

ROBERTO CRUZ LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

COURSE CATALOGUE
Academic Year 2026-2027



HOME OF THE JAGUARS

San Jose, California

WELCOME TO RCLA

Welcome to the Roberto Cruz Leadership Academy (RCLA) Course Description Catalogue. At RCLA, our mission is to empower students to become community leaders and socially conscious educators. We offer a rigorous academic curriculum designed to prepare our students for successful admission to University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) and other premier postsecondary institutions.

Our courses span grade-level subjects, Advanced Placement (AP) studies, English Language Development, vibrant Visual and Performing Arts, and specialized Interdisciplinary Electives such as Social Justice Leadership and Ethnic Studies. This catalogue outlines our academic offerings for the 2026-2027 school year. Use this guide to plan your academic pathway, explore unique electives, and unlock opportunities to earn college credits through our Dual Enrollment courses.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

History & Social Science	Page 3
English Language Arts	Page 6
English Language Development	Page 8
Mathematics	Page 9
Science	Page 11
Visual & Performing Arts (VPA)	Page 13
World Languages	Page 16
Interdisciplinary Electives	Page 19
Other Courses	Page 20

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE

AP WORLD HISTORY

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None (Supporting essay showing motivation requested)	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The purpose of the course will be to critically analyze different cultures, societies, leaders, and nations, to understand better how the world people inhabit today came about. Students will also seek to question accepted facts and traditional heroes. While Western Civilization is a focus of the course, students will break out of that traditional mold and study multiple different cultures and patterns of interaction. The most important goals for the class will be the development of critical thinking skills, becoming competent writers, as well as growing academically literate by reading challenging texts. Students will analyze and synthesize differing and complicated points of view. The student’s ability to write in an intelligent and precise manner will be pushed to the limit, and beyond. A good portion of class time each week will be devoted to preparing for the AP Exam, and the test’s related essays. Students can expect to have an increased workload both inside and outside the classroom. At times, students will be required to perform extended reading assignments over the weekends and/or school breaks to prepare for the next week. The level of questions students will attempt to answer and the reading materials for the AP course will be at a college level.

WORLD HISTORY

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course will focus on the trajectory (path) of democracy through the ages. Students will attempt to examine history from multiple different perspectives to come to an understanding of truth. The purpose of the course will be to critically analyze different cultures, societies, leaders, and nations, to understand better how Democracy, as it is commonly known, came about. Students will also seek to question accepted facts and traditional heroes. Students will take a closer look at America’s role in the international community and how it has dramatically impacted world history.

US HISTORY

Grade:	Grade 11	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This class concentrates on the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War (1865) to the present. Students will refresh their knowledge of the nation's beginnings, growth, and changes to 1900. Students will then be introduced to the movements and events that have shaped and changed America and its landscape during the 20th century. Through this course, students will better understand the political, economic, cultural, and social aspects of the United States.

AP US HISTORY

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course provides a general overview of the history of the United States. In chronological order, students will explore America's past, examining the cultural, political, geographical, economic, and technological changes that have taken place and have helped to shape us and guide us as a nation today. Topics will include issues relating to the discovery of the New World through the Reconstruction period, focusing on constitutional issues, the Civil War, industrialization, and immigration.

Additional emphasis is placed on college preparatory activities and exercises as identified by the College Board AP U.S. HISTORY course description: "The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and enduring understandings necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States 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. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions based on an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format.

GOVERNMENT

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	5 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Students will discuss the foundations of the U.S. government, how laws are made, important court cases, and decisions that have impacted our society. Students will also discuss what is happening now in the American government to be able to understand the world around them. This course should be viewed as the culmination of the civic literacy strand that prepares students to vote, to reflect on the responsibilities of citizenship, and to participate in community activities.

ECONOMICS

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	5 credits
Prerequisite:	Senior Standing	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Students will look at the American economic system and compare it to others around the world. Students will discuss the impact that the U.S. economy has on the rest of the world and global relationships. Students will also learn to make reasoned decisions on economic issues as citizens, workers, consumers, business owners and managers, and members of civic groups. Students will also examine the stock market, investments, and budgeting for real-life situations.

AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	5 credits
Prerequisite:	Senior Standing	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete political science research or applied civics projects. AP U.S. Government and Politics is equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course in U.S. government.

ETHNIC STUDIES

Grade:	Grades 10, 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The Ethnic Studies course operates from the consideration that race and racism have been, and continue to be, profoundly powerful social and cultural forces in American society. This course focuses on the experiences of African Americans, Asian Americans, Chicanx and Latinx, American Indigenous people, and other racialized peoples in the United States. The course is grounded in the concrete situations of people of color and uses a methodological framing that emphasizes both the structural dimensions of race and racism and the associated cultural dimensions. (Adapted from UC Berkeley, Department of Ethnic Studies). The major purpose of this course is to educate students to be politically, socially, and economically conscious about their connections to history. Ethnic Studies focuses on themes of social justice, social responsibility, and social change. The course spans from past to present, including politics and social reform, allowing students to identify social patterns and universal qualities present in all ethnic/cultural aspects of society, including their own.

This course will also include an identity unit in which students will consider concepts related to their own personal, group, and/or national identity (e.g. race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH 9

Grade:	Grade 9	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The primary emphasis of this course is the development of writing skills, literary comprehension, and analysis, listening and speaking skills, and vocabulary. Texts include the English Language Arts anthologies, short stories, nonfiction, plays, and novels. Outside reading is also required. Writing will be done in response to the literature with an emphasis on informative and argumentative, as well as narrative pieces. Students are instructed in the tools needed for effective writing, including a vocabulary component and reinforcement of grammar skills.

ENGLISH 10

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course is designed to strengthen the development of reading and writing skills, literary, comprehension and analysis, listening and speaking skills, and vocabulary. Required texts include a variety of literature including novels, short stories, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. Vocabulary development and outside reading are required. Students are expected to write narrative, informative/expository, and argumentative essays about themes and social issues. Composition assignments emphasize writing as a process. A class community service project is required.

ENGLISH 11

Grade:	Grade 11	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The literary study in this class will focus on the characteristics of various genres, specifically short stories, poetry, journalism, and novels with the overarching theme of the importance of an educated populace. A comprehensive study of composition principles, as well as extensive vocabulary development, is also a part of the American Literature curriculum. Essays, written both in class and at home, require students to respond to literature persuasively, analytically, and critically. Creative projects will also be offered throughout the year. Oral expression is emphasized through public speaking seminars and class discussions. Projects, writings, and discussions in this course will emphasize critical thinking skills.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Grade:	Grade 11	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Eng. 9, Eng. 10	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

As articulated in the AP English Course Description, the purpose of AP English Language and Composition is to “enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose...to communicate effectively with mature readers” (The College Board 2010). This course is constructed under those guidelines. Through close readings and focused written assignments, students become more aware of rhetorical strategies and the purposeful use of language. As this awareness grows, students are more readily able to incorporate these same strategies into their writing and cultivate personal writing styles. Students will also develop the skills needed to analyze visuals (photographs, paintings, sculptures, political cartoons, advertisements, etc.) with the same critical lens used in traditional print texts. Expectations for students are appropriately high for a college introductory-level course, and the work required of them is challenging.

ENGLISH 12

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course is designed to improve student's communication skills further while meeting state standards. Exercises and assignments will emphasize improvement in reading comprehension and writing skills as well as speaking, listening, critical thinking, and presentation skills. Reading material will include selected novels, short stories, poems, essays, and other texts. Individualized writing instruction, reading practice, and vocabulary-building activities will be included on an as-needed basis. Students will be expected to complete various thematic projects.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Eng. 9, Eng. 10, Eng. 11	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This college-level, full-year course is concerned primarily with understanding, analyzing, writing, and rewriting literature. Referring to the literature studied, students develop both oral and written compositions throughout the year. Summer reading and analysis assignments and research-based papers are a requirement for the course. This course is designed to comply with the curricular requirements described in the AP English Course Description provided by The College Board. The units do not necessarily follow the same sequence from year to year, nor are the same texts taught every year. Texts are added or subtracted according to various criteria including the interests, strengths/weaknesses, and literary background of each class's members. The thematic organization (“The Tragic Figure in Literature”) is broad enough to allow for substitutions and additions.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

ELD I: BEGINNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Grade:	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	Credits:	High School Credit
Prerequisite:	ELPAC Levels 1, 2, 3, 4	UC/CSU (A-G):	High School Graduation Credit Only

This introductory course is designed for English Learners who are new to the English language. Through the Get Ready curriculum resources and the CA ELD Framework, students develop foundational skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Instruction focuses on basic vocabulary acquisition, simple sentence structures, and understanding basic grammar. Students will engage in interactive activities that help them communicate in everyday situations and build their confidence as English speakers. This course provides a supportive learning environment to foster a strong language foundation.

ELD II: INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Grade:	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	Credits:	High School Credit
Prerequisite:	ELPAC Levels 1, 2, 3, 4	UC/CSU (A-G):	High School Graduation Credit Only

ELD II is tailored for students who have completed ELD I or have achieved a basic understanding of English. Using the Get Ready curriculum resources and the CA ELD Framework, this course emphasizes expanding vocabulary, strengthening grammar, and building more complex sentence structures. Students develop skills for academic contexts, such as summarizing texts, engaging in structured conversations, and writing short paragraphs. The course integrates listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities to prepare students for more advanced language challenges and build their confidence in diverse social and academic settings.

ELD III: ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Grade:	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	Credits:	High School Credit
Prerequisite:	ELPAC Levels 1, 2, 3, 4	UC/CSU (A-G):	High School Graduation Credit Only

In ELD III, students refine their English proficiency and prepare for mainstream academic courses. The Get Ready curriculum resources and the CA ELD Framework in this course focuses on academic language, critical thinking, and complex writing tasks. Students work on advanced grammar, reading comprehension, and expository writing. Instruction emphasizes participation in scholarly discussions, analyzing texts, and producing well-organized essays. By the end of ELD III, students will have the language skills necessary to thrive in an English-speaking academic environment.

MATHEMATICS

INTEGRATED MATH I

Grade:	Grade 9	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Mathematics I course offers to formalize and extend the mathematics standards from the conceptual categories of Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. The scope of Mathematics I is limited to linear and exponential expressions and functions as well as some work with absolute value, steps, and functions that are piecewise-defined. Mathematics I course, instructional time should focus on six critical areas: (1) extend understanding of numerical Manipulation to algebraic manipulation; (2) synthesize understanding of function; (3) deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships; (4) apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend; (5) establish criteria for congruence based on rigid motions; and (6) apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane.

INTEGRATED MATH II

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Math I	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Mathematics II course focuses on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Mathematics I. This course includes standards from the conceptual categories of Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Some standards are repeated in multiple higher mathematics courses. The Mathematics II course, instructional time should focus on five critical areas: (1) extend the laws of exponents to rational exponents; (2) compare key characteristics of quadratic functions with those of linear and exponential functions; (3) create and solve equations and inequalities involving linear, exponential, and quadratic expressions; (4) extend work with probability; and (5) establish criteria for similarity of triangles based on dilations and proportional reasoning.

INTEGRATED MATH III

Grade:	Grade 11	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Math II	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Integrated Mathematics Course III is the third of three mathematics courses required for college entrance. The course content expands upon the mathematical content and techniques of Course II. Connections among the strands and unifying ideas continue with attention given to depth of understanding. Students successfully completing Course III are prepared for pre-calculus or alternative mathematics courses that emphasize real-world applications in the social sciences, or life and physical sciences. The course emphasizes advanced algebra and trigonometry.

PRE-CALCULUS

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Math III	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Students will study relations, functions, graphs, trigonometry, polar coordinates, complex numbers, limits, and derivatives. The student will analyze and graph mathematical functions. There is an emphasis on the verification of trigonometric identities using all of the basic trigonometric identities. Students will use graphing calculators in activities that are appropriate to the topics being studied.

AP Statistics

Grade:	Grade 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Math III	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Based on the Understanding by Design model, this course framework provides a clear and detailed description of the course requirements necessary for student success. The framework specifies what students must know, be able to do, and understand, with a focus on three big ideas that encompass the principles and processes in the discipline of statistics. The framework also encourages instruction that prepares students for advanced coursework in statistics or other fields using statistical reasoning and for active, informed engagement with a world of data to be interpreted appropriately and applied wisely to make informed decisions.

The AP Statistics framework is organized into nine commonly taught units of study that provide one possible sequence for the course. As always, you have the flexibility to organize the course content as you like.

SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

Grade:	Grade 9	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Students will embark on a journey into the fundamentals of biological science. Biology is a rigorous and demanding course, which is the equivalent of an introductory college biology course. Content will be covered in more depth and greater expectations will be placed on interpretation and analysis of information than previous biology courses. In addition, statistical analysis of data and modeling of concepts will be expected. A significant amount of studying must be completed at home to allow time for discussion, labs, and inquiry during class time. The course is structured to allow for more class time for labs and discussions. This entails the following subdivisions: biochemistry, cellular biology, genetics, ecology, evolution, and physiology.

CHEMISTRY

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course is designed to enable all students to learn about the chemical processes that rule their everyday lives, to give them the tools they need to succeed in basic college-level chemistry courses, to build the skills they need to research and resolve their chemistry questions and to inform them of the basic principles of chemistry they will need to make good decisions today and for the rest of their lives in a world that is saturated with so much chemistry. The course is designed to satisfy the California Science Standards for high school students. The course will focus on the following areas: Atomic and Molecular Structure, Chemical Bonds, Conservation of Matter and Stoichiometry, Gases and their Properties, Acids and Bases, Solutions, Chemical Thermodynamics, Reaction Rates, Chemical Equilibrium, Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Nuclear Processes.

FORENSICS SCIENCE

Grade:	Grade 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course includes basic and advanced courses that describe the role of science in solving crimes using an evidence-based system. Topics include the history and role of the forensic laboratory, scientific evidence-gathering techniques, processing evidence, establishing hypotheses, and drawing conclusions. Students will also explore career opportunities in criminalistics and the administration of justice. Course titles may include Advanced Forensic Science, Crime Scene Investigation, Curriculum for Forensic Science: a Biochemical Approach, and Forensics Illustrated: Step Under the Tape.

AP BIOLOGY

Grade:	Grades 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Biology and Chemistry with C- or better both semesters	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The AP Biology course is designed to immerse students in the scientific principles, concepts, and methods used to explore the living world. Students will investigate topics such as evolution, cellular processes, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions among biological systems. Emphasis is placed on inquiry-based learning, data analysis, and the application of biological concepts to real-world situations. The course integrates concepts from chemistry, biochemistry, and environmental science to deepen understanding of life at multiple levels. This course will also prepare students for the College Board's Advanced Placement Exam in AP Biology.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grade:	Grades 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Biology and Chemistry with C- or better both semesters	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. This course will also prepare students for the College Board's Advanced Placement Exam in AP Environmental Science.

ZOOLOGY

Grade:	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course provides an in-depth study of the animal kingdom, focusing on the classification, structure, function, behavior, and ecology of animals. Students will explore various phyla, emphasizing understanding evolutionary relationships and adaptations. The course includes laboratory investigations, dissections, field observations, and project-based learning. The Zoology course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of animal biology, preparing them for advanced studies in biological sciences and fostering an appreciation for biodiversity. It aligns with the school's goal of offering diverse and rigorous science courses that prepare students for college and careers in STEM fields.

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS (VPA)

VISUAL ART 1

Grade:	Grade 11	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Beginning level studio art course covering the organization of the elements of design. Students apply color theory, drawing, and painting skills to two-dimensional and three-dimensional projects, with critiques and themes focused on Latino Culture.

VISUAL ART 2

Grade:	Grades 10, 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This is an intermediate-level course that reinforces the use of The Elements of Design through the organizational use of the Principles of Design in two and three-dimensional projects within an art studio environment with an emphasis on the self-discovery of voice and careers in the arts. Students will further their study in design, drawing, color theory, painting, the critiquing process, media exploration, as well as art history while preparing for Advanced Placement Art.

AP 2D ART & DESIGN

Grade:	Grades 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Visual Art 1 (Required), Visual Art 2 (Recommended)	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

AP 2D Art & Design is an introductory college-level drawing, design, and painting course. Students refine and apply skills and ideas they develop throughout the course to produce a series of artwork with an inquiry-driven mindset. Students create a portfolio of work that demonstrates the development of materials, processes, and ideas over a year. Portfolios include works of art and design, process documentation, and written information about the work presented. In May, students submit portfolios for evaluation based on specific criteria, which include skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas and sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision, guided by questions. Students may choose to submit any or all of the AP Portfolio Exams.

WORLD LANGUAGES

SPANISH 1

Grade:	Grade 9	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Students will be introduced to the basic language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Language and culture are acquired through meaningful communicative activities centered on real-life situations involving everyday common topics. Students develop linguistic competency as they perform relevant tasks in the new language.

SPANISH 2

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

A second-year Spanish college preparatory course continues to provide students the opportunity to increase their ability to speak, listen, read, and write in the target language to complete graduation requirements and to continue to develop the language skills and knowledge needed to be successful as they pursue further study of Spanish. Students continue to be reminded of the five goals for foreign language instruction: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The goals are emphasized throughout the course as students increase their vocabulary development and understanding of the grammatical forms and functions. Accuracy in speaking and writing is emphasized to continue to foster high standards of oral and written communication.

SPANISH 1 FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS

Grade:	Grade 9	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The emphasis of the class is to challenge the student's ability to speak, read, write, listen, and culture development in Spanish. The class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to converse and participate with the teacher at all times in the target language. I will strive to make the class as lively and interesting as possible, but your positive attitude and participation are critical.

SPANISH 2 FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS

Grade:	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Spanish 1 or Language Assessment	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

Through comparative analysis of selected literary works, the course develops an awareness of cultural and literary contributions from the 21 Spanish-speaking societies. The course is taught in Spanish with an emphasis on composition as a medium of expression. In Spanish II each student will be expected to actively use their proficiency in the target language by writing, reading, listening, and speaking in class activities. The instructor will speak almost entirely in Spanish for students to get accustomed to hearing academic language and working toward gaining more understanding of the target language.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Grade:	Grades 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None (Typically 3rd or 4th year level study)	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The AP Spanish Language & Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language & Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish.

The AP Spanish Language & Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

AP SPANISH LITERATURE & CULTURE

Grade:	Grades 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None (Successful completion of 3 years Spanish recommended)	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course uses a thematic approach to introduce students to representative texts (short stories, novels, poetry, plays, and essays) from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature. Students develop proficiencies across the three modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational) in the ranges of Intermediate High to Advanced Mid of the proficiency guidelines from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Through careful examination of the required readings and other texts, students work to hone their critical reading and analytical writing skills. Literature is explored within the contexts of its time and place, and students gain insights into the many voices, historical periods, and cultures represented in the required readings and other texts. The course also includes a strong focus on cultural, artistic, and linguistic connections and comparisons, which is supported by the exploration of various media (art, music, film, articles, and literary criticism).

AP Spanish Literature and Culture is equivalent to a college or university survey course of literature written in Spanish at the first level counted towards a major in this subject area.

INTERDISCIPLINARY ELECTIVES

FOUNDATIONS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP

Grade:	Grade 9	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course combines the learning of key social justice leadership skills, core concepts and understandings, and experiential and project-based learning to empower students to make a difference on their campus, community, and world. Through readings, writings, small and large group discussions, team building activities, community engagement, and community service, students will actively pursue learning in topics such as character traits, ethics, and leadership styles, including collaborative leadership, decision making, social justice leadership opportunities, and careers, while exploring the power of risk-taking, communication, facilitation, and learning about skills necessary for becoming educational, civic, elected, and social justice leaders.

SOCIAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Grade:	Grade 10	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	Foundations for Social Justice Leadership	UC/CSU (A-G):	Meets CSU/UC "A-G"

This course allows for students to apply learnings from the Foundations of Social Justice Leadership course to their action research and community-based projects while expanding their knowledge and skills to serve as social justice leaders in their communities. Through readings, writings, small and large group discussions, team-building activities, community engagement, action research, community service, and community-based projects, students will be empowered to be agents of change in their communities and leaders within their schools.

OTHER COURSES

ADVISORY 9, 10, 11, 12

Grade:	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12	Credits:	10 credits
Prerequisite:	None	UC/CSU (A-G):	High School Graduation Credit Only

This course focuses on college and career preparedness, through grade-level assigned advisory periods, where credentialed teachers review, monitor, and serve as advocates for students’ college and career goals. Our Academic Counselors also provide students with personalized academic advising plans, facilitate college talks, and provide access to information and resources for students related to college which all elements raise awareness of and aspirations toward college.

DUAL COLLEGE CREDIT ELECTIVE

Grade:	Grades 11, 12	Credits:	Varies
Prerequisite:	Academic Counselor Approval	UC/CSU (A-G):	Dual College Credit (San Jose City College)

Dual College Credit Elective is an acceleration program that allows students to take postsecondary coursework offered by a community college and simultaneously earn credit toward a high school diploma. This is a great opportunity for students to get ahead on completing college requirements in high school.