



2026-2027 High School Course Catalog

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High School Curriculum (Class of 2024 and Beyond)*										
Area of Study	Req. Credits	Duration	Ninth		Tenth		Eleventh		Twelfth	
Literature	4	Year	Classical Lit		British Lit		American Lit		Modern European Lit. (with senior thesis)	
History	4	Year	Western Civ I		Western Civ II		American History		Modern European History	
Math	4 (during 9-12)	Year	Algebra I		Geometry		Algebra II		Pre-Calculus or AMDM or Statistics	
		Year	Geometry		Algebra II		Pre-Calculus		Calculus I or AP Calculus BC	
		Year	Algebra II		Pre-Calculus		Calculus I or AP Calculus BC		AP Calculus BC or Dual Enrollment	
Science	4	Year	Biology		Chemistry		Physics		Anatomy & Physiology or AP CS Principles or AP CSA	
			Biology		AP Biology		Chemistry		Physics or AP Physics	
			Biology		Chemistry		AP Chemistry		Physics or AP Physics	
			Biology		AP Biology (Year) + Chem Intensive (S2)		AP Chemistry		AP Physics	
Foreign Language	3 (in 9-12) 2 Credits of Same Language	Year	Latin III		Latin IV		Latin V		Latin VI or AP Latin or Elective	
		Year	Spanish I		Spanish II		Spanish III		Spanish IV or Elective	
Fine Arts	0.5	Semester				Fine Arts Comprehensive				
Personal Fitness / Health	1	Semester	Personal Fitness	Health						
Additional ACA Requirements	3	Semester	Composition		Moral Philosophy		* American Government	Political Philosophy	* Economics	Lessons in Wonder
Electives	0.5	Semester		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Credits Required for Graduation	24	* APS Requirement								

Standard High School Course Progression

Freshmen Year

Fall	Spring
Literature & Composition I (Classical Literature)	Literature & Composition I (Classical Literature)
Western Civilization I	Western Civilization I
Latin III or Spanish I	Latin III or Spanish I
Algebra I or Geometry	Algebra I or Geometry
Biology	Biology
Composition	Health
Personal Fitness*	ELECTIVE

**Students who elect to take personal fitness over the summer may replace personal fitness on their schedule with a Study Hall or an elective. This could be helpful to students as they adjust to the high school workload.*

Sophomore Year

Fall	Spring
Literature & Composition II (British Literature)	Literature & Composition II (British Literature)
Western Civilization II	Western Civilization II
Latin IV or Spanish II	Latin IV or Spanish II
Geometry or Algebra II	Geometry or Algebra II
Chemistry or AP Biology*	Chemistry or AP Biology*
Moral Philosophy	Fine Arts
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE

**If a student takes AP Biology as a sophomore, they will automatically be placed in Advanced Chemistry as a 1-semester elective. They will then be allowed to take AP Chemistry as a junior.*

Junior Year

Fall	Spring
Literature & Composition III (American Literature)	Literature & Composition III (American Literature)
American History	American History
Latin V or Spanish III	Latin V or Spanish III
Algebra II or Precalculus	Algebra II or Precalculus
Physics or AP Chemistry*	Physics or AP Chemistry*
Government	Political Philosophy
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE

**Students who elect to take AP Chemistry in their junior year must take AP Physics in their senior year.*

Senior Year

Fall	Spring
Literature & Composition IV (Modern European Literature)	Literature & Composition IV (Modern European Literature)
Modern European History	Modern European History
AP Latin or Spanish IV or Major Movements	AP Latin or Spanish IV or Major Movements
Precalculus, Calculus, or AP Calculus	Precalculus, Calculus, or AP Calculus
AP Physics or 4th year Science	AP Physics or 4th year Science
Economics	Lessons in Wonder
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE

N.B. Some students may be more or less advanced in their language, science, or math classes.

7th-12th GRADE BELL SCHEDULE

8:15 am-3:20 pm Monday-Thursday Regular Schedule			
Start	End	Period Type	Mon.-Thur.
8:15 AM	9:05 AM	Period 1	50 min.
9:10 AM	10:00 AM	Period 2	50 min.
10:00 AM	10:10 AM	SNACK	10 Min
10:10 AM	11:00 AM	Period 3	50 min.
11:05 AM	11:55 AM	Period 4	50 min.
11:55 AM	12:40 PM	Lunch - non-instructional	45 min.
12:40 PM	1:30 PM	Period 5	50 min.
1:35 PM	2:25 PM	Period 6	50 min.
2:30 PM	3:20 PM	Period 7	50 min.

8:15 am-3:20 pm Friday CAV Schedule			
Start	End	Period Type	Fri.
8:15 AM	9:00 AM	Period 1	45 min.
9:05 AM	9:50 AM	Period 2	45 min.
9:55 AM	10:40 AM	Period 3	45 min.
10:45 AM	11:30 AM	Period 4	45 min.
11:35 AM	12:20 PM	Period 5	45 min.
12:25 PM	1:00 AM	Lunch - non-instructional	35 min.
1:05 AM	1:50 AM	Period 6	45 min.
1:55 AM	2:35 AM	Period 7	45 min.
2:40 AM	3:20 PM	CAV Time	45 min.

*** Monday - Thursday Lunch is between 4th and 5th periods.**

**** Friday Lunch is between 5th and 6th periods.**

Literature

5 Credits Required

Literature & Composition I (Classical Literature) - Full-Year **REQUIRED by APS**

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9

In this course, students will study the founding works of great literature. They will read Homer, the world's first great storyteller, Sophocles, a genius of tragedy, Virgil, perhaps the most talented poetic craftsman in history, and Shakespeare, the master of our own language. The goal is to engage with these great minds and participate in the worlds their stories create. Students will discover what makes these authors and their literature great. They will examine the questions they ask about human nature and begin to explore some of the answers they provide. Instead of racing through excerpted versions of these works, this course moves deliberately through complete texts, delving into them in great detail.

Composition - Semester **REQUIRED**

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9

Writing is essential, and the ability to write well is the bedrock of academic success. Students write all the time, in their texts, emails, and journals, but writing in an academic setting carries its own rules. This course explores and explains how academic writing is created. By incorporating diagramming, model sentences, mentor texts, imitative writing, self-editing strategies, annotating, close reading, and writing workshops into daily study, students gain knowledge and practice of the methods and skills necessary to create dynamic, logical academic prose. Students polish their sentences and paragraphs in the first nine weeks, paying special attention to advanced sentence construction and the cohesive construction of essays. In the second nine weeks, students study rhetoric and logical reasoning to build writing skills.

Literature & Composition II (British Literature) - Full-Year **REQUIRED by APS**

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10

In the opening lines of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, the Pearl Poet cautions the reader that he enters a world "Where war and marvels / Take turns with peace, / Where sometimes lightning trouble / Has struck, and sometimes soft ease." In this class, students explore the intersection of "wonder and woe," inquiring into the temperamental nature of man's fate. The course follows a standard, chronological survey structure of British Literature. It begins in the 14th century with the final days of courtly literature, moves through the cultural overhaul of 17th-century Britain, encounters the Restoration Era and dawn of the novel, and concludes with the writings of Dickens in the midst of Queen Victoria's reign.

Literature & Composition III (American Literature) - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11

After studying the founding myths of our civilization in Classical Literature and the essential stories of our intellectual inheritance in British Literature, American Literature will allow students to place themselves in “this soil, this air.” Beginning with Walt Whitman’s famous self-celebration, students consider the nature and formation of the American literary self as it emerges during the second half of the 19th century. Hawthorne’s genre-bending *The Scarlett Letter* reflects on the early days of the American colonies in order to trace the formation of the American identity from its roots. In poetry and essays, Whitman, Emerson, and Thoreau articulate this project of forging an American literary identity, focusing on the natural world and its role in providing the language and freedom to write American books and live American lives. Next, because a period of exile is often essential to an understanding of self and homeland, students go to sea with Ishmael in *Moby Dick*. Mark Twain extends this theme of “journey away from home” in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Students spend the second semester with three of the best writers the South has to offer: William Faulkner, Flannery O’Connor, and Robert Penn Warren. Finally, for a break from the South’s gothic tales, students will delve into the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost at the close of the course.

Literature & Composition IV (Modern European Literature) - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 12

Students finish the 11th-grade year asking questions about human responsibility and the burdens of living in time. The 12th-grade year expands this inquiry by examining how a free man navigates a world where every individual has already failed to fulfill his inherent responsibilities to his fellow man. The horror of this failure and the very burden of freedom compose this modern dilemma as authors wrestle with what it means to be in the world. The Modern European Literature Course will help students reconcile themselves with the implications of their own existence while providing a notion of redemption as they move towards fully exercising their freedoms in the wider world. In addition, students will spend the better part of the second semester drafting and writing their senior theses, a capstone writing experience that pulls together the seminal questions of the Western Tradition.

Lessons In Wonder (Classical Children’s Literature) - Semester REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 12

In this semester-long class, students will have the opportunity to revisit many of the classics they encountered during their early years as an ACA student and uncover the deeper meanings within the texts they may have missed as elementary students. The class’s central focus would be to explore the tension between the adult and adolescent worlds. This is a particularly poignant subject for students, particularly 12th graders, as they are on the cusp of entering the adult world as full citizens and leaving behind that of their youth. As they revisit these beloved stories, we will endeavor to simply enjoy them together, but also to understand the importance of maintaining the ability to approach the world with a sense of childlike wonder and imagination.

History/Humanities

6 Credits Required

Western Civilization I - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9

Western Civilization I is the first of two sections of the high school European History curriculum. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the origin and nature of Western Civilization. Although Western Civilization I principally covers the ancient Greeks in the Fall Semester and the ancient Romans in the Spring Semester, the curriculum also explores other contributors to our civilization, such as the Paleolithic and Neolithic societies and the ancient Celts and Germans. At the end of the year, students will be able to speak about the ancient world and its importance as our cultural progenitor.

Western Civilization II - Full-Year REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10

Western Civilization II is a continuation of Western Civilization I. In Western Civilization II, the curriculum focuses on the ways the legacy of the ancient world was both transmitted and reshaped over the course of almost 2,000 years. In the Fall semester, the curriculum primarily explores Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages. In the Spring Semester, the focus shifts to the Later Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment. Ultimately, students are expected to be informed about the intellectual, cultural, and philosophical precepts upon which the Founding Fathers relied when setting forth on our American experiment.

Moral Philosophy - Semester REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10

Moral philosophy, or ethics, is the formal study of right action. From infancy, we are told what is “right” and what is “wrong.” What is the basis of such judgments? Do our duties to ourselves and to others derive from divine commands, social contracts, or principles of human nature? Do standards of right and wrong fluctuate according to time and place, or are there certain transcendent norms to which all human beings must adhere? To answer these questions and others, we study the moral tradition of the West. This is an exceedingly rich tradition, and this course examines many philosophers, statesmen, and storytellers. The overarching aim is to understand what constitutes the good and the virtues employed to achieve and defend the good.

U.S. History (The Colonial Era through 1800) - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11

This course offers a survey of the major events, ideas, and themes in American history from colonial settlement and the Founding to the 1980s, approximately the end of the Cold War. Its organizational focus is primarily legal-political, but cultural, social, religious, and intellectual themes will also be addressed. The course delves deeply into the origins and nature of American governmental institutions, and the traditions, habits, and presumptions which brought those institutions into being, and how they have been preserved or challenged over time. Class sessions are a mixture of lecture and discussion of primary document readings.

American Government - Semester REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11

The objective of this course is to prepare students for the rigors of citizenship by providing them with a basic knowledge of their government. Throughout this course, students should acquire a strong understanding of America's founding principles and the relationship of those principles to our safety, liberty, and happiness. They should come to know the American frame of government and how it is intended to operate under the U.S. Constitution. Students will also study challenges to our founding principles and the U.S. Constitution throughout our history, and aspects of American government as it functions today.

Political Philosophy - Semester REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11, Pre-Req: Moral Philosophy

Political philosophy is the attempt to obtain political knowledge based on an accurate understanding of human nature and human history. With political knowledge, political philosophers can understand how men act in society and thus create forms of government that will affect the people's safety and happiness. The Founding Fathers of the United States were political philosophers. Our objective is to read some important texts the Founders used as references and by reading the Founders themselves in defense of the Constitution, in order to understand the Constitution of the United States of America. As political philosophers ourselves, we will not only gain knowledge of our nation but also become better citizens and defenders of the Constitution.

Modern European History - Full-Year REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 12

This readings-based, two-semester seminar surveys the major themes and events of European history since the late eighteenth century. Assigned texts will be original works from the eras under discussion, such as memoirs, speeches, essays, and the like. Successive modules will address the French Revolution; liberalism and the rise of the nation-state; imperialism and great power politics; the First World War; Communism, fascism, and democracy in the interwar decades; the Second World War; the Cold War; and the European Union. Class sessions will consist of group discussions on readings, often student-led. Occasional concise lectures will provide historical context for the assigned works.

Economics - Semester REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 12

This course is a one-semester introduction to the basic tools of micro and macroeconomic analysis. Students will learn to identify, analyze, and evaluate the causes and consequences of individual economic decisions and public policy, including issues raised by the constraints imposed by scarcity, how economies and markets work, and the benefits and costs of economic interaction and interdependence. This course, more than anything, aims to introduce students to a new lens in which to view the world and individual human action. Students will analyze, reason, problem-solve, and be able to make decisions specific to various roles, including that of consumer, producer, saver, investor, and responsible citizen—roles they will all take on throughout their lives.

Mathematics

4 Credits Required

Placements are made by the Mathematics Department

Algebra I - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade 8-9, Pre-Req: None

In Algebra I, students are invited to observe the wonder of mathematics as they learn to apply their concrete mathematical knowledge to formulate abstract algebraic generalizations. Classical tools such as the five common topics of discovery and Socratic discussions will be employed to provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of mathematics. The beauty of algebra is revealed as students begin to understand it as a language that describes so many aspects of the world around us. The Algebra 1 textbook is rich with problem-solving challenges and strategies that encourage critical thinking skills. Engaging lessons will explore solving equations and inequalities, simplifying expressions, linear, exponential, and quadratic functions, exponents, polynomials, factoring, radicals, data analysis, and probability.

Geometry - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9-10, Pre-Req: Algebra I

Geometry at ACA remains consistent with its classical approach in the search for reason, beauty, and knowledge for its own sake. Euclidean geometry carefully defines the relationship of points, lines, planes, and space, which allows students to utilize deductive reasoning to present a clear argument. Plato claimed that “Geometry draws the soul towards Truth,” and this class reflects that resilient desire for learning what is true and what only appears to be. Topics covered include perpendicular/parallel lines, similar figures, triangles, and coordinate geometry.

Algebra II - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10-11, Pre-Req: Algebra I

Algebra II is a year-long course that is designed to provide students opportunities to build understanding of important, new mathematical concepts and develop fluency with key skills. Algebra II builds on Algebra I concepts by reviewing previously learned concepts and expanding the depth of knowledge by presenting new ideas and more complex problems. Students build upon the foundation laid in the study of Algebra I and Geometry, continuing to explore linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, and radical functions, while introducing trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Conic sections, probability, statistics, and matrices will also be examined, and some discussion of the history of algebra and mathematics in general will be included. Classical tools such as the five common topics of discovery and Socratic discussions will be employed to provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of mathematics.

4th Year Math OPTIONS - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Pre-Calculus - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11-12, Pre-Req: Algebra II

Precalculus is designed to finalize the study of concepts introduced in previous classes. As the final step before the collegiate level, precalculus acts as the bridge between elementary and higher mathematics and, as such, contains a healthy dose of both familiar and new concepts. Many algebraic, geometric, and logical reasoning skills acquired in previous classes will be strengthened and refined this year. In addition, this class will contain an emphasis on the study and applications of trigonometry. Additional topics are also covered, including alternate graphing methods, vectors, matrices, discrete mathematics, and limits.

Calculus I - Full-Year APPROVAL REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11-12, Pre-Req: Pre-Calculus

Calculus I introduces the concepts of calculus in both theory and application. This course emphasizes an intuitive approach to calculus, where students analyze the concepts geometrically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The calculus is split into two branches—differential and integral calculus. In differential calculus, students learn the rules of derivatives and some of their applications, including the analysis of curves, modeling and optimization, and the relationship between position, velocity, and acceleration. In integral calculus, students study the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and rules of basic integration, along with methods to find areas under curves and volumes of irregular figures. Both of these branches take an in-depth study of how we wrestle with infinity, limits, and the comparison of the One to the Many.

AP Calculus BC - Full-Year APPROVAL REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11-12, Pre-Req: Calculus or Pre-Calculus

Students will be introduced to the fundamental principles of differential and integral calculus. Topics covered include a detailed study of limits, continuity, derivatives, and integrals of algebraic and transcendental functions of one variable with applications to curve-tracing, maxima-minima, and related rate problems. Upon completion, students should be able to select and use appropriate models and techniques for finding solutions to derivative and antiderivative-related problems with and without technology. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP exam at the end of the course, if they choose, with the possibility of qualifying to meet college-level credit requirements, depending on the policies of the college in which the student enrolls.

APEX AMDM online - Full-Year APPROVAL REQUIRED

Dual Enrollment, if math is completed through AP Calculus and accepted by a GA University - Full Year

Science

4 Credits Required

4.5 Credits for AP Track

Biology I - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9

Biology I expands on the life science concepts acquired in earlier courses. Students will explore a diversity of topics, including the inner workings of the cell, DNA, evolution, and the interactions of ecosystems, to gain a deeper understanding of how life systems operate. This course aims to open students' eyes to the world around them, helping them understand what makes life work and how they fit into it.

REGULAR TRACK

Chemistry I - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS: Chemistry or AP Biology

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10

This course provides students with a fundamental understanding of matter and change, scientific measurements and procedures, atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical formulas, chemical reactions and equations, stoichiometry, states of matter, kinetic theory of matter, gas laws, solution chemistry, acid-base theories, and reaction energy. Each major unit includes a historical perspective, focusing on the questions posed, analyzed, and answered by the founders of modern chemistry. Students will do a number of laboratory experiments and investigations.

Physics I - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS: Physics or AP Chemistry

Max. Class Size: 28, Pre-Req: Algebra II

Grade: 11-12

This course is designed to further the understanding of the physical sciences that began in the lower school and provide students with the necessary skills to be proficient in physics. The study of physics stresses an in-depth understanding of the nature and structure of matter and the characteristics of energy. This course is designed to provide students with hands-on, real-world connections that will deepen their understanding of this math-based science discipline. Areas of concentration include classical mechanics, gravitation, thermodynamics, the atomic nature of matter, electricity and magnetism, and electromagnetic and sound waves.

4th Year Science Elective for 2026-27 will be:

AP Computer Science A - Full-Year REQUIRED by APS: 4th-year science or AP Physics

Faculty: Mr. Freeman

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: None

An introduction to fundamental computing principles and the art of programming. This course surveys the timeless techniques and methods which underpin the world's most advanced computer applications, including algorithm design, object-oriented programming, and machine learning. This course does not focus on using computer applications, but rather building them from the ground up, with an emphasis on precise, ordered, logical analysis.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TRACK

AP Biology - Full-Year APPROVAL REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 20

Grades: 10-12, Pre-Req: Biology Average (Semesters 1 and 2) of 93 or greater

The Advanced Placement (AP) Biology course builds on the concepts acquired in Biology I and is a rigorous, year-long course that simulates a college-level introductory biology course. Students will expand upon the knowledge acquired in Biology I and deepen their understanding using real-world examples through lab activities. Students will observe key concepts, such as artificial selection, photosynthesis, enzyme activity, and gel electrophoresis during their lab instruction. Lab work emphasizes the development and testing of a hypothesis, the collection, analysis, and presentation of data, and the discussion of results to learn how to think critically and problem solve.

Advanced Chemistry I - Semester REQUIRED for AP Chemistry, if no Chemistry Credit

Max. Class Size: 20

Grades: 10-11, Must be enrolled in Algebra II or higher math course

Chemistry Intensive is not meant to be an “intense” course. Conversely, it is not designed to be more rigorous than Chemistry I, or to take up big amounts of time outside of class. But the pace with which we move through the material will be swift. The goal is to prepare you for AP Chemistry by delivering the general chemistry concepts you need to learn and master before starting AP Chemistry. Essentially, a year’s worth of chemistry material will be covered in a semester.

AP Chemistry - Full-Year APPROVAL REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 20

Grades: 11-12 Pre-Req: Algebra II and (Chem Intensive or Chemistry I)

AP Chemistry is designed to be comparable to a college-level general chemistry course and thus explores in much greater depth the concepts students previously learned in Chemistry I, as well as new material that will build upon previous knowledge. Major topics covered will include the structure of matter, states of matter, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermochemistry, equilibrium, acid-base, and electrochemistry. Students will learn numerous chemical calculation skills in the study of the content and in the analysis of lab data. The course is challenging in both academic content and laboratory procedures.

AP Physics I - Full-Year APPROVAL REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: Algebra II

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; torque and rotational motion; electric charge and electric force; DC circuits; and mechanical waves and sound.

World Language

3 Credits Required

GA DOE High School World Language Requirements:

- Minimum of 2 Units in the same, single foreign language for admission to USG colleges.
- 1-2 more units are highly recommended for competitive college admissions.

Latin III - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9, Pre-Req: Latin II

In Latin III, students cover the later chapters of Wheelock's Latin, learning about the various tenses of the Subjunctive Mood of verbs, the uses of the Subjunctive Mood, and the different types of Conditional sentences. Focus is placed on learning new Latin vocabulary and on incorporating derivatives of those words into one's own vernacular. Students proceed through the textbook at the rate of one chapter every two weeks. Each chapter incorporates a lecture on classical mythology.

Latin IV - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10, Pre-Req: Latin III

Students complete the remaining chapters of Wheelock's Latin, which cover all the significant grammatical subjects of Latin and provide a vocabulary of approximately 1000 words. Students then make the transition from translating independent sentences to working with continuous passages of unadapted or only slightly adapted Latin literature.

Latin V - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11, Pre-Req: Latin IV

The overarching goal of this course is to increase the pace at which students can translate a high volume of Latin writing. To this end, more readily comprehensible compositions are initially utilized to help the students develop good techniques of translation. These are then applied toward more difficult unadapted passages from the classics of Latin literature, especially the words of Caesar and Virgil.

AP Latin - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: Latin V

The AP Latin course focuses on the in-depth study of selections from two of the greatest works in Latin literature: Vergil's Aeneid and Caesar's Gallic War. The course requires students to prepare and translate the readings and place these texts in a meaningful context, which helps develop critical, historical, and literary sensitivities. Throughout the course, students consider themes in the context of ancient literature and bring these works to life through classroom discussions, debates, and presentations. Additional English readings from both of these works help place the Latin readings in a significant context.

Spanish I - Full-Year

Spanish I for Native - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9-10, Pre-Req: None

This course immerses students in the Spanish language by implementing different activities that help with language development. Students work on developing the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), as well as the vocabulary and basic grammar necessary to establish a basic working knowledge of the language. Students will learn introductions, seasons, days of the week, months of the year, numbers, prepositions, adjectives, comparatives, superlatives, and regular/irregular verbs, among others. Additionally, students will learn the simple present tense and basic grammatical structures, which will help them communicate efficiently in basic conversational Spanish.

Spanish II - Full-Year

Spanish II for Native Speakers - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10-11, Pre-Req: Spanish I

In this course, students will work to further develop the four Spanish language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), as well as vocabulary and advanced grammar necessary for them to acquire a working knowledge of the language. Students will build upon previous topics taught in Spanish I (numbers, colors, animals, adjectives, comparatives, superlatives, regular/irregular verbs, present tense). Additionally, we will continue studying verb tenses, more advanced grammatical structures, and new vocabulary that will help students communicate efficiently and advance their understanding of the Spanish language. Students will demonstrate their mastery of the language by writing short paragraphs, reading Spanish stories, and novels.

Spanish III - Full-Year

Spanish III for Native Speakers - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 11-12, Pre-Req: Spanish II

This course will consolidate the topics necessary for advanced knowledge and proficiency in the Spanish language. Students will expand their vocabulary by learning commonly idiomatic expressions and phrases used on a daily basis by native Spanish speakers. Additionally, they will learn the usages of active/passive voice, direct/indirect objects, disjunctive pronouns, subjunctive mood, and verb tenses such as past perfect, imperfect indicative, future, among others. Students will demonstrate their mastery of the language by writing essays, reading advanced Spanish novels/books, and communicating with Spanish-speaking guests.

Spanish IV - Full-Year

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: Spanish III

This course is designed for students with a broad knowledge of Spanish and who are able to apply all the grammar taught in previous years. Students who take this course intend to refine and enhance their language skills acquired in the prior years of study. Students taking Spanish IV will continue to review and practice previous concepts and work on advanced activities to improve their ability to communicate in the target language. New concepts introduced in level 4 are indefinite and negative words, active/passive voice, subjunctive, conjunctions, present perfect tense, past perfect tense, the conditional, among others. The course will also incorporate the history of Spanish-speaking countries; therefore, important books and novels will also be read in class.

Fine Arts

.5 Credits Required

Art Appreciation - Semester REQUIRED

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 10

This course teaches students how to connect works of art to the historical, literary, and scientific worlds in which they were created and further develops the students' capacity for recognizing and loving the beauty around them. The course offers outlets for creative expression through studio projects and weekly choir rehearsals. It aims to educate the emotions and, in so doing, develop virtue by teaching students how to respond appropriately to the miracle of human creativity.

Health & Fitness

1 Credit Required

Health - Semester **REQUIRED by APS**

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9

Health is the condition of the human body when it is functioning properly. Lack of health—or being unhealthy—is the condition of the human body when it is not working properly or to its potential. Health class is the formal study of the human body in order to understand what constitutes health, what practices and habits contribute to health, what practices and habits impair health, and what ailments and conditions must be diagnosed and treated lest they endanger health.

Personal Fitness - Semester **REQUIRED by APS**

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9

This course will focus on the different types of workouts that can be accomplished to increase strength, endurance, and flexibility. Students will learn about muscle groups, proper lifting form, circuit training, interval training, and how to tier/rotate workouts. There is usually a summer offering of this in-person on the ACA Campus or online through APEX. Check with the registrar for information.

ELECTIVES

FULL-YEAR

AP Computer Science A - Full-Year

Faculty: Mr. Freeman

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 10-12, Pre-Req: Teacher Approval

An introduction to fundamental computing principles and the art of programming. This course surveys the timeless techniques and methods which underpin the world's most advanced computer applications, including algorithm design, object-oriented programming, and machine learning. This course does not focus on using computer applications, but rather building them from the ground up, with an emphasis on precise, ordered, logical analysis.

Major Movements and Ideologies - Full-Year

Faculty: Mr. Rosenzweig

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: None

This course will educate the students in many major trends of the modern world, starting in the early 1700's. We start with Liberalism and will expand from that topic as it affected Europe and the rest of the world. Classes will include group analysis of primary documents, debates, simulations, Socratic instruction, and round table discussions. Primary documents are provided by the teacher, and no textbook is required. The course will be divided into eight units, all working off the previous unit. The units are as follows:

- I. Liberalism
- II. Industrial Revolution and Capitalism
- III. Nationalism (Part I)
- IV. Global Imperialism
- V. Nationalism (Part II)
- VI. Totalitarianism
- VII. Marxism/Socialism and Communism
- VIII. Globalization

FALL and SPRING

Study Hall - Semester NO CREDIT

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9-12, Pre-Req: None

Studio Art I-VI - Semester

Faculty: Ms. Egan

Max. Class Size: 20

Grades: 9-12, Pre-Req: None

In this elective, we will explore the different types of media and techniques that are used in art. We will offer courses in Intermediate Drawing, Intermediate Painting, Mixed Media, Advanced Drawing, Advanced Painting, Portfolio Building, and Open Studio. Through these courses, we will have the opportunity to not only learn about art but also to create and display our own works.

Beginning Chorus I & II - Semester

Intermediate Chorus III - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Franklin

Max. Class Size: Unlimited

Grades: 9-12, Pre-Req: Audition

Chorus allows high school students an opportunity to sing in a larger ensemble, focusing on a wide spectrum of repertoire. The chorus will sing in at least two concerts as well as take part in choir festivals and sing for community events.

String Ensemble I & II - Semester

Intermediate String Ensemble I & II - Semester

Faculty: TBD

Max. Class Size: Unlimited

Grades: 9-12, Pre-Req: Audition

The string ensemble will have the opportunity to share the beauty through the performance of a wide range of music genres. These groups serve as ambassadors for our school as we perform at special events, in our community, and around the region.

Piano I & II - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Henriques

Max. Class Size: Piano Limit 8

Grades: 9-12, Pre-Req: Audition

An audition interview is required for any student not re-enrolling or coming from the after-school piano program. We will explore improvisation, composition at the keyboard, efficient practice techniques, and repertoire building. We will develop the technical and musical skills necessary for clean, expressive playing. Opportunities for public performance will be provided.

Examining the Teaching Profession - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Clausen

Max. Class Size: 1 student per teacher request

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: Teacher Approval

This course provides students with a fundamental look into the teaching profession. Through observation and engagement, students are exposed to the everyday work life of an elementary teacher, their teaching and learning strategies, their formation of an effective learning environment, their class management style to deliver an optimal instructional opportunity for diverse learners, and their creation of curriculum plans based upon subject matter, community, and curriculum standards. Students are to act in a professional manner through appearance, behavior, and language and to model the ACA virtues of courage, courtesy, honesty, perseverance, self-government, and service. Students will use workplace manners, including integrity, honesty, accountability, punctuality, and respect for all. Students will show creativity by asking challenging questions and supplying innovative solutions to problems. They will communicate in a businesslike manner through effective writing, speaking, listening, reading, and body language.

FALL ONLY

Debate I, Debate II - Semester

Faculty: Dr. Farmer

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 9-12, Pre-Req: Teacher Approval

In this class, students will learn the principles and techniques of debate, with an eye to participating on the debate team. Students do not need to be on the team to take the class. Students may take this course multiple times for credit.

History of Film I - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Ostapiej

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 9-12, Pre-Req: None

This course will cover the history and importance of film as an art form. It will introduce students to some key figures and moments in film history. Students will also learn important film-related terminology, how to watch films critically, and gain a better understanding of media literacy. Through lectures, viewings, readings, projects, and paper writing, students will gain a deep understanding of film and the impact it's had on our lives and culture.

Through the Wardrobe: C.S. Lewis and Narnia - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Vaupel

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 9-12, Pre-Req: Teacher Approval

What happens when one of the most well-read and brilliant thinkers and writers in modern history applies his craft to children's literature? C.S. Lewis's Chronicles of Narnia have captivated children and adults alike for generations. We will read these classics together and make deep connections to many other great works in Western Civilization. As we will discover, when you enter the wardrobe into Narnia, adventure awaits in a world of truth, goodness, and beauty to explore. This course will require reading the books with lots of discussion and some writing as well.

Psychology - Semester

Faculty: Dr. KT

Max. Class Size: 20

Grades: 9-12, Pre-Req: Teacher Approval

Psychology is the study of the mind and human behavior. This (no homework) elective introduces students to the fundamentals of psychology. Topics covered include social behavior ('how are we conditioned?' and 'why do we act differently in groups?'); positive psychology ('how can we be happy and flourish?'); human cognitive development ('when do we become rational and moral?'); the psychology of sleep ('why do we dream?'); animal psychology ('do animals think or have emotions?') and 'weird' psychology. We will discuss these topics and more, and design and participate in our own psychological experiments.

Classical Fellows I, Classical Fellows II - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Hawkins

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 10-12, Pre-Req: Classical Fellows Designation

Open exclusively to students selected as Classical Fellows, this elective honors intellectual initiative and scholarly seriousness. Each year, Fellows propose the topic of study; the final selection is approved by Mr. Hawkins and taught by either Mr. Hawkins or a rotating faculty member. Subjects vary—past and proposed offerings include linguistics, contemporary poetry, Japanese history, constitutional law as applied to education, literary pairings, and current events. Students may take this course multiple times for credit.

Creative Writing - Semester

Faculty: Mr. McClatchey

Max. Class Size: 14

Grades: 10-12, Pre-Req: Composition

This class teaches students the basics of fiction and poetry. Students will learn the fundamentals of narrative, the fundamentals of verse, and how to behave in a creative writing workshop. Students will write their own stories and poems, bringing them in for the class to read and appraise. Course readings will be eclectic, ranging from contemporary short stories to medieval Chinese poems to Ezra Pound's grumpy advice for young writers. The usefulness of this course will be universal. Even if a student decides not to continue writing, they will have learned how to stop and listen for the distinctions between synonyms, the minor facets in a verb, and the slackening effect of adjectives. The ear of an educated person can never be sensitive enough.

Advanced Creative Writing - Semester

Faculty: Mr. McClatchey

Max. Class Size: 6

Grades: 11-12, Pre-Req: Creative Writing

This course is a continuation of the techniques detailed in the Creative Writing description.

Problems in Engineering - Semester

Faculty: Dr. Han

Max. Class Size: 20

Grades: 11-12, Pre-Req: Principles of Engineering

This upper-level course provides students with an opportunity to employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges. Students will also learn how to document their work and communicate their solutions to their peers and members of the professional community.

SPRING ONLY

War Stories - Semester

Faculty: Mr. McClatchey

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 9-12, **Pre-Req:** None

War Stories: Battle dominates our mental landscape. From The Iliad to Ernest Hemingway, writers have often employed warfare to spelunk in the deepest parts of human nature. But what does it actually feel like to experience combat? This elective will explore that question. We'll look at Steven Pressfield's imagination of hoplites trembling behind their shields, Alice Oswald's reimagining of Bronze Age warfare in Memorial, and then leap to modern accounts from Erich Maria Remarque and Tim O'Brien. What is courage? How does one endure the trauma of battle? Why do some warriors experience battle as a form of ecstasy?

French I: Bienvenue au français - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Furnari

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 9-12, **Pre-Req:** None

Bienvenue au français introduces students to the fundamentals of French pronunciation and grammar. Students will practice the basics of conversational and written French, while exploring facets of French History and culture. This course does not count for World Language credit.

Theatre Arts I-II - Semester

Faculty: Dr. K-T

Max. Class Size: 28

Grade: 9-12, **Pre-Req:** None

The upper school theatre elective is designed to help students understand the fundamental elements of theatre. We will cover acting, directing, drama theory, and playwriting. You will also develop specific stage skills like vocal expression, character development, and movement. Drama theory involves exploring different periods and styles of theatre. Studying historical and cultural context will allow you to access the rich traditions found in the world of theatre. In general, lessons will include improvisational acting games and warmups, scene-devising activities, and rehearsals for an end-of-semester performance. This elective aims to provide a strong foundation for students to continue to pursue and appreciate the dramatic arts. Although officially a no homework elective, this course will require some line learning at home.

History of Film II - Semester

Faculty: Mr. Ostapiej

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 10-12, **Pre-Req:** History of Film I

Students will explore new genres (war, screwball comedy), directors (Stanley Kubrick, Howard Hawks, Orson Welles), actors (Jimmy Stewart, Robert Redford), and important movements (Avant-garde, French New Wave). Students will continue to grow in their academic approach to cinema and how it both reflects and provides commentary on the society from which it came. This will ensure students gain an understanding of film beyond the historical and critical, and into the analytical.

Cancer Biology - Semester

Faculty: Dr. Elrod

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 11-12, Pre-Req: None

How does basic science research lead to therapies to treat cancer?

In this course, students will explore the history of cancer, read primary scientific papers that include data covering cancer genetics, targeted therapy, immunotherapy, and cancer vaccines. The different types of cancers will also be discussed.

AP Physics C: Mechanics - Semester

Faculty: Vaupel

Max. Class Size: 20

Grade: 12, Pre-Req: Must currently be enrolled in AP Physics

This course prepares the student to take the AP Physics C: Mechanics exam, which covers the same content but includes calculus-based analysis. You will take the year-long AP Physics course, and in the spring semester, you will have an additional physics period to learn the calculus required for the AP Physics C: Mechanics exam.