instance the academic advisor and Assistant Principal will determine if the academic rigor of said course meets BFHS standards for transfer credit as an elective or core academic class, and whether the credit will be used to calculate a student's GPA.

## **JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

The junior high school curriculum at BFHS is designed to lay a foundation for success in the college preparatory high school. Through a dynamic classroom atmosphere, rigorous curriculum and high expectations, students begin to use the tools given to them at the elementary level in a more exploratory manner.

Junior high students are able to take one elective each year. If a student is interested in taking a second elective, he/she must enroll in zero hour. Zero hour classes are not in lieu of a 1st or 6th hour class, it is a seventh class added to the schedule.

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

The high school curriculum is designed to provide excellent preparation for college. Students will continue on the path of a sequential, integrated 7th – 12th grade classical, college preparatory education. The diverse body of knowledge that will be taught, together with the tools of examination and analysis that students will learn to use, will enable students to see the relations between ideas, philosophies and subject areas.

## **MATERIAL USAGE FEES**

Junior high and high school students may be assessed reasonable fees for fine arts, sports and for optional services, equipment and materials offered to students beyond those required to successfully complete the basic requirements of the course. Any student or family not able to pay these fees because of economic hardship should contact campus administration.

## **WRITING STYLE**

Students at BFHS will learn the fundamentals of various formatting styles for written work. English classes teach the fundamentals of APA style which is most commonly used in the social sciences and is becoming the standard format for collegiate level writing. History classes teach the fundamentals of Chicago style which is most commonly used in the history and arts fields. The purpose of teaching two different writing styles is to introduce students to discipline-specific formatting, a skill they will need when they are in college.

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)**

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are available for all students and are taught at the college level; therefore, the expectations and rigor will emulate that of a college course and teacher approval is necessary. AP courses are offered in several different disciplines that prepare students to take the national AP examination given in May of each school year. Students may be granted advanced placement status and/or college credit on the basis of how well they perform on these tests. Information regarding AP courses and examinations is available from the academic advising office. Students are not required to take an AP course to be eligible to take an AP examination; however, students enrolled in AP courses are encouraged to take the AP exam.

## **DUAL ENROLLMENT (DE)**

In partnership with the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), BFHS offers select high school courses as dual enrollment options. The benefit of dual enrollment is that it allows our students to be taught college-level courses on our campus with our teachers during a regular school day as well potentially earn college-credit that could be transferable to other colleges and universities.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students, in consultation with their families, will develop a four-year high school plan of study in order to prepare for college, vocational or technical studies, or the job market. To assist with this planning, review the chart below for the high school graduation course requirements. On the following page, there is a four-year plan chart that students may use to plan their high school academic career. In addition to the following requirements, students are required to pass any state/federally mandated tests. Students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) are required to complete the course of study as prescribed in their plan.

Curriculum Area	Benjamin Franklin High School Graduation Requirements	Arizona University Entrance Requirements	Arizona Graduation Requirements
English	<b>4 credits</b>	<b>4 credits</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
Math	<b>4 credits</b>	<b>4 credits</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
Science	<b>3 credits</b>  Students must take Biology and one of the two physical sciences, Chemistry or Physics.  Earth Science is a lab science option that counts towards graduation in addition to Biology and one physical science.	<b>3 lab science credits</b>  One credit in each of three different laboratory sciences selected from the following: Chemistry, Physics, Earth Science or Biology. An integrated laboratory science or an advanced level laboratory science may be used to substitute for one required course.	<b>3 credits</b>
Social Studies	<b>4 credits</b>  Western Civilization I & II, U.S. History, Government/Economics	<b>2 credits</b>	<b>3 credits</b>
Fine Arts	<b>1 Fine Arts credit</b>	<b>1 Fine Arts credit</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
World Language	<b>2 credits</b>  Two years of the same language	<b>2 credits</b>  Two years of the same language	<b>0 credits</b>
Required Courses	<b>18 credits</b>	<b>16 credits</b>	<b>15 credits</b>
Elective Courses	<b>4 credits</b>	<b>0 credits</b>	<b>7 credits</b>
<b>Total Required Credits</b>	<b>22 credits</b>	<b>16 credits</b>	<b>22 credits</b>

*BFHS graduation requirements closely mirror the requirements for admission to Arizona state public colleges. Students who may be interested in pursuing admission to out of state colleges or private colleges should consult with their academic advisor when planning their elective courses to ensure they have taken the required courses for admission to those universities.*

## JUNIOR HIGH MATHEMATICS

### Course 2

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level:** 7

Course 2 provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts; basic numbers and operations, conversions between decimals, percentages, and fractions, proportional relationships, solving one and two-step equations, basic geometry, measurement, and probability. Course 2 will introduce concepts that will prepare students for Pre-Algebra.

### Course 3 (Pre-Algebra)

**Prerequisite(s):** Course 2 or Placement Test

**Grade Level(s):** 7-8

Course 3 provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts; number and operations, variables, expressions, equations, and inequalities, geometric properties and relationships of lines, angles, and polygons, solving measurement problems, and probability. Course 3 begins moving students from fundamental math towards algebraic concepts.

### JH Algebra I

**Prerequisite(s):** Course 3 or Placement Test

**Grade Level(s):** 7-8

JH Algebra I provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts; linear equations and functions, rational expressions, inequalities, radical equations, quadratic equations, probability and data analysis. With JH Algebra I, students begin developing the more complex understanding required for advanced mathematics.

### Geometry

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Grade Level(s):** 8-10

Geometry uses logic and critical thinking skills in the exploration of the properties of points, lines, planes, circles, polygons, and solids in two and three dimensions. Students will look comprehensively at parallel and perpendicular lines, the coordinate plane, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, congruence and similarity, surface area, volume and transformations through the use of proofs and hands-on explorations. The course provides an introduction to trigonometric concepts through the relationships of right triangles.

## JUNIOR HIGH SCIENCE

### 7th Grade Science

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level:** 7

7th Grade Science is a survey course which combines aspects from life, physical and earth sciences and is designed to introduce and provide an overview of topics including but not limited to microbiomes, chemical reactions, natural selection processes, engineering, traits and reproduction, rock transformations, and phase changes. The students will take on roles as

chemists, chemical and biomedical engineers, geologists, biologists and paleontologists to investigate unit questions and deepen their understanding within these units of study.

## **8th Grade Science**

**Prerequisite:** *7th Grade Science*

**Grade Level:** 8

8th Grade Science is a survey course which combines aspects from life, physical and earth sciences and is designed to further strengthen the students understanding of these content areas by providing an overview of topics including but not limited to harnessing energy, thermodynamics, phase changes, forces and motion, magnetic fields and matter, chemical reactions and energy in ecosystems. The students will take on roles as energy scientists, chemists, chemical engineering interns, physicists and mechanical engineering interns to investigate unit questions and apply their knowledge of the content within these units of study. This course sets the stage and sparks their interest, acting as an excellent preparation for high school science courses.

## **JUNIOR HIGH ENGLISH**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade English: Ancient World to the Renaissance**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

**Grade Level:** 7

7th Grade English will introduce students to some of the greatest works of Western literature. Students will be enthralled by superb writing, theater, and lore such as Homer's *Odyssey*, *The Hobbit*, and Shakespearean works. Exposure to these great works of literary art will not only introduce students to stories where virtue is triumphant, but will also allow them the opportunity to emulate the greatest of history's authors. Writing experiences will include narrative writing, expository writing (including report and summary writing), note taking, and poetry, thereby allowing students the opportunity to gain skills that are applicable not only to the subjects but to their daily lives as well. The course also includes a practical study of grammar conventions, vocabulary development, and oral speaking.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade English: American Enlightenment to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

**Prerequisite:** *7th Grade English*

**Grade Level:** 8

In this class, students will continue their journey through great works of literature in the context of the story of American history. Students will learn careful interpretation of the texts, as well as the first steps of making arguments on the basis of literature. The course also emphasizes fundamental grammar concepts. Writing instruction will focus on creating quality thesis statements, the multi-paragraph essay, and basic elements of argumentation.

## **JUNIOR HIGH HISTORY**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade History: Ancient Greece to the Age of Discovery**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level:** 7

The ultimate result of any good education is that students will become citizens who are able to contribute to the society around them. Seventh-grade history at Benjamin Franklin Junior High will accomplish this by introducing students to the people, the books, and the ideas that produced them and the culture in which they live. Students will learn about the lives, work, and ideas of great leaders in history such as Homer, Thucydides, Alexander the Great, Jesus of Nazareth, Thomas Aquinas, Machiavelli, and Shakespeare. Through reading, writing, and discussion of historical figures, works, and ideas, seventh graders will learn to think critically about the people, the books, and the ideas of their own day, preparing them to live moral and influential lives.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade History: Founding of America to the Present Day**

**Prerequisite:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade History

**Grade Level:** 8

The 8th grade history program studies world history with an emphasis on the United States from the Colonial period to the War on Terror. In addition to the study of historical events within this timeframe, the course encompasses an in-depth study of the American Revolution, the United States Constitution and its past and present implementation at the federal, state, and local levels. Students will also study the causes and aftermath of the Civil War, the World Wars, and the Cold War. While history and civics are the core disciplines, the program also incorporates economics, sociology, geography, and the humanities to give students an understanding of and appreciation for the major movements and concepts that have characterized the United States. Students will learn how history relates to the present through current events that connect the past with the present.

## **REQUIRED ELECTIVES**

### **JH Computers**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level:** 7

In this one-semester course students will learn the fundamentals of keyboarding including proper typing, typing position, and benefits of proper keyboarding. Students will also learn the functions and tools in G Suite in the following applications, Google Docs, Google Slides, and Google Sheets where they will complete various projects in class. The course will include an overview and history of computers, basic hardware and components, Digital Citizenship (Internet Safety and etiquette), Introduction to Google Drive, basic digital design, and resource discovery and retrieval tools (using the Internet).

## Consumer Economics

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level: 7*

This one-semester course will prepare students to integrate knowledge, skills, and practices in the U.S. economic system and the system's impact on individuals as consumers and citizens. Occasionally, this course will take a project-based approach in order to utilize higher level thinking, leadership, communication, and management techniques. Consumer practices and responsibilities that foster financial security are investigated.

## Introduction to Latin

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level: 8*

Students will begin their study of Latin syntax, grammar, and vocabulary in the historical context of the Roman Republic and Empire. They will learn vocabulary used by Romans during these periods and become accustomed to Latin sentence structure, grammatical rules, declension and conjugation forms, and a brief study of Roman culture. In their study of culture, they will focus on Roman historical figures which exemplify the Roman patriotic and familial sense of duty from the Republican and Imperial periods.

## JUNIOR HIGH ELECTIVE OPTIONS

Junior high students are able to take one elective each year. If a student is interested in taking a second elective, he/she must enroll in zero hour. Zero hour classes are not in lieu of a 1<sup>st</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> hour class, but an added seventh class to the schedule.

## JH Physical Education

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level(s): 7-8*

The purpose of Physical Education is to provide students the opportunity to acquire the skills needed to make positive decisions about a healthy, physically active lifestyle. This is achieved through physical activity and both individual and team sports. The course will strive to enhance the mental, social and moral development of students and teach them positive life skills. The course will concentrate on fundamentals, sportsmanship, and character building. P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform. P.E. uniforms may be purchased for **\$15 during Charger Days** or during bookstore hours.

## JH Introduction to Weight Training

*Prerequisite: Athletic Director Approval*

*Grade Level(s): 8*

The purpose of JH Introduction to Weight Training is to provide students the same opportunities as the regular Physical Education Class but all activities will center around age-appropriate strength and conditioning in the weight room. Workouts will be geared specifically for the junior high athlete. This is a high intensity class and students will be challenged and pushed to work hard and reach their potential. Any student planning on participating in extracurricular athletics should seriously consider enrolling in this class. P.E. students must be in appropriate attire,

including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform. P.E. uniforms may be purchased for **\$15 during Charger Days** or during bookstore hours.

## Art I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

Students will learn basic features of visual design as they work through various projects and skills using a variety of mediums. The program's intent is to foster confidence and help budding artists realize their potential. There is a **\$30 class fee due at Charger Days**.

## Ceramics I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

Students will learn the basics of sculpting and modeling earthenware clay as they learn different techniques of wedging, coiling, slab construction, carving, and wheel spinning. Students will be able to identify clay projects in different stages of the creative process: dry, plastic, slip, leather hard, bone-dry, bisqueware, and glazeware. In addition, they will learn to use secondary mediums such as acrylic and glaze to finish their projects. The goal of this class is to introduce and allow students to explore three-dimensional art while inspiring a deeper desire to work with 3D art mediums. There is a **\$40 class fee due at Charger Days**.

## Theater I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

This yearlong course is a performance driven introduction to theater focusing on acting technique, monologue work, scene work, improvisation, and play production and performance. Written homework will be limited, but line memorization will be a huge component of this course. The planned curriculum will include two productions – one each semester. In addition, students will have the opportunity to create sets and props, run tech, and sew costumes. There is a course fee associated with this class – **\$40.00 due at Charger Days** – that goes towards class materials and production expenses.

## Beginning Band

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Levels(s):** 7-12

Beginning Band offers the band experience at the introductory level. Students may pick from woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The goal of the class is giving students another way to express themselves while developing fundamental skills needed to perform; students are held to a high standard just like the other ensembles to ensure their success on their chosen instrument and the ability to continue into Concert band. Musical topics covered include reading music, music notation, analyzing and evaluating music, as well as composing and improvising simple melodies. Students will have the opportunity to perform during the concert season as well as various other playing opportunities. Purchase of the *Tradition of Excellence, Book 1*, is required for this ensemble.

## **Concert Band**

**Prerequisite:** *Some instrumental experience*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

The Benjamin Franklin Concert Band is a year-long, performance-related, skill-building class that emphasizes foundational musical technique on specific instruments. This also includes significant creative elements. We perform four concerts per year and one festival; attendance is required for all. These festivals may not necessarily occur during the school day. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. This class is the continuation of ensemble instruction from the elementary level, focusing on technical skills that lead to an aesthetically pleasing performance. An audition is required of students new to Benjamin Franklin. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo, and sight reading. While no experience is necessarily required, it is highly recommended that students new to instrumental music speak with the teacher prior to the school year beginning. Purchase of the *Tradition of Excellence, Book 2*, is required for this ensemble.

## **Symphonic Band**

**Prerequisite:** *Audition*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

The Benjamin Franklin Symphonic Band is a year-long course that offers students great variety and challenge in musical performance. Students will continue the development of advanced instrumental technique, music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style, a deeper understanding of ensemble music, and wind band literature. Literature will emphasize works from the standard high school repertoire. Students will perform both in small group ensemble projects and as a large group. This also includes significant creative elements. We perform four concerts per year and one festival; attendance is required for all. These festivals may not necessarily occur during the school day. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. Fluency in the majority of major scales (at least one octave) and rudiments is required as well as familiarity with chromatic scale(s). Placement within this class is based upon audition. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo/excerpt, and sight reading. Audition requirements: Scales (chosen from major, Db-E), prepared solo/excerpt, and sight reading (most likely repertoire from previous year). Purchase of Frank Erickson books for sight and supplemented reading is required for this ensemble.

## **Women's Ensemble**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-8

A non-auditioned choir for 7th and 8th grade girls who are new to choir, or are still developing their music reading and vocal skills. Students will have the opportunity to grow individually and as a choir through a curriculum that creates a solid foundation in music literacy and healthy vocal technique. Students in Women's Ensemble study and perform choral repertoire that includes classical, jazz, folk songs, spirituals, popular music, and musical theater. This choir performs four required concerts per year. A class fee is required, plus purchase of the

performance uniform. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden.

## **Men's Ensemble**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level(s):** 7-8

A non-auditioned choir for 7th and 8th grade boys who are new to choir, or are still developing their music reading and vocal skills. Students will have the opportunity to grow individually and as a choir through a curriculum that creates a solid foundation in music literacy and healthy vocal technique. Students in Men's Ensemble study and perform choral repertoire that includes classical, jazz, folk songs, spirituals, popular music, and musical theater. This choir performs four required concerts per year. A class fee is required, plus purchase of the performance uniform. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden.

## **Junior High Honor Choir**

**Prerequisite:** 1 year of Women's or Men's Ensemble OR an in-person audition

**Grade Level(s):** 7-8

An auditioned choir for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Members of this choir have strong vocal and music reading abilities and can sing in 3 and 4-part harmony. Students will have the opportunity to grow individually and as a choir through a curriculum that creates a solid foundation in music literacy and healthy vocal technique. Students in Junior High Honor Choir study and perform repertoire that includes classical, jazz, folk songs, spirituals, world music, popular music, and musical theater. This choir performs four required concerts per year, plus one rated festival. A class fee is required, plus purchase of the performance uniform. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden.

## **String Orchestra**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

String Orchestra (formerly Beginning Strings) offers beginning instruction on violin, viola, cello, and string bass for those desiring to learn to play a string instrument. This course will focus on the fundamental skills necessary for progression through the BFHS orchestra programs including long-term success. Students in grades 7 - 12 are welcome. No audition is required for placement in this course—all that is necessary is the desire and motivation to study a musical instrument! Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of characteristic tone quality, reading music, notation and rhythm, beginning music theory, ear training, and additional areas of music literacy. Students will have the opportunity to perform in quarterly concerts as well as other playing opportunities. This class is ideal for those who were unable or only partially able to participate in an instrumental music class during previous school experiences as well as for those who may have experience and need a review including: reinforcement of music reading, playing fundamentals and technique that are vital for lasting musical development.

## **Concert Orchestra**

**Prerequisite:** *Some instrumental experience*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

As the logical next step to an elementary level music education, we start the year with beginning shifting, two octave scales, rhythm counting, the rudiments of vibrato, and basic listening dictations. Placement in this orchestra requires a willingness to challenge yourself to reach the next level of musicianship. No experience is necessary to be placed in the orchestra, but diligence in practicing is required. We strive to create a positive learning environment where students are encouraged to venture out of their comfort zones to create beautiful music. Students are required to perform in four mandatory concerts a year. Students are expected to stay for the duration of each concert and will be graded on their attendance. The orchestra will also be participating in one or two competitions (festivals) that are also mandatory and will be graded based on attendance and behavior. All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

## **Symphonic Orchestra**

**Prerequisite:** *Audition*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

As is the case for all BFHS orchestras, placement into Symphonic Strings is dependent on skill level and not grade level. Students will begin the year with two octave scales, advanced rhythm counting, shifting, and intermediate listening dictations. Towards the middle of the year, students will be beginning three octave scales, becoming comfortable with vibrato, and fostering a deeper understanding of performance strategy. Placement in this orchestra requires at least three years' experience on your instrument (exceptions may occur based on ability), an advanced understanding of musical terms such as solfege, key signatures, and time signatures, and most importantly a growing respect for the musical process and high levels of achievement. Students are required to perform in four mandatory concerts a year. Students are expected to stay for the duration of each concert and will be graded on their attendance. The orchestra will also be participating in one or two competitions, called festivals, which are also mandatory and will be graded based on attendance and behavior. There will also be several competition opportunities for students who are interested. Auditions for this orchestra take place at the beginning of the year (for incoming students). All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

## **Introduction to Ballet/Jazz**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

This yearlong dance course is an introduction to the basics of ballet and jazz, this class will include daily technique, introductory ballet, jazz, contemporary, and lyrical repertoire, weekly dance vocabulary, two annual concerts, and student choreography opportunities. In this course, students will learn the rudimentary positions of classical ballet and jazz dance. Students will work on building a dance vocabulary physically and mentally, improving alignment, increasing flexibility/strength, and increasing artistry through the medium of dance. A focused effort will be made to help students develop the proper muscle groups for safely performing the

positions of classical ballet and jazz through a series of floor-barre exercises. Students will be assessed each quarter on technical skills learned in class. Students will be required to learn ballet and anatomical vocabulary in class. There will be weekly quizzes on these terms. The course fee to cover costumes and performance expenses is **\$50.00**. In addition, students will be required to obtain their own dance attire and shoes. There is an extracurricular component to this course. It is essential that all students and parents understand the required dates as outlined in the syllabus, mark their calendars, and plan accordingly.

## **Intermediate Ballet/Jazz**

**Prerequisite(s):** *Introduction to Ballet/Jazz or Audition*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

The prerequisite for this dance course is Introductory Ballet/Jazz (or by audition). Building upon the basics of ballet and jazz, this yearlong class will include daily technique, intermediate ballet, jazz, and lyrical repertoire, weekly dance vocabulary and history, two annual concerts, and student choreography opportunities. In this course students will build upon the rudimentary positions of classical ballet and jazz dance. Students will work on building a dance vocabulary physically and mentally, improving alignment, increasing flexibility/strength, and increasing artistry through the medium of dance. A focused effort will be made to help students develop the proper muscle groups for safely performing the positions of classical ballet and jazz through a series of floor, barre, and center exercises. Students will be assessed each quarter on technical skills learned in class. Students will be required to learn ballet and anatomical vocabulary in class. There will be weekly quizzes on these terms. The course fee to cover costumes and performance expenses is **\$50.00**. In addition, students will be required to obtain their own dance attire and shoes. There is an extracurricular component to this course. It is essential that all students and parents understand the required dates as outlined in the syllabus, mark their calendars, and plan accordingly.

## **JH STUCO**

**Prerequisite(s):** *Elected and appointed students*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-8

This course is for elected and appointed student body officers and student representatives. The purpose of this class is to develop and encourage the leadership skills needed by an effective student leader. The number of hours that will be required outside of class will be determined at the beginning of the quarter and will vary based on the number of student body activities.

## **Yearbook**

**Prerequisite(s):** *Teacher recommendation*

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

This course is designed for students who love to write and design. Students will function as staff members and learn various aspects of the yearbook publication process such as layout and design, copywriting, photography, budget and finance, and promotion and publicity. Students are responsible for producing complete layouts in order to meet publication deadlines. **Teacher approval required.**

## HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH

### Honors Classical Literature

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade Level: 9**

Classical Literature will familiarize students with some of the most influential writings up to 1600 A.D. We will read, discuss, and write about works such as Homer's *The Iliad*, the philosophical writings of Plato, the epic poetry of Virgil, and the masterpieces of Dante and his contemporaries. We will use many hands-on ways to understand these great works, including reading poetry aloud and debating philosophy. Students will be challenged with frequent writing assignments in which they will have to wrestle with these great thinkers as well as compare them to one another and identify the ways in which their ideas overlap. We will also continue to develop a strong understanding of English grammar rules and how best to apply them in writing.

### Classical Literature

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grade Level: 9**

This class follows the same program of study as the Honors class but with more student support and teacher guidance in accessing the literature.

### Honors British Literature

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Honors Classical Literature or Teacher Recommendation**

**Grade Level: 10**

British Literature will familiarize students with some of the most influential writings from the Renaissance to the present. We will read, discuss, and write about the poetry of John Milton, works by William Shakespeare, and the complexities of man's nature in the classic horror of *Frankenstein*. We will also enjoy studying the tensions between social classes in classics such as *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Pride and Prejudice*. By devoting themselves to reading, speaking, and writing about these timeless masterpieces, students will learn about the religious, political, social, and philosophical tenets of British literature as it corresponds with their European history course.

### British Literature

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Classical Literature**

**Grade Level: 10**

This class follows the same program of study as the Honors class but with more student support and teacher guidance in accessing the literature.

## **AP Language & Composition**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Honors British Literature or Teacher Recommendation*

*Grade Level: 11*

The AP Language and Composition course provides students with the opportunity to read rigorous non-fiction and American literary texts from various eras and in different genres, analyzing the big ideas of rhetorical situations, claims/evidence, reasoning/organization, and style. Students will study the works from Great American authors such as Benjamin Franklin, Harriet Jacobs, Mark Twain, John Steinbeck, and Tim O'Brien in order to draw deeper philosophical and cultural connections to their history class. Students will reach the goal of effective writing and analysis: they will read and annotate texts from a critical perspective in order to craft well-reasoned essays and personal reflections in response.

## **American Literature**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: British Literature*

*Grade Level: 11*

In American Literature, students continue to develop their understanding of how America fits into the Western tradition of thought and art. By studying such authors as Benjamin Franklin, Harriet Jacobs, Mark Twain, John Steinbeck, and others. American Literature will reflect on the evolution of the American literary mind—its dependence on what has come before, as well as those qualities that give it a distinct identity. This course will be supplemented by frequent and rigorous college-preparatory writing activities (including the rhetorical study of non-fiction and literary texts), focusing on grammar, essays, annotations, and research. This class follows the same program of study as AP Language but with additional student support in accessing the literature.

## **AP Literature & Composition**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): AP Language and Composition or Teacher Recommendation*

*Grade Level: 12*

As students prepare to enter adulthood, they will explore the relationships between themselves and government, society, family, and the self through the study of great modern works, including *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *All My Sons*, and *The Lord of the Rings*, among others. Students will also learn the fundamentals of literary analysis and discuss and engage in a variety of writing activities focusing on argumentation, interpretation, analysis, rhetorical strategies, exposition, structure, and style.

## **Modern Literature**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): AP Language and Composition or American Literature*

*Grade Level: 12*

This class follows the same program of study as AP Literature but with additional student support in accessing the literature and with a more general focus on college preparatory writing skills rather than specific AP Literature writing techniques. Some sections of this class may be dual enrollment eligible through MCCCCD.

## **HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS**

### **Algebra I**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Course 3 or Pre-Algebra*

*Grade Level: 9*

Algebra I provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts; linear equations and functions, rational expressions, inequalities, radical equations, quadratic equations, probability and data analysis. With Algebra I, students begin developing the more complex understanding required for advanced mathematics.

### **Geometry**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

*Grade Level(s): 8-10*

Geometry uses logic and critical thinking skills in the exploration of the properties of points, lines, planes, circles, polygons, and solids in two and three dimensions. Students will look comprehensively at parallel and perpendicular lines, the coordinate plane, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, congruence and similarity, surface area, volume and transformations through the use of proofs and hands-on explorations. The course provides an introduction to trigonometric concepts through the relationships of right triangles. This course is also offered at the Honors Level.

### **Honors Geometry**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Algebra I or Teacher Recommendation*

*Grade Level(s): 9-10*

This class follows the same program of study as the on-level class but the content allows for deeper student engagement based on in-depth proof analysis and Socratic dialogue. This class also requires increased rigor and teacher expectations.

### **Algebra II/Trigonometry**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Geometry*

*Grade Level(s): 9-11*

Algebra II/Trigonometry expands on Algebra I concepts and teaches students how to solve systems of equations, factor advanced polynomials, and how to graph and identify equations for conic sections. Imaginary and complex numbers, matrices, and sequences and series are also covered in the course. Concepts for trigonometry are developed and reinforced, and students are introduced to logarithmic and exponential functions.

## **Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Honors Geometry*

*Grade Level(s): 9-11*

The honors course will expand further into modeling and connections between multiple representations.

## **Pre-Calculus**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Algebra II/Honors Algebra II*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

Pre-Calculus centers around the properties of functions and their use in modeling, including an in-depth analysis of linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, power, and piecewise-defined functions. Students will also further explore systems of equations and matrices. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to algebra, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally.

## **Honors Pre-Calculus**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

Honors Pre-Calculus focuses on college algebra and trigonometry concepts, including functions and modeling, exponential and logistic equations, discrete mathematics, properties of right triangles, and the unit circle. The course stresses trigonometric definitions, functions, and identities. Additionally, students are taught polar coordinates and equations. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to pre-calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Some sections of this course may be dual enrollment eligible through MCCCDC.

## **AP Statistics**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Algebra II*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

AP Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Course content is typical of a one-semester, non-calculus introductory college statistics course – often a requirement for majors in social sciences, health sciences, business, and others. Students will be challenged to plan and conduct studies, describe patterns and departures from patterns in data, explore random phenomena using probability and simulation, and perform statistical inference to estimate parameters and test hypotheses. After successfully completing the course, students will have developed basic statistical literacy and competency. Students who successfully complete the AP Statistics exam may receive credit, advanced placement, or both for a one-semester introductory college statistics course.

## **AP Calculus AB**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Algebra II/Trigonometry*

*Grade Level: 11-12*

AP Calculus AB is equivalent to a first-semester college calculus course. AP Calculus AB covers the concepts of limits, derivatives, and some aspects of integration. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Students will also draw connections across these presentations. Students who successfully complete the AP Calculus AB exam may receive credit, advanced placement, or both for a first-semester college calculus course. Some sections of this course may be dual enrollment eligible through MCCC.

## **AP Calculus BC**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): AP Calculus AB*

*Grade Level: 12*

AP Calculus BC is equivalent to a first-semester college calculus course (including all of the content of AP Calculus AB) and a subsequent single-variable calculus course. AP Calculus BC covers introductory material and strategy associated with limits, derivatives, integrals, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, and series. Students will learn how to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are presented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to draw connections across these presentations. Students who successfully complete the AP Calculus BC exam may receive credit, advanced placement, or both for a first- and second-semester college calculus course.

## **Data Science**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Algebra II*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

Data Science provides an integrated approach to math, science, and technology. Students will first learn to analyze data in Google Sheets and code in Python. After gaining an understanding of analysis and programming in the first semester, students will use Google Sheets and Python to analyze scientific data. In quarter 3, students will complete projects, including reading scientific articles, analyzing data, and articulating conclusions. During quarter 4, students will create their own project, given a data set.

## **Applied Mathematics**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Geometry*

*Grade Level: 12*

This course is for seniors who do not wish to continue on to a calculus-based course. Topics include set theory, logic, financial management, probability and statistics, graph theory, as well as applications of linear functions, non-linear functions, and geometry.

## HIGH SCHOOL LAB SCIENCES

### Honors Biology

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level: 9*

In this exciting and hands-on course, students gain an appreciation and understanding of the intricacies of the living world as well as the larger processes at work. This course includes an emphasis on the laboratory as a means for gaining knowledge. Contents of the class include: scientific methodology, ecology, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolutionary classification and history of living things, organisms of the six kingdoms and a survey of human anatomy and physiology.

### Biology

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level: 9*

This on-level class follows an abridged program of study with more student support and teacher guidance in accessing the content.

### AP Biology

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Biology ("A" in course or teacher recommendation)*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

The rigorous AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of the general biology course taken during the first year of college. This course will intensely investigate the complexity of the biological world. This course is structured around the four big ideas articulated in the AP Biology curriculum framework provided by the College Board. A special emphasis will be placed on the seven science practices which capture important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objectives that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills. It is a rigorous course, scrutinizing biology concepts in detail. Emphasis is on concept development, critical thinking skills and application in the laboratory.

### Honors Chemistry

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This course perpetuates the idea that chemistry is the central science, overlapping with all of the other sciences. Students will explore the principles of general chemistry to include a basic understanding of the chemical nature of the world. Laboratory activities will focus on direct observations and investigations of chemistry topics.

## Chemistry

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Biology and Algebra I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This on-level class follows an abridged program of study with more student support and teacher guidance in accessing the content.

## AP Chemistry

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Chemistry ("A" in course or teacher recommendation) or AP Biology*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

The rigorous AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation in the subject, effectively preparing them for future advanced study in any STEM field. The lab oriented course follows the pathway of a typical freshman college class, and serves as comprehensive preparation for the AP exam. The course is structured around 9 fundamental topics, and lessons combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills to reinforce the 6 key science practices that underpin how scientific investigations are performed.

## Honors Physics

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This course will provide basic physics knowledge encapsulating theories and techniques, concepts and general principles. Students will ask physical questions and obtain solutions to them by use of qualitative and quantitative reasoning and by experimental investigation. Students will gain appreciation of the physical world and the discipline of physics, becoming curious and creative with reasoned skepticism. In this course, students will make connections between physics and other disciplines and to societal issues.

## Physics

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Biology*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This on-level class follows the same program of study as the Honors class but with less math, and more student support and teacher guidance in accessing the content.

## AP Physics 1

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Biology and Algebra II/Trig.*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

AP Physics 1 includes topics in both classical and modern physics. A knowledge of algebra and basic trigonometry is required for the course; the basic ideas of calculus may be introduced in connection with physical concepts, such as acceleration and work. Understanding of the basic principles involved and the ability to apply these principles in the solution of problems are major goals of the course. The course should utilize guided inquiry and student-centered learning to foster the development of critical thinking skills.

## **Earth Science**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Biology*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This course introduces students to the wonder and beauty of our planet. Through investigation and experimentation of geological structures and forces, atmospheric forces, and the waters on our planet, students gain a clear understanding of the dynamic forces at work in the world around them. The course will focus on the four key disciplines of Earth Science: Geology, Oceanography, Meteorology, and Astronomy, and will highlight both the various ways in which our lives are affected by natural forces, and the impact that humanity is having on the planet that we live on.

## **HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY**

### **Honors Western Civilization I**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9*

Western Civilization I will give students an overview of the Western world's history from the dawn of civilization to the Renaissance. The class will discuss creation myths, religions, human nature, philosophy, culture, politics, war, and the rise and fall of nations. We will explore the world of ancient philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle; we will study the empirical tactics of Alexander the Great; we will read religious texts from the Bible, the Qur'an, and the Book of the Dead, along with works of philosophy like Nicomachean Ethics and The Crito. All the while we will be asking ourselves the questions that mankind has been asking since the beginning of time: Who am I? What is my purpose? What is the nature of man and government? Using the Socratic Method, students will learn how to think, pursue truth, and apply what they have learned to their own lives.

### **Western Civilization I**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level: 9*

This class follows the same program of study as Honors Western Civilization I, but with fewer primary sources and more student support to access texts. This class also features fewer student-led activities.

### **Western Civilization II**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Western Civilization I or World History*

*Grade Level: 10*

Western Civilization II will give students an overview of Western history from the Renaissance to modern day. The class will discuss the development of philosophy, religion, society, politics, economics, and science and technology. While the class will cover such important events and trends as the decline of feudalism, the rise of the nation-state, and the impact of the printing

press, it will also focus on themes such as the relationship between security and freedom, whether or not the ends justify the means, the objectivity of truth, and the debate between progressivism and conservatism. Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Voltaire, Edmund Burke, Karl Marx, Nietzsche, and Solzhenitsyn are only a few of the thinkers the class will cover to delve into these themes. Western Civilization II will also utilize frequent Socratic Seminars to help develop the communication and critical thinking skills necessary for success both in college and everyday life.

## **AP European History**

***Full Year/1 Credit***

***Prerequisite(s): Western Civilization I ("A" in course or teacher recommendation)***

***Grade Level: 10***

This course serves as a thorough survey of the history of Europe from 1450 to the present. The course covers the Age of Discovery, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, the Reformation, Industrialization, and the World Wars. The class will also focus on themes such as the relationship between security and freedom, whether or not the ends justify the means, the objectivity of truth, and the debate between progressivism and conservatism. Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Voltaire, Edmund Burke, Karl Marx, Nietzsche, and Solzhenitsyn are only a few of the thinkers the class will cover to delve into these themes. AP European History will also utilize frequent Socratic Seminars to prepare students to be successful at an AP level.

## **AP United States History**

***Full Year/1 Credit***

***Prerequisite(s): AP European History or Teacher Recommendation***

***Grade Level: 11***

The AP United States History course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. This course is dual enrollment-eligible through MCCCDC.

## **United States History**

***Full Year/1 Credit***

***Prerequisite(s): Western Civilization II or AP European History***

***Grade Level: 11***

This course provides a one-year survey of American history from the American Revolution to the present day. Using the textbook and primary source documents and current events, students learn about the various political, social, religious, and economic developments that have shaped and continue to shape the United States. Essay writing and critical thinking are emphasized as integral ways of understanding how the past relates to the present and future.

## **AP US Government and Politics**

**1 Semester/0.5 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): AP U.S. History or Teacher Recommendation**

**Grade Level: 12**

AP Government frames the acquisition of political knowledge around enduring understandings and big ideas about American government and politics through disciplinary practices and reasoning processes. Through the development of these skills, students will be able to analyze current and historical political events like a political scientist and develop factually accurate, well-reasoned, thoughtful arguments and opinions that acknowledge and grapple with alternative political perspectives.

## **Government**

**1 Semester/0.5 Credit**

**Prerequisite: US History or AP US History**

**Grade Level: 12**

In this course, students apply knowledge gained in previous years of study to pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American Government. Students are expected to draw on their studies of world and American history, incorporating their knowledge of human and political geography. This course is the culmination of Western Civilization and U.S. History classes; the class aims to develop within the student a critical understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the American heritage, and with that, an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

## **AP Macroeconomics**

**1 Semester/0.5 Credit**

**Prerequisite: AP US History or Teacher Recommendation**

**Grade Level: 12**

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level course that focuses on whole-scale economic principles. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination; it also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

## **Economics**

**1 Semester/0.5 Credit**

**Prerequisite: AP US History or US History**

**Grade Level: 12**

Macroeconomics is an introductory economics course that focuses on the principles that apply to a whole economic system. Building from a psychological foundation, students are introduced to fundamental economic concepts such as scarcity, value, and trade before studying the macroeconomy. The course covers topics such as national accounting, price-level, employment, monetary and fiscal policy, the financial sector, the business cycle, international trade, and economic growth. Students will use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

## HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES

### Spanish I

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

Spanish I is a learning adventure. We'll master the fundamentals of Spanish vocabulary, grammar, writing, listening & speaking skills. We'll practice conversational skills daily with partners, introduce immersion-style language learning through simple classroom instructions, read short novels, sing songs and play games to advance learning. We'll also explore the culture and customs of various Spanish speaking countries around the world.

### Spanish II

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Spanish I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

Spanish II is a comprehensive study of the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world, with an emphasis on vocabulary, reading, writing, grammar, speaking/listening, and culture. This is a Spanish language immersion course that prepares the students to travel abroad with vocabulary for everyday situations. It includes short novels, songs and learning games. This is an extension of Spanish I.

### Honors Spanish III

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Spanish II*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

Spanish III explores the richness of indigenous traditions. Students continue their mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a full Spanish language immersion setting, including short novels, newspaper and magazine articles. Reading emphasizes on culture, current TV programs, radio broadcasts, and tapes comprise the listening component of the course. In addition, students write essays reflecting their understanding and interpretation. Spanish conversation is heavily emphasized. Students receive honors credit for this course. This course is dual enrollment-eligible through MCCCCD.

### AP Spanish Language

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: Spanish III*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

AP Spanish students continue their mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a full Spanish language immersion classroom. Reading is both intensive and extensive. This includes novels, newspaper and magazine articles. Reading emphasizes contemporary history and culture, current TV programs, radio broadcasts, and tapes comprise the listening component of the course. In addition, students write essays reflecting their understanding and interpretation. Spanish conversation is heavily emphasized. AP Spanish continues the teaching in Spanish III.

## **French I**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

The student will learn the fundamentals of French grammar and pronunciation and be able to converse on a limited scale about topics of everyday importance. He/she will be able to record this same information in writing and will be able to understand written and spoken French within the limits of the grammatical structures and vocabulary introduced in the course. The student will be personally involved in a variety of activities which encourage him/her to read and speak the language. In addition, the student will be exposed to various aspects of the culture of the French-speaking world.

## **French II**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: French I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

In this course, the student will continue his/her development of speaking, reading and writing skills, and increase his/her vocabulary and knowledge of basic French grammar. More emphasis will be placed on readings from topics of general interest. Cultural topics will include further exploration of current and historical events.

## **Honors French III**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite: French II*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

French III will give students an opportunity to learn more advanced grammar, to increase their speaking and writing abilities and to dive deeper into francophone culture, including discussing global issues and current events in the world as well as comparing/contrasting different cultures. Students will also begin to read and analyze beginning French literature. Students entering French III should have received a B or higher in French II. Students will receive honors credit for this course.

## **Latin I**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

Latin I is the first part of a two year study of Latin. The goal of this class is to present students with an in-depth study of the grammar, vocabulary, and idioms of Latin so that they can be reading excerpts from actual Latin texts by the end of the year. As opposed to the Introduction to Latin 8<sup>th</sup> grade course, this course will be a more rigorous study of Latin as a language. Students will also study Roman history, culture, architecture, and art. These studies will include excerpts from Roman texts and inscriptions as the students' understanding of the language allows.

## Latin II

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Latin I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

Students in Latin II will continue their study of Latin using Learn to Read Latin, Part II. In the first semester, the class will continue its development of grammatical forms and vocabulary through memorization and the practical application of translating excerpts from works of Latin literature. In the second semester, the class will transition into reading larger sections of Latin works individually and discussing them in class as literature similar to an English literature course or studying history using primary sources.

## Honors Latin III

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Latin II*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

Students will polish their understanding of the Latin language through the study of ancient Roman and other Latin authors. This seminar focuses on understanding Latin texts in light of literary themes, oratorical elements, history, and culture. This course is considered an honors level course. Latin III and Latin IV students will meet in the same class section, but the reading curriculum will alternate each year to expose both Latin III and IV students to a wide range of authors and styles. In Year A, the class will translate Cicero's First Catilinarian Oration, Roman lyric poetry, and Vergil's *Aeneid*, Books I and II. Year B will translate a comedy of Plautus, selections from Livy's history of early Rome, and Vergil's *Aeneid*, Books IV and VI. Students will receive honors credit for this course.

## German II

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): German I*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This is an interactive class that builds on the foundational skills students learned in German I. Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are expanded upon to engage students in more meaningful expression and conversation. Cultural activities are regularly integrated into lessons to familiarize students further with the diversity and traditions of the German-speaking world.

## Honors German IV

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): German III*

*Grade Level(s): 11-12*

With the foundational skills mastered, interactions in German will be deeper and more meaningful, moving from concrete to more abstract concepts. In this full immersion course, students gain confidence conversing in the language. The focus will be on fine-tuning grammar structures and broadening vocabulary. The scope of the class will include more authentic materials such as fairy tales and short stories.

## HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

### AP Music Theory

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s):** Music teacher recommendation and prior participation in Band, Choir, or Orchestra

**Grade Level(s):** 10-12

The AP Music Theory course corresponds to one or two semesters of a typical introductory college music theory course that covers topics such as musicianship, theory, musical materials, and procedures. Musicianship skills, including dictation and other listening skills, sight singing, and harmony, are considered an important part of the course. Through the course, students develop the ability to recognize, understand, and describe basic materials and processes of tonal music that are heard or presented in a score. Development of aural skills is a primary objective. Performance is also part of the curriculum through the practice of sight singing. Students understand basic concepts and terminology by listening to and performing a wide variety of music. Notational skills, speed, and fluency with basic materials are also emphasized.

### Beginning Band

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Grade Levels(s):** 7-12

Beginning Band offers the band experience at the introductory level. Students may pick from woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The goal of the class is giving students another way to express themselves while developing fundamental skills needed to perform; students are held to a high standard just like the other ensembles to ensure their success on their chosen instrument and the ability to continue into Concert band. Musical topics covered include reading music, music notation, analyzing and evaluating music, as well as composing and improvising simple melodies. Students will have the opportunity to perform during the concert season as well as various other playing opportunities. Purchase of the *Tradition of Excellence, Book 1*, is required for this ensemble.

### Concert Band

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s):** Some instrumental experience

**Grade Level(s):** 7-12

The Benjamin Franklin Concert Band is a year-long, performance-related, skill-building class that emphasizes foundational musical technique on specific instruments. This also includes significant creative elements. We perform four concerts per year and one festival; attendance is required for all. These festivals may not necessarily occur during the school day. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. This class is the continuation of ensemble instruction from the elementary level, focusing on technical skills that lead to an aesthetically pleasing performance. An audition is required of students new to Benjamin Franklin. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo, and sight reading. While no experience is necessarily required, it is highly recommended that students new to instrumental music speak with the teacher prior to the school year beginning. Purchase the *Tradition of Excellence, Book 2*, is required for his ensemble.

## **Symphonic Band**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): Audition**

**Grade Level(s): 7-12**

The Benjamin Franklin Symphonic Band is a year-long course that offers students great variety and challenge in musical performance. Students will continue the development of advanced instrumental technique, music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style, a deeper understanding of ensemble music, and wind band literature. Literature will emphasize works from the standard high school repertoire. Students will perform both in small group ensemble projects and as a large group. This also includes significant creative elements. We perform four concerts per year and one festival; attendance is required for all. These festivals may not necessarily occur during the school day. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. Fluency in the majority of major scales (at least one octave) and rudiments is required as well as familiarity with chromatic scale(s). Placement within this class is based upon audition. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo/excerpt, and sight reading. Audition requirements: Scales (chosen from major, Db-E), prepared solo/excerpt, and sight reading (most likely repertoire from previous year). Purchase of Frank Erickson books for sight and supplemented reading is required for this ensemble.

## **Wind Ensemble**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): Audition**

**Grade Level(s): 9-12**

The Benjamin Franklin Wind Ensemble is a year-long, audition-only ensemble that epitomizes all aspects of excellence in technical and musical qualities. Students will perform both in small group ensembles and as a large group. This also includes significant creative elements. We perform four concerts per year and one festival; attendance is required for all. These festivals may not necessarily occur during the school day. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. Fluency in all scales (number of octaves is dependent on instrument, including chromatic) and rudiments is required. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo, and sight reading. Audition requirements: Scales (chosen from all 12 major/minor and chromatic), solo/excerpt, and sight reading (most likely repertoire from previous year). Purchase of Frank Erickson books for sight and supplemented reading is required for this ensemble.

## **Bella Voce**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 9-12**

A non-auditioned choir for sopranos and altos in grades 9-12. *Bella Voce* provides a foundational treble choir experience with a focus on developing healthy vocal technique, music literacy, and aural skills. Singers in *Bella Voce* will study and perform choral repertoire from a variety of genres including classical, folk, jazz, spirituals, world music, popular music, and musical theater. This choir performs 4 required concerts per year. A class fee is required, plus

purchase of the performance uniform. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden.

## **Forte Choir**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 9-12**

A non-auditioned choir for tenors and basses in grades 9-12. *Forte Men's Chorale* provides a foundational tenor/bass choir experience with a focus on developing healthy vocal technique, music literacy, and aural skills. Singers in *Forte* will study and perform choral repertoire from a variety of genres including classical, folk, jazz, spirituals, world music, popular music, and musical theater. This choir performs 4 required concerts per year. A class fee is required, plus purchase of the performance uniform. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden.

## **Cantus**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): 1 year of Bella Voce or Forte AND an in-person audition**

**Grade Level(s): 10-12**

An auditioned choir for experienced 10-12th grade men and women. Members of Cantus have well-developed vocal technique, excellent music reading ability, and can sing in 4-8 part harmony. Cantus studies and performs a wide variety of music from the choral canon including classical, folk songs, major orchestral works, spirituals, world music, and musical theater. Cantus performs four required concerts per year and two competitive festivals per year. Additionally, members of Cantus have the opportunity to travel out of state for exciting musical travel experiences during the spring semester. Students in this choir are encouraged to audition for the Southwest Regional Choir. A class fee is required, plus purchase of the performance uniform. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden. Email or speak to the director to schedule an audition ([habney@bfcsaz.com](mailto:habney@bfcsaz.com)).

## **Charger Voices**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): 1 year of Cantus AND an in-person audition**

**Grade Level(s): 11-12**

Charger Voices is Benjamin Franklin High School's premiere vocal ensemble. Singers in Charger Voices have highly developed vocal technique in both classical and contemporary styles. They are able to sing with excellent intonation, independently sing complex harmonies and rhythms, and display exemplary music reading and aural skills. This class will study and perform a wide variety of vocal music, spanning from Renaissance madrigals through contemporary jazz and a cappella. Members of this choir are required to audition for the Southwest Regional Choir. This choir performs four required concerts per year, three competitive festivals per year, and represents the choral program at various athletic and community events throughout the school year. Additionally, members of Charger Voices are expected to travel out of state for exciting musical travel experiences during the spring semester. Purchase of a uniform is required for this

ensemble. Members of Charger Voices are also required to be simultaneously enrolled in Cantus (exceptions **may** be made for students enrolled in EVIT).

## **String Orchestra**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 7-12**

Beginning Strings offers a beginning instruction on violin, viola, cello, and string bass for those desiring to learn to play a string instrument. This course will focus on the fundamental skills necessary for progression through the BFHS orchestra programs including long-term success. Students grade 7 - 12 are welcome. No audition is required for placement in this course - all that is necessary is the desire and motivation to study a musical instrument! Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of characteristic tone quality, reading music, notation and rhythm, beginning music theory, ear training, and additional areas of music literacy. Students will have the opportunity to perform in quarterly concerts as well as other playing opportunities. This class is ideal for those who were unable or only partially able to participate in an instrumental music class during previous school experiences as well as for those who may have experience and need a review including: reinforcement of music reading, playing fundamentals and technique that are vital for lasting musical development.

## **Concert Orchestra**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): Some instrumental experience**

**Grade Level(s): 7-12**

This is the first introduction to the musical expectations held at BFHS. As the logical next step to an elementary level music education, we start the year with beginning shifting, two octave scales, rhythm counting, the rudiments of vibrato, and basic listening dictations. Placement in this orchestra requires a willingness to challenge yourself to reach the next level of musicianship. No experience is necessary to be placed in the orchestra, but diligence in practicing is required. We strive to create a positive learning environment where students are encouraged to venture out of their comfort zones to create beautiful music. Students are required to perform in four mandatory concerts a year. Students are expected to stay for the duration of each concert and will be graded on their attendance. The orchestra will also be participating in one or two competitions (festivals) that are also mandatory and will be graded based on attendance and behavior. Auditions for this orchestra take place at the beginning of the year (for new students). All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

## **Symphonic Orchestra**

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): Audition**

**Grade Level(s): 7-12**

As is the case for all BFHS orchestras, placement into Symphonic Strings is dependent on skill level and not grade level. Students will begin the year with two octave scales, advanced rhythm counting, shifting, and intermediate listening dictations. Towards the middle of the year, students will be beginning three octave scales, becoming comfortable with vibrato, and

fostering a deeper understanding of performance strategy. Placement in this orchestra requires at least three years' experience on your instrument (exceptions may occur based on ability), an advanced understanding of musical terms such as solfege, key signatures, and time signatures, and most importantly a growing respect for the musical process and high levels of achievement. Students are required to perform in four mandatory concerts a year. Students are expected to stay for the duration of each concert and will be graded on their attendance. The orchestra will also be participating in one or two competitions, called festivals, which are also mandatory and will be graded based on attendance and behavior. There will also be several competition opportunities for students who are interested. Auditions for this orchestra take place at the beginning of the year (for incoming students). All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

## **Chamber Orchestra**

***Full Year/1 Credit***

***Prerequisite(s): Audition***

***Grade Level(s): 9-12***

The Chamber Orchestra will be composed of high school students who have demonstrated dedication to their instrument in the form of consistent practice and who take private lessons on their instrument from a teacher. Placement in the Chamber Orchestra requires at least four years of experience on their instrument (exceptions may occur based on ability), an extensive knowledge of music theory (including key signatures, time signatures, rhythm reading, and solfege) and a strong command of all major scales. Students in the Chamber Orchestra will be encouraged to challenge themselves to achieve at their highest level in a safe environment where mistakes are part of the learning process. They will also learn to respect the process of creating beautiful music through personal practice and classroom diligence. Chamber Orchestra students will be graded on four mandatory concerts a year, and they are required to stay for the duration of the concert. Chamber Orchestra will also be participating in one or two competitions which are also mandatory and graded. Other competition opportunities will also be available at the solo level for students who are planning to further develop their playing. Auditions for this orchestra take place at the beginning of the year (for incoming students). See orchestra website for materials and requirements.

## **Introduction to Ballet/Jazz**

***Full Year/1 Credit***

***Prerequisite(s): None***

***Grade Level(s): 7-12***

This yearlong course is an introduction to the basics of ballet and jazz, this class will include daily technique, introductory ballet, jazz, contemporary, and lyrical repertoire, weekly dance vocabulary, two annual concerts, and student choreography opportunities. In this course, students will learn the rudimentary positions of classical ballet and jazz dance. Students will work on building a dance vocabulary physically and mentally, improving alignment, increasing flexibility/strength, and increasing artistry through the medium of dance. A focused effort will be made to help students develop the proper muscle groups for safely performing the positions of classical ballet and jazz through a series of floor-barre exercises. Students will be assessed each quarter on technical skills learned in class. Students will be required to learn ballet and

anatomical vocabulary in class. There will be weekly quizzes on these terms. The course fee to cover costumes and performance expenses is **\$50.00**. In addition, students will be required to obtain their own dance attire and shoes. There is an extracurricular component to this course. It is essential that all students and parents understand the required dates as outlined in the syllabus, mark their calendars, and plan accordingly.

## **Intermediate Ballet/Jazz**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Ballet/Jazz or Audition*

*Grade Level(s): 7-12*

The prerequisite for this course is Introductory Ballet/Jazz (or by audition). Building upon the basics of ballet and jazz, this yearlong class will include daily technique, intermediate ballet, jazz, and lyrical repertoire, weekly dance vocabulary and history, two annual concerts, and student choreography opportunities. In this course students will build upon the rudimentary positions of classical ballet and jazz dance. Students will work on building a dance vocabulary physically and mentally, improving alignment, increasing flexibility/strength, and increasing artistry through the medium of dance. A focused effort will be made to help students develop the proper muscle groups for safely performing the positions of classical ballet and jazz through a series of floor, barre, and center exercises. Students will be assessed each quarter on technical skills learned in class. Students will be required to learn ballet and anatomical vocabulary in class. There will be weekly quizzes on these terms. The course fee to cover costumes and performance expenses is **\$50.00**. In addition, students will be required to obtain their own dance attire and shoes. There is an extracurricular component to this course. It is essential that all students and parents understand the required dates as outlined in the syllabus, mark their calendars, and plan accordingly.

## **Advanced Dance**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Ballet/Jazz or Audition*

*Grade Level(s): 8-12*

Building upon the intermediate ballet and jazz course, this yearlong class will include daily technique, ballet, jazz, and contemporary repertoire, two annual concerts, and student choreography opportunities. Students enrolling in this class should have taken Introduction and Intermediate Dance or have completed a private audition. In this course, students will build upon the intermediate steps of classical ballet and jazz dance. Students will work on building a dance vocabulary physically and mentally, improving alignment, increasing flexibility/strength, and increasing artistry through the medium of dance. Female students showing sufficient strength may be put on pointe for basic barre work. Please note pointe work requires special shoes and additional expenses for which students must plan accordingly). Though the class will be primarily focused on the practice of the art form, students will be expected to develop their understanding of the vocabulary and history of dance. The course fee to cover costumes and performance expenses is **\$75.00**. In addition, students will be required to obtain their own dance attire and shoes.

## **Saltatrix (formerly Advanced Dance Elite)**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Audition*

*Grade Level(s): 8-12*

This class is solely for students who have auditioned and been accepted into this top level curricular dance class. Students most often have taken all dance classes through advanced when they audition or bring a high level of technical experience. Students will perform for various school events, at least one alternate performance opportunity (such as Phoenix Suns or something similar), as well as represent Benjamin Franklin High School in the annual AZDEO High School Dance Festival and a spring competition. Students are expected to maintain eligibility, great team unity, work ethic and growth mindset in this fast-paced group! **A class fee of \$75 is required for various costuming needs as well as booster club fees between \$100 to \$150 for a jacket and competition fees.**

## **Ballroom Dance**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

This class familiarizes students with the fundamentals and benefits of social dance. We will cover the basics of waltz, foxtrot, tango, rumba, cha-cha, East Coast and Lindy swing. Second year students will be introduced to more advanced bronze steps and some silver steps. Each semester students will be required to perform in the dance concert. Students will be required to buy a pair of suede ballroom or character shoes (est. cost \$30.00). Students should wear comfortable modest athletic clothing. Gentlemen must wear modest athletic clothing. Ladies will wear modest athletic tops and modest leggings. Tardiness and disregard for the uniform will adversely affect a student's participation grade. There is an extracurricular component to this course. It is essential that all students and parents understand the required dates as outlined in the syllabus, mark their calendars, and plan accordingly. This class is also taught at the advanced level. **A class fee of \$25 is required** for various costuming and other class prop needs.

## **Advanced Ballroom Dance**

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Ballroom Dance or audition*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

This class is an intermediate/advanced study of both American and International styles of ballroom with an emphasis on choreography and performance. Students will be introduced to more advanced silver steps and some gold steps. Each semester students will be required to perform in 2-3 school events including the dance concert. Students will be required to buy a pair of suede ballroom or character shoes (est. cost \$30.00-will be purchased as a team). Gentlemen must wear modest athletic clothing. Ladies will wear modest athletic tops and modest leggings. Tardiness and disregard for the uniform will adversely affect a student's participation grade. There is an extracurricular component to this course. It is essential that all students and parents understand the required dates as outlined in the syllabus, mark their calendars, and plan accordingly. **A class fee of \$40 is required** for various costuming and other class prop needs.

## Art I

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 7-12*

Students will learn basic features of visual design as they work through various projects and skills using a variety of mediums. The program's intent is to foster confidence and help budding artists realize their potential. **A class fee of \$30 is required** for various art supply needs.

## Art II

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Art I*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

This course builds on concepts learned from Art I. Students will create visual compositions as they incorporate the elements and principles of art. Art principles, design techniques and mediums will be introduced to expand the artists' skills and experiences. **A class fee of \$30 is required** for various art supply needs.

## Advanced Art

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Art II or teacher recommendation*

*Grade Level(s): 10-12*

This class is for advanced students who have excelled in the High School Art II program. These students must be personally signed in by the class instructor. A recommendation from a former fine arts instructor is encouraged when transferring from another school. The course will reinforce skills and concepts introduced in the High School Art Programs I and II, as well as present new painting techniques through the use of water color, oil pastel and acrylic. In addition to the instructor directed assignments, students will also be responsible for their own "Independent Project" and any "Civic" projects that may be requested. **Teacher approval and a class fee of \$30 is required** for various art supply needs.

## Ceramics I

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade Level(s): 7-12*

Students will learn the basics of sculpting and modeling earthenware clay as they learn different techniques of wedging, coiling, slab construction, carving, and wheel spinning. Students will be able to identify clay projects in different stages of the creative process: dry, plastic, slip, leather hard, bone-dry, bisqueware, and glazeware. In addition, they will learn to use secondary mediums such as acrylic and glaze to finish their projects. The goal of this class is to introduce and allow students to explore three-dimensional art while inspiring a deeper desire to work with 3D art mediums. There is a **\$40 class fee due at Charger Days**.

## Theater I

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 7-12**

This yearlong course is a performance driven introduction to theater focusing on acting technique, monologue work, scene work, improvisation, and play production and performance. Written homework will be limited, but line memorization will be a huge component of this course. The planned curriculum will include two productions – one each semester. In addition, students will have the opportunity to create sets and props, run tech, and sew costumes. There is a course fee associated with this class – **\$40.00 due at Charger Days** – that goes towards class materials and production expenses.

## Theater II

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 9-12**

This yearlong course is a continuation of what students learned in Theater I. The monologue work, scene work, improvisation, and play production and performance will be more time-intensive than in Theater I. The planned curriculum will include two productions – one each semester – as well as line memorization and written homework. Students will work in partnership with the Technical Theater class to create sets and props, run tech, and sew costumes. There is a course fee associated with this class – **\$40.00 due at Charger Days** – that goes towards class materials and production expenses.

## Technical Theater

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 9-12**

Technical Theater prepares students to participate in the technical and management areas of the performing arts industry. Students will be provided with an integrated approach to teaching and learning as they develop the technical knowledge and skills associated with the performing arts and entertainment industry.

## Guitar

**Full Year/1 Credit**

**Prerequisite(s): None**

**Grade Level(s): 10-12**

Guitar will focus on developing musicianship skills through the medium of the guitar. We will learn the basics of playing guitar (including finger positions, various chords, multiple forms of music notation, chord progressions, etc.), its role in music-making (currently and historically), applicable music theory, and the development of popular music (focusing on the 20th century to the present). We will also cover musical styles involving guitar (or guitar-like) instruments. Students will perform music individually, in small groups, and as a large guitar ensemble. There will be a cumulative final project near the end of the course. A primary objective of this course is to prepare students for a life of thoughtful music involvement. Purchase of the *Christopher Parkening Method, Book 1*, is required for this course.

## Speech & Debate

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

This course explores and informs students on a wide breadth of public speaking skills, including: Extemporaneous Speaking, Expository Speaking, Original Oratory, Oral Interpretation (prose and poetry), and Impromptu Speaking. Additionally, students are introduced to basic researching, argumentation, questioning, and rebuttal skills through a variety and range of debate disciplines, including: Policy (Cross-Examination) Debate, Congressional Debate, Public Forum Debate, and Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Skill focus includes the development of techniques in diction, articulation, enunciation and projection. Students begin to analyze pieces of literature, create and deliver orations, write arguments, and evaluate performances. Students have the opportunity to participate in local and state level Speech and Debate (Forensic) Competitions.

## Yearbook

*Full Year/1 Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Teacher recommendation*

*Grade Level(s): 7-12*

This course is designed for students who love to write and design. Students will function as staff members and learn various aspects of the yearbook publication process such as layout and design, copywriting, photography, budget and finance, and promotion and publicity. Students are responsible for producing complete layouts in order to meet publication deadlines. **Teacher approval required.**

## ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

### HS Physical Education

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

The purpose of Physical Education is to provide students the opportunity to acquire the skills needed to make positive decisions about a healthy, physically active lifestyle. This is achieved through physical activity and both individual and team sports. This course will strive to enhance the mental, social and moral development of students and teach them positive life skills. The course will concentrate on fundamentals, sportsmanship, and character building. **P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform. P.E. uniforms may be purchased for \$15 during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

### HS Weight Training

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

The purpose of Weight Training is to provide students the same opportunities as the regular Physical Education Class but all activities will center around strength and conditioning in the weight room. **P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform. P.E. uniforms may be purchased for \$15 during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

### Athletic Weight Training

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Coach and Athletic Director Approval*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

Workouts will be geared specifically for the high school athlete. Any student planning on participating in extracurricular athletics should seriously consider enrolling in this class. **P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform. P.E. uniforms may be purchased for \$15 during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

### Specialty Dance Technique and Performance

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Audition required*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

This yearlong course focuses on hip hop, jazz, and pom technique including, but not limited to: jazz pirouettes; a la seconde turns; leaps; aerials and acrobatics; pom motions; and hip hop styling. Students will focus on implementing correct technique while performing artistic choreography. Students will also learn proper aerobic and anaerobic conditioning.

## Student Government (STUGO)

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): Elected and appointed students*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

This course is for elected and appointed student body officers and student representatives. The purpose of this class is to develop and encourage the leadership skills needed by an effective student leader. Students will learn parliamentary procedure and meeting facilitation skills ; the planning and implementation of class, club and school activities; budget management; resource and time management skills; communication and public speaking skills; organizational and problem solving skills; marketing and promotional skills; and community service awareness. Students will need to attend one or two summer meetings. The number of hours that will be required outside of class will be determined at the beginning of the quarter and will vary based on the number of student body activities.

## Western Classical Civilization and Culture

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

Our modern American civilization is steeped in cultural heritage derived from the Classical cultures of the West. Appreciating and understanding this heritage is key to being a well-educated citizen; history and the canon of literature provide us both excellent examples to imitate and terrible warnings to avoid as we navigate art, historical narrative, entertainment media, and even political agenda in America. Each quarter we will examine primary sources in one or two Classical genres, tracing their foundations through time from their Greek and Roman origins into their influence in our modern world. Understanding the Classical foundations of art and material culture, historical writings, philosophy, political theory, drama, and lyric and epic poetry will deepen our care for the protection of the worthy aspects of Western Classical civilization, and enable us to be truly informed participants in the great conversation of the West.

## Yoga

*Full Year/1 Elective Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

As this is a Physical Education class, the general purpose of the course is to promote life-long physical activity and to develop an understanding of the benefits of being healthy. Through the practice of yoga, students will become more physically, mentally, energetically, and emotionally fit. Students will practice yoga for strength, flexibility, and relaxation. Yoga students will learn concepts of physical fitness, identify stress reduction techniques, gain an increased ability to concentrate, and develop a Personal Fitness Plan to support a lifetime of fitness. The class will also cover techniques for increasing concentration and decreasing anxiety which leads to stronger academic performance. **P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic socks (barefoot optional) and the Charger P.E. uniform. P.E. uniforms may be purchased for \$15 during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

## **Release Time**

*Full Year/No Credit*

*Prerequisite(s): None*

*Grade Level(s): 9-12*

Release time is not a course at BFHS. Choosing this course will enable students to have a designated class period that will be excluded on their course schedule in order to attend religious instruction. **A zero hour or seventh hour class will be required to complete a schedule that incorporates Release Time.**