

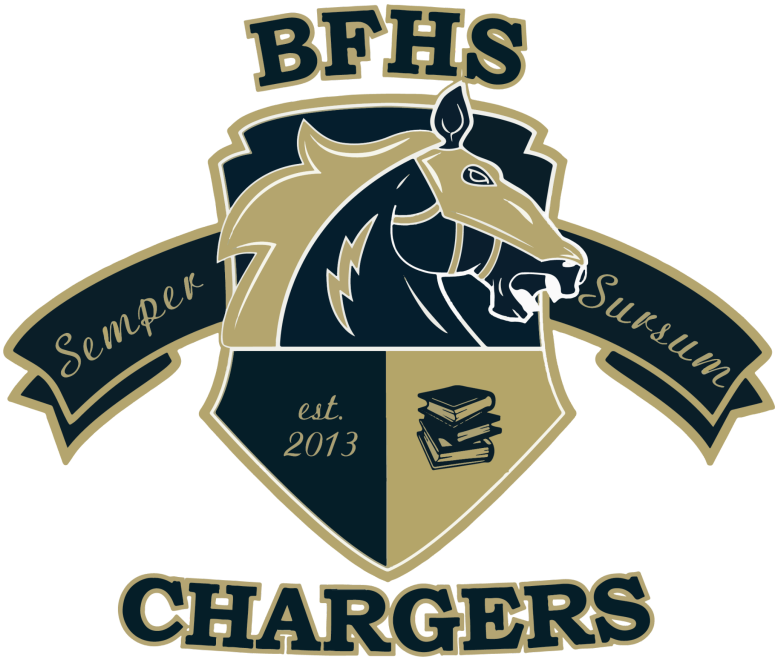
Junior High / High School

Course Catalog



BFHS CHARGERS

rev. 1-24-2025



Benjamin Franklin High School

Course Catalog

Junior High/High School
7th-12th Grade

2026-2027

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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

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

As a program that values continuous learning and growth, BFHS does not award high school credit for math courses (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II) or world language courses taken in 7th and 8th grade. BFHS students are expected to fulfill their learning potential by taking four years of math and two years of world language in high school.

HIGH SCHOOL

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

MATERIAL USAGE FEES

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

WRITING STYLE

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

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

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

DUAL ENROLLMENT (DE)

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

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

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

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

BFHS JUNIOR HIGH
COURSE PROGRESSION

	7TH GRADE	8TH GRADE
ENGLISH	7th Grade English	8th Grade English
MATH	Course 2 **OR** Course 3	Course 3 **OR** Algebra 1
SCIENCE	7th Grade Science	8th Grade Science
HISTORY	7th Grade History	8th Grade History
PRESCRIBED ELECTIVE	JH Computers and Consumer Economics	Intro to Latin
ELECTIVE	Student Choice (Fine Arts, PE, etc.)	Student Choice (Fine Arts, PE, etc.)
Total Course Load	**6 Credit-Bearing Classes**	**6 Credit-Bearing Classes**

Junior High students may take two electives but they **must** enroll in a zero hour to make room in their schedule.
Junior High students do not participate in Release Time.
7th hour classes are not available for Junior High students.
ALL 7-10th grade students must be enrolled in 6 credit bearing classes (at a minimum).
Intro to Weights is **ONLY** open to 8th graders who have been pre-approved by the PE Department Chair.
RELEASE TIME: Release Time is a non credit-bearing course.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE PROGRESSION

AP = Advanced Placement
H = Honors
T = Traditional

	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE	GRAD REQ.
ENGLISH	Classical Literature (H, T)	British Literature (H, T)	American Literature **OR** AP Language & Composition	Modern Literature **OR** AP Literature & Composition	**4** Credits
MATH	Algebra 1 **OR** Geometry (H, T)	Geometry (H, T) **OR** Algebra 2(H, T)	Algebra 2 (H, T) **OR** Pre-Calculus (H, T)	Pre-Calculus (H, T) **OR** AP Statistics **OR** AP Calculus **OR** Data Science	**4** Credits
SCIENCE	Biology (H, T)	Chemistry (AP, H, T) **OR** Physics (AP, H, T) **OR** AP Biology	Chemistry (AP, H, T) **OR** Physics (AP, H, T) **OR** AP Biology **OR** Earth Science	Optional	**3** Credits
HISTORY	Western Civilization 1 (H, T)	Western Civilization 2 **OR** AP European History	US History (AP, T)	Government/Economics (AP, T)	**4** Credits
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	First Year (Spanish, Latin, French)	Second Year (Spanish, Latin, French)	Optional Third Year (Spanish, Latin, French)	Optional Fourth Year (AP Spanish, Latin IV)	**2** Credits
ELECTIVE	1 elective (Student Choice)	1 elective (Student Choice)	1 elective (Student Choice)	1 elective (Student Choice)	**4** Credits
FINE ARTS	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	Student Choice	**1** Credit
Total Course Load	**6 Credit-Bearing Classes**	**6 Credit-Bearing Classes**	**6 Credit-Bearing Classes*** *Enrolled in EVIT = 4 Credit-Bearing Classes*	**4 Credit-Bearing Classes**	**22** Credits

***FOREIGN LANGUAGE:** All students are required to take two years of a foreign language; they must be taken consecutively.

***EVIT:** Students may apply for EVIT their sophomore year; if accepted, they must enroll in the PM program. Typically, EVIT will fulfill a student's elective requirements.

***RELEASE TIME:** Students who elect to take release time must take a minimum of 6-credit bearing classes; this means they will need to take either a 0 or 7th hour.

***FINE ART:** All students must take at least one fine arts class while in high school to fulfill their graduation requirement.

JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS

JUNIOR HIGH MATHEMATICS

Course 2

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 7
Course 2 provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts; basic numbers and operations, proportional relationships, solving one and two-step equations, basic geometry, measurement, and probability. Course 2 will introduce concepts that will prepare students for Pre-Algebra.

Course 3 (Pre-Algebra)

Prerequisite(s): Course 2 or Growth Measure Placement
Grade Level(s): 7-8
Course 3 provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts: number and operations, variables, expressions, equations, and inequalities, geometric properties and relationships of lines, angles, and polygons, solving measurement problems, and probability. Course 3 begins moving students from fundamental math towards algebraic concepts.

JH Algebra I

Prerequisite(s): Course 3 Grade of C or higher or Growth Measure Placement AND teacher recommendation
Grade Level(s): 7-8
JH Algebra I provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts: linear functions and equations, rational expressions, inequalities, radical equations, quadratic equations, probability and data analysis. With JH Algebra I, students begin developing the more complex understanding required for advanced mathematics and may move at a faster pace than the high school algebra course.

Geometry

Prerequisite: JH Algebra I Grade of C or higher
Grade Level(s): 8-10
Geometry uses logic and critical thinking skills in the exploration of the properties of points, lines, planes, circles, polygons, and solids in two and three dimensions. Students will look comprehensively at parallel and perpendicular lines, the coordinate plane, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, congruence and similarity, surface area, volume and transformations through the use of proofs and hands-on explorations. The course provides an introduction to trigonometric concepts through the relationships of right triangles.

JUNIOR HIGH SCIENCE

7th Grade Science

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 7
7th Grade Science is a survey course which combines aspects from life, physical and earth sciences and is designed to introduce and provide an overview of topics including but not limited to microbiomes, chemical reactions, natural selection processes, engineering, traits and reproduction, rock transformations, and phase changes. The students will take on roles as chemists, chemical and biomedical engineers, geologists, biologists and paleontologists to investigate unit questions and deepen their understanding within these units of study.

8th Grade Science

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Science
Grade Level: 8

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

JUNIOR HIGH ENGLISH

7th Grade English: Ancient World to the Renaissance

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 7

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

8th Grade English: American Enlightenment to the 20th Century

Prerequisite: 7th Grade English
Grade Level: 8

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

JUNIOR HIGH HISTORY

7th Grade History: Ancient Greece to the Age of Discovery

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 7

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

8th Grade History: Founding of America to the Present Day

Prerequisite: 7th Grade History
Grade Level: 8

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

JUNIOR HIGH REQUIRED ELECTIVES

JH Computers

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 7

In this one-semester course, students will learn the fundamentals of keyboarding, including proper typing, typing position, and benefits of proper keyboarding. Students will also learn the functions and tools in G Suite and Microsoft to complete various projects in class. The course will include an overview and history of computers, basic hardware, Digital Citizenship (Internet Safety and etiquette), and basic digital design.

Consumer Economics

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 7

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

Introduction to Latin

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 8

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

JUNIOR HIGH ELECTIVE OPTIONS

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

JH Physical Education

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-8
The purpose of Physical Education is to provide students the opportunity to acquire the skills needed to make positive decisions about a healthy, physically active lifestyle. This is achieved through physical activity and both individual and team sports. The course will strive to enhance the mental, social and moral development of students and teach them positive life skills. The course will concentrate on fundamentals, sportsmanship, and character building. P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform. **P.E. uniforms may be purchased during Charger Days** or during bookstore hours.

JH Introduction to Weight Training

Prerequisite: PE Department Chair Approval
Grade Level(s): 8
The purpose of JH Introduction to Weight Training is to provide students the same opportunities as the regular Physical Education Class but all activities will center around age-appropriate strength and conditioning in the weight room. Workouts will be geared specifically for the junior high athlete. This is a high intensity class and students will be challenged and pushed to work hard and reach their potential. Any student planning on participating in extracurricular athletics should seriously consider enrolling in this class. P.E. students must be in appropriate attire, including athletic shoes and the Charger P.E. uniform.**P.E. uniforms may be purchased during Charger Days** or during bookstore hours.

Art I

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12
Students will learn basic features of visual design as they work through various projects and skills using a variety of mediums. The program's intent is to foster confidence and help budding artists realize their potential. **There is a class fee due at Charger Days**.

Ceramics I

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12 (scheduling priority will be given to those who have not yet taken Ceramics I)
Ceramics I focuses on building essential skills and techniques in making ceramic work. Students are introduced to clay as both a material and an artistic medium. Through hands-on practice, they will become proficient in the basic forming methods of handbuilding and wheel throwing. Students will gain a deeper appreciation of ceramic objects throughout history and in their everyday life. **There is a class fee due at Charger Days.**

Theater I

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12
This yearlong course is a performance driven introduction to theater focusing on acting technique, monologue work, scene work, improvisation, and play production and performance. Written homework will be limited, but line memorization will be a huge

component of this course. The planned curriculum will include two productions – one each semester. In addition, students will have the opportunity to create sets and props, run tech, and sew costumes. **There is a course fee associated with this class**, **due at Charger Days**, that goes towards class materials and production expenses.

Beginning Band

Prerequisite: None
Grade Levels(s): 7-12

Beginning Band offers the band experience at the introductory level. Students may pick from woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The goal of the class is giving students another way to express themselves while developing fundamental skills needed to perform; students are held to a high standard just like the other ensembles to ensure their success on their chosen instrument and the ability to continue into Concert band. Musical topics covered include reading music, music notation, analyzing and evaluating music, as well as composing and improvising simple melodies. Students will have the opportunity to perform during the concert season as well as various other playing opportunities. Purchase of the *Tradition of Excellence, Books 1 and 2*, is required for this ensemble.

Concert Band

Prerequisite: Some instrumental experience
Grade Level(s: 7-12

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

Symphonic Band

Prerequisite: Audition
Grade Level(s): 7-12

The Benjamin Franklin Symphonic Band is a year-long course that offers students great variety and challenge in musical performance. Students will continue the development of advanced instrumental technique, music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style, a deeper understanding of ensemble music, and wind band literature. Literature will emphasize works from the standard high school repertoire. Fluency in the major scales and chromatic scales are required as well as core rudiments for percussion students. Placement within this class is based upon audition. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo/excerpt, and sight reading. Audition requirements: major scales, sight reading, and a solo or piece of music of your choice. Purchase of Frank Erickson books for sight and supplemented reading is required for this ensemble.

Women's Ensemble

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-8

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

Men's Ensemble

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-8

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

Junior High Honor Choir

Prerequisite: 1 year of Women's or Men's Ensemble OR an audition
Grade Level(s): 7-8

An auditioned choir for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Members of this choir have strong vocal and music reading abilities and can sing in 3 and 4-part harmony. Students will have the opportunity to grow individually and as a choir through a curriculum that creates a solid foundation in music literacy and healthy vocal technique. Students in Junior High Honor Choir study and perform repertoire that includes classical, jazz, folk songs, spirituals, world music, popular music, and musical theater. This choir performs four required concerts per year, plus one rated festival. **A class fee is required, plus purchase of the performance uniform**. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden. If you are an incoming 7th grader wishing to audition for Junior High Honor Choir, please send a video audition to habney@bfcsaz.com. For the video, please sing at least 1-minute of any song of your choosing; it can be a capella or accompanied.

String Orchestra

Full year course
Prerequisite: 1-3 years experience on their instrument (beginners accepted with permission from teacher)
Grade Level(s): 7-12
Note: ALL incoming 7th graders interested in orchestra must register for this class. An audition is required if they wish to be considered for another level of orchestra.

As the logical next step to an elementary level music education, String Orchestra offers 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year instruction on violin, viola, cello, and string bass for those desiring to learn to play a string instrument. This course will focus on the fundamental skills necessary for progression through the BFHS orchestra programs including long-term success. Students in grades 7 - 12 are welcome. No audition is required for placement in this course —beginners accepted with teacher permission only. Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of characteristic tone quality, reading music, notation and rhythm, beginning music theory, ear training, and additional areas of music literacy.. In addition to the incoming 7th grade musicians, this class is ideal for those who may have previous experience and feel they need a review including: reinforcement of music reading, playing fundamentals and technique that are vital for lasting musical development.

Concert Orchestra

Full year course
Prerequisite: 2 or more years of experience (orchestra or private lessons) on their instrument
Grade Level(s): 8-12 (7th grade students must contact teacher for audition or enroll in String Orchestra)

As is the case for all BFHS orchestras, placement into Concert Orchestra is dependent on skill level., We start the year with beginning shifting, two octave scales, rhythm counting, the rudiments of vibrato, and basic listening dictations. Placement in this orchestra requires a willingness to challenge yourself to reach the next level of musicianship. We strive to create a positive learning environment where students are encouraged to venture out of their comfort zones to create beautiful music. All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

Symphonic Orchestra

Full year course
Prerequisite: Audition required (contact teacher)
Grade Level(s): 7-12

As is the case for all BFHS orchestras, placement into Symphonic Orchestra is dependent on skill level and not grade level. Students will begin the year with three octave scales, advanced rhythm counting, shifting, and intermediate listening dictations. and fostering a deeper understanding of performance strategy. Placement in this orchestra requires at least three years' experience on your instrument (exceptions may occur based on ability), an advanced understanding of musical terms such as solfege, key signatures, and time signatures, and most importantly a growing respect for the musical process and high levels of achievement. Auditions for this orchestra take place by appointment with the teacher from March through May.. All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

Introduction to Ballet/Jazz

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12

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

Intermediate Ballet/Jazz

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Ballet/Jazz or Audition
Grade Level(s): 7-12

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

JH Student Council (JH STUCO)

Prerequisite: Elected and Appointed Students
Grade Level(s): 7-8

This course is for elected and appointed student body officers and student representatives. The purpose of this class is to develop and encourage effective student leadership skills. Students will learn meeting facilitation skills; the planning and implementation of class, club, and school activities; budget management; creating lifelong healthy habits; building a growth mindset; resource and time management skills; communication and public speaking skills; organizational and problem solving skills; marketing and promotional skills; and community service awareness. Students will need to attend 7th grade orientation. Students enrolled in this class are expected to attend several activities and events outside of the regular school day. Students must apply and interview for this class in the spring before being admitted.

Yearbook/Journalism

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Student application and teacher recommendation
Grade Level(s): 8-12

This course is designed for students who love to write and design. Students will function as staff members and learn various aspects of the yearbook publication process such as layout and design, copywriting, photography, budget and finance, and promotion and publicity. Students will be responsible for attending outside of class/school hours so they must have flexibility with their personal schedule as well as trusted transportation. Students are responsible for producing complete layouts in order to meet publication deadlines. **Student application and teacher approval required.**

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH

Honors Classical Literature

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9

Classical Literature will familiarize students with some of the most influential writings up to 1600 A.D. We will read, discuss, and write about works such as Homer's *The Iliad*, the epic poetry of Virgil, and the masterpieces of Dante and his contemporaries. Through argumentative writing and Socratic Seminars, students will be challenged to wrestle with these great thinkers. We will also continue to develop a strong understanding of English grammar rules and how best to apply them in writing. By devoting themselves to reading, speaking, and writing about these timeless masterpieces, students will learn about the religious, political, social, and philosophical tenets of early classical literature as they correspond with 9th Grade Western Civilization I, as well as discovering the relevance of Classical literature to their own lives.

Classical Literature

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9

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

Honors British Literature

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors Classical Literature or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 10

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

British Literature

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Classical Literature
Grade Level: 10

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

AP Language & Composition

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Honors British Literature or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 11

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

American Literature

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: British Literature
Grade Level: 11

This class follows the same program of study as AP Language and Composition but with additional student support in accessing the literature.

AP Literature & Composition

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): AP Language and Composition or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 12

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

Modern Literature

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): AP Language and Composition or American Literature
Grade Level: 12

This class follows the same program of study as AP Literature and Composition but with additional student support in accessing the literature.

HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Course 3 (Pre-Algebra)
Grade Level: 9
Algebra I provides, among other topics, in-depth coverage of the following concepts: linear equations and functions, rational expressions, inequalities, radical equations, quadratic equations, probability and data analysis. With Algebra I, students begin developing the more complex understanding required for advanced mathematics.

Honors Geometry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Algebra I or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 8-10
Geometry uses logic and critical thinking skills in the exploration of the properties of points, lines, planes, circles, polygons, and solids in two and three dimensions using in-depth analysis and Socratic dialogue. Students will look comprehensively at parallel and perpendicular lines, the coordinate plane, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, congruence and similarity, surface area, volume and transformations through the use of proofs and hands-on explorations. The course provides an introduction to trigonometric concepts through the relationships of right triangles.

Geometry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Algebra I
Grade Level(s): 8-10
This class follows the same program of study as the Honors class but with additional student support.

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors Geometry or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 9-11
Algebra II/Trigonometry expands on Algebra I concepts and teaches students how to graph linear, quadratic, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, solve equations, and factor advanced polynomials. Imaginary and complex numbers, probability, and sequences and series are also covered in the course. Concepts for trigonometry are developed and reinforced, and students are introduced to logarithmic and exponential functions.

Algebra II/Trigonometry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Geometry
Grade Level(s): 9-11
This class follows the same program of study as the Honors class but with additional student support.

Honors Pre-Calculus

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Pre-Calculus

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Algebra II/Honors Algebra II
Grade Level(s): 10-12

Pre-Calculus focuses on college algebra, including functions and modeling, exponential and logistic equations, discrete mathematics, and properties of right triangles. This course is heavily focused on graphing function transformations, solving equations and inequalities, and exploring the relationship between various representations. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to pre-calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally.

AP Statistics

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II/Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 12

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

AP Calculus AB

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus/Pre-Calculus or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 11-12

AP Calculus AB is equivalent to a first-semester college calculus course and covers the concepts of limits, derivatives, basic integration, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Students will also draw connections across these representations.

AP Calculus BC

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): AP Calculus AB or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 12
AP Calculus BC is equivalent to the first two semesters of college calculus, covering all Calculus AB material, sequences and series, and polar, parametric, and vector functions. Students will learn how to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are presented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to draw connections across these presentations.

Data Science

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 12
Data Science provides an integrated approach to statistics, science, and graphing technologies. In the first semester, students will learn how the data science process can explain variability. Through statistics, they perform univariate analysis on provided and generated datasets. They use the technology tools of Google Sheets, DataClassroom and Python programming to generate meaningful graphs for datasets. They will also complete a project that asks them to compare two data sets and articulate a conclusion from that comparison. In the second semester, students will learn to analyze bivariate data with DataClassroom and CODAP, while furthering their Python programming skills using additional technology tools such as GoogleColab, and EduBlocks. Finally they learn to use simulations to answer probabilistic questions that can model and predict our world.

Applied Mathematics

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Geometry and Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 12
Topics include set theory, logic, financial management, probability and statistics, graph theory, as well as applications of linear functions, non-linear functions, and geometry.

HIGH SCHOOL LAB SCIENCES

Honors Biology

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9
In this exciting and hands-on course, students gain an appreciation and understanding of the intricacies of the living world as well as the larger processes at work. This course includes an emphasis on the laboratory as a means for gaining knowledge. Contents of the class include: scientific methodology, ecology, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolutionary classification and history of living things, organisms of the six kingdoms and a survey of human anatomy and physiology.

Biology

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9
This on-level class follows an abridged program of study with more student support and teacher guidance in accessing the content.

AP Biology

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Biology and Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Honors Chemistry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra I
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Chemistry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Biology and Algebra I
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

AP Chemistry

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Chemistry and Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level(s): 11-12

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

Honors Physics

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra I
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Physics

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Biology
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Honors Biology/Biology and Honors Algebra II/Algebra II
Grade Level(s): 11-12

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

Earth Science

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Biology AND Chemistry or Physics
Grade Level(s): 11-12

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

HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY

Honors Western Civilization I

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9

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

Western Civilization I

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Grade Level: 9

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

Western Civilization II

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Western Civilization I or World History
Grade Level: 10

Western Civilization II will give students an overview of Western history from the Renaissance to modern day. The class will discuss the development of philosophy, religion, society, politics, economics, and science and technology. While the class will cover such important events and trends as the decline of feudalism, the rise of the nation-state, and the impact of the printing press, it will also focus on themes such as the relationship between security and freedom, whether or not the ends justify the means, the objectivity of truth, and the debate between progressivism and conservatism. Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Voltaire, Edmund Burke, Karl Marx, Nietzsche, and Solzhenitsyn are only a few of the thinkers the class will cover to delve into these themes. Western Civilization II will also utilize frequent Socratic Seminars to help develop the communication and critical thinking skills necessary for success both in college and everyday life.

AP European History

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Honors Western Civilization I or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 10

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

AP United States History

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): AP European History or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 11

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

United States History

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Western Civilization II or AP European History
Grade Level: 11

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

AP US Government and Politics

1 Semester/0.5 Credit
Prerequisite(s): AP U.S. History or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 12

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

Government

1 Semester/0.5 Credit
Prerequisite: US History or AP US History
Grade Level: 12

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

AP Macroeconomics

1 Semester/0.5 Credit
Prerequisite: AP US History or Teacher Recommendation
Grade Level: 12

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

Economics

1 Semester/0.5 Credit
Prerequisite: AP US History or US History
Grade Level: 12

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

HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Spanish I

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Spanish II

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Spanish I
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Honors Spanish III

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Spanish II
Grade Level(s): 11-12

Spanish III explores the richness of traditions found in Spanish-speaking countries. Students continue their mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a full Spanish language immersion setting, including short novels, newspaper and magazine articles. Reading emphasizes on learning culture, strengthening knowledge of grammar, and increasing vocabulary. Short videos as well as audio recordings comprise the listening component of the course. Spanish conversation is heavily emphasized. Students receive honors credit for this course.

AP Spanish Language

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: Spanish III
Grade Level(s): 11-12

AP Spanish students continue their mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a full Spanish language immersion classroom. Reading is both intensive and extensive, including novels, newspaper, and magazine articles. Reading emphasizes contemporary history and culture. Short video clips and audio recordings comprise the listening component of the course. In addition, students write essays reflecting their understanding and interpretation of class materials. Spanish conversation is heavily emphasized.

French II

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite: French I
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Latin I

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

Latin I is the first part of a two year study of Latin. The goal of this class is to present students with an in-depth study of the grammar, vocabulary, and idioms of Latin. As opposed to the Introduction to Latin 8th grade course, this course will be a more rigorous study of Latin as an intricately structured grammatical language. Students will also study Roman history, culture, architecture, and art. These studies will include excerpts from Roman texts and inscriptions as the students' understanding of the language allows. **Note:** This is primarily a reading class. While proper pronunciation will be taught and maintained, it will not be required or assessed.

Latin II

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Latin I
Grade Level(s): 10-12

Students in Latin II will continue their study of Latin using Learn to Read Latin, Part II. In the first semester, the class will continue its development of grammatical forms and vocabulary through memorization and the practical application of translating excerpts from works of Latin literature. In the second semester, the class will transition into reading larger sections of Latin works individually and discussing them in class as literature similar to an English literature course or studying history using primary sources. **Note:** This is primarily a reading class. While proper pronunciation will be taught and maintained, it will not be required or assessed.

Honors Latin III and Honors Latin IV

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Latin II
Grade Level(s): 11-12

Students will polish their understanding of the Latin language through the study of ancient Roman and other Latin authors. This seminar focuses on understanding and translating Latin texts in light of literary themes, oratorical elements, history, and culture. This course is

considered an honors level course. Latin III and Latin IV students will meet in the same class section, but the reading curriculum will differ each year to expose both Latin III and IV students to a wide range of authors and styles. Students will actively choose what texts are studied each year depending on their own interest and goals. These texts will always include portions of at least one prose work, one hexameter epic, and one lyric poem.

HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

AP Music Theory

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Music teacher recommendation and prior participation in Band, Choir, or Orchestra
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Beginning Band

Prerequisite: None
Grade Levels(s): 7-12

Beginning Band offers the band experience at the introductory level. Students may pick from woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The goal of the class is giving students another way to express themselves while developing fundamental skills needed to perform; students are held to a high standard just like the other ensembles to ensure their success on their chosen instrument and the ability to continue into Concert band. Musical topics covered include reading music, music notation, analyzing and evaluating music, as well as composing and improvising simple melodies. Students will have the opportunity to perform during the concert season as well as various other playing opportunities. Purchase of the *Tradition of Excellence, Books 1 and 2*, is required for this ensemble.

Concert Band

Prerequisite: Some instrumental experience
Grade Level(s: 7-12

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

Symphonic Band

Prerequisite: Audition
Grade Level(s): 7-12

The Benjamin Franklin Symphonic Band is a year-long course that offers students great variety and challenge in musical performance. Students will continue the development of advanced instrumental technique, music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style, a deeper understanding of ensemble music, and wind band literature. Literature will emphasize works from the standard high school repertoire. Students will be graded based on rehearsal skills and technique. Fluency in the major scales and chromatic scales are required as well as core rudiments for percussion students. Placement within this class is based upon audition. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo/excerpt, and sight reading. Audition requirements: major scales, sight reading, and a solo or piece of music of your choice. Purchase of Frank Erickson books for sight and supplemented reading is required for this ensemble.

Wind Ensemble

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Audition
Grade Level(s): 9-12

The Benjamin Franklin Wind Ensemble is a year-long, audition-only ensemble that epitomizes all aspects of excellence in technical and musical qualities. Students will perform both in small group ensembles and as a large group. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. Fluency in all scales (number of octaves is dependent on instrument, including chromatic) and rudiments is required. An audition will include (but is not necessarily limited to) multiple scales, a prepared solo, and sight reading. Audition requirements: major scales and some minor scales, sight reading, and a solo or piece of music of your choice. Purchase of Frank Erickson books for sight and supplemented reading is required for this ensemble.

Bella Voce

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

A non-auditioned choir for sopranos and altos in grades 9-12. *Bella Voce* provides a foundational treble choir experience with a focus on developing healthy vocal technique, music literacy, and aural skills. Singers in *Bella Voce* will study and perform choral repertoire from a variety of genres including classical, folk, jazz, spirituals, world music, popular music, and musical theater. **A class fee is required, plus purchase of the performance uniform**. Financial need should never prevent a student from joining choir; please speak to the director if uniform purchase is a burden.

Forte Choir

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Cantus

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): 1 year of Bella Voce or Forte AND an in-person audition
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Charger Voices

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): 1 year of Cantus and an in-person audition
Grade Level(s): 11-12

Charger Voices is Benjamin Franklin High School's premiere vocal ensemble. Singers in Charger Voices have highly developed vocal technique in both classical and contemporary styles. They are able to sing with excellent intonation, independently sing complex harmonies and rhythms, and display exemplary music reading and aural skills. This class will study and perform a wide variety of vocal music, spanning from Renaissance madrigals through contemporary jazz and a cappella. Members of this choir are required to audition for the Southwest Regional Choir. **Purchase of a uniform is required for this ensemble**. Members of Charger Voices are also required to be concurrently enrolled in Cantus (exceptions ***may*** be made for students enrolled in EVIT).

String Orchestra

Full year course
Prerequisite: 1-3 years experience on their instrument (beginners accepted with permission from teacher)
Grade Level(s): 7-12
Note: ALL incoming 7th graders interested in orchestra must register for this class. An audition is required if they wish to be considered for another level of orchestra.

As the logical next step to an elementary level music education, String Orchestra offers 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year instruction on violin, viola, cello, and string bass for those desiring to learn to play a string instrument. This course will focus on the fundamental skills necessary for progression through the BFHS orchestra programs including long-term success. Students in grades 7 - 12 are welcome. No audition is required for placement in this course —beginners accepted with teacher permission only. Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of characteristic tone quality, reading music, notation and rhythm, beginning music theory, ear training, and additional areas of music literacy. In addition to the incoming 7th grade musicians, this class is ideal for those who may have experience and need a review including: reinforcement of music reading, playing fundamentals and technique that are vital for lasting musical development.

Concert Orchestra

Full year course
Prerequisite: 2 or more years of experience (orchestra or private lessons) on their instrument
Grade Level(s): 8-12 (7th grade students must contact teacher for audition or enroll in String Orchestra)

As is the case for all BFHS orchestras, placement into Concert Orchestra is dependent on skill level. We start the year with beginning shifting, two octave scales, rhythm counting, the rudiments of vibrato, and basic listening dictations. Placement in this orchestra requires a willingness to challenge yourself to reach the next level of musicianship. We strive to create a positive learning environment where students are encouraged to venture out of their comfort zones to create beautiful music. Students will be graded based on attendance and behavior. All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

Symphonic Orchestra

Full year course
Prerequisite: Audition required (contact teacher)
Grade Level(s): 7-12

As is the case for all BFHS orchestras, placement into Symphonic Orchestra is dependent on skill level. Students will begin the year with three octave scales, advanced rhythm counting, shifting, and intermediate listening dictations and fostering a deeper understanding of performance strategy. Placement in this orchestra requires at least three years' experience on your instrument (exceptions may occur based on ability), an advanced understanding of musical terms such as solfege, key signatures, and time signatures, and most importantly a growing respect for the musical process and high levels of achievement. Auditions for this orchestra take place by appointment with the teacher from March through May.. All materials and requirements are posted on the orchestra website.

Chamber Orchestra

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Audition required (contact teacher)
Grade Level(s): 9-12

The Chamber Orchestra will be composed of high school students who have demonstrated dedication to their instrument in the form of consistent practice and who take private lessons on their instrument from a teacher. Placement in the Chamber Orchestra requires a minimum of four years of experience on their instrument (exceptions may occur based on ability), an extensive knowledge of music theory (including key signatures, time signatures,

rhythm reading, and solfege) and a strong command of all three octave major and minor scales. Students in the Chamber Orchestra will be encouraged to challenge themselves to achieve at their highest level in a safe environment where mistakes are part of the learning process. They will also learn to respect the process of creating beautiful music through personal practice and classroom diligence. Auditions for this orchestra take place by appointment with the teacher from March through May.. See orchestra website for materials and requirements.

Introduction to Ballet/Jazz

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12

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

Intermediate Ballet/Jazz

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Ballet/Jazz or Audition
Grade Level(s): 7-12

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

Advanced Dance

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Ballet/Jazz or Audition
Grade Level(s): 8-12

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

Saltatrix

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Audition
Grade Level(s): 8-12

This class is solely for students who have auditioned and been accepted into this top level curricular dance class. Students most often have taken all dance classes through advanced when they audition or bring a high level of technical experience. Students are expected to maintain eligibility, great team unity, work ethic and growth mindset in this fast-paced group! **A class fee is required for various costuming needs as well as booster club fees for a jacket and competition fees**.

Ballroom Dance

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Advanced Ballroom Dance

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Ballroom Dance or audition
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Art I

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12

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

Art II

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Art I and teacher approval
Grade Level(s): 9-12

This course builds on concepts learned from Art I. Registering students will be reviewed before admittance to ensure appropriate preparation. Students will create visual compositions as they incorporate the elements and principles of art. Art principles, design techniques and mediums will be introduced to expand the artists' skills and experiences. **There is a class fee due at Charger Days** for various art supply needs.

Advanced Art

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Art II or teacher recommendation
Grade Level(s): 10-12

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

Ceramics I

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12 (priority will be given to juniors and seniors who do not have a Fine Arts credit)

Ceramics I focuses on building essential skills and techniques in making ceramic work. Students are introduced to clay as both a material and an artistic medium. Through hands-on practice, they will become proficient in the basic forming methods of handbuilding and wheel throwing. Students will gain a deeper appreciation of ceramic

objects throughout history and in their everyday life. **There is a class fee due at Charger Days.**

Ceramics II

Prerequisite: Ceramics I
Grade Level(s): 9-12

Ceramics II builds on the skills developed in Ceramics I, with a stronger emphasis on design. Students will be introduced to formal considerations of ceramic objects, including both functional and sculptural forms. Through producing and reproducing work in series, students will begin to fine-tune their skill and speed. Basic clay and glaze chemistry will be addressed, and students will learn methods for ceramic testing. **There is a class fee due at Charger Days.**

Theater I

Prerequisite: None
Grade Level(s): 7-12

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

Theater II

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Guitar

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Speech & Debate

Prerequisite(s): None
Full Year/1 Credit
Grade Level(s): 9-12

This course explores and informs students on a wide breadth of public speaking skills, including: Extemporaneous Speaking, Expository Speaking, Original Oratory, and Impromptu Speaking. Additionally, students are introduced to basic researching, argumentation, questioning, and rebuttal skills through a variety and range of debate disciplines, including: Public Forum Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Mock Trials. Skill focus includes the development of techniques in diction, articulation, enunciation and projection. Students create and deliver orations, write arguments, and evaluate performances.

Yearbook/Journalism

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Student application and teacher recommendation
Grade Level(s): 8-12

This course is designed for students who love to write and design. Students will function as staff members and learn various aspects of the yearbook publication process such as layout and design, copywriting, photography, budget and finance, and promotion and publicity. Students will be responsible for attending events outside of class/school hours so they must have flexibility with their personal schedule as well as trusted transportation. Students are responsible for producing complete layouts in order to meet publication deadlines. **Student application and teacher approval required.**

HIGH SCHOOL ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

HS Physical Education

Full Year/1 Elective Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

HS Weight Training

Full Year/1 Elective Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

The purpose of Weight Training is to provide students the same opportunities as the regular Physical Education Class but all activities will center around strength and conditioning in the weight room.**P.E. uniforms may be purchased during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

Athletic Weight Training

Full Year/1 Elective Credit
Prerequisite(s): PE Department Chair Approval
Grade Level(s): 9-12

Workouts will be geared specifically for the high school athlete. Any student planning on participating in extracurricular athletics should seriously consider enrolling in this class. **P.E. uniforms may be purchased during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

Yoga

Full Year/1 Elective Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

Sports-Based PE: Basketball

Full Year/1 Elective Credit
Prerequisite(s): Students must intend to tryout for Basketball
Grade Level(s): 9-12

The major emphasis for the basketball class is preparation for the upcoming basketball season. The class will focus on the learning of essential basketball skills, developing knowledge of the basketball rules and terminology, proper techniques, and diagramming. Conditioning drills, weight training, and nutritional information will be a major component of the course in order to improve fitness levels. **P.E. uniforms may be purchased during Charger Days or during bookstore hours.**

Specialty Dance Technique

Full Year/1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): Audition Required
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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

HS Student Government (HS STUGO)

Prerequisite: Elected and Appointed Students
Full Year/1 Credit
Grade Level(s): 9-12

This course is for elected and appointed student body officers and student representatives. The purpose of this class is to develop and encourage effective student leadership skills. Students will learn meeting facilitation skills; the planning and implementation of class, club, and school activities; budget management; resource and time management skills; communication and public speaking skills; organizational and problem solving skills; marketing and promotional skills; and community service awareness. Students enrolled in this class are expected to attend several activities and events outside of the regular school day. Students must apply and interview for this class in the spring before being admitted.

Release Time

Full Year/No Credit
Prerequisite(s): None
Grade Level(s): 9-12

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