



PALMDALE HIGH SCHOOL



2025-2026 Course Catalog

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AVUHSD Graduation Requirements

Subject	Credits
(A) Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World History ▪ U.S. History ▪ Civics ▪ Economics 	10 10 5 5
(B) English	40
(C) Mathematics (Must pass Algebra 1)	30
(D) Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Life ▪ Physical 	10 10
(E) Foreign Language / (F) Visual or Performing Arts	10
Health	10
Physical Education	20
Electives	70
Submission of FAFSA or CADAA	
Total Credits	230

10 credits are equal to 1 year

A-G University Requirements

Subject	Years Required	Years Recommended
(A) History / Social Science	3	
(B) English	4	
(C) Mathematics	3	4
(D) Laboratory Science	2	3-4
(E) Language other than English	2	3-4
(F) Visual & Performing Arts	1	
(G) College Preparatory Electives	1	

1 year is equal to 10 credits



Post High School Education

Students are encouraged to seek academic, vocational, and college counseling throughout their four-year stay at Palmdale. In this way students can make certain that they are taking appropriate vocational courses or are satisfying admissions requirements for the college of their choice.

California Community (Junior) Colleges

Community Colleges admit any student who is a graduate of a high school or is at least 18 years of age. Antelope Valley College is our local community college. However, students may attend a community college outside of the Antelope Valley.

To apply: <https://home.cccapply.org/en/>

California State University System

Admission is based upon the student's grade point average (grades obtained in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, excluding P.E.) and bonus points for each "C" or better in approved honors courses, in ratio with an SAT or ACT score. Students with a GPA lower than 2.0 do not qualify for regular admission. The complete Eligibility Index table is available on the website. Students must complete a specific course sequence called the "a-g" pattern of courses and receive a "C" or better in each course in order to be considered for admission.

To apply: <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply>

University of California System

Students have to meet the same "a-g" pattern as the California State University system. The courses you take to fulfill the Subject Requirement must be certified by the University as meeting the requirement and must be included on your high school's UC certified course list. Your counselor will have a copy of this list.

To apply: <https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/my-application/login>

Private Colleges & Universities

Entrance requirements vary from institution to institution. It is important, therefore, that students check each individual college or university website for their requirements and application process. Serious consideration concerning college applications should begin no later than the 11th grade. Students are encouraged to see their counselor for college and financial aid information.

Common App: <https://www.commonapp.org/>



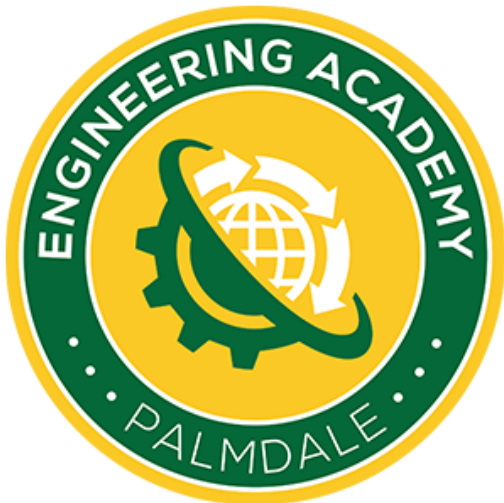
Programs

Students attending Palmdale High School can select from several different programs, academies and pathways. These include:

- HONORS PROGRAM – open to grades: 9-12
- AGRICULTURE PATHWAY – open to grades: 9-12
- ADVANCED PLACEMENT – open to grades: 10-12
- AVID – open to grades: 9-12
Contact Maria Hvolboll via email at mhvolboll@avhsd.org
For information: <https://sites.google.com/avhsd.org/avid-phs/home>
- ENGINEERING ACADEMY – open to grades: 9-12
Contact William Curzi via email at wcurzi@avhsd.org
For information: www.phsengineeringacademy.weebly.com
- HEALTH CAREERS ACADEMY – open to grades: 9-12
Contact Deb DiMeglio via email at ddimeglio@avhsd.org
or Angela Hefter at AHefter@avhsd.org
For information: <https://www.palmdalehs.org/programs/health-careers-academy>



Advancement via Individual Determination





Course Descriptions

**Denotes A-G Approved Courses

AVID

AVID 1**

Description: This class focuses on the development of academic skills that will help students prepare for and succeed in college. Subjects covered include college and scholarship information, organization, time management, and study groups. Students will work together frequently and will attend college field trips and information sessions.

Prerequisites: 9th grade, Application and Interview

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

AVID 2**

Description: This class focuses on the development of academic skills that will help students prepare for and succeed in college. Subjects covered include college and scholarship information, organization, time management, and study groups. Students will work together frequently and will attend college field trips and information sessions.

Prerequisites: 10th grade, Application and Interview

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

AVID 3**

Description: This class focuses on the development of academic skills that will help students prepare for and succeed in college. Subjects covered include college and scholarship information, organization, time management, and study groups. Students will work together frequently and will attend college field trips and information sessions.

Prerequisites: 11th grade, Application and Interview

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

AVID 4**

Description: This class focuses on the development of academic skills that will help students prepare for and succeed in college. Subjects covered include college and scholarship information, organization, time management, and study groups. Students will work together frequently and will attend college field trips and information sessions.

Prerequisites: 12th grade, Application and Interview

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective



Advancement via Individual
Determination



Agricultural Science

AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGY**

Description: Agriculture Biology explores the science behind food production. Students will learn about plant biology, animal systems, and how sustainable practices can help protect the environment. Topics include crop production, soil health, water management, and ways to grow food without harming the planet. Students will also develop business and leadership skills through Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects and FFA activities.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

AGRICULTURE CHEMISTRY**

Description: In Ag Chemistry students will study the role of chemistry in agriculture. They'll learn how different chemicals affect plants, animals, and the environment. Topics include soil types, fertilizers, pesticides, and how to improve soil health for better crop yields while minimizing environmental damage. Students will also develop business and leadership skills through Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects and FFA activities.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

AGRICULTURE EARTH SCIENCE**

Description: In Ag Earth Science, students will explore the Earth's systems and how they relate to agriculture. Topics include the study of weather, climate, water cycles, and geology, all with a focus on how they impact agriculture and land use. Students will gain a deeper understanding of how natural resources affect agricultural practices. Students will also develop business and leadership skills through Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects and FFA activities.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

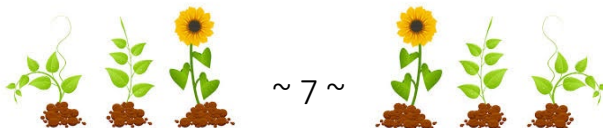
ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE SCIENCE**

Description: Horticulture focuses on the science of growing and maintaining plants, including flowers, trees, and shrubs. Students will learn how to care for plants in various environments, from gardens to greenhouses. They will also explore how plants are important for the environment and how to grow them sustainably. Students will also develop business and leadership skills through Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects and FFA activities.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective





Behavioral Science

HEALTHFUL LIVING

Description: Healthful Living, a general health class, is based on the philosophy that both prevention and rehabilitation are important to lifelong wellness. The course offers enriching experiences for the pupil to recognize the extensive techniques available to overcome such teenage experiences as low self-esteem, stress management, peer pressure, substance use and abuse, teenage sexuality, and decision-making leading to constructive life goals. Additional health subjects, such as nutrition and eating disorders, diseases, personal relationships, human reproduction, sexually transmitted diseases, and child abuse, are taught with an emphasis on the practical aspects of adjusting healthful living topics with their families. It is hoped that values and morals of the family unit are strengthened as a result of this parent/child communication.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

AVID HEALTH SURVEY

Description: Healthful Living, a general health class, is based on the philosophy that both prevention and rehabilitation are important to lifelong wellness. The course offers enriching experiences for the pupil to recognize the extensive techniques available to overcome such teenage experiences as low self-esteem, stress management, peer pressure, substance use and abuse, teenage sexuality, and decision-making leading to constructive life goals. Additional health subjects, such as nutrition and eating disorders, diseases, personal relationships, human reproduction, sexually transmitted diseases, and child abuse, are taught with an emphasis on the practical aspects of adjusting healthful living topics with their families. It is hoped that values and morals of the family unit are strengthened as a result of this parent/child communication.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PSYCHOLOGY**

Description: Psychology is the science dealing with behavioral, mental and emotional processes, and with the relationship between the organism's environment, heredity and physical state. As a science, psychology is based upon scientific research and empirical data. Students enrolled in this course are introduced to psychological phenomena, facts, theories, and treatments associated with the major sub fields of psychology. The course content includes: the history of psychology; research methods; biopsychology; consciousness; cognition; human development; personality; mental disorders; treatments; and socio-cultural influences upon an individual.

Prerequisites: Grades 11– 12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

PSYCHOLOGY AP**

Description: This course will introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental process of humans as well as other animals. Students will study psychological facts, principals, and phenomena associated with the major sub fields of psychology as well as methods used by psychologists in their science and practice. The learning experience will be equivalent to most college introductory psychology courses. This course will prepare students to take the exam for Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology.

Prerequisites: Grades 11-12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective



English

ENGLISH 9**

Description: In English 9 students continue to develop and refine essential skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Through the study of core works of literature, nonfiction, supplementary and technical texts, students will develop proficiency in reading for a variety of purposes. By interpreting and creating texts in response to the literature, students will come to understand, participate in, and contribute to a common literary heritage. Students will learn to analyze texts from the world of literature and the real-life world (such as newspapers, journals, and essays) and cogently express applications to their own lives through writing and speaking. By applying and generating technical texts, students will develop competencies that will prepare them for life in the workplace. Additionally, they will exercise and refine their abilities to speak to different audiences for a variety of purposes. The difference between English 9 and subsequent courses lies in the length, complexity, sophistication, and range of source materials.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH 9 HONORS**

Description: In English 9 Honors students continue to develop and refine essential skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening using high order thinking and critical analysis. Through the study of core works of literature, nonfiction, supplementary and technical texts, students will develop excellence in reading for a variety of purposes. By interpreting and creating texts in response to the literature, students will come to understand, participate in, and contribute to a common literary heritage. Students will learn to analyze texts from the world of literature and the real-life world (such as newspapers, journals, and essays) and cogently express applications to their own lives through writing and speaking. By applying and generating technical texts, students will develop competencies that will prepare them for life in college or a career. Additionally, they will exercise and refine their abilities to speak to different audiences for a variety of purposes. The difference between English 9 and Honors lies in the length, complexity, sophistication, and range of source materials, including summer reading.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English



ENGLISH 10**

Description: In English 10 students continue to develop and refine essential skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Through the study of core works of literature, nonfiction, supplementary and technical texts, students will develop proficiency in reading for a variety of purposes. By interpreting and creating texts in response to the literature, students will come to understand, participate in, and contribute to a common literary heritage. Students will learn to analyze texts from the world of literature and the real-life world (such as newspapers, journals, and essays) and cogently express applications to their own lives through writing and speaking. By applying and generating technical texts, students will develop competencies that will prepare them for life in college or a career. Additionally, they will exercise and refine their abilities to speak to different audiences for a variety of purposes. The difference between English 10 and previous and subsequent English courses lies in the length, complexity, sophistication, and range of source materials.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH 10 HONORS**

Description: In English 10 Honors students continue their growth in the life skills of reading, writing, speaking, thinking and listening. Through the study of core works of literature, nonfiction, supplementary and technical texts, students will develop their verbal processing and designing skills, steadily increasing their capacities. Through oral and written response to the literature, students will come to understand and appreciate a common literary heritage. Students will learn to analyze and comprehend material from literature and info text (such as newspapers, journals, and essays) and make useful applications to their own personal and professional lives. Additionally, they will exercise and refine their abilities to speak to different audiences for a variety of purposes. The honors students will be held to a higher standard of acceptable work.

Prerequisites: English 9 Honors with 'C' or better or teacher recommendation

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH 11**

Description: In English 11 students continue to develop and refine essential skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Through the study of core works of American fiction, nonfiction, public documents and technical texts, students will develop proficiency in reading for a variety of purposes. By interpreting and creating texts in response to the literature, students will come to understand, participate in, and contribute to a common literary and cultural heritage. Students will learn to analyze texts from the literature and the real-life world (such as newspapers, journals, and essays) and cogently express applications to their own lives through writing and speaking. By applying and generating technical texts, students will develop competencies that will prepare them for life in college and for a career. Additionally, they will exercise and refine their abilities to speak to different audiences for a variety of purposes. The difference between English 11 and subsequent courses lies in the length, complexity, sophistication, and range of source materials.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English



ENGLISH 12**

Description: In English 12 students continue to develop and refine essential skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Through the study of core works of world fiction, nonfiction, supplementary and technical texts, students will develop proficiency in reading for a variety of purposes. By interpreting and creating texts in response to the literature, students will come to understand and appreciate their shared humanity. Students will learn to analyze texts from the world of literature and the real-life world (such as newspapers, journals, and essays) and cogently express applications to their own lives through writing and speaking. By applying and generating technical texts, students will develop competencies that will prepare them for life in the workplace. Additionally, they will exercise and refine their abilities to speak to different audiences for a variety of purposes. The difference between English 12 and previous English courses lies in the length, complexity, sophistication, and range of source materials.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH 12 - ETHNIC CULTURES**

Description: English 12 Ethnic Cultures is a rigorous college preparatory course designed to expose students to a broad range of informational text and literary traditions. Students read novels, short stories, drama, poetry, and nonfiction works, with an emphasis on ethnic experiences and traditions that have affected American culture from its beginnings, but have historically not held equal academic consideration. Students analyze informational text and literary works with a critical eye, all while considering the original formation and current re-imagining of the American literary canon. Informed by an ever-expanding awareness of issues faced by ethnic American communities, and an ever-expanding literary knowledge base, students refine their skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH 12 - FILM AND LITERATURE**

Description: This college preparatory course explores the complex interplay between film and literature. Selected novels, short stories and plays are analyzed in relation to film versions of the same works in order to gain an understanding of the possibilities—and problems—involved in the adaptation to film. Students will learn to identify, understand and communicate the strengths and weaknesses that exist in each medium. Students will learn how to understand texts on various levels, including all literary techniques and learning how to analyze films not just analytically, but dramatically and cinematically. By the end of this course, you will have a better grasp of how films are created and a deeper appreciation for the art form.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English



ENGLISH 12 - SCIENCE FICTION**

Description: Students in English 12 Science Fiction examine seminal texts ranging from ancient Greek myth to modern fantasy. The course takes a chronological approach to the texts, and focuses on the impact of imaginative works on world literature. Students develop core reading and writing skills including historical analysis, critical approaches to texts, reference to expository works related to the subject, and ability to produce texts in a variety of modes. Students also examine works of science fiction and fantasy and make connections between the authors' themes and their own experiences through cooperative projects, writing, and public speaking.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION AP**

Description: AP Composition emphasizes expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication as well as personal and reflective writing that fosters the development of writing in any context. Students are expected to express ideas in a concise, persuasive, and logical manner, focusing on the elements of rhetoric, such as purpose, audience, form, and tone in both their own writing and assigned readings. Students are expected to read independently various genres by American writers of literary merit, including novels, speeches, etc. Students are encouraged to take the A.P. College Board Exam, which provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit and appropriate placements at the university level.

Prerequisites: "C" or better in English 10 Honors, or teacher recommendation

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION AP**

Description: Through a study of English and Continental literature from the 16th century to the present, the student will refine skills of literary analysis and criticism, writing, speaking, listening, academic research and close reading for meaning and significance. Students will read extensively from a wide variety of literary works, some of which are taught in college-level English courses. Regular in-depth discussion, analysis and interpretation of challenging works will lead the student to an enriched understanding of our common cultural heritage with peoples of the world. This course is also designed to prepare the student to achieve success on the Advanced Placement Examination in English Literature and Composition administered by the College Board.

Prerequisites: "B" or better in English Language and Composition AP, or teacher recommendation

Total Credits: 5 per semester

B - English



ENGLISH 101**

Description: This course is designed to promote standard college-level writing and awareness of academic formats, conventions, and expectations. Readings and written assignments encourage and facilitate the use of critical thinking skills, textual analysis, rhetorical strategies, and informational literacy. The course includes a documented research paper and prepares students for academic coursework across the disciplines and for preparation to transfer institutions.

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation, C or better in previous English courses

Total Credits: 10 per semester (One semester course, second semester is English 102)

B - English

ENGLISH 102**

Description: Using literature and literary analysis as the subject matter, this advanced composition course offers students instruction and practice in critical reading, thinking, and writing. Students will learn to create effective arguments that demonstrate their ability to reason logically, to recognize the structural, rhetorical, and aesthetic features of both primary and secondary texts, and to engage and converse with a variety of perspectives and approaches from different literary genres and traditions.

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation, C or better in previous English courses

Total Credits: 10 per semester (One semester course, first semester is English 101)

B - English



English Language Development

DESIGNATED EL DEVELOPMENT 1

Description: The class is not grade specific. This class is designed to meet the needs of students by developing their English oral, listening, reading, and writing skills. Students will work towards meeting the language proficiency standards. These standards are part of the Listening, Speaking, Reading, Word Analysis, Reading Fluency, Systematic Vocabulary Development, Reading Comprehension, Writing Strategies and Applications, Writing Conventions, and Literary Response and Analysis Strands.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

DESIGNATED EL DEVELOPMENT 2

Description: The class is not grade specific. This class is designed to meet the needs of students by developing their English oral, listening, reading, and writing skills. Students will work towards meeting the language proficiency standards. These standards are part of the Listening, Speaking, Reading, Word Analysis, Reading Fluency, Systematic Vocabulary Development, Reading Comprehension, Writing Strategies and Applications, Writing Conventions, and Literary Response and Analysis Strands.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester



Engineering Academy

COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING-HONORS (CIM)**

Description: Manufactured items are part of everyday life, yet most students have not been introduced to the high-tech, innovative nature of modern manufacturing. This course illuminates the opportunities related to understanding manufacturing. At the same time, it teaches students about manufacturing processes, product design, robotics, and automation.

Prerequisites: 11th grade, completion of Principles of Engineering (POE)

Total Credits: 5 per semester (Completion of this course can earn students' college credit)

G - College Preparatory Elective

DRONE 1 – INTRODUCTION TO UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS**

Description: This is an after-school program that explores the use and operation of drones as well as has an emphasis on designing, building and racing drones at local, national and international competitions. From first person view drone racing to photography, and engineering competitions, students will have fun learning about drones through hands-on activities.

Prerequisites: Open to 9th-12th grade, concurrent enrollment in the Engineering Academy

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

DRONE 2 – UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS DESIGN PROD**

Description: This is an after-school program that explores the use and operation of drones as well as has an emphasis on designing, building and racing drones at local, national and international competitions. From first person view drone racing to photography, and engineering competitions, students will have fun learning about drones through hands-on activities.

Prerequisites: Completion of Drone 1; 10th-12th grade, concurrent enrollment in the Engineering Academy

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

DRONE 3 – (WAITING ON OFFICIAL NAME)**

Description: This is an after-school program that explores the use and operation of drones as well as has an emphasis on designing, building and racing drones at local, national and international competitions. From first person view drone racing to photography, and engineering competitions, students will have fun learning about drones through hands-on activities.

Prerequisites: Completion of drone 2; 11th-12th grade, concurrent enrollment in the Engineering Academy

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective



ENGINEERING DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT-HONORS (EDD)**

Description: The knowledge and skills students acquire throughout PLTW Engineering come together in EDD as they identify an issue and then research, design, and test a solution, ultimately presenting their solution to a panel of engineers. Students apply the professional skills they have developed to document a design process to standards, completing EDD ready to take on any post-secondary program or career.

Prerequisites: 12th grade, successful completion of Principles of Engineering (POE)

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN-HONORS (IED)**

This course is designed for freshman

Description: Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work.

Prerequisites: Application completion.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

MANUFACTURE AND PROTOTYPING - ADVANCED COMPOSITE MANUFACTURING**

Description: Students learn how to create components out of Carbon Fiber and other composite materials. This is a hands-on after-school class where students will design and build objects using industry standard techniques that will prepare them for a career in advanced composite manufacturing.

Prerequisites: 10th-12th grade, concurrent enrollment in the Engineering Academy

Location: Knight High School (Students will need to provide own transportation to Knight High School)

Total Credits: 5 per semester G elective credit

G - College Preparatory Elective

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING-HONORS (POE)**

Description: Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and robotics. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation.

Prerequisites: Application completion

Total Credits: 5 per semester (Completion of this course can earn students' college credit)

G - College Preparatory Elective



SOLAR CAR 1 - PRE-ENGINEERING INTERNSHIP**

Description: This class offers students a real-world opportunity to discover and understand principles of physics, engineering design and green-clean technologies. This academic course empowers students with the knowledge, attitudes and skills to prepare them to be the next generation of innovators. Students working individually and in teams participate in a series of hands-on experimental projects; such as building solar energy systems and personal transportation devices to explore both alternative and traditional energy sources and transportation. The projects provide a foundation for data collection, analysis, reflection, presentations, and technical writing skills. Through these experiences' students hone critical thinking, communication and design concepts.

Prerequisite: Grade 10-12, concurrent enrollment in the Engineering Academy

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

SOLAR CAR 2 – INTRO TECHNOLOGY & DESIGN**

Description: The Solar Car Race Team is an after-school program designed to motivate students in science, engineering, and alternative energy. Students learn to design, engineer, build, and race roadworthy electric and solar cars. The end of each education cycle is the Solar Car Challenge: A closed-track event at the world-famous Texas Motor Speedway, or a cross country event designed to give students an opportunity to show the country the product of their efforts.

Prerequisites: 11th-12th grade, concurrent enrollment in the Engineering Academy

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

SOLAR CAR 3 – FOUNDATIONS OF TECH AND ENGINEERING**

Description: The Solar Car Race Team is an after-school program designed to motivate students in science, engineering, and alternative energy. Students learn to design, engineer, build, and race roadworthy electric and solar cars. The end of each education cycle is the Solar Car Challenge: A closed-track event at the world-famous Texas Motor Speedway, or a cross country event designed to give students an opportunity to show the country the product of their efforts.

Prerequisite: Open to 12th-graders only

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective





Foreign Language

SPANISH 1**

Description: Spanish 1 is an introductory course that focuses on building foundational skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. Students will learn essential vocabulary, basic grammar structures such as present-tense verbs and sentence formation, and pronunciation techniques to communicate effectively in everyday situations. The course also introduces students to the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries through engaging activities, projects, and authentic materials, including music, traditions, and geography. Students will develop cultural awareness alongside language skills, fostering a global perspective. By the end of the course, students will have a strong foundation in Spanish and be prepared to advance to higher levels of language study.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E – Language Other Than English

SPANISH 1 HONORS**

Description: Spanish 1 Honors is an accelerated introductory course designed for students with a strong academic background and an interest in learning Spanish at an advanced pace. The course focuses on building foundational listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in Spanish while deepening students' understanding of Hispanic cultures and introducing them to Spanish literature. Students will learn to communicate effectively in everyday situations using basic vocabulary and grammatical structures, such as present-tense verb conjugations, gender and number agreement, and essential sentence patterns. Additionally, the course will emphasize pronunciation, spelling, and comprehension. A unique feature of this honors course is incorporating Spanish literature to enrich students' language skills and cultural knowledge. Students will engage with age-appropriate excerpts from classic and contemporary Spanish-language texts, fostering a deeper appreciation for the literary traditions of Spanish-speaking cultures. Cultural studies are integral to the curriculum, exploring Spanish-speaking countries' traditions, customs, history, and geography. Students will develop linguistic proficiency and cultural awareness through interactive activities, group projects, and authentic resources like music, films, and literature.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English

SPANISH 2**

Description: Spanish 2 builds on the foundational skills developed in Spanish 1, advancing students' abilities in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course focuses on expanding vocabulary, mastering past tense conjugations, and introducing more complex grammatical structures such as object pronouns and reflexive verbs to enhance communication skills. Students will also explore the diverse cultures of Spanish-speaking countries through authentic materials, interactive activities, and cultural projects. This deeper cultural engagement helps students develop a broader understanding of the Spanish-speaking world's traditions, history, and contributions. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with intermediate language proficiency and a solid cultural foundation, preparing them for more advanced Spanish courses.

Prerequisites: Grades 9 – 12, “C” or better in Spanish 1.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English



SPANISH 2 HONORS**

Description: Spanish 2 Honors is an advanced course designed to prepare students for success in AP Spanish by expanding their proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while deepening their understanding of Hispanic cultures and Spanish literature. Students will build on foundational grammar, mastering past tenses, object pronouns, and more complex structures to communicate effectively in diverse contexts. A key feature of the course is integrating Spanish literature with age-appropriate excerpts from classic and contemporary works that enhance vocabulary, cultural knowledge, and critical thinking. Through these texts, students will explore the literary traditions of Spanish-speaking countries. The curriculum also incorporates cultural studies, interactive projects, and authentic materials such as music, film, and media, fostering a well-rounded understanding of the language and its cultural significance. As an honors course, students are challenged with rigorous assignments and independent learning opportunities, ensuring they are well-prepared for the demands of AP Spanish.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish 1 Honors & teacher recommendation.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English

SPANISH 3**

Description: Spanish 3 is an intermediate-level course designed to strengthen students' language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while advancing their cultural understanding of the Spanish-speaking world. The course emphasizes more complex grammar concepts, such as the subjunctive mood, compound tenses, and advanced sentence structures, enabling students to communicate with greater fluency and sophistication. Students will expand their vocabulary and engage in discussions, presentations, and written assignments on various topics. The curriculum also integrates cultural studies through authentic materials, such as music, films, and literature, providing deeper insights into Spanish-speaking countries' traditions, history, and diversity. By the end of the course, students will have the language proficiency and cultural knowledge necessary to transition to advanced Spanish studies, including honors or AP-level courses.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, "C" or better in Spanish 2.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English

SPANISH 3 HONORS**

Description: Spanish 3 Honors is an advanced course designed to prepare students for AP Spanish Language and Culture and AP Spanish Literature and Culture. The course enhances proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while introducing advanced grammar concepts such as the subjunctive mood, compound tenses, and complex sentence structures to foster sophisticated communication skills. A key focus is the study of Spanish literature, featuring selections from classic and contemporary works. Students will analyze texts to build critical thinking, expand vocabulary, and explore Spanish-speaking countries' cultural and historical contexts. Cultural studies, interactive activities, and authentic materials such as films, music, and art are incorporated to deepen cultural awareness. Rigorous assignments and projects challenge students to apply their skills creatively and analytically, ensuring they are well-prepared for the demands of AP Spanish courses.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, "C" or better in Spanish 2.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English



SPANISH 4**

Description: Spanish 4 is an advanced-level course designed to refine students' proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while fostering a deeper appreciation of Hispanic cultures. The course emphasizes advanced grammar, such as nuanced uses of the subjunctive, complex sentence structures, and idiomatic expressions, to develop fluency and sophistication in communication. A significant focus is placed on literature, with students analyzing classic and contemporary works from Spanish-speaking authors. These literary explorations and discussions of cultural and historical contexts enhance critical thinking and cultural understanding. The curriculum includes interactive activities, authentic materials such as films, articles, and art, and rigorous assignments that challenge students to engage creatively and analytically with the language. By the end of the course, students will be prepared for AP Spanish or equivalent advanced language and cultural studies.

Prerequisites: Grades 10-12, "C" or better in Spanish 3.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English

SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE AP**

Description: AP Spanish Language and Culture is an advanced college-level course designed to develop students' proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Spanish while fostering a deep understanding of the diverse cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. The course emphasizes real-world communication, advanced grammatical accuracy, and cultural competency. Students engage with authentic materials such as literary works, audio recordings, films, articles, and essays to explore family, identity, global challenges, and cultural perspectives. Assignments include interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational tasks, which develop critical thinking, analytical skills, and language fluency. The course prepares students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture exam by focusing on six core themes and practicing with AP-aligned assessments. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the skills needed to succeed in college-level Spanish courses and beyond.

Prerequisites: Grades 9 – 12, "C" or better in Spanish 3, teacher signature.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English

SPANISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE AP**

Description: AP Spanish Literature and Culture is a college-level course that introduces students to the formal study of a representative selection of literature written in Spanish from Spain, Latin America, and the U.S. Hispanic world. The course emphasizes critical reading, literary analysis, and cultural understanding while developing students' proficiency in Spanish. Students will explore works from the AP Spanish Literature and Culture reading list, spanning various genres, historical periods, and literary movements. Through close reading, discussions, and analytical writing, students will examine themes such as identity, social justice, and the human experience while considering each work's historical and cultural contexts. The course also focuses on developing interpretive, presentational, and interpersonal communication skills in Spanish, preparing students for the AP Spanish Literature and Culture exam. By the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of Spanish literary traditions and the ability to analyze and discuss complex texts at a college level.

Grades: Grades 9 – 12, "C" or better in Spanish 3, teacher signature.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

E - Language Other Than English



Health Careers Academy

ADVANCED SPORTS MEDICINE**

Description: Grade 11 & 12 Advanced Sports Medicine allows students to explore how the human body moves. Physics principles, along with the integration of biological and chemical principles will allow for greater understanding of human biomechanics. Bio-mechanic principles of injury and the physiological responses of the body to these injuries will also be discussed. This course focuses on lab methods, critical thinking, and communication skills needed to advance as a science major in a university. Students will be introduced to lab exercises dealing with Physics and Structural Kinesiology. Students interested in physical therapy, athletic trainer, nursing, exercise physiologist, orthopedist, radiology, dietician, and medicine will benefit from this course. Requirement of clinical time with high school athletes and high school athletic teams.

Prerequisites: Sports Medicine (C or better)/ Health Careers Academy / CTE Application.

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester/ 2 semester course

D - Laboratory Science

BODY SYSTEMS AND DISORDERS**

Description: Open to Grades: 9-12 This course will engage students in the study of the processes, structures and interactions of human body systems. Important biomedical concepts in the course include: communication, transport of substances, locomotion, metabolic processes, identity, and protection. The central theme will focus on how the body systems work together to maintain homeostasis and good health. The systems will be studied as “parts of a whole,” working together to keep the amazing human machine functioning at an optimal level. Students will design experiments, investigate the structures and functions of body systems, and use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary actions, and respiratory operation. Exploring science in action, students will work through interesting real-world cases and often play the role of biomedical professionals to solve medical mysteries.

Prerequisites: Health Careers Academy / CTE Application

Total Credits: 5 per semester / 2 semester course

G - College Preparatory Elective

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN**

Description: Grade 12 - Welcome to the Antelope Valley Union High School District Emergency Medical Technician Program. It is the only non-profit EMT program for high school students during the regular high school day in Los Angeles County. The course is taught over 2 Semesters and 24 hours of clinical time spent in both a Hospital Emergency Room and Ambulance settings. The curriculum is arranged so that you will be prepared to successfully pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians examination (NREMT). You will also be given the necessary additional training so that you will be able to certify with the Los Angeles County Department of Emergency Medical Services to work as an EMT in Los Angeles County. EMT certification and certifying examination is not administered as part of this course, it is administered by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, which has its own set of requirements. Students will be prepared for those requirements throughout this course.

Prerequisites: “C” or better in Biology and Anatomy/Physiology, or concurrently enrolled in Anatomy & Physiology (recommendation). Health Careers Academy / CTE Application

Total Credits: 5 per semester/ 2 semester course

G - College Preparatory Elective



INTRO TO MEDICAL OFFICE CODING ON-LINE

Description: Grade 12 Intro to Medical Office Coding On-Line is a semester long course that course provides instruction and training for students interested in careers related to health care. Students who achieve competency in this course will develop knowledge and skills in medical billing occupations, legal concepts, ethics, and laws related to medical billing and coding, proper communication for billing professionals, medical terminology, Current Procedural Coding, International Classification of Diagnostic Coding 10. The Health Insurance Claim Form (CMS-1500), electronic data interchange, tracing claims and solving insurance problems, office and insurance collection strategies, health care payers. Human structure, computer technology and office maintenance procedures, and will be prepared for entry-level employment. Course is a requirement for students enrolled in Medical Assistant.

Corequisite- Sports Medicine Clinical, EMT, and/or Medical Assistant

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester/ 1 semester course

MEDICAL ASSISTANT / ADVANCED MEDICAL ASSISTANT CLINICAL****

Description: Grade 12 The Medical Assistant & Adv. Medical Assistant Clin. capstone courses together provide one of the only high school approved Medical Assisting courses in California. It allows the student to become involved with an internship at one of 40 different medical facilities in the Antelope Valley. Students attend an internship two-three days a week and attend class at Palmdale High School the remaining days. During the classroom time, students learn about hospital procedures and are certified in injections, EKG, CPR, and can sit for the Medical Assisting Exam to become Certified Medical Assistants once they turn 18. This is the next step for the senior student who has completed Medical Science I & Medical Clinical 1. Requirement of Industry/ clinical time during the school year, and transportation is not provided by the program. Requirement of healthcare industry health clearances as mandated by L.A. County Department of Health. Classes taken concurrently as a double period. Medical Assisting certification and certifying examination is not administered as part of this course, and is administered via the California Certifying Board of Medical Assistants, which has its own set of requirements, which students will be prepared for this course.

Prerequisites: Medical Science I (C or better), Medical Clinical 1 (C or better), Health Careers Academy / CTE Application.

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester/per course (10 per semester) *2 semester class concurrently*

G - College Preparatory Elective





MEDICAL CLINICAL 1

Description: Grades 11-12 Students will take this course together with Medical Science as a double period. Students will be introduced to the skills required for entry into the health care occupations then will spend two days per week in clinical sites developing clinical skills. Identify the types of health organizations and the services that they offer to their patients, and compare and contrast the various types of managed care systems such as HMOs, PPOs, and primary care vs. critical care and the other major health care plans. Understand the importance of good oral communication skills. Given various scenarios, students will be able to identify the correct and incorrect behaviors while communicating with patients. Given a series of scenarios, students will describe the correct methods for dealing with each patient and their problem. Understand the need to develop a professional attitude when involved in the health care industry (JCAHO units). Understand the need for medical ethics in dealing with current health care issues. Compare and contrast the rights of the patients with the types of services available in medicine. Understand the legal responsibilities that health care professionals have as a part of their career. Understand the need for good body mechanics to insure worker health, as well as the health and wellbeing of patients. Understand the basic rules of lifting and work strategies to stay healthy. Learn at least six ways of transferring patients in a clinical setting, and at least four ways to position a patient in bed or on a gurney. Gain knowledge of specific community health care resources and site information that relate to career choices. Students will job shadow at local healthcare institutions. Students must comply with L.A. County Department of Health Services health clearance immunization requirements, and must be able to meet requirements for fingerprinting & Live scanning (provided by program)

Corequisite- Medical Science 1 - Prerequisites: Health Careers Academy / CTE Application.

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester - *2 semester class and is taken concurrently with Medical Science 1*

MEDICAL SCIENCE 1**

Description: Grades 11-12 - This course explores the relationship between science and medicine. Medical Science 1 expands on scientific principles taught in General Biology and explores advanced concepts in Anatomy, Physiology, Immunology and Microbiology. Laboratory exercises that help the students understand the process of disease on the human body will take place throughout the course. Students apply their skills and knowledge in a separate course, "Hospital/Community Health Occupations 1" at the local hospitals through a clinical internship. Learn about the complexities of the modern health care delivery system. Understand the structure, function, and maintenance of the major human body systems, such as the skeletal system, the anatomy and physiology of the muscular system, the major divisions of the nervous system, the organs of the digestive system, the cardiovascular system, the urinary and excretory system, and the respiratory system. Understand the importance of medical terminology in pursuit of a medical career, learning complex medical terms using translation methods that are part of medical terminology. Develop an understanding of the essential skills that are basic to all health care fields, such as the importance of infection control and universal precautions, proper measure for handling patients, learning about blood borne pathogens, aseptic and isolation techniques. Learn the necessity for taking vital signs as major indicators of patient health, such as the importance that temperature plays as an indicator of the presence of disease, the proper technique for taking a radial pulse and respiration, the correct procedures for taking blood pressure, the correct equipment used, and alternative sites for recording pressures. Develop an understanding for the weights and measures that are common to health care. Learn the importance nutrition plays in the lives of the patients. Understand the importance patient observation and reporting play in the long-term health of the patient, and understand the cycles of life that end with death.

Corequisite: Medical Clinical 1 - Prerequisites: Health Careers Academy / CTE Application.

Total Credits: 5 per semester - *2 semester class and is taken concurrently with Medical Clinical 1*

G - College Preparatory Elective



MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

Description: **Grade 12** The Medical Terminology Online Course is a single-semester course designed to facilitate learning and comprehension of the basics of medical terminology in relation to each system of the body. This online course combines an interactive study experience, as well as learning at your own pace. Students will learn to use proper terminology and spelling for major pathological conditions. Course is a requirement of students enrolled in Health Careers Academy capstone courses (Sports Med Clin, EMT, Medical Assistant), and is articulated with AVC for equivalent college credit.

Corequisite- Sports Medicine Clinical, EMT, and/or Medical Assistant

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester/ 1 semester course

SPORTS MEDICINE**

Description: **Grades 10-11** Sports Medicine places an emphasis on the prevention of athletic injuries, principles of first aid, CPR, exercise science, vital signs, and anatomy. Classroom time is spent learning various sports medicine related skills such as taping as well as gaining knowledge about the human body, pathology, and nutrition. Students apply their skills and knowledge by assisting in the prevention of sports injuries and rendering first aid when needed during high school sporting events. Students interested in physical therapy, athletic trainer, nursing, exercise physiologist, orthopedist, radiology, dietician, and medicine will benefit from this course.

Prerequisites: Health Careers Academy / CTE Application.

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester/ 2 semester course

G - College Preparatory Elective

SPORTS MEDICINE CLINICAL

Description: **Grade 12** This capstone course is a one-year, lecture-laboratory science elective designed to provide a well-rounded and challenging academic and fieldwork experience for students interested in medicine, physical therapy, exercise science, athletic training, sports medicine, or any other related medical or paramedical field. Throughout the year students participate in a detailed examination of the various kinesiological, anatomical, physiological, and biomechanical factors that influence the “human machine”. Specifically, students will apply knowledge gained and practiced in class to student athletes and, in some cases, to clients in local gyms and sports medicine clinics. Following are the units of study thoroughly covered in the practicum: 1) Historical and organizational perspectives of sports medicine. 2) Detailed anatomical and biomechanical study of each major body region. 3) Physiological response of tissues to various types of stress. 4) Specific medical conditions and injuries in sport. 5) Scientific principles and techniques of injury prevention, evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation. 6) Exercise physiology and human performance. Requirement of Industry/ clinical time during the school year, and transportation is not provided by the program. Requirement of healthcare industry health clearances as mandated by L.A. County Department of Health

Prerequisites: Advanced Sports Medicine (C or better), Completion of or currently enrolled in Anatomy/Physiology is recommended.

Total Credits: 5 credits per semester/ 2 semester course



Mathematics

ADVANCED ALGEBRA W/FINANCIAL APPLICATIONS**

Description: Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications is a college-preparatory course that will use sophisticated mathematics to give you the tools to become a financially responsible young adult. The course employs algebra, pre-calculus, probability and statistics, calculus and geometry to solve financial problems that occur in everyday life. Real-world problems in investing, credit, banking, auto insurance, mortgages, employment, income taxes, budgeting and planning for retirement are solved by applying the relevant mathematics. Field projects, computer spreadsheets, and graphing calculators are key components of the course.

Prerequisites: Grades 11-12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics

ALGEBRA 1**

Description: Symbolic reasoning and calculations with symbols are central in algebra. Through the study of algebra, a student develops an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and the sciences. In addition, algebraic skills and concepts are developed and used in a wide variety of problem-solving situations. Algebra will be presented in accordance with the California Standards.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics

ALGEBRA 1 SUPPORT

Description: Algebra 1 Support picks up the progression to algebra at whole number multiplication and builds a coherent narrative of understanding through fractions and decimals, proportional reasoning, and functional thinking. Concepts, visual models, and procedural strategies build on one another, opening up and facilitating new learning. Students enter the progression at different points based on their existing knowledge and progress at their own pace. Instruction is organized into two courses, each with nine blocks of instruction, featuring high-interest career themes. The focused content helps students make connections while learning to think algebraically.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

ALGEBRA 2**

Description: Algebra II deepens and extends the Algebra I course which studies the structure of the real number system and problem-solving using equations, inequalities, and graphs and the simplification of algebraic expressions. This discipline complements and expands the mathematical content and concepts of Algebra 1 and Geometry. Students who master Algebra 2 will gain experience with algebraic solutions of problems in various content areas, including the solution of systems of quadratic equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, the binomial theorem, and the complex number system.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics



ALGEBRA 2/ TRIGONOMETRY HONORS**

Description: This course covers all the essential topics of Algebra II and Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus in an advanced and accelerated manner. It covers all of the California Mathematics Academic Content Standards (1998) for Algebra 2, Trigonometry and Probability and Statistics. This rigorous course includes the study of the California Standards in Algebra 2, Trigonometry, and Mathematical Analysis. These can be viewed at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/standards/>. Students will be prepared for the GSE in High School Mathematics; the STAR Exams; the SAT college entrance test; and a course in Calculus. The descriptions for Trigonometry and Math Analysis follow.

Prerequisite: A grade of “A” in Geometry, or a grade of “B” in Geometry and a grade of “A” in Algebra 1, or teacher recommendation.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics

CALCULUS AB AP**

Description: Calculus will be presented with the same level of depth and rigor, as are entry-level college and university calculus courses. Consideration of the College Board syllabi for the Calculus AB section of the Advanced Placement Examination in Mathematics will dictate the curricular decisions. Calculus is a widely applied area of mathematics and involves a beautiful intrinsic theory. Students mastering this content will be exposed to both aspects of the subject. Students will be prepared for the AP Calculus test, which requires the use of a graphing calculator. Graphing calculators are available for students’ use.

Prerequisite: A grade of ‘C’ or better in either Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry or Trig/Pre-Calculus or teacher recommendation.

Total Credits: 5 per semester.

C - Mathematics

CALCULUS BC AP**

Description: Calculus BC encompasses such topics as differential equations and spends substantial time on infinite sequences and series. Consideration of the College Board syllabi for the Calculus AB section of the Advanced Placement Examination in Mathematics will dictate the curricular decisions. Calculus is a widely applied area of mathematics and involves a beautiful intrinsic theory. Students mastering this content will be exposed to both aspects of the subject. Students will be prepared for the AP Calculus test, which requires the use of a graphing calculator. Graphing calculators are available for students’ use.

Prerequisite: A grade of ‘C’ or better in Calculus AB.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics

GEOMETRY**

Description: Geometry is a course dealing with the organization of known facts into formal mathematical structures, and the study of various relationships and the measurement of geometric figures. The geometric skills and concepts developed in this discipline are useful to all students. Aside from these skills and concepts, students will develop their ability to construct formal logical arguments and proofs in geometric settings and problems.

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in Algebra 1and/or Algebra 2.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics



GEOMETRY/TRIGONOMETRY**

Description: This course is designed primarily for students who successfully complete Algebra 2 prior to taking a Geometry Course. The course will prepare students for the Entry Level Math Exam given by many of the UC's, the California Geometry CST and for Trig Pre-Calculus, which is the next course most of the students will enroll in. It covers the essential Geometry Standards and the California Trigonometry Standards.

Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in Algebra 2 or teacher recommendation.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics

INTRO TO PROBABILITY & STATISTICS**

Description: Introduction to Probability and Statistics is an introductory course to the tools of statistics. This basic course in statistics is to introduce students to statistical ideas and their impact on everyday life and future fields of study. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: producing data, organizing data, chance, and inference.

Prerequisite: Grade 12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics

PRE-CALCULUS AP**

Description: AP Precalculus centers on functions modeling dynamic phenomena. This research-based exploration of functions is designed to better prepare students for college-level calculus and provide grounding for other mathematics and science courses. In this course, students study a broad spectrum of function types that are foundational for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, business, social science, and data science. Furthermore, as AP Precalculus may be the last mathematics course of a student's secondary education, the course is structured to provide a coherent capstone experience rather than exclusively focusing on preparation for future courses.

Prerequisites: Grade 12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

C - Mathematics



Physical Education

PE 1

Description: Physical Education 1 is composed of activities from four of the eight areas included in the Physical Education Framework and the Model Curriculum Standards. All students will be exposed to the areas of aquatics, individual sports, team sports, rhythms, and fitness for life. In addition, the students will be exposed to a health-related fitness program. Cognitive-based physical and health-related concepts and grade level physical fitness performance objectives will be reviewed, applied, and evaluated.

This year forms are core program and will act as the prerequisite for the Physical Education II and a sequentially developed elective program. Required for grade 9.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PE 2

Description: Personal fitness is a course designed to meet the individual needs of students in the area of fitness, specifically in the areas of aerobics, cardio respiratory fitness, strength fitness, endurance fitness, and nutrition. Cognitive-based physical and health-related concepts and grade level physical fitness performance objectives will be reviewed, applied, and evaluated for all grade levels. Required for grade 10.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PE ATHLETICS

Description: Interscholastic sports will be practiced. Open to all students whose interscholastic sport meets during the 6th period of the day. The Athletic Coordinator and the coach of each particular sport must give approval. 9th grade students on varsity team must have Principal's approval.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PE DRILL

Description: A course for learning marching and drill fundamentals leading to public performance with the marching band. All public performances are required of each member. Emphasis of second semester will be on music and marching fundamentals, as well as personal fitness and team sports.

Prerequisites: Grades 9-12, concurrent enrollment in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Percussion, or Show corps, Lab fees not to exceed \$25 each semester for equipment.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PE ELECTIVE

Description: All elective courses will be activity classes. Lifetime sports, individual, dual and team activities will be offered. Physical fitness will be addressed through daily stretching, calisthenics, jogging and other cardiovascular activities.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester



PE MODIFIED

Description: Student will be enrolled in regular P.E. II, P.E. Elective classes, or instructor, but I will limit the activities based on what the physical limitation is. Any student who does not meet the Adaptive P.E. requirements, but is limited in their ability to actively perform in PE I, II or PE Elective.

Prerequisites: Doctor's note.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PE ADAPTIVE (SPECIAL EDUCATION)

Description: Individual activities fitted to meet students' needs; i.e., board games, cards, checkers, darts, table tennis, some weight related exercises, and other motor skills to help develop student's individual needs and abilities.

Prerequisites: IEP placement only.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

PE 3 – WEIGHTLIFTING

Description: The curriculum is an enhanced and enriched version of physical education with an increased emphasis on weight room, fitness and conditioning. California standards and fitness will be incorporated by athletics.

Prerequisites: Completion of PE 2.

Total Credits: 5 per semester



Science

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY**

Description: Anatomy and Physiology is an advanced science course that is designed for the more motivated student of biology. The student should be capable of performing in an independent as well as small-group laboratory setting. The fields of inquiry will be: the scientific method, growth, development, genetics, and the anatomy and physiology of the nine systems of the human body.

Prerequisites: Grades 11 – 12 Biology with a "C" average or instructor's approval.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

BIOLOGY**

Description: Biology is a college preparatory course that is recognized as a lab science. It surveys the major academic areas of the Biological Sciences utilizing lecture, demonstration, textbook reading, and extensive laboratory activities and experiments. Students are made aware of current research methods and career opportunities, and use of technology for research and laboratory work is encouraged. Evaluation of students includes tests, oral and written presentations, laboratory data collection, analysis and reports, short- and long-term projects, and student portfolio entries.

Prerequisite: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

BIOLOGY HONORS**

Description: Biology Honors is a college preparatory course that is recognized as a laboratory science (area d) of the UC ag requirements. This course requires students to be self-motivated critical thinkers. Assignments such as projects, exams, and articles require a higher reading and writing level than regular biology. This course covers topics more in depth than regular biology and requires more extensive laboratory work, research, analysis, and reports. It surveys the major academic areas of the biological sciences utilizing lectures, demonstrations, textbooks, current event articles, teacher prepared materials, projects, and extensive laboratory experiments. In accordance with the California State Standards, this course covers the following topics: Cell Biology, Genetics, Evolution, Ecology, and Human Physiology. Every attempt is made to make students aware of the current research methods and career opportunities through the use of technology and research. Evaluation of students includes tests, district benchmark exams, short- and long-term projects, collection and analysis of data during labs, homework, class work, and an organized notebook. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 or higher is recommended.

Co-requisite: English 9 Honors (only open to 9th grade students).

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science



BIOLOGY AP**

Description: Advanced Placement Biology is an enrichment, laboratory science course that emphasizes the major subdivisions of the Biological Sciences. It is intended for the serious science student that also wishes to obtain college credit through examination. Extensive laboratory supplements, lectures, demonstrations, and group activities. Every attempt is made to pattern instruction after a first-year college biology course and to instruct students in the study skills and techniques that will make them successful after high school.

Prerequisites: Grades 11-12 (10th grade allowed with high recommendation from science teacher), grade of "C" or better in Biology. **Recommended:** Chemistry with a grade of "C" or better

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

CHEMISTRY**

Description: Chemistry is a college preparatory course designed as a survey of atomic and molecular structure, chemical and physical properties of matter, reactions, organic and nuclear chemistry. Mathematics is used to solve problems related to the chemical concepts studied. Laboratory experimentation is extensive and comprehensive and involves the application of chemical concepts and qualitative and quantitative laboratory methods.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, Algebra 1

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

CHEMISTRY AP**

Description: The Advanced Placement Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Advanced Placement Chemistry is an in-depth study of the chemical nature of matter, its composition and its chemical and physical changes. Mathematics is used to gain a better understanding of the chemical concepts studied. Laboratory experimentation is extensive and comprehensive, and involves the application of chemical concepts and qualitative and quantitative laboratory methods at the college level.

Prerequisites: Grades 11-12, grade of "C" or better in Chemistry

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

CHEMISTRY HONORS**

Description: Chemistry is a college preparatory course that is recognized as a laboratory science (area d) of the UC a-g requirements. This course requires students to be self-motivated critical thinkers. The study guides, projects, exams, and articles require a higher reading and writing level than regular biology. This course covers topics more in depth than regular chemistry and requires more extensive laboratory work, research, analysis, and reports. This course is designed to provide an in-depth survey of atomic and molecular structure, chemical and physical properties of matter, reactions, organic and nuclear chemistry. Mathematics is used to solve problems related to the chemical concepts studied. Laboratory experimentation is extensive and comprehensive and involves the application of chemical concepts and qualitative and quantitative laboratory methods.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, Successful completion of Geometry (or higher) and Biology.

Co-requisites: Enrolled in Algebra 2 or higher

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science



PHYSICS 1 AP**

Description: Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics; dynamics; circular motion and gravitation; energy; momentum; simple harmonic motion; torque and rotational motion; electric charge and electric force; DC circuits; and mechanical waves and sound.

Prerequisites: Grades 11-12, Students should have completed Geometry and be concurrently taking Algebra II or an equivalent course.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AP**

Description: This course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science, through which students engage with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. AP Environmental Science meets the district's physical science or life science requirement. It also meets one year of the University of California 'D' entrance requirement for laboratory science

Prerequisites: Grades 11-12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D - Laboratory Science



Social Science

AFRICAN AMERICAN U.S. HISTORY**

Description: African American History is designed to provide an in-depth analysis of the causes, character, and consequences of the African American experience and its influence on America and the world. It begins with a broad geographic, cultural, social, historical understanding of the African continent, West Africa in particular. The course will continue with the Columbian Exchange between the Americas and Europe. Then, the course will examine the causes and effects of the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the rise of chattel slavery in the Western Hemisphere and how the interaction of African, Native American and Europeans in the "New World" constitutes a unique American experience. The course will then focus on the struggles and triumphs of the development of America from colonial times to the present with special attention given to the African American experience.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science

CHICANO STUDIES**

Description: The purpose of Chicano Studies is for students to develop a better appreciation of cultural identity through the study of the contributions Chicanos have made to the history, government, education, and culture of the United States. The course will encompass the study of history from the Pre-Columbian period to the present day as well as focusing on other interdisciplinary themes such as education, sociology, literature, art, film, music, theater, language, and folklore.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science

CIVICS**

Description: Students will apply knowledge learned in previous years to pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. They will compare systems of government in the world today and analyze the life and changing interpretations of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of legislative, executive and judiciary branches of government. An emphasis is placed on analyzing the relationship among federal, state and local governments, with particular attention paid to historical documents such as The Federalist Papers. The mission of this course for the first half will be a series of case studies illuminating the nature of American political institutions and the role of the citizen, which will include the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the court system, and federalism.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science



ECONOMICS**

Description: The major emphasis of this course is upon studying the basic principles of economics to help pupils understand the “demand” economic system within which they live, and to learn to analyze, objectively, the wide range of problems that confront their society. The course briefly contrasts other systems, such as “command” economics, with the United States economic system. The course also identifies the growing problem caused by unlimited demands on limited natural resources and by socioeconomic desires for a balanced ecology on the one hand and an increased standard of living on the other. Appreciation is developed for the fact that sound economic growth results only from increased productivity, and for the necessary role of investment capital as the seed for future growth in either a “command” or a “demand” market system. The course enables pupils to gain better understanding of how and why the United States economic system works, how they can help it to serve them better. The methodology of the professional economist and economics is studied in its historical context. The course also includes extensive reading, and written and oral composition.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science

EUROPEAN HISTORY AP**

Description: In AP European History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from approximately 1450 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction of Europe and the world, economic and commercial development, cultural and intellectual development, states and other institutions of power, social organization and development, national and European identity, and technological and scientific innovations.

Prerequisites: Grades 9-12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS US AP**

Description: AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. Underpinning the required content of the course are several big ideas that allow students to create meaningful connections among concepts throughout the course. Students will also engage in skill development that requires them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.

Prerequisites: Grade of ‘C’ or better in US History AP.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science



U.S. HISTORY**

Description: In this course, students examine major turning points in American history in the 20th century. Following a review of the nation's beginnings and the impact of the Enlightenment on U.S. democratic ideals, students build upon the tenth-grade study of global industrialization to understand the emergence and impact of new technology and a corporate economy, including social and cultural effects. During the year certain themes are emphasized: the expanding role of federal government and federal courts; the continuing tension between the individual and the state and between minority rights and majority power; the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major power. Students understand that our rights under the United States Constitution comprise a precious inheritance that depends on an educated citizenry for their preservation and protection

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science

U.S. HISTORY AP**

Description: In AP U.S. History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change. The course also provides eight themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science

WORLD HISTORY**

Description: In this course, students examine major turning points in the shaping of the modern world, from the late 18th century to the present, including the cause and course of the two world wars. They trace the rise of democratic ideals and develop an understanding of the historical roots of current world issues, especially as they pertain to international relations. Students extrapolate from American experience that democratic ideals are often achieved at a high price, remain vulnerable and are not practiced everywhere in the world. Students develop an understanding of current world issues and relate them to their historical, geographic, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Students consider multiple accounts of events in order to understand international relations from a variety of perspectives.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science



WORLD HISTORY AP**

Description: In AP World History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

A – History / Social Science



Performing Arts

A'CAPELLA CHOIR**

Description: This course of study includes voice development as well as ear training and development of sight-singing abilities. Standard advanced choral literature will be studied with emphasis on AC singing. Members are required to participate in all performances.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, audition with Mr. McCullough, Room 801.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

ADVANCED PERCUSSION**

Description: A course designed for the third- and fourth-year percussionist. Class topics will be centered on maintaining and building advanced skills in drumming and mallet playing. Music preparation and performance will be the focus of this large ensemble. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Students may take this class for a total of 20 credits (two years).

Prerequisites: Pass Percussion with a grade of “B” or better or teacher approval, Concurrent enrollment in PE Drill/Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

CHAMBER SINGERS**

Description: Chamber Singers, Vocal Music V, is the most select mixed choral ensemble in the continuum of choral music courses. This course of study includes the most in-depth study choral music literature from medieval music through contemporary music including art music, popular music, and music of the theatre. Members of the Chamber Singers are required to participate in all rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals are not limited to classroom instruction hours, and may include after school, and weekend rehearsals and performances. The select nature of the Chamber Singers requires the commitment to be individually accountable to represent the highest level of musical performance, and character through national and international festivals.

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in A'Capella Choir, audition with Mr. McCullough, Room 801.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

CHORAL ENSEMBLE**

Description: The course of study includes literature covering various styles and periods not covered in depth in other CHORAL ENSEMBLES. The styles include Renaissance madrigals and various popular styles (jazz, pop-rocks, swing, etc.). Members are required to participate in all performances.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, concurrent enrollment in A'Capella Choir, audition with Mr. McCullough, Room 801

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts



CONCERT BAND**

Description: Concert Band is an introductory course for the instrumental music program. The major focus of the program is development of the basic concepts of playing a wind instrument, (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, etc.); understanding melody, harmony, rhythm, phrasing, and intonation; and blending individual abilities into a group performance. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Public performances are required.

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in PE Drill/Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

CONCERT CHOIR**

Description: The course of study includes voice development; ear training and development of sight-singing abilities are emphasized. Three-part intermediate treble voices are studied. Concert attire required and members are required to participate in all performances.

Prerequisites: Audition, see Mr. McCullough Rm. 801

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

DISTRICT CHORALE**

Description: Pending.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

CONCERT ORCHESTRA**

Description: Concert Orchestra is a year-long Intermediate level performing ensemble for students in 9th-12th grade interested in participating in a string ensemble through performance and academic content. It is a performance-based class designed for students with at least 1-year of experience on an orchestra string instrument (violin, viola, cello, and bass). String music from all major music periods will be rehearsed, analyzed, and performed. Music theory and music history are components of this class. Concert Orchestra will perform at concerts, festivals, and community events throughout the year. Attendance at performances is a required portion of the class.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and concurrent enrollment in P.E. Drill or Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

Description: This secondary performance-based course provides students with a variety of jazz ensemble experiences. Music is studied and performed from an intermediate to advanced level of jazz repertoire. Jazz basics and technique are intermixed with the jazz festival music for the semester. This ensemble performs at festivals and performances throughout the semester.

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in PE Drill/Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts



MARCHING BAND

Description: A course designed for the preparation and performance of the marching band for field shows and parades. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Public performances are required of all members.

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Percussion, or Show Corps

Total Credits: 5 per semester

MARIACHI METHODS**

Description: Mariachi Methods is a Mariachi course for the instrumental music program. The major focus of the course is to enhance and develop the rehearsal and performance skills of students as individuals and group performers. Students get hands-on training in a few of the careers pertaining to Mariachi instruments. Students learn the listening and critiquing skills of judges, the maintenance and repair techniques of instrument technicians, and the production of concerts. Students learn to perceive, evaluate and appreciate the performance of music.

Prerequisites: None.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

MIXED CHORUS**

Description: A beginning class in singing. Unison and part songs will be studied. Students will be taught vocal techniques and fundamentals. Students are required to participate in public performances.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

PERCUSSION 1**

Description: In this course, students will learn the fundamentals of playing percussion instruments, such as snare drum, bass drum, mallet instruments, timpani, cymbals, drum set, and much more. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Students may take this class for a total of 20 credits (two years).

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in PE Drill/Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

SHOW CORPS**

Description: A specialized course designed to teach the skills required to perform in a band auxiliary (color guard) unit. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Participation in public performance is required.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and concurrent enrollment in P.E. Drill or Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts



STRING ORCHESTRA**

Description: An introductory course designed to develop skills on string instruments (violin, viola, cello, string bass), from beginning to intermediate levels, in an orchestral setting. The course of study will include ear training, sight-reading, chamber music, jazz/fiddling technique, and standard orchestra literature. Public performances are required and students may take this class for a total of 20 credits (two years).

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

SYMPHONIC BAND**

Description: Symphonic Band is an intermediate course for the instrumental music program. The major focus of the program is further development of the concepts of playing a wind instrument (flute clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, Trombone, etc.) The student will understand melody, harmony, rhythm, phrasing, and intonation; and blending individual abilities into a group performance. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Public performances are required.

Prerequisites: Pass Concert Band with a “B” or better or teacher approval. Concurrent enrollment in PE Drill/Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts

WIND ENSEMBLE**

Description: Wind Ensemble is an advanced course for the instrumental music program. The major focus of the program is the further development of the concepts of playing a musical instrument; understanding melody, harmony, rhythm, phrasing and intonation and blending individual abilities into a group performance. Assessment will include teacher and peer evaluation as well as performances both during the school day and outside of school. Public performances are required.

Prerequisites: Pass Symphonic Band with a “B” or better or teacher approval. Concurrent enrollment in PE Drill/Marching Band

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F - Visual & Performing Arts



Visual Art

ART I**

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to basic art skills, techniques and media. Areas of study will include drawing, painting, printmaking, and various three-dimensional assignments. Emphasis will be on exploration, experimentation and creativity using a variety of mediums.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

ART HISTORY AP**

Description: Students will learn art history; architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms within diverse historical, geographical, and cultural contexts. It also provides an opportunity for students to strengthen their knowledge of and the impact art has on the great cultures of the world. Students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present from a variety of cultures as well as the geography, religious, political, and historical aspects related to each area of study. Students learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to analyze what they see in order to better understand the meaning of the work. Students will complete various projects working with art materials in order to better understand the practice of creating art.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

CERAMICS 1**

Description: This class offers students the opportunity to explore three-dimensional art using clay. Students will learn the basic hand building techniques and wheel throwing methods. They will create functional wares, abstract pieces and sculptural works. The history of ceramics and sculpture will be emphasized. Students will also learn different firing methods and glazing techniques.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

CERAMICS 2**

Description: In this class students will learn more advanced ceramics techniques to further build their portfolios. Students will also challenge their abilities by building a large-scale sculpture. Students will delve deeper into ceramics history as they create projects in the style and themes of ancient works. In this course, students will also have an opportunity to develop their own personal style. In addition, the students will have a chance to extend their learning to the community as they participate in various art shows.

Prerequisite: Ceramics 1

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts



CERAMICS 3**

Description: This class will allow students to further push their skills as they focus more on self-development and personal artistic interests. Each student will develop further his or her artistic style through self-directed projects and series projects. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in community art events.

Prerequisite: Ceramics 2

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

DIGITAL MEDIA & GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Description: Students will study art and the history of graphic design and the creative process that precedes print and web production. Students will study the impact of visual communication on society and community from a social, economic, and political viewpoint as well as the reverse impact. Students will preview and analyze a variety of artistic designs and have the opportunity to critique different forms of media according to historical and cultural and technological attributes. The focus of study is on the artistic side of graphic design and how digital art is created and produced and its overall relevance to society. Students will create a digital portfolio as a final project. Students will learn traditional and specialized vocabulary of the graphics and web industry. Students will develop communication and design skills to express themselves clearly and concisely in their production of print, web and animated designs. Students throughout the course will develop ideas individually or within groups, research subject content, illustrate, propose, and produce graphics products. Students will produce a variety of digitally created art products for print, web, video, and personal use, that are influenced by traditional techniques as they relate the principles and elements of design. Students will manipulate and produce images from both original and stock photography and incorporate their images into print, web, and other digital materials using industry standard digital media and graphic arts.

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Multimedia Contemporary Design “C” or higher.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

DRAWING I**

Description: This course is designed to offer a variety of drawing techniques using pencil, charcoal, pastels, color pencils, ink, mixed media and scratchboard. Students are exposed to artwork from throughout history as a basis for developing their own individual style. Students will create a portfolio and will be encouraged to enter art contests and scholarship competitions.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, grade C or better in Art I or teacher permission.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Art



DRAWING 2**

Description: This class, a follow-up to Drawing I, offers a variety of projects and media that facilitate the development of individual style. The Drawing II student will be coached in the skills of working from the imagination and using self-expression. Students will learn to mat their own work, create a portfolio and experience the joy of displaying their art in public. Careers and post –secondary education will be emphasized.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, grade C or better in Drawing I or teacher permission.

Total Credits: 5 per semester.

F – Visual & Performing Arts

DRAWING 3**

Description: This class, a follow-up to Drawing 2, offers a variety of projects and media that facilitate the development of individual style. The Drawing 3 student will be coached in the skills of working from the imagination and using self-expression. Students will learn to mat their own work, create a portfolio and experience the joy of displaying their art in public. Careers and post –secondary education will be emphasized.

Prerequisites: Grades 10 – 12, grad C or better in Drawing 2 or teacher permission.

Total Credits: 5 per semester.

F – Visual & Performing Arts

MULTIMEDIA CONTEMPORARY DESIGN 1**

Description: This class emphasizes project-based learning, where students develop technical and creative skills through real-world assignments. Students will explore areas like graphic design, video editing, photography, animation, and social media content creation, using cameras and software such as Adobe Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and After Effects. Projects include creating video reels, constructing social media content, developing digital art, and producing mini-productions—many of which mirror current media trends and the influencer landscape. Writing and critical thinking are woven into assignments, meeting State and district standards, while also enhancing problem-solving, decision-making, and communication skills. Students will complete a final project, showcasing their creativity and technical expertise in digital media literacy.

Prerequisites: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester.

F – Visual & Performing Arts

PAINTING I**

Description: This course will introduce the basics of painting. Projects will guide students through the basics of color mixing, composition, and visual problem solving. Painting techniques in watercolor, acrylic and oil-based mediums will be explored. The joy of self-expression through art and its influence on culture will be emphasized. This will be achieved by relating art history, criticism and aesthetics to each studio project. The many fields, which utilize painting skills, will be reviewed and guest speakers will be invited to speak on their fine art or commercial art careers. Students will study major movements in painting, utilize this knowledge in their own work and understand the difference between literal and abstract art artworks.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts



PAINTING 2**

Description: In this class students will develop their skill in painting and broaden their understanding of painting in its historical and modern context. The major emphasis of this course will be to promote self-expression and the development of identity through art. Individual portfolios, presentation of one's artwork and ability to receive and accept critical input will play an important role in student development. Art shows and group projects, such as murals and installations will bring the class into the school and local community. This visibility and interaction will be emphasized as one of the great joys and services that the arts provide. The vast array of design and artistic professions that stem from painting and art skills will be continually referenced. Exposure to art will be facilitated locally and internationally with trips to museums and local galleries /community shows. Professionals in commercial art fields and fine artists will be invited to share their work and speak to the class.

Prerequisites: Painting I

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

PAINTING 3**

Description: In this course students will further develop their painting skills in various mediums. Painting techniques in oil, watercolor, gouache, acrylic and other mediums will be developed and enhanced. In addition, students will consider the works on ancient cave painters through present day contemporary art when creating their work. Also, Painting III will offer students a way to interact with the rest of the school and the community through various mural projects and community outreach programs. On an individual level, students will continue developing and creating works to incorporate into their portfolios. Members of the art world will be invited to speak on the various careers in art and their experiences.

Prerequisites: Painting 2 and permission of instructor.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts

STUDIO ART: 2-D DESIGN AP**

Description: The AP Art and Design course framework presents an inquiry-based approach to learning about and making art and design. Students are expected to conduct an in-depth, sustained investigation of materials, processes, and ideas. The framework focuses on concepts and skills emphasized within college art and design foundations courses with the same intent: to help students become inquisitive, thoughtful artists and designers able to articulate information about their work. AP Art and Design students develop and apply skills of inquiry and investigation, practice, experimentation, revision, communication, and reflection.

Prerequisites: Art 1 or another art class is preferred, but not required.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts



VISUAL IMAGERY 1**

Description: This course is an integration of communication skills and artistic proficiencies using photography and visual imagery as a focus. Emphasis is placed on creative, expository, and instructional writing using comprehensive photographic visual imagery concepts. Students learn color management, graphic design and/or selection, typography, texture, and layout design. This course covers Production techniques, aesthetics in visual imagery and develops production skills through hands-on experience with cameras, studio lighting, film, imaging software Digital and conventional darkroom equipment. This course explores the uses of photography in the humanities, emphasizing commercial and documentary photography and their social and historical significance. This course will also examine the relationship between words and images using classic examples of books utilizing photos and text. Students learn the importance of oral communication as a media tool through practiced public speaking. Students will use higher-order thinking skills through inquiry, observation, identification of relationships among pieces of information, and identification of patterns. Professional image presentation will be examined through the production of a digital portfolio and web gallery. Through this, students will be prepared for entry-level employment in various digital media fields including Graphic design and Photography.

Prerequisite: None

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts



Other Electives

COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES AP**

Description: This course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. In this course, students will develop computational thinking vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course is unique in its focus on fostering student creativity. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. They will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world. It is recommended that a student in the AP Computer Science Principles course should have successfully completed a first-year high school algebra course with a strong foundation on basic linear functions and composition of functions, and problem-solving strategies that require multiple approaches and collaborative efforts. In addition, students should be able to use a Cartesian (x, y) coordinate system to represent points in a plane.

Prerequisites: Grades 10-12

Total Credits: 5 per semester

D – Laboratory Science

ETHNIC STUDIES “URBAN SCHOLARS”**

Description: This course focuses on cultivating the skills and qualities necessary for becoming impactful leaders and citizens within urban environments. Students will engage in discussions and activities to enhance their respect, kindness, thoughtfulness, and interpersonal effectiveness.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT 101**

Description: The ideas and concepts presented will focus on increasing understanding of personal lifestyles and how the college experience, as a learning process, leads to the creation of a successful lifestyle. Emphasis will be placed on raising awareness and assimilating these ideas and concepts into one's everyday habits and routines. This course is designed to explore learning styles and skills (note taking, test taking, organizing and managing resources, reading strategies, memory), health and exercise, communication and relationships, sexuality, stress management, goal setting, and decision making as these topics relate to creating a lifestyle that is personally satisfying and fulfilling. This course will serve our degree seeking students as well as those intent on transferring to a university.

Prerequisites: Must have a 2.0 GPA

Credits: 10 (One semester class)

G - College Preparatory Elective



INTRO TO WELDING & FABRICATION**

Description: An introductory course that teaches students about welding and other manufacturing techniques with an emphasis on career preparation. This introductory course is designed to educate and familiarize students with the basics of welding technology and processes, safety, and industry-standard practices to provide each student with the knowledge and skills in preparation for an entry-level position in manufacturing post high school graduation. This is a full-year course (2 semesters/180 hours) that meets A-G requirements

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

WELDING & FABRICATION II**

Description: This intermediate course is designed to further students' welding knowledge of technology and processes, safety, and industry-standard practices to provide each student with the skills for an entry-level position in manufacturing post high school graduation. This is a full-year course (2 semesters/180 hours) that meets A-G requirements.

Prerequisites: 2 Semesters of Welding and Fabrication

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

LITERACY SUPPORT 1

Description: An intervention class for students who are concurrently enrolled in English 9. The teachers will monitor students' performance in their English 9 and provide support to improve that performance by using READ 180 to increase the student's reading level. This support will be provided in a well-organized classroom environment. The students will be given consistent reading instructions while also receiving Language Arts instruction. The course will also provide students a chance to master missing English prerequisite skills.

Prerequisites: Placement determined by diagnostic tests, CST scores, and/or teacher recommendation.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

LITERACY SUPPORT 2

Description: An intervention class for students who are concurrently enrolled in English 10. The teachers will monitor students' performance in their English 10 and provide support to improve that performance by using READ 180 to increase the student's reading level. This support will be provided in a well-organized classroom environment. The students will be given consistent reading instructions while also receiving Language Arts instruction. The course will also provide students a chance to master missing English prerequisite skills.

Prerequisites: Placement determined by diagnostic tests, CST scores, and/or teacher recommendation.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

SOUND ENGINEERING**

Description: If the sound of creating, recording, and mixing music interests you, then Sound Engineering is the class for you! Whether it's making beats, creating a Podcast or writing lyrics, Sound Engineering teaches students the fundamentals of the industry.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

F – Visual & Performing Arts



SOUND ENGINEERING 2**

Description: If the sound of creating, recording, and mixing music interests you, then Sound Engineering is the class for you! Whether it's making beats, creating a Podcast or writing lyrics, Sound Engineering teaches students the fundamentals of the industry.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

STUDENT GOVERNMENT & LEADERSHIP (ASB)**

Description: Students learn to make and implement a budget involving ASB Funds, correct use of Robert's Rules of Order, to effectively interact with other students and teachers and ASB advisor. Students participate in as many student activities as time permits, encourage school spirit, and promote student involvement by setting effective student leadership goals.

Prerequisites: Good attendance, GPA 2.0 or above.

Total Credits: 5 per semester

G - College Preparatory Elective

WORK EXPERIENCE**

Description: Work Experience Education is a comprehensive work-related course that is taught in the Work Experience Education Program. Work Experience Education includes both classroom and on-the-job training component. The required classroom portion incorporates general employability skills, career awareness, health and safety in the workplace, knowledge of labor laws, financial planning, understanding taxes, job search techniques and decision-making skills. Students are required to have a job at the time of enrollment.

Prerequisites: Grades 11 – 12, 16 years of age or older, Able to work 40 hours per week, teacher signature.

Total Credits: 10 credits each semester with a maximum of 4 elective credits earned toward graduation.

G - College Preparatory Elective

YEARBOOK

Description: Yearbook is a class that involves the design, production, and publication of a school yearbook. It is a production-based class that can help students develop technical skills, teamwork, and time management. Students learn: Technical Skills – how to use photo-editing programs, project management software, and yearbook design software, Photography – how to take pictures of school and sporting events, Graphic Design – how to design pages and create layouts, Writing – how to write copy and headlines, Teamwork – how to collaborate with others to complete the project, Time Management – how to manage their time to complete the project, Selling Ads – in a yearbook involves planning sales activities, pitching to businesses, and collecting payments. Yearbook class helps students develop skills that are valuable to employers and helps them decide what they want to do after high school.

Total Credits: 5 per semester



Special Education

Placement - Students receiving special education instruction are identified through testing and observation. Placement is through the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) process and includes parents, instructors, counselors, school nurse, and other specialists. The IEP process serving special needs students follows prescribed law. Special education instruction does not supplant the core curriculum; it enables students to experience success commensurate with their highest potential.

Testing - Tests presently utilized for placement are the W.R.A.T., Form II, The K.T.E.A. (Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement), and Durrell Test of Oral Reading. All special education students are tested by the school psychologist every three years.

RSP (Resource Specialist Program)

Description: Students are enrolled in Strategies for Success 9, 10, 11, or 12 as prescribed in their IEP.

Prerequisites: IEP

Total Credits: 5 per semester

ESS (Essential)

Description: Students receive special education support for more than 50% of the school day and may take many of their core classes within the special day program. The student is included in general education classes the remainder of the school day as appropriate.

Prerequisites: IEP

Total Credits: 5 per semester

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS 9

Description: The Strategies for Success/Resource Program at Palmdale High School is designed to develop, strengthen, and improve academic performance and achievement. It aims to create a comfortable environment where students can develop and reinforce life skills to become successful 21st century learners. Through content area course work, pre- and post- teaching, cognitive learning strategies are taught which focus on organizational and study skills, test taking, and the enhancements of written and oral expression. Self-advocacy skills and transitional planning are essential to the instructional program. Students' progress is monitored and reviewed throughout the year according to their Individualized Educational Plans.

Prerequisites: IEP

Total Credits: 5 per semester

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS 10

Description: The Strategies for Success/Resource Program at Palmdale High School is designed to develop, strengthen, and improve academic performance and achievement. It aims to create a comfortable environment where students can develop and reinforce life skills to become successful 21st century learners. Through content area course work, pre- and post- teaching, cognitive learning strategies are taught which focus on organizational and study skills, test taking, and the enhancements of written and oral expression. Self-advocacy skills and transitional planning are essential to the instructional program. Students' progress is monitored and reviewed throughout the year according to their Individualized Educational Plans.

Prerequisites: IEP

Total Credits: 5 per semester



STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS 11

Description: The Strategies for Success/Resource Program at Palmdale High School is designed to develop, strengthen, and improve academic performance and achievement. It aims to create a comfortable environment where students can develop and reinforce life skills to become successful 21st century learners. Through content area course work, pre- and post- teaching, cognitive learning strategies are taught which focus on organizational and study skills, test taking, and the enhancements of written and oral expression. Self-advocacy skills and transitional planning are essential to the instructional program. Students' progress is monitored and reviewed throughout the year according to their Individualized Educational Plans.

Prerequisites: IEP

Total Credits: 5 per semester

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS 12

Description: The Strategies for Success/Resource Program at Palmdale High School is designed to develop, strengthen, and improve academic performance and achievement. It aims to create a comfortable environment where students can develop and reinforce life skills to become successful 21st century learners. Through content area course work, pre- and post- teaching, cognitive learning strategies are taught which focus on organizational and study skills, test taking, and the enhancements of written and oral expression. Self-advocacy skills and transitional planning are essential to the instructional program. Students' progress is monitored and reviewed throughout the year according to their Individualized Educational Plans.

Prerequisites: IEP or 504 Plans.

Total Credits: 5 per semester