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MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL endeavors to model the person and teachings of Jesus Christ under the direction of the Bishop of San Diego and in accordance with the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

We seek to emulate the accepting and nurturing way Jesus Christ taught us: to have faith in the Lord, to demonstrate a loving respect for people, to help rather than judge, to be open to the thoughts and ideas of each individual, and to serve the wider community.

Our objective is to provide an effective college preparatory education for each of our students. In addition to excellence in the skills and abilities of the various arts and disciplines, we develop in our students a positive sense of self-worth, self-discipline, personal responsibility, commitment and a desire to lead and contribute in positive and significant ways to the peace and well-being of the larger global community.

The faculty and administration at Mater Dei Catholic High School understand that each of our students is a unique, creative, individual shaped by differences in interests, ability, family circumstances, ethnic heritage and economic background. It is with this understanding that we build an educational community which is respectful, compassionate, supportive and meaningful, focusing on the talents that are particular to each individual. We further believe that it is the responsibility of Mater Dei Catholic to encourage, educate and support our parents in their roles as the primary teachers of our students. Administrators and teachers are facilitators in the educational process and serve to assist parents as role-models for a Christ-centered education.

MISSION STATEMENT

MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL endeavors to model the person and teachings of Jesus Christ at this campus through a holistic and nurturing educational experience.

We are dedicated to working with students and their parents to provide the finest religious, moral, academic, physical, social and personal programs possible. In addition to promoting excellence in the skills and abilities developed in the various arts and disciplines we, at MDCHS, endeavor to encourage in our students a positive sense of self-worth, self-discipline, personal responsibility and successful interpersonal relationships with a commitment to Christian values in a Catholic tradition. We encourage students to become life-long learners who are Christ centered and prepared to contribute and participate in a culturally diverse and global world community in response to the Gospel message and values of Jesus Christ.

**Curriculum Guide
2011-2012**

This booklet lists and described all courses offered for the 2011-2012 school years.

Regardless of the current status of a student, the minimum number of units required for graduation from Mater Dei Catholic High School is two hundred forty. Five units are awarded for completion of a semester course.

**Expected School-Wide Learning Results
(ESLR)**

Mater Dei Catholic High School prepares its graduates to be:

1. Christ Centered Persons who:
 - Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for the Catholic faith.
 - Foster and demonstrate Christian values of compassion, respect, justice and dignity through Christian service.
 - Make moral choices based on Judeo-Christian tradition.
 - Commit to being stewards of God’s creation.

2. Life-Long Self-Directed Learners who:
 - Set challenging goals, determine priorities necessary in achieving goals, organize responsibilities and pursue goals.
 - Think critically in solving problems and interpreting, evaluating and applying ideas through academics and artistic expressions.
 - Recognize and utilize reliable resources needed in gaining knowledge and solving problems.
 - Demonstrate the skills and knowledge needed in adapting to the changing world of technology and global issues.

3. Effective Communicators who:
 - Exercise efficient and critical listening and reading skills.
 - Articulate written and verbal ideas clearly, creatively, and logically.
 - Possess the language skills to interact in a culturally diverse and global interdependent society.
 - Foster conflict resolution in a creative, peaceful and dignified manner.

4. Collaborative individuals who:
 - Participate effectively in a variety of leadership and supportive roles.
 - Recognize, accept and exercise social responsibilities and civic duties.
 - Respect and value individuals of different cultures, backgrounds, and abilities.
 - Maintain a high level of personal and academic integrity.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Course	Semester Units
Theology	40
English	40
World Language	20
Mathematics	30
Science	20
Social Science	30
Visual & Performing Arts	10
* Physical Education	(10 =Jr/Sr) (20= Fr/So)
Speech	5
Elective	(45=Sr) (55=So/Jr) (65=Fr)
100 Christian Service Hours are required for Graduation. They are to be twenty-five (25) per year.	
Total Units needed for Graduation:	250=Seniors 270=Sophomores 260=Juniors 280=Freshmen

* AP, Honors, and Academy of Science Classes may be substituted

**ANALYTICAL WRITING PROGRAM (AWP)
COMPETENCY EXAM**

All sophomores (10th graders) are REQUIRED to pass the AWP Competency Exam. This exam is given to all English 2 students in early May. The exam will consist of a prompt or topic which students must respond to in the AWP essay format.

Students who do not pass it must take a second exam on Final Exam make-up day. Students who do not pass this second exam are REQUIRED to attend a five week Summer School Writing Seminar OR attend a REQUIRED 7th block AWP Writing Seminar for the first grading period of the fall or spring semester of their junior year.

Academic grades for English 2 will remain separate from the AWP Competency Exam. Thus, performance on the exam will not affect the English 2 grade.

If a student fails the AWP Competency Exam but passes English 2, they will only have to take and pass the Writing Seminar to continue their junior year. If a student fails both English 2 and the AWP Competency Exam, they will only have to take and pass Summer School English 2 which will include the Writing Seminar.

FOUR YEAR STUDY PLAN

GRADE 9	SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
	Theology English Mathematics World Language World Cultures Speech/Study Skills/ Physical Education	Theology English Mathematics World Language World Cultures Speech/Study Skills
GRADE 10	Theology English Mathematics World Language Biology Visual & Performing Arts Physical Education	Theology English Mathematics World Language Biology Visual & Performing Arts Physical Education
GRADE 11	Theology English Mathematics Chemistry U.S. History World Language/Elective	Theology English Mathematics Chemistry U.S. History World Language/Elective
GRADE 12	Theology English American Government World Language/Elective Physics/Anatomy & Physiology Elective Elective	Theology English Economics World Language/Elective Physics/Anatomy & Physiology Elective Elective

ENGLISH PROGRAM COURSE SEQUENCE

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
College Prep. English 1 Introduction	English 2 World Lit.	English 3 American Lit.	English 4 British Lit.
Honors AP English 1 Honors Introduction	English 2 Honors World Lit.	English 3 Honors American Lit.	English 4 Adv. Placement

PLEASE NOTE: Placement in any Honors/Advanced Placement English course is with the recommendation of the prior year's English teacher in consultation with that student's counselor. The student also needs a grade of "A" in both semesters of previous College Prep. classes or a grade of "B" in both semesters of previous Honors classes.

MATHEMATICS PROGRAM COURSE SEQUENCE

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
(Basic) Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2/Trig.
(College Prep) Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2/Trig.	Pre-Calculus
College Prep Honors: Algebra 1	Geometry (Honors)	Algebra 2/Trig. (Honors)	Pre-Calculus (Honors)
Advanced Placement: Geometry (Honors)	Algebra 2/Trig. (Honors)	Pre-Calculus (Honors)	AP Calculus

NOTE: Placement in any mathematics class is at the discretion/recommendation of the prior year's teacher in consultation with the counseling department.

THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT/HONORS PROGRAM

The Advanced Placement/Honors Program is a special four-year program for students with strong ability and special interests. The program begins with preparatory courses in freshman and sophomore years. The curriculum is rounded out in the junior and senior years with the addition of Honors and Advanced Placement courses. Students need not take all Advanced/Honors/Advanced Placement courses, but may choose to take one or more, if they qualify.

Honors Program

Freshman	Sophomore
English 1H	English 2H
World Cultures H	Biology H or
Algebra 1 H	Chemistry H
Biology H	Geometry H
Junior	Senior
English 3/3H	Eng. 4/4AP
Pre-Calculus H	Calculus AP
Chemistry H	Physics AP
AP U.S. History	AP Government
	Spanish 4AP
	French 4 AP

Advanced Placement Program

Freshman	Sophomore
English 1H	English 2H
World Cultures H	AP European History
Geometry/Geom. H	Alg. 2/Trig./Alg. 2/Trig. H
Biology/Biology H	Chemistry/Chemistry H
	Spanish 3H
	French 3H
Junior	Senior
English 3H	English 4AP
AP U.S. History	AP Government
Pre-Calculus H	Calculus AP
Physics AP	Biology AP
Spanish 4AP	Chemistry AP
French 4AP	Spanish 4AP
History of Art &	French 4 AP
Architecture AP	AP Economics
	AP Environmental Science

REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

In planning your high school program, you should know the subject and grade requirements for the university and/or college you may be selecting.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA REQUIREMENTS

To determine the minimum eligibility of a student, the University of California computes a G.P.A. based on the following A-G courses. **Only grades of “C” or higher are accepted by the UC System.**

A. Social Science **Two years required.**

Two years of social science, including one year of world history, cultures and geography; and one year of U.S. History or one-half year of U.S. History and one-half year of civics

B. English **Four years required.**

Four years of college preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing, and reading of classic and modern literature. Not more than two semesters of ninth grade English can be used to meet this requirement.

C. Mathematics **Three years required, four years recommended.**

Three years of college preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades that your high school accepts as equivalent to its own math courses.

D. Laboratory Science **Two years required, three years recommended.**

Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in two of these three core disciplines: biology, chemistry and physics. The latter two years of an approved three-year integrated science program may be used to fulfill this requirement. Not more than one year of ninth grade laboratory science can be used to meet this requirement.

E. Language Other Than English **Two years required, three years recommended.**

Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. Courses in language other than English taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if your high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

F. Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) **One year required.**

One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art.

G. College Preparatory Electives **One year required.**

One year (two semesters), in addition to those required in “a-f” above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts (non-introductory level courses), history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the “e” requirement or two years of another language.)

In deciding admission to the UC System, 10th and 11th grade G.P.A. is used with SAT I or ACT scores in combination with three SAT II Subject Tests.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

Subject Requirements: You must complete with a grade of “C” or better, the following pattern of college preparatory subjects totaling 15 units. A unit is one year of study in high school.

Two years:	Social Science, including one year of U.S. History or U.S. History and Government
Four years:	English
Three years:	Mathematics (Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2; or integrated mathematics including these)
Two years:	Science with a laboratory (one year biological and one year physical)
Two years:	World Language (the same language)
One year:	Visual and Performing Arts: Art, Dance, Theatre/Drama, or Music
One year:	Elective chosen from the subject areas listed above or approved college preparatory elective courses. 15 units total subjects

ATTENTION STUDENTS AND PARENTS. PLEASE NOTE:

The University of California does NOT accept a higher weighted Grade Point Average for any 9th or 10th grade Honors class nor does it accept a higher weighted Grade Point Average for any 11th or 12th grade English Honors class, IF that high school also offers an Advanced Placement course in the same subject. If a student takes the Honors course and not the Advanced Placement course, the University of California will not give extra weighted credit for the Honors course.

The University of California DOES accept a higher weighted Grade Point Average for all 11th and 12th grade Honors courses if there is not an Advanced Placement course taught in that same subject and the University of California DOES accept all Advanced Placement courses no matter what year that course is taken.

OTHER UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

Subject requirements are usually met by our graduation requirements. However, these institutions set their own admission requirements. Check the college catalog of the particular college in which you are interested to find out the requirements for admission.

SPECIAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

1. **Schedule Change:** Schedules are changed within reason if it is logistically possible; parent permission is necessary. Students may change their schedule only during the FIRST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER. A year course may be dropped at the mid-year point only with parental permission and administrative approval. A teacher may initiate a course change if a student is inappropriately placed in a class. A charge for a student-initiated change is \$10.
2. **Failures:** Students must carry seven classes and PASS each class for which they are scheduled. A student who receives an “F” grade receives NO CREDIT for that course. The student must make up the credits in summer session during the following summer. Certain core courses must be repeated at MDCHS.
3. **Physical Education:** Special consideration may be given to students with extraordinary scheduling needs.
4. **Service Hours:** The eight-semester Religion requirement does not include the Christian Service component. Twenty-five hours should be accumulated each year. This 100 hour service project is required for MDCHS graduates and should be completed by spring of the senior year.
5. **Summer Session:** Summer session is open to ALL students including incoming ninth graders. Summer session is also an opportunity for Honors and regular track students to take elective courses in order to better open up their opportunities for additional World Language courses and/or for additional Advanced Placement (AP) courses. It is also the time for students to retake courses in which they did not earn a passing grade or did not earn a “C” or better. All summer session classes MUST be approved by a Mater Dei Catholic High School counselor prior to enrollment in order for credit to be accepted by MDCHS.
6. **Course Waivers:** Juniors who plan their program to include four years of Mathematics, four years of World Language and four years of Science and are unable to complete all graduation requirements, may petition to have a course waived. Petitions must be made in the junior year for course waivers.
7. **Ability Level Code:** (noted after course title)
AP: Advanced Placement courses are college level. Students taking these courses may receive college credit if they successfully pass the AP exam with a score of 5, 4, or 3 (A=5.0; B=4.0; C=3.0; D=1.0 quality points).

H: Honors courses demand that students do work of superior quality (A=5.0; B=4.0; C=3.0; D=1.0 quality points).

8. Textbook Rotation Cycle

2009-2010: English
2010-2011: Social Science and World Languages
2011-2012: Science
2012-2013: Mathematics and Visual & Performing Arts
Annual: Theology

Courses with no letter designation after the course title are equivalent to standard college prep study (A=4.0; B=3.0; C=2.0; D=1.0.).

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

The Academy of Science is a new unique four year program at Mater Dei Catholic High School which provides an exemplary science learning experience in two ways.

First, the Academy engages students in practical and theoretical science through collaborations and partnerships with the scientific community. Second, the Academy challenges students with a rigorous academic program that encourages all students to achieve at the highest levels of excellence in preparation for college careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Qualified students will take four years of Science and Mathematics courses along with their regular course work. Most unique, they will have the opportunity as upperclassmen to do research with faculty at the University of San Diego, University of California, San Diego, the Jet Propulsion Lab, Scripps Research Institute, The United States Navy and additional local scholars in science engineering, technology and mathematics.

Requirements for the Academy of Science are as follows:

- * Four years of Science - one course must be Advanced Placement (AP)
- * Four Years of Math - one course must be in AP Calculus
- * Score of 85 percentile or better on placement exam in reading and math
- * Minimum Grade Point Average of 3.25 at the end of Freshman year.
- * Interview with Academy Director and Science Teachers at the end of Freshman Year.
- * Written commitment to participate in Academy Seminars during seventh block.
- * Freshman candidates will be chosen in the spring semester of every year.

LANGUAGE ACADEMY

The Language Academy is funded by the ALSAM Foundation to provide additional instruction and support for students who are English language learners. The program was developed to assist students in achieving the academic English necessary for success in a college preparatory high school environment. Students will gain proficiency in English, as well as receive additional academic support. Coursework through the Academy is mandatory for any student in his/her first year in a United States school or for students who lack English proficiency.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Advanced Placement is a program of college-level courses and exams offered for secondary students in American high schools for potential college/university credit.

The following one year Advanced Placement courses are offered at Mater Dei Catholic High School:

American Government	European History
The History of Art and Architecture	French
Biology	Physics
Calculus	Spanish Language
Chemistry	Spanish Literature
Economics	United States History
English Literature	
Environmental Science	

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

1. Students are admitted to Advanced Placement courses if they have an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of AT LEAST 3.0 with a 3.0 or higher in the specific area. Final approval for admission into any Advanced Placement course rests with the recommendation of the teacher in that specific discipline. For example, to move to Advanced Placement European History, you must have a recommendation from your World Cultures teacher and your English teacher.

2. Students are expected to maintain a minimal grade of B- (80%) in that Advanced Placement course. If a student receives a first semester grade of less than a B- (80%), that student may be asked to drop that class for the second semester.
3. All students are encouraged to maintain perfect attendance in order to better achieve success in the course. Accordingly, the following guidelines will be in effect:
 - A. After three (3) absences in any given grading period, the teacher may initiate a meeting with the student and his/her academic counselor concerning the student's eligibility in the course.
 - B. Students may not miss a class for an extra-curricular activity such as sports, ASB meeting, etc. unless prior notification has been given to the Advanced Placement teacher at least one day in advance.
4. STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN AP CLASS MUST take the National Advanced Placement Exam in May.
5. THE NATIONAL EXAM ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM FEE OF \$86.00 MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL, AUGUST 30, 2010. Students will not be allowed to continue in their AP studies without this payment.
6. If, for some reason, the student does not take the National Exam, they will not receive AP, Advanced Placement GPA, Grade Point Average credit on their official transcript.
7. Students signing up for an Advanced Placement class may expect to receive a Summer Reading list of selected works they will be held academically accountable for in that course at the beginning of the fall semester. Failure to be prepared may result in a poor academic beginning to that semester and may result in a low fall semester grade.
8. If a student NOT ENROLLED in an AP course wishes to take an Advanced Placement Exam, he/she must notify the academic Advanced Placement counselor in writing BEFORE November 1st, so that we may order that exam. Failure to do so may result in the exam not being sent in time; thus, denying you the opportunity to take that exam the following May.

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
112-----	Catholic Faith	9
111-----	Sacraments and Morality	9
121-----	Old Testament	10
122-----	New Testament	10
131/132-----	Church History	11
135-----	Campus Ministry Practicum I	11
136-----	Campus Ministry Practicum II	12
141-----	Catholic Social Justice	12
142-----	Christian Call	12

112 CATHOLIC FAITH **Semester** **Grade 9**
 This semester course provides a survey of the basic doctrinal beliefs, traditions, practices, worship and moral principles of Catholicism. This course focuses on the person of Jesus Christ and His teachings. The material is presented with a sensitivity to searching for faith and meaning that will guide adolescents as they move forward with their faith.

111 SACRAMENTS AND MORALITY **Semester** **Grade 9**
 This semester course offers students an opportunity to understand the purpose and meaning of the Sacraments as a visible sign of God's grace. It seeks to actively engage students in an encounter with the Sacraments as a fundamental experience in their spiritual journey with Christ. In addition, this course seeks to explore the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes as a guide for moral decision making and Christian action.

121 OLD TESTAMENT **Semester** **Grade 10**
 This semester course is an introduction to the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures.) It enables the student to encounter key texts in the Hebrew Bible and to explore the nature of religious experiences and language patterns of Scripture. It introduces the students to the various forms of literature in the Bible with special emphasis on Salvation History as told through the prehistory stories of Genesis, the historical figures of the Patriarchs, the psalms as prayer forms and the social justice aspects of the Prophets. Attention will be given to the various religions practiced in the centuries dating through the period of the Hebrew Scriptures.

122 NEW TESTAMENT **Semester** **Grade 10**
 This semester course aims to focus our understanding of Jesus as the heart of our identity as a Catholic Christian faith community and as the foundation of our salvation. This course confronts young people with the challenges of Gospel teachings so that they understand the meaning of Jesus Christ for today's world. This introduction to New Testament is intended to familiarize students with the literary forms, authorship, history and composition of the Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, the Epistles and Revelations, so that they might grasp what sacred writers really intended.

131/132 CHURCH HISTORY I & II **Year** **Grade 11**
 This course examines the journey of Jesus and the Apostles from the beginning of the

Church to the present and its influence on Western Civilization. The first half of the course, taken in the fall semester, with an emphasis on Christology, covers the period from the early Christian community up through the early middle ages. The material covered during the second semester, extends from the early middle ages up to the modern church. This course endeavors to assist students in understanding theological insights as they relate to historical events as well as contemporary issues facing the modern church. Significant historical personalities, including Mary and the Saints and their roles as model Christians, will be studied. An additional facet of this course will focus on other religions that have played a significant role in the history of the Catholic Church.

141 CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE Semester Grade 12

This course alerts students to the social dimension of Christian faith and begins to empower students to respond to the critical issues of our day. This course aims to examine the essential elements required in creating a just society as expressed in the social teaching of the Catholic Church. Issues studied will include human dignity, power, racism, war, peace, consumerism and economic justice, housing, employment and ecology. The biblical, moral, psychological, philosophical and social dimensions of each issue will be considered.

142 CHRISTIAN CALL Semester Grade 12

Young adulthood is an important transitional period in every person's life. This course is designed to guide senior students in facing the challenge of young adulthood so that they may shape a future that is hopeful, healthy and full. The belief that underlies this course is that a Christian life-style is the optimal way to grow. This course will focus on topics that are of utmost importance to young adults, as well as the tools that will be useful in choosing a vocational path.

135 CAMPUS MINISTRY PRACTICUM I Year Grade 11

Students will come to an understanding of the history of the Church and basic tenants of Catholic spirituality as described in course 131/132 Church History I & II. In addition, students will learn liturgical theology. Students will learn the skills and theology in planning, organizing and facilitating liturgical celebrations. Students will use these skills to organize school liturgies and other celebrations. Students assume active ministerial roles to their peers and leadership roles on campus. Throughout the year, students will also help the senior campus ministers with their social justice projects. **Prerequisites: Teacher recommendations, interview and approval of Campus Ministry Team.**

136 CAMPUS MINISTRY PRACTICUM II Year Grade 12

Students will come to an understanding of the Roman Catholic Church's teachings on social justice and Christian life choices as described in course 141 Catholic Social Justice and course 142 Christian Call. In addition, students will learn the Christian theology and spirituality of retreats. Students will learn the basic leadership skills in planning, organizing and facilitating retreats to students of various grade levels at MDCHS. Students will use these skills to lead student facilitated and organized retreats to their peers. Throughout the year, students will put to practice their social justice instruction by implementing campus wide social justice education and charity drives. Students assume active ministerial roles to their peers and leadership roles on campus. **Prerequisites: Teacher recommendations, interview and approval of Campus Ministry Team.**

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

There are four ability levels into which a student can be placed: Basic, College Preparatory, College Preparatory Honors, and Advanced Placement with the approval of the English Department Chairperson and Counselor. See page 6 for an explanation of the English course sequence.

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
209-----	English for Academic Purpose	9-11
210-----	English 1	9
212-----	English 1Honors	9
214-----	Study Skills	9
220-----	English 2	10
222-----	English 2 Honors	10
230-----	English 3	11
232-----	English 3 Honors	11
240-----	English 4	12
243-----	Advanced Placement English	12
245-----	English 4: World Fiction	12
820-----	Speech	10
830-----	Philosophy	11-12
250-----	Journalism	12
251-----	Yearbook	10-12

209 ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSE Year Grades 9-11

English for Academic Purpose (EAP) assists students in developing their academic English for the purpose of gaining the proficiency level necessary to succeed in high school. Students will increase their vocabulary, improve their understanding of grammar, and strengthen their study skills. This course will assist students in understanding the dense academic text that they will encounter in courses such as Science, Mathematics, Religion and Social Studies, along with developing the skills necessary for writing higher level essays in their traditional English course. EAP will be mandatory for any student in his/her first year in U.S. schools or students who lack English proficiency. Any student wishing to skip this class, must prove their skills through a proficiency challenge examination.

210 ENGLISH 1:GRAMMAR, COMPOSTION & LITERATURE Year Grade 9

English 1 is an indepth study of grammar, composition and literature. The study of literature will emphasize the five genres of epic/oral tradition, fiction, non-fiction, drama and poetry. Students will study mythology, folklore, legend and the literary classics. Students will be introduced to the Analytical Writing Program (AWP), a structured writing system that helps students develop comprehensive planning, writing and critical thinking skills. Students also progress in the specific study of grammar, punctuation, oral communication and collaborative skills.

212 ENGLISH 1 HONORS: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION & LITERATURE

Year Grade 9

English 1 Honors covers EVERYTHING taught in English 1 but is taught at a more demanding and accelerated pace. Students will read many more literary classics, have more written assignments and will learn how to better analyze literary works in greater depth. **Prerequisite: A grade of "A" in eighth grade English and approval of the Department Chair based on the student's Entrance Placement Exam results.**

214 STUDY SKILLS**Year Grade 9**

This new course is required of freshmen to especially assist them to enhance and improve their various abilities in faster critical reading, concise logical writing, scientific analysis and mathematical computations.

220 ENGLISH 2: WORLD LITERATURE**Year Grade 10**

English 2 is a survey of world literature with an emphasis on non-British and non-American works. The time period is from the Renaissance to the present. Students further develop critical thinking and analysis skills by using advanced Analytical Writing Program (AWP) concepts. Literary terminology, research processes and writing and SAT preparation are also primary components.

222 ENGLISH 2 HONORS: WORLD LITERATURE Year Grade 10

This course covers all topics of ENGLISH 2, above, but is structured to challenge the more advanced student. Students read more material and analyze literary pieces with greater depth, maturity, and intensity. Just as in ENGLISH 2, this is a survey course of world literature that exposes students to masterpieces from the time of Shakespeare to contemporary literature. Students further develop critical thinking and analysis skills by using more demanding, advanced Analytical Writing Program concepts. Literary terminology, research processes and writing, and SAT preparation are also primary components. **Prerequisite: "A" in English 1H and teacher recommendation.**

230 ENGLISH 3: AMERICAN LITERATURE SURVEY Year Grade 11

This is a survey course of American literature that exposes students to significant American literary pieces from the early 17th century to the present. Students examine American heritage and culture as presented in literary form across novels, short stories, dramatic pieces, poetry, and nonfiction accounts. Students further practice critical thinking, drafting, peer editing, and revision skills by using more advanced Analytical Writing Program concepts.

232 ENGLISH 3 HONORS: AMERICAN LITERATURE SURVEY Year Grade 11

This is an advanced course in American Literature intended to challenge students with more developed, mature analytical prowess and ability. Like English 3, it is a survey course of American literature that exposes students to significant American literary pieces from the early 17th century to the present. Students examine American heritage and culture as presented in literary form across novels, short stories, dramatic pieces, poetry, and nonfiction accounts. Students further hone their already strong critical thinking, drafting, peer editing, and revision skills by using more advanced Analytical Writing Program concepts. **Prerequisite: "A" in English 2/2H and teacher recommendation.**

240 ENGLISH 4: ENGLISH/BRITISH LITERATURE Year Grade 12

This is a survey of English/British Literature from the writings of Beowulf around 800 AD to the present. Students study works representing the six genres of literature, including Medieval epics and folk tales, short stories, poems, plays, and novels. These genres

are studied along with literary movements and trends and analyzed and applied in various written forms. Students evidence mastery of writing concepts, critical thinking and analysis skills through continued use of the structured writing program. Students engage in various collaborative projects, oral presentations and research processes. The year culminates in a term paper.

243 ENGLISH 4: ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION Year Grade 12

This is a college level course established by The College Board in Princeton, New Jersey. Students will read selections of poetry and prose fiction according to the Board's high standards of "recognized literary merit" from the early Classical Greeks to the present. This course focuses on close reading for literary content and interpretation. It will test a student's ability to comprehend and interpret both the form and the substance of poetry and prose selections. Students are expected to write clear, concise, and persuasive interpretive papers and exams in which you demonstrate your understanding of the broad implications of particular works of literature. **Prerequisites: "A" in English 3 and teacher recommendation.**

245 ENGLISH 4: WORLD FICTION Year Grade 12

Students may take World Fiction instead of English/British Literature for their Senior English requirement. It is a survey of fiction from around the world. Students will read a diverse range of critically acclaimed short stories and classical novels by world renowned authors thematically, not chronologically. We will discuss, analyze, and write about these works as they impact personal relationships, environmental and cultural change, one's own free will, racism, gender discrimination, imperialism, and the ravages of war as it relates to nations, communities, and the individual human psyche. Thus, students will increase their understanding of all peoples around the world as well as their reasoning and writing skills, vocabulary, language usage, analytical thinking, reading comprehension and research techniques. Students engage in various collaborative projects, oral presentations, and research processes. The year culminates in a term paper.

820 SPEECH Semester Grade 9

This course instructs students in various methods and styles of public speaking. Students learn to plan, organize, and deliver public messages. Logical reasoning, listening, collaborative, and critical thinking skills are cultivated. **This course fulfills an MDCHS requirement, but DOES NOT fulfill one of the four-year English requirements.**

830 PHILOSOPHY Semester Grades 11-12

This is a one semester elective course on the history of philosophy from the Presocratic School of early Classical Greece to the Existentialist School today. A wide range of topics may include free will, the relation of mind and body, immortality, causality, a *priori* knowledge, intuition, rationality, and faith. Students will study the great world questions such as what is truth, beauty, knowledge, reality, and the nature of value, justice and morality. Philosophy encompasses all areas of the human experience - the mind,

art, religion, history, mathematics, science and the written and spoken language. The value of the study of philosophy is for students to gain insight into themselves and others, to learn how to think logically, to reason and to write clearly. Thereby, students will increase their writing skills, vocabulary, language usage, analytical thinking and reasoning skills, reading comprehension and research techniques.

250 JOURNALISM Semester Grades 10-12

This is an elective offered during seventh period. The course focuses on writing for various audiences and instructs students in methods of media writing and use of technology in media productions. Students write stories, plan, organize, prepare, publish, and distribute the school newspaper, *The Crusader*. **Prerequisite: Approval of newspaper adviser and English teacher.**

251 YEARBOOK 1-3 Semesters Grades 10-12

This elective course is open to students who wish to demonstrate their ability to produce the school yearbook. It offers instruction and practice in copy writing and editing, proofreading, writing of feature stories, captions, reviews, and human interest articles; headline writing, makeup, reporting, interviewing, typing in Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Page Maker, layout design, photography, and business management, including advertising. Students also demonstrate their ability to write well under pressure, gather information independently and organize it cooperatively, and work effectively with their peers. Through extensive rewriting, students exhibit mastery in composition skills. **Prerequisite: Counselor/Instructor approval.**

252 SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY Year Grades 11-12

This course is for SDSU and Mater Dei credit and is taught by a SDSU Professor. Students who successfully complete this course will earn 10 Mater Dei elective credits and 3 SDSU credits which transfer to another college/university of your choice. There is a \$300 fee which covers the SDSU tuition and textbooks.

This course is concerned with philosophical inquiry, with an emphasis on the problems of moral value. Students are encouraged to think independently and to formulate their own tentative conclusions concerning a variety of vital contemporary issues facing individuals and society.

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
310-----	Spanish 1	9-12
320-----	Spanish 2	9-12
332-----	Spanish 3	10-12
330-----	Spanish 3H	11-12
340-----	Spanish 4	11-12
350-----	AP Spanish Language	11-12
352-----	AP Spanish Literature	11-12
311-----	French 1	9-12
321-----	French 2	9-12
331-----	French 3	10-12
334-----	French 3 Honors	11-12
341-----	French 4	11-12
351-----	AP French Language	11-12

310 SPANISH 1 Year Grades 9-12

Spanish 1 is an introductory course intended to develop the student's ability to listen, speak, read and write Spanish correctly. Major emphasis is placed upon the ability to speak with accurate pronunciation. This course fulfills the first year of the World Language graduation requirement. **Prerequisite: Proficiency as evidenced by the student's score on the Placement Exam and a grade of "B" in previous English course.**

320 SPANISH 2 Year Grades 9-12

Spanish 2 is intended to extend the student's ability in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Major emphasis is placed upon developing fluency and accuracy of speech. Also included in this course will be topics emphasizing Hispanic culture. This course fulfills the second year of the World Language graduation requirement. **Prerequisite: A grade of "C" or better in Spanish 1, or approval of Department Chair.**

332 SPANISH 3 Year Grades 10-12

This is an advanced Spanish course. The material covered is a reinforcement and advancement of that covered in Spanish 1 and 2. There is continued emphasis on pronunciation, writing, speaking and listening skills with a focus on conversation. Advanced grammar points are introduced and students are exposed to literary works of Spanish and Latin-American writers. **Prerequisite: A grade of "B" or better in Spanish 2, or approval of Department Chair.**

330 SPANISH 3 HONORS**Year Grades 11-12**

This is a more accelerated pace in reading and writing in Spanish with the reading selections more numerous and advanced in vocabulary and interpretive issues. See Spanish 3 above for the general course description. **Prerequisite: “B” or better in Spanish 2 or approval from Department Chair.**

340 SPANISH 4**Year Grades 11-12**

This is an advanced course in the Spanish language. Students will focus on a broad range of Spanish literature selected to enrich the understanding of Spanish culture. Emphasis on developing an advanced degree of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary, grammar and analytical methods in Spanish will be of prime importance. **Prerequisites: “B” grade or better in Spanish 3 with approval of Department Chair.**

350 ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LANGUAGE Year Grades 11-12

AP Spanish Language is comparable to an advanced level college Spanish language course. This advanced Spanish course will continue to offer a continued emphasis on developing optimum proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary, spelling, grammar and critical thinking in the Spanish language. It will also expose the student to a broad range of Spanish writings selected to promote understanding of Hispanic literature and its place in Hispanic culture. The AP Spanish student is expected to take the AP Exam in May. There is a required additional fee. **Prerequisite: “B” grade or better in Spanish 4, with consent of the instructor and the Department Chair. Students are required to maintain a “B” average in this course.**

352 ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LITERATURE**Year Grades 11-12**

AP Spanish Literature is taken AFTER AP Spanish Language and is comparable to a college course on the introduction to Hispanic literature. It is based on a required reading list. The works on the list are of literary significance and represent various historical periods, literary movements, genres, geographic areas, and population groups within the Spanish-speaking world. The objective of the course is to help you interpret and analyze literature in Spanish. The AP Spanish student is expected to take the AP Exam in May. There is a required additional fee. **Prerequisites: “B” grade or better in AP Spanish Language, with consent of the instructor and Department Chair. Students are required to maintain a “B” average in this course.**

311 FRENCH 1**Year Grades 9-12**

This introductory course in French is intended to provide students with the ability to listen, speak, read and write French correctly. Major emphasis is placed upon the ability to speak with accurate pronunciation. An introduction to French culture is integrated into the language study. **Prerequisite: “B” average in previous English course and proficiency as evidenced by English placement test.**

321 FRENCH 2**Year Grades 9-12**

French 2 is intended to extend the student’s ability in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Major emphasis is placed upon developing fluency and accuracy of speech. Also included in this course will be topics emphasizing French culture. Required for those who meet prerequisite. **Prerequisite: A grade of “C” or better in French 1 or approval of Department Chair.**

331 FRENCH 3**Year Grades 10-12**

French 3 will review grammar previously studied and emphasis will be placed on the reading of short stories, conversation and the writing of free composition. Individual projects will allow students to research cultural aspects that interest them personally. **Prerequisite: “B” average or better in French 2 or approval of Department Chair.**

334 FRENCH 3 HONORS**Year Grades 11-12**

This is a more accelerated pace in reading and writing in French with the reading selections more numerous and advanced in vocabulary and interpretive issues. See French 3 above for the general course description. **Prerequisite: “B” or better in French 2 or approval from Department Chair.**

341 FRENCH 4**Year Grades 11-12**

This is an advanced course in French language. It exposes the student to a broad range of French writing, selected to enhance the understanding of French literature and culture. There will be a continued emphasis developing optimum proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary, spelling, grammar and critical thinking in the French language. **Prerequisites: “B” grade or better in French 3 and approval of Department Chair.**

351 ADVANCED PLACEMENT FRENCH LANGUAGE Year Grades 11-12

This advanced French course exposes the student to third year university level French. A broad range of literature and an in-depth review of grammar are integral to this course. An advanced emphasis is placed on proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, composition, vocabulary and grammar. The AP French student is expected to take the AP French Language exam in the spring. (Additional fee required.) **Prerequisites: “B” grade or better in French 4 with consent of instructor. Students are required to maintain a “B” average in this course.**

420 ALGEBRA 1**Year Grades 9-10**

Algebra 1 introduces the student to mathematics beyond arithmetic. It is the first course working with abstract concepts, the use of symbols other than numerals, and translating word problems into mathematical symbols. The basic topics include number sets, factoring, operations of algebraic expressions, equations of lines and their graphs, and quadratic functions and their graphs. Placement in this course is based on entrance examination results or successful completion of pre-algebra with a “C” or higher. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum.

421 GEOMETRY HONORS**Year Grade 10**

This course covers the same topics as Geometry but includes more emphasis on formal proofs and constructions and more challenging problems and applications. Placement in this course requires completion of algebra 1 honors with a grade of “A-” or higher, or algebra 1 with a “B+” or better, and/or Mathematics department chair approval/recommendation. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum.

430 GEOMETRY**Year Grades 10-11**

Geometry is a course concerned with inductive and deductive proof, angles, perpendicular and parallel lines, congruent triangles, similar polygons, circles and constructions, right and congruent triangles, areas of volumes and solids, coordinate Geometry and areas of plane figures. Placement in this course requires completion of algebra 1 with a grade of “C” or higher. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum.

431 ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY HONORS**Year Grades 10-11**

This course covers the same topics as algebra 2/trigonometry but with more challenging problems and applications. Placement in this course requires completion of geometry honors with a “B-” or higher, or geometry with an “A-” or higher, and/or Mathematics department chair approval/recommendation. SAT Prep is included in the curriculum.

440 ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY**Year Grades 11-12**

Algebra 2/Trigonometry is concerned with the axioms of the real number system, solving equations, relations and functions, polynomials and their graphs, the complex number system, logarithms and trigonometric functions. Placement in this course requires completion of geometry or geometry honors with a grade of “C” or higher.

441 PRE-CALCULUS HONORS**Year Grades 11-12**

Pre-Calculus Honors provides a more accelerated preparation for Calculus by continuing the development begun in the Algebra courses. Practice in the topics covered in the previous courses is interspersed with more advanced topics in logarithms and exponential functions, trigonometry, vectors, polynomial functions and an introduction to limits and derivatives. Placement in this course requires completion of Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors with a grade of C or higher and/or approval of the Chair of the Mathematics Department.

442 PRE-CALCULUS**Year Grades 11-12**

Pre-calculus provides preparation for calculus by continuing the development begun in the algebra courses. Practice in the topics covered in the previous courses is interspersed with more advanced topics in logarithms and exponential functions, trigonometry, vectors, polynomial functions and an introduction to limits and derivatives. Placement in this course requires completion of algebra 2/trigonometry honors with a “C” or higher, or algebra 2/trigonometry with a “B” or higher, and/or Mathematics department chair approval/recommendation.

443 ELEMENTARY STATISTICS**Semester Grades 11- 12**

Elementary Statistics is a one semester elective for students who have completed Algebra 2/Trig. It is designed for those looking for a challenge other than pre-Calculus. Elementary Statistics provides a foundation for those especially interested in future careers in business, physical, biological or social sciences, and education. This course will provide the necessary foundation for that success. Placement requires completion of Algebra 2/Trig. with a “C” or higher.

452 ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS**Year Grade 12**

AP Calculus is a rigorous, in-depth course which includes functions and their inverses, limits, continuity, derivatives of algebraic, transcendental and trigonometric functions, anti-derivatives and definite integrals, and applications of both derivatives and integrals. **Prerequisites: Completion of pre-calculus honors with a “B+” or higher and Mathematics Department Chair recommendation.**

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
520-----	Biology	9-10
521-----	Biology Honors	9-10
529-----	Chemistry in Context	11-12
530-----	Chemistry	11-12
531-----	Chemistry Honors	11
532-----	Anatomy & Physiology	11
533-----	AP Biology	12
534-----	AP Chemistry	11-12
540-----	Physics	12
544-----	Stud. Inq. & Research App. in Sci.	10-12
545-----	AP Physics	12
550-----	AP Environmental Science	12

520 BIOLOGY Year Grades 9-10

This course is a general survey of Biology. It includes a study of cell anatomy and physiology, genetics, taxonomy and surveys the major biological kingdoms. Students engage in a variety of laboratory activities to enhance, discover, and confirm their knowledge of Biology.

521 BIOLOGY HONORS Year Grades 9-10

Biology Honors provides an accelerated survey of general Biology. It includes all of the topics covered in the Biology course, as well as protein synthesis, advanced genetics, and statistical methods as applicable to the biological sciences.

529 CHEMISTRY IN CONTEXT Year Grades 11-12

This is a college preparatory course designed for students who are not sufficiently advanced in mathematics to undertake the more traditional Chemistry course. It is a laboratory course which fulfills the state requirement for a Chemistry course at the high school level. It is similar to the traditional Chemistry course in its emphasis on laboratory activities, but develops chemical principles through a thematic approach as related to the environment and practical issues. **Prerequisites: Recommendation of Biology instructor and successful completion of Algebra 1 and Biology with a grade of "C" or better.**

530 CHEMISTRY Year Grades 11-12

This course is a general preparatory Chemistry course involving a study of the nature and behavior of matter, atomic theory, the periodic law, energy relationships, the gas laws, equilibrium, acids and bases, and redox reactions. Students engage in a variety of laboratory activities with emphasis on problem solving and report writing. **Prerequisites: Recommendation of Biology instructor and concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2/Trigonometry.**

531 CHEMISTRY HONORS Year Grade 11

Chemistry Honors is a more intense study of the nature and interaction of matter. Greater emphasis is placed on the mathematical nature of Chemistry and greater problem solving skills and reasoning ability are expected of the students. Advanced topics such as molecular geometry, bonding theory, thermodynamics, kinetics, and solution and acid/base equilibria are explored. The course includes an extensive laboratory component that emphasizes problem solving and report writing. **Prerequisites: Recommendation of Biology instructor and concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2/Trigonometry Honors.**

532 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY Year Grade 12

Anatomy and Physiology is a college level study of human structure and function. It covers all of the human body systems in addition to immunology and histology. There is a major laboratory component to this course and students are tested through laboratory practical examinations. **Prerequisites: Recommendation of Chemistry instructor and successful completion of Biology and a Chemistry course with a grade of "B" or better.**

533 ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY Year Grade 12

Advanced Placement Biology exposes qualified seniors to a survey of material in a first year college course for Biology majors. Its course content is determined by the College Board and requires a significant amount of reading and independent study, as well as after-hours time for completion of labs and other projects, as well as study groups. It is a rigorous course of study and demands total commitment from the student. **Prerequisites: Completion of Biology or Biology Honors, and Chemistry or Chemistry Honors with a grade of "B" or better and instructor approval.**

534 ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY Year Grades 11-12

This is a college level course with a college text designed to prepare students for The College Board Advanced Placement exam. This difficult course will include the study of Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Environmental Chemistry and Biochemistry. Laboratory work stresses the research techniques employed in college and industry. This is a very rigorous course which demands a minimum of two hours of homework nightly in order to adequately prepare for the national Advanced Placement exam in May. **Prerequisites: "B" or better in earlier Science courses and Algebra 2/Trigonometry and approval of Department Chair.**

540 PHYSICS Year Grade 12

Physics is a general first course in the study of the behavior of inanimate matter. It emphasizes classical Newtonian physics, as well as optics, acoustics, electricity, thermodynamics, and relativity. Students engage in a large variety of laboratory activities with emphasis on problem solving. **Prerequisites: Recommendation of Chemistry teacher and concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus.**

544 STUDENT INQUIRY AND RESEARCH APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

Year Grades 10-12

This is a three year research program for students in the SCIENCE ACADEMY. It provides students with a more extensive knowledge of the nature of scientific research and the methods that scientists use to explore the nature of the universe in the areas of biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology and environmental science. It allows students to do formal research with University of San Diego and University of California, San Diego Professor mentors, do literature searches in preparation for that research and write proposals. Students are required to do formal presentations of their research as part of the course requirements. Finally, students are exposed to a vast area of scientific work through seminars and field experiences provided in partnership with a local university and research center.

Prerequisites: 1) Formal admission into the Science Academy. 2) Successful completion of both Honors Biology and Honors Geometry.

545 ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS Year Grade 12

Advanced Placement Physics is a difficult, accelerated college level course with a college text designed to prepare students for The College Board National Advanced Placement exam in May. Major topics covered in lecture/discussion and in the laboratory include Newtonian theory, mechanics, magnetism, measurement, thermal physics, acoustics, thermodynamics, wave motion, atomic physics, the solar system, relativity, geometric optics, and the properties of matter. **Prerequisites: Completion of Biology Honors, Chemistry Honors, Algebra/Trigonometry with a “B” or better and recommendation of the Department Chair.**

550 ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Year Grade 12

Advanced Placement Environmental Science is a course designed to be the equivalent of a one semester, introductory college course in environmental science. It integrates a wide variety of science disciplines including geology, biology, chemistry, and geography. The course content is designated by the College Board. Students who complete this course will learn scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and analyze and identify environmental problems, both natural and manmade. This course has a large field component that requires 3 to 6 hours of field observation per week, plus additional out of class time for completion of labs and study sessions. **Prerequisites: Successful completion of a Biology and Chemistry course with a grade of “B” or better and instructor approval.**

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
610-----	World Cultures	9
611-----	World Cultures Honors	9
612-----	Latin American History	9-12
630-----	United States History	11
631-----	Advanced Placement United States History	11
640-----	American Government/Economics	12
641-----	Advanced Placement American Government	12
642-----	Advanced Placement European History	10-12
643.....	Advanced Placement Economics	12
542-----	Psychology	11-12
645-----	Microeconomics	11-12

610 WORLD CULTURES Year Grade 9

World Cultures is the study of the origins, development and history of major civilizations from prehistoric times to today. The geographic, religious, economic, scientific, cultural, social and political factors influencing these civilizations are examined.

611 WORLD CULTURES HONORS Year Grade 9

World Cultures A is an accelerated examination of the topics covered in the regular World Cultures course. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and refined reading and writing skills. The relationship between current events and historical background information are analyzed. This class requires extensive reading and prepares students for advanced high school history courses.

612 LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY Year Grades 10-12

Latin American History explores the three major areas of development of the Spanish-speaking nations of the western hemisphere. In Colonial Latin America, students examine the Native American cultures and Brazilian and Spanish colonization of the region. Students then focus on the causes and effects of the wars of independence against the European powers. The course concludes with the evolution of modern Latin America, including the Atlantic, Pacific, and Caribbean Republics plus Central America, Panama, and Mexico.

630 UNITED STATES HISTORY Year Grade 11

United States History helps students understand the political, economic and social development of our nation. The first semester emphasizes the visions and realities experienced by Americans from the Colonial Period through the 19th century. The second semester focuses on events throughout the 20th century with an emphasis on setting priorities for the American of the future. The influence of geographical factors such as climate, landforms and physical regions are discussed in this course.

631 ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY

Year Grade 11

This course is a college level program of studies in American History focusing on the components, methods, problems and consequences facing the United States from colonization to the present day. College level texts and primary source documents are used, providing students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with topics significant to American history. Advanced Placement American History requires extensive reading and study. All students enrolled in the class take the Advanced Placement exam in American History in May (an additional fee is required.) **Prerequisite: Grade of “B” or better in all previous history and English classes and consent of instructor and Department Chair.**

640 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS Year Grade 12

This is a one semester class which surveys the functions of the United States Government. Emphasis is placed on the organization and function of foreign, domestic and economic policies and their problems are also studied. Economics provides the student with the basic concepts of the economic systems and institutions of the nation and the world. In order to make sensible decisions on a variety of economic principles and concepts, students will develop skills based on the knowledge of fundamental economics, comparative economic systems, micro and macro economics.

641 ADVANCED PLACEMENT AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Year Grade 12

This is a survey course designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge equivalent to an introductory college course in Political Science or American Government. The students will trace the development of our Government from the Constitution through today’s major civil rights battles. They will examine in-depth the

642 ADVANCED PLACEMENT EUROPEAN HISTORY

Year Grades 10-12

Advanced Placement European History is a college level course with a college text with extensive additional readings in primary and secondary sources. The course begins with the origins of the Italian Renaissance in the 1300’s and ends with the collapse of the Soviet Union in the 1990’s. Teaching will be mostly by the lecture/discussion technique. Chapter exams will be in the nature of the national objective/essay Advanced Placement Exam given in May. Students will have the opportunity to analyze various historical evidence, evaluate significant historical concepts and trends, and undertake systematic scholarly research. **Prerequisite: A grade of “B” or better in World Cultures and English, the successful completion of an essay exam showing an ability to think and write critically, and the approval of the Department Chair.**

643 ADVANCED PLACEMENT ECONOMICS Year Grade 12

AP Economics is a college level survey course in Macroeconomics. This is the indepth study of the comprehensive totality of economic activity. It deals with the issues of growth, inflation, unemployment, trade monetary exchange rates, and banking at the national and international level. Advanced mathematical computations are an important component of the study of macroeconomics. **Prerequisites: A grade of “B” or better in United States History, English 3, Algebra 2/Trigonometry and the consent of the instructor.**

542 PSYCHOLOGY Semester Grades 11-12

Psychology is a survey course designed to introduce the basic concepts of the major theories of human behavior. Human development, perception, motivation, learning and intelligence, abnormal behavior and personality are some of the topics covered. The scientific method is used to study the principles of psychology as a science, as well as an emphasis on self-awareness. *(Elective class only.)*

645 MICROECONOMICS Semester Grades 11-12

Microeconomics is a one semester course with emphasis on how individuals, families and organizations make decisions to allocate their resources, how these decisions affect the supply and demand for goods and services, which determines prices which, in turn, determines the supply and demand of goods and services.

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
701-----	Drama I & II	9-12
730-----	Art I & II	10-12
731-----	Ceramics I & II	10-12
713-----	Concert Band	9-12
712-----	Steel Drum Band	9-12
714-----	Choral Music	9-12
715-----	Guitar	10-12
717-----	Music Composition	9-12
716-----	Computer Graphics	10-12
718-----	Multimedia Authoring	10-12
732----	Advanced Placement History of Art and Architecture	10-12
733-----	Dance	10-12

701 DRAMA I & II Year Grades 9-12

This elective course provides theatrical experience in voice, movement, acting, directing, set design, costumes and other technical aspects of theater production. In addition, the course stresses drama appreciation, including analysis and critiquing of productions, and knowledge of drama history from its beginnings to the present. Emphasis is placed on student's artistic perception, creative expression and aesthetic valuing, as well as comprehending the historical and cultural context of theater. Through readings, writing essays and scripts, design, acting and lecture, students will have an understanding of the history of drama and the dramatic profession.

730 ART I & II Year Grades 10-12

Art is a survey course involving the elements and principles of perspective drawing techniques using live models, copying the work of master artists and original work. The class includes work in pencil, charcoal, ink, pastels and acrylic paint. Exhibition of work is expected. Students are critiqued individually and oral presentations/essays are required, as well as art work.

731 CERAMICS I & II Year Grades 10-12

Students learn basic techniques such as pinch, slab and coil by making various functional pieces of pottery. They learn surface decoration and glazing. Drawings of pottery and sculpture from ancient cultures are studied. Students receive demonstrations, lectures and critiques, including beginning wheel work. Students learn coil building on a larger scale, carved sculpture and slab technique, surface decoration and glazing. They are expected to use some of the art from ancient cultures as inspiration. Students learn to throw several types of pots on the wheel. **Prerequisite: Ceramics 1 required before Ceramics 2, or consent of Instructor.**

713 CONCERT BAND Semester Grades 9-12
 Students will learn musical theory and improve on their ability to play a musical instrument. Students will learn to play as part of an ensemble for concerts and other selected school/community events. This is not a UC approved course.

PREREQUISITE: STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN INSTRUMENT AND HAVE THE ABILITY TO PLAY IT.

712 STEEL DRUM BAND Semester Grades 9-12
 Students will perform music in the Caribbean tradition at various school and community events. This is not a UC approved course.

714 CHORAL MUSIC Semester Grades 9-12
 Students learn the art of solo and choral singing. They also study choral harmony, music notation, intonation, diction, vocalization exercises and vocal repertoire. Two performances per semester are required; one choral concert and one vocal recital including music from the contemporary and classical repertoire. Two consecutive semesters will fulfill the Visual & Performing Arts Department requirement.

715 GUITAR Year Grades 10-12
 Guitar is an introductory course on learning the basics of playing this instrument. It is a one year course which will fulfill the Visual & Performing Arts Department requirement for graduation.

717 MUSIC COMPOSITION Year Grades 10-12
 Students study the cultures of the world through music. They learn about different musical styles and periods that have evolved throughout history. The foundations of Western Classical music from the Renaissance through the Twentieth Century will be presented through lecture/discussion and audio presentations. Topics in music theory are meter, notation, rhythm, pitch, tonality, key signature, harmony and jazz improvisation. Two consecutive semesters will fulfill the Visual & Performing Arts Department requirement.

716 COMPUTER GRAPHICS Year Grades 10-12
 This year course introduces the student to computer graphic art. The class is structured around projects emphasizing the art elements of line, shape, color and texture. Through theory and comprehensive hands-on training, the student will learn computer graphic art fundamentals as representative of traditional art fundamentals, drawing, color theory, basic foundations of graphic design, graphic art history and computer graphics digital imaging. It will introduce the student to the principles of design including rhythm, balance, proportions and variety. The student will develop an appreciation of traditional artistic expression as well as an understanding of the role of contemporary media as a verbal and visual means of communication in today's society. **Prerequisite: Instructor approval.**

718 MULTIMEDIA AUTHORIZING **Year** **Grades 10-12**

This semester course introduces the students to a hands-on lab course involving computer programs such as Adobe Premiere and Director. Students create animations and integrate digital videos into multimedia presentations for use in educational and informal settings. This course will present historical, theoretical, and cultural issues as related to mass media and the internet. In addition to their theoretical and historical work, students will critically analyze and create multimedia. The class is project-based with brief introductions to software common in the multimedia industry. Students evaluate (verbally and in writing), design, create and present multimedia projects. **Prerequisite: Art 1, Computer Graphics or experience/Instructor approval.**

732 ADVANCED PLACEMENT HISTORY OF ART & ARCHITECTURE

Year **Grades 10-12**

This one year Advanced Placement course has the same requirements as a college survey course in art history. It is a comprehensive course that combines drawing, painting, architecture, sculpture and other forms of art in a diverse historical and cultural world-wide context from the Classical World of the East and the West to the modern 21st Century. Students will be expected to objectively identify and write comprehensive essay exam answers on extensive works of art, the artist, the various schools and/or stylistic characteristics of that historical period and their collective impact on our world-wide civilization. **Prerequisite: Minimum requirement is a grade of "B" or higher in World Cultures Honors and the consent of the Instructor.**

733 INTRODUCTION TO DANCE **Year** **Grades 10-12**

This is a beginning dance class where students will learn a variety of dances in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and world dances. Through creative movement improvisation, students will develop new movement vocabularies and will then improvise, compose and choreograph dances. Students will describe, analyze and critique their own dances and those of others. Performances will be held as part of the class in the Fall and Spring. This course will include an indepth study of theatrical elements, musical choices and historical and cultural references.

734 GRAPHIC DESIGN **Year** **Grades 10-12**

Graphic Design is a course for students who are interested in pursuing dynamic concepts and learning how to develop them into the business world by utilizing the computer through software such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign and Adobe Illustrator. Students will develop an understanding of the elements and principles of art and explore the difficulties in how to maintain those standards by completing numerous projects. Students will develop basic skills in how to create design from simple sketches to final presentation quality. Students will respond to and judge design through their own knowledge of art and how they believe the concepts could be used in the corporate world. In addition, students will study and research the development of design through cultural and historical context. Students will then relate those experiences and knowledge into their own life experiences and design creations. **Recommended prerequisite: Art.**

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course Reference #	Title	Grade
810-----	Basic Computers	9
811-----	Computer Applications	11-12
812-----	Web Design	10-12

810 BASIC COMPUTERS (Summer Offering Only) **Semester** **Grade 9**

This course is designed to familiarize the student with basic word-processing procedures for use in a college preparatory environment. By the end of the semester, the student will demonstrate a mastery of the computer keyboard and be proficient in one popular word-processing program.

811 COMPUTER APPLICATIONS **Semester** **Grades 11-12**

The student will learn the fundamental techniques of the three primary computer business applications: database, spreadsheet and advanced word-processing. Simulation programs will be used in each of the three areas so that the student will become familiar with both data entry and the completion of final reports. **Prerequisite: typing skill of at least 20 words per minute.**

812 WEB DESIGN **Semester** **Grades 10-12**

This course is designed to teach concepts involving web design, computer applications, the internet, operating systems and network. Students will work together using various applications to create documents and files.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Course Reference # Title	Grade
910-----Physical Education/Health Girls	9-10
911-----Physical Education/Health Boys	9-10
910-----Physical Education/Health Girls	11-12
911-----Physical Education/Health Boys	11-12
913-----Freshman Physical Education Football	9
932/942-----Weight Training & Phys. Cond. 1-2	10-12
951-----Football Physical Education (Fall only)	9-12
952-----Team Participation	

**910 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH GIRLS Semester Grades 9-10
THIS IS A REQUIRED COURSE.**

This is a beginning course designed to target fitness, health and wellness for life and life-long physical activities through a variety of fitness activities, recreational activities, individual and team sports, dance and lectures. The activities are as follows: power walking, jogging, Pilates, Aerobics, Circuit Training, Dance, Yoga and Strength Training. Recreational sports include volley-tennis, volleyball, tennis, soccer, badminton and basketball.

**911 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH BOYS Semester Grades 9-10
THIS IS A REQUIRED COURSE.**

This is a beginning course designed to target fitness, health and wellness through a variety of fitness activities, recreational activities, individual and team sports, and lectures. Activities include strength training, volley-tennis, volleyball, tennis, soccer, badminton, basketball and flag football.

**910 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH GIRLS Semester Grades 11-12
THIS IS A REQUIRED COURSE unless the student is participating on a Varsity team during these years.**

The following course is structured at an Intermediate to Advanced level. Students must demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills in the following: Fitness/Aerobic activities, Dual (badminton, paddle ball, tennis) activities, Advanced Dance, Advanced Weight Training and Intermediate to advanced skills in volleyball, tennis, soccer and basketball. Health, fitness and wellness topics will be covered during lectures.

**911 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH BOYS Semester Grades 11-12
THIS IS A REQUIRED COURSE unless the student is participating on a Varsity team during these years.**

The following course is structured at an Intermediate to Advanced level. Students must demonstrate advanced to intermediate knowledge on fitness, health and physical conditioning, and skills in sports. Class participation will involve tournament play, skills test and an indepth study of the sport and its rules. Volleyball, softball, soccer, basketball, tennis and over-the-line will be offered.

****Students may not take physical education for more than one period a day.**

913 FRESHMAN PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOOTBALL Year Grade 9

This course is for members of the freshmen football team to help them improve in their technique and strength training specifically to enhance their skills necessary in playing football.

**932/942 WEIGHT TRAINING/PHYSICAL CONDITIONING CO-ED
Semester Grades 10-12**

This course is designed for the student who is interested in improving muscle tone, strength, mass flexibility and cardiovascular fitness. Emphasis will be placed on developing and strengthening the major muscle groups.

**951 FOOTBALL PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Semester Grades 9-12**

This course is given in the fall semester only. It is specifically geared to technique and strength training in the game of football. **This course may be taken in lieu of a regular physical education class and must be recommended by the football coach only.**

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO GAIN COURSE CREDIT

952 TEAM PARTICIPATION

A student may earn five P.E. units for participation on an interscholastic team (including stats personnel and managers) or cheerleading for one full season. The credit is approved through the Principal's office. The Principal is to be provided with the list of eligible students by the Athletic Directors.