



# 2015–2016 Course Catalog

## Grades 6–12



Advanced Academics | *Online learning simplified™*

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## Course Availability

Next to each course you will see codes indicating which service the course is available with:

**[D] : Diagnostic**

(Available with Tutor Services and Certified Instructional Support)

**[P&C] : Platform & Content**

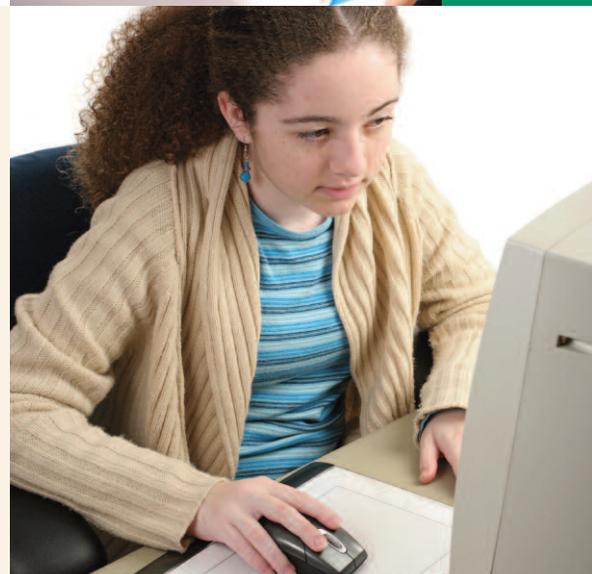
(Available with Tutor Services)

**[P&PC] : Platform & Premium Content**

(Available with Tutor Services)

**[CIS] : Certified Instructional Support**

**[PCIS] : Premium Certified Instructional Support**



# Courses at a Glance

## 6–8

### Language Arts

MS Language Arts 6 A  
MS Language Arts 6 B  
MS Language Arts 7 A  
MS Language Arts 7 B  
MS Language Arts 8 A  
MS Language Arts 8 B

### Mathematics

Foundations of Pre-Algebra A  
Foundations of Pre-Algebra B  
MS Fundamentals of Math 6 A  
MS Fundamentals of Math 6 B  
MS Fundamentals of Math 7 A  
MS Fundamentals of Math 7 B  
MS Introduction to Probability  
and Statistics  
Pre-Algebra A (Common Core)  
Pre-Algebra B (Common Core)

### Science

MS Earth Science A  
MS Earth Science B  
MS Life Science A  
MS Life Science B  
MS Physical Science A  
MS Physical Science B

### Social Studies

MS American History A  
MS American History B  
MS Ancient Civilizations A  
MS Ancient Civilizations B  
MS Civics  
MS World History  
and Geography A  
MS World History  
and Geography B

### Electives

**Alternative Credit Electives**  
MS Service Learning Project 6 A  
MS Service Learning Project 6 B  
MS Service Learning Project 7 A  
MS Service Learning Project 7 B  
MS Service Learning Project 8 A  
MS Service Learning Project 8 B

**Career and  
Technology Electives**  
Computer Literacy A (MS/HS)  
MS Career Exploration  
MS Career Planning  
and Skill Development

**General Studies Electives**  
Life Skills (MS/HS)  
MS Financial Literacy A  
MS Financial Literacy B  
MS Reading A  
MS Reading B ‡  
MS Study Skills

**Health & PE Electives**  
MS Health A  
MS Health B ‡  
MS Health with  
Sex Education A  
MS Health with  
Sex Education B ‡  
MS Physical Education 6 A  
MS Physical Education 6 B  
MS Physical Education 7 A  
MS Physical Education 7 B  
MS Physical Education 8 A  
MS Physical Education 8 B

**Social Science  
& Humanities Electives**  
MS Art Appreciation 6  
MS Art Appreciation 7  
MS Art Appreciation 8  
MS Music Theory A  
MS Social Studies Skills A  
MS Social Studies Skills B

### World Language Electives

MS Chinese I \* ^  
MS Chinese II \* ^  
MS Spanish I \* ^  
MS Spanish II \* ^

### Test Prep

Algebra Readiness – Basic  
Algebra Readiness – Expanded  
Math Intervention – Basic  
Math Intervention – Expanded

### KEY

‡ Designates course is new, revised, or expanded.

\* Denotes Premium Content Courses.

^ Denotes course is **not** available as a Platform and Premium Content Course.

*Course offerings are subject to change and may vary by state and/or school district.*

# Courses at a Glance

## 9–12

### Language Arts

English I A  
English I B  
English II A  
English II B  
English III A  
English III B  
English IV A  
English IV B

### Mathematics

Algebra I A  
Algebra I B  
Algebra II A  
Algebra II B  
Calculus A  
Calculus B  
Consumer Math A  
Consumer Math B  
Foundations of Integrated Algebra I A  
Foundations of Integrated Algebra I B  
Foundations of Integrated Algebra II A  
Foundations of Integrated Algebra II B  
Geometry A  
Geometry B  
Introduction to Probability and Statistics  
Math Models with Applications  
Pre-Calculus  
Pre-Calculus A  
Pre-Calculus B  
Trigonometry

### Science

Biology A  
Biology B  
Chemistry A  
Chemistry B  
Earth Science A  
Earth Science B  
Environmental Science A  
Environmental Science B  
Integrated Physics & Chemistry A  
Integrated Physics & Chemistry B  
Physical Science A  
Physical Science B  
Physics A ^  
Physics B ^

### Social Studies

American History A  
American History B  
Economics  
Honors U.S. Government  
U.S. Government  
U.S. Law and Politics  
World Geography A  
World Geography B  
World History A  
World History B

### Electives

#### Alternative Credit Electives

Job Skills and Experience A  
Job Skills and Experience B  
Service Learning Project I A  
Service Learning Project I B  
Service Learning Project II A  
Service Learning Project II B  
Service Learning Project III A  
Service Learning Project III B  
Service Learning Project IV A  
Service Learning Project IV B

#### Career Technical Education Electives

Career and Technology Skills A  
Career and Technology Skills B  
Computer Literacy A  
Computer Literacy B  
Fundamentals of Web Development

#### General Studies Electives

Academic Skills  
Creative Writing \*  
English for Spanish Speakers A \*  
English for Spanish Speakers B \*  
Financial Literacy  
Fundamentals of English Composition  
Introduction to Gothic Literature \*  
Introduction to Grammar and Composition  
Introduction to Mythology and Folklore \*  
Introduction to Sociology \*  
Journalism A  
Journalism B  
Life Skills  
Speech and Debate ^

#### Health & PE Electives

Foundations of Physical Education A  
Foundations of Physical Education B  
Personal Health and Safety  
Personal Health and Safety w Sex Education

Physical Education I A  
Physical Education I B  
Physical Education II A  
Physical Education II B  
Physical Education III A  
Physical Education III B  
Running \*

#### Social Sciences & Humanities Electives

Current Events  
Fundamentals of Art  
Fundamentals of Art Appreciation  
Fundamentals of Art History  
Honors Introduction to Graphic Design  
Honors Psychology  
Independent Art Credit A  
Independent Art Credit B  
Independent Music Credit A  
Independent Music Credit B  
Introduction to Anthropology  
Introduction to Drawing  
Introduction to Graphic Design A  
Introduction to Graphic Design B  
Introduction to Psychology  
Music Theory A  
Music Theory B  
Real World Parenting \*  
Social Problems A \*  
Social Problems B \*

#### World Language Electives

Chinese I A \* ^  
Chinese I B \* ^  
Chinese II A \* ^  
Chinese II B \* ^  
Foundations of Spanish I A  
Foundations of Spanish I B  
Foundations of Spanish II A  
Foundations of Spanish II B  
French I A \* ^  
French I B \* ^  
French II A \* ^  
French II B \* ^  
French III A \* ^  
French III B \* ^  
German I A \* ^  
German I B \* ^  
German II A \* ^  
German II B \* ^  
Latin I A \* ^  
Latin I B \* ^  
Latin II A \* ^  
Latin II B \* ^  
Spanish I A \* ^  
Spanish I B \* ^  
Spanish II A \* ^  
Spanish II B \* ^  
Spanish III A \* ^  
Spanish III B \* ^

### Advanced Placement®

AP® Art History A \* ^  
AP Art History B \* ^  
AP Biology A \* ^  
AP Biology B \* ^  
AP Calculus AB A \* ^  
AP Calculus AB B \* ^  
AP Calculus BC A \* ^  
AP Calculus BC B \* ^  
AP Computer Science A \* ^  
AP Computer Science B \* ^  
AP English Language and Composition A \* ^  
AP English Language and Composition B \* ^  
AP English Literature and Composition A \* ^  
AP English Literature and Composition B \* ^  
AP Environmental Science A \* ^  
AP Environmental Science B \* ^  
AP Human Geography A \* ^  
AP Human Geography B \* ^  
AP Psychology \* ^  
AP Spanish Language and Culture A \* ^  
AP Spanish Language and Culture B \* ^  
AP Statistics A \* ^  
AP Statistics B \* ^  
AP United States Government \* ^  
AP US History A \* ^  
AP US History B \* ^

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# Grades 6–8

# Language Arts

## MS Language Arts 6 A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever been asked to write a report over something you didn't know very much about? Or read a story that you didn't understand? Did you ever have to write a story as you sat looking at your computer screen without a single idea? These things have happened to everyone at some point. MS Language Arts 6 A is the first semester of an introductory-level English language arts course that will help you gain and develop skills in reading and writing. These skills will help you succeed in all your courses in school. This course will also help you read and analyze both fiction and nonfiction texts. You will practice your language skills of spelling, grammar, and vocabulary. You will respond to different kinds of literature and communicate with the teacher and other students through chat and discussion assignments. You will read *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen and have options to self-select other texts and media items. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

## MS Language Arts 6 B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

If you like to read, then you will love MS Language Arts 6 B. This is the second semester of the introductory-level language arts course. Whether it is short poetry, drama, mythology, or a longer work of fiction, this course will have something to appeal to the young reader. If you would rather write, there are many different kinds of writing assignments with which to express yourself as well. Now, if you can think of all kinds of reasons for believing or doing something and can come up with convincing arguments to prove your point, then the unit on persuasion and argumentation might be more to your taste. If you like to watch television and movies, or if surfing the web is what you enjoy, then the unit on media literacy could be your favorite part of the course. No matter your preference, you will have a wide variety of language arts to sample in the course as you continue to practice and improve your grammar and vocabulary skills. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: MS Language Arts 6 A*

## MS Language Arts 7 A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

The act of writing is a mysterious process to many students, so don't feel alone if this is the case for you. Fortunately, MS Language Arts 7 A will teach you the skills to master the process. In fact, the writing process is what the first unit is all about. You will learn and practice the different steps of prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. You will discover the tricks to writing for different purposes and occasions, as well as how to meet the needs of your audience. MS Language Arts 7 A is the first semester of a two-semester series that builds upon prior knowledge and skills to strengthen your reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. The course covers traditional literature such as folk tales, myths, and legends, as well as more modern literature such as science fiction stories and drama. You will select texts for independent reading and will learn the steps for writing and delivering an effective speech. You will also practice your interpersonal communication through chats and discussions with the teacher and other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisites: MS Language Arts 6 A&B*

## MS Language Arts 7 B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Do you ever feel left out and lonesome? Do you ever think that other kids have it better than you? Well, "Things are rough all over." So says Cherry Valance, a pretty and popular girl to Ponyboy Curtis, the narrator of *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton. MS Language Arts 7 B is the second semester of the two-semester course and it begins with an in-depth study of *The Outsiders*, one of the best and most-beloved YA (young adult) novels ever written. While reading *The Outsiders*, you will continue to develop your writing skills by practicing the writing process covered in the previous semester. You will also study vocabulary, including analogies and the use of context clues. You will develop skills in grammar, critical thinking, and literature appreciation. You will self-select different kinds of texts and conduct research in an independent project. MS Language Arts 7 B has plenty of variety to appeal to all of your language interests and needs. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: MS Language Arts 7 A*



# Mathematics

## Foundations of Pre-Algebra A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that some of the world's tallest buildings have foundations that reach farther than 20 stories below ground? In fact, the taller a building is, the larger its foundation must be. Foundations are also very important in mathematics. Foundations of Pre-Algebra A, the first course in a two-semester series, places an emphasis on providing a firm knowledge base for learning Algebra I. This course begins with an exploration of real numbers, variables, exponents, Order of Operations, absolute value, operations with integers, and the coordinate plane. Throughout this course, you will explore other foundational topics, including equations, inequalities, decimals, factors, measurement, fractions, ratios, proportions, and percentages. The completion of this course will prepare you for Foundations of Pre-Algebra B, the remaining component of a complete algebraic foundation.

## Foundations of Pre-Algebra B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Can you imagine trying to create a painting on a puddle of water? How about building a house on a swamp? One reason this seems senseless is because these projects are not beginning with the correct foundations. You will be more successful to create a painting on a canvas and build a house on solid ground. Foundations of Pre-Algebra B, the second course in a two-semester series, is intended to give you the proper foundation for learning Algebra I. This course begins by introducing you to writing and solving equations and inequalities, which are extremely important skills when learning Algebra I. Next, you will explore relations, functions, linear equations, graphing, basics of geometry, introductory data analysis, and probability. Upon completion of this course, you will have a strong foundation and be well prepared for Algebra I.

*Pre-requisite: Foundations of Pre-Algebra A*

## MS Fundamentals of Math 6 A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Math is such an important skill to have; it is used every day in all types of situations. MS Fundamentals of Math 6 A, the first of a two-semester series, offers a solid overview of fundamental math skills and a brief introduction into algebraic concepts—focusing on the foundational skills needed to be effective in everyday situations. In this course, you will review the basic operations of whole numbers. You will also be introduced to algebraic concepts such as variables and expressions. In order to solve simple equations, you will learn about decimals, fractions, integers, mixed numbers, and the order of operations.

## MS Language Arts 8 A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

MS Language Arts 8 A, the first course in a two-semester series, gets back down to basics. How basic? As basic as “Where do words come from?” After a study of word origins and word parts, you will continue vocabulary and language development throughout the course with further lessons in parts of speech and correct usage. Sprinkled throughout the course are wonderful examples of fiction and non-fiction texts, such as short stories, poems, and even a YA (young adult) novel called *The Giver*. You will analyze literature at a beginner’s level and write a critical review of the book. You will have the choice to self-select other texts and media for your enjoyment and for academic purposes. You will stay in contact with your teacher and other students through regular chats and discussions. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisites: MS Language Arts 7 A&B*

## MS Language Arts 8 B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

“In spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart.” One of the most famous Holocaust victims, Anne Frank, was only 15 when she died in a concentration camp in 1945. In MS Language Arts 8 B, the second part of the two-semester course, you will use Anne’s diary and the play and movie based on it to learn about her personal story. You will then use this material to complete a research project about the ties between history and literature. You will also read a novel of your own choice and other texts and media for both your enjoyment and for academic purposes. You will continue to develop your English language skills through short activities and longer essays, such as a personal narrative and a how-to essay. As always in your online courses, you will maintain contact with your teacher and other students through online chats and discussions interspersed regularly throughout the course. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: MS Language Arts 8 A*

### MS Fundamentals of Math 6 B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Math is used every day when you calculate tips and discounts, evaluate your average course grade, or determine which products are better buys. MS Fundamentals of Math 6 B, the second in a two-semester series, builds upon foundational math skills. In this course, you will expand your geometry and measurement skills by learning to classify triangles and find the perimeter, circumference, area, surface area, volume, and sum of the interior angles of a polygon. You will also learn to convert both customary and metric units of measurement. Next, you will explore the best methods for collecting and displaying data and begin to recognize bias in data samples. The course ends with solving and graphing inequalities, investigating functions, and learning how to graph functions on the coordinate plane.

*Pre-requisite: MS Fundamentals of Math 6 A*

### MS Fundamentals of Math 7 A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Math skills are used in every career. Beauticians must measure ingredients to create their hair dyes. Architects work with very detailed measurements to ensure that their buildings will withstand the fiercest weather conditions. Video game designers use mathematical functions in the code they write. MS Fundamentals of Math 7 A, the first course of a two-semester series, will offer you a foundation on which you can build more sophisticated math skills. In this course, you will study integers, exponents and factors, operations with fractions, ratios and proportions, and expressions and equations. This knowledge will prepare you for success in higher-level math classes, which will enable you to work in almost any field.

*Pre-requisites: MS Fundamentals of Math 6 A&B*

### MS Fundamentals of Math 7 B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Having a solid foundation of basic math skills is essential to being successful in future math courses—and for a variety of tasks in the real world. MS Fundamentals of Math 7 B, the second course of a two-semester series, continues to build your foundation of math skills. You will learn about functions and inequalities, data, statistics and probability, the basics of geometry, and two- and three-dimensional geometry. You will solve and graph inequalities, linear equations, and linear functions. You will also plot, describe, and find data using several methods to figure outcomes and probabilities. Using basic geometry techniques, you will classify and find shapes and angles. You will also find area, learn to apply the Pythagorean Theorem, and find volume and surface area for different shapes.

*Pre-requisite: MS Fundamentals of Math 7 A*

### MS Introduction to Probability and Statistics [D] [P&C] [CIS]

If you have ever watched commercials on television, there is a 99% chance that you've been lied to. If you read that sentence carefully, you know that you were lied to just now. Businesses and individuals use statistics to influence people all of the time. Sometimes, they omit important numbers or purposely focus on data that support a particular perspective. In MS Introduction to Probability and Statistics, a one-semester course, you will be introduced to the concept of data bias. Through learning about how data is properly analyzed, you will gain the tools necessary to avoid being deceived. You will also explore interesting analysis tools used in nearly every industry, including representing statistical data, interpretation of data, collection of data, uses of data, probability, and probability models. By completing this course, you will be able to make sound decisions based on accurate interpretation of data.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B*

### Pre-Algebra A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that the sum of the squares of the leg lengths of any right triangle is equal to the square of the length of its hypotenuse? Of course you did! This is the Pythagorean theorem, possibly the most famous mathematical theorem of all time. In Pre-Algebra A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will explore the Pythagorean theorem and interesting ways that it is used. This course focuses on preparing you for Algebra I by exploring introductory algebraic topics, such as real numbers, exponents, Order of Operations, variables, expressions, equations, basics of geometry, triangles, and geometric transformations. This course is followed by Pre-Algebra B, which is intended to complete your preparation for Algebra I.

### Pre-Algebra B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

If we are incapable of seeing into the future, how do meteorologists predict weather conditions seven days in advance? Their predictions are made using a mathematical technique called trend analysis. In fact, this technique is used in many industries, including beauty products, financial analysis, business management, marketing, and sports analysis. In Pre-Algebra B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will have the opportunity to learn about trend analysis and how to make accurate predictions about the future! You will explore topics that are important in preparing for Algebra I, such as solving equations, functions, graphing linear equations, and systems of linear equations. This course concludes with an overview of basic statistical analysis, including the study of trends. When you've completed this course, you will be well prepared to study Algebra I.

*Pre-requisite: Pre-Algebra A*

# Science

## MS Earth Science A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

We all have at least one thing in common: we all live on Earth. The more we understand about our planet, the smarter the decisions we'll be able to make regarding our lifestyles since what we do today affects the earth and our futures. MS Earth Science A, the first course in a two-semester series, introduces you to scientific investigation and experimentation and describes the methods and tools scientists use to study the earth. You will learn to read geologic and topographic maps and various types of graphs for information. Types of energy and concepts of density, heat, and heat transfer are explored. You will examine the roles of these concepts in Earth's processes. The course concludes by examining Earth's layered structure and the transfer of heat from Earth's interior through its layers.

## MS Earth Science B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

The earth is a powerful place; it created its own mountains, earthquakes, icebergs, and volcanoes. Plate tectonics and the movement of plates result in these amazing geological events. MS Earth Science B, the second course in a two-semester series, examines how scientists use direct and indirect evidence to learn about Earth's interior to better understand such events. Basic ecological concepts are introduced, including interactions in ecosystems, matter and energy flow, and populations. You will also survey Earth's biomes in this course. Finally, the course concludes with an introduction to space science. You will explore the origin and structure of the universe, characteristics of the solar system, and motions of the planets and other celestial objects.

*Pre-requisite: MS Earth Science A*

## MS Life Science A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

In order to improve our lives in the areas of medicine, nutrition, and agriculture, it is vital that we study living organisms. In MS Life Science A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will be introduced to basic biological concepts and the use of the scientific method in the study of life. Specific topics include characteristics of life; classification of living organisms; and characteristics of bacteria, protists, fungi, plants, and animals. In addition, you will study evolutionary theory, ecology, and effects of resource use and pollution on ecosystems.

## MS Life Science B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

How much do you really understand about how your body works? MS Life Science B, the second course in a two-semester series, begins with an exploration of cell structure and function and organization of tissues, organs, and systems. You will then examine the following body systems: muscular, skeletal, digestive, excretory, reproductive, circulatory, respiratory, immune, nervous, and endocrine. For each body system, you will explore structure, function, related diseases, and disease prevention factors. The course also includes an introduction DNA structure, principles of inheritance, and genetic engineering.

*Pre-requisite: MS Life Science A*

## MS Physical Science A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

MS Physical Science A, the first course in a two-semester series, introduces you to topics focusing on scientific process skills, motion, forces, energy, behavior of matter, waves, machines and work, and electricity and magnetism. You will also learn the mathematical relationships between physical measurements.

## MS Physical Science B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

MS Physical Science B, the second course in a two-semester series, explores the following topics of study: properties of matter, elements, and compounds; chemical bonds and reactions; the importance of nuclear power; and careers and technology in the physical sciences.

*Pre-requisite: MS Physical Science A*



# Social Studies

## MS American History A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Before European explorers and settlers arrived in America, Native Americans already populated the continent. Have you ever wondered how long they had been here and where they first came from? Many historians are working to solve these mysteries. In MS American History A, the first course of a two-semester series, you will learn about migration theories and archaeological evidence that hints at the origins of Native Americans. The course also explores the cultures and customs of many Native American tribes. It then examines how Europeans colonized North America, how these colonies became independent, and how they created the “great experiment” of American democracy. The course concludes by tracing the expansion of the United States across the continent. It devotes special attention to the role of immigrants in U.S. expansion and the effects of expansion on Native Americans. By the end of this course, you will understand how the U.S. was born and how it developed into the world’s most influential democracy.

## MS American History B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Can you imagine a day so dark and depressing that it is forever remembered as “Black Tuesday”? For America, that day was October 29, 1929. In MS American History B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will learn about the events that took place on “Black Tuesday” and the ensuing struggles that deeply affect many Americans to this day. The course explores America’s story from the early 1800s to the present day. You will learn about causes and events of the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Industrial Revolution, imperialism, the Great Depression, the New Deal, and American involvement in several wars. By taking this course you will gain an understanding of how past events have shaped present-day America. Your knowledge of America’s past will help prepare you to shape America’s future.

*Pre-requisite: MS American History A*

## MS Ancient Civilizations A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

When you meet someone for the first time, it is very common to ask about the person’s family and childhood. Why is this information important? People who study history believe that the past can help explain the present. MS Ancient Civilizations A, the first course in a two-semester series, delves into the lives of the earliest members of our human family. You will study the archeological evidence of early human societies and the development of ancient cultures. The course provides a broad look at the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt and Kush, ancient Hebrews, and ancient Greece by studying their geography, political systems, economies, religions, and social structures. By thinking about how these ancient peoples shaped their futures, we might better understand how the decisions we make today will affect future generations.

## MS Ancient Civilizations B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever heard that history repeats itself? Do you believe that events cycle through history and happen again and again? MS Ancient Civilizations B, the second course in a two-semester series, examines the lifestyles and cultural characteristics of people who lived long ago. You will study ancient civilizations from India, China, and Rome. Specifically, you will look at each civilization’s geography, political system, economy, religion, and social structure. As you carefully learn about each civilization’s characteristics, you will notice lifestyle events and patterns that have cycled throughout history up to present day. As you decide whether history repeats itself or not, you will be challenged to consider what these cycles may imply about our future.

*Pre-requisite: MS Ancient Civilizations A*

## MS Civics [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Picture this: a ragged band of farmers, angry about high taxes and the lack of a voice in their government, defies the British Empire. Soldiers are sent to intimidate them, but the farmers will not back down. With a “shot heard ‘round the world,” the American Revolution erupts, and the United States is born. Inspired by America’s example, people from all over the world begin to embrace a new kind of democracy. MS Civics, a one-semester course, provides an in-depth look at the origins of American democracy from the influence of philosophers to the Declaration of Independence and the framing of the Constitution. The course also explores federalism, civil liberties, and the three branches of government. You will gain an understanding of how the government functions, the duties of your elected officials, and your own rights and responsibilities as a U.S. citizen. The course concludes by examining state and local governments and discussing how to get involved in shaping policies that affect your community.

## MS World History and Geography A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

To do a job right, you've got to have the right tools. The same goes with learning about history and geography. In order to understand and appreciate the events and cultures of the world, it's important to have a solid set of tools, such as background knowledge in the themes of geography and basic economics. MS World History and Geography A, the first course in a two-semester series, focuses on providing you with these types of tools. The course begins with an overview of geography, covering topics such as the five themes of geography, the structure of the earth, and ecosystems. You will also learn about the various religions practiced around the world and get an introduction to economics and government. You will study the ancient civilizations of Mesoamerica, Rome, and the Byzantine Empire. Finally, you will also survey the Franks, the Vikings, medieval Europe, and the Muslim world.

## MS World History and Geography B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

History is all about cause and effect. One thing will happen that causes something else to happen, which in turn causes something else. This is why it is so important to understand history; it allows you to make better decisions today that will have a more positive impact on the future. MS World History and Geography B, the second course in a two-semester series, tells the story of the world from the European Renaissance through the Industrial Revolution, the era of nationalism and imperialism, World Wars I and II, and the cold war. During this course of study, you will examine how one event caused subsequent events. You will analyze the political, economic, and social effects of war, examine the effects of the interaction between humans and the environment; and apply critical thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources.

*Pre-requisite: MS World History and Geography A*

# Electives

## Alternative Credit Electives

### MS Service Learning Project 6 A [P&C] [CIS]

Life can be hard for everyone from time to time. It's important to remember that, no matter what your circumstances, there's always something you can do to help others in need. In MS Service Learning Project 6 A, you will be introduced to the idea of serving your local community. You will choose a community service, volunteer opportunity, or another service learning activity and write a short paragraph explaining why you chose it. You will then participate in your chosen service experience for a minimum of 40 hours over 14 weeks. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and explore ways to apply them to other areas of your life, including academics.

### MS Service Learning Project 6 B [P&C] [CIS]

Serving others in your local community benefits not only those you serve, but also the community as a whole. The MS Service Learning Project 6 B course reviews the importance of serving others and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from MS Service Learning Project 6 A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will participate in your chosen service experience for a minimum of 40 hours over 14 weeks. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and explore ways to apply them to other areas of your life, including academics.

### MS Service Learning Project 7 A [P&C] [CIS]

In MS Service Learning Project 7 A, you will be introduced to the idea of serving your local community. You will choose a community service, volunteer opportunity, or another service learning activity and write a short paragraph explaining why you chose it. You will then participate in your chosen service experience for a minimum of 40 hours over 14 weeks. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and explore ways to apply them to other areas of your life, including academics.

### MS Service Learning Project 7 B [P&C] [CIS]

The MS Service Learning Project 7 B course reviews the importance of serving others and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from MS Service Learning Project 7 A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will participate in your chosen service experience for a minimum of 40 hours over 14 weeks. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and explore ways to apply them to other areas of your life, including academics.

### MS Service Learning Project 8 A [P&C] [CIS]

In MS Service Learning Project 8 A, you will be introduced to the idea of serving your local community. You will choose a community service, volunteer opportunity, or another service learning activity and write a short paragraph explaining why you chose it. You will then participate in your chosen service experience for a minimum of 40 hours over 14 weeks. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and explore ways to apply them to other areas of your life, including academics.

### MS Service Learning Project 8 B [P&C] [CIS]

The MS Service Learning Project 8 B course reviews the importance of serving others and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from MS Service Learning Project 8 A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will participate in your chosen service experience for a minimum of 40 hours over 14 weeks. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and explore ways to apply them to other areas of your life, including academics.

## Career and Technology Electives

### Computer Literacy A [P&C] [CIS]

Most children can read and write for a while before they are literate. Once they learn to put their skills to work, though, they acquire literacy. It's the same thing with computer literacy. You may know how to do some things on the computer—but to be computer literate, you have to make those skills work for you. That's what you will learn in Computer Literacy A, a one-semester course. You will develop your overall understanding of computers and enhance your technical skills in both basic computer functions and in the use of various types of software. After completing this course, you will be able to recognize computer hardware and use Windows XP and Mac OS operating systems. You will learn to use various software applications (word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software), which are based on Open Office programs unless otherwise noted. You will also learn to navigate the Internet and use e-mail and FTP. When studying word processing software, you will write a letter and format documents, create tables and charts, and use other advanced tools. You will learn how to format and use the basic tools and formulas of spreadsheet software. You will also create an animated, interactive project using presentation software.

### MS Career Exploration [P&C] [CIS]

What do you want to be when you grow up? This one-semester, beginning-level course will help you consider the answer to that question. MS Career Exploration will introduce you to a variety of career fields, from business and information technology to security and sales and marketing. You will explore your interests, aptitudes, skills, and individual learning style in order to find possible career matches. You will use the steps in the decision-making process to develop your own career plan and explore a variety of post-high school opportunities for achieving your career goals.

### MS Career Planning and Skill Development [P&C] [CIS]

As a middle-schooler, it may seem like an eternity before you'll be working for a living. However, you will be entering the working world sooner than you think—so it's important that you're prepared. MS Career Planning and Skill Development will introduce you to the world of work by having you explore your own interests, values, and skills. Knowing yourself better in this way will help you as you plan for your future career. As a part of this planning process, you will learn about a variety of career fields, from business to education to public service. Surely, there's a field out there that will interest you. The course also teaches you that so-important task of finding a job. You will learn how to write a cover letter and resume, how to fill out a job application, and how to act in an interview. You will learn about qualities that will make you a successful employee and additional career-related skills, such as problem-solving and communication.

## General Studies Electives

### Life Skills [P&C] [CIS]

No matter what you do, there is an essential set of skills that will help you to be successful in life's basic pursuits. Whether your future holds a college experience, technical school, the military, or a full-time career, Life Skills—a beginning-level, one-semester course—will teach you the basic skills needed for life after high school. In addition to providing strategies for taking the ACT and SAT tests, this course will provide an informative timeline to help you stay on schedule with required tasks for graduating from high school and entering the outside world. This course will also cover important topics such as consumer protection, establishing credit, managing money, buying a car, and renting an apartment for the first time.

### MS Financial Literacy A [P&C] [CIS]

As a middle school student, what could you need to know about money? Plenty! Even decisions you make now can affect your future financial health, such as how much money you have for college and how prepared you are to deal with financial responsibility as you begin to earn money. This one-semester course, the first in a two-course series, helps you gain appreciation and respect for money and its proper use. It explains why money is important, how you can use more than cash to define wealth, how you can avoid financial misconceptions, and how you can earn money. You will learn skills in decision making and setting goals and priorities. You will learn responsible money management and how you can use bank services to your advantage.

### MS Financial Literacy B [P&C] [CIS]

Do you know how the current interest rate affects each purchase you make with a credit card? How does this same interest rate affect money that you save? Understanding financial details like these helps you create financial security, not financial worry! This course, the second in a two-course series, continues the discussion of using money wisely by focusing on making wise purchasing decisions, preventing identity fraud and theft, and helping others by giving. The course details how credit cards work, including how interest affects your spending. You will learn the basics of borrowing money and the importance of saving and investing money.

*Pre-requisite: MS Financial Literacy A*

### MS Reading A [P&C] [CIS]

You may have heard the saying, "Practice makes perfect." However, practicing a skill is usually not enough to master it. For example, cooking a meal many times will definitely help improve the taste, but learning various cooking techniques and strategies will help you become a chef. Similarly, reading skills are improved with practice, but you will need some reading techniques and strategies to truly sharpen your reading skills. In MS Reading A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will learn many reading strategies that are designed to help you read faster while understanding more of what you read. In this course, you will explore techniques for making predictions and inferences, identifying purpose and main ideas, reviewing a book, summarizing and drawing conclusions, and learning new vocabulary. The course concludes with an opportunity to read an interesting novel while using all of your new reading strategies.

### MS Reading B [P&C] [CIS]

Mastering the skill of reading is similar to learning how to read music. You must be able to identify the parts that comprise the entire piece. In MS Reading B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will learn about the elements of a text that work together to create the message or idea. The course describes how to analyze informational texts using fact and opinion, identify persuasion techniques, analyze cause and effect elements, use point of view to analyze a text, identify themes and literary elements, analyze characters, identify the use of sensory language, and analyze an author's use of figurative language. Your ability to recognize the elements of a text will allow you to read quickly and give you an increased level of comprehension.

### MS Study Skills [P&C] [CIS]

In middle school, it's important for you to start thinking about how you learn. Knowing your own learning styles will help you to be a more successful student. In MS Study Skills, a one-semester introductory course, you will discover your own learning styles and how to use them to your advantage. You will also learn skills such as planning, time management, active listening, note-taking, test-taking, and writing. Skills learned in this course will not only help you to be successful in school, but will apply to other areas of life as well.

## Health Education Electives

### MS Health A [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that lack of sleep can cause you to be overweight? In some ways, your health is out of your control. For example, heredity plays a significant part in determining whether you develop vision problems or heart disease. However, even if these things do not run in your family, your lifestyle choices can cause you to develop them. In MS Health A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will learn many ways to improve your health and prevent health problems. You will explore health basics, emotional health, stress, mental disorders, and suicide. You will also learn how relationships impact health and ways to deal with conflict and violence. While some of these topics are very difficult to discuss, the knowledge you will gain from this course will help you live the healthy life that you desire.

### MS Health B [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever heard that knowledge is power? When it comes to leading a healthy lifestyle, this is certainly true. There are many misconceptions associated with healthy eating and nutrition. When trying to eat a healthy diet, it is important to learn about how your body interacts with food. In MS Health B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will learn about the roles that nutrients, vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, fats, and proteins play in your body. The course covers additional topics related to living a healthy life, including steps to plan a healthy diet, the benefits of physical activity, the risks of drugs and alcohol, and a study of the immune system. Because eating a healthy diet is only one part of being healthy, this course will help you understand how to keep your whole body healthy.

### MS Health with Sex Education A [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that lack of sleep can cause you to be overweight? In some ways, your health is out of your control. For example, heredity plays a significant part in determining whether you develop vision problems or heart disease. However, even if these things do not run in your family, your lifestyle choices can cause you to develop them. In MS Health A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will learn many ways to improve your health and prevent health problems. You will explore health basics, emotional health, stress, mental disorders, and suicide. You will also learn how relationships impact health and ways to deal with conflict and violence. This course also contains a unit on sexual health, which is intended to help you make informed choices when making decisions about intimacy or sex. While some of these topics are very difficult to discuss, the knowledge you will gain from this course will help you live the healthy life that you desire.

### MS Health with Sex Education B [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever heard that knowledge is power? When it comes to leading a healthy lifestyle, this is certainly true. There are many misconceptions associated with healthy eating and nutrition. When trying to eat a healthy diet, it is important to learn about how your body interacts with food. In MS Health B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will learn about the roles that nutrients, vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, fats, and proteins play in your body. The course covers additional topics related to living a healthy life, including steps to plan a healthy diet, the benefits of physical activity, the risks of drugs and alcohol, behaviors that help with healthy pregnancy, and a study of the immune system. The course also contains information about risky behaviors and treatments for sexually transmitted infections and changes to the body that occur during adolescence. Because eating a healthy diet is only one part of being healthy, this course will help you understand how to keep your whole body healthy.

### MS Physical Education 6 A [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever wondered about your fitness level, or thought about how to exercise safely at school or in the gym? MS Physical Education 6A introduces you to the basics of a healthy lifestyle that forms the foundation for lifetime fitness. This course presents fundamental fitness concepts, including target heart rate, fitness testing, goal setting, and exercise safety. You will discover essential information about your personal fitness level and learn the importance of setting healthy goals. Popular exercise and lifetime activity options include hip-hop, folk dance, aerobic dance, and rhythmic gymnastics. Most of your grade will come from assignments and activities, but you will also participate in a few class discussions and participate in the President's Challenge fitness test.

### MS Physical Education 6 B [P&C] [CIS]

Do you participate in sports after school or attend a yoga class? If so, then you are doing a great job maintaining a healthy lifestyle. MS Physical Education 6B will teach you how to apply the proper form as you participate in a variety of sports activities designed to promote overall fitness. You will also be introduced to a variety of sports such as basketball, golf, and badminton and learn how to exercise through activities such as walking for fitness, flexibility training, and yoga. As you work through the course, you will learn the importance of conflict resolution and learn how to make smart choices for wellness and nutrition. Most of your grade will come from assignments and activities, but you will also participate in class discussions and complete a series of activity logs.

### MS Physical Education 7 A [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever wondered how science and fitness work together, or why it is so important to monitor your heart rate while exercising? You will find the answers to these questions in MS Physical Education 7A. This one-semester course will introduce you to fitness components such as cardio endurance and muscular strength and endurance, as well as help you understand the importance of developing flexibility. Through personal fitness testing, setting specific long- and short-term goals, and self-evaluation, you will learn about the foundations of a lifetime fitness plan. Most of your grade will come from assignments and activities, but you will also participate in class discussions, complete a series of activity logs, and write a research paper.

### MS Physical Education 7 B [P&C] [CIS]

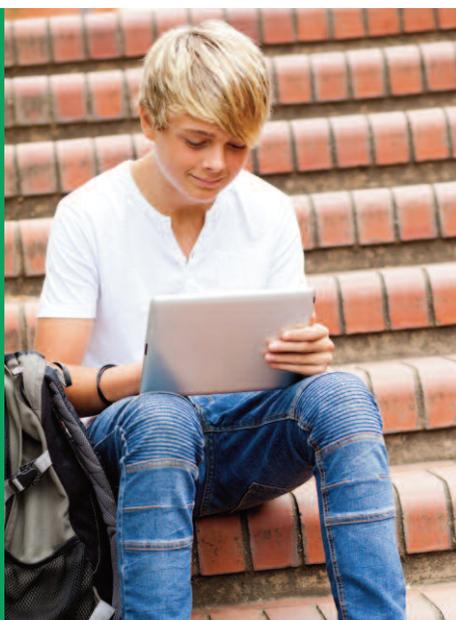
Consider your own fitness level. It's likely that you already participate in activities that promote fitness. Weekend basketball games with friends, short walks with your dog, and going for a swim at the neighborhood pool are all ways to be active. However, it's also important to develop a formalized workout plan that will ensure that you are getting the exercise you need to maintain a healthy, fit lifestyle. Physical Education 7B, a one-semester course, introduces you to a variety of fitness concepts, activities, and workout methods such as cross training, Pilates, yoga, and kickboxing. In addition to learning about workout methods, you will also learn how to read a compass and how to participate in a treasure hunt activity called orienteering. As you work through the course, you will complete assignments, develop workout routines, participate in class discussions, and write papers to demonstrate your understanding of the course topics.

### MS Physical Education 8 A [P&C] [CIS]

When you exercise, your body and your mind work together. In this course, you will learn a variety of techniques that form the foundation for biomechanics, which is the science of how to improve performance in sports, dance, and other physical activities. MS Physical Education 8A is the first part of a two-semester course. In this course, you will participate in activities designed to help you maximize your overall fitness. At the beginning of the course, you will learn about finding your target heart rate and setting fitness goals and will complete a personal fitness test. Later in the course, you will learn about how the body responds to exercise, how to exercise safely, and how to use the FITT formula to get the best results while exercising. You will explore concepts such as static and dynamic balance and learn how movement plays a role in exercise. Most of your grade will come from assignments and activities, but you will also participate in class discussions and complete a series of activity logs.

### MS Physical Education 8 B [P&C] [CIS]

If exercise is so good for us then why do we find it so hard to exercise regularly? When you were in grade school, you probably could not wait for recess. It was a time to get outside and walk, run, jump, and have fun. Exercise seemed enjoyable. As you get older, you might find it more challenging to find time to get physically fit. However, it does not have to be that way if you focus on activities you enjoy and create a routine that is tailored to your needs. MS Physical Education 8B is the second part of a two-semester course that provides an opportunity for you to create a personalized fitness program and learn about the benefits of weight and strength training for overall fitness. You will be introduced to important techniques such as stress management and deep breathing exercises for relaxation. This course also provides opportunities for you to participate in sports and non-sports related activities such as cycling, tennis, wall ball, and line dancing. You will also have the opportunity to learn about yoga and Pilates and demonstrate your understanding by writing a paper about the health benefits of the two exercises. Most of your grade will come from activities and assignments, but you will also participate in classroom discussions and complete a multimedia research project.





## Social Science & Humanities Electives

### MS Art Appreciation 6 [P&C] [CIS]

The earliest humans expressed themselves through art. They used it to tell stories and remember events long before writing was invented. MS Art Appreciation 6 is a one-semester course that exposes you to the world of art through a historical study of ancient civilization's powerful expressions. The course starts with an examination of the cave art painted thousands of years ago, the first expressions of creative activity demonstrated by early people. You will explore the art from Mesopotamia, where the Sumerians gave birth to the first written language known as cuneiform. You will continue the journey through art history with a study of ancient China and Japan, ancient Greece and Rome, and finally to the ancient Americas. Other exciting studies include the ancient Egyptians who designed and built the Pyramids of Giza. You will learn the value of natural history museums and the importance of conserving the history of mankind that has been documented through art.

### MS Art Appreciation 7 [P&C] [CIS]

You may think that art and science are opposites, but a study of medieval and Renaissance art will demonstrate that artists were eager to incorporate new technology into their art. When you examine the art and architecture of the time period between 800 and 1520 AD, you will appreciate the desire for innovation and the dedication of people to work a lifetime on great cathedrals. MS Art Appreciation 7 is a one-semester course that details the mission of art museums and offers reasons for the great value that we place on artwork. You will explore artifacts from the medieval period of history, including the Romanesque cathedrals and the revolutionary change in architectural design that was exhibited in the construction of Gothic cathedrals in Europe. You will become immersed in the technology advances of architecture and the invention of oil paint, which gave us the rich and vibrant colors of the Italian Renaissance master artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Botticelli. The course exhibits artwork from Vermeer, Durer, and Rembrandt, demonstrating activity in the North and in Spain as well. You will also study the art of Africa and Islamic regions, such as African ancestral masks. The course examines art and architectural achievement from around the world, including the Taj Mahal in India, the Forbidden City in China, and the artwork of the Americas before European explorations. You will learn how to place these artworks and others into historical, social, and cultural context. This course includes art projects and paper assignments as well as other assessment types.

### MS Art Appreciation 8 [P&C] [CIS]

Art is universal. It is not something that is limited to art galleries and museums; it is a vibrant form of expression that is ever-changing. MS Art Appreciation 8 is a one-semester course that guides you through the art of the modern world, which roughly spans from the year 1700 to today. You will explore artistic movements such as impressionism and expressionism, which began in the art power-houses of Paris and New York City. The course presents examples of artwork displayed in museums such as the Guggenheim in Spain. This course guides you through the progression of artistic expression and the themes that emerged as art moved into the modern era. Your study will take you to regions around the world, and you will examine the role of art within a culture. You will learn about careers in art, online resources, art associations, and how art historians and critics judge artwork using critical analysis and formalistic terminology. You will also study other art forms, such as advertising, graphic design, crafts, film, and television. This course includes hands-on art activities and paper assignments as well as other assessment types.

### MS Music Theory A [P&C] [CIS]

You probably listen to music all the time—but how much do you know about how it is written? Do you know enough to write a song if you wanted to? MS Music Theory A is a one-semester elective course designed to introduce you to the field of music and develop your understanding of the structure of music. In this course, you will study the language, symbols, and tools used to create music, focusing on basic elements of music, including instruments, notes, rests, staves, and clefs.

### MS Social Studies Skills A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

MS Social Studies Skills A will help you become a better social studies student. It is the first semester of a two-semester course designed to help you develop the skills needed for success in your social studies courses. You will practice using different kinds of visual aids, such as charts, graphs, pyramids, maps, and diagrams. You will learn how to apply longitude and latitude concepts to a map in order to find locations. You will also use timelines properly in order to determine cause-effect relationships in historical contexts. You will conclude your work in this course by learning the process of producing a research paper. Your progress will be assessed through knowledge checks, tests, a timeline activity, and a research paper.

### MS Social Studies Skills B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

“I’ll take Ancient Civilizations for \$1,000, Alex.” Did you ever wonder how some people know so much about so much? MS Social Studies Skills B, the second semester of a two-semester middle school level course, is the course that will give you a broad base of knowledge about the world and the people who live in it. From ancient civilizations to how the human brain works, this survey course hits the highlights of world history, geography, psychology, United States history, and U.S. government. After taking this course, you will be able to describe the early history of the United States. You will identify major developments in Egyptian, Greek, and Roman history. You will explain how different types of governmental systems play a part in world geography, as well as identify the three branches of the United States government and describe their roles.

*Pre-requisite: MS Social Studies Skills A*

## World Language Electives

### MS Chinese I and II [PCIS]

In Chinese I and II, students have the opportunity to “see it, hear it, say it, and write it”; as they interact with content and communicate with their teacher throughout the courses. Familiar characters introduce students to lesson content and serve as tour guides as students visit the Great Wall, meet pandas in Sichuan, and celebrate the Lantern Festival.

### MS Spanish I and II [PCIS]

Spanish I and II introduce students to Spanish language and culture. Student guides share information on topics such as family and friends, home, food, clothing, and neighborhoods. Culture is presented throughout the courses to help students make connections between their culture and the culture of people in the Spanish-speaking world. Opportunities for students to communicate with native speakers throughout these courses provide a real-world context.



# Test Prep

## Algebra Readiness – Basic [P&C] [CIS]

Ready, set, go! Whether you are preparing to run a race or gearing up for learning algebra, it is incredibly important to be ready! When it comes to learning algebra, Algebra Readiness – Basic is a one-semester, noncredit course designed to help you get ready to enter Algebra I. This course begins with diagnostic exams designed to show you which math skills need improvement. You will have opportunities to review many pre-algebra and algebra concepts, such as integers, equations, factors, exponents, fractions, equations, ratios, proportions, percentages, rational numbers, inequalities, graphing, geometry basics, data, statistics, and probability. Each unit contains several lessons with many examples incorporated into each lesson.

## Algebra Readiness – Expanded [P&C] [CIS]

Ready, set, go! Whether you are preparing to run a race or gearing up for learning algebra, it is incredibly important to be ready! When it comes to learning algebra, Algebra Readiness – Expanded is a one-semester, noncredit course designed to help you get ready to enter Algebra I. This course begins with diagnostic exams designed to show you which math skills need improvement. You will have opportunities to review many pre-algebra and algebra concepts, such as integers, equations, factors, exponents, fractions, equations, ratios, proportions, percentages, rational numbers, inequalities, graphing, geometry basics, data, statistics, and probability. Each unit contains several lessons with many examples incorporated into each lesson. In addition, this course contains one or two quizzes and a post diagnostic in each unit to better assess your progress.

## Math Intervention – Basic [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever heard the saying “practice makes perfect”? When you need to learn a skill, one of the most important things to do is practice. Mathematics Intervention – Basic, designed for students in grades 4 through 7, is a noncredit course intended to provide ample opportunities for practice. This course is available online in a customizable format that can be tailored to your needs. You will have the opportunity to review math skills necessary for proficiency at grade level, such as place value, basic number skills, fractions and decimals, ratios, percentages, functions and equations, and measurement. Each unit contains lessons, examples, and a diagnostic exam to assess how well you understand the concepts.

## Math Intervention – Expanded [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever heard the saying “practice makes perfect”? When you need to learn a skill, one of the most important things to do is practice. Mathematics Intervention – Expanded, designed for students in grades 4 through 7, is a noncredit course intended to provide ample opportunities for practice. This course is available online in a customizable format that can be tailored to your needs. You will have the opportunity to review math skills necessary for proficiency at grade level, such as place value, basic number skills, fractions and decimals, ratios, percentages, functions and equations, and measurement. Each unit contains lessons, examples, and a diagnostic exam to assess how well you understand the concepts. In addition, this course contains two quizzes and a post diagnostic in each unit to better assess your progress.





# Grades 9–12

# Language Arts

## English I A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

How can we use language to clarify our ideas and help others understand our meaning? The answer to this important question drives the content of your first high school level English course. English I A, the first of a two-semester course, is a rigorous online English course that initiates you into college preparatory work with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that develop critical thinking skills in the language arts—from vocabulary and language development to literary and media analysis—and the writing process. You will read and analyze a broad range of fiction and nonfiction, including self-selected novels and technical readings. Literature selections include Steinbeck’s *The Pearl* and Homer’s *The Odyssey*. The units begin with vocabulary development and end with the hero’s quest. You will use this literature for analysis and also as a springboard for writing activities. You will use technology throughout the writing process for a variety of purposes, including informative, persuasive, and narrative essays. You will also have opportunities for creative writing and sharing ideas and strategies with other online students through the discussion assignments. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisites: MS Language Arts 8 A&B*

## English I B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

The Greek philosopher Plato once said, “Rhetoric is the art of ruling the minds of men.” There are two reasons why you should know about rhetoric: first, because you might need to use it; second, because it is often used on you. The use of rhetoric drives the content of English I B, the second of a two-semester course. English I B is a rigorous online English course that prepares you for academic work in upper-division courses and college with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that develop critical thinking skills in the language arts, such as vocabulary and language development, literary and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. Literature analysis units include a poetry unit and a deep study of *Romeo and Juliet*. You will also study rhetorical strategies and analyze a broad selection of speeches while practicing critical listening skills. You will conduct both short- and long-term research, with a culminating research project. Other written assignments include an argumentative speech, poetry analysis, an original poem, and your adaptation of a Shakespeare scene. You will develop your interpersonal communication skills through regular online chats with your teacher and through discussion assignments with other students. You will self-select material to read or view independently for both enjoyment and academic purposes. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: English I A*



### English II A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What do a teenaged princess named Antigone who lived thousands of years ago in ancient Greece and a Hispanic teenager named Esperanza who lived in 1960's Chicago have in common? Dysfunctional families, for one thing. Reading ancient and modern literature and finding connections in them are just some of the ways English II A will help you understand and appreciate literature. English II A is the first part of a two-semester course that builds upon the foundations of English I. This course will prepare you for the academic work in upper-division courses and for college with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that develop critical thinking skills in language arts, such as vocabulary and language development, literature and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. You will read and analyze a broad selection of world literature, such as poetry, traditional stories of creation and destruction, *Antigone*, and *The House on Mango Street*, and use it as a springboard for your own writing. You will use technology through the writing process to produce papers for a variety of purposes. You will also produce real world items such as a résumé and business letter, as well as literary analyses and an argumentative essay. You will conduct a short research project and do a presentation with a speech component. You will continue to develop communication skills through regular online chats with your teacher and through discussion assignments with other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisites: English I A&B*

### English II B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

How can reading literature help us to understand ourselves? Great literature is a mirror in which we see ourselves, as well as our society, reflected. Sometimes the mirror makes us uncomfortably aware of the shortcomings of our situation. Such is the literature that you will read in English II B. English II B, the second half of a two-semester course, is a rigorous online English course that will prepare you for the academic work in upper-division courses and for college. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that develop critical thinking skills in the language arts, such as vocabulary and language development, literature and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. You will read a variety of world literature, such as *Metamorphosis* and *An Enemy of the People*, as well as self-select material to read or view independently. You will use the literature as a springboard for your own writing. You will write narrative, expository, and persuasive essays, as well as creative writing. A research unit will guide you through the research process, from narrowing a topic to selecting and citing credible sources. You will also continue to develop your interpersonal communication skills through online chats with your teacher, as well as discussion assignments with other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: English II A*

### English III A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

The Russian writer Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn once said, "Literature becomes the living memory of a nation." English III A, the first part of a two-semester course, uses American literature to explore ideas about the American Dream. This course will prepare you for college with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that explore the American experience. You will continue to develop your critical thinking skills in the language arts, such as vocabulary development, literature and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. You will read a wide variety of American literature, including short stories, poetry, sermons, letters, and *The Scarlet Letter*, as well as self-select material to read or view independently. You will analyze this literature and use it as a springboard for your own writing. You will use the writing process throughout the course to produce papers for a variety of purposes, such as persuasive, expository, and narrative essays, as well as creative papers and projects. You will continue to practice interpersonal communication skills through online chats with your teacher, as well as discussion assignments with other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisites: English II A&B*

### English III B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

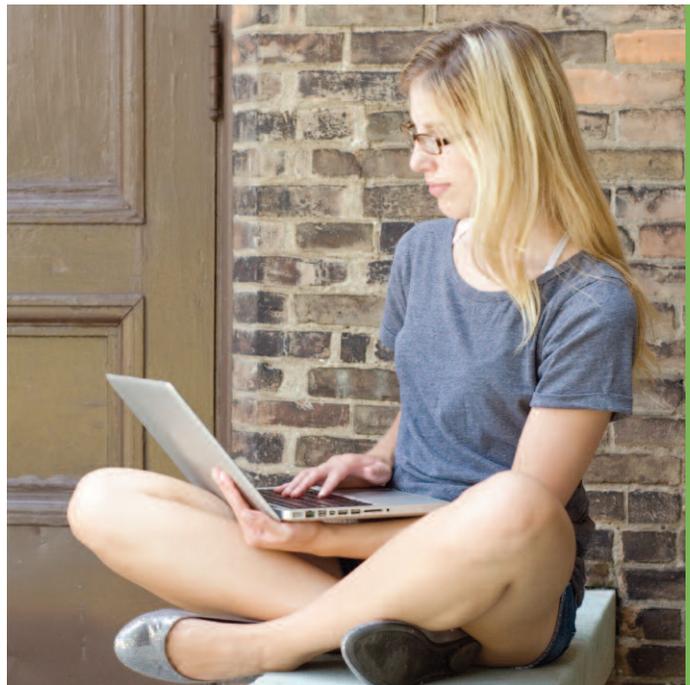
Ernest Hemingway once said, “All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called *Huckleberry Finn*.” Directly or indirectly, that book by Mark Twain has influenced all modern American writers since it first made the American scene in 1885. If you have read a story narrated by a young man who uses dialect instead of Standard English, who rebels against society instead of following its rules, or who suffers both internal and external conflicts, then you have read a story that was influenced by Twain’s great American novel. The study of *Huckleberry Finn* is a major element in English III B, the second part of a two-semester course. This rigorous online English course will prepare you for college with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will gain instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that explore the American experience as you continue to develop critical thinking skills in the language arts, such as vocabulary development, literature and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. You will read a wide variety of American literature, including short stories, poetry, drama, as well as *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. A research unit will guide you through the research process, from narrowing a topic to selecting and citing credible sources. You will continue to practice interpersonal communication skills through online chats with your teacher, as well as discussion assignments with other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: English III A*

### English IV A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What is a hero? From the epic Anglo-Saxon hero Beowulf to the beggar described by Orwell, English IV A, the first semester of a two-semester course, examines the heroic in fiction and nonfiction. English IV A is a rigorous online English course that will prepare you for college with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that explore the British literary tradition as you continue to develop critical thinking skills in the language arts, such as vocabulary development, literature and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. You will read and respond to a variety of British and world literature—with emphasis on the foundations of British Literature such as *Beowulf* and *The Canterbury Tales*—as well as self-select material to read or view independently. You will also study *Utopia* and *King Lear*. Your literature analysis will serve as a springboard for your own writing. You will use technology throughout the writing process to produce papers for a variety of purposes, such as narrative, argumentative, and analytical essays. You will produce a multimedia project analyzing the themes and motifs of *King Lear* and produce a satirical newspaper. You will continue to hone your interpersonal communication skills through online chats with your teachers, as well as discussion assignments with other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisites: English III A&B*



# Mathematics

## English IV B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

The struggle for rights and the determination of our own future has been an eternal struggle of humanity. In this final semester of high school English, you will explore this theme in several ways. English IV B, the second part of a two-semester course, will prepare you for college with the live support of certified and experienced English teachers. You will receive multimedia instruction in Common Core Standards-based units that explore the British literary tradition as you continue to develop critical thinking skills in the language arts, such as vocabulary development, literature and media analysis, critical listening, and the writing process. You will read and respond to a variety of British and world literature, including an in-depth study of *Macbeth*. You will choose from five novels for further research and analysis in a major research paper, as well as self-select material to read or view independently. Your analysis of literature will serve as a springboard for your own writing. You will use technology throughout the writing process to produce papers for a variety of purposes, such as narrative, argumentative, and analytical essays and creative writing. You will research the history of women's rights and produce a multimedia presentation with cited sources of information. You will continue to hone interpersonal communication skills through online chats with your teachers, as well as discussion assignments with other students. This course requires one or more novels, which can be acquired at any public library.

*Pre-requisite: English IV A*

## Algebra I A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever wondered how companies decide on prices for their products? Why would two companies charge different prices for products that are basically the same? How do they know when a price is too high for customers or too low for profit? Companies make these decisions by using concepts like graphical analysis which you will learn in Algebra I A, the first course in a two-semester series. The course begins by introducing the basic language of algebra, including real numbers, variables, exponents, powers, expressions, equations, functions, and inequalities. The course then focuses on graphing equations and inequalities in two variables. By carefully looking at these graphs, you will discover the methods and strategies used to answer interesting questions about money and to make important business decisions.

*Pre-requisites: Pre-Algebra A&B*

## Algebra I B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Suppose you had a career in which you were paid very well to watch your favorite sport. Sounds great, doesn't it? Many sports have analysts who use statistics, also known as stats, to help players and coaches make better decisions. In Algebra I B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will be introduced to important concepts used by sports analysts. The course begins by exploring absolute value equations, inequalities, and graphs. Next, you will be introduced to exponential and polynomial functions, which are very useful in science and business. In the final portion of this course, you will explore topics in the field of data analysis. Sports analysts use data analysis to provide meaningful information to players and coaches based on statistics gathered from watching the sport.

*Pre-requisite: Algebra I A*

## Algebra II A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

You've probably heard of an imaginary friend, but have you ever heard of an imaginary number? Yes, there is such a thing. In Algebra II A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will learn several important topics: systems of equations, linear programming, the fundamental theorem of algebra, exponential models, and natural logarithms. You will also learn how to solve and graph many types of equations, such as linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, exponential, and logarithmic. Additionally, you will learn about a classification of numbers called imaginary numbers. Imaginary numbers are extremely important when studying electrical circuits and the transmission of radio waves. In fact, we would not be able to listen to the radio or use cell phones without the knowledge of imaginary numbers!

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B*

### Algebra II B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Sonic Drive-In, a U.S. fast-food restaurant, advertises that it is the Ultimate Drink Stop® since it offers exactly 1,063,953 different fountain drink and slush combinations. How do you think Sonic determined the number of drink combinations it offers? Counting to 1,000 is exhausting, but counting to over 1 million would break the current world record for counting! Instead of counting each combination, Sonic calculated the number in a couple of minutes using strategies you will learn in Algebra II B, the second course in a two-semester series. In this course, you will explore sequences and series, conic sections, probability and statistics, and matrices. In addition, you will be introduced to the foundations of trigonometry, which are used in the fields of music, pharmacy, meteorology, game development, and many others.

*Pre-requisite: Algebra II A*

### Calculus A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Calculus is arguably the most important mathematical tool of our time. Our technology, economy, medicine, and military, to name a few, have been revolutionized with the application of calculus. In Calculus A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will explore this revolutionary tool firsthand. The course begins by introducing the concept of a limit, including notation, properties, and evaluation. You will also study continuity, derivatives, basic computation rules, graph behavior and analysis, and applications of derivatives.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B, Geometry A&B, Algebra II A&B, Trigonometry or Pre-Calculus*

### Calculus B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Engineers in the automobile industry use calculus to analyze a vehicle's stability limitations to ensure its design meets safety specifications. Financial analysts use multivariate calculus to determine a minimum monthly payment due on a credit card. Calculus affects nearly every part of our lives. In Calculus B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will examine how biologists use calculus to determine bacterial growth rates under various conditions. This course begins with a unit on antidifferentiation and progresses to definite integrals, applications of integrals, area and volume, and differential equations.

*Pre-requisite: Calculus A*

### Consumer Math A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Math students often ask their teachers, "Why do I need to know this?" You can find the answer to that question in Consumer Math A, the first course in a two-semester series. This course, geared toward helping you become an intelligent consumer, focuses on the basic math skills you use every day. You will learn a variety of practical applications of math skills, such as creating personal and household budgets, setting financial goals, and using checking and savings accounts. Through real-life examples, you will also learn the basics of personal earnings, benefits, taxes, credit, life insurance, and other real-world topics.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B*

### Consumer Math B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

You'd be surprised at how much adults use math in daily life. As a savvy consumer, you are expected to have usable math skills that allow you to bank, pay taxes, and take out loans. When you buy a car, for example, being informed about how loans work and possible hidden fees will help ensure that you get a fair deal. Consumer Math B, an extension of Consumer Math A, continues the focus on practical applications of math in real-world situations. This one-semester course covers topics such as income taxes, investment, insurance, buying a car, and buying a house.

*Pre-requisite: Consumer Math A*

### Foundations of Integrated Algebra I A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever had your identity stolen? Many people fear that their personal information will be stolen by an online hacker for criminal purposes. Fortunately, computer experts have devised mathematical encryption methods to keep information safe from hackers if it is transferred properly. In Foundations of Integrated Algebra I A, the first course in a four-semester series, you will learn one of the foundational concepts in the field of Internet security: prime factorizations. This course also explores variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, decimals, and exponents. It concludes by discussing important uses of ratios, proportions, and percentages. By the end of this course, you will be well prepared to enter the next course in the series.

## Foundations of Integrated Algebra I B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Imagine someone hands you an unfamiliar tool and claims that it can locate anything you want. Remembering that you lost your phone this morning, this tool is now your best friend. However, it is only valuable if you can figure out how to use it. This tool is just like mathematical equations. They can help us do amazing things, if we learn how to use them. Foundations of Integrated Algebra I B, the second course in a four-semester series, focuses on the usage of equations. This course begins with techniques used to write, solve, and interpret equations and inequalities. Next, you will explore linear functions, linear graphs, and the basics of two- and three-dimensional geometry. This course concludes with a very interesting look at data, statistics, and probability.

*Pre-requisite: Foundations of Integrated Algebra I A*

## Foundations of Integrated Algebra II A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever wondered where math came from? Did someone invent it? The coordinate plane we use for graphing was invented by a man from France named Rene' Descartes. He published his idea in 1637. Yes, some math is very old. Foundations of Integrated Algebra II A, the third course in a four-semester series, provides a thorough look at graphing using the coordinate plane. The techniques used for creating and interpreting graphs are emphasized throughout this course. Descartes' coordinate plane is commonly used today in many industries, even though it was invented long ago. In this course, you will also explore variables and expressions, applications of equations, linear functions, and inequalities. This course concludes with an overview of systems of equations and systems of inequalities.

*Pre-requisites: Foundations of Integrated Algebra I A&B*

## Foundations of Integrated Algebra II B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

You might not know it, but bacteria and banking have something in common. Both bacterial growth and financial investments are modeled using exponential growth functions! Foundations of Integrated Algebra II B, the last course in a four-semester series, introduces exponential growth and decay functions, which are two of the most commonly used types of functions. In fact, you will see how exponential decay functions are used to determine your car's value as it gets older. This course begins with a review of exponents and scientific notation before introducing exponential functions. Next, you will explore radicals, trigonometric ratios, polynomials and factoring, and quadratic equations. Finally, you will examine proportions, percentages, and data representation.

*Pre-requisite: Foundations of Integrated Algebra II A*

## Geometry A (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Do you really need to study math if you want to be a lawyer? Even though lawyers may not regularly solve mathematical equations, they often use many skills learned from studying math. In Geometry A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will be introduced to inductive and deductive reasoning and use these thinking strategies to develop mathematical proofs. You will prove statements about angles, angle relationships, triangles, and other shapes. In a courtroom, a lawyer may build a case to prove the innocence of a client. In this course, you will learn the skills it takes to build a proof, just like a lawyer.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B*

## Geometry B (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What do the following things have in common: elbow surgery, road maps, crop circles, flowers, paintings, and makeup? You guessed it, geometry! A basic knowledge of geometry provides you with a path to pursue a wide variety of careers and interests because it is used in so many areas of life. In Geometry B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will be presented with some of the most useful geometric concepts, including circles, trigonometric ratios, geometric solids, coordinate geometry, and transformational geometry. In fact, this course will show you how these concepts are useful in the world around you.

*Pre-requisite: Geometry A*

## Introduction to Probability and Statistics (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What do casinos and insurance companies have in common? These businesses are able to make money only because they trust the mathematical principles of probability. For example, casinos use probability to determine how much money is rewarded for hitting a jackpot, and insurance companies use probability to determine how likely you are to wreck your car or get an illness. In Introduction to Probability and Statistics, a one-semester course, you will learn the basics of theoretical and experimental probability. The first part of this course contains units on statistics, including representing statistical data, population and measures of central tendency, collecting statistical data, and uses of statistical data. The latter part of the course focuses on probability and includes lessons on simple events, permutations and combinations, Venn diagrams, compound events, joint and conditional probabilities, and distribution models.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra II A&B*

### Math Models with Applications [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever been “watched” by a store? It sounds creepy, doesn’t it? Most stores have surveillance cameras on their premises to prevent goods from being stolen, but many stores watch their customers in another way. This involves collecting data on consumers to the point of “knowing” them. Some stores can even predict what you are going to purchase and offer you coupons or other promotions. Math Models with Applications, a one-semester course, focuses on data and its many uses in the real world. You will begin by discussing several types of graphs, which are ways to represent data. Next, you will explore strategies for interpreting data, methods for collecting data, and techniques for analyzing and using data. In conclusion, you will get an in-depth look at probability and probability models.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B*

### Pre-Calculus [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Is it possible to add an infinite quantity of positive numbers together and get the answer of positive two? Even though this may seem impossible, it is an occurrence called a convergent series. In Pre-Calculus, a one-semester course, you will study convergent and divergent series. This course contains many topics that will prepare you for Calculus, such as fundamentals of functions and graphs, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, analytic geometry, and discrete algebra. The course concludes with an introduction to calculus, which is one of the most important tools of our time.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B, Geometry A&B, Algebra II A&B*

### Pre-Calculus A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Many amazing inventions throughout history were made possible due to mathematical ideas. For example, the telescope allows us to see into space so far that we can look at other galaxies. The telescope was first built using mirrors and the reflective properties of conic sections. In Pre-Calculus A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will study conic sections and see demonstrations of how their reflective properties are used. This course helps prepare you for Calculus by examining the fundamentals of functions and graphs; polynomial and rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; analytic geometry; and trigonometric functions, graphs, and identities.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B, Geometry A&B, Algebra II A&B*

### Pre-Calculus B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What are the odds of finding the person you will marry by subscribing to an online dating website? Did you know dating websites use mathematical tools to match profiles? In fact, statistics and probability are used as prediction tools in many facets of our society, from the economy to military strategy to finding love. In Pre-Calculus B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will explore the interesting world of statistics and probability. This course completes your calculus preparation by building essential knowledge of trigonometry applications, sequences and series, and probability and statistics. The course concludes with a preview of introductory calculus lessons.

*Pre-requisite: Pre-Calculus A*

### Trigonometry (Common Core) [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Which is a better weapon, a bomber plane or math? Without math, most weapons of war would not be useful, including bomber planes. In fact, all modern weapons of war depend on math to operate effectively. Archimedes, a mathematician who lived around 200 BCE, is famous for using math to invent devastating war machines, including the Archimedes Claw, a death ray, catapults, and stone throwers. Both Archimedes and modern-day mathematicians use trigonometry to design and operate these machines. Trigonometry, a one-semester course, explores some of the most widely used mathematical principles, including applications of right triangles, the unit circle, trigonometric identities, vectors, and the polar coordinate system. Not only have these principles been used throughout history, they are still used today in scientific experiments, business innovations, musical creations, technological developments, and much more.



# Science

## Biology A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

How do our genes determine how we look, act, and even when we get sick? Biology A, the first course of a two-semester series, introduces you to life sciences, the scientific method, and inquiry processes. The course explains proper lab techniques and safety procedures and methods for conducting scientific experiments and communicating their results. You will begin your study with an overview of what constitutes a living organism, followed by an in-depth study of the components that make up a healthy cell. You will examine the structures and processes that occur in different types of cells. Other topics in this course include biochemistry, cellular activities, genetics, human heredity, evolution, and genetic engineering. This course is aligned to Common Core literacy standards.

*Co-requisite: Algebra I A*

## Biology B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that Earth is a living thing and that our ecosystems sustain it? Biology B, the second course of a two-semester series, provides you with an overview of classifying organisms and examining human body systems. You will explore the dynamics within ecosystems and how the classification of organisms was developed. You will analyze organisms in the six kingdoms by examining their anatomical and physiological characteristics. Students will also learn about the major systems of the human body and how bacteria and viruses cause disease. This course is aligned to Common Core literacy standards.

*Co-requisite: Algebra I B*

*Pre-requisite: Biology A*

## Chemistry A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

How can the millions of substances that make up the universe come from only 100 elements? This is one of the many mysteries of chemistry. In Chemistry A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will learn about the basic concepts of science, the history of chemistry, and how to reason and use scientific practices. You will discover the relationship between atomic models and the Periodic Table, along with ways to use these concepts as tools in the study of chemistry. The remaining units of the course will focus on ions and ionic compounds, molecular compounds, acids and bases, the mole concept, chemical masses, and chemical equations. This course is aligned with the Common Core literacy standards.

*Co-requisite: Algebra II A*

*Pre-requisites: Algebra I A&B, Geometry A&B, Biology A&B*

## Chemistry B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What are the mysteries of chemistry that make it one of the fundamental sciences? Chemistry B, the second course in a two-semester series, focuses on chemical bonding, thermochemistry, chemical kinetics, and electrochemistry. You will study key concepts of organic chemistry, nuclear and environmental chemistry, biochemistry, and analytical chemistry. The course ends with a discussion of industrial processes, energy, and careers related to chemistry. This course is aligned with the Common Core literacy standards.

*Co-requisite: Algebra II B*

*Pre-requisite: Chemistry A*

## Earth Science A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What causes mountain ranges to appear and islands to disappear from the Earth's surface? Earth Science A, the first course of a two-semester series, introduces you to the fundamentals of Earth science. You will study how science works, the scientific method, and the nature of science. Your main focus will be on Earth's structure: mapping, mineral composition, rocks and the rock cycle, plate tectonics, and the plate tectonic theory. Plate tectonics explain the huge mountain range that circles the globe and many of the features and processes on Earth. This course is aligned with the Common Core literacy standards.

## Earth Science B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What's all the fuss about climate change? Why is it important, and what can we do about it? Earth Science B, the second course of a two-semester series, introduces you to the major principles and skills involved in studying the sciences of meteorology and astronomy. In this course you will study the atmosphere's structure and composition, water in the atmosphere, thunderstorms, tornadoes and hurricanes, plus climate change. In addition, you will study the Earth's night sky, tools for studying the universe, stars and galaxies, and the properties and motion of the solar system. This course is aligned to Common Core literacy standards.

*Pre-requisite: Earth Science A*

### Environmental Science A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Everything you do has an effect on the environment around you. Environmental Science A, the first course of a two-semester series, is an introductory class that explores the nature of science, the natural world, and the ways in which you interact with it. You will examine environmental issues and learn to make informed decisions using scientific problem solving. Some specific topics include ecological interactions, matter and energy flow in ecosystems, and biogeochemical cycles. You will explore how humans have changed the earth and vice versa by studying biodiversity, evolution, succession, and the characteristics and growth of populations. Finally, you will learn about safe and efficient ways to use the earth as a resource through the study of soil and land resources, agriculture, waste management, and characteristics of terrestrial biomes.

*Pre-requisites: Biology A&B*

### Environmental Science B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Recycling, minimizing the use of electricity and gas, and buying organic produce. How else can you help the environment? Environmental Science B, the second course of a two-semester series, continues the study of the natural world. You will explore aquatic biomes and learn about the management of water resources. You will learn how we use mineral resources and what effects mining has on the environment. You will also learn about atmospheric cycles and climate change. You will explore renewable and nonrenewable energy resources and learn about sustainability, which refers to the things you can do to help the environment.

*Pre-requisite: Environmental Science A*

### Integrated Physics and Chemistry A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What is happening in the world around you? Perhaps you have a pencil that keeps falling off your desk, or you're using a power strip to charge all of your electronic devices. Have you ever wondered why the world works the way it does? Chemistry and physics are fundamental sciences key to answering that question. Integrated Physics and Chemistry A, the first course in a two-semester series, focuses on scientific process skills, motion, forces, work, electricity, and energy.

*Pre-requisite: Pre-Algebra*



### Integrated Physics and Chemistry B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Everything around you is made of chemicals! How do a few dozen elements combine to form the millions of chemicals needed for everyday life? Chemistry and physics are fundamental sciences that explain how the world works. Integrated Physics and Chemistry B, the second course in a two-semester series, focuses on scientific process skills, atomic theory, the behavior of matter, and the properties of elements and compounds.

*Pre-requisite: Pre-Algebra, Integrated Physics and Chemistry A*

### Physical Science A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Why does a balloon rise or fall? Why is the sky blue? The answers to these and other questions about our physical world are found in Physical Science A, the first in a series of two courses designed to introduce you to the study of the nature of things. The course introduces you to the scientific method and inquiry processes. You will practice lab and field safety along with methods for conducting scientific experiments and communicating results of experimentation. You will explore of the atomic nature of matter, the elements, and the Periodic Table (safely, of course). You will examine the properties of matter and explore the composition and behavior of acids and bases. The course concludes with a description of energy and the properties of matter. This course is aligned to the Common Core literacy standards.

*Co-requisite: Algebra I A*

# Social Studies

## Physical Science B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Why will the sun expand in 5 billion years? What will that mean for life on earth? Physical Science B, the second course in a two-semester series, continues with a study of energy in motion. You will describe and calculate force, velocity, acceleration, work, and power and explore Newton's laws of motion. The course continues with a study of the generation of electricity and magnetism. You will study the forms and properties of waves and the electromagnetic spectrum. In addition, you will study the solar system and the structure of the universe with an examination of the life cycle of a star. This course is aligned with Common Core literacy standards.

*Co-requisite: Algebra I B*

*Pre-requisite: Physical Science A*

## Physics A [CIS]

The goal of physics is to describe the physical world using a small number of basic assumptions, concepts, and equations. In Physics A, the first course in a two-semester series, emphasis is placed on relating physics to the everyday world. You will explore the concepts involved with motion in one- and two-dimensions, forces, work and energy, momentum and collisions, circular motion and gravitation. You will recognize the importance of the laws of thermodynamics. Approximately 40 percent of the course involves virtual laboratory investigations. Some activities will require ordinary household items such as rulers, meter sticks, balls or marbles, string, paper, and pencils. Physics A focuses on understanding motion. You will learn kinematic equations and apply them to various situations. Explorations of force, work, and energy will be applied to the special case of circular motion. Heat and the laws of thermodynamics are also covered.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra II A&B*

## Physics B [CIS]

How are the characteristics and behavior of waves related to light and sound? In Physics B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will explore different types of waves to answer these questions and relate physics to the everyday world. You will also examine the relationship between electricity and magnetism before moving on to a basic study of atomic physics. Approximately 40 percent of the course involves virtual laboratory investigations. Some activities will require ordinary household items such as rulers, meter sticks, balls or marbles, string, paper, and pencils.

*Pre-requisites: Algebra II A&B, Physics A*

## American History A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Unity, conflict, and growth are three concepts that have played a significant role in the history of the United States. During the age of the American Revolution, it was clear that only unity could strengthen the colonies in their fight against England. Later, during the conflict of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln and other leaders understood that the same unity must be preserved for the U.S. to survive as a nation. American History A, the first in a two-semester series, allows you to travel through time to these eras in history. After studying these two periods, you will move on to the Reconstruction of the South after the Civil War and trace the development of the United States as the country grew in size, wealth, and power.

## American History B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

An individual's history is much like the history of a country. Some experiences stick out in your memory more than others, and a handful of events in your life have an impact on your entire future. Each country has a life story as well—it's just a lot longer than each of ours. In American History B, the second course of a two-semester series, you will learn about the most impactful events in the history of the United States from World War I to the present. These events include World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, and changes in the new millennium.

*Pre-requisite: American History A*

## Economics [D] [P&C] [CIS]

How much are you willing to pay for a toothbrush? Why would one toothbrush cost \$1.29 while a similar one costs \$3.19? In Economics, a one-semester course, you will study how resources are produced, consumed, and exchanged. The course presents a broad view of how money affects people's daily lives by outlining the relationships among companies, customers, governments, and multinational organizations. The course also introduces micro- and macroeconomics, which explain how prices are set and how people make decisions about buying and selling resources. Key topics include the law of supply and demand, saving, borrowing and spending, the Federal Reserve System, and the role of government in an open market economy. By taking this course, you will learn how to make financial decisions, start a company, and even buy a toothbrush.

## Honors U.S. Government [P&C] [CIS]

Why would a government official stand before the U.S. Senate and read from a phone book? Senators sometimes prolong speeches to prevent a vote on a particular bill. This tactic is called a filibuster, which is from a Dutch word meaning “pirate.” The senator is required to stay on topic for the first three hours but can speak about anything for the remainder of the speech, including reading from a phone book. U.S. Government, a one-semester course, details many interesting components of the history, principles, and institutions of the U.S. government. You will also be introduced to many forms of government and explore the governments of other countries. The course provides an overview of our nation’s beginnings and the establishment of our constitutional government. By the end of the course, you will understand how the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government operate. You will also understand the processes and motivations for political participation. In addition, the course explores the effects of media on the government. Several critical thinking and reflection activities designed to strengthen your analytical skills are provided.

## U.S. Government [D] [P&C] [CIS]

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## U.S. Law and Politics [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Treason is the only crime specifically defined in the U.S. Constitution. Why did the Constitution’s framers think it was so important to define it? In U.S. Law and Politics, a one-semester course, you will learn the answer. This course begins by discussing types of courts and laws, including property law, school law, juvenile law, and even laws about automobiles. You will also learn about the judicial branch of government, public opinion and political behavior, political parties and interest groups, the electoral process, and the executive branch of government. Most Americans will vote in an election or participate in a court trial at some point in their lives. This course will help you become a responsible, well-informed U.S. citizen.

## World Geography A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Wouldn’t you love to travel the world? To explore different cultures, learn about people’s histories, take in the ever-changing scenery? In World Geography A, the first course in a two-semester series, you will get to do just that. You will start by learning about the five themes of geography (location, place, human-environmental interaction, movement, and region) in an effort to understand the meaning of geography and why it’s important. The themes of geography will then guide your exploration of each region: North America, Central America, South America, and Western Europe. You will examine the differences and similarities of each region to gain a geographical perspective of each.

## World Geography B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Geography isn’t just about identifying countries on a map and being able to describe features of different regions. Studying geography teaches you to think critically, look at situations with an open mind, and communicate clearly. In World Geography B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will start by learning about the five themes of geography (location, place, human-environmental interaction, movement, and region) in an effort to understand the meaning of geography and why it’s important. The themes of geography will then guide your exploration of each region: Eastern Europe and Russia, East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Cultures, Africa, and India and the Middle East. You will examine the differences and similarities of each region to gain a geographical perspective of each.

*Pre-requisite: World Geography A*

# Electives

## World History A [D] [P&C] [CIS]

Taking the time to investigate the past helps us understand who we are as individual people, as cultures, as nations, and as a world. Having this understanding of where we came from and how we came to be what we are today helps us make smarter decisions regarding our lifestyle and relationships. World History A, the first course in a two-semester series, examines the Middle Ages, European Renaissance, absolutism, the Enlightenment, nationalism, and reform. In this course, you will explore impact of European exploration and colonization, how it opened up trade and slavery, caused the rise and fall of various nations, and resulted in countless wars. You will learn to recognize the connection between revolution and reform in a variety of situations across the globe. You will identify the effect of industrialization and urbanization on the global economy. You will then use this information to make connections between historical events, contemporary situations, and future generations to emphasize the importance of understanding and appreciating our past.

## World History B [D] [P&C] [CIS]

What has happened in our past—even somewhere on the other side of the world—has had an effect on your everyday life. Subsequently, the global events of today will affect generations to come. An ideal example of a global event that has had lasting effect on the world is World War I. As a result of this global conflict, advances were made in medicine, aviation, and transportation. World History B, the second course in a two-semester series, takes you on a journey through World War I and World War II. The course explains how these conflicts advanced technology and shaped the world economically. The course moves on to explore the Cold War and its connection to the post-imperial world, as well as the contemporary period. Throughout the course, you will learn about stints of industrialization and urbanization that have occurred all over the world and how they affected the growth and economy of various countries. Your study of world history will allow you to predict the effects various events will have on future generations.

*Pre-requisite: World History A*

## Alternative Credit Electives

### Job Skills and Experience A [P&C] [CIS]

You've probably been asked what kind of job you would like to get when you graduate. This is important to consider since it helps you determine which high school subjects to focus on and helps you create a plan for a career after high school. However, general job skills will be crucial to any future employment, and you can learn and apply them to the job you have right now. Job Skills and Experience A, the first course in a two-semester series, provides the ultimate authentic learning experience. It encourages you to apply newly-learned job skills to your real job in real time. Designed for working students, this course offers you a way to receive high school elective credit for working by demonstrating the application of certain job skills through regular quizzes and reflective essays. You will be encouraged to develop career goals and skills that can be implemented in your working life, such as communication, public speaking, and problem solving. This course requires you to work in a part- or full-time job or internship for a minimum of 10 hours per week for 12 weeks.

### Job Skills and Experience B [P&C] [CIS]

Are you a working student? Would you like to learn new skills that will make you better at your job? Job Skills and Experience B, the second course in a two-semester series, provides the ultimate authentic learning experience. It encourages you to apply newly-learned job skills to your real job in real time. Designed for working students, this course offers a way for you to receive high school elective credit for working by demonstrating the application of certain job skills through regular quizzes and reflective essays. You will be encouraged to develop career goals and skills that can be implemented in your working life, such as leadership, project management, time management, and stress management. This course requires you to work in a part- or full-time job or internship for a minimum of 10 hours per week for 12 weeks.

*Pre-requisite: Job Skills and Experience A*

### Service Learning Project I A [P&C] [CIS]

There are people in need everywhere you look. Even in your own community, there are people who could use your help. Service Learning Project I A, a one-semester course, gives you the opportunity to identify the needs of your community and explore ways that you can respond to those needs. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or other service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

### Service Learning Project I B [P&C] [CIS]

The Service Learning Project I B course reviews the importance of serving your community and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from Service Learning Project I A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

### Service Learning Project II A [P&C] [CIS]

Service Learning Project II A, a one-semester course, gives you the opportunity to identify the needs of your community and explore ways that you can respond to those needs. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

### Service Learning Project II B [P&C] [CIS]

The Service Learning Project II B course reviews the importance of serving your community and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from Service Learning Project II A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

### Service Learning Project III A [P&C] [CIS]

Service Learning Project III A, a one-semester course, gives you the opportunity to identify the needs of your community and explore ways that you can respond to those needs. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.



### Service Learning Project III B [P&C] [CIS]

The Service Learning Project III B course reviews the importance of serving your community and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from Service Learning Project III A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

### Service Learning Project IV A [P&C] [CIS]

Service Learning Project IV A, a one-semester course, gives you the opportunity to identify the needs of your community and explore ways that you can respond to those needs. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

### Service Learning Project IV B [P&C] [CIS]

The Service Learning Project IV B course reviews the importance of serving your community and offers you the choice of continuing your service learning project from Service Learning Project IV A or participating in a new community service activity of your choice. You will choose an issue that you'd like to address, justify the need for action, and support the issue as a true concern as you create a project plan. You will participate in 40 hours of community service, volunteer work, or another service learning activity of your choice over 14 weeks in order to address the needs you identified. Finally, you will reflect on your experiences and write a paper reporting your results. In this course, you will gain skills in research, project planning, problem-solving, and communication.

## Career Technical Education Electives

### Career and Technology Skills A [P&C] [CIS]

We all have talents and aptitudes that we can develop to prepare for our future. In other classes you learn about a variety of subjects; in Career and Technology Skills, you will explore your interests and skills, along with your individual learning style in order to find possible career matches. Career and Technology Skills A is the first of a two-semester series that covers skills to prepare you for workplace success. As you consider your own values and expectations, you will learn to set goals and plan to achieve those goals. You will explore a variety of career options, discuss opportunities for achieving career goals, and learn to work through a decision-making process to develop your own career plan. You will prepare to enter the work force by creating and evaluating job application materials, learning to search for job opportunities, and conducting a practice job interview. This course also presents basic technology skills that are vital to workplace success—including the use of word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, and database software. Finally, this course discusses the role of government in business; global, national, and local economic trends; and how these factors affect working people.

### Career and Technology Skills B [P&C] [CIS]

Do you want to be a valued employee one day? Most employers will agree that success in the workplace requires more than mastery of one or two job-specific skills. Your employer will expect that you communicate clearly and take responsibility for understanding your job. Career and Technology Skills B is the second course of a two-semester series that covers the problem-solving, decision-making, and communication skills necessary to succeed in the workplace. You will learn about workplace policies and procedures, growth and promotion opportunities, and the social and technological systems of any business. You will also learn about the legal and ethical issues related to your personal rights as an employee. This course explains effective leadership skills and provides examples of critical assessment, evaluation, and negotiation. As you prepare presentations and communications scenarios for different purposes and audiences, you will employ a variety of technology and research skills. You will learn to plan a project and respond to problems and risks. Lastly, you will learn time management techniques, financial responsibility, and methods of dealing with stress.

*Pre-requisite: Career and Technology Skills A*

## Computer Literacy A [P&C] [CIS]

Most children can read and write for a while before they are literate. Once they learn to put their skills to work, though, they acquire literacy. It's the same thing with computer literacy. You may know how to do some things on the computer—but to be computer literate, you have to make those skills work for you. That's what you will learn in Computer Literacy A, a one-semester course. You will develop your overall understanding of computers and enhance your technical skills in both basic computer functions and in the use of various types of software. After completing this course, you will be able to recognize computer hardware and use Windows XP and Mac OS operating systems. You will learn to use various software applications (word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software), which are based on Open Office programs unless otherwise noted. You will also learn to navigate the Internet and use e-mail and FTP. When studying word processing software, you will write a letter and format documents, create tables and charts, and use other advanced tools. You will learn how to format and use the basic tools and formulas of spreadsheet software. You will also create an animated, interactive project using presentation software.

## Computer Literacy B [P&C] [CIS]

With a solid background of software and hardware skills, you are ready to tackle advanced computer applications. This one-semester course builds on basic computer skills to teach you real-world problem-solving methods. After quickly reviewing the basics from Computer Literacy A, you will continue to develop your understanding of key issues in computing technology. Your study of spreadsheets will deepen with lessons on how to format chart and graphs, use formulas and functions, and create pivot tables and pivot charts. You will learn how to manage data using a database, including tables, forms, and queries and reports. You will learn the layout, interface design, and navigation required to develop content on the web. The course ends with a unit covering careers in technology.

*Pre-requisite: Computer Literacy A*

## Fundamentals of Web Development [P&C] [CIS]

What do experienced web designers know in order to create engaging pages? There's more to creating a website than writing HTML code and uploading files. A good website must be designed before it can be created. This one-semester Fundamentals of Web Development course introduces you to both website design and development. The course presents the basic website design principles. Topics include analyzing your audience, navigation, introduction to JavaScript, and editing images. You will apply these principles to design and evaluate your own site and the sites of others. You will learn development languages such as HTML and CSS. In addition, you will discover two software programs: GIMP for image editing and Nvu for web development. Throughout the course, you will complete homework assignments, papers, and projects that allow you to apply the skills you've learned.

*Recommended pre-requisites: Computer Literacy A&B*

## General Studies Electives

### Academic Skills [P&C] [CIS]

If you want to learn to play guitar, you must learn chords and scales and put in a lot of time practicing. If you are interested in painting, you should learn color schemes and brushstroke techniques and practice often. Similarly, if you want to be a better learner, you should study techniques and methods to help you reach this goal. In Academic Skills, a one-semester course, you will learn how to study, identify and use your learning style, manage time, organize new information, research and write about your findings, and use effective test-taking skills. These techniques are not only useful in high school and college but will also help you learn things throughout your life, especially work skills or hobbies. Of course, just like learning guitar or beginning to paint, you will need to practice these techniques often to become a better learner.

### Creative Writing [P&PC] [PCIS]

For many hundreds of years, literature has been one of the most important human art forms. It allows us to give voice to our emotions, create imaginary worlds, express ideas, and escape the confines of material reality. Through creative writing, we can come to understand ourselves and our world a little bit better. This one-semester course provides you with a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry. By the end of this course, you will learn how to discover your creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.

## Financial Literacy [P&C] [CIS]

The key to a happy, successful life is to make a lot of money, right? Not really. No matter how much money you have, you still need the skills to use the money in your life responsibly and meaningfully. This one-semester course in financial literacy serves to give you an appreciation and respect for money. Too often, young adults begin their financial careers in disarray due to a lack of understanding of the short- and long-term effects of financial decisions. As these young people grow into adults, they don't have a strong foundation on which to build their financial futures. This course introduces you to the importance of money and the decisions made with regard to it. The topics in this course include defining wealth, using decision-making and goal-setting skills, the benefits and costs of employment, how to read your paycheck, how to manage and spend money, and how to save and invest money.

## Fundamentals of English Composition [P&C] [CIS]

We've all been there. An empty page in front of us, the deadline for our three-page essay looming. Writing can be hard, but it's an essential skill for life—even after you've finished school. As a beginning writer, you will gain the tools you need to write effectively for school and life in Fundamentals of English Composition. In this one-semester course, you will explore not only how to write, but why. All writing serves a purpose. This course defines the characteristics of effective writing, identifies different purposes for writing, and teaches you strategies for achieving those purposes. The course also provides in-depth instruction on the writing process, focusing on prewriting and revision. In the last part of the course, you will evaluate your own work by looking at it through the eyes of a reader. When you finish the course, you will have written an analytical essay, a persuasive cover letter, and a personal narrative; you will also have been exposed to peer review practices and guidelines for accepting and offering constructive criticism.

## Introduction to Gothic Literature [P&PC] [PCIS]

From vampires to ghosts, these frightening stories have influenced fiction writers since the 18th century. This one-semester course will focus on the major themes found in Gothic literature and demonstrate how the core writing drivers produce, for the reader, a thrilling psychological environment. Terror versus horror, the influence of the supernatural, and descriptions of the difference between good and evil are just a few of the themes presented. By the time you have completed this course, they will have gained an understanding of and an appreciation for the complex nature of dark fiction.

## Introduction to Grammar and Composition [P&C] [CIS]

Before you can learn to write, you have to master the art of composing sentences and using the correct words. If you struggle with language and grammatical rules get in the way of your ability to write, Introduction to Grammar and Composition will be a great course for you. This one-semester course focuses on using words and sentences correctly while keeping the goal of your writing in mind. This course shows you how words, sentences, paragraphs, and essays help writers express their thoughts. You will be given tools to understand and apply language and writing skills from the ground up. You will learn about the writing process and practice your skills through a variety of writing exercises. The goal of this course is to give you the confidence and skills you need to write a polished essay.

## Introduction to Mythology and Folklore [P&PC] [PCIS]

Caught between a rock and a hard place, a Herculean effort, an Achilles heel. These phrases show that our language still echoes the stories from mythology and folklore. Since the first people gathered around fires, humans have told stories to entertain, instruct, and make sense of the world. Mythology and Folklore, a one-semester elective course, provides an overview of ancient mythology and various kinds of folklore. This course takes you on a journey with ancient heroes as they slay dragons and outwit gods. You will follow fearless warrior women into battle and watch as clever monsters conquer enemies stronger than themselves. You will explore the universality and social significance of myths and folklore and see how these ideas are still used to shape society today.

## Introduction to Sociology [P&PC] [PCIS]

Have you ever been frustrated by a problem in your community and wondered why it hasn't been fixed? Studying sociology may help you find out why that is and offer ideas for how you can make a difference. Introduction to Sociology is a one-semester course that examines problems in society and how these problems intersect with your life. After a brief overview of what sociology is and how the field was founded, you will explore the various ways the Internet is changing human involvement in social groups. The ways that you interact with your friends and schoolmates today—via texting, social networking, and email—is very different from the way your parents communicated with their friends 30 years ago. In this course, you will also consider topics such as deviant behavior, social control, crime, slavery, castes, and social classes. You will delve into questions of race and ethnicity, as well as gender and the issues associated with it.



### Journalism A [P&C] [CIS]

In 2008, research conducted for the Newspaper Association of America found that student journalists earn better high school grades, perform at higher levels on college entrance exams, and receive higher grades in college writing and grammar courses than students who lack that experience. Journalism A is the first semester of a two-semester introduction to journalism. As a student journalist, you will ask probing questions, write in a clear and engaging style, and meet deadlines—all of which are important skills not only for journalists, but also for high school and college students. You will appreciate the history of journalism in the United States and realize its importance to an engaged and informed citizenship. You will differentiate among the different kinds of stories in a newspaper, magazine, or online publication and gain experience in creating stories of your own. Basic writing skills such as paragraph development and good mechanics are a pre-requisite.

### Journalism B [P&C] [CIS]

Does anyone even read print newspapers anymore? In today's world, people are more and more turning to mass media outlets such as cable television news programs, online newspapers, and blogs for their information updates. Journalism B, the second course in a two-semester series, concentrates on non-traditional media after a short overview of newspapers and magazines. When you take Journalism B, you will consider the changing role of journalism and gain skills in conducting traditional jobs of journalists in more non-traditional ways. For example, you will conduct email interviews. You will write a blog. You will create an "advertorial," a hybrid of an ad and an editorial. Because the role of journalists in today's society is a more complicated one than in the past, you will focus on ethical issues such as accuracy and objectivity. Taking Journalism B will help you practice and hone your observation and writing skills that are applicable to all your other subjects, as well as research and report on subjects that interest you. Basic writing skills such as paragraph development and good mechanics are a pre-requisite.

*Pre-requisite: Journalism A*

### Life Skills [P&C] [CIS]

No matter what you do, there is an essential set of skills that will help you to be successful in life's basic pursuits. Whether your future holds a college experience, technical school, the military, or a full-time career, Life Skills—a beginning-level, one-semester course—will teach you the basic skills needed for life after high school. In addition to providing strategies for taking the ACT and SAT tests, this course will provide an informative timeline to help you stay on schedule with required tasks for graduating from high school and entering the outside world. This course will also cover important topics such as consumer protection, establishing credit, managing money, buying a car, and renting an apartment for the first time.

### Speech and Debate [CIS]

In this course, the student will learn how to apply visuals, style, stories, organization, and nonverbal communication to speeches. The student will learn tactics to help overcome fear, participate in debates, and rehearse effectively. The student will also learn how to evaluate great speeches from history as well as more modern media messages. This Speech and Debate course was developed by Connections Academy with content and video excerpts provided by TJ Walker, Media Training Worldwide. Connections Academy's use of all content, including any video excerpts, is for educational purposes only, and specifically, for purposes of review, criticism, illustration or comment. All images, names, logos, and depictions belong to their respective parties.

## Health & PE Electives

### Foundations of Physical Education A [P&C] [CIS]

If you've ever started a fitness project, you might have wondered how long it takes to establish good habits and see results. Adjusting to a new, healthy routine can be a challenge, but if you dedicate yourself to following it every day, you will soon see significant results. In Foundations of Physical Education A, you will study how to design, maintain, and build a fitness routine. The course discusses the proper form for different types of exercise, including aerobic conditioning, strength training, and flexibility. You will focus on setting goals and managing your time to meet those goals. You will also learn about how exercise helps your mental and physical well-being. The course topics will help you understand the importance and meaning of true physical fitness and apply different methods for achieving healthy weight, bones, and muscles. Fitness tests and logs allow you to determine your baseline fitness level and track your progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. Most of your grade will come from completing fitness logs, but you will also take unit tests and complete a final exam. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of six weeks.

### Foundations of Physical Education B [P&C] [CIS]

The Latin motto “mens sana in corpore sano” expresses the main goal for physical education. It means that we should strive for a sound mind in a sound body. In Foundations of Physical Education B, a one-semester course, you will gain the knowledge to establish the foundations of good health. You will design, maintain, and build on your own fitness routine. You will learn strategies for goal setting and anticipate life goals and changes, incorporating ways to meet fitness priorities. You will also learn about the importance of nutrition by evaluating your eating and planning healthy meals. You will observe your physical performances and revise your nutrition plans to meet fitness goals. The course presents ways to benefit from team sports and be a valuable team player. Discussion of cycling, track and field, and gymnastics will help you understand and apply different methods for achieving healthy weight, bones, and muscles. Fitness tests and logs allow you to understand your baseline fitness levels and track progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of six weeks.

### Personal Health and Safety [P&C] [CIS]

When you think about your health, you probably think of things like the food you eat, your weight, and whether you are currently sick or injured. However, a lot more goes into determining your level of health than just those things. Your health includes not just your physical well-being, but also how you are doing mentally and socially. Personal Health and Safety is an introductory, one-semester course that examines these three aspects of health—mental, physical, and social—in order to help you live a healthy, informed, and balanced life. Mental health topics include self-esteem, stress reduction, and depression. This course also covers the social health topics of conflict management and communication skills. You will be equipped with ways to resist peer pressure when faced with unhealthy and destructive behaviors, including smoking, drinking alcohol, and drug abuse. You will also review the physical aspects health: wellness, exercise, first aid, and healthy habits.

### Personal Health and Safety with Sex Education [P&C] [CIS]

Being healthy is not just about eating right and exercising—although those are important to your health, too. Your health includes your physical well-being as well as your mental and social welfare. Personal Health and Safety is an introductory, one-semester course that examines three aspects of health—mental, physical, and social—in order to help you live a healthy, informed, and balanced life. Mental health topics include self-esteem, stress reduction, and depression. The course covers the social health topics of conflict management and communication skills. You will be equipped with ways to resist peer pressure when faced with unhealthy and destructive behaviors, including smoking, drinking alcohol, and drug abuse. The course also reviews the physical aspects health: wellness, exercise, first aid, and healthy habits. In addition, this course conveys the risks of sexual activity, including unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. It also presents options for eliminating these risks. As part of this discussion, the course includes an overview of infectious and noninfectious diseases, how they affect the body, and how they can be prevented.

### Physical Education I A [P&C] [CIS]

We all know that exercise makes you feel better. It gives you more energy and makes you stronger. However, exercise benefits more than just the body. It improves your self-esteem and helps you manage stress. It releases endorphins, which create a feeling of happiness and euphoria. Physical Education I A is a one-semester course that introduces topics to help you understand the importance and meaning of true physical fitness. You will learn how to apply different approaches to help you achieve a healthy weight and keep your bones and muscles strong. At the beginning of the course, your lessons will focus on providing you with the tools and knowledge you need to design, maintain, and build a fitness routine. To support your fitness routine and safety, you will learn about the proper exercise techniques for aerobic conditioning, strength training, and flexibility. The course fitness tests and logs will help determine your baseline fitness level and track your progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. Toward the end of the course, you will receive an overview of several different types of fitness careers, learn how to locate fitness resources in your community, and discover the social, mental, and physical benefits of exercise. Most of your grade will come from assignments and logs that track your exercise activity, but you will also complete unit tests and a final exam. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of 16 weeks.

### Physical Education I B [P&C] [CIS]

What does it mean to be physically fit? Generally, people think about going to the gym or attending a workout class, but being fit also includes eating nutritional foods, maintaining a healthy weight, and keeping your bones and muscles strong. Physical Education I B is a one-semester course that helps you understand your baseline fitness level, track your progress as you improve your physical fitness, and recognize the tools and knowledge that you will need to design, maintain, and build your own fitness routine. You will complete a series of activity logs and learn about how to prevent injuries while you perform the exercises. This course presents information about cycling, gymnastics, and track and field to provide you with different exercise options. In addition to completing fitness logs, you will learn about the importance of nutrition by evaluating your current eating habits, planning healthy meals, and keeping nutritional logs. Most of your grade will consist of fitness tests and logs, but you will also complete unit tests and a final exam. These activities are designed to teach you how to value physical fitness and health throughout your life to keep you strong and healthy. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of 16 weeks.

### Physical Education II A [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that strength training and flexibility should be included in your exercise program? To participate in a balanced exercise routine, you should perform cardio exercises such as running and aerobics, but you also need to work on your flexibility and strengthen your muscles. Many fitness experts recommend a balanced approach to exercise, which includes cardio, stretching, and strength training. Physical Education II A is a one-semester course that aims to provide you with the tools and knowledge you need to design, maintain, and build a balanced fitness routine. The course discusses the proper form for different types of exercise, including aerobic conditioning, strength training, and flexibility, along with general safety guidelines for working out. These topics will help you understand the importance and meaning of true physical fitness and apply different methods for achieving healthy weight, bones, and muscles. Fitness tests and logs allow you to determine your baseline fitness level and track your progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. Most of your grade will come from completing fitness logs, but you will also participate in chat sessions, take unit tests, and complete a final exam. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of 16 weeks.

### Physical Education II B [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever gone snow skiing or snowboarding, or gone to the lake with your family to water ski? Winter and water activities are a fun way to be physically active outside in both winter and summer. This course introduces you to a variety of exercises to help broaden your exercise horizon. It also presents ways to benefit from team sports and how to be a valuable team player. Physical Education II B is a one-semester course that provides you with the tools and knowledge you need to design, maintain, and build on your own fitness routine. The course discusses proper form for different types of exercise, along with general safety guidelines for working out. You will learn about the importance of nutrition by evaluating personal eating habits and planning healthy meals. Most of your grade will come from fitness tests and logs, but you will also develop your own fitness plan and participate in chat sessions. All of the activities and assignments will help you understand your baseline fitness level and help you track progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of 16 weeks.

### Physical Education III A [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever worked out one day and the next day your muscles feel sore? Feeling sore after a workout usually means that you changed the intensity or did an activity you are not used to doing during your exercise routine. One of the topics you will learn about in this course is exercise safety so you can avoid injuries before, during, and after your workout. Physical Education III A is a one-semester course that provides you with the tools and knowledge you need to design, maintain, and build a fitness routine. The course discusses the proper form for different types of exercise, including aerobic conditioning, strength training, and flexibility. It also provides instructions for goal setting and time management. You will also learn about how exercise helps your mental and physical well-being. The course topics will help you understand the importance and meaning of true physical fitness and apply different methods for achieving healthy weight, bones, and muscles. Fitness tests and logs allow you to determine your baseline fitness level and track your progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. Most of your grade will come from completing fitness logs, but you will also take unit tests and complete a final exam. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of 16 weeks.

### Physical Education III B [P&C] [CIS]

Do you know what it means to be a team player? Have you encountered stressful situations playing team sports where you wished you knew how to handle the situation? This course focuses on fitness and nutritional concepts and introduces you to different coaching styles and presents information about reasonable and unreasonable expectations in team relationships. Physical Education III B is a one-semester course that provides students with the tools and knowledge they need to design, maintain, and build on their own fitness routine. In addition to creating an individualized fitness plan, you will be introduced to techniques for losing, gaining, and maintaining a healthy weight. Lessons introducing stretching techniques and balancing exercises will help you create a balanced fitness plan that includes more than just playing sports or visiting the gym. The course discusses proper form for different types of exercise, along with general safety guidelines for working out. You will learn about the importance of nutrition by evaluating your eating habits, planning healthy meals, and completing nutritional logs. Fitness tests and logs allow you to understand your baseline fitness level and track progress as you improve in all areas of physical fitness. Most of your grade will come from assignments, activities, and completing fitness logs, but you will also write a paper about the benefits of nutrition as it relates to performance. This course requires a minimum enrollment term of 16 weeks.

### Running [P&PC] [PCIS]

You already know that running is a great way to stay in shape, but did you also know that it helps your body in other ways? Running can increase your confidence level, boost your immune system, relieve stress, and lower your risk for disease. This one-semester course is suitable for beginning, intermediate, and advanced runners and offers a variety of training schedules for each. At the beginning of the course, you will learn about setting goals, staying motivated, different levels of training, and the mechanics of running. Later in the course, you will study safety and injury prevention. Since running is often an outside activity, you will learn about choosing appropriate attire and explore guidelines for running in different weather conditions. In addition to reviewing the fundamental principles of fitness, you will also learn how to stay healthy by viewing guidelines for good nutrition, hydration, and how to engage in an effective cross-training program. While this course focuses mainly on running for fun and fitness, it also briefly explores the realm of competitive racing. Throughout this course, you will participate in a weekly fitness program that involves running. You will also be expected to record your weekly activities and heart rate. Coupled with a minimum requirement of physical activity, which includes cardio, strength training, and flexibility, the course provides opportunities for you to complete written assignments, journal entries, and team huddle discussions. This course provides activities to cover a minimum of 120 days.



## Social Sciences & Humanities Electives

### Current Events [P&C] [CIS]

How can you discuss the important issues of our day in a meaningful way? Current Events is an introductory, one-semester, elective course structured to increase your understanding of current issues in areas of politics, society, and economics. This course emphasizes research, and the topics you will encounter are broad in nature to allow for fluctuation in media coverage on common topics. You will engage in discussion of issues with your peers, including long-standing, complex issues of debate in our country such as capital punishment, genetic engineering, censorship, prayer in schools, gun control, affirmative action, immigration, and global warming. You will express your viewpoints on these subjects using the text of your research to support your statements. Upon completing this course, you will have a greater understanding of some of the political, social, and economic issues that have dominated the news in recent years. You will distinguish between objective and subjective thought in your thinking and sources' reasoning and will learn to make educated decisions as to whether the sources present biased or unbiased coverage. For each content unit, you will write essays that demonstrate your research efforts, integrating current viewpoints with the background conversation about issues. Basic writing skills such as paragraph development and good mechanics are a pre-requisite.

### Fundamentals of Art [P&C] [CIS]

What words can you use to describe the parts that make up great art? What terms do artists apply to their creations in order to achieve intended results? Fundamentals of Art, an entry-level, one-semester course, introduces you to the theory and practice of art. You will begin your study with intensive vocabulary application of the terms of art to help you critically and insightfully discuss—and eventually write about—art. This course discusses and demonstrates the elements (line, color, shape/form, space, value, and texture) and principles of art (balance, harmony, unity, emphasis, repetition, rhythm, contrast, and composition) through the incorporation of famous works of art, as well as with the use of interactive graphics and activities. You will study classic representations of art that demonstrate particular elements and principles, such as paintings by Pissarro, da Vinci, Cimabue, Manet, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Renoir, and Monet. This course focuses on teaching you to analyze works of art rather than create art. Before enrolling in this course, you should have basic skills in analysis and writing about subjects using evidence to support your ideas.

### Fundamentals of Art Appreciation [P&C] [CIS]

Fine art doesn't just include paintings. Did you know that graphic art, crafts, and architecture all fall under this category, too? Fundamentals of Art Appreciation is an introductory, one-semester course that explores various aspects of art to encourage you to develop an awareness of, and admiration for, fine art. This course focuses on teaching you to analyze works of art rather than create art. As you begin to examine the elements and principles of art in this course, you will study important works of art selected from various types of media, including painting, sculpture, architecture, printmaking, and photography. The course also explores crafts and graphic design and computer art. You will learn about various types of art media and techniques as you investigate the question of why art is created. This course provides you with a working knowledge of concepts and an enriched vocabulary so that you can become a more informed consumer of art.

### Fundamentals of Art History [P&C] [CIS]

Moments in time and place work to inspire our most treasured works of art. Can you imagine if Goya lived during the violence and revolution of 19th century Spain? How would Daguerre have expressed himself artistically if he had not invented photography? Each artist expresses his unique moment and place in history. Fundamentals of Art History is an introductory, one-semester course designed to develop your understanding and appreciation for the visual arts. This course focuses on teaching you to analyze works of art rather than create art. In this course, you will explore the arts, artists, and their cultures from prehistoric times through the present. You will begin to explore important works of art selected from various types of media, including painting, sculpture, architecture, and photography. As the course presents works of different periods, you will receive the historical and geographic context necessary for gaining a deeper appreciation of the pieces. This course provides you with a working knowledge of concepts and an enriched vocabulary so that you can become a more informed consumer of art.

## Honors Introduction to Graphic Design [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work in a particular industry? Honors Introduction to Graphic Design lets you explore various careers in the field of design through research, interviewing design professionals, and job shadowing while learning how to interpret visual representations and communicate ideas graphically. By learning about design and the careers in this amazing field, you will build a strong foundation in the basic principles of graphic design and the skills necessary to obtain a job in the field. You will apply graphic design principles to communicate your own ideas and information visually as well as interpret visual representations presented to you. You will apply creativity techniques to create innovative and effective design solutions in problem-solving scenarios. You will also learn about the history of design, various design movements that contributed to the field of design today, the role of design in society, and the relationship of design to other facets of society. The course focuses on computer-assisted graphic design, but other types of art are also explored. You will learn to use Inkscape, an image-editing program provided to you, to create several design compositions in the course.

## Honors Psychology [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever considered how you obtained your personality? Where do personality traits come from? What factors or environments cause your personality to change? In Honors Introduction to Psychology, a one-semester course, you will learn about many personality theories that contribute to our understanding of where personality comes from. This course also contains a history of psychology, descriptions of the research methods used in psychology, prominent theories of development, information about learning and memory, and a unit on psychological disorders. This course is intended to provide you with a basic understanding of human personality, cognition, and behavior.

## Independent Art Credit A [P&C] [CIS]

Are you an artist? Are you taking private lessons to improve your skills? Designed for students like you who are actively participating in formal art activities outside of school, such as drawing, painting, or sculpting lessons, Independent Art Credit A, the first course in a two-semester series, offers a way for you to receive high school credit for these activities. For this course, you will assess your artistic ability, set goals for what you would like to learn from your art lessons, and make a plan for achieving those goals. In addition to completing activity logs that show your participation in art lessons or activities for a minimum of 75 hours, you will earn credit through self-assessment, reflective essays, and a final art project.

*Co-requisite: Participation in private art lessons outside of school*

## Independent Art Credit B [P&C] [CIS]

An extension of Independent Art Credit A, this course is designed for students like you who are actively participating in formal art activities, such as drawing, painting, or sculpting lessons. Independent Art Credit B offers a way for you to receive high school credit for these activities. In this course, you will be asked to assess your artistic ability, set goals for what you would like to learn from your art lessons, and make a plan for achieving those goals. In addition to completing activity logs that show your participation in art lessons or activities for a minimum of 75 hours, you will earn credit through self-assessment, reflective essays, and a final art project.

*Co-requisite: Participation in private art lessons outside of school*  
*Pre-requisite: Independent Art Credit A*

## Independent Music Credit A [P&C] [CIS]

Do you take personal music lessons from a teacher or mentor or participate in choir, band, or another musical group activity? Independent Music Credit A is the first course in a two-semester series that offers you high school elective credit for participating in extracurricular music instruction or organizations. In this course, you will be asked to assess your musical ability, set goals for what you'd like to learn from your music lessons, and convey your appraisal and resolutions in a short self-assessment essay. You will also participate in three discussions about various topics in music. In addition, you will keep logs showing a minimum of 75 hours of participation in music lessons and/or activities. At the end of the course, you will write a short reflective essay summarizing how well you met the goals you set at the beginning of the course. The last assignment in the course will be a video of you introducing and performing a piece of music.

*Co-requisite: Participation in private music lessons outside of school*

## Independent Music Credit B [P&C] [CIS]

An extension of Independent Music Credit A, this course is designed for students like you who are actively participating in formal music study by taking personal music lessons from a teacher or mentor or participating in choir, band, or another musical group activity. Independent Music Credit B is the second course in a two-semester series that gives you high school elective credit for participating in extracurricular music instruction or organizations. In this course, you will be asked to assess your musical ability, set goals for what you'd like to learn from your music lessons, and convey your appraisal and resolutions in a short self-assessment essay. You will also participate in three discussions about various topics in music. In addition, you will keep logs showing a minimum of 75 hours of participation in music lessons and/or activities. You will also create and perform your own original musical composition. At the end of the course, you will write a short reflective essay summarizing how well you met the goals you set at the beginning of the course. The last assignment will be a video of you introducing and performing a piece of music.

*Co-requisite: Participation in private music lessons outside of school*

*Pre-requisite: Independent Music Credit A*

## Introduction to Anthropology [P&C] [CIS]

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live during a different time in history? What would it have been like to live as a caveman? How about during the Ice Age or severe droughts and famines? Thanks to archaeologists, forensic scientists, and other experts in anthropology, we know a lot about what our ancestors' lives would have been like—even before written history. Introduction to Anthropology, a beginner-level, one-semester course, focuses on humanity's past, present, and future by exploring the evolution, similarities, and diversity of humankind through time. The course considers how humans evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to a more powerful one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Ultimately, you will be asked to consider the problems humans face in biological, social, and cultural life. Exciting online videos lead you through journeys to different areas of the world throughout the course, giving you insight into other cultures and your own place in the world.

## Introduction to Drawing [P&C] [CIS]

Learning to draw is like learning any new skill: it takes practice, practice, practice. Introduction to Drawing is a one-semester course for beginning and intermediate artists that provides training in the application of artistic processes and skills. In this course, you will learn the basics of line, contour, shading, texture, perspective, composition, and action drawing. You will examine artwork and demonstrate your newly learned skills by creating several original works of art and compiling a portfolio of your artwork.

## Introduction to Graphic Design A [P&C] [CIS]

Can you communicate without using words? Do different colors invoke different emotions? Can you use various textures to communicate a range of ideas? Absolutely! Designed to develop your understanding and appreciation for design, the Introduction to Graphic Design A course teaches you to interpret visual representations and to communicate your own ideas and information graphically. By raising your awareness of design, this intermediate-level course establishes a strong foundation in the basic principles of graphic design. This course, the first in a two-semester series, introduces you to scenarios that can be solved by applying creative techniques that yield innovative and effective design solutions. Though the course is structured around computer-assisted graphic design, you will examine other types of design as well. You will also learn to use Inkscape, an image-editing program that is provided for you, and will create several design compositions using this program.

## Introduction to Graphic Design B [P&C] [CIS]

Understanding the history of any area of study is important to learning about and appreciating where we are today. In Introduction to Graphic Design B, the second course in a two-semester series, you will be introduced to the history of design and how various design movements have contributed to the field of design. You will get answers to questions like “what role does design play in society?” and “how does the field of design relate to other facets of society?” Understanding where the field of design comes from will help you to appreciate the aesthetics and purposes for design today. In addition, this course expands on your foundational knowledge in the basic principles of graphic design. You will learn to communicate visually through effective layout and interface design. You will also be introduced to appropriate techniques for the evaluation of art and design. Though the course is structured around computer-assisted graphic design, you will examine other types of design as well. You will learn to use Inkscape, an image-editing program that is provided for you, and will create several design compositions using this program.

### Introduction to Psychology [P&C] [CIS]

A long-standing debate around whether or not psychology is a true science opens this one-semester elective. Introduction to Psychology challenges you to look closely at the field of psychology and take your own stance in the argument. In this entry-level course, you will explore the research methods employed in psychological study, compare these methods to those used in other branches of science, and discover the reasons for studying human behavior. You will then design and implement your own behavior-modification experiment as you learn about the mechanics behind human learning. The course also delves into specific areas of the field, such as development, memory, and psychological disorders.

### Music Theory A [P&C] [CIS]

Everyone needs a way to unwind—to relieve stress and get their minds of things. Some people exercise; others read; other people play music. Musicians often use music as a release by pouring their emotions into the piece that they are playing. Before you can begin to play music, however, you must learn the language and symbols of this art form. Music Theory A is the first course in a two-semester series of courses designed to develop your visual and aural understanding of the structure of music. You will learn to read and construct various musical elements, including scales, chords, pitch notations, and time signatures. The course also teaches you to understand basic forms in music composition, including the skill of notation. In addition to recognizing these forms visually, you will undergo ear training to help you recognize these elements aurally. This course gives you the foundation skills you need to move toward playing and writing your own music.

### Music Theory B [P&C] [CIS]

If you play music, you know that it allows you to express yourself artistically. But have you ever thought of writing your own music or trying to create your own compositions? Playing your own musical creation is the ultimate artistic expression, but in order to do that, you need to learn the basics of music composition. Music Theory B is the second course in a two-semester series of courses that builds on the skills you learned in Music Theory A. In this course, you will further explore musical elements, including rhythms, chords, scales, key signatures, time signatures, and pitch notations. In addition to recognizing these elements visually, you will undergo ear training to help you recognize them aurally. You will also be briefly introduced to a wide variety of musical composition forms, ranging from plainsong and opera to marches and modern songs. This course culminates with you submitting your very own original piece of music composition.

*Pre-requisite: Music Theory A*

### Real World Parenting [P&PC] [PCIS]

Parenting involves much more than making sure your child eats, sleeps, and gets to school on time. Being a good parent means taking care of the emotional, mental, physical, and developmental well-being of your child. Real World Parenting is a beginner-level, one-semester elective that prepares you for what to expect when becoming a parent. You will learn vital steps to creating the best environment and life for your child. Parenting roles and responsibilities, nurturing and protective environments for children, positive parenting strategies, and effective communication in parent/child relationships are additional topics covered in this course.

### Social Problems A [P&PC] [PCIS]

How can you productively think about and act toward solving long-standing social problems? Social Problems A, the first course of a two-semester series, examines a number of social problems that affect the world and individuals today, including poverty, education, illiteracy, social promotions, health care, AIDS, bioethics, crime, and environmental problems. You will learn more about the challenges facing societies and the relationships between societies, governments, and individuals in these areas. You will learn strategies for thinking about these problems in a productive way that carries the conversation forward toward solutions. You will learn how the media influences and affects our perceptions of social issues. Each unit focuses on a particular area of social concern, often with a global view, and examines possible solutions at both a structural and individual level. You will engage with these issues in a number of ways, from writing about them in a journal, to discussing them with peers and your teacher, to completing quizzes and tests. You will also complete lab activities that tackle real-world issues. Thus, you will learn more about how social problems affect your life, as well as ways you can make a difference in the social problems that exist in your life, community, and world.

## Social Problems B [P&PC] [PCIS]

What social problems filter through our society, touching the lives of people from different economic and cultural backgrounds? Social Problems B, the second course in a two-semester series, continues to examine the social problems that affect individuals and societies in the world today, including youth suicide, consumer culture, homelessness, obesity, data profiling, cults, alcohol and drug abuse, and globalization. You will learn about the overall structure of the social problem, as well as how it impacts your life. You will examine each social problem from a number of angles, such as how the problem has filtered into several areas of society, including different age, income, and geographic demographics. You will engage with these issues in a number of ways, from writing about them in a journal, to discussing them with peers and your teacher, to completing quizzes and tests. You will also complete lab activities that tackle real-world issues. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. You will examine the connections in each issue between societies, individuals, governments, and the global arena.

*Pre-requisite: Social Problems A*

## World Language Electives

### Chinese I A&B [PCIS]

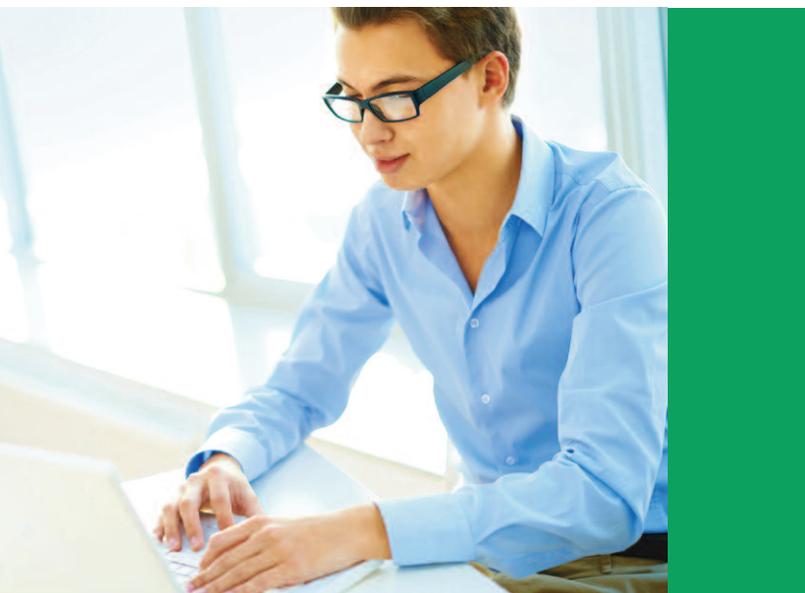
Spoken by one-fifth of the world's population, Mandarin is the dialect of Beijing and the basis for modern standard Chinese. This course emphasizes listening skills, including the mastery of Chinese tones and tonal changes, as well as vocabulary and grammar skills. Students also begin to identify and write Chinese characters.

### Chinese II A&B [PCIS]

This course enables students to further develop the skills of listening to, speaking, reading, and writing Mandarin Chinese at a more advanced level. As they are immersed in Chinese culture, students expand their vocabulary, practice interacting with others, and learn the use of appropriate terms to communicate in various everyday situations.

### Foundations of Spanish I A [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that in 2012, more than 38 million people in America claimed that Spanish was the primary language they spoke at home? As a matter of fact, Spanish is the second-most common language in the United States. Learning to speak Spanish yourself can serve as a huge benefit in allowing you to communicate more effectively with your peers. Before you can learn to speak Spanish, however, you must learn the basics. When you first learned how to speak English, you started by learning letters of the alphabet. The same goes for learning Spanish. Foundations of Spanish I A, the first in a four-semester series of foundation-level courses, will begin by teaching you the special character accents for the vowels used in Spanish—a, e, i, o, and u. The course continues by introducing you to key vocabulary words and sentence structure. This basic information will help you to begin speaking the Spanish language. Later in the course, you will learn how to conjugate verbs and learn the Spanish words for time, dates, seasons, and months. You will have a variety of opportunities to practice your new vocabulary skills through reading, flip-card activities, and playing online games. Most of your grade will come from completing assignments and tests, but you will also write a research paper about three great Spanish civilizations.



### Foundations of Spanish I B [P&C] [CIS]

Did you know that learning a new language changes the way you think, boosts your creativity, and makes you a better listener? This is a great reason to continue your study of the Spanish language. Foundations of Spanish I B is the second course of a four-semester series of foundation-level courses. This course will continue to build upon the fundamentals of the Spanish language—starting with basic vocabulary, grammar, verb conjugation, sentence structure, and noun/adjective agreement. In this course, you will begin to identify key vocabulary words, understand sentence structure, and begin to speak the Spanish language. You will be provided with a variety of opportunities to practice your new vocabulary through reading, games, and oral communication. Most of your grade will come from completing assignments, but you will also write papers, view instructional videos, and complete unit tests.

*Pre-requisite: Foundations of Spanish I A*

### Foundations of Spanish II A [P&C] [CIS]

You know some Spanish vocabulary words and a little grammar, but in order to communicate effectively in Spanish, you will need to expand your knowledge of the language and its usage. Foundations of Spanish II A, the third course in a four-semester series, begins by reviewing what you learned in Foundations of Spanish I. In this course, you will learn how to use pronouns, how to conjugate verbs, and how to use other advanced grammar concepts. You will explore educational videos and practice new skills by reading and playing interactive games. As you complete your course study, your ability to communicate in Spanish will improve, and you will have more opportunities to translate English words into Spanish. Most of your grade will come from unit assignments and tests, but you will also write papers and complete midterm and final exams.

*Pre-requisites: Foundations of Spanish I A&B*

### Foundations of Spanish II B [P&C] [CIS]

Hola, ¿le gustaría ampliar sus conocimientos de español? You probably recognize the first word in this paragraph, but what about the next sentence? Foundations of Spanish II B, the fourth course in a four-semester series, will expand your grasp of Spanish vocabulary, grammar usage, and sentence structure. In this course, you will learn new verb tenses, new ways to show possession, and additional writing and speaking skills. You will begin to see rapid improvement in your ability to communicate in Spanish, both verbally and in writing. This course presents a variety of practice activities to help you learn and build your language skills. Most of your grade will come from completing assignments, but you will also write papers and watch educational videos.

*Pre-requisite: Foundations of Spanish II A*

### French I A&B [PCIS]

This course introduces students to basic vocabulary and grammar. Lessons and assignments focus on simple speaking and reading, comprehension, and composition. Students also study the history and culture of French-speaking peoples around the world.

### French II A&B [PCIS]

Students are exposed to more complex reading, writing, and listening coursework. They explore advanced grammatical structure and apply vocabulary and word usage to various situations.

### French III A&B [PCIS]

This course is designed for students with strong listening and speaking skills plus a solid vocabulary base. The focus is on verb conjugation, direct and indirect object pronouns, and tenses. Students also improve their writing and speaking skills as they study the culture, art, and governments of French-speaking countries.

### German I A&B [PCIS]

Students use discussions and other activities to learn how to speak, read, write, and understand basic German. Simple grammar, punctuation, and spelling are reinforced with interactive lessons, games, and activities. Students also study German culture and history, as well as the influence of the German language.

### German II A&B [PCIS]

In this course, students are introduced to increasingly complex vocabulary and grammar. There is more emphasis on improving spoken communication and listening comprehension.

### Latin I A&B [PCIS]

Students gain a foundation in Latin grammar and vocabulary as well as an appreciation and understanding of the Roman culture as the foundation for much of Western culture. Through the study of Latin, students will gain an appreciation for and understanding of the grammatical constructs of the English language as they increase their vocabulary and understanding of word origins.

# Advanced Placement

## Latin II A&B [PCIS]

Students build on their knowledge of Latin grammar and vocabulary and gain a solid foundation in the structure of the language as well as an understanding of the life and times of ancient Romans. They learn to appreciate how Roman engineering, art, commerce, and law systems were all supported by a clear, expressive, and flexible language.

## Spanish I A&B [PCIS]

Students cover basic vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and punctuation to build a solid foundation for further study. Assignments include engaging in simple conversation, writing paragraphs, and listening to Spanish dialogue. Students also study the history and culture of Spanish-speaking peoples.

## Spanish II A&B [PCIS]

As they engage in more advanced conversations, write paragraphs and stories, and translate to and from Spanish, students improve their vocabulary and grammar. Intense listening comprehension exercises aid in understanding more complex thoughts and subjects.

## Spanish III A [PCIS]

Students build their vocabulary and communication skills even further in Spanish III. Advanced grammar, including the study of tenses, sentence structure, and punctuation, is covered. Students also practice correct accents and learn to comprehend real-world native speech.

## AP Art History A [PCIS]

This course is designed to provide college-level instruction in art history and prepares the student for the AP exam. The student will examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present and from a variety of cultures. The student will learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what he sees or experiences.

## AP Art History B [PCIS]

This course is designed to provide college-level instruction in art history and prepare the student for the AP exam. The student will examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present and from a variety of cultures. The student will also learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what he sees or experiences.

*Pre-requisite: AP Art History A*

## AP Biology A [PCIS]

AP Biology A is taught at the same level as a first-year college biology class. In this course, the student will develop a framework for biology and gain a deeper understanding of science as a process. Some of the major themes throughout this course include organic molecules and free energy changes, prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells, cellular energetics, heredity, and molecular genetics.

## AP Biology B [PCIS]

AP Biology B is taught at the same level as a first-year college biology class. In this course, the student will develop a framework for biology and gain a deeper understanding of science as a process. Some of the major themes throughout this course include diversity of organisms, the structure and function of plants and animals, population dynamics, and global issues with ecology.

*Pre-requisite: AP Biology A*

## AP Calculus AB A [PCIS]

AP Calculus AB is a college-level course covering such concepts as derivatives, integrals, limits, approximation, applications, and modeling. In the first semester, the student will begin by reviewing function notation, before exploring absolute value, piecewise, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial, and rational functions. After studying limits and continuity, the student will move on to concepts of derivatives, including the chain rule, differentiation, implicit differentiation, and logarithmic differentiation. Toward the end of the course, the student will apply what he has learned to solve integration problems.

### AP Calculus AB B [PCIS]

AP Calculus AB is a college-level course covering such concepts as derivatives, integrals, limits, approximation, applications, and modeling. The student will begin by reviewing function notation, before exploring absolute value, piecewise, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial, and rational functions. After studying limits and continuity, the student will move on to concepts of derivatives, including the chain rule, differentiation, implicit differentiation, and logarithmic differentiation. Toward the end of the course, the student will apply what he has learned to solve integration problems.

*Pre-requisite: AP Calculus AB A*

### AP Calculus BC A [PCIS]

AP Calculus BC is an extension of Calculus AB. The course emphasizes broad concepts and applicable methods. The student will describe and analyze functions, limits, and graphs, calculate and apply derivatives, interpret and apply integrals, and study polynomial approximations and series. The course provides opportunities for the student to apply concepts to real-world situations.

*Pre-requisites: AP Calculus AB A&B*

### AP Calculus BC B [PCIS]

AP Calculus BC is an extension of Calculus AB. The course emphasizes broad concepts and applicable methods. The student will describe and analyze functions, limits, and graphs; calculate and apply derivatives; interpret and apply integrals; and study polynomial approximations and series. The course provides opportunities for the student to apply concepts to real-world situations.

*Pre-requisite: AP Calculus BC A*

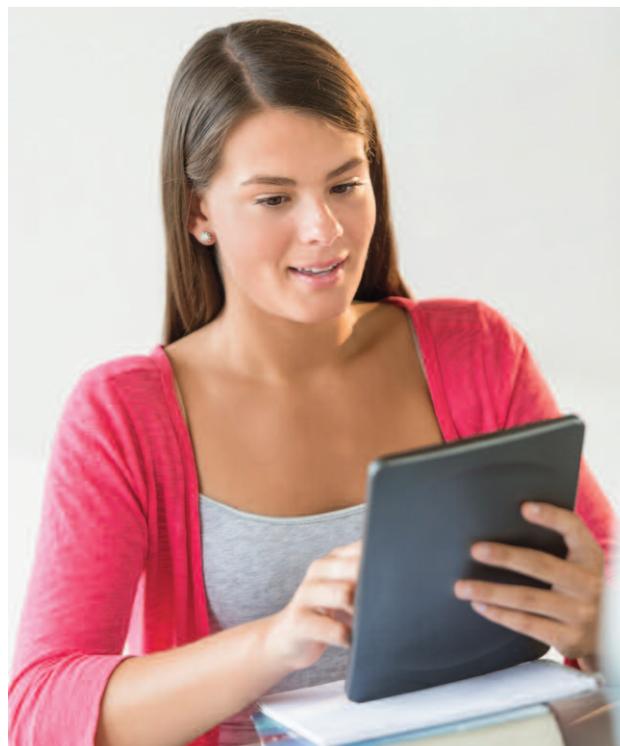
### AP Computer Science A [PCIS]

The AP Computer Science A course is equivalent to the first semester of a college level computer science course. The course involves developing the skills to write programs or part of programs to correctly solve specific problems. AP Computer Science A also emphasizes the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and when appropriate, reusable. At the same time, the development of useful computer programs and classes is used as a context for introducing other important concepts in computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms and typical applications. In addition, an understanding of the basic hardware and software components of computer systems and the responsible use of these systems are integral parts of the course.

### AP Computer Science B [PCIS]

The AP Computer Science B course is equivalent to the first semester of a college level computer science course. The course involves developing the skills to write programs or part of programs to correctly solve specific problems. AP Computer Science B also emphasizes the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and when appropriate, reusable. At the same time, the development of useful computer programs and classes is used as a context for introducing other important concepts in computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms and typical applications. In addition, an understanding of the basic hardware and software components of computer systems and the responsible use of these systems are integral parts of the course.

*Pre-requisite: AP Computer Science A*



## AP English Language and Composition A [PCIS]

The AP English Language and Composition course will provide the high school student with college level instruction in studying and writing various kinds of analytic or persuasive essays on literary and nonliterary topics in language, rhetoric, and expository writing. The student will become skilled readers of prose written in various periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. Both the student's reading and writing should make others aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way writing conventions and language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course will effectively prepare the student for the AP exam by enabling him to read, comprehend, and write about complex texts, while developing further communication skills on a college level.

## AP English Language and Composition B [PCIS]

The AP Language and Composition course will provide high school students with college level instruction in studying and writing various kinds of analytic or persuasive essays on literary and nonliterary topics in language, rhetoric and expository writing. Students will become skilled readers of prose written in various periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. Both their reading and writing should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way writing conventions and language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course will effectively prepare students for the AP Exam by enabling them to read, comprehend, and write about complex texts, while developing further communication skills on a college level.

## AP English Literature and Composition A [PCIS]

For a year, the student will participate in an AP upscale dining experience in the AP Literature and Composition course. The student will act as a food critic of exquisite literary cuisine. Menu items include reading, analyzing, writing, rewriting, and discussing creations by the master chefs, renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this dining experience equips the student with recipes for success in college, in a career, and on the AP exam.

## AP English Literature and Composition B [PCIS]

For a year, students will participate in an AP upscale dining experience in the AP Literature and Composition course. The students will act as food critics of exquisite literary cuisine. Menu items include reading, analyzing, writing, rewriting, and discussing creations by the master chefs, or renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this dining experience equips students with the recipes for success in college, in a career, and on the AP exam.

*Pre-requisite: AP English Language and Composition A*

## AP Environmental Science A [PCIS]

The goal of AP Environmental Science is to provide the student with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and to identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and made by humans. The student will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing problems. Laboratory experiments support student content mastery in both hands-on and virtual experiences.

## AP Environmental Science B [PCIS]

The goal of AP Environmental Science is to provide the student with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and to identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and made by humans. The student will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing problems. Laboratory experiments support student content mastery in both hands-on and virtual experiences.

*Pre-requisite: AP Environmental Science A*

## AP Human Geography A [PCIS]

This course is designed to provide college-level instruction on the patterns and processes that impact the way humans understand, use, and change Earth's surface. The student will use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world. The student will also use maps and geographical data to examine spatial patterns and analyze the changing interconnections among people and places.

## AP Human Geography B [PCIS]

This is the second of two courses that comprise AP Human Geography. In this course, the student will continue to study the systematic patterns and processes that have shaped the way humans understand, use, and alter Earth's surface. In addition, the student will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. The student will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

*Pre-requisite: AP Human Geography A*

## AP Psychology [PCIS]

AP Psychology provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. The students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection. The student will study core psychological concepts, such as the brain and sense functions, and learn to gauge human reactions, gather information, and form meaningful syntheses. Along the way, the student will also investigate relevant concepts like study skills and information retention. The equivalent of a 100-level college survey course, AP Psychology prepares the student for the AP Exam and for further studies in psychology and life sciences.

## AP Spanish Language A&B [PCIS]

The main objective of this course is to develop students' interpersonal communication skills and prepare them for the AP Spanish Language exam. Students develop a strong command of the Spanish language and become very proficient in reading, writing, and speaking. Students are exposed to Spanish literature, historical and current events, music, movies, radio, and television.



## AP Statistics A [PCIS]

In this course, the student will become familiar with the vocabulary, method, and meaning in the statistics that exist in the world. This is an applied course in which the student will actively construct his own understanding of the methods, interpretation, communication, and application of statistics. Each unit is framed by enduring understandings and essential questions designed to allow the student a deep understanding of the concepts at hand rather than memorization and emulation. The student will also complete several performance tasks throughout the year consisting of relevant, open-ended tasks requiring the student to connect multiple statistical topics together. The TI-83+/84 OR 89 calculator and computers will be used to explore the world of data and the patterns which can be found by analyzing this information as well as statistical relationships. General topics of study include exploring data, planning and design of a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference.

## AP Statistics B [PCIS]

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*Pre-requisite: AP Statistics A*

## AP United States Government and Politics [PCIS]

This course will survey the complex subjects of the United States government and politics. The student will analyze, in some detail, the processes and institutions (both formal and informal) through which the political system functions and policy decisions are made. This analysis will include the constitutional structure of government, participatory politics, the formal institutions of power, the extra constitutional influences on those institutions, public policy, and individual rights and liberties.

## AP United States History A [PCIS]

This course covers all of the material outlined by the College Board in order to prepare the student to pass the AP U.S. History exam. By the end of the course, the student will have the following skills including demonstrating comprehension of a broad body of historical knowledge, expressing ideas clearly in writing, interpreting and applying data from original documents, identifying underrepresented historical viewpoints, writing to persuade with evidence, and comparing and contrasting alternate interpretations of a historical figure, event, or trend. In AP U.S. History A, the student will explore the following concepts: exploration and colonial America, colonial society, the concurrent rise of nationalism and sectionalism, the era of Andrew Jackson, emergence of America's literary, philosophic, and religious movements, and the Civil War.

## AP United States History B [PCIS]

This course covers all of the material outlined by the College Board in order to prepare the student to pass the AP U.S. History exam. By the end of the course, the student will have the following skills including demonstrating comprehension of a broad body of historical knowledge, expressing ideas clearly in writing, interpreting and applying data from original documents, identifying underrepresented historical viewpoints, writing to persuade with evidence, and comparing and contrasting alternate interpretations of a historical figure, event, or trend.

*Pre-requisite: AP U.S. History A*





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