



LAUREL
SPRINGS
SCHOOL®

PROGRAM OF
STUDY

KINDERGARTEN–GRADE 12
INCLUDING A POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM

OUR MISSION

Engaging global learners in an education that values them as individuals, integrates their passions and pursuits into academic and career pathways, and fosters inquiry, growth, mastery, purpose, and independence.

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Lower & Middle School

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► ENGLISH

This Kindergarten English course will teach students to identify and write all letters, produce letter sounds and also frequently used phonograms. Students will also master weekly sight words and reading and comprehension strategies to grow as readers.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

This course introduces students to their place in the community and the responsibilities of being a member of society. Great figures of U.S. history such as Pocahontas, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are a focus of learning in the first semester. Students will also learn about everyday heroes, the responsibilities of pet ownership, the importance of rules, table manners, and eating well. Students will practice the skill of retelling stories. They will also be taught to read maps and will learn about U.S. symbols, such as the American flag and the eagle. From there students learn about holidays with a particular focus on Thanksgiving. They will be introduced to what money is, how money can be spent, the power of buying locally, and the difference between wants and needs.

► MATH

During Kindergarten Math students will learn foundational math facts. They will learn a variety of topics, some of which are: counting, comparing sizes, basic measurements, sorting, geometric shapes, and money. Students will have many opportunities to practice these new concepts by interacting with online confirmation exercises and filling out worksheets offline.

► SCIENCE

In Kindergarten Science, students in this course will use their senses to explore their world. Students experience nature walks, gardening, and imitative games by exploring varying concepts.

► HEALTH & WELLNESS

Health & Wellness offers a balanced approach to health instruction that helps students develop a healthy foundation. Students learn important life skills, such as how to manage stress, resolve conflicts, set health goals, and make responsible decisions. The course also focuses on promoting health and preventing disease.



► ENGLISH

This 1st Grade English course will teach students to identify and write all letters, produce letter sounds and also frequently used phonograms. Students will also master weekly sight words and reading and comprehension strategies to grow as readers.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will explore basic fundamentals of social studies including map skills, cardinal directions, and will begin to examine maps of the U.S. and the globe. They will also be introduced to important figures from American history such as Pocahontas, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Clara Barton. A skill that students will practice throughout the course is retelling stories. Students will also make maps of their homes, neighborhoods, as well as a personal timeline. The second semester has a focus on introductory economics. They will study bartering, goods and services, jobs in the community, and how the marketplace works. Another focus is on positive character traits such as honesty, what the aspects of personal responsibility are, and how to help and respect others.

► MATH

During the first semester students will build fluency with basic math facts. They will learn to count to 100, basic addition and subtraction facts, and how to add double-digit numbers. Students will be introduced to such new concepts as word problems, Venn diagrams, and basic geometric concepts. There is an emphasis on learning practical skills such as reading thermometers, looking at maps, and understanding the value of coins. During the second semester students will begin counting by twos, fives, and tens. They will learn both vertical addition and subtraction. Students are introduced to multiplication and division and the signs used in those operations. They will also study even and odd numbers. Students continue their exploration of geometric shapes through drawing and apply what they learn about shapes by sorting various figures in Venn diagrams. They will also use a balance beam to understand the concept of weight—lighter versus heavier. Throughout the course, students will have multiple opportunities to practice new skills and knowledge through using integrated online practice problems.

► SCIENCE

In First Grade Science, students in this course will complete projects that are designed to allow for exploration and discovery. Students observe their surroundings and through observations of the natural world conduct inquiries into topics related to their healthy development. Students in this course will complete projects that are designed to allow for exploration and discovery. Students observe their surroundings and through observations of the natural world conduct inquiries into topics related to their healthy development.

► HEALTH & WELLNESS

Health & Wellness offers a balanced approach to health instruction that helps students develop a healthy foundation. Students learn important life skills, such as how to manage stress, resolve conflicts, set health goals, and make responsible decisions. The course also focuses on promoting health and preventing disease.



► ENGLISH

The second grade English course will teach students to spell and write vocabulary, read more fluently, apply grammar concepts, and participate in handwriting and writing activities through thematic units. Students will also continue to master weekly sight words and reading and comprehension strategies to grow as readers.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

Students in this course will begin to explore the basic fundamentals of social studies including culture, geography, and economics. They will explore the Ancient Cultures of China, Africa, and the Celts. Students will learn how to locate boundaries while using a world map. They will develop a continent, the equator, and oceans. Students will also learn to identify on a road map where they live, rivers, mountain ranges and lakes nearby their homes. The second semester begins by introducing learners to economics and the role that money plays in every civilization. Students learn the difference between natural, human, and capital resources. The end of the course asks learners to examine the diversity of the community they live in. They will be asked to recognize the different types of people around them. Students should gain an appreciation for the differences around them and how having respect for others and being honest will contribute to society as a whole.

► MATH

In this class, students will learn all about math through illustrated, step-by-step lessons that take their skills to surprising new levels. They will see numbers from a whole new point of view, and learn how to use measurements, patterns, shapes and sizes in all parts of their lives. During the first semester, students will build fluency with basic math facts, and add and subtract within 100 to solve word problems using strategic methods. Students will also manipulate numbers to 1000 using knowledge of hundreds, tens, and ones. They will also demonstrate arrays with repeated addition. During the second semester, students will use place value to add and subtract within 1000. Students will measure and compare length and represent it on a number line. They will work with money and time to compare value. Lastly, they will recognize common 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional shapes by specific characteristics.

► SCIENCE

Second Grade Science introduces students to the process of observation and how important it is to the study of science. Learners will identify their five senses and why they are critical to observation. Students will use these observation skills throughout the course as they examine many different types of animals and their environments. Students will come to understand plant and animal rhythms and will perform small experiments with plants. During second semester, students will come to understand the different groupings of animals including those with vertebrates, invertebrates, warm- and cold-blooded animals, carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. They will also learn how animals communicate and the relationship between animals and humans. The course ends with the students taking a closer look at the characteristics of reptiles, insects, birds of prey, and fish.

► HEALTH & WELLNESS

2nd Grade Health and Wellness helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include mental, emotional, family, and social health; growth and nutrition; personal health and safety; drugs and disease prevention; and community and environmental health.



► ENGLISH

This course provides structured lessons on reading, spelling, writing, vocabulary, grammar, and cursive handwriting. Students study parts of speech including nouns, verbs, and adverbs. Students will go through the writing process creating a variety of genres, such as narratives, cause/effect, compare/contrast, biographies, and much more. In addition, appropriate spelling words will be studied throughout the course.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

In this course learners will begin to explore the fundamentals of social studies including geography, civics, and economics. Learners will begin by looking at the beginning of civilization and examining the ancient Hebrew civilization, the Phoenicians, and the Kush tribe of ancient Africa. They will then move on to examining the Native American tribes of the Cherokee, Sioux, and Hopi. Students will also look at the first explorers of the Americas and learn about the beginning of the United States.

► MATH

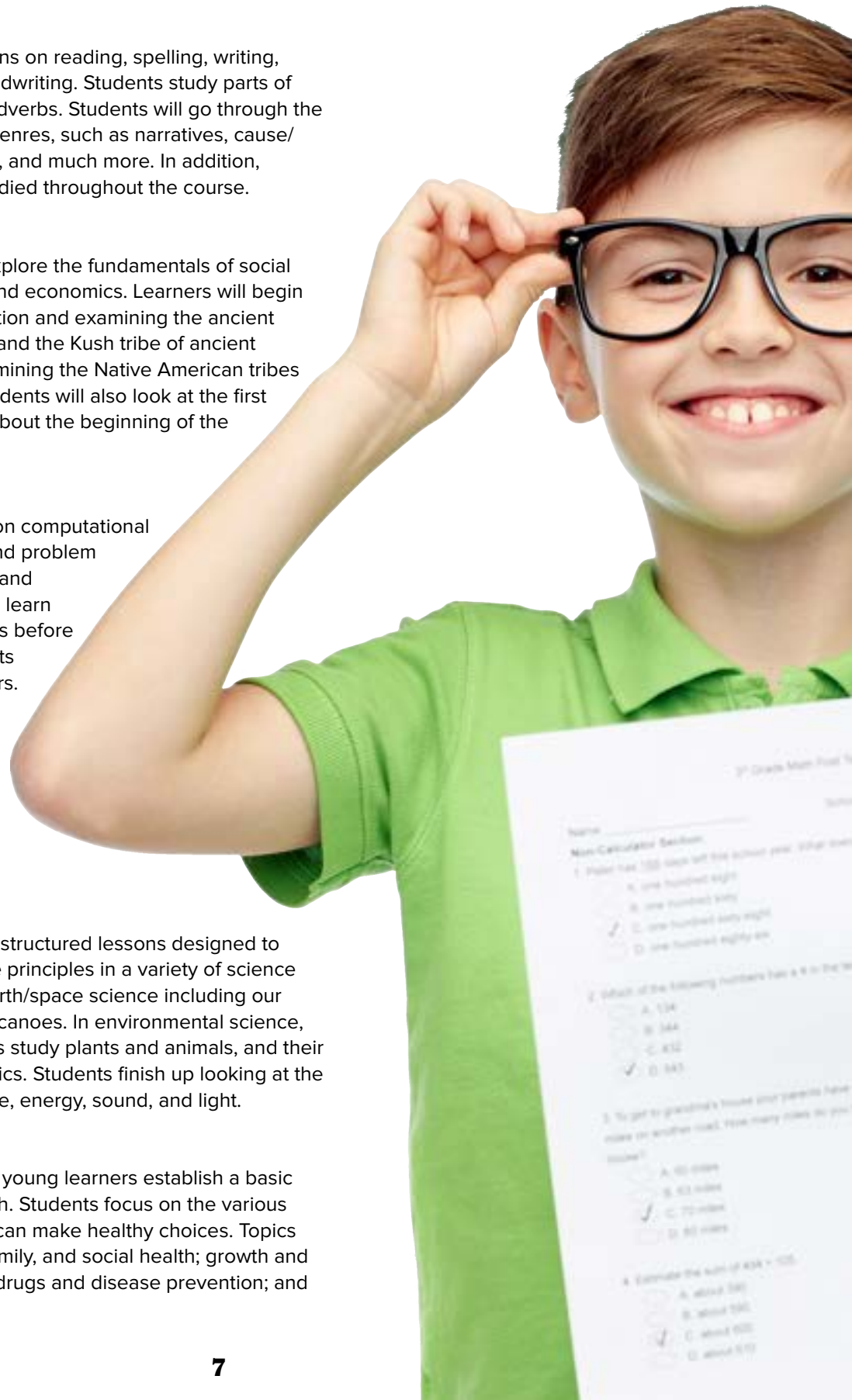
This research-based course focuses on computational fluency, conceptual understanding, and problem solving. Students will review addition and subtraction with models, and then will learn what multiplication and division means before practice finding products and quotients with single digit multipliers and divisors. Students will learn about volume, weight, and time as well as finding the area and perimeter of common shapes. Students will end the course learning basic elementary statistical ideas within a financial lesson.

► SCIENCE

This research-based course provides structured lessons designed to introduce students to general science principles in a variety of science disciplines. Student study topics in earth/space science including our solar system, the water cycle, and volcanoes. In environmental science, students look at food chains. Students study plants and animals, and their differences, as part of the biology topics. Students finish up looking at the physical science topics of matter, force, energy, sound, and light.

► HEALTH & WELLNESS

3rd Grade Health and Wellness helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include mental, emotional, family, and social health; growth and nutrition; personal health and safety; drugs and disease prevention; and community and environmental health.



► ENGLISH

This course provides structured lessons on reading, writing, grammar, and research. Students study parts of speech including verbs, adverbs, adjectives, pronouns, and prepositional phrases. The course spends time focusing on plot, setting, themes, and points of view. In addition, students will be able to identify different text structures: chronological, comparison, cause/effect, and problem solution. Students will go through the research process of planning, gathering information, analyzing information, and then presenting information in a multimedia format.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

In this course learners will use their understanding of social studies skills to explore their local states and communities. Learners will also research local animals and gain an understanding of local Native American ground in their part of the country. This course walks students through the research and report writing steps that will be vital to their continuation of social studies. They will continue to focus on their individual states as they do projects based on local geography, state capitals, as well as nearby natural wonders and landforms. The course uses video, enrichments activities, and project-based learning to enhance the student's social studies skills.

► MATH

This research-based course focuses on computational fluency, conceptual understanding, and problem solving. Students will learn addition and subtraction with fractions and decimals, and then will use multiplication and division to solve problems involving numbers up to the thousands place. Students will learn the names of various addition and multiplication properties. Students will be introduced to formal geometry by learning various terms and how to measure an angle. Students will also start to learn algebraic ideas including the idea of a variable and how to use it to solve problems.

► SCIENCE

This research-based course provides structured lessons designed to introduce students to general science principles in a variety of science disciplines. Student study topics in biology including types of plants and types of animals. In environmental science, students look at ecosystems. Students study weather, rocks, and the moon as part of earth/space science topics. Students finish up looking at the physical science topics of machines, electricity, and waves.

► HEALTH & WELLNESS

4th Grade Health and Wellness helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include mental, emotional, family, and social health; growth and nutrition; personal health and safety; drugs and disease prevention; and community and environmental health.



► ENGLISH

This course provides structured lessons on reading, writing, grammar, and research. Students study parts of speech including verbs, adverbs, adjectives, pronouns, and prepositional phrases. The course spends time focusing on plot, setting, themes, and points of view. In addition, students will compare different types of drama and various forms of poetry. They will learn how to read and gather information from scientific articles and historical accounts. Students will go through the research process of planning, gathering information, analyzing information, and then presenting information in a multimedia format.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

This course combines the study of United States History through the Civil War with a geographical exploration of the United States and what it has to offer. Students will use their understanding of social studies skills and concepts as they study the development of the United States. Video, creative projects involving technology, journaling, and varied assessments will be used throughout the course.

► MATH

This research-based course focuses on computational fluency, conceptual understanding, and problem solving. This interactive course features new graphics, learning tools, and games; adaptive activities that help struggling students master concepts and skills before moving on. This course builds on student understanding of numbers and operations by making connections between place value, decimals, and fractions; introducing multiplication and division of decimal numbers; and extending understanding of fraction operations. The course enhances fluency of operations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals through application in the solving of measurement, geometry, and data-analysis problems using mathematical problem-solving techniques. Students continue to develop algebraic thinking as they work with variables and formulas to solve multistep word problems; they further study patterns and rules; and they are introduced to representing problems graphically using the coordinate plane.

► SCIENCE

This research-based course provides structured lessons designed to introduce students to general science principles in physical science including topics in energy, force and motion as well as energy resources. Students study topics in earth science related to the structure of the earth and rocks and minerals. Basic chemistry lessons include the periodic table and compounds and mixtures. Students explore astronomy with units in outer space and space exploration. Students learn biology topics such as cells and kingdoms. Lastly, students are introduced to the study of ecology and ecosystems.

► HEALTH & WELLNESS

5th Grade Health and Wellness helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include mental, emotional, family, and social health; growth and nutrition; personal health and safety; drugs and disease prevention; and community and environmental health.



► ENGLISH

This research-based course provides structured lessons on reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, composition, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Lessons are designed to develop comprehension, hone critical reading skills, build vocabulary, and help students evaluate and apply the ideas they have learned from their reading. Students practice writing throughout the course using analysis and critical thinking skills.

► SOCIAL STUDIES**Ancient Civilizations**

Students in grade six expand their understanding of History, Civics and Government, Geography, Economics, and Individuals, Society, and Culture by studying the people and events that ushered in the dawn of the major Western and non-Western ancient civilizations. Geography is of special significance in the development of the human story. Students will have the opportunity to explore civilizations by learning about the history, culture, citizenship, economy, religions, and government of the different cultures present at that time. In doing so, the students will utilize math, science, technology, and critical thinking skills in daily learning. Students analyze the interactions among the various cultures, emphasizing their enduring contributions and the link between our World today and these ancient worlds.

► MATH

6th Grade Math is designed to provide students with a pedagogically sound math program. Each lesson is created so that students have multiple opportunities to practice the concepts and skills introduced. During this course, students will connect ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and use concepts of ratio and rate to solve

problems. They will gain an understanding of division of fractions and extend the concept to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers and mixed numbers. Students will write, interpret, and use expressions and equations throughout the course. Last, they will develop an understanding of statistical thinking.

► SCIENCE

6th Grade Science is the first in a series of three consecutive science classes. It introduces middle school students to the disciplines of life science, physical science, and earth-space science. In addition, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts are integrated throughout the course. The lessons make real-world connections and require students to apply STEM skills like analysis, problem solving, science knowledge, and engineering practices. Hands-on and laboratory investigations are included throughout the course to provide students opportunities for exploration through scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, and experimental procedures. By the end of the course, students will be practicing, experimenting, thinking, and talking like a scientist!

► HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Health/Physical Education course for 6th grade combines the examination of important health-related topics with the practice of physical activities of the student's choice. Students investigate a wide range of health topics including physical health, puberty, disease prevention, exercise, diet, dental hygiene, injuries and wounds, ear and skin protection, bites and stings, safety, poisons, and evaluating health resources on the Internet. To fulfill physical education requirements, students choose one or more fitness activities to learn and practice during the year. Students are offered many creative and interesting ways to enjoy and report on their chosen fitness activities.



► ENGLISH

This research-based course provides structured lessons on reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, composition, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Lessons are designed to develop comprehension, hone critical reading skills, build vocabulary, and help students evaluate and apply the ideas they have learned from their reading. Students practice writing throughout the course using analysis and critical thinking skills.

► SOCIAL STUDIES**World Cultures**

This course is an exploration into the exciting world we live in. Students will explore the various cultures and geographic regions, and analyze how they affect the people who live around the world. The goal in World Cultures is to broaden our knowledge; and, gain better understanding of our neighbors wherever they may live on this place called Earth.

► MATH**Pre-Algebra**

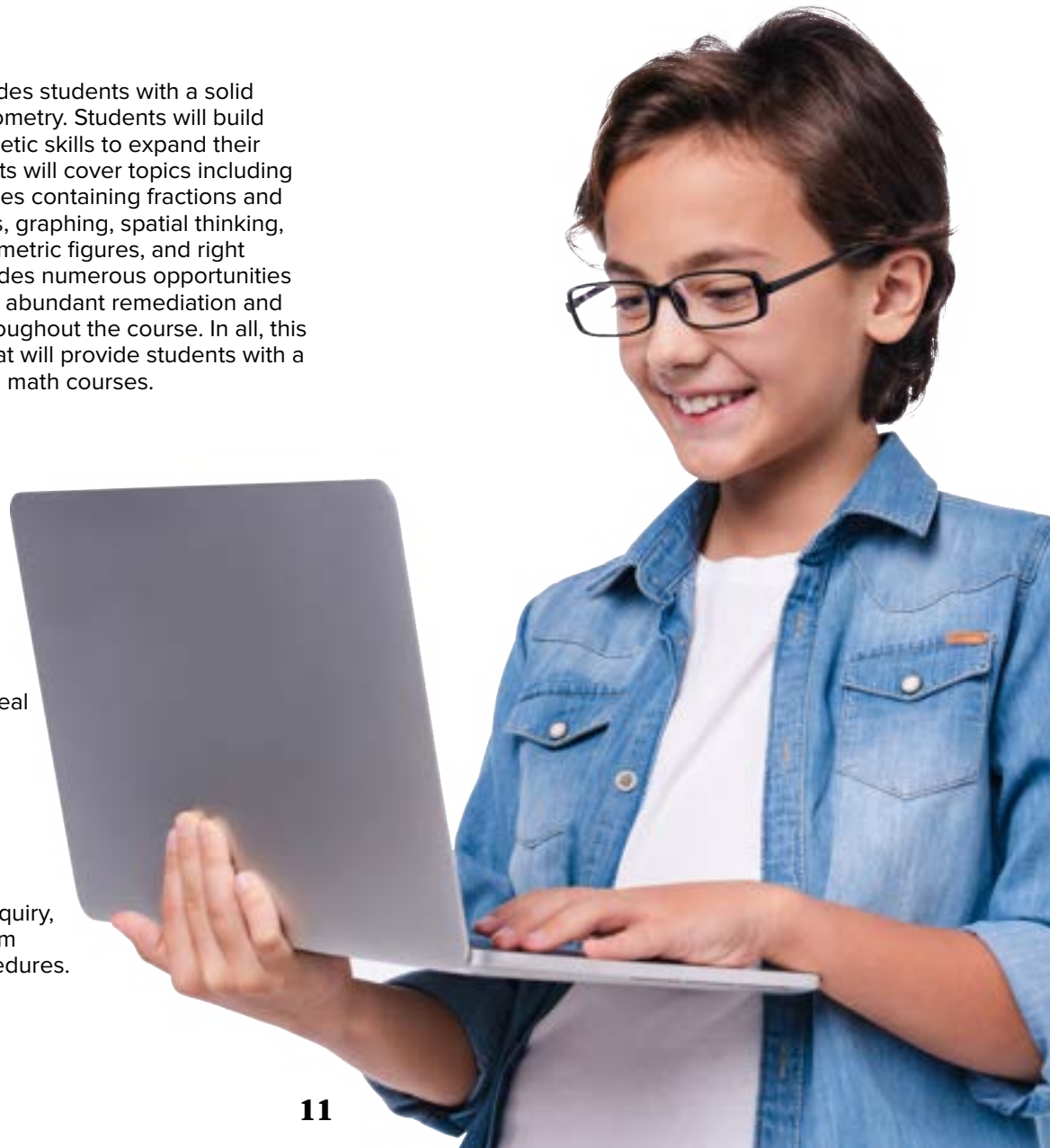
The Pre-Algebra program provides students with a solid preparation for algebra and geometry. Students will build on previously developed arithmetic skills to expand their algebraic thinking skills. Students will cover topics including solving equations and inequalities containing fractions and decimals, ratios, linear functions, graphing, spatial thinking, finding area and volume of geometric figures, and right triangles. The course also provides numerous opportunities to assess basic skills along with abundant remediation and intervention activities found throughout the course. In all, this is a comprehensive program that will provide students with a solid foundation for higher level math courses.

► SCIENCE

7th Grade Science is a comprehensive science including the disciplines of life science, physical science, and earth space science in addition to, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) concepts. The course is designed for middle school students. The lessons provide real world connections through the application of STEM problem solving, science knowledge and engineering practices. Laboratory investigations are included throughout the course provide students opportunities exploration through scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, and experimental procedures.

► HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

7th Grade Health/P.E. combines the study of various aspects of human health with the practice of physical activities to promote physical well-being and health. Students learn about various body parts and systems, diet, social-emotional health issues, and the human senses. Students select one or more physical activities to focus on for the year. Students set personal fitness and skill attainment goals for their chosen activities and report on those goals as they progress through the year.



► ENGLISH

This research-based course provides structured lessons on reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, composition, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Lessons are designed to develop comprehension, hone critical reading skills, build vocabulary, and help students evaluate and apply the ideas they have learned from their reading. Students practice writing throughout the course using analysis and critical thinking skills.

► SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. History

This course is an exploration into the history of the United States. Students will explore the area where the United States was formed starting with the Age of Discovery and finishing with the End of Reconstruction. Along the way, students will learn the first stanza of “The Star-Spangled Banner” and the Gettysburg Address. The course addresses topics from the discovery of America to the Compromise of 1877.

► MATH

Students select either Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1.

Pre-Algebra

The Pre-Algebra program provides students with a solid preparation for algebra and geometry. Students will build on previously developed arithmetic skills to expand their algebraic thinking skills. Students will cover topics including solving equations and inequalities containing fractions and decimals, ratios, linear functions, graphing, spatial thinking, finding area and volume of geometric figures, and right triangles. The course also provides numerous opportunities to assess basic skills along with abundant remediation and intervention activities found throughout the course. In all, this is a comprehensive program that will provide students with a solid foundation for higher level math courses.

Algebra 1

Algebra I is the foundation of upper school math. The skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future math courses. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the basic skills and problem solving strategies to work through many types of mathematical problems using critical thinking skills. Topics include: basic operations, modeling, algebraic properties, functions, expressions, equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, exponents, radicals, linear, exponential and quadratic functions, systems, intro to statistics and word problems. Students are assessed throughout each module to demonstrate their mastery of the course content.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

► SCIENCE

8th Grade Science is the third in a series of three consecutive middle school science classes. It builds on concepts introduced in the first and second courses of the series, including the disciplines of life science, physical science, and earth-space science. In addition, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts are integrated throughout the course. Students learn about properties of matter, physical and chemical changes, atoms and the periodic table of elements, photosynthesis and cellular respiration, the universe, and the solar system. Hands-on and virtual laboratory investigations are included throughout the course to provide students opportunities for exploration through scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, and experimental procedures. By the end of the course, students will be practicing, experimenting, thinking, and talking like a scientist!

► HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8th Grade Health/P.E. is a self-guided exploration of practical health issues and a personal record of each student’s individual physical activity. Students set personal goals for maintaining good physical health through a regular exercise and activity schedule and periodically report on their progress and achievements. At the same time, students study various aspects of good physical and mental health. Topics of instruction include drugs & medications, diet, relationships, exercise, tobacco & alcohol, AIDS, community, and more.



Grades K–2

► SPANISH 1—K–2

This introductory Spanish course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the Spanish language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking culture. This course, designed specifically for younger students, focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition through stories, games, songs, and practice activities. Students are exposed to Spanish language and Spanish-speaking cultures in a fun environment where they can explore meanings and begin to express themselves through simple words and phrases.

► SPANISH 2—K–2

This second level of the introductory Spanish course continues the exploration of the language through an immersive, fun, and interactive experience designed for younger learners. In each unit, students are immersed in a different world where they meet unique characters who send them on a series of engaging tasks to acquire the vocabulary, learn the culture and further their acquisition of basic Spanish skills. The content and characters for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking cultures as well as an authentic song, a karaoke and a culture video. This second level introductory course continues the focus on vocabulary acquisition and expression through simple words and phrases.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1—K–2

► FRENCH—K–2

This introductory French course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the French language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story from the French-speaking world. This course, designed specifically for younger students, focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition through stories, games, songs, and practice activities. Students are exposed to the French language and French-speaking cultures in a fun environment where they can explore meanings and begin to express themselves through simple words and phrases.

► CHINESE—K–2

This introductory Chinese course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the Chinese language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story from China. This course, designed specifically for younger students, focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition through stories, games, songs, and practice activities. Students are exposed to the Chinese language and Chinese speaking cultures in a fun environment where they can explore meanings and begin to express themselves through simple words and phrases.

Grades 3–5

► SPANISH 1

This introductory Spanish course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the Spanish language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking culture. Although the course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles are intuitively grasped through the story, games, activities, songs, and assessments. In addition, students learn to perform simple tasks in connection with each unit's theme. Students engage in language learning in a rewarding, low-stress environment; get comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of Spanish; learn simple Spanish phrases; begin to read, write, speak and listen for meaning in Spanish; and recognize distinctive practices and products of Spanish-speaking culture.

► SPANISH 2

This course is the second year of our introductory Spanish courses. It provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's continued exposure to the Spanish language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking culture. The course uses each authentic story as a way to help students acquire vocabulary and other key concepts. The course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles, pronunciation, and culture, all of which are grasped through the story, games, activities, songs, and assessments. In addition, students learn to perform simple tasks in connection with each unit's theme. Students engage in language learning in a rewarding, low-stress environment; get comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of Spanish; learn simple Spanish phrases and sentences related to each theme; continue to read, write, speak and listen for meaning in Spanish; and recognize distinctive practices and products of Spanish-speaking culture.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Lower School Spanish 1



Grades 3–5, continued

► FRENCH 1

This introductory French course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the French language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, tale or legend from French-speaking culture. Although the course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles are intuitively grasped through the story, games, activities, songs, and assessments. In addition, students learn to perform simple tasks in connection with each unit's theme. Students engage in language learning in a rewarding, low-stress environment; get comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of French; learn simple French phrases; begin to read, write, speak and listen for meaning in French; and recognize distinctive practices and products of French-speaking culture.

► FRENCH 2

The Level 2 French course is the second year of introductory French for students in grades 3–5. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from a French-speaking culture. Each story provides a framework for students to learn vocabulary, acquire basic grammar principles, practice pronunciation, and explore cultural topics. Story and song animations, practice activities, games, and assessments encourage students to engage with the French language in a rewarding, low-stress environment. As students move through the course, they will become more comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of French. They will learn simple French phrases related to each theme, and continue to read, write, speak and listen for meaning. They will also come to recognize some of the history, practices, and products that define French-speaking cultures around the world.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Lower School French 1

► GERMAN 1

The German Elementary I course consists of approximately 90 lesson days formatted in an intuitive calendar view, which can be taught over a semester. The content for each unit is based on an immersive authentic German story that ties in the vocabulary from the unit. Although the course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles are intuitively grasped through the story, games, activities, and assessments. Culture lessons are presented through multimedia lessons covering cultural aspects of major German-speaking areas in Europe.

► CHINESE 1

Students are introduced to Mandarin Chinese through a series of dynamic and engaging animations based on authentic Chinese stories. These stories share an aspect of Chinese culture and language from famous myths to historical tales familiar to all Chinese children. Each story introduces key vocabulary words and phrases that are then practiced through a series of interactive games and activities. In addition, other video and media materials are used to further demonstrate culture and daily life in China. Students are introduced to simplified Characters throughout the course and targeted character based activities help to prepare students how to read and write Chinese characters. Students are challenged with comprehension quizzes at the end of every unit, as well as teacher-graded assignments where they will be able to speak Mandarin Chinese. All of the materials in the course are designed to familiarize students with Chinese culture, characters, vocabulary and simple phrases.

Grades 6–8

►SPANISH 1

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices that reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

►SPANISH 2

Students continue their language learning adventure by progressing to the next level of middle school Spanish. Throughout the course, students focus on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Spanish 1

►FRENCH 1

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

►FRENCH 2

Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School French 1

Grades 6–8

►GERMAN 1

Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

►GERMAN 2

Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School German 1

►LATIN 1

Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language

approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

►LATIN 2

Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Latin 1

Grades 6–8

►CHINESE 1

Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

►CHINESE 2

Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Chinese 1

Grades 4–5

► INTRODUCTION TO CODING—SEMESTER

In Introduction to Coding, students use Coding Adventure, an educational game-based environment where students learn to code in a real programming language. Using CoffeeScript, a real-world programming language, the students learn how to develop and generate unique and personalized apps and websites. Coding Adventure fosters the development of executive functioning skills, such as problem solving and planning as well as geometric and mathematical thinking. Throughout the CodeMonkey program, students learn concepts such as statements & arguments, objects, loops, variables, arrays, functions, conditions and boolean logic. Coding Adventure provides an easy entry into text-based coding, paving the way for students to proceed to learning advanced subjects in Computer Science, such as game design, algorithms, and data structures.

Grades 6–8

► 2D STUDIO ART—SEMESTER

Close your eyes and imagine you're standing in an art studio—the smell of paint, the heat of the kiln, and the infinite creative possibilities that linger in the air. This is where art is born, and in 2D Studio Art, you'll learn how to bring your art visions to life. Whatever medium you prefer—painting, drawing, photography—this course will teach you the design elements and principles needed to create a work of art, explore your artistic inspirations, travel back in time to look at art in different cultures, and gain insight about the art of critiquing. If you've ever dreamed about making a living as an artist, this course will give you the tools and background that you need to turn those dreams into a reality.

► CAREER EXPLORATIONS—SEMESTER

Break down the numerous and diverse occupations and decide on a potential career path! You will examine the principles of entrepreneurship as well as the economy and job market, before exploring career paths like business and finance, agriculture, engineering, technology, and many more! Education, certification, and training requirements will be provided for each career presented. By the end of this course, you will have completed individual assessments to determine your skills and interests and develop a resume that you can build upon and use.

► CODING 1A—SEMESTER

Learn all about the technology you use in your day-to-day life and explore how the internet functions through this introduction to coding. Build your knowledge of algorithms, programming constructs, and program design to create your own code. Discover how to solve problems with code while dabbling with Tynker and Python to begin your journey into this exciting field!

► CODING 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, expand your knowledge of programming languages and web development by further exploring Python, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. Analyze the differences between web development and web application development, while growing your portfolio, which will serve to highlight everything you have learned and created in the course.

Prerequisite Middle School Coding 1A

► DIGITAL ART & DESIGN—SEMESTER

There are so many different types of art in this world—fine art, classical art, visual art...the list goes on and on. But digital art and design have a special place in the art community. The impact of digital art and design is all around us—in ways that you probably aren't even aware of! But after taking this course, you'll enjoy a deeper understanding and appreciation for all things digital art and design.

► EXPLORING MUSIC—SEMESTER

What comes to mind when you hear the word 'music'? The word music means something different to everyone. Which is why in this Music course, there's a little bit of something for everyone! You will learn about how we hear music; how music affects our lives; important elements of music like rhythm, pitch, and harmony; different musical genres; singing and your voice; various instruments; music composition; and the history and culture of music over the years.

▶ GAME DESIGN 1A—SEMESTER

We all love to play video games—but have you ever wanted to build your own? If you are interested in a career in technology but also want a creative outlet, Game Design might be the field for you. Learn how to build a game from the ground up in Middle School Game Design 1, an interactive and hands-on course that will teach you all the ins and outs of making your own game. You will learn the importance of game structure and discover what makes a game fun, challenging, and interesting to players just like you. You will also have the opportunity to explore the design and creative process involved in game creation, learn block-based programs, and experiment with character and story development. As a bonus, you will leave the course with a digital portfolio of everything you created in class.

▶ GAME DESIGN 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will further advance your knowledge of game design! Diving into the development process, you will create details and add component pieces to a game while learning to prototype, troubleshoot, and test. Additionally, you will explore critiquing and advertising a game, strengthening your ability to create a fully functioning game from start to finish.

Prerequisite: Middle School Game Design 1A

▶ JOURNALISM: TELL YOUR STORY—SEMESTER

Who? What? When? Where? Journalism provides us with the answers to these questions for the events that affect our lives. In this course, students will learn how to gather information, organize ideas, format stories for different forms of news media, and edit their stories for publication. The course will also examine the historical development of journalism and the role of journalism in society.

▶ PHOTOGRAPHY: 1A—SEMESTER

Photographs are all around us, and each helps to tell a story. This course teaches students to create their own stories through photos. They will learn the basics of camera, lighting, and how to choose great subjects to create magazine-worthy photos. Students will amaze their friends and family with their newly learned skills.

▶ PHOTOGRAPHY: 1B—SEMESTER

Do you have vacation photos or pics of your pet that need a little editing? How about getting ready to add that new selfie you took to your social media platform? Taking photos is an art, and editing photos is a skill that many photographers seek to master. Explore how to manipulate angles and lighting, the purpose for different types of photo files, how to use different software to edit photos, and safe places you can store them. You'll be well on your way to being an editing guru when you are done with this course.

Prerequisite: Middle School Photography 1A



GAME DESIGN

What are microcourses? Microcourses provide students the opportunity to explore interdisciplinary subjects with real-world applications on an abbreviated schedule. During each three-week course, students have the chance to discover, explore, question, propose, and develop projects of their own creation. Our microcourse offerings are designed to prompt students in being **purposeful and playful** with their learning, in the hopes they discover a passion with potential to evolve into **future academic or professional pursuits**.

Grades K–2

▶ MUSIC ADVENTURES

In this course, students will go on a musical journey as they explore nature and the weather in the great outdoors. Multiple stories, compositions, and hands-on activities woven into lessons with vocabulary and classical artists will help students grow in their discovery and love of music.

▶ ART ADVENTURES

Students will discover world-renowned artists and the styles that made them famous before trying out these techniques in their own artistic creations. Our youngest students will experiment and have fun while learning various ways and reasons to create art.

Grades 3–5

▶ FUNTASTIC FOOD

Funtastic Food is an exciting, hands-on course where students will apply everyday academic skills to real-world cooking fun. Through a guided investigation of the mathematics, science, and nutrition skills used in preparing delicious recipes, students will create a menu meeting various needs to enjoy with their family or friends. They will document what they've tried out and learned on their way to becoming a capable chef through pictures and a journal leading to a final demo video or cookbook for kids.

▶ POWERFUL GRAPHIC NOVELS

In this course, students will discover how authors put the "POW" into their graphic novels by using the POWERful text features and literary devices that make this type of literature so exciting to read. Through a guided exploration and hands-on practice, students will investigate how POWERful plots, characters, and script-writing can bring their own stories to life. At the end of this course, students will be amazed by the project that they create showcasing all the POWERful knowledge they gained about graphic novels. Who knows, maybe they will create the next big hit like Marvel or Dogman!

▶ THE POWER OF THE SUN

Students will begin by considering the environment where they live: how often does the sun shine there? How do the solar panels they see work to provide electricity to homes and buildings, and why aren't there more solar-powered structures in all communities? They will go on to discover how solar energy works and the ways even kids can harness it in their everyday lives, beginning with how to make solar powered s'mores in their very own backyard. Students will leave with the understanding that their generation is needed to help solve the problems modern scientists are facing to make this renewable resource a reliable source of energy for the future.

▶ BACK TO LIFE: DE-EXTINCTION IN THE ICE AGE

Welcome, student scientist. You are invited to join us on an experiment, one that could bring the past back to life. Once upon a time, in Earth's very distant past, creatures we can only imagine roamed our planet. Did a woolly mammoth ever graze right in the spot where your house stands today? Can you imagine a one-ton armadillo called the Glyptodon, trundling past you, the ground quaking with each thunderous step? Get ready to research what de-extinction scientists are learning and design a plan to welcome one of these creatures back to the modern day.

Grades 6–8

► **DYSTOPIAN SOCIETIES 101**

Welcome to dystopian fandom! In this course, you will discover the differences between a utopia and a dystopia. You will learn about dystopian literature and why this type of literature is so exciting to read. Through a guided exploration, you will discover how the districts, the reaping, the training, and the main game found in the well-known book/movie series *The Hunger Games* serve the dystopian society, Panem. But, could utopian and dystopian societies be open to interpretation? How different are they really? In the end, it is up to you to decide by creating a project based on a plot of your choosing.

► **OUTER SPACE: THE UNIVERSE UNCOVERED**

Join us for a virtual space exploration for 3 weeks where you will discover outer space, space technology, and rocket science. Through an exploration of planets, galaxies, and moments in current events such as the creation of the United States Space Force, students will evaluate the important role of space exploration in our past, present and future. Together we will observe and apply the engineering design process, conduct hands-on experiments to figure out the how and why of what we observe, and create an out-of-this world project worthy of a real mission!

► **BRICK BY BRICK: CRAFTING ANCIENT HISTORY**

A Microcourse in Minecraft

Humans are pretty small on the face of this planet, yet we strive to great heights by building enormous feats of architectural grandeur that dot the map all over the world. Landmarks have long been a way humans have left a lasting legacy of and snapshot of a span of time. Why are landmarks built? Why are they important, and who gets to decide? Maybe you've been lucky enough to have seen one of these great landmarks in person—The Eiffel Tower, The Statue of Liberty, or the Great Sphinx in Giza? Tour the astounding feats of human ingenuity as we learn about landmarks around the globe in our digital space. Then try your hand at creating a digital landmark in a Minecraft world. How will your landmark measure up, and will it be capable of standing the test of time?



Upper School & Beyond

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► ENGLISH 1

In English 1, students take a journey through important concepts—the Unknown, Equality, Identity, Opportunity, and Understanding—to learn the foundations of communication and analysis. In each unit of the course, students explore a variety of STEM-related literature, including genre fiction, poetry, non-fiction, and speeches. Through the study of this writing, students hone their own skills in communication and analysis. To facilitate engagement and academic responsibility, students are encouraged to make choices at different points in the course. Most notable is the novel unit, in which students must select their book from a list of titles available. This practice gives ownership to the student and places each learner in a position to develop a deeper appreciation of reading.

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► HONORS ENGLISH 1

In Honors English 1, students take a journey through important concepts—the Unknown, Equality, Identity, Opportunity, and Understanding—to learn the foundations of communication and analysis. In each unit of the course, students explore a variety of STEM-related literature, including genre fiction, poetry, non-fiction, and speeches. Through the study of this writing, students hone their own skills in communication and analysis. To facilitate engagement and academic responsibility, students are encouraged to make choices at different points in the course. Most notable is the novel unit, in which students must select their book from a list of titles available. This practice gives ownership to the student and places each learner in a position to develop a deeper appreciation of reading. Students in the Honors version of English 1 should expect a more rigorous, challenging, and active experience in the course as they have additional readings, make deeper connections, and take the material and analysis a step further using syntheses and application.

Honors • UC Approved English • NCAA Approved English

► ENGLISH 2

In English 2, students learn how the human experience—real life—is the foundation of the best stories, plays, poems, films, and articles. In each unit of the course, students explore a specific aspect of the human experience such as laughter, obstacles, betrayal, fear, and transformation. Through the study of literature, nonfiction, and life, students explore what it means to be human, what it means to be fulfilled, triumphant, empowered, and transformed. As in life, students have many choices in this course. They choose the order in which they complete the units. Students also choose some of the works they read and have countless choices when it comes to demonstrating what they have learned. Whether reading a poem or a novel, writing a story or an analysis, or studying a Shakespearean tragedy or a modern suspense film, students explore what it means to be human, a subject on which they are already experts!

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► HONORS ENGLISH 2

Honors English 2 online is an accelerated course that guides students to think deeply and richly about both fiction and non-fiction. Students learn how the human experience—real life—is the foundation of the best stories, plays, poems, films, and articles. In each unit of the course, students explore a specific aspect of the human experience such as laughter, obstacles, betrayal, fear, and transformation. Through the study of literature, nonfiction, and life, students explore what it means to be human, what it means to be fulfilled, triumphant, empowered, and transformed. As in life, students have many choices in this course. They choose the order in which they complete the units. Students also choose some of the works they read and have countless choices when it comes to demonstrating what they have learned. Whether reading a poem or a novel, writing a story or an analysis, or studying a Shakespearean tragedy or a modern suspense film, students explore what it means to be human, a subject on which they are already experts! Students in the Honors version of English 2 should expect a more rigorous, challenging, and active experience in the course as they have additional readings, make deeper connections and take the material and analysis a step further using syntheses and application.

Honors • UC Honors Approved English • NCAA Approved English

► ENGLISH 3

In English 3, the writing and insights of authors throughout our history are collected in the fast-paced pages of The Virtual Times newspaper. Students will gain an appreciation of American literature and the ways it reflects the times in which it was written. They will also discover how people thought, lived and wrote about their experiences. Finally, students will be asked to observe, investigate and report on stories of today. The goal for this course is for students to become thorough, accurate and compelling writers.

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► HONORS ENGLISH 3

In Honors English 3, the writing and insights of authors throughout our history are collected in the fast-paced pages of The Virtual Times newspaper. Students will gain an appreciation of American literature and the ways it reflects the times in which it was written. They will also discover how people thought and lived and wrote about their experiences. Finally, students will be asked to observe, investigate and report on stories of today. The goal for this course is for students to become thorough, accurate and compelling writers. Honors students read additional literary works and complete additional assignments that require more advanced analysis and critical thought. Honors students are also expected to work at a more independently inquisitive level and commit to not only learning at a higher and more rigorous level, but to creating work that is reflective of this rigor.

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► ENGLISH 4

English 4 online will give the students a front row seat to study the motives that have driven people's actions for centuries. Along the way, the student will encounter epic heroes defying danger, tormented minds succumbing to the power of greed and ambition, enlightened thinkers striving for individual rights and freedoms, sensitive souls attempting to capture human emotion, and determined debaters taking a stand on critical issues. They will read to analyze the way language is used to express human motivation and research to examine the results of actions in the real world. The lessons in each module will give the students the tools they need to gain insights from what they read and to use their knowledge in creative and analytical writing.

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Honors • UC Honors Approved English • NCAA Approved English

► SHAKESPEAREAN LITERATURE—SEMESTER

Students will read a variety of the works of William Shakespeare. They will learn about the literary, historical, and biographical contexts of Shakespeare's works. Students will understand the plots and themes presented in the readings, as well as their implications for both Shakespeare's time and the present day. Background information on the history of Elizabethan times and the theatre provides guidance and a foundation as students progress through the course. Students will also have short grammar exercises throughout the lessons, write a letter in the persona of a Shakespearean character, create a PowerPoint presentation, and write a short essay on theme.

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► HONORS SHAKESPEAREAN LITERATURE—SEMESTER

Students will read a variety of the works of William Shakespeare. They will learn about the literary, historical, and biographical contexts of Shakespeare's works. Students will understand the plots and themes presented in the readings, as well as their implications for both Shakespeare's time and the present day. Background information on the history of Elizabethan times and the theatre provides guidance and a foundation as students progress through the course. Students will also have short grammar exercises throughout the lessons, write a letter in the persona of a Shakespearean character, create a PowerPoint presentation, and write a short essay on theme. Honors students write their own dramatic plays and sonnets using Shakespearean themes and elements of style. Honors students are also expected to work at a more independently inquisitive level and commit to not only learning at a higher and more rigorous level, but to creating work that is reflective of this rigor.

Honors • NCAA Approved English

► DRAMA LITERATURE—SEMESTER

Drama in Literature begins with a look at the origins of drama in the western world. Students learn about the theatre of ancient Greece, reading two key tragedies, Oedipus Rex and Antigone. Students visit Shakespearean England and learn about the playwright himself, the era in which he wrote and about the Globe Theatre, reading *The Tempest*. Victorian England is the next stop, where Oscar Wilde takes the stage. Students study Wilde's writing in the context of his complicated life. Students visit the Existentialist theatre, again focusing on the social context and philosophical underpinnings of the drama; they learn about the absurdist movement. The course culminates with a 'write your own original play' assignment.

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► HONORS DRAMA LITERATURE—SEMESTER

Honors Drama Literature gives students a broad view of the evolution of drama in western culture from ancient Greece up through the 20th Century, with stops at such milestones as Shakespeare, Chekhov, Wilde and Dorothy Parker. Students learn about the historical settings of each dramatic work and learn vocabulary alongside each lesson. Students will demonstrate critical thinking skills in their reading and writing as they study each literary time period and the implications of each period.

Honors • NCAA Approved English

AP English

The level of rigor in these AP English courses is equivalent to that required of students in a freshman or sophomore college course in this area of study. These courses have been audited and approved by the College Board and prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement examination. AP is a trademark registered by the College Board.

► AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

AP English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. The reading and writing assignments in this course will make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as how language choice contributes to the effectiveness of a piece of written work. This course is considered the equivalent of a college-level composition course. As such, students will be held to rigorous expectations and high standards of accountability. At the end of the course, they will be prepared not only for the AP exam in English Language and Composition, but any situation requiring critical thinking, clear communication, and analysis of multiple—and sometimes conflicting—viewpoints.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved English • NCAA Approved English

► AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

AP English Literature and Composition students participate in an upscale dining experience, acting as food critics of exquisite literary cuisine. Menu items include reading, analyzing, writing, rewriting, and discussing creations by world-renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this dining experience equips students with recipes for success in college, career, and the AP exam in English Literature and Composition. Students in this course are expected to commit to a rigorous curriculum of literary analysis and composition.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved English • NCAA Approved English

Laurel Springs does not administer AP exams, nor do we assist students in finding a testing location. Students wishing to take an AP exam are responsible for finding their own physical testing location and having a test ordered for them by following the process for independent students.

► WORLD CULTURES

In World Geography, students will learn the six essentials of geography: spatial terms, places and regions, physical systems, human systems, environment and society, and uses of geography. After a broad survey of Earth's structure, hydrosphere and climates, the focus of each Unit narrows to a particular region of the world. By examining the physical geography of each region, including water resources, climate, vegetation, and natural resources, students will understand the influence of geography on economic activities, human culture, and history. In addition, students will investigate the impact of human activity on the environment, including pollution and development, and consider the implications. Students will complete one research project (with multiple parts) each semester.

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► HONORS WORLD CULTURES

In this course, students explore and investigate Earth's physical and human geography continent by continent, nation by nation, culture by culture, and people by people. The five themes of geography construct the educational framework for examination. Location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region frame each lesson as students discover geographic, economic, cultural and historical interconnectedness. The course introduces the location of regions focusing on physical characteristics including absolute and relative location, climate, and significant geographical features. The exploration continues with consideration of each region from a cultural, economic, and political perspective. Students will closely examine the human impact on each region from these viewpoints as well as the impact on the environments of each region and globally. Students will use multimedia resources, quizzes, unit exams, writing assignments, online discussions and projects to develop and show mastery of this subject matter material. Honors level analysis, critical thinking and writing assignments are added to the basics of this course utilizing a well-documented historical demonstration of the complex connection of varied civilizations.

Honors • UC Approved Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science

► WORLD HISTORY

World History is a survey of the development of civilizations from prehistoric times to the present. The journey begins with ancient civilizations including Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China, and the foundations of western civilization: ancient Greece and Rome. Students will analyze developments in Africa, Asia, and Europe during the Middle Ages, including the Crusades. Students will understand how the Renaissance and Reformation provided a springboard for the Age of Reason and the Scientific Revolution. An inquiry into events such as the American War of Independence and French Revolution

will prepare students to consider the great advances and social upheaval sparked by the Industrial Revolution. Students will probe the causes, events, and consequences of the two world wars and the rise and fall of Communism. The course concludes with a look at developments shaping current events. Students will complete several essays and one research paper per semester.

College Prep • UC Approved Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science

► HONORS WORLD HISTORY

In Honors World History, students will study individual stories from specific societies to demonstrate how worlds that were separated by time and space converged, eventually resulting in today's globalized world. Worlds apart, in other words, became worlds together. Societies with their own internal momentums were deeply influenced by other societies, states, and economies with which they interacted. This course will help students to impose order on the ways in which social, political, economic, environmental, cultural, and technological developments caused worlds apart to become worlds together, from c. 9000 BCE to the present.

Honors • UC Honors Approved Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science

► AMERICAN HISTORY

Students in this course study the political, cultural, and social development of the United States through a variety of writing assignments, discussions, and projects. The course begins with a review of early exploration and settlement of the Americas, the arrival of European settlers on North American soil, and a reflection of personal customs brought by each culture that may still be present in a student's family today. Students examine conflicts with Britain and the ideas that lead to the American Revolution including the pivotal people, events, and outcomes of that war. Students will also explore the importance of the Bill of Rights and its impact on American citizenship, the effects of European migration on Native American cultures, the causes and effects of the Civil War as well as reconstruction, immigration, and industrialization. Students will differentiate the domestic impacts of World War I and World War II, progressive reform, U. S. foreign policy, the causes and effects of the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and culminating with leaders and issues of the contemporary United States.

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▶ HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY

Honors American History is the study of the events, people, and culture of the United States over time. In Part A, you will learn about the history of the “New World” and review the events and principles behind the founding of the United States. Once founded, you will look at the initial growth and expansion of the United States up through the Civil War (The War of the Union) and the United States’ reconstruction after the war. In Part B, you will learn about the railroads and industry after the war (focusing on the south and the west). That brings us to the twentieth century and all the exciting events that occurred including both World Wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, and the Korean War. Civil rights movements are also explored.

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▶ AMERICAN GOVERNMENT—SEMESTER

American Government is the study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus of this course is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded as well as the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students study the principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, republicanism, federalism, and individual rights. They also examine the roles of individuals and groups in the American political system with a focus on voting, the electoral process, polling, and interest groups. Students compare the American government with other modern systems and assess the strengths and challenges associated with the American system. The final unit of the course focuses on economic systems, choices, revenue and expenditures, and the budget making process of the United States government. Students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams, online discussions, writing assignments and projects to develop and show mastery of this subject matter material.

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▶ HONORS AMERICAN GOVERNMENT—SEMESTER

American Government is the study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus of this course is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded as well as the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students study the principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, republicanism, federalism, and individual rights. They also examine the roles of individuals and groups in the American political system with a focus on voting, the electoral process, polling, and interest groups. Students compare the American government with other modern systems and assess the strengths and challenges associated with the American system. The final unit of the course focuses on economic systems, choices, revenue and expenditures, and the budget making process of the United States government. Students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams, online discussions, writing assignments and projects to develop and show mastery of this subject matter material.

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▶ ECONOMICS—SEMESTER

The Economics course begins with a survey of the basic principles concerning production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services within the free enterprise system. Students will examine the rights and responsibilities of consumers and businesses, analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price, and study the role of financial institutions. Types of business ownership, market structures, and basic concepts of consumer economics will be surveyed. The impact of a variety of factors including geography, government intervention, economic philosophies, historic documents, societal values, scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the national economy, and economic policy will be an integral part of the course. Students will apply critical-thinking skills to create economic models and to evaluate economic activity patterns. Students will also examine the knowledge and skills necessary as self-supporting adults to make critical decisions relating to personal financial matters such as seeking college financial aid, using credit wisely, and balancing financial accounts. Students will complete a research project as part of their course.

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► HONORS ECONOMICS—SEMESTER

The main goal of this course is to provide students with the tools needed to be able to make assessments about the economy. Topics include both macroeconomics and microeconomics. Students will be able to assess the news reports and make an individual analysis based on data and reports. It also covers topics on a larger scale such as market structures and international trade.

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► AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY—SEMESTER

How have African Americans shaped the culture of the United States throughout history? Tracing the accomplishments and obstacles of African Americans from the slave trade through emancipation, and to the modern African diaspora, you will learn about the political, economic, social, religious, and cultural factors that have influenced African American life. In African American History, you'll come face to face with individuals who changed the course of history and learn more about slavery, racism, and the Civil Rights Movement. You will also explore how the history of African Americans influences current events today.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

► HISTORY OF THE HOLOCAUST—SEMESTER

Holocaust education requires a comprehensive study of not only times, dates, and places, but also the motivation and ideology that allowed these events. In this course, students will study the history of anti-Semitism; the rise of the Nazi party; and the Holocaust, from its beginnings through liberation and the aftermath of the tragedy. The study of the Holocaust is a multi-disciplinary one, integrating world history, geography, American history, and civics. Through this in-depth, semester-long study of the Holocaust, high school students will gain an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice and indifference, the potential for government-supported terror, and they will get glimpses of kindness and humanity in the worst of times.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

► PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS—SEMESTER

Students examine in-depth the role of philosophy past, present and future. Upon completion of the course, students can expect to better understand the basic history of the various schools of thought, appreciate various methods for understanding and challenging logical and analytical arguments, and personally explore their own philosophical orientation on many current topics. Imperative ethical and philosophical questions will be examined and analyzed such as: Does right change over time, or depending on circumstances? Which is more powerful, truth or beauty? What

is a white lie? Is there a correlation between legal and ethical? Should a behavior be allowed if nobody has a problem with it? Which right is more important, that of the community, or the individual? Is it more honorable to be true to your nature, or to overcome it? Students have the opportunity to respectfully debate views with classmates within a virtual discussion board.

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► HONORS PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS—SEMESTER

This Social Studies course provides students an introduction to the field of philosophy and ethics and its great, timeless questions. This course will help students (1) see why ethics matters to society and to themselves, (2) understand core concepts (theories, principles, values, virtues, and the like), (3) be familiar with the background (scientific, legal, and otherwise) of contemporary moral problems, and (4) know how to apply critical reasoning to those problems—to assess moral judgments and principles, construct and evaluate moral arguments, and apply and critique moral theories.

Honors • UC Honors Approved Elective • NCAA Additional Core Approved

► PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is everywhere, affecting every second of life. Learning about psychology can positively affect life in three main ways. First, while studying psychology, the course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. Second, this course can influence your personal life. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Third, taking this course will help you develop academic skills. Many topics in psychology directly translate into skills that you can use to improve your studying. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

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► SOCIOLOGY—SEMESTER

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. Material is presented that is familiar and relevant to the students in a way that allows them to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

AP Social Studies

The level of rigor in these AP Social Studies courses is equivalent to that required of students in a freshman or sophomore college course in this area of study. These courses have been audited and approved by the College Board and prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement examination. AP is a trademark registered by the College Board.

▶ AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

The Advanced Placement course in European History is designed to provide students with the factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to understand and evaluate the evolution of European history from approximately 1450 to the present. The course is divided into units that focus on the intellectual and cultural, political and diplomatic, and social and economic developments in Europe. The course will examine these themes as they interconnect and show changes over time in European history. Analysis of primary sources material including readings, maps, art, cartoons, graphs and charts is a vital aspect of the course. The significance of varying viewpoints and interpretations of a variety of episodes and issues will introduce students to historiography and the evaluation of historical evidence. Statistical analysis is included as appropriate.

This course is taught at the college level. Major differences between a regular high school history course and a college-level history course is the greater amount of reading and the depth of focus that is found in the college-level course. Moreover, the AP curriculum demands higher-order thinking skills within a rigorous academic context. Thus, students are frequently required to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate primary and secondary historical sources, in addition to comprehending, memorizing, and applying facts.

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▶ AP U.S. HISTORY

In AP U.S. History, students investigate the development of American economics, politics, and culture through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, research, and writing. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law. Through the examination of historical themes and the application of historical thinking skills, students learn to connect specific people, places, events, and ideas to the larger trends of U.S. history. Critical reading activities, feedback-rich instruction, and application oriented assignments hone students' ability to reason chronologically, to interpret historical sources, and to construct well-supported historical arguments. Students write throughout the course, responding to primary and secondary sources through journal entries, essays, and visual presentations of historical content. In discussion activities, students respond to the positions of others while staking and defending claims of their own. Robust scaffolding, rigorous instruction, relevant material, and regular opportunities for active learning ensure that students can achieve mastery of the skills necessary to excel on the AP exam.

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▶ AP U.S. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS— SEMESTER

“Lights, Camera, Action” ...Prepare to study the intricacies of the American Political Culture. The script is written and the actors participate daily in the drama of American politics. You will be “on location” to delve into primary source documents. You will go behind the scenes with stars such as the President, Congress people, and Supreme Court Justices. You will research the roles of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. Finally, you will witness the large-scale production of policy building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration.

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▶ AP MICROECONOMICS—SEMESTER

In AP Microeconomics, students study the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers in the economic system. Through learning activities including quizzes, discussions, and document-based questions, students study the nature and functions of product markets and factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

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▶ AP MACROECONOMICS—SEMESTER

In AP Macroeconomics, students study the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Through learning activities including quizzes, discussions, and document-based questions, students study national income and price-level determination, economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

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▶ AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

The AP Human Geography 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. Students use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world in which we live. Students are challenged to use maps and geographical data to examine spatial patterns and analyze the changing interconnections among people and places.

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▶ AP PSYCHOLOGY

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences. This college level course will expand your knowledge, challenge your mind and, at times, actually be entertaining! It will help you to better understand yourself and those around you.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

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▶ AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN

The first semester of AP World History: Modern reflects the new directives and formulations of the College Board and focuses on the history of humanity beginning in the Modern Era. The course offers two prologues, focusing on prehistoric, early, and classical civilizations. Focusing on the development of world cultures and the growth of interconnectivity and globalism, the course touches upon the eleventh to mid-eighteenth centuries, from state building of the medieval period to expansion of trade and exploration. Through this semester, students will be introduced to concepts that will be placed on the AP examination, and will also be given multiple opportunities to practice skills necessary for the AP exam. The second semester of AP World History is a continuation of semester one, starting with changing ideas and beliefs, and periods of revolution and nation-building. This course will continue to make connections between nations and look at the big picture concepts of the world until present day. This semester will also spend time preparing specifically for the AP exam. Through review materials and practicing skills needed for the AP exam, students will work on being prepared for the exam.

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$$f(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \prod_{i=0}^n (x - x_i)$$

Mathematics

►ALGEBRA 1

Algebra I is the foundation of upper school math. The skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future math courses. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the basic skills and problem solving strategies to work through many types of mathematical problems using critical thinking skills. Topics include: basic operations, modeling, algebraic properties, functions, expressions, equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, exponents, radicals, linear, exponential and quadratic functions, systems, intro to statistics and word problems. Students are assessed throughout each module to demonstrate their mastery of the course content.

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►HONORS ALGEBRA 1

Algebra I is the foundation of upper school math. The skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future math courses. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the basic skills and problem solving strategies to work through many types of mathematical problems using critical thinking skills. Topics include: basic operations, modeling, algebraic properties, functions, expressions, equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, exponents, radicals, linear, exponential and quadratic functions, systems, intro to statistics and word problems. Students are assessed throughout each module to demonstrate their mastery of the course content. Honors Algebra 1 adds additional rigorous content and activities to apply the skills introduced in the Algebra 1 curriculum.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra with an A or B

Honors • UC Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics

►GEOMETRY

In this intermediate high school mathematics course, plane, solid, and coordinate geometry concepts are presented using explanations and real-world applications that help students make connections to everyday life. Students further their existing algebraic and problem-solving skills by practicing logic, reasoning, and argumentation. Course topics include logic and proof, parallel lines and polygons, perimeter and area analysis, volume and surface area analysis, similarity and congruence, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Students who succeed in this course will emerge ready to begin learning advanced mathematics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

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►HONORS GEOMETRY

In this course, plane, solid, and coordinate geometry concepts are presented using explanations and real-world applications that help students make connections to everyday life. Students further their existing algebraic and problem-solving skills by practicing logic, reasoning, and argumentation. Course topics include logic and proof, parallel lines and polygons, perimeter and area analysis, volume and surface area analysis, similarity and congruence, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Honors students will use the information learned in the course to create a model of an object. Transformations, ratios, construction, and proofs will all be combined in the creation stages. The student will also have the opportunity to be an architect by creating the outdoor space of their dreams, which will involve right-triangle trigonometry, 3-D polyhedron, and circles.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 1 with an A or B

Honors • UC Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics



$$f(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \prod_{i=0}^n (x - x_i)$$

Mathematics

►ALGEBRA 2

Students develop an organized approach to solving a variety of higher-level algebraic problems utilizing the symbols, methodologies, and language necessary to properly communicate and analyze the algebraic concepts covered in this course.

In addition, students will master conventional systems while strengthening their intuitive development with problem-solving and critical thinking skills. The focus is on polynomial, rational, and radical relationships, trigonometric functions, modeling with functions, and inferences and conclusions from data. The course builds upon linear relationships, leading to quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions. The algebraic concepts are applied to conic sections, trigonometric functions and identities, and probability and statistics with an emphasis on binomial and normal distributions. Students are tested periodically and are encouraged to review material on a regular basis to succeed with mastery of the content.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

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►HONORS ALGEBRA 2

Students develop an organized approach to solving a variety of higher-level algebraic problems utilizing the symbols, methodologies, and language necessary to properly communicate and analyze the algebraic concepts covered in this course. The focus is on polynomial, rational, and radical relationships, trigonometric functions, modeling with functions, and inferences and conclusions from data. The course builds upon linear relationships leading to quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions. The algebraic concepts are applied to conic sections, trigonometric functions and identities, and probability and statistics with an emphasis on binomial and normal distributions. Honors students will create a project (a mock letter or presentation to a senator) applying polynomial identities to complex numbers, the binomial theorem, Pascal's triangle, the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, and the closure of rational expressions. In addition, students will use pharmaceutical research to determine if a product should be produced using permutations and combinations, probability models, and fairness through randomness.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

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►PRE-CALCULUS

Pre-Calculus teaches students the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in college-level mathematics courses and in mathematics-based disciplines such as chemistry and physics. The course contains in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. There is also emphasis on multiphase calculations, translations and applied mathematics, problem solving, and the development of productive thought patterns. Topics include linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions; systems of equations; trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; vectors; laws of cosine and sine; polar functions; and notation and arithmetic of complex numbers.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry

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►HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

The main objective of this course is to introduce the student to advanced topics in mathematics and to prepare the student for taking the AP Calculus exam the following year. This course will cover the fundamental concepts of polynomials, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions, inverse functions, analytic geometry, polar coordinates, complex numbers, vectors, determinants, sequences, series, matrices, limits and continuity. The course places a strong emphasis on critical thinking skills and verbal and written communication methods for solving problems. The use of technology, such as the graphing calculator, is highly integrated into the course and the textbook to allow all students to see the solution from a graphical perspective. Additionally, connections are made throughout the Pre-Calculus course to calculus, art, history, and a variety of other fields related to mathematics.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry

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► CALCULUS

Calculus introduces students to universal concepts in the graphing of functions and optimizations. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve real-world problems. The course continues with techniques of integration, indefinite integrals, definite integrals, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and various applications of integration.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus

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► TRIGONOMETRY—SEMESTER

This semester course focuses on the essential topics of trigonometry. The course provides a foundation of basic trig concepts including degrees/radians, unit circle, trig ratios, trig equations, graphing and trig applications.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry

College Prep • UC Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics

► PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS—SEMESTER

Introduction to Probability and Statistics combines step-by-step instructions, real-life examples and exercises as well as technology to make statistics accessible for all. This course will show how statistics is used to picture and describe the world and will also help students learn how to apply statistics to make informed decisions. The goal of this course is not to produce statisticians but to produce informed consumers of statistical reports. For this reason, students will complete exercises that require them to interpret results, provide written explanations, find patterns, and make decisions.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

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► DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

Discrete Mathematics is a study of mathematical objects and ideas that can be divided into separate or distinct parts instead of continuous structures. This full year course introduces students to a general survey of mathematical concepts and how these concepts can be applied to real world problems.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

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AP Mathematics

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► AP CALCULUS AB

AP Calculus AB is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to a one semester college-level course. The material is challenging and corresponds with the syllabus of the College Board Advanced Placement Program. The course is mainly concerned with developing understanding of the concepts of calculus and applications to many areas of study including science, business, and engineering. The course emphasizes problems that are being expressed graphically, numerically, and algebraically. Students will build the foundation of Calculus by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions. The concepts of continuity and derivative as a rate of change will lead to the computation of derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. The derivatives of all functions are introduced which include power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. These derivatives are applied to the solving of real-world situations. The course continues with techniques of integration, indefinite integrals, definite integrals, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and various applications of integration. Students will need to be very proficient in the applications of the graphing calculators as it will be used extensively and required for 2 sections of the AP Calculus AB Exam. Students who complete AP Calculus BC may not enroll in AP Calculus AB, nor is concurrent enrollment in both courses allowed.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus

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► AP CALCULUS BC

An interactive text, graphing software, and math symbol software combine with the exciting online course delivery to make Calculus an adventure. This course is designed to prepare the student for the AP Calculus BC exam given each year in May. An Advanced Placement (AP) course in calculus consists of a full high school year of work that is comparable to calculus courses in colleges and universities. It is expected that students who take an AP course in calculus will seek college credit, college placement, or both, from institutions of higher learning. Most colleges and universities offer a sequence of several courses in calculus, and entering students are placed within this sequence according to the extent of their preparation, as measured by the results of an AP examination or other criteria. Students with AP Calculus BC examination credit are generally awarded 2 semesters of College Calculus credit. Students who complete AP Calculus AB may not enroll in AP Calculus BC, nor is concurrent enrollment in both courses allowed.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus

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► AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

AP Computer Science A is equivalent to the first semester of a college-level introductory 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.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Mathematics

► AP STATISTICS

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

Online or Handheld Graphing Utility Required

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

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Lab activities are incorporated in all science courses.

► EARTH SCIENCE

Earth Science is an introductory course that begins with a discussion about the nature of science, the processes of science, and instruction on how to carry out scientific investigations in the lab and the field. The course covers the properties of rocks and minerals as well as how to identify and classify them, a history of life on Earth, and the development of the geologic time scale. The course focuses on Earth's tectonic, atmospheric, and oceanic systems including how human activities impact the atmosphere and the ocean. Students will learn about weathering and soils, river and groundwater systems, glaciers, shoreline features, landscape features, Eolian Systems, and areas impacted by wind erosion. Students then cover mineral and energy resources as well as the structure and composition of the solar system. Students participate in hands on lab activities but are not required to purchase a lab kit.

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► HONORS EARTH SCIENCE

Be captivated by the wonders and beauty of the third planet from our Sun, Earth. Be amazed by what awaits your discovery within our solar system and beyond. Explore the universe. Earth Science is a laboratory course focusing on the study of space, geologic structures and forces, the waters on our planet, and atmospheric conditions. Through experimentation and investigation, students explore the earth cycles including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and the carbon cycle. This course offers interactive experiences, higher-order thinking, and real-world application along with a variety of assessments. Upon completion of the course, students have a clear understanding of the dynamic forces at work in the world around them, becoming better caretakers of our planet, Earth. Students develop deep understandings of concepts and explore concepts with an eye for research.

Honors • UC Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► PHYSICAL SCIENCE

In Physical Science, students explore the relationship between matter and energy and the nature of science including the scientific method and scientific inquiry. Topics of study include lab and field safety, experimental design and procedures, scientific communication practices, the atomic nature of matter, classification of elements, the periodic table, acids and bases, energy, electricity and magnetism, work, power, velocity, acceleration, forces, gravity, motion, simple machines, the basic principles of physics, the composition and structure of the universe, the life cycles of stars, and space exploration.

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► HONORS PHYSICAL SCIENCE

This course is designed as an interactive, 21st-century course focusing on basic physics and chemistry. Topics include forces and motion, energy through waves, electricity, and magnetism, the matter around us, chemical bonding and reactions. This course is designed to serve as a foundation for the study of the physical sciences. Students use scientific inquiry and higher-order problem solving as they explore these topics through interactive simulations, and both virtual and hands-on experiences. In addition, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) concepts are integrated throughout the course. Real-world assessments aid the student in ultimately demonstrating an understanding of the importance of the physical and chemical properties of the world around them.

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► BIOLOGY

Biology introduces the fundamental concepts including the nature of life, basic chemistry, animal structure and function, plant structure and function, reproduction and development, genetics, evolution, diversity of living things, and ecology. Through inquiry-based investigations, independent experiments, and activities, students gain firsthand experience with observing, classifying, identifying, measuring, inferring, hypothesizing, interpreting, and predicting. Students conduct kitchen-based laboratory experiments to apply scientific concepts in a practical setting.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an 8th grade science course

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► HONORS BIOLOGY

This Honors level course is a research and writing-intensive version of Biology. This course guides students through the study of living and non-living systems and how they interact with one another. Students explore the world they live in by posing questions and seeking answers through scientific inquiry. Discovery takes place through observation and data collection. The students will be introduced to the structure, function, diversity, and evolution of living matter. This is a course with real relevance. It encourages curiosity and provides an opportunity for students to work on hands-on lab activities. Engaging in the study of biological science broadens the picture of the world around us. Students will develop deep understandings of concepts and explore concepts with an eye for research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an 8th grade science course with an A or B

Honors • UC Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► CHEMISTRY

This introductory chemistry course is designed for students pursuing a technical career or admission to college. Topics of study include phases of matter, atomic and molecular models, polarity, solutions, ionic bonding, stoichiometry, acids and bases, Le Chatelier's Principle, the mole, nuclear reactions, the periodic table, isomers, molecular orbitals, chemical reactions, energy and change, osmosis, entropy, reaction rates, and more. This course enhances inquiry-based learning activities and instruction emphasizes the mathematical, theoretical, and experimental basis of modern chemistry. Throughout this course, students actively engage in exploration and analysis that will improve their ability to explain and predict phenomena using scientific skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

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► HONORS CHEMISTRY

Chemistry contains several laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures that are an integral part of the learning experience. This course is designed as an interactive, 21st century course. Topics include the composition, properties, and changes associated with matter and their applications. This course serves as a foundation for the study of Chemistry. The utilization of scientific inquiry, interactive experiences, higher order thinking, and real world application all aid the student in ultimately demonstrating a vast understanding of the importance of Chemistry in the world around them; enabling them to apply these properties to their everyday lives. Students develop deep understandings of concepts and explore concepts with an eye for research.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

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► PHYSICS

The branch of science we call physics mainly focuses on matter and energy. It uses the four major concepts: mass, energy, force, and charge. The goal of physics is to describe the behavior of the world. This course stresses the importance of physics in day-to-day life and aims to help students understand the theoretical concepts of physics through practical applications. Students learn and experience the behavior of motion in one- and two-dimensions, force, work, energy, momentum and collisions, gravitation, heat, thermodynamics, waves, electricity, circuits, magnetism, and atomic physics. This helps the student understand its functions and observe the relationship between one another. Around 45% of the course involves virtual laboratories. In addition, the course contains multiple practical activities in each unit that require household objects such as rulers, meter sticks, balls, strings, paper and pencil. The course concludes with a basic exploration of atomic physics and magnetism and the relationship between the two.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry

Co-requisite: Enrollment in Algebra 2

College Prep • UC Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► HONORS PHYSICS

In each module of Physics, students discover the contributions of scientific geniuses like Galileo, Newton, and Einstein. Through their work, students learn the concepts, theories, and laws that govern the interaction of matter, energy, and forces. From tiny atoms to galaxies with millions of stars, the universal laws of physics are explained through real-world examples. Using laboratory activities, simulations, images, and interactive elements, students follow in the footsteps of some of the world's greatest thinkers. Students develop deep understandings of concepts and explore concepts with an eye for research.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry

Co-requisite: Enrollment in Algebra 2

Honors • UC Honors Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Explore the organization of the human body and how it works. Acquire knowledge necessary to understand what the body is doing and how you can help the body cope with many different situations. Body systems will be studied in order to understand how their structure, location, and function allow for interaction with other parts of the body.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

College Prep • UC Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► HONORS HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Explore the organization of the human body and how it works. Acquire knowledge necessary to understand what the body is doing and how you can help the body cope with many different situations. Body systems will be studied in order to understand how their structure, location, and function allow for interaction with other parts of the body. Honors topics require an in-depth analysis of topics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

Honors • UC Honors Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► MARINE SCIENCE

As our amazing planet continues to change over time, it becomes increasingly apparent how human activity has made environmental impacts. In the marine science course, students will delve deep into Earth's bodies of water and study geologic structures and how they impact the oceans. Students will investigate characteristics of various populations, patterns of distribution of life in our aquatic systems, and ongoing changes occurring every day in our precious ecosystems. Students will be amazed and enlightened at just how much our oceans and lakes affect climate, weather, and seasonal variations. They will have the opportunity to explore the relationships among living organisms and see how they are affected by our oceans currents, tides, and waves. Hold on, it is one amazing journey.

College Prep • UC Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

► HONORS MARINE SCIENCE

As our amazing planet continues to change over time, it becomes increasingly apparent how human activity has made environmental impacts. In the marine science course, students will delve deep into Earth's bodies of water and study geologic structures and how they impact the oceans. Students will investigate characteristics of various populations, patterns of distribution of life in our aquatic systems, and ongoing changes occurring every day in our precious ecosystems. Students will be amazed and enlightened at just how much our oceans and lakes affect climate, weather, and seasonal variations. They will have the opportunity to explore the relationships among living organisms and see how they are affected by our oceans currents, tides, and waves. Hold on, it is one amazing journey. Students will complete an honors project each semester which showcases their unique learning styles and provides an in-depth analysis of a course objective.

Honors • UC Honors Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science



Marine Science

AP Science

The level of rigor in these AP Science courses is equivalent to that required of students in a freshman or sophomore college course in this area of study. These courses have been audited and approved by the College Board and prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement examination. AP is a trademark registered by the College Board.

▶ AP BIOLOGY

During this course, students are engaged in a wide variety of activities with substantial emphasis on interpreting and collecting data in virtual labs, writing analytical essays, and mastering Biology concepts and connections. The key themes of the AP Biology course are: the scientific processes, the effects of science on technology and society, the chemistry and make up of living organisms, genetics, diversity, and evolution. Throughout this course, students will be expected to answer questions, reflect on issues, and complete lab activities. The primary emphasis is to develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms and technical details.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 1

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▶ AP CHEMISTRY

In this course students will build their understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying chemical reactions and electrochemistry, students move on to understand how the chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and arrangements of the molecules, as well as the forces between those molecules. Students will examine the laws of thermodynamics, molecular collisions, and the reorganization of matter in order to understand how changes in matter take place. Finally, students will explore chemical equilibria including acid-base equilibria. This course prepares students for further study in science, the health sciences, or engineering.

Requirement: Students must purchase a lab kit at an additional cost.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

▶ AP PHYSICS 1

AP Physics 1 is equivalent to the first semester of an algebra-based college level course in physics and prepares students to seek credit and/or appropriate placement in college physics courses. This course is structured around the six big ideas that are intended to encourage students to think about physics concepts as interconnected pieces of a puzzle. The solution to the puzzle is how the real world around them actually works. Students will participate in inquiry-based explorations to gain a more conceptual understanding of physics concepts. They will spend less of their time in traditional formula-based learning and more of their effort will be directed to developing critical thinking and reasoning skills. A special emphasis will be placed on capturing important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objectives that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills. With teacher guidance, students explore physics, perform hands-on labs, engage with a suite of virtual labs and participate in online discussions with their peers. A variety of assessments are delivered at regular intervals to monitor learning progress.

Requirement: Students must purchase a lab kit at an additional cost.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Trigonometry or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus

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▶ AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

This course provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Additionally, students will learn to identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and human-made. Students will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing problems. Laboratories support student content mastery in both hands-on and virtual experiences.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Chemistry

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Science • NCAA Approved Science

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World Languages

▶ AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) 1

Did you know that American Sign Language (ASL) is the third most commonly used language in North America? American Sign Language 1 Part A will introduce you to vocabulary and simple sentences, so that you can start communicating right away. Importantly, you will explore Deaf culture—social beliefs, traditions, history, values and communities influenced by deafness. Part B will introduce you to more of this language and its grammatical structures. You will expand your vocabulary by exploring interesting topics like Deaf education and Deaf arts and culture.

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▶ AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) 2

Explore the vocabulary you need for shopping, making purchases, and dealing with emergencies. Building upon the prior prerequisite course, you will progress your communication skills and foster your understanding of deaf culture. You will learn about classifiers, glossing, and mouth morphemes, as well as how to give descriptions and directions. In Part B, students will increase their proficiency by learning about sequencing, transitions, role-shifts, and future tenses. Students will learn how to tell a story and ask questions, benefiting with greater exposure to deaf culture. Speed, conversations, signing skills, and cultural awareness are characteristic of this course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of ASL 1

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

▶ AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) 3

As you dive into more advanced ASL signing, including unique grammar features and advanced classifiers and locatives, you'll learn, compose, and present your new-found vocabulary and narratives by immersing yourself in Deaf culture and community. From opinions, slang, and idioms, to using technology and media that offers authentic Deaf perspectives. Explore how travel, cultural differences, and geography affect sign language. And gain a better understanding of Deaf culture by learning important events and examining topics such as education, science, and literature. For Part B, are you ready to discover ways in which Deaf culture influences the world in general? After all, the concept of culture goes far beyond an understanding of Deaf history. Through discussing Deaf culture and experiences, you'll advance your signing skills by developing verb tenses, grammar, and syntax. Apply your language skills in real conversation activities and through opportunities to debate real issues. It's also time to explore the next steps in education and career opportunities for your new intermediate ASL skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of ASL 2

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

▶ SPANISH 1

Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

▶ SPANISH 2

Students continue their study of Spanish by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. By semester 2, the course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School Spanish 1

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► SPANISH 3

Students further deepen their understanding of Spanish by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of a variety of activities which teach the students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through informal speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in both formal and informal spoken and written contexts. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, use correct vocabulary terms and phrases naturally, incorporate a wide range of grammar concepts consistently and correctly while speaking and writing, participate in conversations covering a wide range of topics, respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of Hispanic literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School Spanish 2

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► FRENCH 1

French 1 is an introductory course in learning academic French. It is also the foundation course for French 2 and 3. In this course, students begin their introduction to French by building fundamental skills in the four key areas of world language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The majority of study is focused on verb conjugation, grammar, basic vocabulary, and basic pronunciation. Cultural information about Francophone countries and communities and cross-cultural reflections are present throughout the course.

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► FRENCH 2

Students continue their study of French by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. By semester 2, the course is conducted almost entirely in French. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School French 1

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► FRENCH 3

Students further deepen their understanding of French by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of a variety of activities which teach the students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through informal speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in both formal and informal spoken and written contexts. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, use correct vocabulary terms and phrases naturally, incorporate a wide range of grammar concepts consistently and correctly while speaking and writing, participate in conversations covering a wide range of topics, respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course is conducted almost entirely in French. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School French 2

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► GERMAN 1

Students begin their introduction to German with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of world-language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are initially trained to recognize key sounds and basic vocabulary, not only in written form but also through ear training that leads quickly to oral production. An ongoing adventure story introduces vocabulary and grammar topics, prompting students to use skills from the four language-learning areas. Students learn fundamental grammar as embedded in authentic spoken language. Engaging graphics, video, and games keep students interested, making learning languages exciting. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress.

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► GERMAN 2

Students continue their study of German by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. By semester 2, the course is conducted almost entirely in German. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School German 1

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► LATIN 1

Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► LATIN 2

Students continue with their study of Latin through ancient, time honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, prepare students for a deeper study of Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. The emphasis is on reading Latin through engaging with myths from the ancient world which are presented in Latin. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand and use common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School Latin 1
College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► CHINESE 1

Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

► CHINESE 2

Students continue their study of Chinese by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Character recognition and practice are a key focus of the course and students are expected to learn several characters each unit. However, pinyin is still presented with characters throughout the course to aid in listening and reading comprehension. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Upper School Chinese 1

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AP World Languages

The level of rigor in these AP World Languages courses is equivalent to that required of students in a freshman or sophomore college course in this area of study. These courses have been audited and approved by the College Board and prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement examination. AP is a trademark registered by the College Board.

▶ AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course is an advanced language course in which students are directly prepared for the AP Spanish Language and Culture test. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. The course is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish. The course is based on the six themes required by the College Board: (1) global challenges, (2) science and technology, (3) contemporary life, (4) personal and public identities, (5) families and communities, and (6) beauty and aesthetics. The course teaches language structures in context and focuses on the development of fluency to convey meaning. Students explore culture in both contemporary and historical contexts to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural products, practices, and perspectives. Students should expect to listen to, read, and understand a wide-variety of authentic Spanish-language materials and sources, demonstrate proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication using Spanish, gain knowledge and understanding of the cultures of Spanish speaking areas of the world, use Spanish to connect with other disciplines and expand knowledge in a wide-variety of contexts, develop insight into the nature of the Spanish language and its culture, and use Spanish to participate in communities at home and around the world. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course is a college level course. The intensity, quality, and amount of course material can be compared to that of a third-year college course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 3 or native fluency in Spanish

*Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Language •
NCAA Approved Additional Core*

▶ AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The AP French Language and Culture course is an advanced language course in which students are directly prepared for the AP French Language and Culture test. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. The course is conducted almost exclusively in French. The course is based on the six themes required by the College Board: (1) global challenges, (2) science and technology, (3) contemporary life, (4) personal and public identities, (5) families and communities, and (6) beauty and aesthetics. The course teaches language structures in context and focuses on the development of fluency to convey meaning. Students explore culture in both contemporary and historical contexts to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural products, practices, and perspectives. Students should expect to listen to, read, and understand a wide-variety of authentic French-language materials and sources, demonstrate proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication using French, gain knowledge and understanding of the cultures of the Francophone world, use French to connect with other disciplines and expand knowledge in a wide-variety of contexts, develop insight into the nature of the French language and its culture, and use French to participate in communities at home and around the world. The AP French Language and Culture course is a college level course. The intensity, quality, and amount of course material can be compared to that of a third-year college course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 3 or native fluency in French

*Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Language •
NCAA Approved Additional Core*

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▶ ART HISTORY 1: 30,000 BCE–1900 CE—SEMESTER

Interpreting the origins of art gives students a unique perspective on their own work. In Art History I, students will analyze various art forms including painting, sculpture and architecture over the changing periods of time. Beginning with study of the earliest cave paintings, students will create art to immerse themselves in the content and study movements and masters over changing periods of time.

NOTE: This course covers many works of fine art over the centuries. Often, great artists portrayed the male and female form in various positions and clothing. Efforts have been made to be as conservative as possible. However, some artists and their works could not be represented without allowing partial nudity or suggestive positions.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

▶ ART HISTORY 2: 1901–PRESENT—SEMESTER

Appreciating the cultural context of art in the modern era relies on analyzing artistic principles, abstract symbolism and design techniques. Students in Art History II will explore trends from Post-Impressionism to street art and understand the formal and conceptual issues that foster changes in art throughout history.

NOTE: This course covers many works of fine art over the centuries. Often, great artists portrayed the male and female form in various positions and clothing. Efforts have been made to be as conservative as possible. However, some artists and their works could not be represented without allowing partial nudity or suggestive positions.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

▶ ARTS AND SOCIETY 1: 4000 BCE–1750 CE—SEMESTER

The arts are not created in a vacuum. They are the result of the people and cultures that create them. Arts and Society I takes the student on a chronological walk through history, stopping along the way at a variety of historical, political, cultural and artistic key moments. From 4000 BCE to 1750 CE, the student analyzes the relationship between the societal culture and the arts being produced.

NOTE: This course covers many times during world history that are controversial and full of change. Many sensitive subjects are covered, including politics and religion.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

▶ ARTS AND SOCIETY 2: 1751–PRESENT—SEMESTER

How do the people and the cultures of society affect the art around them? Students in Arts and Society II step into history and explore key moments from 1751 to the present in politics, culture and art. Arts and Society enhances students' global awareness as they learn to interpret these significant events and their impact on the arts.

NOTE: This course covers many times during world history that are controversial and full of change. Many sensitive subjects are covered, including politics and religion.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

▶ ARTS EXPLORATIONS—SEMESTER

Introducing students to diverse areas in the arts can broaden their perspective on the arts in general. Arts Explorations encourages students to experience each of the modern arts disciplines including Visual Arts, Theatre, Music, Media Arts and Dance. Students will also be able to identify areas of special interest where they would like continued study and ways that the arts can be a part of their career paths.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

▶ ART IN WORLD CULTURES

Who is the greatest artist of all time? Is it Leonardo da Vinci? Claude Monet? Michelangelo? Pablo Picasso? Is the greatest artist of all time someone whose name has been lost to history? You will learn about some of the greatest artists while also creating art of your own, including digital art. We will explore the basic principles and elements of art, learn how to critique art, and examine some of the traditional art of the Americas, Africa, and Oceania in addition to the development of Western art.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ EXPLORATIONS IN ARTS CAREERS—SEMESTER

For every Broadway dancer, every television star, and every pop singer, there are countless people behind the scenes helping to make it happen. Explorations in Arts Careers introduces students to the skills that are part of many fascinating careers in the arts. Studying the arts creates independent and innovative thinkers and many doors are open to an artist with the proper training.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts



► EXPLORATIONS IN FILM AND TELEVISION—SEMESTER

The culture of cinema and television tells a unique story of history and innovation. Students in Explorations in Film and Television will be introduced to industry icons and stars of the big and small screen. By studying and writing about film and television, students will analyze trends in technology and culture and better understand how to be an informed viewer.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN MEDIA ARTS—SEMESTER

From television to video games, media is everywhere. In Explorations in Media Arts, students will study the art behind the media, how it is created, the history of media, and the legal and ethical issues that arise while creating media arts. Students will apply critical thinking skills to creating web, video, animation, and graphic media projects.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN STUDIO ARTS—SEMESTER

Drawing and painting are two of the most basic forms of self-expression. In Explorations in Studio Arts, students will elevate those skills and develop an understanding of colors, shapes, composition, and design. By studying renowned artists and their styles, students will investigate their own forms of expression and build a vocabulary of tools and materials to enhance their creativity.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY—SEMESTER

Capturing a special moment in a photograph is powerful. In Introduction to Digital Photography, students will study the history of photography as well as the basic operations of a digital camera. As they are introduced to different styles of photography and photographers, students will begin to develop their skills as well as their own eye for photography.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► PHOTO MANIPULATION—SEMESTER

Manipulating an image is its own unique form of art. By using accessible software tools and applications including Photoshop, students in Photo Manipulation will learn strategies for creating complex imagery. Students will incorporate the principles of design while creating unique new concepts in their art.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► PHOTOJOURNALISM—SEMESTER

A powerful image can tell an eloquent story without words. Students in Photojournalism will be introduced to some of the pioneers who set the standards for this unique way of storytelling. As they study the principal types of photojournalism and the ethical responsibilities a photojournalist has behind the lens, students will develop their own storytelling skills through their writing and their photographs.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► STUDIO ARTS 1: TECHNIQUES AND TOOLS—SEMESTER

With the right foundation, creativity can flourish. In Studio Arts I, students build the groundwork for their art by practicing unique exercises to develop drawing, painting and mixed media skills. Incorporating their understanding of composition, design, colors and forms, students will use the appropriate materials and tools to work from realism to abstract.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► STUDIO ARTS 2: CONCEPTS AND EXPRESSIONS—SEMESTER

Developing a unique personal style and creating complex imagery is possible for any artist. Students in Studio Arts II will engage in techniques that take their work to a more sophisticated level. Analyzing other artists and their works will help students find deeper meaning and new interpretations. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Arts I: Techniques and Tools
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION—SEMESTER

Music in America has a rich history. In American Music Appreciation, students will navigate this unique combination of culture and creativity that spawned jazz, rock and roll, and hip hop. From early church music to 21st century pop, students will gain a new understanding of the key developments, people and genres in American music.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► CLASSICAL MUSIC APPRECIATION—SEMESTER

What defines classical music? Students in Classical Music Appreciation will gain an understanding of the structure of conventional music that follows long-established principles, as compared to more spontaneous music, like folk and jazz. By studying composers and the society that shaped them, students will gain a new appreciation for the classical music form.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► MUSIC APPRECIATION: THE ENJOYMENT OF LISTENING—SEMESTER

Music is part of everyday lives and reflects the spirit of our human condition. To know and understand music, we distinguish and identify cultures on local and global levels. This course will provide students with an aesthetic and historical perspective of music, covering a variety of styles and developments from the Middle Ages through the Twentieth First Century. Students will acquire basic knowledge and listening skills, making future music experiences more informed and satisfying.
College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► EXPLORATIONS IN MUSIC 1—SEMESTER

Music can be simple, yet incredibly complex. Students in Explorations in Music I are introduced to music theory, instrument families, music notation and organization. By analyzing the ways music is connected to other disciplines and industries and learning music terminology, students will progress in their understanding of music.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN MUSIC 2—SEMESTER

What is a symphony and an opera? How do you recognize a song from Japan or Russia? In Explorations in Music II, students will study different forms of music from around the world. By learning about the musical identities of different cultures and countries, students will be able to identify different genres, instruments and styles in the world of music.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Explorations in Music 1

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► MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD—SEMESTER

There is a vibrant chord of music that runs through every culture in the world. Students in Music Around the World will explore the music of Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. From Finland to Mongolia to Zimbabwe, students will study the impact a country's history and societal values have on the music of that nation.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► MUSIC THEORY 1—SEMESTER

Understand the beautiful language of music. In Music Theory I, students will learn the “alphabet” that makes up music including music notation. Learn how to read music and to follow the structure including pitch, rhythm, harmony, scales, keys and chords, empowering any avid music listener or future musician.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Explorations in Music 2 or some previous music study

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► MUSIC THEORY 2—SEMESTER Elevate music comprehension by understanding the concepts and rules. Music Theory II is both theoretical and practical and encompasses advanced harmonic and rhythmic structures, instrumentations and key changes. Through sight and sound, students will deepen their appreciation of music with a grasp of music theory.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Music Theory 1

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► CHOREOGRAPHY AND CHOREOGRAPHERS—SEMESTER

Choreography is a statement about society, culture, and history. Students in Choreography and Choreographers will gain insight into the creative processes and will trace the work of influential choreographers from the 16th century to the present.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► DANCE AROUND THE WORLD—SEMESTER

Throughout human history, some form of dance has evolved in every civilization. Students in Dance Around the World will explore dance as a ritual, religious and performed art from the primitive ages through modern day. Historic and cultural perspectives will be examined to study those influences on the work of choreographers and dancers.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► DANCE IN AMERICA—SEMESTER

The history of American dance is complex and rich with innovation. Dance in America takes the student on a journey through the social and political climates that fostered its development. From early ballet companies to Broadway and music videos, numerous choreographers, artists and dancers have contributed to the evolution of American dance.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN DANCE 1—SEMESTER

Grace, beauty, and the pursuit of excellence are hallmarks of ballet and modern dance grew out of that tradition. In Explorations in Dance I, students will study the foundations of the ballet style from clothing and training to rehearsal and performance and the evolution of modern dance. Students will meet the artists on stage and behind the scenes who help to create the magic of ballet and modern dance.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN DANCE 2—SEMESTER

The bright lights of Broadway have showcased many dancers' talents. Students in Explorations in Dance II will be introduced to the audition process, learn about the roles of agents and unions, as well as explore some of the most exciting Broadway shows. The basics of jazz and tap dance are introduced as well as the many places dancers can use their talents.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Explorations in Dance 1

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► INTRODUCTION TO DANCE—SEMESTER

What inspires choreographers and dancers? Students in Introduction to Dance will study the main elements of dance: space, time and energy. They will discover how a choreographer uses these elements to create a dance piece and explore how dancers respond with their own creativity.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN THEATRE 1—SEMESTER

Watching a well-done performance is enjoyable. Explorations in Theatre I helps students understand the effort that goes into that performance. Through the perspective of the performer, the playwright, and the director, students will gain an appreciation of the artists who have contributed to both musical and non-musical performances and an understanding of the actor's world.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► EXPLORATIONS IN THEATRE 2—SEMESTER

Beyond the actors you see on stage, many others are behind the scenes making it all happen. Students in Explorations in Theatre II will build a vocabulary of the people and the equipment at work behind the scenes in the theater. Understanding the business aspects of producing a performance as well as the artistic considerations in technical production enhances future audience members' appreciation for the theatre.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Explorations in Theatre 1

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► HISTORY OF THEATRE 1: 524 BCE—1650 CE—SEMESTER

Humans have been performing since the first person told a story. Students in History of Theatre I will gain an appreciation of the ancient literature, architecture, acting styles and artists that were major influences in early theatre. From ancient times to 1650, students will learn how theatre and society have influenced each other to engage and entertain.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► HISTORY OF THEATRE 2: 1651—PRESENT—SEMESTER

From a stage in a barn to the lights of Broadway, theatre has a vibrant history. In History of Theatre II, students will study the technology, artists, literature and architecture from 1651 to present. Key points in the development of theatre and the playwrights and producers behind them will enrich students' appreciation for modern theatre.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of History of Theatre 1

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► THEATRE AROUND THE WORLD—SEMESTER

If all the world is a stage, then Theatre Around the World is an adventure. Students will travel through the countries of the world to see the similarities and differences of theatre in each culture. From ancient Indian Sanskrit theatre to famous African playwrights, students will understand how theatrical expression can unite people across the globe.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

► AP ART HISTORY

AP Art History is designed to provide college-level instruction in art history and prepare students for the AP exam in early May. This course is divided into two semesters, during which students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present and from a variety of cultures. Students learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience.

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Visual and Performing Arts

Laurel Springs does not administer AP exams, nor do we assist students in finding a testing location. Students wishing to take an AP exam are responsible for finding their own physical testing location and having a test ordered for them by following the process for independent students.



Health & Physical Education

The following courses fulfill Laurel Springs School's respective Health and Physical Education graduation requirements.

HEALTH

▶ HEALTH & PERSONAL WELLNESS—SEMESTER

This comprehensive health course provides students with essential knowledge and decision-making skills for a healthy lifestyle. Students will analyze aspects of emotional, social, and physical health and how these realms of health influence each other. Students will apply principles of health and wellness to their own lives. In addition, they will study behavior change and set goals to work on throughout the semester. Other topics of study include substance abuse, safety and injury prevention, environmental health, and consumer health.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

▶ PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 AND 2

In this course, students will learn about a variety of physical activities, sports, and exercises. Do you play a team sport? Have you ever tried yoga? Do you enjoy running? The course begins with learning how to set goals for physical fitness. You will document your selected activities by creating a portfolio, based on the goals you set at the beginning of the course. At the end of the course, you will submit your portfolio to your teacher for review.

▶ ADVANCED PE 1—SEMESTER

This course guides students through an in-depth examination of the effects of exercise on the body. Students will learn how to exercise efficiently and properly, and apply the principles they've learned by participating in physical activities. Basic anatomy, biomechanics, physiology, and sports nutrition are all integral parts of this course.

▶ ADVANCED PE 2—SEMESTER

This course gives students a more in-depth view of physical fitness by studying subjects such as: biomechanics, nutrition, exercise programming, and exercise psychology. Students will apply what they learn by participating in a more challenging exercise requirement.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Advanced PE 1

▶ FITNESS FUNDAMENTALS 1—SEMESTER

This course provides students with the basic skills and information needed to begin a personalized exercise program and maintain an active, healthy lifestyle. In this course, students will research the benefits of physical activity, as well as the techniques, principles, and guidelines of exercise to keep them safe and healthy. Students will also participate in a weekly fitness program involving elements of cardio, strength, and flexibility. Throughout the course, students will take pre- and post-fitness assessments in which they measure and analyze their own levels of fitness based on the five components of physical fitness: muscular strength, endurance, cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, and body composition.

▶ FITNESS FUNDAMENTALS 2—SEMESTER

This course takes a more in-depth look at the five components of physical fitness: muscular strength, endurance, cardiovascular health, flexibility, and body composition. In this course, students will have the opportunity to discover new interests as they experiment with a variety of exercises in a noncompetitive atmosphere. By targeting different areas of fitness, students will increase their understanding of healthy habits and practices and improve their overall fitness level. Throughout this course, students also participate in a weekly fitness program involving elements of cardio, strength, and flexibility, and take pre- and post-fitness assessment.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Fitness Fundamentals 1

▶ WALKING FITNESS—SEMESTER

This course helps students establish a regular walking program for health and fitness. Walking is appropriate for students of all fitness levels and is a great way to maintain a moderately active lifestyle. In addition to reviewing fundamental principles of fitness, students learn about goals and motivation, levels of training, walking mechanics, safety and injury prevention, appropriate attire, walking in the elements, good nutrition and hydration, and effective cross-training. Students will take a pre- and post-fitness assessment. Throughout this course, students also participate in a weekly fitness program involving walking, elements of resistance training, and flexibility.

▶ 3D MODELING—SEMESTER

Are you interested in a career in technology? Are you curious about working in fields like virtual reality, video game design, marketing, television and motion pictures, or digital imaging? If so, this course in 3D Modeling is a great place to start as it is the foundation for all these career paths. Gain a deeper understanding of graphic design and illustration as you use 3D animation software to create virtual three-dimensional design projects. Hone in on your drawing, photography, and 3D construction techniques and develop the skills needed to navigate within a 3D digital modeling workspace. This course is an excellent introduction to careers in the fast-growing field of technology and design.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ACT PREPARATION—SEMESTER

This course utilizes the award-winning ACT Shmoop software for English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing. Students will use adaptive content that builds on each section of the ACT exam. Students will take a diagnostic exam for each section and then complete lessons and practice questions before taking a practice exam. Students will take three full length ACT practice exams.

College Prep

▶ ADVERTISING & SALES PROMOTION—SEMESTER

What comes to mind when you think of the word marketing? Perhaps a familiar television jingle begins to play in your head? Or maybe you think of the irritating phone calls from people wanting to sell you something you already have? No matter what your feelings, there's no denying the sheer magnitude and power of the marketing industry. Every year companies spend approximately \$200 billion promoting their products and services—and that's just in the United States alone! You're familiar with what it's like on the receiving end of a company's marketing efforts, but what's it like on the other side? In Advertising and Sales Promotions, you'll see exactly how marketing campaigns, ads, and commercials are conceived and brought to life and even meet some of the creative folks who produce that memorable media. You'll learn about different career opportunities in the field and discover ways that you too can be a part of this exciting, fast-paced industry.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ AGRISCIENCE 1—SEMESTER

Explore the importance of agriscience from learning about its history and contribution to human civilization to growing plants and designing garden spaces. You will form a complete picture of how agriscience continues to develop the world through knowledge of the management of seed stock, how plants function, the role of animals, and the use of chemicals. Special attention will be paid to safety, promoting a healthy environment, and designing for sustainability.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ AGRISCIENCE 2—SEMESTER

Science and technology are revolutionizing many areas of our lives, and agriculture is no exception! From aquaculture to genetic engineering, agriscience is finding new ways to better produce and manage plants, animals, and other natural resources. In Agriscience 2, you'll build on your existing knowledge of plant and animal science and delve deeper into important areas such as soil science and weed management. You'll also explore research on plant and animal diseases as well as the insects and other pests that can impact agricultural enterprises and natural resources.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Agriscience 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ANIMATION 1A—SEMESTER

Have you ever watched a cartoon or played a video game where the animation of characters captivated you so much you wanted to create your own? If so, it's time to immerse yourself in the world of animation. Meet the industry players such as directors, animators, and 3D modelers. Develop your story by exploring design, the 12 principles of animation, creating a storyboard, and leveraging the tools of the trade. Let's bring your story to life with animation!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ANIMATION 1B—SEMESTER

It's time to start animating like the pros! In this hands-on course, you'll immediately start exploring the software Blender, your gateway to 3D modeling, computer animation, and postproduction procedures used in the film industry. Discover 3D modeling and animation of characters. Explore the basics of human anatomy and form to apply rigging, joints, and texture. Examine rendering and lighting effects and how to apply sound. And discover careers so you can start using your new skills right away.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Animation 1A

College Prep

▶ ANTHROPOLOGY 1: UNCOVERING HUMAN MYSTERIES—SEMESTER

The aim of anthropology is to use a broad approach to gain an understanding of our past, present and future, and in addition address the problems humans face in biological, social and cultural life. This course will explore the evolution, similarity and diversity of humankind through time. It will look at how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the anthropological world are just one of the powerful learning tools utilized in this course.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ANTHROPOLOGY 2: MORE HUMAN MYSTERIES UNCOVERED—SEMESTER

Anthropology has helped us better understand cultures around the world and through different time period. This course continues the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world. We will examine some of the ways that cultures have understood and gave meaning to different stages of life and death. The course will also examine the creation of art within cultures and examine how cultures evolve and change over time. Finally, we will apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Anthropology 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. With a unique focus on creative problem solving and real-world applications, AP CSP prepares students for college and career. This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and explores the impact computing and technology has on our society. With a unique focus on creative problem solving and real-world applications, the CodeHS AP Computer Science Principles course gives students the opportunity to explore several important topics of computing using their own ideas and creativity, use the power of computing to create artifacts of personal value, and develop an interest in computer science that will foster further endeavors in the field.

Advanced Placement • UC Honors Approved Science

Laurel Springs does not administer AP exams, nor do we assist students in finding a testing location. Students wishing to take an AP exam are responsible for finding their own physical testing location and having a test ordered for them by following the process for independent students.

▶ ARCHAEOLOGY: DETECTIVES OF THE PAST—SEMESTER

George Santayana once said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The field of archaeology helps us to better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped to shape our modern world. This course focuses on the techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students will learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artifacts are located and preserved. Finally, students will learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ASTRONOMY 1A: INTRODUCTION—SEMESTER

Follow your enthusiasm for space by introducing yourself to the study of astronomy. This course will include topics such as astronomy’s history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Further knowledge is gained through the study of galaxies, stars, and the origin of the universe.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ASTRONOMY 1B: EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE—SEMESTER

Building upon the prior prerequisite course, Astronomy 1a, dive deeper into the universe and develop a lifelong passion for space exploration and investigation. Become familiar with the inner and outer planets of the solar system as well as the sun, comets, asteroids, and meteors. Additional topics include space travel and settlements as well as the formation of planets.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Astronomy 1a

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ BIOTECHNOLOGY 1A: INTRODUCTION—SEMESTER

How is technology changing the way we live? Is it possible nature can provide all the answers to some of science’s most pressing concerns? In Biotechnology 1a: Introduction, you’ll learn the basics of biotechnology and evolutionary theory, explore the various ways we store and preserve food, and discover the process of fermentation and microbiology. This course will also cover the importance of breeding plants and hybridization and how early breeding programs led to the study of genetics and an understanding of the function of genes. Finally, you’ll delve into early industrial discoveries and explore the developments in biotechnology during the industrial revolution.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ BIOTECHNOLOGY 1B: UNLOCKING NATURE'S SECRETS—SEMESTER

The fusion of biology and technology creates an amazing process and offers humanity a chance to significantly improve our existence, while simultaneously creating new challenges. In Biotechnology 1b: Unlocking Nature's Secrets, you'll build on your knowledge from Biotechnology 1a and learn how this field seeks to cure such deadly diseases as cancer and malaria, develop innovative medicine, and effectively feed the world through improved agricultural systems. Learn about some of the challenges biotechnology faces today, such as the growth of antibiotic resistant bacteria and questions about the safety of commercially produced genetically modified organisms (GMOs). You'll research new biotechnologies and learn how they are changing the world we live in, including the environmental benefits of industrial biotechnology.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of **Biotechnology 1A**

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT 1A—SEMESTER

Build your career skills and strengthen your knowledge of business information management by exploring types of businesses and the elements of business planning. Learn about the initial requirements to start a business, then examine business finances, marketing, sales, and the importance of customer service. Computer hardware, networks, and the internet are discussed as well as the basics of web design. Lastly, you will explore ethics and business law, giving you an opportunity to discover your passion for business!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will become more familiar with the application of information management in business. You will learn about professional conduct, teamwork, and managerial skills while also examining careers in business technology. The basics of word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentation software are explored while you become comfortable operating each of these programs. Finally, the future of business technology is discussed, providing you a foundation in business information management.

Prerequisite: **Business Information Management 1A**

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CAREERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE 1A—SEMESTER

Have you ever wondered what steps take place as people move through the court system? The criminal justice system is a very complex field that requires dedicated people willing to pursue equal justice for all. Explore different career choices and how the juvenile justice system, the correctional system, and the trial process all work together to maintain social order.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CAREERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE 1B—SEMESTER

Have you ever thought about a career as a police officer, an FBI or DEA agent, or any occupation that seeks to pursue justice for all? Careers in criminal justice can be found at local, county, state, federal, and international levels, and even in the private sector. Explore some of the various occupations in this field through this course, while simultaneously learning how they interact with each other and other first responders. Discover important aspects of criminal justice careers, such as implementing interviewing techniques, collaborating with other agencies and departments, cooperating with global partners, and communicating with various audiences. All of these tasks are completed while understanding the importance of ethical decision making in criminal justice. It is important to know and have the character required to know the difference between right and wrong to be successful in this field. If a career in criminal justice is something you hope to pursue, the course ends with some helpful information for finding employment in criminal justice.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of **Careers in Criminal Justice 1A**

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CODING 1A—SEMESTER

Have you ever wondered how your favorite webpages or apps function? Learn about the influence of computers on our daily life, the purpose of programming languages, and how computers function. Experiment with Python to explore algorithms, syntax, and data structures while putting the software development cycle into practice by starting to plan and develop your own app in the Capstone Project. Discover the potential of a career in this field!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CODING 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, nurture your understanding of programming to take on new challenges! Discover a variety of development tools to create code while learning about methods for modular programming and coding structures. Explore security considerations, like encryptions, and toolkits to elevate your coding skills! Finally, start creating your own comprehensive software for the web and move through programming problems as part of the Capstone Project.

Prerequisite: **Coding 1a**

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ COMPUTER SCIENCE AND CODING

The Computer Science and Coding (in Python) curriculum teaches the foundations of computer science and basic programming, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Once students complete the Computer Science and Coding (in Python) course, they will have learned material equivalent to a semester college introductory course in Computer Science and be able to program in Python. The course features CodeHS curriculum customized for Laurel Springs.

College Prep • UC Approved Science

▶ CONCEPTS OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY—SEMESTER

Each day, we are surrounded by technology and engineering projects. From our phones to the bridges we drive over, engineering and technology influence many parts of our lives. In Concepts of Engineering and Technology, you will learn more about engineering and technology careers and what skills and knowledge you'll need to succeed in these fields. You'll explore innovative and cutting-edge projects that are changing the world we live in and examine the design and prototype development process. Concepts of Engineering and Technology will also help you understand the emerging issues in this exciting career field.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CREATIVE WRITING—SEMESTER

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 course provides students 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, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved English

▶ CRIMINOLOGY: INSIDE THE CRIMINAL MIND—SEMESTER

In today's world, crime and deviant behavior rank at or near the top of many people's concerns. In this course, we will study the field of Criminology—the study of crime. We will look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals, but also their misdeeds. Why do some individuals commit crimes while others do not? What aspects in our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Why are different punishments given for the same crime? What factors...from arrest to punishment...help shape the criminal case process?

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CULINARY ARTS 1A: INTRODUCTION—SEMESTER

Thinking of a career in the food service industry or looking to develop your culinary skills? This introductory course will provide you with basic cooking and knife skills while preparing you for entry into the culinary world. Discover the history of food culture, food service, and global cuisines while learning about food science principles and preservation. Finally, prepare for your future by building the professional, communication, leadership, and teamwork skills that are crucial to a career in the culinary arts.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CULINARY ARTS 1B: FINDING YOUR PALATE—SEMESTER

Did you know that baking is considered a science? Building on the prior prerequisite course, discover how to elevate your culinary skills through the creation of stocks, soups, sauces, and learn baking techniques. Examine sustainable food practices and the benefits of nutrition while maintaining taste, plating, and presentation to truly wow your guests. The last unit in this course explores careers in the culinary arts for ways to channel your newfound passion!

Prerequisite: Culinary Arts 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CYBERSECURITY 1A—SEMESTER

Ever wonder what it's like to be a hacker? Or think about who is trying to steal your passwords while you're shopping online using the free Wi-Fi at your local coffee shop? Can someone be watching your personal, private information? Can anything be kept "secret" online? We depend more and more on the technologies we interact with every day. This creates the need for increased system and network security measures. And, it means we all need to know more about how to protect valuable and vulnerable information. This course introduces you to the tools, technologies, and methods needed to protect online information and addresses how these issues are impacting safety and rights on a global and personal level. Learn what exciting career possibilities await you in the new and high-demand field of cybersecurity.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ CYBERSECURITY 1B—SEMESTER

Ever wonder what it's like to be a hacker? Or think about who is trying to steal your passwords while you're shopping online using the free Wi-Fi at your local coffee shop? Unmask the cybersecurity threats around you by understanding hackers and identifying weaknesses in your online behavior. Learn to avoid the various types of cyber attacks, including those to your social media accounts, and to predict the potential legal consequences of sharing or accessing information that you do not have rights to. Dig into these crimes in depth by taking a look at cyber forensics and other cybersecurity careers. In a world where such threats have no boundaries, cybersecurity will undoubtedly play an increasingly larger role in our personal and professional lives in the years to come.

Prerequisite: Cybersecurity 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ DIGITAL MEDIA FUNDAMENTALS 1A—SEMESTER

Discover your talent for building digital media applications using text, graphics, animations, sounds, videos, and more! Learn about the elements that make impressive media, such as typography, color theory, design, and manipulation. Explore careers to apply your digital media skills and find your place in this fast-paced and exciting field!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ DIGITAL MEDIA FUNDAMENTALS 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, polish your digital media skills and learn all about web design. Incorporate your ideas into websites and dabble in the basics of marketing to understand how your work is used. Finally, explore the world of podcasts and audio editing to construct a solid foundation from which you can pursue a career!

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Media Fundamentals 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 1A: INTRODUCTION—SEMESTER

Have you wondered how professional photographers manage to capture that perfect image? Gain a better understanding of photography by exploring camera functions and the elements of composition while putting theory into practice by taking your own spectacular shots! Learn how to display your work for exhibitions and develop skills important for a career as a photographer.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 1B: CREATING IMAGES WITH IMPACT!—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, further develop your photography skills by learning more professional tips, tricks, and techniques to elevate your images. Explore various photographic styles, themes, genres, and artistic approaches. Learn more about photojournalism and how to bring your photos to life. Using this knowledge, build a portfolio of your work to pursue a career in this field!

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Photography 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 2—SEMESTER

In today's world, photographs are all around us, including in advertisements, on websites, and hung on our walls as art. Many of the images that we see have been created by professional photographers. In this course, we will examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession, and examine some of the areas that professional photographers may choose to specialize in, such as wedding photography and product photography. We will also learn more about some of the most respected professional photographers in history and we will learn how to critique photographs in order to better understand what creates an eye catching photograph

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Digital Photography 1B

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ENTREPRENEURSHIP 1A: INTRODUCTION—SEMESTER

Starting a business is more than just having a good idea. Successful entrepreneurs know how to use and apply fundamental business concepts to turn their ideas into thriving businesses. Explore topics such as identifying the best business structure, business functions and operations, finance, business laws, regulations, and more! If you have ever dreamed of making a business idea a reality, take the time to establish a solid foundation of business skills to make your business dreams come true!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ ENTREPRENEURSHIP 1B—SEMESTER

You have the business idea; now it's time to go from dream to reality. Throughout this course, you'll explore different topics representing the major parts of a business plan, such as risk, hiring, pricing, marketing, and more. By completing activities, you'll create a viable document you can use to help you start your business by the end of the course. Let's bring your dream to life!

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Entrepreneurship 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ EXERCISE SCIENCE—SEMESTER

This course takes an in-depth examination of the effects of exercise on the body. Through this course, students will learn basic anatomy, biomechanics, and physiology, as well as proper principles and techniques to design an effective exercise program. The study of nutrition and human behavior will also be integrated into the course to enhance the students' comprehension of this multifaceted subject.

College Prep

▶ FASHION DESIGN—SEMESTER

Are you a fashion trend follower? Are you drawn to how designers have pulled together fabrics and colors to create memorable pieces? Do you dream of designing your own line of clothing or accessories? Learn what it takes to get started in the fashion industry, from the careers available to new technology and trends reshaping the industry every day. Start creating!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ FIRST AID & SAFETY—SEMESTER

In this course, students learn and practice first aid procedures for a variety of common conditions, including muscular, skeletal, and soft tissue injuries. In addition, students learn how to appropriately respond to a variety of emergency situations. They also learn the procedures for choking and CPR for infants, children, and adults. In addition to emergency response, students will explore personal, household, and outdoor safety, and disaster preparedness.

College Prep

▶ FORENSIC SCIENCE 1: SECRETS OF THE DEAD—SEMESTER

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ FORENSIC SCIENCE 2: MORE SECRETS OF THE DEAD—SEMESTER

Although the crime scene represents the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing that takes place within this setting. We will examine some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Forensic Science 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES—SEMESTER

Forests and other natural resources play an important role in our world, from providing lumber and paper products to providing habitat for birds and animals. In the Introduction to Forestry and Natural Resources course, you'll learn more about forest ecology, management, and conservation. You'll explore topics such as environmental policy, land use, water resources, and wildlife management. Finally, you'll learn more about forestry related careers and important issues facing forestry professionals today.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ FOUNDATIONS IN PERSONAL FINANCE—SEMESTER

What is personal finance? Personal finance refers to all the financial decisions an individual or family must make in order to earn, budget, save, and spend money over time. These decisions are generally based on a variety of financial risks and planning for the future. Foundations in Personal Finance will change your financial future and set you on a path to win with money, allowing you to change the way you look at money forever. You will be empowered, equipped and entertained while building confidence in your own financial decision-making.

College Prep

▶ GAME DESIGN 1A—SEMESTER

Are you a gamer? Do you enjoy playing video games or coding? Does the idea of creating and designing your own virtual world excite you? If so, this is the course for you! Tap into your creative and technical skills as you learn about the many aspects involved with designing video games. You will learn about video game software and hardware, various gaming platforms, necessary technical skills, troubleshooting and internet safety techniques, and even the history of gaming. And to top it all off, you'll even have the opportunity to create your very own plan for a 2D video game! Turn your hobby into a potential career and go from simply being a player in a virtual world to actually creating one!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ GAME DESIGN 1B—SEMESTER

We live in a technologically-advanced world where virtual reality and video games play a major role. Have you ever thought about designing your own video game? By signing up for Game Design 2, you will learn the skills needed to conceptualize, design, and fully create your very own video game. Explore various video game software and hardware, sharpen your coding skills, learn about game storylines, player progression, and algorithmic decision making. Learn to analyze player goals, actions, rewards, and challenges, among many other game play components. Utilize the 21st century skills of creativity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and technical expertise. When you sign up for Game Design 2, you are putting yourself at the forefront of a future in technology.

Prerequisite: Game Design 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ GOTHIC LITERATURE: MONSTER STORIES—SEMESTER

From vampires to ghosts, these frightening stories have influenced fiction writers since the 18th century. This 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 students have completed this course, they will have gained an understanding of and an appreciation for the complex nature of dark fiction.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **GREAT MINDS IN SCIENCE: IDEAS FOR A NEW GENERATION—SEMESTER**

Is there life on other planets? What extremes can the human body endure? Can we solve the problem of global warming? Today, scientists, explorers, and writers are working to answer all of these questions. Like Edison, Einstein, Curie, and Newton, the scientists of today are asking questions and working on problems that may revolutionize our lives and world. This course focuses on 10 of today's greatest scientific minds. Each unit takes an in-depth look at one of these individuals, and shows how their ideas may help to shape tomorrow's world.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **HEALTH CAREERS—SEMESTER**

In Health Careers 1, students explore a variety of career options related to the healthcare field, including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, pharmacy, dental careers, sports medicine, personal training, social work, psychology, and more. Students will learn about various options within each field, what each of these jobs entails, and the education and knowledge required to be successful. In addition, they will focus on basic job skills and information that would aid them in health care and other career paths.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **HEALTH SCIENCE 1: THE WHOLE INDIVIDUAL—SEMESTER**

Will we ever find a cure for cancer? What treatments are best for conditions like diabetes and asthma? How are illnesses like meningitis, tuberculosis, and the measles identified and diagnosed? Health sciences provide the answers to questions such as these. In this course, students will be introduced to the various disciplines within the health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. They will explore the importance of diagnostics and research in the identification and treatment of diseases. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **HOSPITALITY & TOURISM 1—SEMESTER**

Where is your dream travel destination? Now imagine working there! You'll be introduced to a thriving industry that caters to the needs of travelers through managing hotels, restaurants, cruise ships, resorts, theme parks, and any other kind of hospitality you can imagine. Operating busy tourist locations, creating marketing around leisure and travel, spotting trends, and planning events are just a few of the key aspects you will explore within this exciting field.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **HOSPITALITY & TOURISM 2A: HOTEL AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT—SEMESTER**

If you love working with people, a future in hospitality may be for you. In Part A of Hospitality and Tourism 2: Hotel and Restaurant Management, you will learn about what makes the hotel and restaurant industries unique. Learn about large and small restaurants, boutique and resort hotels, and their day-to-day operations. Evaluate the environment for these businesses by examining their customers and their competition. As well, you will discover trends and technological advances that makes each industry exciting and innovative. In Part A, you can explore a variety of interesting job options from Front Desk and Concierge services to Maître d' and food service.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Hospitality & Tourism 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **HOSPITALITY & TOURISM 2B: HOTEL AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT—SEMESTER**

Prepare yourself for a high energy career in hotel and restaurant management. Building upon the prior prerequisite course, learn about different management styles and how to develop job descriptions and business plans. Important topics, such as the laws and regulations that govern hotels and restaurants will also be covered. Preparing menus, advertising vacancies, performing interviews, and how to be financially conscious will all be discussed, making this course a comprehensive tool for those planning on entering the hotel and restaurant management industry.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Hospitality and Tourism 2A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ HUMAN GEOGRAPHY: OUR GLOBAL IDENTITY—SEMESTER

How do language, religion, and landscape affect the physical environment? How do geography, weather, and location affect customs and lifestyle? Students will explore the diverse ways in which people affect the world around them and how they are affected by their surroundings. Students will discover how ideas spread and cultures form, and learn how beliefs and architecture are part of a larger culture complex. In addition to introducing students to the field of Human Geography, this course will teach students how to analyze humans and their environments.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ INDEPENDENT STUDY—SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR

We believe that life and learning are one and the same. At Laurel Springs, students may receive elective credit for a wide range of life experiences, including research, tutorials, workshops, seminars, conferences, private classes, religious studies, community service, courses taken at a local college, etc. Independent Study is an opportunity for a student to design an elective and delve deeply into a subject of personal interest. It allows a student to express creativity and expand thinking skills.

College Prep

▶ INTERIOR DESIGN—SEMESTER

Do you have a flare for designing and decorating? If so, this course will show you how to turn your interests and skills into a career. From professionals who own their own business to those working within a larger company, interior designers do it all—from planning the color scheme to choosing furniture and light fixtures—with the end goal of creating a space where people can live or work comfortably, safely, and happily.

You'll learn about color, texture, trends and styles over time, how homes are built, and “green” options for homes and businesses. Most importantly, you'll learn how to work with a client to meet their unique needs and style requirements. This course will help you to identify parts of interior design that are most interesting to you, helping you to chart the path for your future.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS: GLOBAL COMMERCE IN THE 21ST CENTURY—SEMESTER

From geography to culture Global Business is an exciting topic in the business community today. This course is designed to help students develop the appreciation, knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to live and work in a global marketplace. It takes a global view on business, investigating why and how companies go international and are more interconnected. The course further provides students a conceptual tool by which to understand how economic, social, cultural, political and legal factors influence both domestic and cross-border business. Business structures, global entrepreneurship, business management, marketing, and the challenges of managing international organizations will all be explored in this course. Students will cultivate a mindfulness of how history, geography, language, cultural studies, research skills, and continuing education are important in both business activities and the 21st century.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ INTRODUCTION TO COACHING—SEMESTER

This course focuses on the various responsibilities of a coach and the skills needed to successfully fill this important position. Throughout the course, students will explore various coaching models and leadership styles, sports nutrition and sports psychology, as well as safety, conditioning, and cross-training. Students will learn effective communication, problem-solving, and decision-making skills. The course will also introduce students to game strategy, tactical strategy, skills-based training, and coaching ethics.

College Prep

▶ INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 1—SEMESTER

This two-semester course introduces students to the field of nursing. In the first semester students will learn about the history and evolution of nursing, education and licensure requirements, career path options, and nursing responsibilities. Students will also focus on foundational information such as basic anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, pharmacology, first aid, and disease prevention.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 2—SEMESTER

This two-semester course introduces students to the field of nursing. In semester two students will examine various nursing theories, as well as focus on the nursing process, including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment options. Students will also learn about professional and legal standards and ethics. Additional skills of communication, teaching, time and stress management, patient safety, and crisis management will be included.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Nursing 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ JOURNALISM 1A: INTRODUCTION—SEMESTER

Are you a storyteller at heart? Are you always the first one to know what's going on at school or in your town and excited to share the latest breaking news? If so, you are the kind of person every online, print, and broadcast news outlet is searching, and Journalism 1a: Introduction is the perfect course for you! Explore the history of journalism and see how social media and the digital world has changed the way news media operates. Learn the basics of press law as well as the code of ethics journalists should follow. Finally, understand how to make your writing and speaking more powerful, and discover the importance of pictures and images when telling a story.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ JOURNALISM 1B: INVESTIGATING THE TRUTH—SEMESTER

If you want to turn your writing, photography, and collaborative skills into an exciting and rewarding career, Journalism 1b: Investigating the Truth is where to begin. Learn how to write a lead that grabs your readers, discover the roles of sources and how to interview them effectively, and explore the best options for researching your story in a digital world. You will also understand the role editors and producers play in the revision process, learn how to prepare your posts for publication, and how to follow the publication process—from the flow of a work day to the layout of a newspaper or a news broadcast.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Journalism 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ LAW & ORDER: INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL STUDIES—SEMESTER

Every society has laws that its citizens must follow. From traffic laws to regulations on how the government operates, laws help provide society with order and structure. Our lives are guided and regulated by our society's legal expectations. Consumer laws help protect us from faulty goods; criminal laws help to protect society from individuals who harm others; and family law handles the arrangements and issues that arise in areas like divorce and child custody. This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society. By understanding the workings of our court system, as well as how laws are actually carried out, we become more informed and responsible citizens in our communities and of our nation.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ LEADERSHIP SKILLS DEVELOPMENT—SEMESTER

Leadership Skills Development takes students on a leadership journey, where they explore their own story and goals, and learn how to achieve things they never thought possible. During segment 1, students will explore their own personality strengths, learn how to set MAD goals, and find their North. They will learn about their success GPA, which is more than just the grades they receive, but also includes their ability to build their awareness, social, and solution powers. During segment 2, students have the opportunity to use what they have learned and apply tools and strategies to fictitious case studies. The course ends with students researching, planning, and participating in a service project that will benefit their school and/or community.

College Prep

► **MANUFACTURING: PRODUCT DESIGN & INNOVATION—SEMESTER**

Think about the last time you visited your favorite store. Have you ever wondered how the products you buy make it to the store shelves? Whether its video games, clothing, or sports equipment, the goods we purchase must go through a manufacturing process before they can be marketed and sold. In this course, you'll learn about the types of manufacturing systems and processes used to create the products we buy every day. You'll also be introduced to the various career opportunities in the manufacturing industry including those for engineers, technicians, and supervisors. As a culminating project, you'll plan your own manufacturing process for a new product or invention! If you thought manufacturing was little more than mundane assembly lines, this course will show you just how exciting and fruitful the industry can be.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► **MARKETING FOUNDATIONS 1A—SEMESTER**

Welcome to the fast-paced and exciting world of marketing! You will learn about the role of marketing in business in addition to the basics of business management, customer service, and economics. Also, you will examine how to identify target markets, perform market research, and develop successful marketing strategies. Finally, the legal and ethical considerations of business and marketing are discussed along with the impact of government on business.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► **MARKETING FOUNDATIONS 1B—SEMESTER**

Building on the prior, prerequisite course, you will dive deeper into the marketing world with real world applications and practices. Engage with the marketing mix by studying understanding branding, advertising, promotion strategies, and more. Learn about effective sales techniques and discover employment opportunities to pursue a career in this exciting field!

Prerequisite: Marketing Foundations 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► **MARKETING 2A—SEMESTER**

Can you think of a brand that first launched in the U.S. and then became popular in other countries? Facebook™ did this very thing! Without a solid understanding of business and international marketing strategy, it becomes nearly impossible to be successful and stand out from the crowd. In this course, you'll find out how business and marketing works around the world! You'll learn about topics such as regulations, market research, marketing plans, global trends, buying and selling internationally, and more!

Prerequisite: Marketing Foundations 1B

College Prep

► **MARKETING 2B—SEMESTER**

How does a business make money? If you said sales, then you're right! This course explores the secrets to sales. You'll learn expectations, best practices, sales planning, building a clientele that becomes long-term buyers, and how to stay motivated to sell, sell, sell! If sales management is your goal, you'll learn about management styles, how to find, hire, train, motivate, and compensate your team.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Marketing 2A

College Prep

► **MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY—SEMESTER**

In this course students will be introduced to basic medical language and terminology that they would need to enter a health care field. Emphasis will be placed on definitions, proper usage, spelling, and pronunciation. They will study word structure and parts, including roots, prefixes, and suffixes, as well as symbols and abbreviations. They will examine medical terms from each of the body's main systems, including skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, urinary, nervous, endocrine, reproductive, and lymphatic systems, and sensory organs. In addition, students will learn proper terminology for common tests, procedures, pharmacology, disease, and conditions.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► **MILITARY CAREERS—SEMESTER**

Most of us have seen a war movie; maybe it had a hotshot aviator or a renegade private or a daring Special Forces operative. But outside of these sensationalized portrayals, do you really understand how the military works or what it can do for you? The military offers far more career diversity than most people imagine, and Introduction to Military Careers will provide the information you need to gain a broader understanding of how to find the right fit. You will learn about the five military branches—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines Corps, and Navy—and examine which jobs you might like to pursue. From aviation, to medicine, to law enforcement, the military can be an outstanding place to achieve your dreams in a supportive and well-structured environment.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► **MYTHOLOGY & FOLKLORE: LEGENDARY TALES—SEMESTER**

Mighty heroes. Angry gods and goddesses. Cunning animals. Since the first people gathered around fires, mythology and folklore has been used as a way to make sense of humankind and our world. Beginning with an overview of mythology and different kinds of folklore, students will journey with ancient heroes as they slay dragons and outwit gods, follow fearless warrior women into battle, and watch as clever monsters outwit those stronger than themselves. They will explore the universality and social significance of myths and folklore, and see how these are still used to shape society today.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► **NATIONAL SECURITY—SEMESTER**

Do you know what it takes to keep an entire nation safe? It not only requires knowledge of how to handle disasters, but it also demands a cool head and tremendous leadership abilities. In National Security, you will have the opportunity to learn about the critical elements of the job, such as evaluating satellite information, analyzing training procedures, assessing military engagement, preparing intelligence reports, coordinating information with other security agencies, and applying appropriate actions to various threats. Put yourself in the position of the country's decisive leaders and develop your own knowledge base and skill set necessary to meet the requirements of our nation's most demanding career.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► NUTRITION—SEMESTER

This course takes students through a comprehensive study of nutritional principles and guidelines. Students will learn about world-wide views of nutrition, nutrient requirements, physiological processes, food labeling, healthy weight management, diet-related diseases, food handling, nutrition for different populations, and more. Students will gain important knowledge and skills to aid them in attaining and maintaining a healthy and nutritious lifestyle.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► PEER COUNSELING—SEMESTER

Helping people achieve their goals is one of the most rewarding of human experiences. Peer counselors help individuals reach their goals by offering them support, encouragement, and resource information. This course explains the role of a peer counselor, teaches the observation, listening, and empathic communication skills that counselors need, and provides basic training in conflict resolution, and group leadership. Not only will this course prepare you for working as a peer counselor, but the skills taught will enhance your ability to communicate effectively in your personal and work relationships.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► PERSONAL & FAMILY FINANCE—SEMESTER

How do our personal financial habits affect our financial future? How can we make smart decisions with our money in the areas of saving, spending, and investing? This course introduces students to basic financial habits such as setting financial goals, budgeting, and creating financial plans. Students will learn more about topics such as taxation, financial institutions, credit, and money management. The course also addresses how occupations and educational choices can influence personal financial planning, and how individuals can protect themselves from identity theft.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► PERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY 1: THE ROAD TO SELF-DISCOVERY—SEMESTER

Self-knowledge is the key to self-improvement! More than 800,000 high school students take psychology classes each year. Among the different reasons, there is usually the common theme of self-discovery! Sample topics include the study of infancy, childhood, adolescence, perception and states of consciousness. Amazing online psychology experiments dealing with our own personal behavior are featured within this course.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► PERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY 2: LIVING IN A COMPLEX WORLD—SEMESTER

Personal Psychology II continues the study of self-improvement initiated in Personal Psychology I. Topics include memory, intelligence, emotion, health, stress, and personality. This course features virtual psychology experiments that give students insight into human behavior.

Prerequisite: Personal Psychology 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► PERSONAL TRAINING CAREER PREP—SEMESTER

This course examines the role and responsibilities of a personal trainer. Students will learn the steps to become a personal trainer, including performing fitness assessments, designing safe and effective workouts, and proper nutrition principles. Concepts of communication and motivation will be

discussed, as well as exercise modifications and adaptations for special populations. Students will also examine certification requirements, business and marketing procedures, and concerns about liability and ethics. In addition, throughout the course students will be able to explore various exercises, equipment, and tools that can be used for successful personal training.

College Prep

► PERSONAL TRAINING CONCEPTS—SEMESTER

This course examines basic concepts in fitness that are important for personal fitness, as well as necessary foundational information for any health or exercise career field. Areas of study include musculoskeletal anatomy and physiology, terms of movement, basic biomechanics, health related components of fitness, FITT principles, functional fitness skills, safety and injury prevention, posture and technique, nutrition, and weight management. This course is a good preparatory course for students interested in or wishing to pursue a career in health, sports, or fitness. It provides fundamental information about health and fitness that would be necessary for any fitness career field.

College Prep

► PHILOSOPHY: THE BIG PICTURE—SEMESTER

This course will take you on an exciting adventure that covers more than 2,500 years of history! Along the way, you'll run into some very strange characters. For example, you'll read about a man who hung out on street corners, barefoot and dirty, pestering everyone he met with questions. You'll learn about another eccentric who climbed inside a stove to think about whether he existed. Despite their odd behavior, these and other philosophers of the Western world are among the most brilliant and influential thinkers of all time. As you learn about these great thinkers, you'll come to see how and where many of the most fundamental ideas of Western Civilization originated. You'll also get a chance to ask yourself some of the same questions these great thinkers pondered. By the time you've "closed the book" on this course, you will better understand yourself and the world around you... from atoms to outer space...and everything in between.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES—SEMESTER

Food has to travel from the farm to the table, and in Agriculture and Natural Resources, you will learn about all of the steps in that journey, beginning with the history of agriculture through animal husbandry, plant science, and managing our use of natural resources. In this course, you will receive a broad understanding of the subject matter, preparing you for future hands-on learning, participation in Future Farmers of America, and supervised agricultural experiences.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND FINANCE 1A—SEMESTER

Gain fundamental knowledge that will help you pursue a career in business! You will explore the different types of businesses and ownership forms, the impact of governments on business, and the marketing of goods and services. You will also engage with the principles of globalization, free trade, and various economic systems. Finally, the impact of technology on business, business ethics, and social responsibility are discussed, providing you with a foundational knowledge of business.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND FINANCE 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will expand your knowledge of the basics to explore advanced topics, such as marketing strategy, banking, and investments. Finally, examine employability skills and careers in business, finance, and marketing as well as various entrepreneurship opportunities.

Prerequisite: Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PRINCIPLES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 1A—SEMESTER

Develop your understanding of computers and increase your proficiency! Learn about computer hardware, Von Neumann architecture, peripherals, and maintenance as well as data management and storage options. Trace the history of operating systems and application software while also exploring network systems, administration, and troubleshooting. Finally, dive into word processing, spreadsheets, and databases to cement your knowledge of information technology!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PRINCIPLES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 1B—SEMESTER

Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will gain further knowledge of information technology. Starting with an overview of programming, algorithms, and compilers, students will then learn the basics of webpage design and creating graphics. You will also explore security and cybercrime, emerging technologies, presentation software, and intellectual property laws. Finally, you will prepare for the future by discovering various careers in this field and planning your education!

Prerequisite: Principles of Information Technology 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC SERVICE: TO SERVE & PROTECT—SEMESTER

Ambulances scream along, heading toward those in need. But who makes sure someone is there to answer the 9-1-1 call? When you take a pill, who has determined that drug is safe for the public? All of these duties are imperative to our comfort and success as a society. Public service is a field that focuses on building a safe and healthy world, and in Principles of Public Service: To Serve and Protect, you will be introduced to its many different career choices. The protection of society is not only one of our greatest challenges, it also provides ways for people to work together to ensure safety and provide indispensable services. If you've ever contemplated being one of these real-life heroes, now is the time to learn more.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PUBLIC SPEAKING 1A—SEMESTER

Does the thought of speaking in front of people make you break out in hives? Maybe you want tips on how to make that first great impression? In both cases, Public Speaking 1a: Introduction may be just what you need. In this course, you will learn from famous orators, like Aristotle and Cicero, understand the influence of rhetoric, and discover how to recognize bias, prejudice, and propaganda. You will also learn how to plan a speech, build an argument, and communicate effectively, while collaborating with others. Grab your notes and get ready to conquer public speaking!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ PUBLIC SPEAKING 1B—SEMESTER

If you've learned the basics and are ready to expand your public speaking skills, Public Speaking 1b: Finding Your Voice is for you. In this course, you'll master the fundamentals of public speaking through practice and eventually learn to speak confidently in front of large groups. Explore the use of inductive and deductive reasoning, learn how to prepare a speech outline, and discover how to write your own speech using correct and emotive language. This course will also help you to develop self-efficacy and self-esteem, reduce your fear of public speaking, and teach you how to use body language effectively. You'll also learn how to stand back and critically examine your own work in order to identify areas for improvement.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Public Speaking 1A

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► REAL WORLD PARENTING—SEMESTER

What is the best way to care for children and teach them self-confidence and a sense of responsibility? Parenting involves more than having a child and providing food and shelter. Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps parents can take to create the best environment for their children. Parenting roles and responsibilities, nurturing and protective environments for children, positive parenting strategies, and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGIES—SEMESTER

Interested in transforming energy? With concerns about climate change and growing populations' effects on traditional energy supplies, scientists, governments, and societies are increasingly turning to renewable and innovative energy sources. In the Introduction to Renewable Technologies course, you'll learn all about the cutting-edge field of renewable energy and the exciting new technologies that are making it possible. You'll explore new ways of generating energy and storing that energy, from biofuels to high-capacity batteries and smart electrical grids. You'll also learn more about the environmental and social effects of renewable technologies and examine how people's energy decisions impact policies.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT—SEMESTER

Have you ever dreamed of running your own eatery? Maybe you've thought of collaborating with a famous chef to create an unforgettable dining experience? What goes on behind the restaurant dining room is a very different world than what goes on out front and really determines the success or failure of an establishment. Restaurant Management will show you exactly what's needed to run a successful restaurant, including ordering supplies, hiring quality workers, maintaining inventory, and managing a large staff. Understanding such concepts as food safety, hygiene, customer relations, marketing, and using a point-of-sale system are crucial to being an effective restaurateur. Whether you are hoping to operate a casual sit-down eatery, oversee a fine dining establishment, or buy a food franchise, this course is the perfect first step.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► SAT PREPARATION—SEMESTER

This course utilizes the award-winning SAT Shmoop software for Reading, Writing and Language, and Math. Students will use adaptive content that builds on each section of the redesigned SAT. Students will take a diagnostic for each section and then complete lessons and practice questions before taking a practice exam. Students will take three full length SAT practice exams.

College Prep

► SOCIAL MEDIA: OUR CONNECTED WORLD—SEMESTER

Have a Facebook account? What about Twitter? Whether you've already dipped your toes in the waters of social media or are still standing on the shore wondering what to make of it all, learning how to interact on social media platforms is crucial to surviving and thriving in this age of digital communication. In Introduction to Social Media, you'll learn the ins and outs of such social media platforms as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically, and, eventually, professionally. If you thought social media platforms were just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course will show you how to use these resources in much more powerful ways.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► SOCIAL PROBLEMS 1: A WORLD IN CRISIS—SEMESTER

Students will become aware of the challenges faced by social groups, as well as learn about the complex relationship among societies, governments and the individual. Each unit is focused on a particular area of concern, often within a global context. Possible solutions at both the structural level as well as that of the individual will be examined. Students will not only learn more about how social problems affect them personally, but begin to develop the skills necessary to help make a difference in their own lives and communities, not to mention globally.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

► SOCIAL PROBLEMS 2: CRISIS, CONFLICTS, & CHALLENGES—SEMESTER

The Social Problems II course continues to examine timely social issues affecting individuals and societies around the globe. Students learn about the overall structure of the social problem as well as how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments and the individual.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Social Problems 1

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► SOCIOLOGY 1: THE STUDY OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS—SEMESTER

The world is becoming more complex. How do your beliefs, values and behavior affect the people around you and the world in which we live? Students will examine social problems in our increasingly connected world, and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.

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▶ **SOCIOLOGY 2: YOUR SOCIAL LIFE—SEMESTER**

Sociology is the study of people, social life and society. By developing a “sociological imagination” students will be able to examine how society itself shapes human action and beliefs...and how in turn these factors re-shape society itself! Fascinating online videos journeys will not only inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Sociology 1

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▶ **SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING—SEMESTER**

Have you ever wished to play sports professionally? Have you dreamed of one day becoming an agent for a celebrity entertainer? If you answered yes to either question, then believe it or not, you’ve been fantasizing about entering the exciting world of sports and entertainment marketing. Although this particular form of marketing bears some resemblance to traditional marketing, there are many differences as well—including a lot more glitz and glamour! In this course, you’ll have the opportunity to explore basic marketing principles and delve deeper into the multi-billion dollar sports and entertainment marketing industry. You’ll learn about how professional athletes, sports teams, and well known entertainers are marketed as commodities and how some of them become billionaires as a result. If you’ve ever wondered about how things work behind the scenes of a major sporting event such as the Super Bowl or even entertained the idea of playing a role in such an event, then this course will introduce you to the fundamentals of such a career.

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▶ **SPORTS OFFICIATING—SEMESTER**

In this course, students will learn the rules, game play, and guidelines for a variety of sports, including soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, football, and tennis. In addition, they will learn the officiating calls and hand signals for each sport, as well as the role a sport official plays in maintaining fair play. The course will also highlight the history of sports, the roles other participants have in a sporting event, equipment necessary for play, and how to take score for the various sports.

College Prep

▶ **STRENGTH TRAINING—SEMESTER**

This one-semester course focuses on the fitness components of muscular strength and endurance. Throughout this course students establish their fitness level, set goals, and design their own resistance training program. They study muscular anatomy and learn specific exercises to strengthen each muscle or muscle group. Students focus on proper posture and technique while training. They also gain an understanding of how to apply the FITT principles and other fundamental exercise principles, such as progression and overload, to strength training.

College Prep

▶ **THE LORD OF THE RINGS: AN EXPLORATION OF THE FILMS & THEIR LITERARY INFLUENCES—SEMESTER**

Hobbits, Orcs, wizards, dashing knights, and powerful elves are all part of the magic created in J.R.R. Tolkien’s famously epic tale, The Lord of the Rings. For years, the vivid characters within this beloved story could exist only in the readers’ minds—until it was adapted into a movie that allowed fans to finally see, through the eyes of Hollywood magic and brilliant technology, the manifestation of these characters onscreen. What does it take to transport these well-known images like Gollum and the Shire from dusty pages to the giant screen? In The Lord of the Rings: An Exploration of the Films & Its Literary Influences, you will see first-hand how classic literature can become modern film and bring the fantasy alive for a whole new generation of believers.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **THEATER, CINEMA, & FILM PRODUCTION 1A: LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!—SEMESTER**

Theater and cinema are both forms of art that tell a story. Let’s explore the enchanting world of live theater and its fascinating relationship to the silver screen. Explore the different genres of both and how to develop the script for stage and film. Then dive into how to bring the script to life with acting and directing. If you have a passion for the art of film and stage, let’s bring your creativity to life!

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ **THEATER, CINEMA, & FILM PRODUCTION 1B: LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION...TAKE TWO!—SEMESTER**

Whether you’re a performer, critic, or fan, you’ll pull back the curtain to dive deeper into the making of movies and theater performances. Explore multiple facets of the production process from both theater and film. Gain insights from industry leaders along the way and learn to think critically about different aspects to develop your unit-by-unit blog. You’ll fully understand how high-quality entertainment and art are crafted for the theater and the silver screen.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Theater, Cinema, & Film Production 1A

College Prep

▶ UPPER SCHOOL SEMINAR—SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR BASED ON PLACEMENT

As part of our college prep program, each full-time Upper School student must complete a required grade-level specific college and life planning Seminar, earning 0.50 Elective credit per Seminar. These courses include a wide variety of resources and a wealth of knowledge within a delivery that is appropriate for each grade level. The College Counselor guides the student through the course, offering support and personalized feedback throughout their Laurel Springs experience and in preparing for life after graduation. Along with the course, students receive access to Naviance, a comprehensive, college and career readiness platform that promotes self-discovery, career exploration, academic planning, and college preparation. Through a series of self-assessments, goal setting exercises, career inventories, and related course projects and assignments, students will identify and attain the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to follow their selected college and career paths. Spanning students' enrollments each school year, the Seminar courses address various topics relating to each grade level.

- ▶ Upper school transition and strategies for success
- ▶ Skill development supported with goal setting, time management, organization, and study skills
- ▶ Academic planning
- ▶ Career exploration, research, and list building
- ▶ Extracurricular and leadership development
- ▶ Resume writing
- ▶ Interview skill practice
- ▶ Standardized exam preparation
- ▶ College exploration, research, and list building based on academic profile, needs, and preferences
- ▶ Admissions process and application guidance
- ▶ College essay coaching
- ▶ Letters of recommendation
- ▶ Athletic recruitment advisement

▶ VETERINARY SCIENCE: THE CARE OF ANIMALS—SEMESTER

As animals play an increasingly important role in our lives, scientists have sought to learn more about their health and well-being. Taking a look at the pets that live in our homes, on our farms, and in zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, this course will examine some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Toxins, parasites, and infectious diseases impact not only the animals around us, but at times...we humans as well! through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues is studied and applied.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ WOMEN'S STUDIES: A PERSONAL JOURNEY THROUGH FILM—SEMESTER

Maybe you grew up watching movies with female characters like Cinderella, Belle, Snow White, or Ariel. Maybe you've wondered why there are stereotypes about women being bad drivers or ignorant about sports. Maybe you want to know about feminism and the women's movement. The Introduction to Women's Studies: A Personal Journey Through Film can help you answer these questions. Though it focuses on the experience of women, it's appropriate for anyone who wants to learn to critically examine films while learning about the history of the women's movement and how gender, race, and social class influence us. Women have earned their right to stand up and be recognized as equal partners and reap the benefits of their hard work. As the anonymous quote goes, "History is Herstory too."

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

▶ WORLD MYTHOLOGY

In World Mythology, students will explore creation myths, trickster tales and hero journeys from all around the globe. Each lesson will examine a different myth in an integrated study of history, culture, literature and the arts. From ancient Egypt to the Aztec empire, the Chinese to the Celts, students will study how myths are used and interpret their meanings. They will build on fundamental reading comprehension and analytical skills as they journey through museum exhibitions, visit archaeological digs and listen to traditional storytellers.

College Prep • NCAA Approved English

▶ WORLD RELIGIONS: EXPLORING DIVERSITY—SEMESTER

Throughout the ages, religions from around the world have shaped the political, social, and cultural aspects of societies. This course focuses on the major religions that have played a role in human history, including Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, and Taoism. Students will trace the major developments in these religions and explore their relationships with social institutions and culture. The course will also discuss some of the similarities and differences among the major religions and examine the connections and influences they have.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

The Academy

The Academy at Laurel Springs School is an academic program for distinguished scholars in grades 6–12 who are intellectually curious and driven. As a part of Academy programming, students have the opportunity to select advanced courses and engage with like-minded peers in interactive academic and social settings. To learn more about The Academy, students should contact their Enrollment Coordinators or assigned College Counselors.

► **ACADEMY SEMINAR**

As part of Academy enrollment, each Academy student will take part in grade-level specific college and life planning Seminars which span students' enrollments each school year. Through Seminar, students will have the option to engage in live activities and events with their peers and assigned Academy Counselors.

The Academy Middle School Seminar courses introduce the topics presented in the Upper School Seminar at a level appropriate for Middle School learners, while the Academy Upper School Seminar courses build on the topics presented. In addition, the Academy Seminars include a series of self-assessments, goal setting exercises, career inventories, and related course projects and assignments through which students will identify and attain the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to follow their selected college and career paths. Upper School Academy students earn 0.50 Elective credit per Seminar.

College Prep

► **LANGUAGEBIRD**

As a part of the Academy enrollment, students may also participate in live Upper School-level world language instruction. Our partner, LanguageBird, is a leader in world language education offering a model of highly personalized, flexible, 1-on-1 live instruction in more than a dozen different languages. Like Laurel Springs' World Language course offerings, the LanguageBird courses are WASC and Cognia accredited, as well as NCAA and UC a-g approved. This is a wonderful option for students who enjoy live instruction and want to accelerate their learning.

► **SYMPOSIUM**

The Academy Symposium course is a required discussion-based course where students have the opportunity to hear from guest speakers who are experts in their fields. Students extend their understanding of our speakers' presentations by completing learning activities in conjunction with optional live Symposium Soapbox meetings with like-minded peers and their teacher. Academy Symposium is designed to facilitate discussion, to build collaboration skills, to foster the ability to support ideas with facts, and to practice civil dialogue techniques with individuals who may share opposing viewpoints. Upper School Students earn 0.25 credits for the full year Symposium course.

► **ADVANCED 8TH GRADE ENGLISH**

This research-based course provides structured lessons on reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, composition, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students also practice writing throughout the course using analysis and critical thinking skills.

► **ADVANCED MIDDLE SCHOOL U.S. HISTORY (8TH GRADE)**

Through an inquiry-based approach to historical exploration combined with the study of contemporary human behavior, the Academy Middle School U.S History course heightens students' understandings of modern social issues, increases their ability to relate history to their own lives, and promotes greater understanding of their roles and responsibilities as members of society.

COURSES WITH WORKSHOP

The following courses are available in 2021–2022 with an optional synchronous course component meeting once per week per course. See the full course description within this Program of Study.

- ▶ **ADVANCED 8TH GRADE ENGLISH WITH WORKSHOP**
- ▶ **ADVANCED MIDDLE SCHOOL U.S. HISTORY (8TH GRADE) WITH WORKSHOP**
- ▶ **MS PROBLEM SOLVING II WITH WORKSHOP**
- ▶ **AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY**
- ▶ **AP BIOLOGY**
- ▶ **AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**
- ▶ **AP STATISTICS**
- ▶ **AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN**

▶ **MS PROBLEM SOLVING II**

Problem Solving II is a math elective based in deep understanding and application of math concepts to prepare middle school students for their upcoming math classes. The course focuses on mathematical habits of mind including making sense of problems, modeling, reasoning abstractly and quantitatively, and constructing viable arguments. Students will reflect on their process by questioning “Does my solution make sense, is the process justifiable and how do I know?” Students will learn the language and ways of thinking about math in order to uphold and defend their mathematical thinking after completing this problem-solving course.

Spring Semester Only—Start date in January 2022

Dual Enrollment Program

Dual enrollment refers to high school students enrolling in a course at a two or four-year post-secondary institution while concurrently enrolled in high school. The course material and the work required of the students is of a much more rigorous and complex caliber than upper school level coursework. Completed collegiate coursework may be transferred to fulfill a student’s graduation requirements or additional upper school credits or may be transferred toward a student’s undergraduate studies. Laurel Springs’ dual enrollment program is available only to enrolled full-time upper school and postgraduate students. Dual enrollment courses do not operate on a rolling enrollment basis. To learn more about Laurel Springs’ collegiate dual enrollment partners and available courses, students should contact their assigned College Counselors.

Postgraduate Program

The Postgraduate Program at Laurel Springs School offers recent high school graduates competitive semester and year-long academic opportunities tailored to their unique interests and continuing education goals. Our highly flexible and customizable program is built for students who wish to distinguish themselves academically, cultivate and discover their passions, or acquire comprehensive tools to better prepare for the transition to higher education. To learn more about courses and experiential options available through the Postgraduate Program, students should contact their assigned College Counselors.

POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR—SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR

As part of our college prep program, each postgraduate student may take part in a specific college and life planning seminar. This course includes a wide variety of resources and a wealth of knowledge applicable to students' current college and career goals or plans. The Postgraduate Counselor guides the student through the course, offering support and personalized feedback throughout their Laurel Springs experience and in preparing for the next step of their college or career journey. Along with the course, students receive access to Naviance, a comprehensive, college and career readiness platform that promotes self-discovery, career exploration, and college preparation. Through a series of goal setting exercises and related course projects and assignments, students will identify and attain the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to follow their selected college and career paths. Students will receive 0.50 Elective credit for this course, which cover the following topics:

- ▶ **Setting academic, career and personal goals for growth and defining passions and interests**
- ▶ **Developing learning management skills and the academic confidence and strategies needed to excel in a college environment**
- ▶ **Building a personalized college list**
- ▶ **Preparing for the admissions process by strengthening academic profile, resume, & college essay**
- ▶ **Planning for college and personal finances**
- ▶ **Establishing the self-advocacy and social emotional skills needed to successfully transition to college and preparing for resilient independence**
- ▶ **Finalizing college and career plans**

Travel Learning

As members of a global school community, Laurel Springs' students are called to and capable of making an impact on the world, both locally and beyond. We provide travel learning opportunities designed to include students in service and leadership across the globe. These experiences develop skills in critical thinking, problem solving, leadership, decision making, collaboration, and communication, build positive relationships with global community members, connect experiences to academic subjects, and help students develop a deeper understanding of themselves as well as empathy and respect for others.

Experiences are available to enrolled full-time upper school students in the 2021–2022 school year around the theme of Sustainability and include a 0.5 credit, pass/fail elective course where students will learn about the cultural, environmental, historical, and social characteristics of our destinations prior to departure. Students interested in learning more about the available travel learning opportunities should contact servicelearning@laurelsprings.com.



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