



KENTS HILL SCHOOL

2025-2026 Course Prospectus

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ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

Academic Philosophy

Within a rigorous yet nurturing academic community that highly values self-discovery and ethical scholarship, we empower each student to recognize and embrace the joys and responsibilities of lifelong learning, the creative wonder of the arts, the beauty and fragility of our shared environment, and the importance of diverse thoughts and experiences.

Credits

Kents Hill School awards one credit for each successfully completed yearlong course and 1/2 credit for each semester course. Successful completion of each yearlong course entails earning two-semester grades that, when averaged together, result in a passing grade for the year. Students may receive 1/2 credit by earning a passing grade for one semester but failing the course for the year.

Kents Hill School also awards 1/2 credit to students who enroll for part of a school year. Students joining Kents Hill prior to the end of the first quarter will be treated as full-year students and may earn credit accordingly; students who enroll after the first quarter concludes will be treated as midyear students and receive 1/2 credit for each successfully completed course. With the noteworthy exception of students participating in the academic exchange program, students who leave Kents Hill School before the end of the year will be awarded 1/2 credit for each successfully completed Semester 1 course.

Graduation Requirements

Students must fulfill the requirements listed below to receive a Kents Hill diploma. In exceptional circumstances, waivers may be granted for some requirements; all waivers must be approved by the Dean of Academics and the Director of College Counseling. Please note that students must be enrolled until graduation and may not graduate early.

4-Year Students

Arts	2 credits (1/2 credit must be in Visual Arts and 1/2 credit in Performing Arts)
English	4 credits (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times)
Mathematics	3 credits (including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or beyond)
Science	3 credits (including 1 credit of Biology, 1 credit of Chemistry or Physics, and 1 credit of Environmental Science)
Social Studies	4 credits (including 1 credit of United States History)
Tech and Engineering	2 credits
World Languages	2 credits and completion of Level 200 in one language

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 20

3-Year Students

Arts	2 credits (1/2 credit must be in Visual Arts and 1/2 credit in Performing Arts)
English	3 credits (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times and accrue 4 credits of English total in order to graduate from high school)
Mathematics	2 credits (including Geometry and Algebra 2 or beyond)
Science	2 credits (including 1 credit of Chemistry or Physics and 1 credit of Environmental Science)
Social Studies	3 credits (including 1 credit of United States History)
Tech and Engineering	2 credits
World Languages	2 credits and completion of Level 200 in one language

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 15

2-Year Students

Arts	1/2 credit (which may be fulfilled by either Visual Arts or Performing Arts)
English	2 credits (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times and accrue four credits of English total in order to graduate from high school)
Mathematics	1 credit (including Algebra 2 or beyond)
Science	1 credit (including 1 credit of Environmental Science)
Social Studies	2 credits (including 1 credit of United States History if not previously taken)
Tech and Engineering	1 credit
World Languages	1 credit and completion of Level 200 in one language if not previously taken

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 10

1-Year Students

Arts	1/2 credit (which may be fulfilled by either Visual Arts or Performing Arts)
English	1 credit (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times and accrue four credits of English total in order to graduate from high school)
Mathematics	1 credit of Algebra 2 if not previously taken
Science	1 credit of Life Science if not previously taken
Social Studies	1 credit (which must be United States History if not previously taken)
Tech and Engineering	1 credit (suggested but not required)
World Languages	1 credit and completion of Level 200 in one language if not previously taken

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 5

Course Load

Students in grades 9-12 must be enrolled in six classes at all times. Exceptions to this policy are rare and require approval from the Dean of Academics and, in some cases, the Director of College Counseling. Please note that graduation requirements will not be adjusted for students who reduce their class load in any given year.

Course Selections

Students are encouraged to carry challenging but manageable course loads. Schedules are finalized toward the end of July based on grades, teacher recommendations, enrollment numbers, scheduling conflicts, and departmental permissions. Every effort is made to provide the best schedule for each student, and the Dean of Academics, the College Counseling Office, and faculty advisors work closely to ensure that students have strong academic records to present to colleges.

Course Changes

Course changes may be made during the first week of the fall semester and the first week of the spring semester. Students must obtain permission from the Dean of Academics and their college counselors in the case of juniors, seniors, and postgraduates. The school may sometimes require a student to switch courses or sections of courses for many reasons ranging from performance to section balancing. These decisions will be made by the Academic Office in conjunction with representatives of the academic department(s) and the Student Life Office.

Advanced Placement and Dual-Enrollment Courses

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are rigorous classes that follow College Board syllabi and culminate in external exams each May. All Advanced Placement students are required to take AP exams and pay the requisite fees. In addition to AP courses, Kents Hill partners with local colleges to provide advanced students with opportunities to complete college coursework. Qualified Kents Hill instructors work with college professors to design and teach dual-enrollment (DE) courses using approved college-level syllabi. Students who complete these courses earn high school credit, as well as college credit from the participating institution. Students who wish to enroll in AP and/or DE courses must have strong academic backgrounds and obtain instructor permission. Please note that Kents Hill does not allow Grades 9-12 students to take more than a total of three AP/dual-enrollment classes per school year, as these courses demand considerable time and effort outside of the academic day. Students seeking waivers for this rule must submit special forms and secure the signatures of their parents, advisors, the Dean of Academics, and the Director of College Counseling. See course descriptions for offerings and prerequisites. See the course descriptions for offerings and prerequisites. Additional course fees apply.

Independent Studies

Any student in Grade 11 or above who wishes to undertake a pass/fail independent study must work with a teacher to create a proposal using Kents Hill's [proposal template](#). The proposal must have faculty support as indicated by the following signatures: the supervising teacher, the appropriate department chair, the student's advisor, and the Director of College Counseling. For the 2025-2026 school year, students must submit complete independent study proposals to the Dean of Academics by Friday, April 18, 2025. **Note:** In the rare instance that a student undertaking an independent study does not fulfill his or her obligations in the opinion of the supervising teacher, the Dean of Academics reserves the right to remove the independent study from the student's schedule.

Summer Homework

Some teachers of Honors, Advanced Placement, and dual-enrollment courses assign a moderate amount of summer homework to prepare students for the rigors of the year ahead. Students with summer work must complete the assignments on time to secure their places in these challenging courses. For students enrolled in Kents Hill School *before* August 1, summer work is due on registration day, either electronically to the teacher or handed into the Dean of Academics in the Alford. Students who enroll *after* August 1 may take until the end of our annual add/drop period. Finally, students who enroll at Kents Hill or in the specific course *after* the school year starts will complete the assignment in consultation with the teacher of that course. **Please see the course descriptions below for classes requiring summer homework.**

NEW COURSES

VPA 213: Public Speaking	TE 117: Robotics
VPA 215: Introduction to Marketing	TE 214: Graphic Design
VPA 303: Guitar Ensemble	TE 215: 3D Design
VPA 371: Intermediate Woodworking	TE 218: Intermediate Java
ENG 313: Global Voices Global Perspectives	TE 219: Intermediate Python
ENG 317: The Story and Its Writer	TE 220: Game Development
HPE 211: Fundamentals of Coaching	TE 222: Web and App Development
HPE 213: Introduction to Athletic Training	TE 224: Physical Computing
PHY 311: Physics	TE 313: Design Studio
SOC 211: Modern European History	TE 315: Programming Studio
SOC 501: AP European History	TE 317: Build Studio
TE 101: Technology and Engineering Discoveries	TE 441: Technology and Engineering Studio
TE 112: Digital Design	TE 501: AP Computer Science A
TE 114: Creative Coding	SPA 411: Spanish 4
TE 116: Practical Engineering	

PROSPECTIVE COURSES: SCHOOL YEAR 2025-2026

The following pages describe the courses that Kents Hill School plans to offer during the 2025-2026 school year. It is important to note that some courses may be removed from the curriculum after students submit course requests for various reasons, including staffing needs or insufficient interest. This highlights the need for students to request alternate courses when completing their course requests for the 2025-2026 school year.

THE ARTS

The Art Department's mission is to provide all students with opportunities to develop their appreciation and understanding of the visual and performing arts. Kents Hill offers variety, depth, and growth to every student and facilitates creative environments in which students feel safe, supported, and challenged. Courses awarding visual and performing arts credits are designated as such. The Arts Department offers courses at the 100-500 levels.

Semester Courses

Semester 1 Courses: Fall 2025	Semester 2 Courses: Spring 2026
History and Performance of Musical Theater	Introduction to Guitar
Metalsmithing and Jewelry	Sustainable Fashion
Photography	Public Speaking NEW COURSE!
	Introduction to Marketing NEW COURSE!

100-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 101: First-Year Arts Seminar

Full-year course (0.5 Visual Art, 0.5 Performing Arts)

College Prep

The Freshman Arts Seminar allows students to find their creative voices and explore Kents Hill's arts offerings. The course is taught in several sections by different instructors. In each section, students are introduced to a different set of skills and concepts. Topics of exploration include but are not limited to drawing, painting, ceramics, textiles, sculpture, woodworking, performing arts, music, and the *Adobe Suite*. Through written reflections and group critiques, students develop critical thinking skills and the ability to share and receive meaningful feedback. This course provides students with a well-rounded background in the arts and allows them to focus on specialized classes as they move through the Kents Hill curriculum. Ninth-grade students who want to participate in Kents Hill Choir or Kents Hill Ensemble may enroll in one of these courses instead of the First-Year Arts Seminar. Additional course fees apply.

VISUAL ARTS

200-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 201: Ceramics 1

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course is an introduction to the multiple methods of creating art with clay. Students will explore various clay bodies and learn the primary techniques of hand-building and glazing. Students will also be introduced to advanced processes such as wheel throwing, mold making, and slip casting. Projects range from sculptural pieces to functional wares while emphasizing creative freedom. Students will gain inspiration and appreciation of a wide breadth of historical and contemporary ceramic artists through research assignments. Written reflection and group critiques allow students to develop their communication skills and artist voices. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 215: Introduction to Marketing

Semester course- Spring 2026 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Marketing is about storytelling, strategy, and impact. In this hands-on, seminar-style course, students will learn to create compelling, professional-quality content and campaigns. Designed to mirror an internship experience, the course provides opportunities for students to develop and apply their skills through live projects used both within and beyond the Kents Hill School community. Topics may include brand identity, content creation, audience engagement, social media strategy, digital marketing tools, and persuasive messaging. Through practical experience, students will explore how design, communication, and analytics work together to create effective marketing campaigns. Prerequisite: VPA 101: First-Year Arts Seminar **NEW COURSE!**

VPA 231: Drawing and Painting

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course is designed to help students develop basic drawing and painting skills. Through exercises, practice, and critiques students will learn how to see as an artist sees. Using various mediums including pencil, pen, and charcoal, students create a series of drawings to become comfortable rendering from observation. The foundational principles of art such as proportion, perspective, composition, negative/positive space relationships, value, and shading are all skills developed through drawing projects. Group critiques help students develop their communication skills and hone their artistic voices. In the second half of the course, students build upon their drawing skills and explore techniques and concepts of watercolor and acrylic painting. Students will explore how color, tone, and texture all impact a work of art. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 241: Photography

Semester course—Fall 2025 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This course is an introduction to the art of making, altering, and printing photographs. Students will explore the history of photography and the technology artists have used over the past century to capture images on film. The class primarily focuses on the use of DSLR (digital single-lens reflex) cameras, *Adobe Photoshop*, and *Lightroom*. The foundational principles of art such as proportion, perspective, and composition, are all skills developed throughout the year. This course introduces concepts relating to studio photography and lighting techniques. Students will work at cultivating a personal voice through their photos and effectively communicating their ideas and stories visually. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 273: Sustainable Fashion

Semester course—Spring 2026 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This semester-long course introduces students to basic sewing techniques through the lens of sustainable fashion and upcycling. Students will learn hand sewing practices, as well as how to properly use a sewing machine and serger. Students will learn ways to both create garments, as well as deconstruct and make something completely new out of existing ones. Through these processes students will be introduced to garment construction, patterning, mending, types of fabric, dyeing, and finishing techniques. This course is project-based and focused on design thinking, and problem solving. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 281: Jewelry Making and Metalsmithing

Semester course—Fall 2025 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This course explores the concepts and skills of making jewelry and body adornment. Students will learn to work with metal from a Fine Arts perspective to create one-of-a-kind wearable sculptures. Students learn how to work with copper and silver as they also learn to design and build functional and sculpture work. Through technical demonstrations and assignments, students will learn a variety of skills such as cutting, soldering, riveting, sanding, and enameling. Through slideshows and individual research, students are introduced to historical and contemporary metal-working concepts and artists. Through written reflection and group critiques students develop their communication skills and artistic voices. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 293: Introduction to Woodworking

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course will focus on fundamental design principles and woodworking techniques. Students will be instructed on the safe and proper use of woodworking machines and hand tools such as the table saw, jointer, planer, band saw, chisels, and hand planes. This course is grounded with historical context and using traditional tools and techniques. Participants will learn how to transform sketches into technical drawings and scale models, then fabricate those ideas into finished pieces. Additional course fees apply.

300-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 301: Art of Short Film

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

The Art of Short Film engages students in all aspects of producing a short film, focusing on documentaries. Using *Adobe Premiere* software, video cameras, tripods, professional lighting, and audio equipment, students create their own collection of short (1-5 minute) films. Striving artistically to showcase the elements of cinema into compelling visual storytelling is a major goal of the course. Students work in groups and individually depending on the project. The principles of filming (framing, pan & zoom, angles, etc.) as well as editing (cutting, pacing, etc.) are covered. For homework, students research various film techniques, post videos, and report on their findings. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 371: Intermediate Woodworking

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

In this course, students will learn more advanced cabinetry techniques while deepening the fundamental skills acquired in Introduction to Woodworking. This course is rooted in historical context and employs traditional tools and methods. Students will undertake larger projects that present an appropriate level of challenge, such as a chest of drawers, nightstand, drop-leaf table, or writing desk. Additionally, students will learn to use the CNC machine. Instructor permission is required for this course.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Woodworking or a similar course from a previous institution and permission of the instructor.

Additional course fees apply. **NEW COURSE!**

500-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 501: AP Two-Dimensional Studio Art

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This course is intended for 11th, 12th, and PG students who are serious about art and are considering a major or minor in art in college. Students will pursue individualized research and artistic investigation on a self-determined topic of interest. Students will prepare an art portfolio for the AP 2-D Studio Art exam in May and as a supplement for their college portfolio applications. The goals of this course are to encourage creative as well as systemic investigation of formal and conceptual issues; to emphasize art as an ongoing process involving informed and critical decision-making; to develop technical skills and to familiarize students with the functions of the visual elements. Instructor permission is required for this course. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 6.**

VPA 511: AP Three-Dimensional Studio Art

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This course is intended for juniors, seniors, and Academic Gap Year students who are serious about art and are considering a major or minor in art in college. Students will pursue individualized research and artistic investigation on a self-determined topic of interest. Students will prepare an art portfolio for the AP 3-D Studio Art exam in May and as a supplement for their college portfolio applications. The goals of this course are to encourage creative as well as systemic investigation of formal and conceptual issues; to emphasize art as an ongoing process involving informed and critical decision-making; to develop technical skills and to familiarize students with the functions of the visual elements. Instructor permission is required for this course. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

VPA 521: AP Drawing

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This course is intended for 11th, 12th, and PG students who are serious about art and are considering a major or minor in art in college. Students will pursue individualized research and artistic investigation on a self-determined topic of interest. Students will prepare an art portfolio for the AP Drawing exam in May and as a supplement for their college portfolio applications. The goals of this course are to encourage creative as well as systemic investigation of formal and conceptual issues; to emphasize art as an ongoing process involving informed and critical decision-making; to develop technical skills and to familiarize students with the functions of the visual elements. Instructor permission is required for this course. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

PERFORMING ARTS

200-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 205: History and Performance of Musical Theater

Semester course- Fall 2025 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

In this course, students will be introduced to the world of musical theater and given tools to help them understand it as well as bring it to life. Students will learn the history of musical theatre and focus on musicals from the Golden Age of Broadway to today. As a class, students will learn songs, dance, dialogue, and movements from different musicals. This course involves hands-on projects that are developed to build confidence while performing, as well as musical appreciation. This course is for everyone, from a true beginner to the more experienced.

VPA 213: Public Speaking

Semester course- Spring 2026 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Effective communication is a powerful skill, and this course will help students build the confidence, knowledge, and techniques necessary to speak with clarity and impact. Through various public speaking experiences—including formal speeches, impromptu presentations, and professional networking—students will learn to organize their thoughts, craft compelling messages, and deliver them fluently and confidently. With numerous opportunities to practice in scenarios related to Kents Hill School and beyond, this course ensures that students acquire hands-on experience in professional communication. Prerequisite: VPA 101: First-Year Arts Seminar. **NEW COURSE!**

VPA 222: Kents Hill Ensemble

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Kents Hill Ensemble is an instrumental ensemble dedicated to studying and performing music from various genres and styles. Traditional symphonic orchestral instruments accepted (strings, brass, woodwinds, percussion). This is a full-year course open to all students who play an instrument and would like to perform as a group and enrich their instrumental music education. We will learn and review musical notation, symbols, and terminology so as to perform our selections with technical and expressive accuracy. This group will perform throughout the year and participation in concerts and other scheduled events are required.

VPA 232: Kents Hill Singers

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Kents Hill Choir is a vocal ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of vocal music from a variety of genres and styles. This is a full-year course open to all students who want to sing together as a group and enrich their choral music education. We will learn and review musical notation, symbols, and terminology so as to perform our selections with technical and expressive accuracy. Learning to sing safely and correctly will also be emphasized. This group will perform throughout the year and participation in concerts and other scheduled events are required. No prior singing experience necessary.

VPA 212: Introduction to Guitar

Semester course- Spring 2026 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Introduction to guitar welcomes any level of guitar player. This class will focus on the fundamentals of guitar, reading music notation, playing technique, and literature. Students are not required to perform publicly as part of the course, but playing opportunities will be available within the Kents Hill community for those who would like them. No prior musical training is needed.

300-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 303: Guitar Ensemble

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This class is for students who have successfully completed Introduction to Guitar or can demonstrate the ability to play written chords and tabs or read musical notation. The class focuses on students being part of an ensemble, making music together in ways they wouldn't be able to on their own. Ensemble members will further their individual growth as guitar musicians and continue their musical journey while being vital members of the group. Prerequisites: Introduction to Guitar, a similar course from a previous school, or proof of ability. **NEW COURSE!**

ENGLISH

Kents Hill's English program provides college-bound students with regular opportunities to develop proficiency in reading, speaking and listening, and writing. Our course sequence introduces students to literature from a range of authors, time periods, and literary forms, and all courses promote skill development through discussions, presentations, creative work, and traditional essay writing. In keeping with Kents Hill School's curriculum, English classes also include extensive investigation of character-related issues and multiple opportunities for student reflection. Each student is enrolled in an English course at all times and is required to complete at least four credits of English in order to graduate. Kents Hill offers English courses at the 100-500 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 112: Multicultural Literature

Full-year Course (1 credit)

College Prep

Multicultural Literature is an entry-level course that introduces students to the basics of literary analysis. Students read works of fiction, poetry, and drama, and develop original arguments based on specific details within each text. Throughout this process, students examine the core elements of fiction, such as conflict, plot, setting, character, theme, and point of view. Students also review foundational principles of grammar, punctuation, and usage, and write several multi-paragraph essays. As a thematic focus, the course draws on a diverse range of authors and exposes students to work within and outside of the Western canon. Central texts may include *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah; *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson; Gareth Hinds's illustrated adaptation of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and selections from *Sudden Flash Youth: 65 Short-Short Stories*. Selected poets may include Maya Angelou, Langston Hughes, Pablo Neruda, Naomi Shihab Nye, and Ocean Vuong.

200-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 213: American Literature

Full-year Course (1 credit)

College Prep

American Literature is a year-long course that introduces students to literature from various writers from America. The course considers each text's unique social and historical circumstances. Students will work with poetry, plays, short stories, and novels in a continuation of genre-specific analysis techniques as carried over from Multicultural Literature. Specific classwork will include grammar and vocabulary practice, introductory and multi-paragraph essay structure, foundational literary elements such as character, setting, theme, and point of view, and various discussion skills. American Literature builds upon the skills of Multicultural Literature by continuing to emphasize the development of several skill areas, particularly reading, speaking and listening, and writing. Potential texts include Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, Samira Ahmed's *Internment*, George Takei's *They Called Us Enemy*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Edith Wharton's *Ethan Frome*, an introduction to America's Beat Poets, and a series of short stories.

ENG 223: Honors American Literature

Full-year Course (1 credit)

Honors

Honors American Literature is a year-long course that introduces students to a range of literary works while exploring the many social and historical contexts that influence each text. Pacing and course material are designed to complement and further develop each student's demonstration, mastery, and enhancement of skills honed in 200-level classes; Honors American Literature students are expected to work more independently on skill areas such as reading, speaking and listening, and writing. Specific classwork will include intentional and high-paced review and development of grammar and vocabulary, introductory and multi-paragraph essay structure, foundational literary elements such as character, setting, theme, and point of view, and various discussion skills, among others. Potential texts include Jonathan Safran Foer's *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Tara Westover's *Educated: A Memoir*, Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, Lynda Barry's *One! Hundred! Demons!*, a series of American poetry and short stories, among others. Prerequisite: ENG 201, an equivalent course, or instructor permission.

400-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 401: Global Voices, Global Perspectives

Full-year Course (1 credit)

College Prep

Global Voices, Global Perspectives is a yearlong course that introduces students to writers, artists, and thought leaders from around the world who are speaking about contemporary issues that transcend geographical borders. Through a diverse range of perspectives, we engage with these voices as mirrors to better understand our own experiences and as windows to investigate the world around us. The course focuses on developing critical skills of reading, writing, thinking, questioning, and engaging in dialogue; seeks to develop strong habits of learning and doing; and intersects with Kents Hill's focus on character. Through these competencies, students will hone their voices and agency so that they are empowered to think, act, and communicate for impact. Potential texts include Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*, Julia Alvarez's *How The Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, and a variety of short stories and poetry. **NEW COURSE!**

ENG 411: The Story and Its Writer

Full-year Course (1 credit)

College Prep

This yearlong course explores the definition of “story,” asks who tells stories, and examines how stories are told. Stories are often exciting blends of multiple forms, perspectives, and voices, and this course presents a diverse selection of titles, authors, genres, and topics. Through an investigation of not just what stories mean but how they mean, students will read, analyze, and evaluate short tales, flash fiction, flash nonfiction, poetry in a variety of forms, drama, and graphic storytelling. Units will either be arranged topically and/or by the writer and will involve student inquiry into questions circulating such themes as redemption, survival, love, and forgiveness, among others. Writing projects will range from literary analysis and expository writing to more creative options, and will focus on both new and recursive writing, reading, grammar, and vocabulary skills. Featured authors may include but are not limited to Richard Bausch, Aimee Bender, George Saunders, Charles Chesnutt, Kristen Roupenian, Richard Ford, Anton Chekhov, Patricia O'Donnell, Ha Jin, James Davis May, and Jhumpa Lahiri, among others **NEW COURSE!**

ENG 413: Contemporary Issues in Literature

Full-year Course (1 credit)

College Prep

In this yearlong course, we will explore some of the world's most pressing concerns as represented in contemporary literature. Students will examine the ways in which authors and their characters grapple with complex twenty-first-century challenges such as climate change, global migration and the migrant experience, the highs and lows of social media discourse, and common mental health disorders. Through close reading, spirited discussion, and both analytical and research-based writing, students will develop a nuanced understanding of how literary works reflect and shape contemporary discourse, and practice a variety of academic skills along the way. Potential book-length works include *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward, *Where We Come From* by Oscar Casares, *So You've Been Publicly Shamed* by Jon Ronson, and *Eleonor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman.

500-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 501: Advanced Creative Writing

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Advanced Creative Writing is designed to mirror the experience of a college creative writing class that will help students develop their creative expression through the written word. Students will explore the craft and art of creative writing, learn how to identify successful elements of creative writing, develop oral and written articulation skills by properly and thoughtfully giving and receiving feedback, experience the wonders and intellectual empowerment of a “writing community,” and use writing as a tool for self-discovery and scholarly exploration. Students will assemble their own creative writing portfolio composed of creative nonfiction, fiction, and poetry, and they will have the opportunity to broadly publish their work in *Juxtapose*, Kents Hill's literary magazine as part of a project-based learning unit. Texts may include excerpts from *The Art of Memoir* by Mary Karr, *Why Poetry* by Matthew Zapruder, and *The Truth of the Matter* by Dinty Moore. Other authors of study may include Jaquira Diaz, Maggie Smith, Patricia Hampl, Annie Dillard, Mark Doty, Cristin O'Keefe Aptowicz, Richard Bausch, Ha Jin, Mary Oliver, Stephen King, Roxane Gay, TR Hummer, Bonafide Rojas, Ted Kooser, and Bret Lott, among many others. Prerequisite: Any ENG 400 level course, an equivalent course, or instructor permission.

ENG 510: AP English Literature and Composition

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

In this course, which is modeled on a college-level English seminar, students explore complex and challenging works of literature in a variety of genres in order to develop their close reading, discussion, and analytical writing skills and prepare for the College Board's Advanced Placement exam in English Literature and Composition. Readings include novels, plays, and poems from authors such as William Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, Louise Erdrich, Herman Melville, Toni Morrison, Virginia Woolf, Franz Kafka, Walt Whitman, Tracy K. Smith, and James Baldwin. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Additional course fees apply. Prerequisite: ENG 401, an equivalent course, or instructor permission. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

ENG 521: AP Language and Composition

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This introductory college-level composition course focuses on how writers structure their arguments and the “moves” they employ to be persuasive. We will examine non-fiction texts of all kinds—famous speeches, ripped-from-headlines editorials, memoirs, famous essays and letters, podcasts, images, TEDTalks—and learn how to compose our own rhetorically-rich arguments, including raising our awareness of the role of reasoning, organization and style in essays. A myriad of mini-units about a variety of topics will structure this course: gender in advertising, the role of social media, race in America, satire and humor, and civil disobedience are all possible areas of study. After the May AP exam, we will read identity essays and write drafts of college essays. Overall, students will enhance their ability to read critically, think analytically, and communicate clearly both in writing and speech. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Additional course fees apply. Prerequisite: ENG 401, an equivalent course, or instructor permission. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Health and Physical Education Department is dedicated to promoting physical fitness, well-being, and healthy lifestyle choices. Through a variety of courses and activities, students develop essential skills in physical fitness, sports, nutrition, and mental health. The department emphasizes teamwork, leadership, and personal responsibility, fostering a positive environment for all students. Students engage in both individual and team activities, helping them build lifelong habits that support physical and emotional well-being. In addition to physical development, the department provides education on topics such as personal safety, stress management, and healthy relationships. The goal is to empower students to make informed decisions that promote a healthy and active life. As a new department in the 2025 - 2026 school year, only 200-level courses will be offered this year.

200-LEVEL COURSES

HPE 211: Fundamentals of Coaching

Semester course - Fall 2025 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Coaching is more than just teaching skills and strategies—it's about developing confident, well-rounded athletes and fostering a lifelong love of sport. This course introduces students to the fundamentals of coaching, from creating safe and effective practices to building strong team cultures. Through hands-on experiences, specifically focused on our ski hill and ice rink, students will learn how to motivate athletes, manage team dynamics, and support player growth on and off the field. Prerequisites: to enroll in this course, a student needs to be a returning junior or senior and obtain the recommendation of a Kents Hill Coach.

HPE 213: Introduction to Athletic Training

Semester course - Fall 2025 (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This course provides an in-depth introduction to the principles of athletic training, focusing on the prevention, recognition, and management of sports-related injuries and illnesses. Through hands-on practice and real-world scenarios, students will build the skills and confidence needed to support athletes' health and performance. Topics may include human anatomy and physiology, injury assessment, emergency response, rehabilitation strategies, and essential techniques such as taping and bandaging.

Prerequisite: Biology 111 or higher and permission of instructor.

MATHEMATICS

Kents Hill's Mathematics program is designed to help students master algebraic skills, understand algebraic methods, reason graphically and analytically, and apply mathematics to solve everyday problems. Math courses are offered at the 100-500 levels and include various Honors and Advanced Placement options that progress at an accelerated pace, covering a wide range of content in both breadth and depth. These courses require a serious commitment from students and their willingness to invest extra time and effort into mastering the material.

Kents Hill students are required to complete at least three years of mathematics including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. As most selective colleges require four years of math, the Math Department and College Counselling recommend completing a fourth year. While students may choose to "double up" in mathematics after completing a 300-level class, they can only do this if one of the courses is either Statistics or AP Statistics and one other 400-level course or higher. Please note that students are not permitted to take a course and its prerequisite concurrently. All mathematics students will be provided with a Numworks graphing calculator for in-class use and are encouraged to download the free phone app for use outside of class.

Academic Progress in Mathematics

For the required courses Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2, students must earn a grade of C- or higher in the second semester to be automatically promoted to the next course in the sequence. Students who earn a grade below C- in the second semester may be asked to take a placement exam before the start of the following year to demonstrate mastery of the material. For elective courses (which include all classes at the 400 level or higher), students who earn a B or higher in the second semester of their current math course will be promoted to the next class in their sequence. The exception to this is that students earning a C or above in the second semester of Algebra 2 or Precalculus may enroll in Statistics.

To transition into the Honors/AP math sequence, students must earn an A- or higher in the second semester of their current College Prep math course, get the permission of the Math Department Chair, and successfully complete the summer work packet for the course they are looking to enroll in. (Please note that students may need to learn some material on their own over the summer to complete the summer work packet.) Students who earn below a B in the second semester of an Honors/AP sequence course may only enroll in the College Prep or Statistics sequence course of the next level. Students who earn below a C in the second semester of an elective Honors course must obtain departmental approval to enroll in the next-level College Prep or Statistics course.

100-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 111: Algebra 1

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Algebra 1 is a year-long course that provides the foundation for further study in high school mathematics. Focusing on early computational fluency, Algebra 1 emphasizes the habits of mind that promote success in mastering the skills and concepts in this course and in future mathematics courses. After they have developed conceptual mastery, students will do an in-depth study of linear functions, and conclude the course with an introduction to radical, absolute value, and polynomial functions. Students will also be introduced to the NumWorks graphing calculator with a special focus on linear regression and graphical analysis. Students will be given opportunities to display creativity by demonstrating different ways of reaching a solution, to develop collaboration skills by regularly working with classmates, to practice critical thinking by taking what we learn and applying it outside of our classroom, and to communicate effectively by participating in discussions and presentations.

200-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 211: Geometry

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Geometry is a year-long course that introduces students to geometric reasoning as a problem-solving tool. This course covers topics such as triangle congruence and similarity, the properties of circles and convex polygons, and the dimensional concepts of length, area, and volume. The study of geometry combines diagrams and other visual representations with algebraic techniques. Students are also introduced to presenting ideas through both formal and informal proofs. Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

MAT 221: Honors Geometry

Full-year course (1 credit)

Honors

Honors Geometry is a year-long course intended to prepare students to take Honors Algebra 2 as their next math class. The course introduces students to geometric reasoning as a process for problem-solving. Honors Geometry includes the material studied in College Prep Geometry and requires students to develop a greater understanding of the underlying geometric concepts and algebraic techniques that support such methods of solution. The Honors Geometry course assumes greater facility with algebra and it also places greater emphasis on proof and justification. In addition to traditional lectures, the course content is developed through exploration and discovery, often through ruler and compass constructions and the use of physical manipulatives. The goals of the course include communicating relationships with new aspects of mathematical language while learning to think critically and rationally. Because this course moves at an accelerated pace, success requires independence and resourcefulness from the students. Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and departmental approval.

300-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 311: Algebra 2

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Algebra 2 is intended to develop an understanding of algebra as a symbolic language. The Course begins by reviewing and extending students' command of linear equations and inequalities. The course includes an intensive study of second-degree polynomial equations and inequalities. By exploring methods of solution, including factoring and the quadratic formula, students gain computational facility with exponents while also exploring related concepts such as complex numbers. Algebra 2 builds on the understanding of functions and underscores the importance and utility of graphical representation of quadratic functions. Additional topics in this course include an introduction to exponential and logarithmic functions. Students will use the NumWorks graphing calculator to deepen their understanding of the material through complex numerical and graphical analysis. Prerequisite: Geometry or Honors Geometry.

MAT 321: Honors Algebra 2

Full-year course (1 credit)

Honors

Honors Algebra 2 is a rigorous course intended to prepare students to enroll in AP Precalculus as their next math course. The foundation of this course is the material from College Prep Algebra II, but the concepts are covered in more depth and at a significantly accelerated pace. Along with an extensive study of quadratics, this course covers higher-order polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, rational, piecewise, and radical functions. Students will use the NumWorks graphing calculator to deepen their understanding of the material through complex numerical and graphical analysis. Honors Algebra 2 places a greater emphasis on the concept of functions and the importance of linking symbolic and graphical representations than the college prep course. Prerequisite: Honors Geometry or Geometry and departmental approval. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

400-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 411: Precalculus

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Precalculus builds on the skills students have gained in their prior math courses as they increase their knowledge of functions. The course begins with a thoughtful review of linear and quadratic functions to prepare students to use those concepts in an analysis of exponential and logarithmic functions. The course culminates with an intensive study of trigonometry. In Precalculus, students will work to communicate mathematically through words, numbers, and graphs. The course emphasizes the application of functions as mathematical models that describe real world phenomena in order to promote mathematics as a tool for thinking critically about the real world. Prerequisites: Algebra 2 or Honors Algebra 2.

MAT 413: Statistics and Probability

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The major components of the course are: describing, displaying and interpreting data, examining methods of collecting data with consideration of bias, randomness, and probability, specifically looking at the mathematical rules that govern the analysis of random events. Those three components culminate in the study of statistical inference, estimating population parameters, and testing hypotheses. Students will use the NumWorks graphing calculator extensively for creating visual and numerical summaries of data and conducting many of the inference procedures. Prerequisites: Algebra 2 or Precalculus.

MAT 431: Calculus

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course is designed as an introduction to Calculus before entering higher-level math in college. Students will incorporate both skills and knowledge from Algebra 2 and Precalculus as they build connections with new mathematical concepts of limits, derivatives, and integrals. Because this course is not driven by the external AP Curriculum, this class affords flexibility in depth and breadth of topics, thus the rigor of the course may vary depending upon the background and needs of the students. Calculus will allow students to make connections with the outside world and think critically about how each of the fundamental concepts helps them to better understand the world around them. Prerequisite: AP Precalculus or Precalculus and departmental approval.

500-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 501: AP Precalculus

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This course is designed for students who are interested in taking AP Calculus AB or college calculus the following school year. This course follows the Advanced Placement (AP) Precalculus syllabus and introduces students to the fundamental ideas of Precalculus including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Students will also expand their knowledge with a substantial study of trigonometric and polar functions. Students are required to sit for the AP Exam in May. Prerequisites: Honors Algebra 2 or Precalculus and departmental approval. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

MAT 513: AP Statistics

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This course follows the Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics syllabus and introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The major components of the course are: describing, displaying, and interpreting data, examining methods of collecting data with consideration of bias and randomness, and probability, specifically looking at the mathematical rules that govern the analysis of random events. Those three components culminate in the study of statistical inference, estimating population parameters, and testing hypotheses. This course follows the Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics syllabus and therefore studies the material in greater depth than MAT 411. Additionally, this AP course assumes a greater proficiency with algebraic methods as well as an ability to work independently. Students will use the NumWorks graphing calculator extensively for creating visual and numerical summaries of data and conducting many of the inference procedures. Students are required to sit for the AP Exam in May. Prerequisites: Honors Algebra 2, AP Precalculus, or Precalculus and departmental approval.

MAT 521: AP Calculus (AB)

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This course follows the Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB syllabus and introduces students to the fundamental ideas of Calculus including limits, derivatives and integrals. The course is organized around families of functions with particular attention to polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Topics from differential calculus include slopes of secant and tangent lines, the definition and interpretation of the derivative, describing instantaneous and related rates of change, optimization, and linearization. Topics from integral calculus include techniques of integration and utilizing integration to find area, distance, and volume. Students are required to sit for the AP Exam in May. Prerequisites: AP Precalculus or Precalculus and departmental approval. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 6.**

SCIENCE

Kents Hill's Science program provides college-bound students with the opportunities to grow as problem solvers, critical thinkers, and working scientists. The program offers these opportunities in a wide variety of courses. In these classes, students complete laboratory experiments, give class presentations, develop scientific writing skills, apply course content to real-world questions, design products, and develop opinions regarding scientific ethics. Each student must take at least three credits of Science to graduate, and those credits must include at least one credit of Biology, one credit of Chemistry or Physics, and one credit of Environmental Science. Kents Hill offers Science courses at the 100-500 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

BIO 111: Biology

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This hands-on course focuses on using labs and investigations for students to construct their own understanding of topics in Biology. Topics will include unity and diversity of life, natural selection and evolution, energy and matter in organisms and ecosystems, metabolic reactions, cellular structure and function, growth and reproduction, and inheritance. Science and engineering practices such as designing and conducting investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, developing models, explanations, and arguments based on evidence will be utilized as students work to figure out core science ideas and themes across biology. Students will work individually, in small groups, and as a whole class to make sense of findings, support claims based on evidence, and develop class consensus models or explanations. Additional course fees apply.

200-LEVEL COURSES

BIO 211: Honors Biology

Full-year course (1 credit)

Honors

In the Honors version of this laboratory course, students will learn the same concepts but in greater depth and intensity. The goal of the class is to prepare students for honors and AP-level science courses, including AP Biology. This hands-on course focuses on using labs and activities for students to construct their own understanding of topics in Biology. Topics will include experimental design, classification of organisms, evolution, energy transfer in ecosystems, cell structure and function, growth and reproduction, and genetics. Skills such as graphing, execution of labs, and critically assessing data for trends will all be addressed. Students will often explain their findings using mini-presentations. Additional course fees apply.

CHE 211: Chemistry

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of chemistry. Students will explore the development of atomic structure, the properties of elements, chemical bonding, reactions, thermodynamics, and the properties of gases. Laboratory experience is a crucial aspect of this course, with experiments selected to help students reinforce the course topics and develop essential laboratory techniques. Prerequisite: Algebra 1. Additional course fees apply.

300-LEVEL COURSES

CHE 311: Honors Chemistry

Full-year course (1 credit)

Honors

This laboratory course covers topics that will prepare students for a first-year college chemistry course. These topics include states of matter, the evolution of atomic structure leading to the current quantum mechanical model, the properties of elements, chemical bonding, chemical equilibrium, reactions, and thermodynamics. Laboratory experience is a crucial part of this course, and experiments are selected to help students reinforce the course content and learn essential laboratory techniques.

Prerequisites include Algebra 1 and departmental permission. Additional course fees apply.

CHE 321: Introduction to Forensic Science

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Introduction to Forensic Science is an interdisciplinary course that examines the application of scientific processes within the criminal justice system. In the course, students will learn to evaluate physical evidence utilizing the principles of biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science. Currently, we have immense exposure to forensics in the media on television shows, podcasts, and in movies, and students have an opportunity to differentiate actual techniques from those portrayed in fiction. They will deepen their critical thinking and analytical skills to understand some of the limitations of the law, police, and forensic science. Students will examine scientific techniques behind the analysis of physical and eyewitness evidence, toxicology, DNA fingerprinting, fire and explosives, hair and fibers, and other relevant pieces of evidence. Throughout the course, students investigate simulated crime and accident scenes, collect and analyze evidence, and develop observation skills and deductive reasoning. Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry. Additional course fees apply.

PHY 311: Physics

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Physics explores the nature of the physical world and the associated laws that apply to these phenomena. After an introduction to measurement and related mathematical skills, topics studied include mechanics (velocity, acceleration, force, momentum, rotation, work, and energy), states of matter, thermodynamics, waves (including sound, light, simple harmonic motion and oscillations), electricity, and magnetism. Regular demonstrations and laboratory work will enhance our understanding of the material. Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra 2 (Algebra 2 may be taken concurrently). Additional course fees apply. **NEW COURSE!**

400-LEVEL COURSES

ENV 411: Environmental Science

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary course that introduces students to the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand interrelationships in the natural world. The course explores such topics as biology, chemistry, geology, and geography, and it requires students to 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. Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry.

ENV 413: Maine Field Studies

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

Maine Field Studies encourages students to be grounded in Maine but connected to the world. Students learn about the environment in the forest and fields surrounding Kents Hill. They spend time learning about Maine's forest ecosystem and agricultural economy, and engage in a community project to better understand their relationship to food production. Students also explore soil structure, formation and importance. We also explore Tree physiology through Sugar Maple Sap extraction. Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry. Additional course fees apply.

500-LEVEL COURSES

PHY 501: AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP 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, and torque and rotational motion. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Pre-requisites: Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently) and departmental permission. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 5.**

BIO 511: College Anatomy and Physiology (see note below)

Full-year course (1 credit)

Dual-Enrollment

College Anatomy and Physiology explores the inner workings of the human body and focuses on anatomical, physiological, genetic abnormalities and their pathological effects on the human body. The structure and function of major body systems such as musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, and digestive systems will be studied in detail. Emphasis on the interdependence of these systems and how they work together to maintain life processes. Students will examine case studies of common genetic disorders and diseases to provide students with a deeper understanding of how genetics impact physiology. Students will also delve into the pathological processes to further understand how these conditions alter anatomical and physiological function. Healthcare, medical terminology, and current biotechnological advancements are also introduced through inquiry-based activities and laboratory investigations. Students will round out the second semester with a dissection unit where they observe structures closely analogous to the human body in a preserved adult cat. This dissection will focus on our primary units of study for the semester. Students will dissect, observe, and have hands-on experience seeing what these systems look like in an actual specimen. Prerequisites: Honors Biology, Chemistry, and departmental permission. Additional course fees apply. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

BIO 521: AP Biology

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP Biology is aligned with College Board standards. Students will be expected to remember fundamental content from their previous biology class. A greater emphasis is placed on laboratory procedures and the presentation of lab findings to the class. Students will dive deeper to learn how cells communicate with each other to maintain homeostasis in complex organisms, how cytoplasmic determinants help control development, the impact of single versus frameshift mutations, how genes are activated or deactivated, how enzymes regulate metabolism, impacts of selection on species evolution, how interspecific and intraspecific competitions affect species survival, and the complex connections between organisms with each other and their environments. Topics to be covered include: the Chemistry of Life, Cell Structure and Function, Cellular Energetics, the Cell Cycle and Communication, Heredity, Gene Expression and Regulation, Natural Selection, and Ecology. Prerequisites: Honors Biology, Chemistry, and departmental permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

CHE 521: AP Chemistry

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP Chemistry provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations as they explore content such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, properties of substances, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, and acids and bases. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Prerequisites: Honors Chemistry or Chemistry and departmental approval. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

ENV 531: AP Environmental Science

Full-year course (1 credit)

Dual-Enrollment

The goals of this college-level science course are to provide students with the skills and knowledge to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and to analyze both natural and human-made environmental issues. This course integrates the disciplines of chemistry, biology, and physical sciences as they apply to understanding the interconnectedness of the natural world. Classes will consist of lectures and discussions as well as extended laboratory and field investigations. Topics will include the following concerns from local and global perspectives: the interdependence of the earth's systems, population dynamics, resource use, environmental quality, global changes, and the interactions of the environment and society. Students can expect a variety of assessments plus a cumulative portfolio of their classroom, laboratory, and fieldwork. Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry, and departmental permission.

PHY 531: AP Physics C: Mechanics

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

This AP Physics course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in physics. Students will explore concepts such as kinematics; Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; rotation; oscillations; and gravitation. We will do hands-on laboratory work and in-class activities to investigate phenomena and use calculus to solve problems. All students are required to take the AP exam and pay the accompanying fee. Prerequisites: Calculus (may be taken concurrently) and departmental permission. Additional course fees apply. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

In addition to valuing the traditional curricular goals of content knowledge, all Social Studies courses emphasize skill development in critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication, as well as the exploration of character and reflection. Three years of Social Studies courses, including U.S. History, are required for graduation, but the department strongly recommends taking additional elective courses, particularly during the junior and senior years. The Social Studies Department offers courses in the 100-500 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 111: Global Studies Seminar

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course begins by focusing on key political, economic, and social principles and systems that have shaped and organized the global community over time. Grounding their study in both history and current events, students will create their own fictional country and form a miniature global community before exploring broad phenomena such as conflict, migration, environmental change, cultural diffusion, epidemics, and disruptive technologies. These challenges have historically compelled communities to react, adapt, and redefine themselves in relation to one another. Students will apply their knowledge and skills to collaboratively and creatively develop solutions to a range of complex and contemporary global issues.

200- LEVEL COURSES

SOC 211- Modern European History

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This sophomore course examines modern European history, beginning with the Renaissance and Reformation, and continuing through the English, French, and Industrial Revolutions. Students analyze the transformation of European society and politics during the 18th and 19th centuries to gain a deeper understanding of Europe's global dominance during this period. The course concludes with an examination of the changing political landscape in Europe, shaped by the devastation of two world wars and significant events of the 20th century. **NEW COURSE!**

300-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 311: United States History

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This college prep course focuses on a critical analysis of the entire scope of the American experience. It explores the social, political, and economic history of the United States from the Colonial Era to the twentieth century. Students will learn to evaluate historical events, analyze the connections between people and events, uncover the roots of contemporary issues, and assess the successes and failures of politicians, social reformers, business leaders, military strategists, and ordinary individuals in defining and upholding the liberties, rights, and responsibilities that are essential to the character and ideals of the nation.

400-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 411: Economics

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

The course utilizes a project-based learning framework to introduce students to traditional microeconomic and macroeconomic theories and principles, along with the emerging field of behavioral economics. By exploring broad and complex real-world economic issues, the class will examine the mechanics and ethics of individual and collective economic decision-making, tackle challenges such as inflation, unemployment, and poverty, and consider the government's role in establishing regulatory, fiscal, and monetary policies. Additionally, students will learn foundational principles of entrepreneurship and the basics of investing. Prerequisite: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently with department permission).

SOC 413: Contemporary Global Challenges

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This full-year elective explores complex contemporary issues and considers the challenges and opportunities they present to the global community. Each year, the class will focus on three broad topics, covering issues such as forced migration, international human rights, sub-state nationalism, disruptive technologies, political participation and process, boundary and resource conflicts, and climate change. Two topics will be selected and developed by students from the previous year of the course, and one topic will align with the theme of the annual Camden Conference. The course will prepare students to navigate, analyze, and critique the world through political, economic, and social lenses, articulate global knowledge and perspective with confidence and balance, and find meaningful connections between global studies and other areas of intellectual or personal interest as a more informed "global citizen." Throughout the fourth quarter, students will engage in scholarly research, analysis, collaboration, and presentation to select the next three topics to be covered in the course the following year. Prerequisite: U.S. History.

SOC 417: An Introduction to Financial Planning

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This elective explores topics such as retirement, tax planning, estate planning, risk management, and investments, among others. We will emphasize all aspects of personal finance and analyze how financial decisions affect long-term investments, wealth building, and future planning. Students will acquire essential knowledge of the financial world and cultivate sound money habits that will last a lifetime! Prerequisite: U.S. History.

SOC 491: Abnormal Psychology

Full-year course (1 credit)

This advanced social science course examines psychological disorders such as schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, neurocognitive disorders, and various personality disorders. In addition to studying these disorders from a diagnostic viewpoint, we will investigate several contemporary and historical issues related to mental health: the historical origins of mental health diagnosis and treatment; the effects of the deinstitutionalization movement of the 1960s; perspectives on women and mental illness; and the increase of depression and anxiety among young people. We will challenge beliefs and biases surrounding mental illness and emphasize the humanity in Abnormal Psychology, recognizing that real individuals are struggling in profound ways and understanding the challenges they face in our current culture to maintain their mental health. Prerequisite: US History and departmental permission.

500-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 501- AP European History

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP European History focuses on modern European history topics from the mid-15th century to the 21st century, while the AP European History Exam assesses knowledge of these topics only. However, to gain a deeper appreciation of the themes and patterns in European history, many teachers find it beneficial to introduce the course with elements from earlier periods, such as ancient, classical, or medieval history. For instance, learning about Greek and Roman attitudes would help students understand the significance of how Renaissance artists and scholars incorporated ancient thought into their work. Students will practice writing free-response and document-based essays, utilizing new techniques for formulating a strong thesis, providing context, and recognizing bias in primary sources. Using AP Classroom will be an integral part of this class, offering valuable materials for students to explore the most important themes and aspects of European History. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students must take the AP Exam and pay the associated fee. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4. NEW COURSE!**

SOC 511: AP Psychology

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP Psychology introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with major units of study, including biological bases of behavior, cognition, development, learning, social psychology, personality, and mental and physical health. Throughout the course, students apply psychological concepts and employ psychological research methods and data interpretation to evaluate claims, consider evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

SOC 521: AP United States Government and Politics

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

In this course, students will practice the same skills used by political scientists by studying data, political writings from the founding era to the present, the structure of government as established by the Constitution, and the constitutional interpretations issued by the Supreme Court. They will delve deeply into the three branches of federal and state governments while exploring the election cycle, partisan politics, and democracy as an institution. Students will demonstrate mastery of these skills through various means, including concept application, data analysis, Supreme Court case comparisons, and written arguments. Prerequisites: U.S. History and departmental permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

SOC 531: AP United States History

Full-year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

In this course, students will explore significant events, individuals, developments, and processes across nine historical periods from 1491 to the present. They will develop and employ the same skills and methods utilized by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources, constructing historical arguments, establishing historical connections, and applying reasoning related to comparison, causation, and continuity and change. The course challenges students to draw connections among historical developments across different times and places, including 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. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the associated fee. **Please note that this course includes a moderate amount of summer homework. Students who do not complete summer work on time may forfeit their seats in the class. For more details on summer homework, see page 4.**

TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING

Technology and Engineering courses explore the major threads of *designing*, *building*, and *programming* through an accessible, authentic, and project-based curriculum. All courses combine instruction in essential concepts and technical skills with opportunities to think critically about social and ethical issues. In addition to the AP offerings, the T&E department also offers studio-based courses for each thread that allow students to direct their own learning. Four-year students must complete two credits of TE to graduate from Kents Hill. The program offers courses at the 100-500 levels.

Semester Courses

The Technology and Engineering curriculum has been redesigned for the 2025-26 school year. Most classes are now available as semester-long courses, with AP offerings being the only year-long courses. Please use the table below to guide your course planning.

	Semester 1 Courses: Fall 2025	Semester 2 Courses: Spring 2026
10th Grade	T&E Discoveries <i>(spring courses will be decided in the fall)</i>	Digital Design
		Creative Coding
		Practical Engineering
Design Courses	Digital Media	Graphic Design
	3D Design	3D Digital Sculpture
		Architectural Design
Program Courses	Intermediate Java	Web and App Development
	Intermediate Python	
	Game Development	
Build Courses	Robotics	First Robotics Competition
	Physical Computing	
All studio classes are offered in both semesters.		

100-LEVEL COURSES

TE 101: Technology and Engineering Discoveries

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

A semester-long introductory survey class that covers the three threads of the T&E department: Design, Program, and Build. Students will focus on a small project for each thread, aimed at guiding them through basic concepts and tools. The course culminates in a final project that incorporates work from all three threads. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 112: Digital Design

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

A course designed for students to gain an introduction to the concepts and tools of modern digital design in both 2D and 3D. Students will participate in various small projects to enhance their skills and prepare for further work in the Design thread. They will also grapple with the implications of being a producer of digital media. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 114: Creative Coding

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

A course that covers the fundamentals of programming through visually creative projects. Students will select to program in JavaScript, Python, or Java and strive to express their creativity through code while learning essential programming concepts. They will also reflect on what it means to produce code and create visual or auditory works for various audiences. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 116: Practical Engineering

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

A course that explores the physical world through the fundamentals of physics and engineering and a series of construction-based projects. In doing so, students will answer questions such as, "How do we build low-cost, effective, and safe bridges?" or "How can we generate varying degrees of speed or power from one motor?" Students will learn construction techniques, how to work with gears and motors, and gain familiarity with the tools and fabrication equipment available in our lab. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 117: Robotics

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

The course emphasizes robotics technologies as well as math and science concepts, including fundamentals of physics, mechanical design, circuit design, engineering and construction techniques, and programming skills. Working in teams, students will learn to construct and program robots using various software while completing challenges related to multiple sensors and coding functions. Students will reflect on the future ethical and career implications of merging society with technology. Prerequisites: Practical Engineering and Algebra 1 (may be taken concurrently).

200-LEVEL COURSES

TE 213: Digital Media

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Designed for students eager to delve into the ever-expanding realm of commercial art, photo manipulation, and new media, this course integrates art and design principles using Adobe Photoshop. The essential elements of art and design—such as color, composition, visual emphasis, line, and form—serve as focal points in each project. Digital photographs are altered with Photoshop to produce expressive artwork. Prerequisite: Digital Design.

TE 214: Graphic Design

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Continuing our exploration of 2D digital art, this course builds on our understanding of design principles and broadens them into the realm of graphic design while also considering typography and ligature in our work. Adobe Illustrator is our tool of choice as we create posters, logos, T-shirts, tri-folds, and other products. Prerequisite: Digital Media **NEW COURSE!**

TE 215: 3D Design

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This course examines the use of modern design software to create two- and three-dimensional drawings for production and manufacturing purposes. The class addresses coordinate systems, accurate dimensioning, manufacturing processes, machining, and collaborative engineering techniques. Students advance from working on simple individual designs to team-based projects aimed at solving an application challenge provided by the instructor. Students will evaluate and reflect on the impact of computer-aided design and manufacturing methods on society and the traditional workforce. Prerequisites: Algebra 1 (may be taken concurrently) and Digital Design.

TE 216: 3D Digital Sculpture

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

In today's gaming, cinema, and animation industries, the design process is mainly led by digital modelers specializing in creating characters, creatures, and environments. 3D Digital Sculpture, unlike architectural and mechanical modeling, focuses on organic and dynamic design elements. This course teaches students to observe proportion, shape language, and other visual elements to develop distinctive characters, creatures, and organic environmental features. Students will apply software sculpting and modeling techniques to create images and 3D-printed models. Additionally, they will reflect on the increasing role of digital technology in enhancing human creativity and explore their creative potential in artistic design and expression. Prerequisites: Algebra 1 (may be taken concurrently) and 3D Design.

TE 217: Architectural Design

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

While working through the design process, students will investigate and experiment with concepts essential to architecture. The course covers architectural programming, flow, composition, proportion, rhythm, and ergonomics. The class addresses both practical and poetic concerns: the relationship between the human body and built space, as well as how a built space relates to its site. Students will also explore how these relationships compare and contrast across various building types, such as domestic, institutional, and spiritual spaces. Students will create programmatic diagrams, measure and model sites, and produce massing sketches while generating digital and physical models of their designs and essential construction documents using Computer-Aided Design. As they explore their aptitude for architectural design and realization, students will contemplate the ethical need for affordable housing in America and the potential of technology to meet that need. Prerequisites: Algebra 1 (may be taken concurrently) and 3D Design.

TE 218: Intermediate Java

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

A semester-long class where students will build on their existing coding experience and learn the Java programming language in depth. Students will explore general programming concepts, including object-oriented programming and other techniques specific to Java. Those taking this course may be preparing to take AP Computer Science Principles or AP Computer Science A. Prerequisite: Creative Coding

TE 219: Intermediate Python

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

A semester-long course where students build on their existing coding experience and begin to learn the Python programming language in depth. Students will explore general programming concepts, including object-oriented programming and idiomatic, or “Pythonic,” programming. Those taking this course may be preparing for AP Computer Science Principles or Data Visualization and Analysis. Prerequisite: Creative Coding. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 220: Game Development

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Students will learn how to create interactive games. The course will be taught in several languages (Python, Java, and JavaScript), though students only need experience with one of them. We will develop simple games while learning basic techniques common to most games and then start exploring more advanced techniques that are made easier by using various libraries and frameworks. Prerequisite: Any previous KHS coding class. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 222: Web and App Development

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Students will learn how to program both web applications and native (computer or phone) applications. The course will focus on React and React Native (JavaScript), although experience coding in any language is sufficient. The course will also introduce students to HTML and CSS, along with how to architect complex programs for various use cases. Prerequisite: Any prior KHS coding class. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 224: Physical Computing

Semester course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

Students will learn how to use micro-controllers such as Arduinos and Raspberry Pis, along with sensors and motors, to build constructions that sense and interact with the physical world. Students will also need to design structures and machinery to house the electronic components. The class will start with several projects aimed at practicing core skills in these areas and will conclude with students designing their own projects. Prerequisites: Practical Engineering and any programming course or Robotics. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 225: First Robotics Competition

Semester Course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This course is designed to give students the time and space to explore topics related to the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC). At the beginning of the term, students will set individual goals for what they want to implement on this year's competition robot. They will establish success goals for the season and work to break these down into achievable objectives. Students will tackle these challenges to kick off the competition season strongly. After the competition season, they will evaluate their successes and identify areas for improvement on the robot, once again setting goals for achieving those improvements. This process enables students to continue the innovations that FRC fosters beyond the competition season. These projects may involve targeting enhancements, developing complex autonomous routines, or acquiring additional fabrication skills. **NEW COURSE!**

300-LEVEL COURSES

TE 312: Data Analysis and Visualization

Semester Course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This advanced course explores the world of data science. Students will delve into how scientists manage, collect, and analyze large data sets while working to answer significant questions in modern science. Topics will include writing code, examining how scientists communicate results, and applying statistical analysis to evaluate means, standard deviations, and errors. The course will conclude with the storytelling and presentation of a larger data set that aligns with student interests. Prerequisite: Intermediate Python or concurrent (or prior) enrollment in Statistics and Probability and any previous KHS coding course. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 313: Design Studio

Semester Course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This is a project-based studio course. Students will formally propose a list of projects they wish to work on before the course begins and will then be assigned an advisor for these projects who will create an individualized timeline and curriculum for the semester. This course can be taken multiple times. Prerequisite: Any 2nd Semester 200 Design Course. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 315: Programming Studio: Advanced Projects in Computer Science

Semester Course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This is a project-based course. Before the course begins, students formally propose a list of projects they want to work on. They are then assigned an advisor who will develop a personalized timeline and curriculum for the semester. This course may be taken multiple times. Prerequisite: Web and App Development or any 200-level programming course **NEW COURSE!**

TE 317: Build Studio: Advanced Projects in Engineering and Robotics

Semester Course (1/2 credit)

College Prep

This is a project-based course. Before the course begins, students will formally propose a list of projects they wish to pursue. They will then be assigned an advisor who will develop a personalized timeline and curriculum for the semester. This course may be taken multiple times. The prerequisites are robotics or Physical Computing. **NEW COURSE!**

400-LEVEL COURSES

TE 441: Honors Technology and Engineering Studio

Semester Course (1/2 credit)

Honors

This is a project-based course. Students will formally propose a list of projects they wish to pursue before the course, covering the Design/Program/Build curricula. They will then be assigned an advisor for these projects who will assist in structuring an individual timeline and curriculum for the semester. This course can be taken multiple times. Prerequisite: Any previous studio course and experience in another "thread." **NEW COURSE!**

500-LEVEL COURSES

TE 501: AP Computer Science A

Full Year Course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP Computer Science A is an introductory college-level computing course emphasizing software production using Java. Students investigate various algorithms and data structures through idiomatic Java code. Prerequisites include intermediate Java skills and departmental permission. Students must take the AP Exam and pay the associated fee. **NEW COURSE!**

TE 511: AP Computer Science Principles

Full Year Course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement

AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course that exposes students to the diverse field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and apply computer science to tackle problems by developing algorithms and programs. They integrate abstraction into programs and utilize data to uncover new insights. Students also describe how computing innovations and systems—including the internet—function, examine their potential impacts, and engage in a collaborative and ethical computing culture. Prerequisite: departmental permission. Students must take the AP Exam and pay the associated fee.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Learning a language opens a window to ourselves and the wider world. Through the study of Spanish, French, and Chinese, Kents Hill students develop linguistic and cross-cultural skills in order to prepare for engagement in a global society. Courses are taught primarily in the target languages in order to best develop the four linguistic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Advanced courses develop analytical skills for understanding literature and contemporary issues. Kents Hill School requires two years of study in one language, and students are encouraged to continue beyond this minimum requirement.

100-LEVEL COURSES

FRE 111: French 1

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course is intended for students who are beginning French or who have had limited exposure to the language before coming to Kents Hill. Students use acquired language skills in daily conversations and a variety of classroom activities. While the focus is primarily on oral proficiency and listening comprehension, students are introduced to important grammar structures and learn to read and write the language. By the end of French 1, students will have acquired the skills to make personal introductions and carry on conversations about their everyday lives. These skills are employed within the framework of familiar contexts such as family, leisure activities, and school life, and are enriched through the introduction of Francophone culture. Open to students with no previous background in French.

SPA 111: Spanish 1

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course is intended for students who are beginning Spanish or who have had limited exposure to the language before coming to Kents Hill. Students use acquired language skills in daily conversations and a variety of classroom activities. While the focus is primarily on oral proficiency and listening comprehension, students are introduced to important grammatical structures and learn to read and write the language. By the end of Spanish 1, students will have acquired the skills to make personal introductions and carry on conversations about their everyday lives. These skills are employed within the framework of familiar contexts such as family, leisure activities, and school life, and are enriched through the introduction of Latinx culture. Open to students with no previous background in Spanish.

200-LEVEL COURSES

FRE 211: French 2

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course begins with a review of foundational skills and knowledge from French 1. Students continue to study grammar and vocabulary, and increasing emphasis is placed on written and oral expression using correct sentence structure. Language skills are enriched with the ongoing study of Francophone culture. Open to students who have completed French 1 or its equivalent.

SPA 211: Spanish 2

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course begins with a review of foundational skills and knowledge from Spanish 1. Students continue to study grammar and vocabulary, and increasing emphasis is placed on written and oral expression using correct sentence structure. Language skills are enriched with the ongoing study of Latinx culture. Open to students who have completed Spanish 1 or its equivalent.

300-LEVEL COURSES

FE 311: French 3

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

The four language skills and cultural knowledge acquired in the first two years are reinforced and extended through a full grammar review, compositions, conversation, oral presentations, film, music, literature, and readings that explore historic and contemporary topics from the Francophone world. This course is designed to provide students with the necessary communicative skills and cultural knowledge to facilitate transition to upper-level courses. Open to students who have completed French 2 or its equivalent.

SPA 311: Spanish 3

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

The four language skills and cultural knowledge acquired in the first two years are reinforced and extended through a full grammar review, compositions, conversation, oral presentations, film, music, literature, and readings that explore historic and contemporary topics from the Spanish-speaking world. This course is designed to provide students with the necessary communicative skills and cultural knowledge to facilitate transition to upper-level courses. Open to students who have completed Spanish 2 or its equivalent.

400-LEVEL COURSES

SPA 411: Spanish 4

Full-year course (1 credit)

College Prep

This course stresses reading comprehension, listening and speaking proficiency, and compositional skills. Students complete a full grammar review, write extensively, deliver oral presentations, and work on collaborative projects. A variety of literary texts from the Spanish-speaking world, as well as Spanish-language multimedia resources, are employed to advance students' linguistic and cultural competencies. Open to students who have completed Spanish 3 or its equivalent.