

BISHOP SEABURY ACADEMY



**Course of Study
Curriculum Guide
2026-2027**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Course of Study	5
Curriculum Overview	10
Curriculum Sequencing	10
English Sequence Overview	11
Course Title: Language Arts 6	11
Course Title: English 7	13
Course Title: English 8	15
Course Title: English 9	16
Course Title: English 10	18
Course Title: English 11/English 11 Honors (American Literature)	19
Course Title: English 12/English 12 Honors	21
Course Title: English Language Learners (ELL)	22
Course Title: Creative Writing (Fall or Spring Semester)	23
Course Title: Journalism	25
Social Studies Sequence Overview	26
Course Title: World Geography I	26
Course Title: World Geography II	27
Course Title: World Religions	28
Course Title: World History I	29
Course Title: World History II/World History II Honors	30
Course Title: United States History/United States History Honors	31
Course Title: Philosophy and Ethics	32
Course Title: Asian Studies (Fall Semester) (offered every other year)	33
Course Title: African Studies (Spring Semester) (offered every other year)	34
Course Title: European History (Honors) (offered every other year)	34
Course Title: U.S. Government & Politics/U.S. Government & Politics Honors (Fall Semester)	35
Course Title: Global Studies/Global Studies Honors (Spring Semester)	36
World Languages Sequence Overview	37
Course Title: Introduction to Latin	38
Course Title: Introduction to French	40
Course Title: Introduction to Spanish	41
Course Title: Foundations of Latin	41
Course Title: Middle School Languages Capstone	42
Course Title: French I	43

Course Title: Latin I	44
Course Title: Spanish I	46
Course Title: French II/French II Pre-Honors	47
Course Title: Latin II/Latin II Pre-Honors	48
Course Title: Spanish II/Spanish II Pre-Honors	49
Course Title: French III/French III Honors	51
Course Title: Latin III/Latin III Honors	52
Course Title: Spanish III/Spanish III Honors	54
Course Title: French IV/French IV Honors	55
Course Title: Latin IV/Latin IV Honors	56
Course Title: Spanish IV/Spanish IV Honors	57
Course Title: Spanish V (Honors)	58
Course Title: American Sign Language I:	59
Course Title: American Sign Language II:	61
Science Sequence Overview	62
Course Title: Science 6	64
Course Title: Earth Science	65
Course Title: Physical Science	66
Course Title: Biology	67
Course Title: Chemistry	68
Course Title: Physics/Physics Honors	68
Course Title: Introduction to Programming (Fall Semester)	70
Course Title: Advanced Programming (Fall Semester)	70
Course Title: Game Development (Spring Semester)	71
Course Title: Advanced Game Development (Spring Semester)	72
Course Title: Robotics (Fall Semester)	73
Course Title: Advanced Robotics	73
Course Title: Genetics & Biotechnology (Honors) (Fall Semester)	74
Course Title: Advanced Chemistry (Honors) (Spring Semester)	75
Course Title: Anatomy & Physiology (Honors) (Spring Semester)	76
Course Title: Wilderness Studies (Fall Semester)	77
Course Title: Applications of Science (Spring Semester)	78
Course Title: Introduction to Engineering & Design (Spring Semester)	78
Mathematics Sequence Overview	79
Course Title: Math 6	80
Course Title: Prealgebra	81
Course Title: Algebra I	82
Course Title: Geometry/Geometry Pre-Honors	83
Course Title: Algebra II/Algebra II Pre-Honors	84
Course Title: Precalculus/Precalculus Pre-Honors	85

Course Title: Algebra III	86
Course Title: Calculus I/Calculus I Honors	86
Course Title: Calculus II (Honors)	87
Course Title: Calculus III (Honors)	88
Course Title: Statistics/Statistics Honors	89
Physical Education Sequence Overview	90
Course Title: Physical Education	90
Course Title: Health	90
Course Title: Strength & Conditioning	91
Arts Sequence Overview	91
Course Title: Art 6	92
Course Title: Art 7 (CHAD Sequence)	92
Course Title: Art 8 (CHAD Sequence)	93
Course Title: Art 9	94
Course Title: Advanced Art	94
Course Title: Drama (CHAD Sequence)	95
Course Title: Theatre 9	96
Course Title: Advanced Theatre	96
Course Title: Forensics (Spring Semester)	97
Course Title: Instrumental Music	98
Course Title: Voci Sesto – 6th Grade Choir	98
Course Title: Middle School Choir	99
Course Title: Upper School Choir	100
Other Courses	102
Course Title: SEE Learning	102
Course Title: Computers (CHAD Sequence)	102
Course Title: Independent Study	103
Course Title: Independent Explorations Program (IExp) (Honors)	104

Course of Study

Grade 6

- Language Arts 6 (Reading and Writing)
- World Geography I
- Science 6
- Math 6
- Physical Education
- Computers/Art/Drama/SEE Learning (one quarter each)
- Choir and/or Instrumental Music

Grade 7

- English 7
- World Geography II
- Introduction to French and Introduction to Latin (one semester each)
- Earth Science
- Prealgebra
- Physical Education
- CHAD (Computers/Health/Art/Drama) (one quarter each)
- Choir and/or Instrumental Music

Grade 8

- English 8
- World Religions
- Introduction to Spanish (one semester) and Foundations of Latin/Middle School Languages Capstone (one quarter each)
- Physical Science
- Algebra I
- Physical Education
- CHAD (Computers/Health/Art/Drama) (one quarter each)
- Choir and/or Instrumental Music

CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: GRADES 9-12

- **4 English**
- **4 Mathematics**
- **4 Science**
- **3-4 World Languages***
- **3-4 Social Studies***
- **1 Philosophy & Ethics**
- **2 Arts**
- **2 Electives**
- **24 units total****

***Students must take 4 years in at least one of these two subject areas**

****Students must take a minimum of 24 credits in the required subject areas; additional credits can be in any subject area depending on scheduling**

Grade 9

- English 9
- World History I
- Algebra I, Geometry or Geometry Pre-Honors, or Algebra II or Algebra II Pre-Honors (or as determined by Math department)
- Biology
- World Language: French I, Latin I, or Spanish I (or English Language Learners)
- Arts: Chamber Choir (full year), Instrumental Music (full year), Art 9 (by semester or full year, prerequisite for Advanced Art), Theatre 9 (by semester or full year, prerequisite for Advanced Theatre), Forensics (2nd semester only, must be combined with at least one semester of another Arts elective), Creative Writing (1st or 2nd semester, must be combined with at least one semester of another Arts elective)
- Electives (optional): Strength and Conditioning (by semester or full year), Asian Studies (1st semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), African Studies (2nd semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), Introduction to Programming (1st semester only, may be taken only once for a Science Elective credit), Robotics (1st semester only, may be taken only once for a Science Elective credit), Game Development (2nd semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite, may be taken only once for a Science Elective credit), Advanced Robotics (2nd semester, Robotics is a prerequisite, may be taken for Science Elective credit(s)), Independent Study* (by semester), Independent Explorations Program (IExP) (Honors)* (one or more semesters for one semester of credit), Teaching Assistantship or Internship* (by semester for credit only, not for a grade that affects GPA)

*Application must be submitted in the previous semester for Independent Study, Independent Explorations Program, Teaching Assistantship, or Internship

Notes for Grade 9:

- o Please note that a student who has begun a language in grade 9 will continue with that language until completion of at least the third level
- o Students in grade 9 will choose two electives each semester, including at least one Arts elective each semester
- o Arts and Electives may be taken for more than one semester or year (except for prerequisites and where noted)
- o Two semesters of Science electives are required for graduation; more Science electives are offered in grades 10-12
- o A fourth year of a World Language or two semesters of Social Studies electives are required for graduation; more Social Studies electives are offered in grades 10-12
- o Individual teachers will specify extra requirements for pre-honors and honors courses, which may include preparation for AP exams (please ask the teacher for details); students must be recommended for pre-honors and honors courses by the relevant department and may take up to 4 honors courses per semester

Grade 10

- English 10
- World History II or World History II Honors
- Geometry, Algebra II or Algebra II Pre-Honors, or Precalculus or Precalculus Pre-Honors (or as determined by Math department)
- Chemistry
- World Language: French II or French II Pre-Honors, Latin II or Latin II Pre-Honors, or Spanish II or Spanish II Pre-Honors
- Arts: Chamber Choir (full year), Instrumental Music (full year), Advanced Art (by semester or full year, Art 9 is a prerequisite), Advanced Theatre (by semester or full year, Theatre 9 is a prerequisite), Forensics (2nd semester only), Creative Writing (1st or 2nd semester only), Journalism (full year)
- Electives (optional): Strength and Conditioning (by semester or full year), Asian Studies (1st semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), African Studies (2nd semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), European History (Honors) (offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), Introduction to Programming (1st semester only, may be taken only once for a Science Elective credit), Robotics (1st semester only, may be taken only once for a Science Elective credit), Game Development (2nd semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite, may be taken only once for a Science Elective credit), Advanced Robotics (1st and/or 2nd semester, Robotics is a prerequisite, may be taken for Science Elective credit(s)), Advanced Programming (1st semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite, may be taken for Science Elective credit(s)), Advanced Game Development (2nd semester only, Game Development is a prerequisite, may be taken for Science Elective credit(s)), Independent Study* (by semester), Independent Explorations Program (IExP) (Honors)* (one or more semesters for one semester of credit), Teaching Assistantship or Internship* (by semester for credit only, not for a grade that affects GPA)

*Application must be submitted in the previous semester for Independent Study, Independent Explorations Program, Teaching Assistantship, or Internship

Notes for Grade 10:

- o Students in grade 10 will choose at least two electives each semester, including required Arts electives (total of four semesters required for graduation)
- o Arts and Electives may be taken for more than one semester or year (except for prerequisites and where noted)
- o Two semesters of Science electives are required for graduation; more Science electives are offered in grades 11 and 12
- o A fourth year of a World Language or two semesters of Social Studies electives are required for graduation; more Social Studies electives are offered in grade 12
- o Individual teachers will specify extra requirements for pre-honors and honors courses, which may include preparation for AP exams (please ask the teacher for details); students must be recommended for pre-honors and honors courses by the relevant department and may take up to 4 honors courses per semester

Grade 11

- English 11 or English 11 Honors
- US History or US History Honors
- Algebra II, Precalculus or Precalculus Pre-Honors, or Calculus I or Calculus I Honors (or as determined by Math department)
- Physics or Physics Honors
- World Language: French III or French III Honors, Latin III or Latin III Honors, or Spanish III or Spanish III Honors
- Elective Options (one or more required per semester): Chamber Choir (full year), Instrumental Music (full year), Advanced Art (by semester or full year, Art 9 is a prerequisite), Advanced Theatre (by semester or full year, Theatre 9 is a prerequisite), Forensics (2nd semester only), Creative Writing (1st or 2nd semester only), Journalism (full year), Strength and Conditioning (by semester or full year), Asian Studies (1st semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), African Studies (2nd semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), European History (Honors) (offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), Science Electives (see below), Statistics or Statistics Honors (full year, Algebra II is a prerequisite, may be taken only once for credit), Independent Study* (by semester), Independent Explorations Program (IExP) (Honors)* (one or more semesters for one semester of credit), Teaching Assistantship or Internship* (by semester for credit only, not for a grade that affects GPA)
- Science Electives: Introduction to Programming (1st semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Robotics (1st semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Game Development (2nd semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite, may be taken only once for credit), Advanced Robotics (1st and/or 2nd semester, Robotics is a prerequisite), Advanced Programming (1st semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite), Advanced Game Development (2nd semester only, Game Development is a prerequisite), Genetics & Biotechnology (Honors) (1st semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Advanced Chemistry (Honors) (2nd semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Anatomy & Physiology (Honors) (2nd semester only, may be taken only once for credit)

*Application must be submitted in the previous semester for Independent Study, Independent Explorations Program, Teaching Assistantship, or Internship

Notes for Grade 11:

- o Students in grade 11 will choose at least two electives each semester
- o Arts and Electives may be taken for more than one semester or year (except for prerequisites and where noted)
- o Two semesters of Science electives are required for graduation; more Science electives are offered in grade 12
- o A fourth year of a World Language or two semesters of Social Studies electives are required for graduation; more Social Studies electives are offered in grade 12
- o Individual teachers will specify extra requirements for pre-honors and honors courses, which may include preparation for AP exams (please ask the teacher for details); students must be recommended for pre-honors and honors courses by the relevant department and may take up to 4 honors courses per semester

Grade 12

Seniors must complete graduation requirements and enroll in at least seven periods on campus each semester (seniors not signed up for seven periods will be assigned to a directed studies program). Students considering selective colleges should take special care in considering their options for senior year. Please note that most qualified applicants for highly selective colleges will take courses in all five core subjects (including Science, Social Studies, and World Languages) during their senior year.

Required of all:

- English 12 or English 12 Honors
- Mathematics: Precalculus, Calculus I or Calculus I Honors, Calculus II (Honors), or Statistics or Statistics Honors (placement will be reviewed by math department)
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Social Studies Electives (total of two semesters required for graduation) or World Language: Asian Studies (1st semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), African Studies (2nd semester only, offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), European History (Honors) (offered every other year, may be taken only once for a Social Studies Elective credit), United States Government & Politics or United States Government & Politics Honors (1st semester), Global Studies or Global Studies Honors (2nd semester), French IV or French IV Honors, Latin IV or Latin IV Honors, or Spanish IV or Spanish IV Honors
- Science Electives (total of two semesters required for graduation): Introduction to Programming (1st semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Robotics (1st semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Game Development (2nd semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite, may be taken only once for credit), Advanced Robotics (1st and/or 2nd semester, Robotics is a prerequisite), Advanced Programming (1st semester only, Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite), Advanced Game Development (2nd semester only, Game Development is a prerequisite), Genetics & Biotechnology (Honors) (1st semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Advanced Chemistry (Honors) (2nd semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Anatomy & Physiology (Honors) (2nd semester only, may be taken only once for credit), Wilderness Studies (1st semester only), Applications of Science (2nd semester only), Introduction to Engineering & Design (2nd semester only)

Select at least two electives per semester:

- Chamber Choir (full year)
- Instrumental Music (full year)
- Advanced Art (by semester or full year, Art 9 is a prerequisite)
- Advanced Theatre (by semester or full year, Theatre 9 is a prerequisite)
- Forensics (2nd semester only)
- Creative Writing (1st or 2nd semester only)
- Journalism (full year)
- Strength and Conditioning (by semester or full year)
- Social Studies Electives (see above)
- Science Electives (see above)
- Statistics or Statistics Honors (full year, Algebra II is a prerequisite, may be taken only once for credit)
- French IV or French IV Honors, Latin IV or Latin IV Honors, or Spanish IV or Spanish IV Honors (full year)

- Independent Study* (by semester)
- Independent Explorations Program (IEXP) (Honors)* (one or more semesters for one semester of credit)
- Teaching Assistantship or Internship* (by semester for credit only, not for a grade that affects GPA)
- Courses at KU/JCCC (permission of Head of School is required)

*Application must be submitted in the previous semester for Independent Study, Independent Explorations Program, Teaching Assistantship, or Internship

Notes for Grade 12:

- o Arts and Electives may be taken for more than one semester or year (except for prerequisites and where noted)
- o Individual teachers will specify extra requirements for pre-honors and honors courses, which may include preparation for AP exams (please ask the teacher for details); students must be recommended for pre-honors and honors courses by the relevant department and may take up to 4 honors courses per semester

Curriculum Overview

Students at Bishop Seabury follow a core curriculum. They focus their scholastic efforts in six primary disciplines: mathematics, science, social studies, English, world languages, and arts. Elective offerings are limited so that students will achieve greater depth of instruction in core subjects. Through this core curriculum, we strive to provide students with in-depth knowledge and to create in them confidence in their own abilities. We hope to create lifelong learners through meaningful course instruction that always points forward to the next level of mastery. The curriculum as a whole is designed to provide students with a background that will prepare them for success at selective colleges and universities, but we also believe that these skills will serve them throughout their lives. All students at Seabury experience significant challenges at each level of instruction, but some students will choose to further challenge themselves through honors courses and Advanced Placement preparation.

Curriculum Sequencing

Students follow a traditional sequence of classes in most disciplines. Transfer students sometimes enroll at Seabury with prerequisite courses out of sync with the Seabury curriculum sequence. The school will attempt (but cannot promise) to accommodate those students if the schedule of courses provides that option.

In math classes, there is one sequence to the curriculum, culminating in Calculus. Parents are strongly advised not to try to accelerate students beyond the appropriate sequence of math classes. Our experience demonstrates that—in almost every case—students are more successful when they can master and better comprehend the math concepts appropriate to their age instead of simply trying to “move ahead” as fast as possible in the math program. There are more appropriate opportunities to broaden or deepen a student’s

math experience without moving faster in the sequence, including self-study in applied math and working on math contest materials.

On rare occasions, the administration may find that a student is a candidate for acceleration in the math sequence, but in those instances, parents must understand that a student may be accommodated out of sequence one year but perhaps not in following years. In such a scenario, a student may have to repeat a math class or continue math education outside of Seabury.

In short, the school cannot be responsible for providing a consistent math education for students who are out of sequence for whatever reason. Parents who would like more information about the math scope and sequence or scheduling in general should meet with the Math Department Chair and the Director of Enrollment.

English Sequence Overview

The English curriculum focuses on the sequential development of writing, reading, and interpretive skills. In Middle School courses, students will sharpen grammar skills, develop effective reading strategies, and learn to write coherently and persuasively with a variety of assignments. The Upper School curriculum builds on this foundation through the study of particular genres and historical periods and through the examination of literary works from a range of world cultures, including everything from Homer and Shakespeare to Isabel Allende and Toni Morrison. Students will strengthen interpretive and analytic skills, write more sophisticated compositions, learn literary theory and criticism, and develop a greater mastery of written and verbal communication. Discussion will be an important part of all English courses. Strong reading and writing skills are essential to success at the college level and to confident work in all fields. Subsequently, the English curriculum aims to develop strong critical thinkers who can articulate their ideas clearly and precisely both in writing and discussion. The following list presents an overview of the kinds of writing tasks usually assigned to Seabury students:

- Character study
- Thesis-driven literary analysis
- Synthesis essay
- Reflective/personal essay
- Oral presentation/PowerPoint
- Creative writing/journal writing
- Research project
- AP essay (grades 11-12)
- College application essay (grades 11-12)

Course Title: Language Arts 6

Grade: 6

Texts Used*: *Flying Lessons, Running out of Time, A Long Walk to Water, Small Steps, The Westing Game, Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice, Ninth Ward and Shakespeare Stories*

***texts subject to some change on a yearly basis**

Overview

Language Arts meets twice a day, divided between the studies of writing and literature. The class supports the interdisciplinary approach of using Language Arts to explore learning skills in reading, writing, researching, thinking, listening, and class discussions and to apply those skills to other subjects, in addition to literature.

Topics Covered

In writing, students learn and practice skills needed to be a proficient writer. Students begin to see the connection between reading and writing as they learn to “read like a writer and write like a reader.” Students are also introduced to more complex punctuation, with a special emphasis on the comma, as well as an in-depth examination of grammar in context. Students engage with vocabulary exercises intended to introduce new words and encourage students to use those words in their speech and writing.

In literature, students are introduced to: “protagonist,” “setting,” “genre,” “foreshadowing” and “theme” and how to identify these elements in their stories. Class discussions stress expanding students’ awareness of how to interpret characters and storylines and how a story’s message applies to their lives and their understanding of the world.

Students write throughout the year: short essays, reflections, interpersonal communication, fictional stories, and a novel.

Skills

- Instead of reading passively, students learn how to engage the written text more carefully and actively, attending to structure, theme, characterization, and context.
 - Students engage with their texts through annotation and close reading. Through these skills, they will learn to successfully quote the text to produce strong arguments in their writing.
- Students learn how to read a book productively, understanding the best ways to index, explore the title, table of contents, preface, annotations, diagrams and drawings, as well as boldface and italics.
- Through small lectures linked to their literature assignment, they practice note taking, how to review notes, and how to use their notes on projects and assignments.
- Students will engage in word study called morphology and become familiar with bases, roots, and affixes; and how they change the meaning of words. They will also learn and apply the *8 Essential Spelling Rules*.
- A special focus will be given to explicit teaching of how to answer questions thoroughly with the goal of students becoming comfortable and proficient in expressing themselves well across all content areas.

Major Assignments

- Creating opportunities where students can make text to self, text to text, and text to world connections undergird each reading selection.
- Students experience the entire writing process (planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing) multiple times throughout the year.
- Aside from writing, students will also complete performance-based assessments such as podcasts, visual displays, slides, etc.
- The Shakespeare Project deeply familiarizes each student with one play of his or her choice and a working knowledge of three others. It also gives students familiarity with Shakespeare and

Elizabethan England. The project involves students teaching their play to the class, a short performance of a scene, and a short research paper on a topic related to their play.

Goals

By the end of the year, students will have:

- Significant experience writing fiction and essays to develop a fundamental understanding of writing as a process.
- Been exposed to non-fiction as a literary form and have learned how to approach and digest information-laden texts.
- Developed a deeper understanding of how to read a novel and come to see reading for understanding to be as important as their experience of reading for pleasure.
- Developed an understanding of meaning, characterization, and plot development by reading aloud and performance of the text.
- Become better spellers and communicators via the written word through purposeful word study and personal goal-setting.
- Build stronger study skills through careful reading, note taking, and test preparation, not only in literature, but also across the curriculum.

Course Title: English 7

Grade: 7

Texts Used*: *Flying Lessons & Other Stories; The Crossover; Long Way Down; various short stories; Akata Witch; American Born Chinese; Persepolis; Nimona; A Midsummer Night's Dream*

***texts subject to some change on a yearly basis**

Overview

English 7 prompts students to examine what it means to be a human being, a person living in right relationship with others and with oneself by exploring what it means to know oneself, to know others, and to create a sense of belonging. Reading, annotating, class discussion, and writing assignments focus on such important topics as virtue, ethics, identity, cultural differences, power, coming of age, and relationships. The course places a strong emphasis on the processes of reading with purpose, participating in discussion, and drafting and revising formal essays; all skills are first explicitly taught and practiced together so that the proverbial curtain is drawn and all students can see success as English scholars. English 7 also involves consistent vocabulary and grammar study done in the context of students' own writing.

Topics Covered

- Inner strength, where it comes from and how it manifests in the face of adversity
- Moral issues that challenge humanity (both for the individual and for society)
- Relationships (e.g. parent and child, romantic, platonic, community-centered)
- Personal and group identities in different contexts; personal and communal activism
- The usefulness of productive student-led discussion
- Open-minded reading vs. grounding analysis in a text
- The role of literature and reading in developing a worldview, in personal-expression, and in a college-prep and/or career-prep curriculum

- The purpose of different genres and forms of writing; literary canon vs. contemporary Y.A. texts; formal analysis of narrative poetry, fantasy, and the graphic novel; introduction to Shakespearean comedy

Skills

- Close reading is the first major focus of the class. Each text will add something new to our examination of humanity while also explicitly emphasizing understanding of new literary devices/text features and honing student ability to work with previously learned literary devices/text features. Students will learn how to effectively annotate pieces of literature and to develop their own system for annotating that allows them to engage with a new text, to identify, note, and analyze key aspects of a text, and to reference textual evidence in discussion and writing.
- While students will regularly engage in creative writing and informal “quick writes,” the major writing focus of English 7 is the traditional literary analysis essay. Focusing on both the form and content of students’ writing will help them explore ideas, deepen understanding, and improve their written expression. Students will learn about careful reflection, preparation, organization, technical performance, and revision. They will work on forming original ideas rooted in evidence, crafting a personal voice, and sharing and receiving meaningful feedback. They will become familiar with all stages of the writing process and begin to cite textual evidence in their writing following MLA format.
- Discussion and oral presentations will teach students how to articulate their ideas and digest those of others, both informally and formally.
- Grammar study is also an important component of the course. Students will study sentence structure and learn how to avoid/address common writing errors. While some direct grammar instruction is worked into the course, much of our grammar work occurs in the context of student writing.
- Vocabulary study will teach students to use stronger words effectively in both oral and written situations.
- Students will learn how to meaningfully annotate what they read, approach different types of texts and assessments appropriately, reference key English Language Arts terms/concepts, and stay organized so as to make their work stronger, more efficient, and less stressful.

Major Assignments

- Maintaining a teacher-directed notebook of key course concepts
- Daily annotation and discussion question logs
- Bi-weekly vocabulary quizzes that include timed creative writing
- Graded student-led whole-group discussions at the end of each course text
- Projects/oral presentations in the form of students-as-teachers lessons and group work to analyze aspects of a course text
- Graphic novel book club discussion logs
- Illustrated literary analysis one-pagers
- Literary analysis essays at the end of each course unit
- Comprehensive semester exam (including vocabulary, reading comprehension and literary analysis short answer responses on a new text, and a literary analysis essay on a course text)

Goals

By the end of the year, students should be able to:

- Think about and analyze their own humanity and place on this planet, as well as that of others

- Build community with their 7th grade peers and engage in meaningful student-led discussions; speak comfortably in daily class discussions and in formal, graded discussions
- Productively annotate any text they encounter and draw upon those annotations in discussion and writing
- Understand basic literary terms and apply them to any text they encounter; understand and think about texts' main tools, ideas, and themes, when they read literature
- Organize, write, edit, and revise focused and well-supported literary analysis essays, concentrating on depth of ideas and supporting ideas well; follow MLA format as prescribed; provide constructive feedback on peers' writing, as well as receive such feedback
- Write creatively using new and more advanced vocabulary
- Speak with a more advanced vocabulary
- Avoid or note and correct common usage errors; understand and explain the basic grammatical structure of sentences
- Organize their work, seek frequent help and feedback, and budget their time effectively.

Course Title: English 8

Grade: 8

Texts Used: *Lord of the Flies*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Animal Farm*, *Life of Pi*, *The Giver* (2014, PG-13) *Pleasantville* (1998, PG-13), *A Doll's House*, "To Build a Fire," "Adam," "The Lottery," and about a dozen memorized poems.

Overview

English 8 builds English 7's central question (What does it mean to be human?) by exploring what it means to create and maintain a community. Students will learn how to write expository essays based on a specific text, exclusively using textual support. Readings, class discussions, frequent quizzes, presentations, examinations, and essay topics will explore many of the inevitable issues that arise when humans forge communities. Students will examine these topics through the lens of classic works, ranging from the Shakespearean stage to 21st century American writers, including a diverse sampling of standout work by poets and short fiction writers. English 8 emphasizes critical reading, essay planning, essay revision, and public speaking.

Topics Covered

- Oral communication in class discussions and presentations
- Analytic reading of major texts, employing literary tools to read more deeply
- Critical thinking skills, to inform and elucidate class discussions, as well as to complete writing assignments both in and out of class
- Effective use of grammar, spelling, usage, sentence structures
- Essay Writing: includes use of proper organization and evidence, introduction strategies, thesis generation and execution, topic sentences, paragraph structure and development, and appropriate use of MLA formatting.

Skills

- Reading as a process both critical and creative
- Writing thesis-driven and analytical essays
- Interpreting feedback from essays, quizzes and exams

- Form a clearer understanding of what is “important” through quizzes
- Develop note taking and brainstorming techniques.

Goals

Students completing English 8 should be able to:

- Independently read a text, with a critical understanding of its major workings
- Write a thesis-driven essay with confidence, including paragraph development, use of text (quoting, paraphrasing and citing correctly)
- Exhibit in their writing the ability to articulate abstract thoughts
- Use MLA formatting with confidence due to the sharpening of their grammar, spelling, usage and punctuation skills

Course Title: English 9

Grade: 9

Texts Used*: **Summer reading options** (Choose two, listed from most accessible to most challenging):

Adib Khorram, *Darius the Great Is Not Okay*

Erika L. Sánchez, *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*

Stephen Chbosky, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*

Celeste Ng, *Everything I Never Told You*

Fall semester:

J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye* (novel)

Packet of poems based on the summer reading and *Catcher*

Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun* (play)

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Klara and the Sun* (novel)

Spring semester:

William Shakespeare, *Othello* (play)

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (novel)

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (play)

Safia Elhillo, *Girls That Never Die* (poetry collection)

***texts subject to some change on a yearly basis**

Overview

Our English 9 theme is “Honor vs. Reputation.” Each text in this course—which includes a diverse representation of novels, plays, and poems from the 16th through 21st centuries—features characters whose reputation does not reflect the person they truly are. In some cases, characters do not deserve their excellent reputations; in others, they do not deserve their harsh ones. This felt like a fitting theme for the first year of high school, as students make choices that determine how others see them and how they see themselves. Students should think deeply about the literature we read and use these stories as both a mirror and a window through which to understand themselves and others better. This class is discussion-based, not lecture-based; everyone will be responsible for coming to class with their own discussion questions based on the assigned reading. Instead of quizzes, students will write timed informal responses to their classmates’ questions. At the end of most units, students will write an analytical in-class essay, though they will also

have one longer take-home argumentation essay each semester, usually at the end of the first and third quarters. Finally, students will have meaningful creative writing assignments—poems and personal narratives—that will aid in more open and original thought.

Topics Covered

- Coming-of-Age
- Contemporary Poetry
- Dystopian Sci-Fi
- Realistic Drama
- Shakespearean Drama
- Satire and Social Commentary

Skills

- Reading.
 - Not skimming. Not reading online summaries. Actively reading the text, whether that means stopping to take notes or just to consider what you're thinking. Ask questions. It's OK not to understand everything, especially right away, but try re-reading or emailing me or talking with a friend or parent if you feel truly lost.
- Writing.
 - I do not expect perfection, ever. What I expect is completely original thought. I want you to find and use your own voice. If you struggle with using academic language or organizing your thoughts, I can help with that. The most important thing to me, though, is that you know yourself and sound like yourself.
- Conversation.
 - I actually think this might be the most valuable aspect of my class. This is not a lecture-based class where I tell you what the texts are about. This is a discussion-based class where everyone's ideas and input enrich the reading for everyone. Through interesting, deep discussions, it's possible to appreciate texts even if you didn't enjoy reading them. Plus, good conversation is becoming a lost art, and in my opinion it's a necessary skill for living a meaningful life, and for finding success in most professions. Being able to articulate your thoughts in an engaging way, and to listen to others with openness and respect, is so important.

Major Assignments

- Letters to me in response to the summer reading.
- One in-class argumentation essay and one take-home argumentation essay per semester.
- Personal narrative essay: "What Makes Me Human."
- Original poems modeled after the poetry packet (fall) and poetry collection (spring).
- While students will have the opportunity to act as we read *A Raisin in the Sun* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, everyone will be required to act out a scene from *Othello*.

Goals

By the end of the year, students should be able to:

- Carefully read, critically analyze, and enthusiastically discuss diverse works from various genres and periods (16th through 21st century).
- Appreciate how writers use language to provide meaning and pleasure.

- Consider the social, cultural, and historical values a work reflects and embodies.
- Analyze literary works on both a literal and figurative level.
- Realize that literature provides mirrors and windows to help us understand ourselves and others.
- Write both academic and creative assignments that help enrich the stories we're reading, as well as our understanding of ourselves and others.

Course Title: English 10

Grade: 10

Texts Used: *The Water Dancer & Mask of the Deer Woman; *Sula*; *A Monster Calls*; *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*; *The Lysistrata*; *The Metamorphosis*; *The Buddha in the Attic*; *King Lear*; and a selection of poems and short fiction works.**

***summer reading texts subject to some change on a yearly basis**

Overview

The primary focus of this course is on textual analysis and discussion, focused on a diverse array of texts by authors of varied backgrounds and worldviews. Students will continue to advance their existing skills in critical reading, composition, revision, and editing, in addition to creative projects that allow them to explore more original thought. English 10 is an examination of language and thought as we consider this central question: What does it mean to live a good life?

Topics Covered

- Social Commentary in Literature
- Diverse Narrative Techniques
- Postmodern Literary Strategies
- Shorter Genres (i.e. short stories & poetry)
- Identification & Analysis of Literary Devices
- Personal Reflection on Textual Themes

Skills

- Analyzing a variety of texts, particularly more contemporary ones that reflect diverse voices
- Practice critical reading skills
- Strengthen expository essay-writing skills, particularly the deeper analysis of text
- Offer rigorously supported contributions to class discussions
- Creatively explore texts

Major Assignments

- Expository essays
- Reading quizzes
- Analytic journal responses
- Literary device logs & reflections
- Major Shakespeare project (written & performance components)
- Kafka project (visual & written component)
- Imitative project linked to a postmodern text (collaboratively prepared & written)
- Student-centered collaborative discussion groups

- Two final academic activities per semester: essay (in or out of class), exam, or project

Goals

By the end of the year, students should be able to:

- Understand the workings of literary forms (creation of meaning & style)
- Be conversant with literary terms relevant to specific genres
- Successfully make a close analysis of a passage of literature
- Write essays reflecting an ability to explore and develop abstract concepts with strong textual support from primary sources
- Understand how to actively and productively participate in a class discussion

Course Title: English 11/English 11 Honors (American Literature)

Grade: 11

Texts Used*: Summer reading and viewing:

Jon Krakauer, *Into the Wild* (journalistic biography)

Into the Wild (film)

Carine McCandless, *The Wild Truth* (memoir)

Fall semester:

Arthur Miller, *The Crucible* (play)

Kimberly Belflower, *John Proctor Is the Villain* (play)

Poetry unit (various)

Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake* (novel)

Spring semester:

Ada Limón, *The Hurting Kind* (poetry)

F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* (novel)

Nella Larsen, *Passing* (novel)

Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried* (short story cycle)

Ross Gay, *The Book of (More) Delights* (essays)

***texts subject to some change on a yearly basis**

Overview

Our English 11 theme is “How to Tell a True American Story.” The title is inspired by Tim O’Brien’s short story “How to Tell a True War Story”; his book *The Things They Carried* deals with the concept of “story-truth” vs. “happening-truth.” Since we’ll be studying both nonfiction (which will prepare honors students for the AP Lang exam) and fiction (which will prepare honors students for the AP Lit exam), we’ll have lots of conversations about what it means for a story to be “true,” and why O’Brien tells his audience, “I want you to know why story-truth is truer sometimes than happening-truth.” Additionally, we’ll explore what it means to be American by closely studying diverse American texts—nonfiction prose, plays, novels, and poetry. This class is discussion-based, not lecture-based; everyone will be responsible for coming to class with their own discussion questions based on the assigned reading. Instead of quizzes, students will write timed informal responses to their classmates’ questions, which is meant to prepare them for the timed aspect of the AP exams. At the end of most units, students will write an analytical in-class essay based on

one of the six AP-style essays—except at the end of each semester, when they’ll write a take-home essay. Finally, students will have meaningful creative writing assignments—journals and poems—that will help them compose personal statements for their college application essays.

Topics Covered

- Nature, Transcendentalism, and Nonconformity
- Investigating the Great American Novel
- Class, Race, and the American Dream
- Contemporary Poetry
- Story-Truth vs. Happening-Truth
- Informal Journals and College Application Essays
- Studying for the AP Lit and AP Lang Exams (Honors)

Skills

- Reading.
 - Not skimming. Not reading online summaries. Actively reading the text, whether that means stopping to take notes or just to consider what you’re thinking. Ask questions. It’s OK not to understand everything, especially right away, but try re-reading or emailing me or talking with a friend or parent if you feel truly lost.
- Writing.
 - I do not expect perfection, ever. What I expect is completely original thought. I want you to find and use your own voice. If you struggle with using academic language or organizing your thoughts, I can help with that. The most important thing to me, though, is that you know yourself and sound like yourself.
- Conversation.
 - I actually think this might be the most valuable aspect of my class. This is not a lecture-based class where I tell you what the texts are about. This is a discussion-based class where everyone’s ideas and input enrich the reading for everyone. Through interesting, deep discussions, it’s possible to appreciate texts even if you didn’t enjoy reading them. Plus, good conversation is becoming a lost art, and in my opinion it’s a necessary skill for living a meaningful life, and for finding success in most professions. Being able to articulate your thoughts in an engaging way, and to listen to others with openness and respect, is so important.

Major Assignments

- Summer reading activity investigating layers of truth.
- An analytical essay (instead of a traditional test) at the end of most units.
 - Most will be timed in-class essays; one each semester will be a longer take-home essay.
- Original poems modeled after the poetry packet (fall) and poetry collection (spring).
- Informal journals that will lead up to more formal college application essays.
- At least two full mock AP exams, with an optional timed third after school.

Goals

By the end of the year, students should be able to:

- Carefully read, critically analyze, and enthusiastically discuss diverse 20th and 21st century works paired with older works (Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson with *Into the Wild*, etc.).

- Appreciate how writers use language to provide meaning and pleasure.
- Consider the social, cultural, and historical values a work reflects and embodies.
- Analyze literary works on both a literal and figurative level.
- Realize that literature provides mirrors and windows to help us understand ourselves and others.
- Write both academic and creative assignments that help enrich the stories we're reading, as well as our understanding of ourselves and others.
- Pass the AP English Language and Composition exam and/or the AP English Literature and Composition exam with a score of 3 or higher (Honors students).

Honors Differentiation

While students taking the class for honors will not be required to take an AP English exam, preparing honors students for their choice of the AP Lang or AP Literature exam will be my priority. (You're welcome to take both, especially if you're hoping to get the AP Scholar Award by taking and passing five AP exams!) Honors students will take at least three full mock exams outside of class, which we'll discuss in class (when other students will have time to read). Additionally, most units will conclude with an in-class essay modeled after one of the essay styles on the AP Lang and AP Lit exams:

Fall Semester:

AP Lang Q1 = synthesis essay

AP Lang Q2 = rhetorical analysis

AP Lang Q3 = argument

Spring Semester:

AP Lit Q1 = poem analysis

AP Lit Q2 = prose passage analysis

AP Lit Q3 = literary argument

Course Title: English 12/English 12 Honors

Grade: 12

Texts Used*: *Things Fall Apart, The House of the Spirits, Interpreter of Maladies, Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Hamlet, The Color Purple*, various poems, supplemental film and artwork

***texts subject to some change on a yearly basis**

Overview

The first semester of English 12 presents an examination of the British literary tradition from the time of the Anglo-Saxons to the early modern period. Students will gain a sense of how the English language has evolved over time and how values presented in literary works have both changed and remained constant. The second semester then branches out to different cultures, authors, and genres to show how English literature reflects great diversity. Late in the year, students will expand the definition of "text" by analyzing film and other artwork. The course prepares students who wish to take it for the AP English Literature and Composition exam. Students may elect to take the course for Honors credit, in which case they will complete additional assignments and be held to higher grading standards.

Topics Covered

- Summer Reading – Introduction to course & critical reading review
- *Beowulf* and Anglo-Saxon literature
- Chaucer: *The Canterbury Tales*
- Shakespeare: *Hamlet*
- Lahiri: *Interpreter of Maladies*

- Poetry Close Analysis
- Walker: *The Color Purple*
- Visual “Text” Analysis

Skills

- Critical and close reading skills
- Self-analysis skills
- Literary discussion skills

Major Assignments

- Timed writing (AP essay, in-class essay on literary works)
- Analytical essays (drafting and revising essays of 1000-1600 words)
- Written self-assessment
- In-class presentations
- Creative writing

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to:

- Write and revise clearly written essays of 1000-1600 words
- Read and comprehend various literary genres and styles of writing from different historical periods
- Work seriously in collaborative groups and speak before the class
- Finish the course well prepared for success as readers and writers at the college level

Honors Differentiation

- Some reading assignments may be longer for honors students.
- Some additional questions on quizzes may be required for honors students.
- Honors essays will address more complex prompts and require deeper analysis.
- Honors students must show greater mastery of and subtlety with technical writing.
- Creative writing will involve more requirements for honors students.
- Writing will generally be graded with higher expectations at the honors level.
- Honors students may receive more direct AP training, even if they opt out of the exam.

Course Title: English Language Learners (ELL)

Grade: 7-12 (may replace World Language for ELL students)

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

The purpose of this course is to offer non-native English speaking students an opportunity to receive extra guidance in their English-language course work. Class sizes will be small in order to allow a “workshop” format where students tackle readings, develop ideas, write drafts, and edit assignments in collaboration with the teacher and each other in order to strengthen communication skills. Students will receive individualized attention when possible, and when the teacher is focused on others, students will have the opportunity to work on assigned reading and writing. This dynamic “round table” class format, where both the student and the teacher determine the best use of class time, will take the place of teacher-driven lectures and silent study halls. Emphasis will be placed on students’ work in humanities courses, where the

English reading and writing is heavier. As time allows, students will have enrichment opportunities to communicate informally and learn about American culture.

This course will fulfill the World Languages course requirement for qualifying students.

Topics Covered

- Developing and expressing writing ideas in English
- The writing process (outlines, rough drafts, editing, and proofreading)
- Enhancing English reading comprehension and developing skills for understanding tough texts
- Verbal communication skills and English idioms
- As time allows, English language and American culture enrichment

Skills

- Continued development of written and verbal communication skills
- Continued development of reading comprehension and close reading skills
- Continued development of proficiency with English grammar, punctuation, and mechanics
- Development of a process-based approach to writing assignments

Major Assignments

- ELL “assignments” will be tied to students’ other humanities courses

Goals

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- More effectively plan, draft, write, edit, and proofread essays and other writing assignments.
- More confidently communicate in English, verbally and in writing.
- More quickly and thoroughly read assigned texts.
- Collaborate with other students as part of a community of second-language writers.

Course Title: Creative Writing (Fall or Spring Semester)

Grade: 9-12 (may count as an Arts elective credit)

Texts Used: All texts provided by instructor (either online or via handouts)

Overview

The purpose of this elective course is to offer students an opportunity to develop their writing skills within a creative and supportive environment. This semester course contains three units: one for creative nonfiction, one for poetry, and one for fiction. For each genre, we’ll read and analyze texts that will encourage students to consider the choices that writers make in crafting their work, and we’ll write weekly low-stakes exercises to find and then develop our own writing voice. Students will be welcome (but not required) to share those exercises with the class.

At the end of the semester, students will select one of the three genres to explore formally as a semester project. Students will craft a rough draft, receive constructive feedback from each other and the instructor, and then revise that rough draft into a polished final draft.

This course does not fulfill English requirements necessary for graduation.

Genres Covered

- Creative nonfiction
- Poetry
- Fiction

Unit 1: Creative Nonfiction Craft Questions

- Do you agree with the classic writing advice “Write what you know?” Why or why not?
- Do you believe everyone has a story? Or many stories?
- What are the best ways, conventional and nonconventional, to tell our own stories?
- How reliable are memory and truth?
- How do we handle writing about people we know and potentially hurting their feelings?

Unit 2: Poetry Craft Questions

- What makes a piece of writing a poem?
- How is poetry similar to/different from other genres?
- What stereotypes or misconceptions do people (maybe even you) have about poetry?
- Why is imagery important in poetry? Why is tightening language important?
- How can we use line breaks and sound to help reinforce meaning (rather than distract)?

Unit 3: Fiction Craft Questions

- How can we use fiction to arrive at truths? How does fiction reveal truth?
- How can we ensure that readers care what happens to our characters?
- What conflicts or tension should propel our fictional stories forward?
- Whose point-of-view should our fictional stories be from?
- Should we avoid stereotypes? If the answer is “usually,” what is the exception?

Skills

- Continued development of writing skills
- Continued development of close reading skills
- Developing an ability to understand the writer’s craft
- Learning to provide supportive feedback to other student writers

Assignments

- Informal writing exercises completed in class each week
- Discussion points over each text we read in class
- Semester project: Carefully revised and polished work in a single genre—10 pages of poetry, or 1500-2500 words of creative nonfiction or fiction

Goals

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- More effectively express their own creative ideas in written form
- Better understand the elements involved in creative writing in each major genre
- Better understand how individual choices in diction, syntax, selection of detail, and voice shape the writing process
- Collaborate with other students as part of a community of writers

- Apply some of what they have learned to their reading and writing assignments in other English classes

Course Title: Journalism

Grade: 10-12 (may count as an Arts elective credit)

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

There are four major goals in Journalism. First, students (especially those new to the field) will learn the basics of reporting, journalistic writing, design, photography, and editing. Second, students will create the school yearbook, The Anchor. Third, students will create issues of the school newspaper, The Chronicle. Fourth, students will maintain an official online and social media presence tied to the Journalism class.

*An “A” or “B” average in a student’s English class is a prerequisite for the Journalism writing team.

Topics Covered

- Publication Planning
- Copywriting
- Journalistic Photography
- Publication Design
- Online and Social Media Journalism

Skills

- Plan a yearbook theme and plan a ladder and spreads that fit the theme
- Plan newspaper issues that represent the Seabury community
- Write in the correct journalistic style
- Learn to use social media in a professional, journalistic capacity
- Interview community members professionally
- Apply digital SLR photography theory to yearbook and newspaper photos
- Design available space (in both the yearbook and newspaper) effectively

Major Assignments

- Several personal projects
- Creation of *The Anchor*
- Creation of *The Chronicle* (about 8-10 issues per year)

Goals

By the end of the year, students should be able to:

- Plan and design all parts of a typical high school yearbook and newspaper
- Write journalistically
- Interview community members
- Use various online and social media platforms to advance class goals

- Professionally meet deadlines and complete assignments
- Use a digital SLR camera and take journalistic shots
- Work professionally within a department and on a staff of peers

Social Studies Sequence Overview

The social studies curriculum presents Bishop Seabury students a true global perspective. Beginning in sixth and seventh grade with World Geography and finishing with Philosophy and Ethics, and United States Government and Politics and Global Studies, in twelfth grade, Seabury students develop a solid understanding of our global society. World Geography gives an overview of geographic space and culture. In World Religions (eighth grade), students are presented with an overview of the major religious beliefs and philosophies of the world. Ninth and tenth graders take World History. In these two years, students are provided with an in-depth look not just at world history, but also at historical trends and the development of the global society in which we live. Juniors focus on U.S. History, which delves into how the United States, in the past and at present, fits into the global community. Senior year presents Philosophy and Ethics, a required course, and the electives United States Government and Politics and Global Studies. The electives are college-level courses that absorb students in a variety of sources from court case opinions to current news analysis and secondary sources to drive student interest in national, state, and local government. Tenth through twelfth graders may also take Honors European History which is offered every other year. In alternating years to Honors European History, additional region-specific electives are offered which serve to deepen student historical and cultural knowledge in regions like Asia and Africa. When students have completed this curriculum, they are well prepared to become citizens in the rapidly changing global community.

Course Title: World Geography I

Grade: 6

Text Used: *World Geography*

Overview

This course focuses not only on the physical geography of the world but also on the cultural geography and current state of the changing world. The continents of Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa, as well as Asia and Oceania, will be covered. This class aims to empower the student with a geographic and broad historical sense of the world while enriching current reading and writing skills, thus enabling the student to become a responsible, respectful member of society.

Topics Covered

- Latin America
- Middle East and North Africa
- Asia and Oceania

Skills

- Students will develop a geographic and cultural sense of the world while developing basic essay writing, study skills, and critical thinking skills

Major Assignments

- Throughout the year students will be required to work in cooperative learning groups to develop critical and abstract thinking.
- Topics from Geography and Language Arts class will be cross-referenced to develop a deeper understanding of shared concepts.

Goals

At the end of the year, students will be able to:

- Locate the major countries located within the regions studied that year
- Have a sense of the culture, land, and climate of all the regions studied
- Relate current news events to cultural geography
- Have participated in various class projects while working alone or in assigned cooperative learning groups

Course Title: World Geography II

Grade: 7

Text Used: *World Geography*

Overview

This course will focus not only on the physical geography of the world but also on the cultural geography and current state of the changing world. The continents of Western and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Sub-Saharan Africa will be covered. This class aims to empower the student with a geographic and broad historical sense of the world while enriching current reading and writing skills, thus enabling the student to become a responsible, respectful member of society.

Topics Covered

- Western and Eastern Europe
- United States and Canada
- Russia
- Sub-Saharan Africa

Skills

- Students will develop a geographic and cultural sense of the world while developing basic essay writing and critical thinking skills.
- Students will be able to work alone or in groups to create papers, exhibits, dramatic presentations, or websites centered on the History Day theme for that year.
- Students will engage in higher level thinking assignments and cooperative group work to prepare them for the abstract thinking done in 8th grade.

Major Assignments

- Students will be expected to participate in History Day as a combined project between the Geography and English classes. Projects will be displayed and judged alongside projects from other grade levels in the school-wide History Day fair in February.

Goals

At the end of the year, students will be able to:

- Locate the major countries located within the regions studied that year,
- Have a sense of the culture, land, and climate of all the regions studied,
- Will be able to relate current news events to cultural geography, and
- Have participated in various class projects while working alone or in assigned cooperative learning groups.

Course Title: World Religions

Grade: 8

Texts Used: *The Religions Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained* Edited by Gareth Jones and Georgina Palffy; *12 Major World Religions: The Beliefs, Rituals, and Traditions of Humanity's Most Influential Faiths* by Jason Boyett; various supplemental digital media

Overview

The course focuses on the many ways humanity has made sense of the world, and answered questions such as “why are we here” and “what happens when we die?” Students will explore cosmologies, mythologies, and sacred beliefs from global perspectives starting with animism in pre-written history to contemporary spirituality movements and sects. With an emphasis on tolerance, respect, curiosity, and empathy, students will study the impact and importance of religion on human history. Students will develop a vocabulary of religious terms, learn to recognize religious leaders and symbols, and become more prepared to approach and engage with various belief systems in an engaging and respectful manner.

Topics Covered

- Fall: Global Mythologies, Prehistoric and Ancient Beliefs
- Spring: Zoroastrianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shinto, Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Modern Religions Since 1400

Skills and Major Projects

- Practice active reading and annotation
- Develop consistent note-taking skills
- Learn to analyze and critically evaluate art/artifacts, primary sources, and secondary sources
- Collaborative group presentations
- Film review

Goals

- To gain knowledge of the world's religions and belief systems
 - Become familiar with object-based storytelling
 - Learn the tools of a cultural anthropologist
 - Become more civically engaged and globally aware
 - Gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the worldviews that have fundamentally shaped our history
-

Course Title: World History I

Grade: 9

Texts Used: Ways of the World 2nd Ed

Excerpts from a variety of primary and secondary sources

Overview

This course covers the rise of human societies from prehistoric communities to the age of empires through (roughly) the fifteenth century. What were the earliest humans like? Why did people form cities, faiths, cultures, and empires? How has human life on this planet changed over time and across regions, and how has it remained the same? This course will explore these questions—and more. As we journey around the globe we will use five major themes to frame our studies:

1. Human interactions with their environment (geography)
2. Cultural development and interactions
3. Building states and empires
4. Economic systems
5. Social structures

These themes will also help us connect the past to events occurring in the present day. We will practice four essential historical thinking skills:

- Crafting historical arguments from evidence
- Chronological reasoning
- Comparison and placing events in context
- Interpretation and synthesis
- Historical analysis (with a strong emphasis on writing)

These skills will prepare students for many other pursuits as well as further study of world history in tenth grade. Reading comprehension is demanded for a college-level text; students study historical terminology, test-taking skills, and engage in collaborative group work and presentations. Writing is an important part of this course.

Topics Covered

Prehistoric Societies	Chinese and East Asian Civilizations
The Neolithic Revolution	Indian Civilizations
Ancient Egypt	Sub-Saharan African Societies
Mesopotamia	Christendom
Ancient Greece	The Islamic World
Civilizations of the Americas	Culture and Commerce, 500-1500
Ancient Rome and the Byzantines	Change and Revival in Europe

Skills and Major Projects

Students take notes and engage in class discussions, both teacher-led and seminar-style. They engage in historical questions and conflicts via simulations and role-plays. They develop a historical vocabulary through critical reading of secondary and primary texts. Understanding artifacts and visual sources is also an important part of this course. All students research a historical topic connected to a current issue they are concerned about.

Goals

By the end of the course, students should be conversant with essential historical concepts and events in world history through the fifteenth century. They will be well prepared to engage in historical research and writing in tenth grade, and continuing the study of global themes up to the present day.

Course Title: World History II/World History II Honors

Grade: 10

Texts Used: *Ways of the World: A Global History with Sources* Second Edition by Robert Strayer; ‘The World History Project’ open education resources digital content; various supplemental documents, objects, and texts

Overview

The purpose of the world history curriculum is to develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that along with geography, set the human stage.

Topics Covered

- Networks of Exchange 1200-1450 (Review)
 - Mongols, Silk Roads, Maritime Trade, Trans Saharan Trade
 - Bubonic Plague
- Land-Based Empires 1450-1750
 - Safavids, Ming & Qings, Russians, Mughals, Omanis, and Comanche Empires
 - Renaissance
- Transoceanic Interconnections 1450-1750
 - Columbian Exchange & Transatlantic Slave Trade
- Revolutions & Consequences of Industrialization 1750-1900
 - Scientific Revolution, Enlightenment, Imperialism, Industrialization
- Global Conflict 1900-Present
 - World War 1 & World War 2
- Cold War and Decolonization & Globalization 1900-Present
 - Cold War, Technology, Economics, Environment

Skills and Major Projects

Students will:

- Construct and evaluate arguments
- Use documents to support an argument
- Comparison/Causation/Continuity and Change Over Time
- Recognize global/local patterns within politics, innovations/technology, environments, cultures, economics, and social structures
- Students will work independently on unit projects for assessment
- Each unit will culminate with a multiple choice exam
- Each semester will culminate with a comprehensive world history notebook

Goals

- To gain knowledge of the world's cultures
- Learn how to use primary documents and visual images
- Learn the tools of a historian
- Learn how to write historical essays
- If sitting for the AP exam in May: to achieve a qualifying grade
- Most importantly: enjoy learning about history

Honors Differentiation

- Students will be required to sign an expectation contract to enroll in the Honors section of the course. If those expectations are not met throughout the first semester, they will be removed from the Honors section of the course for the spring semester.
- Honors students (regardless of registration status for the AP Exam) will be assigned additional writing opportunities to prepare for the exam.
- Honors students (regardless of registration status for the AP Exam) will have a slightly different breakdown of their overall grade weights in addition to more rigorous rubrics and expectations on assignments.
- Students sitting for the AP Exam will complete one less unit in the spring semester in favor of an exam prep unit.

Course Title: United States History/United States History Honors

Grade: 11

Texts Used: *The American Yawp*
The American Pageant
Case Method Institute for Education and Democracy

Overview

This course is a two-semester survey of United States history from the age of exploration and discovery to the present. Lecture and class discussions include political, economic, and social factors involved in the growth of the United States as a nation. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, interpretation of original documents, and historiography. It is a challenging course that is meant to be the equivalent of a freshman college course. A research project focusing on United States history will be required.

Themes

Defining who is created equal: the quest for a multi-ethnic society

- American and National Identity
- Work, Exchange, Technology
- Migration and Settlement
- Politics and Power
- America in the World
- Geography and Environment
- Culture and Society

Skills and Major Projects

This course places emphasis on discussion and historical writing. An academic level of discourse is encouraged to better prepare students for college level study. Homework and meeting deadlines demand student initiative and responsibility. Students complete a research project following the National History Day guidelines.

Goals

By the end of the course, students should be able to participate in discussions of history in a thoughtful, articulate manner. Students should be able to think critically about all aspects of United States history, including ideas central to our identity as Americans.

Honors Differentiation

Although some students may opt to take this course as non-AP, they will be expected to participate in discussion of AP test materials and engage in AP test preparation activities. AP students will have additional writing assignments and modified exams. AP students will meet with the instructor in the morning on a prescribed day to discuss specific AP test preparations such as essays, readings, and additional source material.

Course Title: Philosophy and Ethics
Grade: 12
Texts Used: Radio Lab (WNYC)
Genesis, 1:1-4
The Trial and Death of Socrates by Plato
Letters from a Stoic by Seneca

Overview

This course is an introduction to basic ethical theory and both a philosophical and practical examination of how human beings may achieve The Good Life. In the first semester, students examine major ethical concepts, develop an ethical decision-making process, and apply that process to a range of case studies. Students also consider ideas that have influenced human intellectual and moral development, as well as the impact of language in ethical deliberation. In the second semester, students turn to their future and consider how to create a foundation for an ethically grounded life.

Topics Covered

- The Foundations of Philosophy
- The Role of Language in Experience
- State of Nature Philosophies
- A Survey of Consequentialist & Non Consequentialist Ethical Theories
- Ethical Decision Making
- Lying, Cheating, Stealing
- Taking a Life
- The Media Culture & the “World”
- Confucianism, Taoism & Stoicism
- Finding Meaning & Happiness in Life
- College

- Professions & Work
- Business Ethics
- Sex & Relationships
- Abortion
- Environmentalism
- Bioethics
- Alcohol
- Anxiety & Grief
- Philosophy of Religion

Skills and Major Projects

Classroom discussion and writing assignments will prompt students to examine their personal experience, their relationships, and their values. Students will learn how to discuss ideas—some of them controversial—with respect and mutual understanding. In addition to honing critical thinking skills, students will also be expected to develop deeper empathetic skills.

Course Title: Asian Studies (Fall Semester) (offered every other year)

Grade: 9-12 (may count as a Social Studies elective credit)

Texts Used: TBD

Overview

East and Southeast Asian studies is a seminar style course where students will learn modern history, contemporary history and news, as well as go more in depth with the culture of East and Southeast Asia. Students will complete this semester-long course with a broad understanding of this complex and crucial region in global affairs. Students with an interest in global history and cultural competency should consider taking this course.

Topics Covered

- Folklore
- Modern History since 19th Century
- Religion
- Literature
- Art
- Ethnic Identity
- Socio-Economic Policy

Skills and Major Projects

- Analyze primary source readings related to folk tales of the region and synthesize their relation to each region's cultural identity.
- Read, discuss, and debate major historical topics from the 19th to 20th Century in East Asia.
- Discover religion's impact on this region and how it influenced art and literature.
- Be able to analyze a piece of East Asian art-where when why.
- Encounter modern East Asian topics that affect global economics and territory.

Goals

By the end of this one semester course, students should be able to critically look at East Asia today to analyze political and cultural trends based on the history and ethnic identity of this region. A more in-depth understanding of this globally critical region will be understood through class discussion and projects throughout the semester.

Course Title: African Studies (Spring Semester) (offered every other year)

Grade: 9-12 (may count as a Social Studies elective credit)

Texts Used: To be announced

Overview

In this seminar-style course, students will cover a broad range of history across the various regions and states of Africa. With a specific focus on pre-colonial history, colonial history, decolonization, contemporary history, and culture, students will leave this course with a better understanding of the continent's history and its people from past generations to the present. This course takes an anthropological and/or sociological approach to the content.

Topics Covered

- 'Cradle of Humanity' theory
- Ancient African Civilizations
- Migration & City-States
- The Berbers & The Moors
- Trans-Saharan Trade
- The Gold Coast & African Slave Trade
- Berlin Conference
- Colonization & Decolonization

Skills and Major Projects

Students will:

- Review history specific to the African continent
- Find commonalities/differences among African civilizations and societies
- Track changes across regions and time in Africa
- Read and discuss various texts including 1 personal biography
- Write one book report on the personal biography
- Create a final project to educate others on the contemporary cultures of Africa

Course Title: European History (Honors) (offered every other year)

Grade: 10-12 (may count as a Social Studies elective credit)

Texts Used: *The West in the World*. Sherman, Dennis and Joyce Salisbury
The Western Heritage, Seventh Edition. Kagan, Donald, Ozment, Steven, and Turner, Frank M.

***A History of Western Society, Twelfth Edition. McKay, John P., Hill, Bennett D.,
Buckler, John, Crowston, Clare Haru, Wiesner-Hanks, Mary E., and Perry, Joe.***

Overview

This is an honors course which is designed to be as challenging as a freshman college course. At the end of the year, students with a consistent B average will be encouraged to take the AP exam. This intense course will cover the countries of Europe's impact within the diverse continent and throughout the rest of the world. Hundreds of years of history will be discussed from the Age of Reformation to contemporary issues. This class will continually challenge the student to develop a deeper sense of historical knowledge by enriching reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Emphasis will be placed on map skills as well to give students a sense of the changing borders of Europe. A bit of art and music will be infused in the curriculum as well. Whether or not a student decides to take the AP exam, there is much to be gained from this class; the goal is to end the year having a deeper appreciation of the many levels of European history.

Topics Covered

- Renaissance review, Reformation, and Religious warfare
- Economic Conquest and Exploration
- European State-Building and Conquest
- Monarchy and Repression
- Intellectual Revolution
- Worldwide Revolutions of the Late Eighteenth Century
- Political Reactions to Revolutions in Europe
- Working Class Revolution and Reform
- World War I, Depression and Dictators, World War II
- The Cold War and a Bipolar World
- Emerging European Issues of the 21st Century

Skills

Students will:

- Critically analyze primary source documents
- Synthesize content materials with primary sources to come to historical conclusions
- Understand the changing borders of the European map and why those changes happened
- Write in a concise historical fashion

Goals

By the end of the course, students should be able to write and discuss historical topics related to European history with ease. Conclusions about the why and how events happened and how they still impact the European continent today can be drawn by students. Students will feel comfortable taking the College Board AP European History exam by the end of the year.

Course Title: U.S. Government & Politics/U.S. Government & Politics Honors (Fall Semester)
Grade: 12 (may count as a Social Studies elective credit)
Texts Used: Variety of primary, secondary sources, and news sources

Overview

United States Government and Politics is an honors-level course which concerns the different parts of the American political system and government, as well as the principles, behaviors, and attitudes that shape this system and the national, state, and local levels. Students will engage with a variety of sources: historical and government documents, excerpts from secondary sources, current news and analysis, court case opinions, and short videos. Readings and videos will reflect a variety of perspectives on government and current events. Students' interests will to some extent drive the content of the course and we will discuss current events nearly every day to some extent.

Topics Covered

- Foundations of democracy in the United States: American constitutionalism
- The branches of government and their interactions
- Civil liberties and civil rights
- Political ideologies and beliefs
- Political participation

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students will discuss and role-play important debates and decisions regarding U.S. policy and law, particularly with emphasis on the Constitution and its interpretation in U.S. politics and policy. Students will learn to apply political concepts and processes to scenarios in context and make connections to important principles. Students will conduct archival research at the Dole Center at K.U. and create an annotated bibliography about a major policy issue of the past fifty years.

Goals

- Apply key ideas about American government and politics, reasoning processes, and disciplinary practices to historical and current problems in U.S. society and government.
- Participate meaningfully and thoughtfully in discussions currently shaping American politics and society
- Develop factually accurate, well-reasoned, and thoughtful arguments and opinions that acknowledge and grapple with other political perspectives

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes college-level expectations. Honors students will write five additional short (500 words) analysis papers throughout the semester, and create a project aligned with National History Day guidelines based on research conducted at the Dole Institute.

Course Title: Global Studies/Global Studies Honors (Spring Semester)

Grade: 12 (may count as a Social Studies elective credit)

Texts Used: Great Decisions series, Foreign Policy Association

Overview

To understand the global forces that both unite and separate world citizens, students need to develop the global competencies, skills, and understanding to make sense of the highly integrated and interdependent world we live in today. In this borderless world, students should understand the types of “borders”—geographical, political, economic, social, and cultural—and then delve into the specific

challenges they pose. This course on global studies provides an interdisciplinary framework for understanding this borderless or globalized system.

Topics Covered

- The United States and its Role in the World
- Country studies: Russia, China, Nigeria, Iran, Mexico
- Climate Action
- Middle East: Questions for U.S. Policy
- Current Events

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students will read the news every day, write weekly current events reflections, and engage in discussion about current events daily. They will explore multiple perspectives from experts and leaders in government, business, and civil society. Multiple role-play and simulations will put students in the shoes of decision-makers. A high level of student engagement will be encouraged so students develop critical thinking skills. All seniors will participate in our field trip to the Kansas state capitol in Topeka and meet with local lawmakers.

Goals

- Understand the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural issues, trends and systems
- Conduct an interdisciplinary analysis of local, global, international, and intercultural problems
- Develop the knowledge, skills, and attitude to become an engaged, responsible, and effective citizen of the United States while living in a globally interdependent society

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes college-level expectations. Honors students will write weekly analysis papers of 400-500 words each based on additional reading materials.

World Languages Sequence Overview

In accordance with Bishop Seabury's core curriculum, all students begin language studies in seventh grade, taking Latin in the Fall semester and French in the Spring semester. In eighth grade, students take a semester of Spanish in the Fall; the eighth grade Spring semester includes one quarter of Latin review and a Capstone quarter in which students summarize their learning across all three languages and select a language of study for high school. In the first middle school semester, students learn to read and translate Latin via images and quickly come into contact with multi-paragraph stories. Students develop a sizable vocabulary and learn derivatives from Latin to English and vice versa. Learning Latin vocabulary not only increases their ability to translate Latin, but also promotes variety in their English vocabulary. In the second and third semesters, students learn the foundations of French and Spanish, respectively, exploring basic verb conjugations, vocabulary, and cultural traditions. Students develop comfort expressing themselves in languages other than English, both in writing and through oral interactions. The fourth semester of middle school language, divided into two quarters, prepares students for increased independence in high school language studies and asks students to critically examine their own priorities and future goals as they look toward high school languages. These introductory courses build a firm foundation for further language

learning. After the required language courses in middle school, students may choose to continue in Latin, French or Spanish languages. In high school, students are required to take three consecutive years of a language as part of the BSA graduation requirements.

American Sign Language is available in high school for students with specific circumstances who receive approval from the World Language department and BSA admin team. See the course descriptions for ASL years 1 and 2 for details about logistics and requirements for those courses. Students learning ASL will take on-line and in-person courses through Johnson County Community College over the first two years. Expressive and receptive ASL will be explored, as well as the richness of Deaf community and culture. The optional third year will involve an intensive independent study project designed by the student. Students studying ASL may be exempt from the BSA three-year language requirement and will receive a credit/no credit designation on their final transcript.

At the high school level, French, Latin, and Spanish all begin with an introductory level course and continue to level IV, with Honors options available in III-IV. Pre-Honors is available for level II. Students who select Latin are taught grammar, vocabulary, and culture in a sequence that leads to proficiency in reading, translating, and listening in Latin. Students also are taught Latin composition from Latin 7-Latin II. In Latin III-IV, students read native Latin literature from Caesar, Ovid, Catullus, and Vergil. Students practice reading in three meters and focus on these writers to provide insight into the culture and society of the late Roman Republic and early Empire. Latin IV emphasizes literal and literary translation which helps students grow their vocabulary in both Latin and English. The far reaching goal of the Latin curriculum is to provide students with the skills for learning multiple languages once they have finished their education at Bishop Seabury. Students will have acquired the skills for analyzing texts and comparing various literary genres.

Students who select French or Spanish learn vocabulary, grammar, and culture in a sequence that prepares them to be proficient communicators. Modern languages focus on four components of language learning: reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Students are taught all modes of communication from the beginning of their modern language instruction. The goal of modern language study is to create fluent speakers who are able to participate in conversation with native speakers. Additionally, students will be able to read newspapers, magazines, or other media in either French or Spanish. They will learn the differences between American culture and French/Francophone or Spanish/Hispanic cultures and gain an appreciation for those cultures. Students practice the skill of exploring different cultural values and priorities with curiosity and respect. The far-reaching goal of modern languages is to create multilingual speakers and thinkers who will continue to use French or Spanish as part of their everyday lives. Also, the hope is that the students will travel, study, or live in countries whose native language is French or Spanish.

Course Title: Introduction to Latin

Grade: 7 (Fall Semester)

Texts Used: *Cambridge Latin Course, Vols. 1 4th edition*

Novellas: *Lucia Mala Puella, Eumachia, and Cloelia, Puella Romana*

Overview

Introduction to Latin is the first course in the middle school language sequence. It is a semester-long course that introduces 7th grade students to inflected language learning via Latin. MS students continue the

sequence in the spring of 7th grade with a semester of French and with a semester of Spanish in the fall semester of 8th grade. These classes culminate with language choice week and a project in a capstone course in the spring semester of 8th grade. Together these courses comprise the MS language curriculum which builds a foundation for language acquisition at the high school level.

This course provides students with the basic elements of Latin grammar and a vocabulary of more than 200 core words encountered in classical Latin literature. As this course represents most students' first experience with world language study, there is also a focus on the types of exercises and practice as well as various concepts and categories required for learning a new language effectively. It also provides students with the basics of inflected language learning and acquisition.

Students learn principally through reading in Latin and translating graduated sets of stories, dialogues and narratives that introduce and exercise an incrementally expanding base of grammar and vocabulary. Additionally as many English words and morphemes derive from Latin, the course also works to build lexical skills in English through etymology, examining English morphemes and words that derive from Latin roots.

Students are introduced to language concepts that focus on grammar, vocabulary, and connect to a cultural theme. At the conclusion of a section students will complete a project connected to a cultural theme. This course employs Latin novellas, level appropriate Latin text, to encourage comprehension of Latin without necessarily translating into English.

Topics Covered

Language

- Nouns: gendered nouns along with nominative and accusative cases for 3 declensions
- Verbs: present, imperfect and perfect tenses
- Singular and plural forms for both nouns and verbs
- Vocabulary: over 200 words found in classical Latin literature
- Etymology: hundreds of English words, including prefixes, suffixes and roots deriving from Latin

Culture: Sections at the end of each unit present aspects of life and culture in ancient Pompeii and the broader Roman world. Students connect aspects of ancient life with our modern world and themselves.

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students develop reading and listening skills in the target language. They understand Latin texts of increasing grammatical complexity and breadth of vocabulary. Students learn to identify the person, number and tense of verb forms and the case, number, gender and declension of nouns. Students are introduced to the basic concepts of inflected language learning and useful terminology for language acquisition. Students are assessed via IPA's (Integrated Performance Assessment), during these, students read and listen to passages in level appropriate Latin and answer questions based on what they understood. At the end of each unit, students have a project based on the theme which connects the Roman world to ours. Current project topics: Urban Planning, Roman Dining, Roman Games, and Roman Festivals.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should have mastered the grammar and vocabulary that provide a foundation for learning other inflected languages namely French and Spanish. They should be able to read efficiently in Latin and be able to translate any passage based on that grammar and vocabulary. Students should have a solid grasp of etymology, with the ability to give examples of English words (including prefixes, roots and suffixes) deriving from Latin. They should be able to understand connections between ancient and modern culture.

Course Title: Introduction to French

Grade: 7 (Spring Semester)

Texts Used: *Français 101*, Carrasco and Zahedi, LibreTexts Open Resource Textbook, Chapter 1 ([https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_1_\(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish\)\)](https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_1_(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish))))

Overview

Introduction to French is a semester-long class designed to introduce students to the basics of the French language and of language learning as a whole. This class combines with a semester each of Latin and Spanish to form the foundation of language learning for all Seabury students. Students who have completed Introduction to French should be well-equipped to demonstrate their knowledge of the language and compare and contrast it with others during the final middle school language capstone course. This provides the foundation for high school language learning at Seabury. In Intro to French, students will experience a brief introduction to French language and culture. They will leave the course with foundational skills in the four modes of communication: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Topics Covered

- Cognates between French and English
- Introductions and Greetings
- Numbers 0-60
- Alphabet, Accents, Phonics, and Pronunciation
- The verb *être*
- Physical, personal, and emotional descriptions
- Modern music by francophone artists

Skills and Major Projects

Introduction to French introduces students to the four basic skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking and the general concept of grammar structures in a new language. Students will have frequent opportunities to participate in level-appropriate conversations, listening tasks, and written responses. Introduction to French also includes cultural study of France. Through the course of the semester, students will recite a memorized poem in French with a partner, present in French about a family tree, and introduce their classmates to a francophone music artist, in addition to having more traditional assessments. In order to foster an interest in the language and culture, activities such as preparing French food, listening to music and watching French television shows and movies in class and at home are encouraged.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should be able to communicate briefly in French when discussing familiar topics. They should be prepared to begin more rigorous study of any language and to build on the skills they acquired in this course.

Course Title: Introduction to Spanish

Grade: 8 (Fall Semester)

Texts Used: *Nueva gramática de la lengua española* from the Academic Association of the Spanish Language, *Miles Morales Ondas Sismicas*, *Spanish is Fun*

Overview

This is an introductory course to the language to give students a glimpse of what the following four years would be like should they choose to pursue Spanish in upper school. Students go through three units that provide them with very basic conversational skills and a preview of certain cultural elements that are covered in high school.

Topics Covered

The course is split up into 3 units (unidades) that cover certain content and grammar. For the 2026-27 academic school year the units are as follows:

Unidad 1: How to describe ourselves + others

Unidad 2: Objects and places

Unidad 3: Spanish for going to the doctor, ordering at a restaurant, and travelling

Major projects

Students have a variety of projects throughout each of the units. One of their projects in Unit 1 is researching a famous figure within the Spanish speaking world using characteristics with ser/estar. In unit 2 we have the virtual passport project where students research and describe a particular city within one Spanish speaking country.

Goals

The two main goals are to provide students with very basic conversational skills alongside a surface level understanding of the Spanish speaking world.

Course Title: Foundations of Latin

Grade: 8 (Spring Semester, Third Quarter)

Texts Used: *Cambridge Latin Course*, Vol. 1 4th edition

Novella: *Lars Roman Odit. Andrew Olimpi*

Overview

Latin Foundations is a 3rd quarter course that guides 8th grade students through more inflected language learning. It follows a semester course in Spanish and leads to the final course in the MS language sequence. Students return to Latin to further develop their acquisition skills before committing to study one language for three consecutive years. In their final quarter, they commit to their high school language and complete a capstone project.

In this course, students learn direct and indirect objects, noun adjective agreement, and get an introduction to the infinitive. Students will focus reading on a novella based in early Roman history. Students will learn more core Latin vocabulary via reading the novella and etymology to broaden their English vocabulary. By the end of the quarter, students should feel confident in their understanding of inflected languages and have a strong foundation for learning any US language.

Topics Covered

Language

- Nouns: review gendered nouns along with subject, object, and indirect object cases for all 5 declensions
- Verbs: review present, imperfect and perfect tenses and irregular verb *esse*
- Adjectives: noun adjective agreement with gender and number (singular and plural)
- Vocabulary: common core around 70 words
- Etymology: around 100 English words, including prefixes, suffixes and roots deriving from Latin

Culture: Students will study early Roman history and mythology while reading the novella.

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students further develop reading skills by reading a 74 page Latin novella which focuses more on understanding what is being read in the target language and less on translation into English. Comprehension is an essential skill for language acquisition. It is a first step. As comprehension grows so does an understanding of both vocabulary and grammar in context. These are the building blocks for becoming proficient writers and speakers. In the novella, comprehension is encouraged by the use of pictures, repeated vocabulary, and scaffolded grammar. Students will also be introduced to the events of the novella by learning about the historical event prior to reading.

As the novella focuses primarily on male characters in Roman literature, students in pairs will choose and research a famous woman from Roman history. They will create a portrait of her, an informative presentation about her, and teach the class about her. The project will be in English.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should have mastered the grammar and vocabulary that provide a foundation for learning other inflected languages namely French and Spanish. They should be able to read efficiently in Latin and be able to translate any passage based on that grammar and vocabulary. Students should have a solid grasp of etymology, with the ability to give scores of examples of English words (including prefixes, roots and suffixes) deriving from Latin.

Course Title: Middle School Languages Capstone
Grade: 8 (Spring Semester, Fourth Quarter)
Texts Used: *Easy Spanish Reader* by William T. Hardy
Ego, Polyphemus by Andrew Olimpi
La France en danger et les secrets de Picasso by Mira Canion and Annie Ewing

Overview

The Middle School Languages Capstone is a fourth quarter course for eighth grade students. Students will explore a brief overview of the history of each language, learn how to use a language dictionary effectively, compare and contrast grammar and spelling across all three Romance languages. In preparation for their high school language selection, students will choose a novella written in either French, Latin, or Spanish and will read it independently alongside a small group. These book clubs will require students to synthesize the knowledge gained in their earlier introductory semesters in order to demonstrate comprehension of novels designed for language learners at the novice-low level. After completing their book study, students will write a formal proposal requesting a language for high school study and will finish the semester with a project that explores a culture of their choosing. By the end of this quarter, students should feel prepared for high school language study and have a clear understanding of what will be expected of them in levels I-IV of high school courses.

Topics Covered

- History of each language
- Online Dictionary usage
- Comparison of all three languages and exploration of their Romantic commonalities
- Book Club/independent reading
- Formal HS Language proposal
- Culture: surface vs deep cultural elements

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students will complete a comprehension packet that includes both group and individual work as part of their book club mini-unit.

Students will write and submit a formal proposal outlining their language choice for high school, in which they will incorporate both research-based and anecdotal factors as well as personal reflection.

Students will create and present a project describing three elements of a chosen culture. They will create a visual explanation of their research and will also bring at least one tangible example to share with the class.

Goals

At the end of this course, students will have a strong understanding of their individual level of preparedness for high school language study. They will feel confident in their choice of a long-term commitment to one language of study over at least three years in high school. Students will be able to describe basic elements of French, Latin, and Spanish and understand why each language is highly relevant to the world around them.

Course Title: French I

Grade: 9

Texts Used: *Français 101*, Carrasco and Zahedi, LibreTexts Open Resource Textbook
([https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_1_\(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish\)\)](https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_1_(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish))))

Overview

French I is the first course in the 4-year foreign language sequence. It is a continuation of middle school language study and covers Chapters 2-5 in *Français 101*. Students will practice the four basic skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking and will gain foundational knowledge critical to future success with the French language. The course also fosters a knowledge of and appreciation for the cultures of France and French-speaking countries.

Topics Covered

- Chapter 2: Numbers 70-100, the verb **avoir**, time and date, likes/dislikes, **-ER** verbs, agreement/disagreement, direct object pronouns, forming questions
- Chapter 3: Family vocabulary, possessive adjectives, personal and family descriptions, review of the verb **être**, body parts
- Chapter 4: Free time and activities; the verb **faire**; weather; the verb **aller**; the *futur proche* tense; the verbs **pouvoir**, **devoir**, **savoir**, and **vouloir**; **-IR** verbs, the verb **connaître** and its relationship to **savoir**; places and activities in town, giving and receiving directions, prepositions of place, the *passé récent* tense and the verb **venir**; the verb **prendre**

Skills and Major Projects

French I introduces students to the four basic skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking as well as the acquisition of basic vocabulary and grammatical structures. Throughout the year, students will be assessed on their ability to communicate aloud with peers in French, write extended paragraph-level discourse, use verbs effectively, and respond appropriately to information provided in written or audio formats. French I also includes cultural study of France and other francophone countries. In order to foster an interest in the language and culture, activities such as celebrating holidays, preparing French food, listening to music and watching French television shows and movies in class and at home are encouraged.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should master French grammar points that include present tense verb conjugation of basic regular and irregular verbs, articles, adjective agreement, interrogatives, imperatives, and negatives. Students will be able to carry on conversations and produce written work using the vocabulary and grammar structures acquired. They should also be able to understand written and spoken language. Students should be able to perform at an ACTFL proficiency level of Novice-Low to Novice-Mid level by the end of the school year.

Course Title: Latin I

Grade: 9

Texts Used: *Cambridge Latin Course*, units 2 & 3. 4th edition

Novellas: *Unguentum*. Peter Sipes and *Clodia Fabula Criminalis* Andrew Olimpi.

Overview

This course is the first course in a four year language sequence. While this course picks up where MS Latin course stopped, students successfully navigate Latin I without prior Latin courses. The focus of Latin I is to build the foundation of Latin grammar and a solid Latin vocabulary rooted in etymology via reading comprehension. This should facilitate students' ability to transition into reading scaffolded native Latin literature beginning in Latin II.

By the end of Latin I students should have: committed to memory the five noun declensions, a comprehensive understanding of noun and verb systems in Latin, all verbal moods, and an introduction to syntax (participles and subjunctive with subordinate clauses). Students continue Latin composition via sentences while significantly expanding their skills via more complex grammar and broader vocabulary. Students should be prepared to begin reading native Latin authors in Latin II.

Topics Covered

Language:

- Infinitive, irregular verbs, and introduction to verb system.
- Nouns: Prepositional phrases, ablative and genitive cases, and review noun/adjective agreement, review of declensions 1-3 and 4th & 5th noun declensions.
- Verbs: tense review, pluperfect and future tenses.
- Pronouns: Relative clauses & pronouns and antecedents, review noun/adjective agreement. Demonstrative pronouns/adjectives, personal pronouns, the imperative mood, and the vocative case.
- Participles: Present, Perfect Passive, Deponent, review of cases/uses. Participles as adjectives and comparison of adverbs; review of comparative & superlatives with ablative of comparison.
- Subjunctive mood: temporal clauses, imperfect and pluperfect subjunctive tenses, indirect questions, purpose clauses, indirect commands and result clauses.
- Introduction to gerundives/passive periphrastic and passive concepts.
- Verbal moods and uses: Indicative, Infinitive, Imperative, Participle, and Subjunctive.

Culture: Students read two novellas both derived from Latin literature and connect via Clodia and Catullus, both figures from Roman history and literature. The first is based on a poem by Catullus and the other includes a variety of his poems adapted to a story based in Roman history. By the end of *Unguentum*, students can read and understand the poem. They will also learn to scan and read the poem in hendecasyllabic meter. In the second novella, students read more of Catullus' poems learning more about his relationship with Clodia. Students will also peer into the interesting lives of wealthy noble Romans in the era of the republic.

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students further develop their language learning skills forming a solid foundation in understanding Latin grammar. They build their Latin vocabulary via weekly quizzes, etymology, and reading. They continue to be assessed via Integrated Performance Assessments as well as grammar and vocabulary quizzes. Students have two projects focused on Roman culture. One based on the making of perfume and perfume bottles in the Roman. The other is based on Rome's provinces under the empire. Students research a province of their choice and create a presentation to inform their classmates. Projects lead to discussion regarding effective/good leadership and governance. By the end of Latin I, students are ready to finish their study of grammar and move to reading native literature.

Goals

By the end of the course students should feel confident in their foundation of Latin grammar and vocabulary. Students are prepared to learn more advanced grammatical concepts and comprehend native Latin literature. They should be able to perform at an ACTFL proficiency level of Novice-Mid to Novice-High level by the end of the school year.

Course Title: Spanish I

Grade: 9

Texts Used: *Nueva gramática de la lengua española* from the Academic Association of the Spanish Language

Overview

The Spanish courses (1-4) primarily center on Content-Based Learning (CBL) which is an instructional approach that integrates language learning with the learning of other subject matter such as history, literature and science. It emphasizes using language as a tool for acquiring knowledge rather than just a focus on language skills themselves. CBL encourages learners to use the target language in meaningful contexts, promoting deeper engagement and understanding of both the language and the content. In this first year of Spanish, students are taught the basics and everyday usage of Spanish to create a strong foundation for CBL learning for the years after. All of their language skills (reading, speaking, listening, and writing) are developed throughout the year.

Topics Covered

The course is split up into six units (unidades) that cover certain content and grammar. The units are as follows:

Unidad 1: Introduction to Spanish. Who Am I?

Grammar concepts:

- Alphabet
- Numbers
- Ser vs. estar (Two verbs that mean to be in different contexts)
- Describing the weather
- Indefinite and definite articles
- Grammatical and number Agreement

Unidad 2: School and extracurricular activities

Grammar:

- Telling time
- The verb tener (to have)
- The verb ir (to go)
- -Ar verbs
- Question words

Unidad 3: The Family and home

Grammar:

- Possessive adjectives
- Physical descriptors
- -er/-ir verbs
- Stem changing verbs
- Using estar with social states

Unidad 4: Spaces within a city

Grammar:

- Saber vs. conocer (two verbs that mean to know in different contexts)
- The verb haber (there is/are)

Unidad 5: Food and chores

Grammar:

- The verb *gustar* (to like) and similar verbs
- Imperative commands

Unidad 6: Travelling

Grammar:

- Preterite (one way to refer to the past)
- Reflexive verbs

Major projects

Students have a total of 4 unit projects throughout the school year that hone the skills they've been working on in each unit. The two main projects are a brief video of themselves showing us around their favorite parts in Lawrence and a final year project that is an accumulation of everything they've learned this year where they pretend to be a travel agent, informing them about what to look forward to when travelling to a particular Spanish speaking country of their choice. .

Goals

The aims of the course is to get one comfortable and confident in basic communication in Spanish therefore by the end of the year a student can:

- Interact and negotiate meaning in spoken, signed, or written conversation to share information, reactions, feelings, and opinions.
- Understand, interpret, and analyze what is heard, read, or viewed in a variety of topics.
- Present information, concepts, and ideas to inform, explain, persuade, and narrate on a variety of topics using appropriate media and adapting to various audiences of listeners, readers, and viewers.

Course Title: French II/French II Pre-Honors

Grade: 10

Texts Used: *Français 101*, Carrasco and Zahedi, LibreTexts Open Resource Textbook, Chapter 6 ([https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_1_\(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish\)](https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_1_(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish)))
French OER 2, Carrasco, Sahedi, and Barnezet Parrish, Chapters 7-9 ([https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_2_\(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish\)](https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_2_(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish)))

Overview

French II is the second course in the 4-year language sequence. This class covers Chapter 6 of *Français 101* and Chapters 7-9 of *French OER 2*. Students will continue their study of French grammar, vocabulary and culture. A greater emphasis is placed on the production of oral and written language as well as reading and listening comprehension.

Topics Covered

- Chapter 6: daily routines and reflexive verbs, **-RE** verbs, vocabulary about houses and what's in them, chores, the passé composé with avoir and être
- Chapter 7: food and drink, mealtime vocabulary, the verb **boire**, comparisons, adverbs, negative expressions, the pronouns **y** and **en**
- Chapter 8: review of passé composé, historical figures

- Chapter 9: childhood activities vocabulary, the imperfect past tense, relative pronouns, Francophone tales/legends, storytelling with the passé composé and the imparfait

Skills and Major Projects

French II continues to focus on the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking as well as the acquisition of more diverse vocabulary and advanced grammatical structures. Students are encouraged to push themselves to greater proficiency, as demonstrated by assessments centered around conversations, multi-paragraph writing, and projects that incorporate multiple grammar skills and modes of communication in one product.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should master French grammar points that include present verb conjugation of basic regular and irregular verbs in the past perfect and imperfect tenses, prepositions, object pronouns, comparatives and superlatives, and reflexive verbs. They should be able to carry on simple conversations about the above topics in the past, present and near future tenses. They should be able to read selections and understand conversations on the above topics. Students should have a knowledge of the geography, history and cultures of France and some francophone countries. They should aspire for ACTFL proficiency of Novice High by the end of the year.

Pre-Honors Differentiation

Pre-Honors will include preparation for further honors-level work. Reading and writing assignments may be longer for pre-honors and pre-honors students will have elevated expectations on assessments. Pre-honors students will be expected to participate in French language conversations outside of class at least once per semester.

Course Title: Latin II/Latin II Pre-Honors

Grade: 10

Texts Used: *Cambridge Latin Course. Units 3 & 4 4th edition*

Novellas: *The Millionaire's Dinner Party* MG Balme, text adapted from *Cena Trimalchionis*, Petronius's *Satyricon*.
Caedes in Via Appia: Fabula Milonis et Clodii. Emma Vanderpool. 2020.
Fabulae ab Urbe Condita Geoffrey Steadman, text adapted from Livy's *ab Urbe Condita*.

Overview

Latin II is the second course in a four-year language sequence. As Latin I concentrated on acquiring and memorizing Latin grammar, Latin II focuses on sharpening and enhancing the students' knowledge of grammar and syntax. This course introduces students to complex grammatical and syntactical structures. An integral part of this course is derivative and cultural studies which enhance the students' knowledge of the Latin language and Roman culture as well as provide insight into their own language and society. By the end of this course, the students should be able to understand most of the complex grammar and syntax of Latin. They begin reading and translating Latin text written by native writers. Students continue to compose Latin sentences and should be able to write paragraph length composition.

Topics Covered

- Passive Voice: present, imperfect, perfect and pluperfect passive indicative, review and finish subjunctive clauses, and impersonal verbs.
- Ablative case uses: functions of Ablative and Accusative cases, and the Ablative Absolute.
- Syntax: Deponent verbs, review gerundives, Future Active Participle and review of participles.
- Future & Future Perfect Active Indicative and Passive.
- *Oratio Obliqua*, indirect Statement: Present, Perfect, Future infinitives active and passive.
- Subjunctive tenses: Present, Imperfect Subjunctive, Perfect (active & passive forms.) Selections from Martial's epigrams. Independent uses of the subjunctive.
- Verbal nouns: Supine, Gerundive, Gerund. Selections from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*.
- Selections from Pliny's letters: Conditionals and functions of subjunctive "cum clauses" as temporal or causal or adversative.
- Selections from Cicero's *Pro Caelio*: Rhetorical and literary devices.
- Sight reading passages from *Fabulae ab Urbe Condita*.

Important Skills and Major Projects

Students finish learning the fundamentals of Latin grammar and they greatly enhance their translation skills as they begin to read native Latin. The central theme in Latin II is food and dining in the Roman world. Students continue to develop reading and listening comprehension skills by reading selections from *Cena Trimalchionis* a part of Petronius' *Satyricon*. The story revolves around a dinner party held at the house of a wealthy freedman. Students prepare sections, annotate, and learn to use commentary with notes and vocabulary. *Cena* also encourages much discussion about Roman life in the first century CE.

As part of their Roman cultural studies, the students participate in the Roman festival of Saturnalia. This festival is a jubilant holiday during which a sumptuous banquet occurs. The students learn about the Roman diet, Saturnalia dishes, and the celebration of this holiday. They prepare food in the Roman custom and share this with their classmates. This project occurs near the end of the 1st semester.

Goals

By the end of this course the students understand most of the complex Latin grammatical structures and have read native Latin by Pliny, Cicero, Livy. Students should be prepared to read both native Latin prose and poetry in Latin III/Honors Latin III. They should aspire to an ACTFL proficiency score of Intermediate Low or Mid by the end of the school year.

Pre-Honors Differentiation

- Some reading assignments may be longer or more involved in terms of grammar and analysis.
- Some vocabulary quizzes may have more terms for review and may contain more terms.
- Reading and listening comprehension will have elevated expectations.
- Some assignments may be graded on quality rather than completion.
- Pre-honors students may have some additional assignments or requirements for assignments.

Course Title: Spanish II/Spanish II Pre-Honors

Grade: 10

Texts Used: *Nueva gramática de la lengua española* from the Academic Association of the Spanish Language

Overview

The Spanish courses (1-4) primarily center on Content-Based Learning (CBL) which is an instructional approach that integrates language learning with the learning of other subject matter such as history, literature and science. It emphasizes using language as a tool for acquiring knowledge rather than just a focus on language skills themselves. CBL encourages learners to use the target language in meaningful contexts, promoting deeper engagement and understanding of both the language and the content. For the first semester of the course students are still engaging in everyday language usage but in the second semester, students start using their interdisciplinary skills they acquire in other classes alongside their Spanish to start forming more complex ideas and thought. All of their language skills (reading, speaking, listening, and writing) are developed throughout the year.

Topics Covered

The course is split up into six units (unidades) that cover certain content and grammar. The units are as follows:

Unidad 1: Health and Routines

- General review of last year's grammar
- Reflexive verbs
- Preterite

Unidad 2: Animals and their habitats

- Direct and indirect object pronouns
- Comparisons of equality and inequality
- Imperfect

Unidad 3: The environment

- Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns
- Preterite vs. imperfect

Unidad 4: Professions

- Por y para
- Future tense

Unidad 5: Music

- Indirect and direct object pronouns
- Perfect tense

Unidad 6: Government

- Time expressions with Hacer

Major projects

Students will have a total of 4 unit projects throughout the school year that hone the skills they've been working on in each unit. The two main projects are a cover letter in Spanish for a profession they want to pursue in the future, and their unit 6 project where they take all of the skills and content they learned throughout the school year to create a law based on one of the units we've covered.

Goals

The main goal is to start making cultural connections. By the end of the year a student can:

- Relate cultural practices to perspectives: Learners will use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the relationships between the practices and perspectives of the cultures studied.
- Relate to cultural products to perspectives: Learners will use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the relationship between the products and perspectives of the cultures studied.

Pre-Honors Differentiation

Reading and writing assignments may be longer for pre-honors and will have elevated expectations on assessments. Students are also expected to complete a unit project for all six units instead of the regular four, and are expected to participate in Spanish language conversations outside of class at least once per semester. Pre-Honors will include preparation for further honors-level work.

Course Title: French III/French III Honors

Grade: 11

Texts Used: *French OER 2*, Carrasco, Sahedi, and Barnezet Parrish, Chapter 10

([https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_2_\(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish\)](https://human.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Languages/French/French_OER_2_(Carrasco_Zahedi_and_Parrish)))

Ru, Kim Thuy, 2009 (selected extracts)

Welcome, 2009, directed by Philippe Lioret

Bienvenue à Marly-Gomont, 2016, directed by Julien Rambaldi

Il a déjà tes yeux, 2016, directed by Lucien Jean-Baptiste

Les Choristes, 2004, directed by Christophe Barratier

Reine Pokou, 2005, Véronique Tadjo

Various additional articles and audio sources will be provided

Overview

French III is the third course in the 4-year language sequence. This class considers questions around identity and values, from both a personal and global perspective, by examining authentic texts and evaluating current and historical events to determine what values authors, heroes, celebrities, and individuals find most important. Through this exploration, students continue their study of French grammar, vocabulary and culture. A greater emphasis is placed on reading authentic texts, increased oral fluency, immersion through French media, aural comprehension, and personal investment in learning.

Topics Covered

- Chapter 10: nature and animal vocabulary, indirect object pronouns, the conditional mood, environment vocab, introduction to the subjunctive (August-September)
 - Summative task: Oral presentation describing an ideal living location and explaining what geographical features would be part of your surroundings. Explain what must be done to care for the environment where you live.
- Belonging and Identity: Using four different texts (one book and 3 films), explore and utilize vocabulary related to immigration, community, and family life. Students will be able to summarize multiple perspectives in French, using narrative skills from French 2, grammar skills from Chapter 10, and advanced vocabulary. (October-December)
 - Essential questions: *What does it mean to “belong” to a community? Is it possible to be part of multiple conflicting communities? Who decides whether someone belongs?*
 - Summative task: Design an interactive scrapbook that synthesizes the concept of belonging across multiple cultures and experiences
- Formal Essay Writing: Using the film *Les Choristes*, students will develop and use skills to write a formal essay in French, using the same basic writing skills and conventions they demonstrate in English classes. (January)

- Essential questions: *What does it mean to be a father figure to a young person? How can you demonstrate complex ideas and analysis using the French that you know?*
- Summative task: Timed writing essay with revisions and final draft
- Reine Pokou: Explore this traditional West African tale written from three different perspectives. Practice the skill of prediction with the Futur Simple and that of character and thematic analysis in addition to oral discussion in class. (February and March)
 - Essential questions: *What does it mean to be a hero? What is the role of women in society (in relation to education, power, men, etc)? What sacrifices do leaders owe to their people?*
 - Summative task: Throughout the book, students will demonstrate their ability to summarize, analyze, and predict based on the text. At the end of the book, they will complete a choice board project and participate in a class-wide discussion on the text.
- Les Reines Africaines: Students will explore vocabulary related to activism and will research a female francophone activist from the continent of Africa (specific options and resources will be provided). (April and May)
 - Essential questions: *What does it mean to make a difference? Define “successful” activism.*
 - Summative task: presentation and interview discussing the actions and impact of the student’s chosen activist

Skills and Major Projects

French III continues to focus on the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking as well as the acquisition of more diverse vocabulary and advanced grammatical structures. French III also continues the cultural study of francophone countries and their values. As a commitment to French increases, so too are expectations for engagement in the language. Projects and enrichment opportunities are centered on the standards for language learning: communication, culture, comparisons, connections and community. Major assessments include tasks that require students to speak and listen in French. Examples include oral presentations, visual analysis (infographics, etc), formal essays, conversation in French, and text analysis.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should be able to converse, debate and present their ideas based on the aforementioned vocabulary and cultural topics. They should be able to read authentic texts and understand conversations on the above topics. Students should have a deeper knowledge of Francophone societies including politics, literature and current events. They will be exposed to, although they may not fully master, French grammar that includes verb conjugation of verbs in the future tense, conditional and subjunctive moods, irregular verbs, and relative pronouns. They should aspire to an ACTFL proficiency score of Intermediate Low or Mid by the end of the school year.

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes some college-level expectations. Students who enroll in this course for Honors credit will follow the same schedule of topics, with elevated expectations on assessments. They will also have additional work assigned to them on a monthly basis, usually focused on the skills of speaking and listening. Honors students will be expected to participate in French language conversations outside of class at least once per semester.

Course Title: Latin III/Latin III Honors

Grade: 11

Texts Used: **Geoffrey Steadman, *College Caesar*.**
 LaFleur, Richard, *Love and Transformation: An Ovid Reader*.
 Ovid, *Metamorphoses*. Translation Stanley Lombardo

Overview

Latin III is the third course in a four-year language sequence. This course builds on work completed in Latin II where students finished formal grammar training and experienced reading Latin authors. In Latin III, students read native authors to gain an understanding of Roman society and culture through literature. Caesar and Ovid are the focus of their reading. Through these authors, students gain experience reading both prose and poetry. They also get insight into the acquisition of empire and imperial life under August. This continues cultural topics of empire and governance from Latin I & II. The course reviews grammar, literary devices and metrics within the context of Latin prose and poetry. By the end of the course the students have read about 1400 lines (Honors 1550 lines) of Latin literature. They should be confident in their translating, annotation, and scanning skills.

Topics Covered

Students read selections from Caesar's Gallic Wars and Ovid's Metamorphoses. Both texts cover a plethora of topics such from war, governance, and diplomacy to the Roman ideas of chance and fortune as well as the virtues and the excesses of love. By examining both works of literature, students can consider the effect of the expansion of the Roman Republic and the nature of the acquisition of empire. These readings also connect to previous discussions regarding influences and shifts in Roman culture. Discussion focuses on Roman history, leadership and governance, and Roman identity/mos maiorum.

Important Skills and Major Projects

In addition to sharpening their skills in translation, scanning, and annotating, students learn the art of sight reading. Throughout the course, students are given previously unseen passages for translation from authors within and outside of the curriculum. They develop skills for reading these passages without the aid of notes or vocabulary. They also learn to scan and read dactylic hexameter reciting 10 lines from Ovid's Metamorphoses for their final.

We also discuss the art of translation. Students consider not only the literal meaning and grammatical use of Latin vocabulary, but also its English equivalent in terms of contextual meaning within the greater work. Students complete two projects to this end. The fall project is a translation from a section of Caesar's de Bello Gallico which is illustrated in the style of a graphic novel. The spring project is to create an illuminated manuscript page for a section from Ovid's Metamorphoses.

Students continue developing their skills in reading contextualization, textual analysis, and argumentation. Relevant discussion regarding connections between the ancient Roman world and our modern one.

Goals

By the end of this course the students have read a sufficient amount of Latin to consider themselves proficient translators. They should be able to sight read Latin i.e. pick up a Latin text and read it without the aid of vocabulary or grammatical notes. Students should aspire to an ACTFL proficiency score of Intermediate Mid or High by the end of the school year.

Honors Differentiation

- Some additional Latin and English readings.
- Some assignments will be graded on quality rather than completion.
- Students will have an additional test, project, or performance assessment each semester.
- Reading and listening comprehension will have elevated expectations.

Course Title: Spanish III/Spanish III Honors

Grade: 11

Texts Used: *Nueva gramática de la lengua española* from the Academic Association of the Spanish Language, *Antología de Poesía Latinoamericana Contemporánea*, *Antología esencial de la poesía española*, *Leyendas Latinoamericanas*, *Agua y Jabón*, *Cómo Agua para Chocolate*

Overview

The Spanish courses (1-4) primarily center on Content-Based Learning (CBL) which is an instructional approach that integrates language learning with the learning of other subject matter such as history, literature and science. It emphasizes using language as a tool for acquiring knowledge rather than just a focus on language skills themselves. CBL encourages learners to use the target language in meaningful contexts, promoting deeper engagement and understanding of both the language and the content. In this third year Spanish students start engaging in a wide array of cultural products and perspectives to use the language in academic and career related situations.

Topics Covered

The course is split up into six units (unidades) that cover certain content and grammar. This year in particular focuses on the subjunctive and the conditional. The units are as follows:

Unidad 1: Astrology and Astronomy

Unidad 2: Art

Unidad 3: Fashion

Unidad 4: Televisión

Unidad 5: Gastronomy

Unidad 6: Activism

Major Projects

Students will have a variety of projects that work on their various comprehension skills. In unit 3 they will research a particular subculture of fashion, and then in second semester they will study an activist within the Spanish speaking world.

Goals

The main theme of the course is for students to connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career related situations. At the end of the year students can:

- **Make connections:** Learners build, reinforce, and expand their knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking to solve problems creatively.
- **Acquire information and Diverse Perspectives:** Learners will access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures.

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes college-level expectations. Reading and writing assignments may be longer for honors and have elevated expectations on assessments. Students are also expected to complete a unit project for all six units instead of the regular four, and are expected to participate in Spanish language conversations outside of class at least once per semester.

Course Title: French IV/French IV Honors

Grade: 12

Texts used: *Le Petit prince*, Antoine de St. Exupéry and *Le Comte de Monte Cristo*, Alexandre Dumas (abridged version, published by ELI Readers)

Overview

French IV is the final course in the 4-year language sequence. Students continue their study of French grammar, vocabulary and culture by reading and analyzing authentic texts. Each semester is centered around one major work; students experience a variety of tasks related to it, including reading, oral discussion, written analysis, and aural comprehension. No new grammar is introduced but students are expected to begin to synthesize the grammar learned in years I-III to make strategic choices that aid in communication. Frequent proficiency assessments are given to rate students according to the ACTFL guidelines.

Topics Covered

During the first semester, we will read *Le Petit prince* and use it to explore themes of choice, adulthood, war, friendship, love, responsibility, and death. Students will also be introduced to the Dialectic Essay, which they will use to analyze the relationship between the book and its 2015 film adaptation. For the second semester, the class will use the book *Le Comte de Monte Cristo* to examine themes of morality, revenge, leadership, and identity. By the end of the semester, we will transition to an examination of French art and cultural norms across francophone cultures.

Skills and Major Projects

French IV continues to focus on the four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking as well as the acquisition of more diverse vocabulary and more effective use of advanced grammatical structures. Students will learn to read French without the aid of notes or vocabulary, to discuss literature aloud and in writing, and to listen to extended excerpts of French language with strong comprehension. Each semester will include at least one formal essay and at least two formal speaking assessments.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should be able to converse, debate and present their ideas on familiar vocabulary and cultural topics. They should be able to read authentic texts and understand conversations about them. Students should have a deeper knowledge of Francophone societies including politics, literature and current events. Students should strive for ACTFL proficiency at an Intermediate High or Advanced Low rating.

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes college-level expectations. Honors students may be asked to present mini lessons reteaching concepts from previous years. They will also be expected to demonstrate more nuanced

understanding and analysis of authentic texts, both on assessments and during class discussions. Honors students may receive additional assignments, including reading and listening logs, throughout the school year. Honors students will be expected to participate in French language conversations outside of class at least once per semester.

Course Title: Latin IV/Latin IV Honors

Grade: 12

Texts Used: Garrison, Daniel H. *The Student's Catullus*. Fourth edition. Oklahoma UP 2012.

Ovid, *Amores*. Selections from Book 1.

Vergil, *Aeneid*. *College Vergil* Geoffery Steadman second edition.

Ovid, *Ars Amatoria*. "Sabine Women."

Livy, *ab Urbe Condita* Book 1 Selections from Geoffrey Steadman.

Livy, Reader Mary Jaeger selections.

Tacitus, Reader Steven H. Rutledge selections.

Overview

This course builds on work completed in Latin III in that students reviewed formal grammar instruction and have experience reading Latin authors. The primary focus of this course is to read and translate selected poetry and prose from Catullus, Vergil, Livy, and Tacitus. Through their readings, students will gain an understanding of Roman society and culture especially with regard to *mos maiorum*, Roman ways, traditions, mores.

This course provides seniors enrolling in Latin the opportunity to read a variety of authors and discuss Roman culture in the first century BCE through the first century CE. Students also examine via textual analysis the literary influences of Catullus on both Vergil and Ovid. In the second semester, students read Roman history in prose from the two most prominent historians of their time, Livy and Tacitus. Students continue their discussion of *mos maiorum* and how it changes over time.

The course reviews grammar, literary devices and metrics within the context of Latin poetry and prose. By the end of the course the students have read about 1600 lines of Latin literature. Honors students read 1800 lines which is equivalent to the Latin AP curriculum. They should be confident in their translating, annotation, and scanning skills.

Music and lyrics are an integral part of the course in connecting themes of betrayal and friendship in the Roman world to our own. This course provides students with other perspectives of the Roman world from writers who are quite different but make equally lasting impressions on Roman literature and people.

Topics Covered

We read selections from Catullus' *Carmina*, Vergil's *Aeneid*, and a variety of writings from Livy and Tacitus. These focus on constructing Roman identity and culture from the authors themselves. Students read differing views on Roman society from writers living in the same time period. By examining all four works of literature and comparing their views on the same events, students can consider how Romans viewed and defined Roman identity. All four texts cover a plethora of topics and discussions reach into other topics in Roman society.

Important Skills and Major Projects

In addition to sharpening their skills in translation, scanning and annotating, students will continue the art of sight reading. Throughout the course, students are given previously unseen passages for translation from authors within and outside of the curriculum. They develop necessary skills to read these passages without the aid of notes or vocabulary. Students continue developing their skills in reading contextualization, textual analysis, and argumentation. Relevant discussion regarding connections between the ancient Roman world and our modern one.

We also continue our discussion and practice on the art of translation. Students consider not only the literal meaning and grammatical use of Latin vocabulary, but also its English equivalent in terms of contextual meaning within the greater work. They translate for literary meaning, but then consider what are the equivalent English idioms and expressions that best represent what the author is writing about in Latin. They complete a project on literal versus literary meaning. The focus of this project is translating a group of poems connected by theme; first very literally, then to transition that translation into a literary translation that would be appealing to their non-Latin reading peers. They write a paper documenting the transformation from literal to literary.

Goals

By the end of this course the students have read a sufficient amount of Latin to consider themselves proficient translators. They should be able to sight read Latin i.e. pick up a Latin text and read it without the aid of vocabulary or grammatical notes. They should be well prepared for college level Latin 4th semester or be able to test out of their language requirement. Students should strive for ACTFL proficiency at an Intermediate High or Advanced Low rating.

Honors Differentiation

- Some additional Latin and English readings.
- Some assignments will be graded on quality rather than completion.
- Students will have an additional test, project, or performance assessment each semester.
- Reading and listening comprehension will have elevated expectations.

Course Title: Spanish IV/Spanish IV Honors

Grade: 12

Texts Used: *Nueva gramática de la lengua española* from the Academic Association of the Spanish Language, *Miles Morales Ondas Sísmicas*, *Saber ver el cine*, *El Cuarto de atrás*, *Autobiografía del algodón*, *Borderlands*, *La Celestina*, *La Casa de los espíritus*, *Historia de España*, *Las Siete partidas*

Overview

The Spanish courses (1-4) primarily center on Content-Based Learning (CBL) which is an instructional approach that integrates language learning with the learning of other subject matter such as history, literature and science. It emphasizes using language as a tool for acquiring knowledge rather than just a focus on language skills themselves. CBL encourages learners to use the target language in meaningful contexts, promoting deeper engagement and understanding of both the language and the content. In this fourth year Spanish students are taking the skills and knowledge they've acquired in the past three years of Spanish into six different units that expand on their interdisciplinary skills. Fourth year is no longer simple responses but complex critical thinking in the target language.

Topics Covered

The course is split up into six units (unidades) that cover certain content and grammar. No new grammar is taught, but students will review and reference grammar they've learned in prior years. The units are as follows:

Unidad 1: Linguistics and Language as a source of identity

Unidad 2: Film analysis

Unidad 3: Francisco Franco and the Spanish Civil war

Unidad 4: Borderlands: The new Mestiza

Unidad 5: Magical realism

Unidad 6: Medieval Spain: La Celestina

Major projects

Students complete a total of four unit projects with one of the biggest being our film project where students in groups create a short film based on the techniques we covered in class.

Goals

The main theme of the course is comparisons, to develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence. By the end of the year students have covered:

- Language Comparisons: Learners use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the nature of language through comparison of the language studied and their own.
- Cultural comparisons: Learners use the language to investigate, explain, and reflect on the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes college-level expectations. Reading and writing assignments may be longer for honors and have elevated expectations on assessments. Students are also expected to complete a unit project for all six units instead of the regular four, and are expected to participate in Spanish language conversations outside of class at least once per semester.

Course Title: Spanish V (Honors)

Grade: 12

Texts Used: *Nueva gramática de la lengua española* from the Academic Association of the Spanish Language, *Las Mocedades de Rodrigo*, *Don Quixote de La Mancha*, *Saber ver el Cine*, *Borderlands*, *Las Siete partidas*

Overview

The Spanish courses (1-4) primarily center on Content-Based Learning (CBL) which is an instructional approach that integrates language learning with the learning of other subject matter such as history, literature and science. It emphasizes using language as a tool for acquiring knowledge rather than just a focus on language skills themselves. CBL encourages learners to use the target language in meaningful contexts, promoting deeper engagement and understanding of both the language and the content. In this fifth year course students have given input to the content they would like to cover with the idea of community in mind.

This honors-level course includes college-level expectations. All students in the course have signed up for honors; therefore, outside of their reading and writing assignments, students are expected to complete a unit project for all six units instead of the regular four in regular Spanish, and are expected to participate in Spanish language conversations outside of class at least twice per semester.

Topics Covered

The course is split up into six units (unidades) that cover certain content and grammar. No new grammar is taught, but students review and reference grammar they've learned in prior years. For the 2025-2026 academic school year the units are as follows:

Unidad 1: Situational grammar/vocabulary

Unidad 2: The Mexican American War - through the perspective of Mexico

Unidad 3: Film Part 2.

Unidad 4: Medieval Spain: Alfonso X and El Cid

Unidad 5: Don Quixote de la Mancha

Unidad 6: Translation

Major Projects

The biggest project the students tackle this upcoming year is a translation project where we help translate documents for a non-profit organization to help the Spanish speaking community here in Lawrence.

Goals

Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- School and Global Communities: Learners use the language both within and beyond the classroom to interact and collaborate in their community and the globalized world.
- Lifelong Learning: Learners set goals and reflect on their progress in using languages for enjoyment, enrichment, and advancement.

Course Title: American Sign Language I:

Discover Sign Language (Self-Guided) (Fall Semester)

Discover Sign Language II (Self-Guided) (Spring Semester)

Grade: 9

Texts Used: [Johnson County Community College accredited ASL courses:](#)

[Discover Sign Language \(Self-Guided\) \(Fall Semester\)](#)

[Discover Sign Language II \(Self-Guided\) \(Spring Semester\)](#)

Overview

Course descriptions courtesy of Johnson County Community College

American Sign Language: Discover Sign Language

Discover the graceful and expressive language of sign language and learn to communicate with anyone, anywhere, just by using your hands! With this American Sign Language (ASL) course, you will unlock this rewarding ability and master communicating with Deaf people.

Throughout your online sign language training course, you will learn to fingerspell the alphabet, sign colors, numbers, objects, and family members and acquire a wide range of useful, everyday vocabulary that

will enable you to engage in meaningful conversations with members of the Deaf community. Using video demonstrations, you will learn to form correct signs and incorporate facial expressions to communicate beautifully in sign language.

Explore the history and usage of American Sign Language (ASL) and how to navigate the culture and social customs of the Deaf community. By the end of this sign language course, the student will be confident and ready to participate in a conversation using the power of sign language.

*if under 15, instructor approval

American Sign Language: Discover Sign Language II

Learn to build phrases and sentences with vocabulary learned in Discover Sign Language, as well as learning new vocabulary. You will practice phrases and sentences by recording your own signing and uploading it for the instructor and classmates to review. Not only that, you will continue to explore the world of Deaf culture through gaining more information on the history of Deaf culture in the United States, famous Deaf individuals, and technological and legal implications on the modern-day Deaf community.

*if under 15, instructor approval

Topics Covered

- Discover Sign Language: ABCs, 123s, finger spelling, introduction to the deaf community and culture
- Discover Sign Language II: Words, phrases, sentences and graduated communication using ASL, further exploration of the Deaf community

Skills and Major Projects

American Sign Language students will become comfortable with the formation of letters, numbers and vocabulary, while also learning fundamentals of corresponding facial expressions, gestures, placement and word/symbol relationships. ASL students will receive an introduction to deaf culture and deaf community norms. At the end of the first semester, each student will submit a final project to an assigned BSA representative before or during mid-term exams. At the end of the second semester, students must take and pass a formal final exam through JCCC.

Goals

Throughout the academic year, students will create and then expand upon a foundation for continued and developing knowledge of American Sign Language, the Deaf and ASL language community, as well as increased competence with word formation and communication using signs.

Considerations

Students requesting ASL for high school language credit on their transcript, must apply during the second semester of their 8th grade year, upon completion of the standard language selection process and proposal. This request must be accompanied by a recent (within 5 years) educational psychological evaluation by a certified practitioner. The introductory courses, as well as all subsequent courses, are self-paced and online through the Johnson County Community College continuing education department. Discover American Sign Language is virtual and the student's cost is \$149. Discover Sign Language II is virtual and the student's cost is \$169. (Fees subject to change per JCCC.) Course enrollment is the responsibility of the student and family and once enrolled the student will have access to materials and six weeks to complete Discover Sign Language and three months to complete requirements and final assessment for Discover Sign

Language II. Student will receive a Pass (for credit) or No Pass (no credit) as relevant on their official transcript.

Course Title: American Sign Language II:
Sign Language III (In Person) (Fall Semester)
Guided ASL Study (Fall & Spring Semester)
Grade: 10
Texts Used: [Sign Language III](#) (In Person) (Fall Semester)
Learning American Sign Language by Tom Humphries, 2nd Edition; ISBN 9780205275533.

Overview

Students will continue the development of vocabulary building with emphasis on comprehension and expressive signing skills. **This course is in-person, at Johnson County Community College 6-8 pm Tu/Tr for 4 weeks. Tuition cost \$129. Students may enroll in the August/September course.*

*if under 15, instructor approval, Prerequisite: Sign Language II or equivalent knowledge

Students will need to continue their study of ASL independently over the course of the semester, while planning and preparing a guided study project to be completed and presented during the Spring semester. During the Spring semester, students will conference weekly with the Academic Support Specialist to demonstrate progress and pacing.

Major Projects

Students should plan to join and engage with the student run ASL Club at Johnson County Community College. <https://jccc.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/asl>.

Students will choose one of the following options for their guided study:

➤ **Create an ASL Learning Resource for Beginners**

Question: *How can I make ASL easier for new learners?*

The student should:

- Identify common mistakes beginners make
- Design a beginner ASL guide, website, video series, or flashcard system
- Teach topics like greetings, emotions, school vocabulary or conversational phrases

Final product: A mini ASL course and digital resource

➤ **ASL in the Real World: Accessibility Audit**

Question: *How accessible is my community for Deaf people?*

The student should:

- Examine local businesses, schools, hospitals, theaters or public spaces
- Research accessibility laws and practices
- Interview people about experiences with accessibility
- Suggest improvements

Final product: Create a report of findings and recommendations

➤ **Compare ASL and Spoken English**

Question: *How is ASL a language, not just a collection of hand signs and gestures?*

The student should explore: ASL grammar

- Facial expressions and body movement
- Word order differences
- Slang and humor

Final product: Well-written research paper and ASL demonstration (either video or in-person)

➤ **Teach ASL to Younger Students**

Question: *Can I create a fun and effective ASL curriculum?*

The student should:

- Make lessons for pre-school or elementary students
- Create a club or teach a mini-class
- Develop games, activities, and assessments

Final product: Curriculum, materials and teaching reflection

Goals

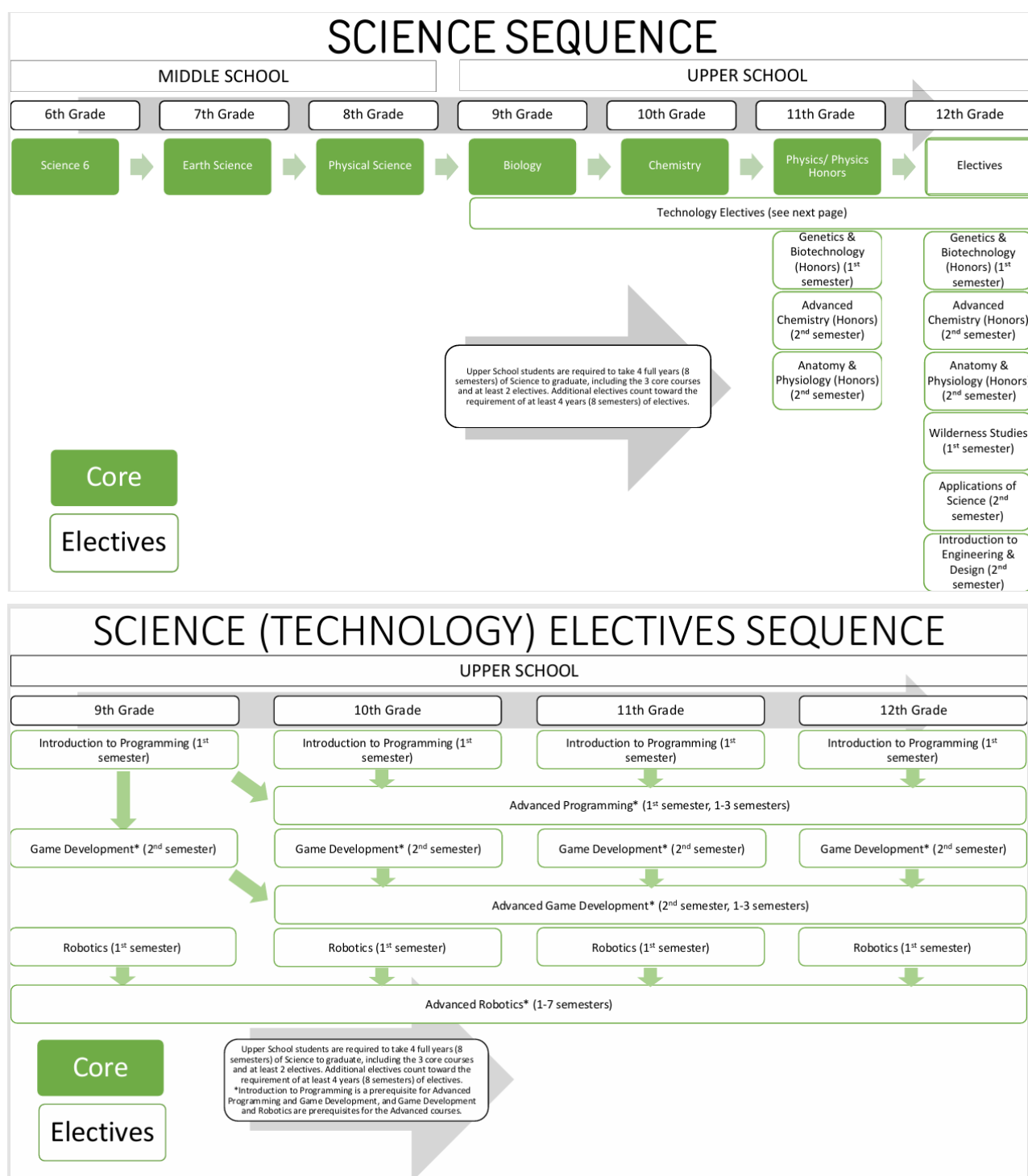
Throughout the academic year, the student will work to increase personal communication skills with competence and respect for Deaf culture and the ASL community, and to increase visibility and information about ASL and Deaf culture at Bishop Seabury Academy and/or the greater Lawrence community through an independent project and presentation.

Considerations

Students continuing ASL for high school language credit on their transcript must demonstrate a commitment to the language and to a full and rigorous exploration of its expression and use. The off-campus course, as well as any subsequent courses, either on-line or in-person, the student chooses to engage with as practice, are offered through the Johnson County Community College continuing education department. Courses to be considered as supplementary can be found in their [ASL course catalog](#). Sign Language III is in-person, at Johnson County Community College, 6-8 pm Tu/Tr for 4 weeks. Tuition cost \$129. Students should enroll in the August/September course, unless given permission to enroll in the November/December course. (Fees are subject to change per JCCC.) Course enrollment is the responsibility of the student and family and once enrolled the student will have access to materials with three months to complete. Students will receive a Pass (for credit) or No Pass (no credit) as relevant on their official transcript.

Science Sequence Overview

Students in the sixth grade take Science 6 where they are given a strong foundation in Investigative Science, Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. Seventh graders take Earth Science, which builds on the sixth-grade content in all areas of science and includes a solid foundation of Earth Science topics. In the eighth grade, Physical Science prepares students for Upper School science courses by reinforcing concepts in physics and chemistry that are foundational to all of the sciences and by further developing process skills.



Upper School students are required to take four full years (eight semesters) of science to graduate. Our Upper School science curriculum for grades 9-12 emphasizes the content knowledge and process skills necessary for success in college and beyond, framed by experiences designed to stimulate curiosity and maintain interest in the sciences. Ninth grade Biology is a lab-centered course that explores topics in life science. Tenth grade Chemistry develops major themes in chemistry, such as atomic theory, periodicity, bonding, reactions, and energy, through practical problems that stimulate diverse laboratory activities; many labs are multi-day experiences that require students to refine and revisit their work. Ninth and tenth grade

students also have the option to take Introduction to Programming (fall semester), Game Development (spring semester), Robotics (fall semester), and Advanced Robotics (spring semester) as science electives; tenth grade students who have taken the prerequisites can take Advanced Programming (fall semester), Advanced Game Development (spring semester), and Advanced Robotics (fall and/or spring semester). Eleventh grade students take Physics or Honors Physics; these courses help further develop skills in critical thinking and problem solving. In addition to the electives listed above, electives for eleventh grade students include Genetics & Biotechnology (fall semester), Advanced Chemistry (spring semester), and Anatomy and Physiology (spring semester). By the end of the twelfth grade year, students need to have taken two semester-long electives. In addition to the electives listed above, they may elect to take Wilderness Studies fall semester and Applications of Science or Introduction to Engineering & Design spring semester.

It is our hope that students exiting the science program at Bishop Seabury Academy continue to be fascinated by the natural world, and find themselves prepared with the experience and background to be successful in the sciences at the college level.

Course Title: Science 6

Grade: 6

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

The sixth grade science course focuses on nurturing scientific curiosity and guiding scientific inquiry as well as providing broad exposure to physical, chemical, and life science subjects. It aims to give students a strong foundational knowledge and understanding of core science subjects while focusing on hands-on, interactive explorations, general investigative procedures, and critical thinking skills.

Topics Covered

- The Nature of Science
- Inquiry Based Processes
- Force
- Motion
- Energy Transformation
- Visible Light
- Sound
- Atoms
- Elements
- Molecules and Bonding
- Compounds
- Cell Theory
- Plant and Animal Cells
- Human Body Systems

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be expected to utilize the following skills:

- Curiosity
- Observation

- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork
- Experimental Modeling
- Scientific History and Philosophy

Students will complete Holiday Engineering Challenges during the first semester and will complete an individual Science and Engineering Fair project during the second semester.

Goals

Upon completion of this course students should be able to discuss and explain basic topics within physical, chemical, and life sciences, maintain a strong sense of curiosity and engagement regarding scientific subjects, and strengthen their critical thinking capabilities. This class will prepare students to be successful in higher-level coursework.

Course Title: Earth Science

Grades: 7

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

The seventh grade science course focuses on Earth Science and furthers students' knowledge of physical, chemical, and life sciences as it relates to the topics studied. This course aims to deepen understanding of core science subjects while focusing on hands-on, interactive explorations, general investigative procedures, and critical thinking skills.

Topics Covered

- The Nature of Science
- Inquiry Based Processes
- Biological Ecosystems
- Environmental Science
- Geology
- Geological Science
- Biological Classification
- Genetics
- Natural Selection
- Space Science
- Engineering Modeling and Design

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be expected to utilize the following skills:

- Curiosity
- Observation
- Critical Thinking
- Teamwork
- Experimental Modeling
- Scientific History and Philosophy

A portion of class time each week during the first semester will be dedicated to completing a group Future City project.

Goals

Upon completion of this course students should be able to discuss and explain basic earth science topics, maintain a strong sense of curiosity and engagement regarding scientific subjects, and strengthen their critical thinking capabilities. This class will prepare students to be successful in higher-level coursework.

Course Title: Physical Science

Grade: 8

Texts Used: *Conceptual Integrated Science Explorations*. Addison-Wesley, supplemented with relevant online resources

Overview

This course is introductory in nature and will provide students with the necessary tools and skills to be successful in high school Physics and Chemistry. The focus of this course will be on science skills and the scientific process. Students will have a chance to learn and apply these skills and processes as they explore topics in physics and chemistry, building further on topics covered in Grades 6 and 7.

Topics Covered

First Semester

- Basics of Kinematics & Graphing of Motion
- Newton's Three Laws of Motion
- Work, Energy, Power
- DC Electricity
- Waves & Sound
- Light & Optics

Second Semester

- Classification and Phases of Matter
- Elements, Molecules, Compounds & Nomenclature
- Periodic Table Trends
- Chemical Bonding
- Chemical Reaction Types
- Science Topic of Interest: Research and Presentation

Skills and Major Projects

The 8th grade class will have a prominent lab component. Students leaving the course should be comfortable with an array of chemical and physical lab skills applications. They should be prepared and knowledgeable in content for future labs and hands-on experiences. Other skills stressed during this course are collaboration, proper lab safety, critical thinking and data analysis..

In order to gain a firm understanding of the processes that scientists use to investigate the nature of our world, students will be expected to complete a number of labs and corresponding text assignments and problem sets throughout the year. A major project of the second semester will be the Science Topic of Interest Project, which students will present to the class as a portion of their final for the second semester.

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to discuss and explain the basics of physics and chemistry along with improving their critical thinking capability. They will be well prepared to be successful in higher-level coursework and standardized testing in the sciences.

Course Title: **Biology**

Grade: **9**

Texts Used: ***CK-12 Biology for High School FlexBook* accessed online**

Overview

Biology is taught in the ninth-grade year. This course is introductory in nature and is designed to provide the student with basic knowledge of biological principles and applications. This course will help to prepare students for the rigors of advanced work in biological science. At the end of the course students should have a basic understanding of the major themes of biology including evolution, interdependence of organisms, matter and energy, cell structure and function, reproduction and inheritance, and stability and homeostasis.

Topics Covered

In the fall, time is spent outside where students conduct field studies to explore topics in evolution and ecology, including adaptations and biodiversity. In the spring, the course culminates with a self-paced experience in animal anatomy and physiology.

- Evolution & Ecology
- Biochemistry
- Cells & Cell Transport
- Bioenergetics (Photosynthesis & Cellular Respiration)
- Cell Cycle & Protein Synthesis
- Heredity & Biotechnology
- Reproduction & Development
- Animal Anatomy & Physiology

Skills and Major Projects

The ninth grade Biology course will have a significant lab component. Students leaving the course should be comfortable with an array of lab skills and experiences. They should be energized and knowledgeable for future labs and hands-on experiences. Students will complete research about current science news and an independent project as well. Other skills emphasized will be:

- Observation
- Field and Lab Safety and Techniques
- Modeling
- Experimental Design
- History & Philosophy of Science

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to discuss and explain the basic topics within biology and will have improved their critical thinking capability. They will be well prepared to be successful in higher-level coursework and standardized testing in the biological sciences.

Course Title: Chemistry
Grade: 10
Texts Used: *Chemistry (Prentice Hall)*

Overview

This course is designed to provide the student with a fundamental knowledge of chemistry to prepare them for further chemistry study at the college level. The course includes classroom and laboratory experiences covering an array of chemistry topics leading to an understanding of fundamental chemical facts and principles.

Topics Covered

- Introduction to Chemistry
- Matter and Change
- Scientific Measurement
- Chemical Quantities (The Mole)
- Atomic Structure and Electrons in Atoms
- The Periodic Table and Chemical Periodicity
- Ionic and Covalent Bonding
- Chemical Names and Formulas
- Chemical Reactions
- Stoichiometry
- The Behavior of Gases
- Thermochemistry
- Acids, Bases and Salts
- Oxidation and Reduction Reactions
- Hydrocarbon Compounds

Skills and Major Projects

This course will emphasize a breadth of topics and chemical facts that build the student's vocabulary and comprehension of chemical information, including applications to the student's understanding of chemistry in the "real world". Chemistry information is reinforced and in some cases revealed through the use of hands-on laboratory experiments and through the instructor's chemical demonstrations. Additional skills emphasized are chemical laboratory safety, teamwork in science, the design and use of the experimental method to test hypotheses, and proper laboratory write-up procedures.

Goals

This course will prepare students to recognize and reasonably communicate the basic qualitative and quantitative principles of general chemistry. The chemistry course among the sequence of science courses offered will further develop students' quantitative and critical thinking skills to help prepare them for the successful completion of advanced coursework and assessment in the chemical sciences.

Course Title: Physics/Physics Honors
Grade: 11
Texts Used: *Holt Physics*

Overview

This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of the fundamental knowledge of Physics and physical science related phenomena. In addition, students will be prepared for further study of Physics at the post secondary level. The course provides students classroom and laboratory experiences related to the listed topics, leading to a greater understanding of principles and underlying facts used to identify and solve problems in the physical science realm.

Topics Covered

First Semester

- Math and Measurement in Physics
- Kinematics -Describing Motion
- Dynamics & Newton's Laws of Motion
- Frictional Forces
- Physics Topic of Interest Project:
(Both Research and Presentation)

Second Semester

- Work, Energy, Power
- SHM, Waves, & Sound
- Properties of EMR
- Visible EMR & Optics
- Principles of DC Electricity
- Physics Topic of Interest Project:
(Both Research and Presentation)

*Note: The Honors Course differs from regular physics in the rigor of assignments, exams, and projects.

Skills and Major Projects

This course will feature a meaningful lab component aligned with content presented to the student during each semester. Students leaving the course should be more adept at critical thinking and data analysis along with developing content specific literacy for further application of gained knowledge in future post scholastic endeavors. Featured in the second semester will be the Physics Specific Topic of Interest Project, in which students will research on an agreed upon area of interest and then present the findings of their research to the class. (This project will serve as a portion of their final for the second semester.)

Goals

Students will come to understand fundamental concepts of physics through the development of: critical thinking skills, tools for proper analysis of data collected in the laboratory, and increased content specific literacy. Ultimately, the student should have a broader understanding of the fundamental concepts of physics and be able to utilize that understanding in future post scholastic endeavors.

Honors Differentiation

The honors-level course includes college-level expectations and differs from the non-honors section in the following ways:

- Additional problem set assignments
- Additional problems on some sets of homework
- More difficult problems on exams and or additional exam problems
- Additional project assignments
- Answers are expected to be on the level of an honors student for all explanations and as such will be graded to that level
- Some labs/projects will have additional requirements/rigor for honors students

Course Title: Introduction to Programming (Fall Semester)
Grade: 9-12 (may count as a Science elective credit)
Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Students will be introduced to programming logic, how a computer thinks, programming structures, variables, conditional statements, loops, and more. Students will learn through block coding with App Inventor, and then move on to actual coding in Python, C++, C# and Java (may be in this class or next class). Students will be using CodeCombat as a programming remediation tool. Students also will be introduced to flowcharting and SCRUM. Team building and problem solving will be explored and encouraged in this class.

Topics Covered

- Programming Logic
- Create variables and understanding types
- Programming Languages
- Planning of Programs
- Conditional statements: If then else.....
- Problem Solving
- Team building
- Algorithms
- Events - trigger something to happen
- Visual Studio and other compilers

Skills and Major Projects

Students will build a computer app for phone/tablets with MIT App Inventor block code. Students will work through Ozaria levels to reinforce programming skills learned in class. Students will then learn to code in C++ simple programs in which they will first pseudo code and create a flowchart and then program. Then students will learn to translate programs into other languages. Python will be explored to see how it can be a quick and fast programming language for math and science.

Goals

Gain a strong understanding of programming logic and design/planning of programs, and then see how they can translate into the other coding languages. Planning is needed to make a good product/project.

Course Title: Advanced Programming (Fall Semester)
Grade: 10-12 (may count as a Science elective credit)
Texts Used: N/A

Overview

This course will expand on programming logic, how a computer thinks, programming structures, variables, conditional statements, loops, and more. Students also will create flowcharts and SCRUM. Team building and problem-solving will be explored and encouraged in this class.

*Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite for this course.

Topics Covered

- Programming Logic
- Create Database Relationships
- Database Tables
- Data Queries
- Creating links in programs
- Programming Languages
- Planning of Programs
- Problem Solving
- Team building
- Algorithms
- Events - trigger something to happen
- Visual Studio & MySQL and other compilers

Skills and Major Projects

Students will expand their learning code in C++ simple programs in which they will first pseudo code, create a flowchart, and then program. Then students will learn to translate programs into other languages. Python may be explored to see how it can be a quick and fast programming language for math and science.

Students will learn database programming, learn relationships, unions, and more. Students will combine programming with databases.

Goals

Gain a strong understanding of programming logic and design/planning of programs, and then see how they can translate into other coding languages. Planning is needed to make a good product/project.

Course Title: Game Development (Spring Semester)
Grade: 9-12 (may count as a Science elective credit)
Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Students will expand their Introduction to Programming skills to gaming. Students will learn to use Blender to create objects that could eventually be used in Unity for gaming programs. Students will run created objects in other products and then can move them through Mixamo to add animation and rigor. Planning and design will be learned, as well as storyboarding and flowcharting. Students will use Visual Studio C# to create scripts. Some light physics will be used/learned.

*Introduction to Programming is a prerequisite for this course.

Topics Covered

- Programming Logic
- Creating Variable and understanding types
- Storyboarding
- Problem Solving

- Events - trigger something to happen (code objects)
- Visual Studio C#
- Blender
- Mixamo

Skills and Major Projects

Students will build a computer app for phone/tablets with MIT App Inventor block code. They will create objects in Blender. Students will use Unity to create a vehicle that moves and hits objects. Students will create a flying game.

Goals

Gain a strong understanding of gaming products and design/planning of programs. Planning is needed to make a good product/project. Learning these products can lead to other areas of animation, 3D printing, and more.

Course Title: Advanced Game Development (Spring Semester)

Grade: 10-12 (may count as a Science elective credit)

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Students will apply their programming, gaming development, and game design skills to gaming. Students will learn to use Blender or other products to create objects that could eventually be used in Unity for gaming programs. Students will run created objects in other products and then can move them through Mixamo to add animation and rigor. Planning and design will be learned, as well as storyboarding and flowcharting. Students will use Visual Studio C# to create scripts. Some light physics will be used/learned. This course is project-based.

*Game Development is a prerequisite for this course.

Topics Covered

- Programming Logic
- Creating Variable and understanding types
- Storyboarding
- Problem-Solving
- Events - trigger something to happen (code objects)
- Visual Studio C#
- Blender or Other
- Mixamo

Skills and Major Projects

Students will build a computer app for phone/tablets with MIT App Inventor block code. They will create objects in Blender. Students will use Unity to create a vehicle that moves and hits objects. Students will create a flying game.

Goals

Gain a strong understanding of gaming products and design/planning of programs. Planning is needed to make a good product/project. Learning these products can lead to other areas of animation, 3D printing, and more.

Course Title: Robotics (Fall Semester)
Grade: 9-12 (may count as a Science elective credit)
Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Students will learn safety and basic electricity skills (and touch on Ohm's Law). They will learn how to use resistors (so students do not blow out a light, sensor, or board). Students will learn basic programming and will use Ozaria to practice and reinforce these skills. Students will begin with Arduino kits, which contain breadboards, Arduino boards, lights, and sensors. Students will learn to keep journals or responses as they work on their projects. Students will learn engineering journaling and the engineering process, which is required for some robotic competitions. Then students will move on to VEX robots. Students will need to work in a team for some projects. There will be an opportunity to compete in robotic competitions at some point.

Topics Covered

- Programming Logic
- Learn about circuits
- Creating Variable and understanding types
- Problem Solving
- Events - trigger something to happen (code objects)
- Arduino IDE
- Use C++
- Learn the engineering process and journaling
- Team projects
- Ohm's Calculator
- VEX (language is a C base)

Skills and Major Projects

Students will build circuits with no programming, including battery fan cars or other. Then students will take those skills and apply complex circuits and programming to create other robotics. Students will learn to keep engineering journals and the engineering process. There will be projects using Arduino VEX kits.

Goals

Learn low level electricity skills, safety, and how circuits work. Learn entry level programming, many Arduino projects with different sensors, and VEX kit. Learn to keep good engineering journals and the engineering process.

Course Title: Advanced Robotics
Grade: 9-12 (may count as a Science elective credit)
Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Students' electricity skills will be increased, including understanding how to use resistors on their own. Students will learn Java for Tetrrix (if available) or Vex programming and will continue with Ozaria to practice. Students will expand their knowledge of Arduino. Students will use the engineering design process for projects required for some robotic competitions. Students may learn how to 3D print parts for their robotic projects. Students will create their own projects. Students will need to work in a team for some projects. There will be an opportunity to compete in robotic competitions at some point.

*Robotics is a prerequisite for this course.

Topics Covered

- Programming Logic in detailed
- Electrical skills will be increased
- 3D printing - Autodesk Fusion 360 to build parts
- Arduino IDE
- Use C++/Java
- Use the engineering process and journaling
- Team projects
- Ohm's Calculator
- Tetrrix

Skills and Major Projects

Students may do a Tetrrix team project, create a 3D printing project, and/or create their own robotic projects using any of the robotic types learned.

Goals

Increase electricity skills. Learn to use a 3D printer. Program many or most of their Arduino and VEX projects. Learn Tetrrix if available. Practice keeping good engineering journals and the engineering process.

Course Title: Genetics & Biotechnology (Honors) (Fall Semester)

Grade: 11/12 (may count as a Science elective credit)

Texts Used: Various online resources

Overview

Genetics & Biotechnology is an honors-level biology elective for juniors and seniors interested in an in-depth study of molecular genetics, Mendelian genetics, and genetic biotechnologies. This lab-intensive course will be centered around numerous case studies. Through incorporation of Advanced Placement labs, skills, and concepts, this course will also help prepare those students who may be planning to take the AP Biology Examination for a potential opportunity to receive college credit. However, because the AP Biology Examination assesses all topics of an introductory biology college course, it is recommended that students take the other biology electives offered at Bishop Seabury Academy and learn the remaining material independently before taking the AP exam.

*Students need to have earned a grade of A or B in Biology and Chemistry to enroll in this course.

Topics Covered

- Cell Cycle & Cancer
- Meiosis & Genetic Selection
- Heredity & Cloning
- DNA & DNA Profiling
- Gene Expression & Bioinformatics
- Transformation & Genetic Engineering

Skills and Major Projects

In order to gain a firm understanding of the processes that scientists use to investigate the nature of our world, students will be expected to complete numerous laboratory reports and projects throughout the semester, including construction of a DNA model and research and presentation of a genetic disease. Students will be guided through the processes but be responsible for completing this work on their own time. In addition, students will be expected to work and will be evaluated in peer groups on a regular basis in this class. Being able to have discussions and work effectively in groups is an important skill for college and beyond. Also, discussing material is one of the best ways to both increase understanding of material and reinforce it so it becomes part of more long-term versus short-term memory.

Goals

In addition to giving students the opportunity to gain the skills and concepts to be successful on the relevant portions of the Advanced Placement Exam, goals of this course include students learning and tackling scientific problems both independently and by working effectively with others. Special emphasis will be placed on mastery of advanced lab and research techniques as well as the ability to analyze current issues in bioethics.

Course Title: Advanced Chemistry (Honors) (Spring Semester)

Grade: 11/12 (may count as a Science elective credit)

Texts Used: *Chemistry*, 7th ed., Zumdahl

Overview

Advanced Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course taken during the first year of college. Lab skills and experimental design are emphasized.

*Students need to have earned a grade of A or B in Biology and Chemistry to enroll in this course.

Topics Covered

- Atoms, Reactions, and Stoichiometry: From Macroscopic to Nanoscopic
- Reactions Involving Electron Transfer: SR, Redox, and Electrochemistry
- The Driving Forces: Chemical Energy and Thermodynamics
- Atomic and Molecular Structure: Covalent, Ionic, and Metallic Bonds
- Particles and Interactions: Gases & Intermolecular Forces
- Kinetics: How Fast Does it Go?
- General and Solubility Equilibrium: How Far Does it Go?
- Acid-Base Equilibrium: Does it Produce or Absorb Protons?

Skills and Major Projects

- Quantitatively and qualitatively describe matter and its changes by applying concepts of liquids, solids, gases, solutions, chemical reactions, atomic theory, chemical bonding, nuclear chemistry, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics, and thermodynamics.
- Apply and analyze chemical concepts through chemical calculations such as percent composition, molar masses, empirical formulas, gas laws, mole fractions, chemical kinetics, and standard electrode potentials and their use.
- Create, conduct, and analyze the laboratory experiments to engage and reinforce learning of concepts taught throughout the course.
- Demonstrate critical and independent thinking and an appreciation for the natural world.

Goals

Students successfully completing this course will be endowed with an exceptional understanding of the fundamentals of chemistry and achieve proficiency in solving chemical problems. This course will contribute to the development of each student's ability to think critically and to express their ideas, in both oral and written fashion, with clarity and logic.

Course Title: Anatomy & Physiology (Honors) (Spring Semester)

Grade: 11/12 (may count as a Science elective credit)

Texts Used: Various texts and online resources

Overview

This course is an honors-level biology elective for juniors and seniors interested in an intensive study of human anatomy and physiology with a focus on medical applications. This course is comparable to and will help prepare students for a college-level Anatomy & Physiology course. Students proceed through the study of each major system of the human body at their own pace, and progress to the next pair of systems by mastery of an oral quiz, a written quiz, and a practicum. Additionally, students may have opportunities to hear from professionals in a variety of healthcare fields through guest seminars and/or field trips. Upon successful completion of the course work, students have the opportunity to work with the teacher to help and quiz other students in the class, as well as act as their patients during practicums.

*Students need to have earned a grade of A or B in Biology and Chemistry to enroll in this course.

Topics Covered

- Histology & Integumentary System
- Skeletal & Muscular Systems
- Respiratory & Digestive Systems
- Circulatory & Immune Systems
- Nervous & Endocrine Systems
- Reproductive & Urinary Systems

Skills and Projects

Since the course is self-paced, students will need to assume responsibility for their own learning and pacing. Along the way they will have hands-on opportunities and gain skills through specimen observations, dissections, advanced laboratory activities, synthesis of information to diagnose and treat illnesses,

assessment of vital signs, and first aid training and practice. In addition, working with peers to learn and teach each other the material is highly encouraged as well as an important strategy and skill for college and beyond.

Goals

The main purpose of this course is to deepen appreciation and understanding of the human body, with its fascinating structures and functions, and for the injuries, diseases, and treatments that students or those around them may experience during their lifetime. Those students who decide to pursue a career in the advanced sciences or healthcare specifically will be prepared for other rigorous science courses in the future.

Course Title: Wilderness Studies (Fall Semester)
Grade: 12 (may count as a Science elective credit)
Texts Used: Various readings

Overview

Wilderness Studies is an upper division elective class whose common themes are the health of our local and global environment and the well-being of inhabitants of Kansas and beyond. This unique class is student-centered and includes field trip opportunities and learning not typically found in a high school science class. Topics of study and research include protected area conservation, watershed conservation, pollution ecology, water law, wilderness, public land use, agriculture, threatened species, climate change, natural resources, survival and wilderness first aid. The experiential opportunities in the class vary depending on student interest. Students will gain confidence and knowledge while learning how to fish, paddleboard, hike, canoe, camp, climb, and backpack.

Topics Covered

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Climate Change
- Sustainability
- Wilderness Travel
- Watersheds
- Soils
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Public Land Management
- First Aid
- Natural Resources
- Paddling
- Climbing

Skills and Major Projects

Students will write a number of reflective essays and give presentations of research topics. Student teams will produce a unique culminating project. They will have the opportunity to learn a variety of skills that will help them appreciate the outdoors for the rest of their lives.

Goals

The goal of the class is to broaden the horizons of its students in the outdoors, to inspire them to travel and experience happiness outside, and to teach them awareness of our planet and its ecology.

Course Title: Applications of Science (Spring Semester)

Grade: 12 (may count as a Science elective credit)

Texts Used: Engineering: An Introduction for High School (CK-12)

Overview

In this course students will investigate the ways in which scientific ideas and principles are applied to real world jobs and fields including those in the Engineering fields. Applications of Science is a hands-on, project-oriented exploration of technologies and techniques where students make practical application of the science and math they have learned, while gaining a deeper insight into how science shapes many aspects of our world and many occupations.

Topics Covered

- The nature of engineering and its application to everyday items
- Science and its role in society
- Applications of science in various fields
- Material sciences and how the everyday shapes the extraordinary
- Everyday chemistry
- Statistics and science how they are related

Skills and Projects

Students will develop a variety of skills by engaging in the following items:

- My college “plan”
- Bridges for strength and value
- Building to last- a materials science project
- A research project into the lesser known applications of science
- Completing projects and tasks for the greater school community

Goals

The goal of this course is to provide students an opportunity to become more familiar with how science is used in various occupational fields including those that are typically not associated with it. Through this students will further develop an inquisitive and analytical mind. Emphasis is placed on the development of personal responsibility and the ability to see projects and efforts through to successful completion, as well as research into various fields of science.

Course Title: Introduction to Engineering & Design (Spring Semester)

Grade: 12 (may count as a Science elective credit)

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

In this introductory engineering and design course, upper-level high school students will gain exposure to one of today's fastest growing industries. In the first half of the course, participants will work individually and in groups to learn about engineering and perform various design challenges. In the second half of the course, students will complete a major design project where they will perform research to select a challenge, define design requirements, and create multiple solution approaches. Teams of students will then select an approach, and create, construct, and test their solution prototype. Student teams will present and defend their original solution to a panel of engineers. Throughout the course, students will hone their organizational, communication and interpersonal skills, develop their creative and problem solving abilities, and support their aptitude for critical thinking.

Students will also have the opportunity to learn about the increasing number of disciplines within the field of engineering through guest lectures and classroom discussion. This course will also examine the professional ethics of engineering and evaluate what accountability engineers have to society and to the environment.

Topics Covered

- Engineering disciplines
- Engineering in college and the professional world
- Professional ethics
- Engineering Design Process
- Engineering Modeling
- Communicating Solutions

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be expected to utilize the following skills:

- Project Management
- Team collaboration
- Problem Solving
- Communication and Presentation Skills
- Technical Writing

Students will complete a Capstone Design Project in the second half of the course.

Goals

The major purpose of this course is to introduce students to engineering and how it is used in every facet of our modern lives. Students will be exposed to the engineering design process and will hone their critical thinking and problem solving skills. Those students who are interested in pursuing a future career in engineering will be well prepared to begin engineering studies in higher education.

Mathematics Sequence Overview

The Math Department's goal is to teach each student to his or her highest ability. Each student will master fundamental algebraic skills including simplifying expressions, solving equations, graphing, and modeling. Every student is expected to take seven years of math. Teachers strive to make the material accessible to all students.

A calculator is required in all classes, although there are times when it is not used. These occasions vary according to teachers and topics. Graphing Calculators are required for Algebra I and beyond.

All incoming sixth grade students are placed into the Math 6 class. Both classes will use the same basic curriculum, but one may be an accelerated, enrichment-based class depending on the abilities of the students, while the other will be more focused on foundational math skills with review as needed. Placement is made by the math department and is based on a combination of factors including a Seabury placement test, standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, student comments in their application, and sometimes student interviews.

Students usually follow the standard Math sequence. The sequence is Math 6, Prealgebra, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus, and Calculus I. Students who enter the school any year other than sixth grade may follow a different sequence depending on their experience, which may include taking Honors Calculus I and Honors Calculus II. Students in twelfth grade may take Statistics instead of or as an elective in addition to Precalculus or Calculus. Students in eleventh grade may take Statistics as an elective in addition to Precalculus or Calculus. Other Math options include online classes or classes offered through the University of Kansas.

The math department currently consists of four teachers, all full-time. The teachers are knowledgeable and experienced in their field. The teachers truly care about their students and are committed to helping them master the material.

The curriculum is advanced in that nearly every student gets seven years of math and most take at least one calculus course. The curriculum and the teachers accommodate the different ability levels of students.

Course Title: Math 6
Grade: 6
Texts Used: *All Things Algebra*

Overview

This course is a beginning course in mathematics offered to incoming sixth graders. It covers the skills that are fundamental to the math courses offered at Bishop Seabury Academy. The purpose of the course is to develop students' number sense and problem solving strategies. This course covers prerequisite skills needed for students to be successful in seventh grade Prealgebra.

Topics Covered

- The Number System
 - Whole numbers and decimals including factorization, least common multiple and greatest common factor, and all basic operations with whole numbers and decimals.
 - Fractions—relationship between fractions and decimals, modeling fractions, all basic operations with fractions.
 - Rational numbers—introduction of positive and negative numbers, absolute value, the coordinate plane, operations with integers.
- Ratios and Rates

- o Using ratios and rates—equivalent ratios, unit rates, equivalent ratios and graphs
- o Representation of percents, percents as fractions and decimals; Finding percents of a quantity and finding the whole from a percent.
- o Converting units, distance rate and time formulas
- Expressions and Equations
 - o Exponents, expressions with exponents; writing and evaluating algebraic expressions, using algebraic expressions, identify equivalent expressions
 - o Equations and inequalities—solutions of equations, writing equations, writing inequalities and solving, graphing inequalities
 - o Relationships between variables, independent and dependent variables, equations and tables, graphing relationships, equations and graphs.
- Geometry and statistics
 - o Areas of 2 dimensional figures, Surface Area and Volume, Formulas and how to use them.
 - o Data displays and interpretations, mean, median, mode and range. Frequency tables, outliers.

Skills

In this course, students will develop a solid foundation in operations with numbers, measurement, geometry, data analysis and probability, problem solving, and basic algebra.

Goals

At the end of this course, students will be prepared to be successful in the Prealgebra course offered at Bishop Seabury Academy.

Course Title: Prealgebra

Grade: 7

Texts Used: *Pre-Algebra: Glencoe/McGraw-Hill*

Overview

Students will progress from working with numerical expressions to manipulating algebraic expressions. Procedures for solving equations will be introduced early in the course. Students will receive specific, carefully developed instruction in problem solving. Mathematical reasoning exercises will help students to reason logically, perceive spatially, discover patterns, generalize, test conjectures, organize and analyze data.

Topics Covered

- Algebraic Expressions and Properties of Arithmetic
- Operations with Integers
- Operations with Rational Numbers
- Writing and Solving multi-step linear equations and inequalities
- Solving problems involving ratios, proportions, percentages, and unit conversions
- Writing and Graphing Linear Functions.
- Exponents and Properties of Powers
- Square Roots and the Real Numbers
- Topics in Statistics and Probability

Skills and Major Projects

Students will develop the skills required to make the transition from arithmetic to algebra as they practice evaluating expressions with whole numbers, integers and rational numbers while reinforcing the idea of variables. They will develop the understanding and the thinking skills they will need for future work in mathematics.

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to understand and apply basic algebraic skills to real world mathematical problems and will be well prepared to advance to the Algebra I course.

Course Title: Algebra I

Grades: 8

Texts Used: *All Things Algebra*

Overview

This course is intended to give the student a solid foundation in the fundamentals of algebra. The text used emphasizes applications as the reason for learning algebraic techniques of simplifying expressions, solving equations and modeling real world phenomena.

The student is expected to memorize and use basic arithmetic and algebra facts, and standard algebraic techniques. Additionally, the student is expected to apply this knowledge in application type problems by translating words into symbols and using a variety of problem-solving techniques. Perhaps most importantly, the student is expected to see and understand the connections between equations, functions and graphs, and to see algebraic techniques as tools in the more important process of problem-solving.

All students will possess and use a graphing calculator. Instructions in its use will occur throughout the course.

Topics Covered

- Expressions, equations, and functions
- Linear Equations: including solving 1, 2, and multi-step equations, ratios and proportions, percent of change, and dimensional analysis
- Linear Functions: graphing, rate of change and slope, direct variation, arithmetic sequences
- Writing equations of lines
- Linear inequalities: solving and graphing, inequalities and absolute values
- Systems of linear equations and inequalities and methods to solve
- Exponents and exponential functions
- Quadratic expressions and equations
- Solving quadratic equations and graphing quadratic functions
- Operations with polynomials and radicals
- Radical functions and applications to geometry
- Rational functions and equations
- Matrices

Skills and Major Projects

The student will attain the ability to solve problems in a variety of applications. The student will be able to use the algebraic techniques of problem solving to: identify an unknown quantity as a variable, set up an equation, understand relationships between variables, find solutions that satisfy the above equations, and test solutions.

The student will also be able to use a graphing calculator as a necessary tool to facilitate the problem solving approach.

Goals

At the end of this course the student will be able to apply linear and quadratic equations and the algebraic techniques associated with them to a variety of applications. The student will also have mastered a variety of skills on the graphing calculator commensurate with the demands of the course. Using these skills, the student will be able to analyze the functions associated with these applications and will be well prepared for Algebra II.

Course Title: Geometry/Geometry Pre-Honors

Grades: 8, 9, 10

Texts Used: *Discovering Geometry* Key Curriculum Press

Overview

This course is intended to give the student exposure to important concepts in logical reasoning, proof and problem-solving through the study of geometry. The text uses a sequential approach in covering definitions, postulates and theorems and students begin writing proofs of theorems using both formal (direct) and informal (inductive) proofs.

The student is expected to memorize and use definitions, postulates and theorems, and to recall graphing and algebra facts from previous courses. A student should be able to compute and calculate using these facts. Most importantly, the student will be able to solve real world applications using the postulates, theorems, and formulas developed throughout the course.

Topics Covered

- Points, lines, planes and angles
- Deductive and inductive reasoning
- Parallel lines and planes
- Congruent triangles
- Quadrilaterals
- Similar and congruent polygons
- Right triangle theorems and applications
- Basic trigonometry of right triangles and non-right triangles
- Circles
- Constructions(physical and technology supported)
- Areas and perimeters of plane figures
- Areas and volumes of solids
- Transformations

- Coordinate geometry (as time permits)
- Applications of Probability (as time permits)

Skills and Major Projects

The student will attain the ability to prove a mathematical statement by reasoning logically either directly, indirectly or by contradiction using definitions, postulates, or previously proved theorems. This skill is one of the major fundamentals of mathematics.

Additional skills involve the ability to understand and work with a variety of abstract concepts in Euclidian Geometry, including the concept of a point, lines, planes, space and the variety of problems associated with them. Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of multiple concepts through the development of projects related to common usages of geometric concepts.

Goals

At the end of the course the student should be able to read, write and understand proofs and their impact and necessity in mathematics. The student will also be able to work with many geometric concepts that will carry over into many of the sciences including physics, architecture, landscaping and conservation, engineering and their associated fields of study.

Pre-Honors Differentiation

Pre-Honors will include preparation for further honors-level work. Pre-Honors will have additional lessons each chapter and will have different tests with more complicated, higher-level questions. Students will also complete an additional chapter before the end of the year.

Course Title: Algebra II/Algebra II Pre-Honors
Grades: 9, 10, 11
Texts Used: *Intermediate Algebra 2e; OpenStax*

Overview

This course follows Geometry and is followed by Precalculus or Statistics. It is intended to provide the student a thorough understanding of many different functions, with particular emphasis on finding the value of a variable when the value of an expression is known, finding the value of an expression when the value of a variable is known, graphing, and using expressions and equations to model real world situations. Matrix algebra is included in this course as it applies to solving linear equations.

The student is expected to memorize and use algebra facts, standard algebraic techniques, and the general equations and graphs of each type of function. The student is expected to apply this knowledge in mathematical modeling problems by translating words into symbols and using a variety of problem-solving techniques. The student is expected to understand the connections that tie together independent and dependent variables, equations, functions and graphs, and to be able to construct mathematical models.

Topics Covered

- Review of basic algebra
- Linear equations
- Systems of linear equations and inequalities

- Matrices and determinants
- Quadratic equations and parabolas
- Functions
- Powers, roots and radicals
- Exponential and logarithmic functions
- Polynomials and polynomial functions
- Rational algebraic functions
- Conic Functions
- Sequences and Series (as time permits)
- Trigonometric Functions (as time permits)

Skills and Major Projects

Students should continue improving their skills in using graphing calculators and other technologically-based applications, solving equations and inequalities, simplifying expressions, graphing functions and applying these skills to real-world applications.

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to solve any algebraic equation, simplify any algebraic expression and graph all algebraic functions. They will be well prepared to continue into Precalculus, Statistics and the Calculus curricula.

Pre-Honors Differentiation

Pre-Honors will include preparation for further honors-level work. Pre-Honor students will periodically be given an additional assignment and have different tests with more complicated, higher-level questions.

Course Title: Precalculus/Precalculus Pre-Honors

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Texts Used: *Precalculus 2e; OpenStax*

Overview

This course follows Algebra II and precedes Calculus I. It is intended to provide the student with a solid foundation for the study of calculus. The emphasis is on solving equations, simplifying and transforming expressions, graphing and modeling real world situations. The student is expected to memorize and use standard mathematical facts and techniques. The student is expected to apply this knowledge in mathematical modeling problems by translating words into symbols and using a variety of problem-solving techniques. The student is expected to understand the connections that tie together variables, equations, expressions, functions and graphs, and to be able to construct mathematical models. All students will possess and use a graphing calculator.

Topics Covered

- Functions and graphs
- Polynomial, power and rational functions
- Exponential, logistic and logarithmic functions
- Trigonometric and circular functions
- Analytic Trigonometry: properties of trigonometric functions

- Applications of trigonometry
- Analytic geometry-conic sections
- Sequences and series
- Probability, data analysis and functions of a random variable
- Introduction to calculus (as time allows)

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to graph and solve trigonometric, logarithmic and exponential equations, simplify and transform trigonometric expressions, graph quadratic relations, factor higher degree polynomials, calculate probabilities, and find terms and sums in sequences and series. They will be well-prepared to continue to Calculus.

Pre-Honors Differentiation

Pre-Honors will include preparation for further honors-level work. Pre-Honor students will periodically be given an additional assignment and have different tests with more complicated, higher-level questions.

Course Title: Algebra III

Grades: 11-12

Texts Used: *Precalculus 2e; OpenStax*

Overview

This course can be taken in lieu of Precalculus or Calculus I. It will help students learn new problem-solving skills and can prepare students for a college-level Algebra course.

Topics Covered

- Chapter 1 Prerequisites
- Chapter 2 Equations and Inequalities
- Chapter 3 Functions
- Chapter 4 Linear Functions
- Chapter 5 Polynomial and Rational Functions
- Chapter 6 Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
- Chapter 7 Systems of Equations and Inequalities
- Chapter 8 Analytic Geometry

Skills and Major Projects

Goals

The goal of this course is to prepare you for a college-level Algebra course, learn new problem-solving skills, relate math problems to real-world examples, and have fun!

Course Title: Calculus I/Calculus I Honors

Grade 11-12

Texts Used: *Calculus Volume 1; OpenStax*

Overview

This course follows Precalculus and precedes Honors Calculus 2 or the student's first college math course after graduation. This course is intended to cover the AB Calculus Advanced Placement course. It is equivalent to a full semester of college content. A student should be able to find limits, differentiate and integrate most functions, and apply those skills to many types of standard application problems. In addition, the student should gain a strong conceptual understanding of the major theorems in beginning calculus.

Topics Covered

- Prerequisites, functions
- Limits and continuity
- Differentiation
- Applications of differentiation
- L'Hopital's Rule
- The Fundamental Theorems
- Integration
- Techniques of integration
- Differential equations and mathematical modeling
- Applications of the definite integral
- Review for AP exam

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be able to analyze and solve calculus-based problems using both analytical skills and the graphing calculator. This includes limits, derivatives and integrals based on functions, tables or graphs as well as traditional word problems.

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to pass the AP exam in AB Calculus and will be well-prepared to continue onto Calculus BC or to their first college math course.

Honors Differentiation

- Honors students will be able to take the Calculus AB AP exam in May.
- Non-honors students will be permitted to use a note card on each test as well as the midterm exam. Honors students cannot use a note card on any of the chapter tests or the midterm.
- Honors students will periodically be given an additional assignment and will have an extra question or two on each chapter test.

Course Title: Calculus II (Honors)

Grade: 12

Texts Used : *Calculus Volume 2; OpenStax*

Overview

This course follows the Honors Calculus I course and is followed by the student's first college math course. It is intended to cover the BC Calculus Advanced Placement course. The course is slightly less than one semester of college content.

Topics Covered

- Review of calculus topics: limits, differentiation, integration, differential equations and their applications, area between curves, volumes of solid, integral as net accumulator
- Partial fractions, logarithmic and exponential function review
- Sequences
- L'Hopital's Rule, other indeterminate forms
- Relative rates of growth
- Improper integrals
- Power series, Taylor series, Taylor's Theorem
- Radius of convergence and convergence at endpoints
- Parametric equations and functions
- Vectors in the plane
- Polar functions
- Review of AB topics
- Review for BC exam

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be able to analyze and solve calculus-based problems using both analytical skills and the graphing calculator. This includes limits, derivatives and integrals based on functions, tables or graphs as well as traditional word problems. Problems may be presented in traditional function, polar or parametric form.

Goals

At the end of this course students should be able to pass the AP exam in BC Calculus and will be well prepared to continue on to their first college math course.

Course Title: Calculus III (Honors)

Grade: 12

Texts Used : *Calculus Volume 3; OpenStax*

Overview

This course follows the Honors Calculus II course. It is intended to cover concepts college students see in a Vector Calculus course.

Topics Covered

- Parametric Equations and Polar Coordinates
- Vectors in Space
- Vector-Valued Functions
- Differentiation of Functions of Several Variables
- Multiple Integration
- Multiple Integration
- Multiple Integration
- Review of AB topics
- Review for BC exam

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be able to analyze and solve calculus-based problems using both analytical skills and the graphing calculator. This includes vectors, partial derivatives, problems involving multiple integrals based on functions, tables or graphs, and traditional word problems. Problems may be presented in traditional function, spherical, or cylindrical equations.

Goals

At the end of this course, students should be able to pass the AP exam in BC Calculus if they have not already done so and will be well prepared to take any Calculus course that may be required of them in college.

Course Title: Statistics/Statistics Honors

Grade: 11-12

Texts Used : *OpenIntro Statistics 4e, Diez*

Overview

This course can be taken concurrently with the Calculus I course (or Precalculus with Math Department approval) as a junior or can be taken as a senior in lieu of Precalculus or Calculus. The course is approximately one semester of college content.

Topics Covered

- The nature of statistics, describing data using graphs and tables, and numerically; correlation and
- Visualization of and Summarizing Data
- An Introduction to Probability
- Discrete Probability Distribution
- Normal Distribution
- Planning and Conducting an Experiment or Study
- Sampling Distributions and Estimations
- Foundations for Inferences
- Hypothesis Testing, regression, probability and sampling distributions, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing.
- Units covered will include, but not be limited to:
- An Introduction to Analyzing Statistical Data
- Least Squares Regression and Correlation
- Chi Square
- Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and the F Distribution

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be able to analyze and solve statistics-based problems using both analytical skills, technology based apps and the graphing calculator. Students will design and complete at least four data gathering and statistical analysis projects during the course.

Goals

At the end of this course students should be prepared to continue on to their first college math course.

Honors Differentiation

- Honors students will be able to take the Statistics AP exam in May.
- Honors students will have an extra question or two on each chapter test pulled from AP Statistics practice materials.
- Honors students will have additional assignments that will serve as comprehensive reviews of past chapters/units that will serve as preparation for the AP Statistics test.

Physical Education Sequence Overview

In sixth grade, Physical Education is taught five times a week. In seventh and eighth grade, Physical Education meets four times a week. Seventh and eighth grade students also take Health as part of a rotation with Art, Drama, and Computers (CHAD). Physical Education is an elective course for high school students.

Course Title: Physical Education

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Activities are designed to provide skills and knowledge in sports and related activities in order to develop and maintain physical efficiency along with physical, mental, emotional, and social wellness. All physical education classes begin with warm-up exercises designed to stretch and strengthen the muscles. Activities and sports that may be included are: volleyball, soccer, flag football, basketball, floor hockey, softball, 1 mile walk/run, and several “fun” games and activities. Emphasis in class includes skills, knowledge, fitness, participation and disposition.

Course Title: Health

Grades: 7 and 8

Texts Used: *Decisions for Health*, Holt, Rinehart & Winston
(Supplemental readings from papers, articles, and book excerpts)

Overview

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the necessary information for them to make healthy choices in their life. Students should leave this course with a basic understanding of physical, mental and social health and how their decisions affect these aspects of their life. The structure of this course is largely based upon group discussion and classroom activities. Students will be encouraged and supported to feel confident in making positive health related decisions.

Topics Covered (7th Grade)

- Making Healthy Choices
- Personality and Self Esteem
- Managing Stress

- You and Your Family
- Building Healthy Relationships
- Substance Abuse
- Safety and First Aid

Topics Covered (8th Grade)

- Mental Health,
- Social Health,
- Nutrition and Fitness,
- Substance Abuse,
- Preventing Disease,
- Environmental and Community Health
- Safety and First Aid

Goals

At the end of this course students should possess the knowledge and skills essential to the development of their emotional, mental, social, and physical health in an expanding global society. Students will develop a functional concept of health that respects the fundamental worth and dignity of all individuals in recognition of a diversity of backgrounds, abilities, interests, and aspirations.

Course Title: Strength & Conditioning

Grades: 9-12

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Students in high school may take this course as an elective each semester. The course focuses on proper conditioning and weight lifting.

Arts Sequence Overview

The choral, theatrical, and visual arts curricula recognize a division between the Middle School program, which seeks to create student interest in the arts in a safe and supportive environment, and the subsequent Upper School program, which offers more advanced and specialized study.

In sixth grade, students are introduced to each of the fine arts in rotation. In grades seven and eight, students take one academic quarter of each division of “CHAD” (Computers, Health, Art, and Drama); the Art and Drama courses are part of the Arts sequence. All students in Middle School take choral and/or instrumental music as well.

In Middle School choral classes, students are taught basic vocal technique and method as they learn to perform and to appreciate music. Upper School choral music continues to hone student skills with more challenging compositions and solo opportunities, and continues to stress technique and music theory. Each ensemble is built around the national and state standards in the arts. The curriculum includes performing opportunities, showcases, competitions, field trips, master classes, workshops, and collaborations. We

believe that students should have artistic experiences that allow them to have fun, be creative, and build personal skills that last a lifetime. Our program is designed to teach fundamental skills, especially in the Middle school, and to help even our most serious students grow as performers.

Middle School visual arts, theatre, and music courses develop interest, confidence, focus, good work habits, and a foundational understanding of the subject. In the ninth grade visual arts (Art 9) course, students build on prior study, reviewing and reinforcing the elements and principles of art introduced in seventh and eighth grades. Ninth grade theatre (Theatre 9) initiates a serious study of performance criticism and acting method and technique. In preparing students for college study, the advanced curricula for visual arts, theatre, and music increase the level of sophistication in production and criticism and narrow the focus on specific artists, styles, and media. Upper School students also have the option to take Forensics, Creative Writing, and Journalism for Arts credit.

Course Title: Art 6

Grade: 6

Texts Used: N/A

Overview:

This is a required nine-week course for sixth graders, designed to introduce students to the Seabury visual arts experience. Students will become familiarized with the teacher, the art program, expectations, the art room, supplies, set up and clean up procedures, and grading rubrics for art. Students will learn to do more in-depth assignments that take more time to complete, which is a big adjustment from what they were used to doing in elementary school. When possible, there is collaboration among the 6th grade teachers to integrate the arts across the sixth-grade curriculum.

Topics Covered

Students will be introduced to basic terminology and will practice fundamental drawing and compositional skills. They are also introduced to working with clay and learning about its properties by making simple pinch pots. Students will also be exposed to a basic art history timeline in order to gain more appreciation for art's cultural reflection of mankind's development.

Goals

The goal of this class is to help every student at this age experience a satisfactory measure of success, personal growth, and increased confidence in their creative and artistic abilities.

Course Title: Art 7 (CHAD Sequence)

Grade: 7

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

This is a required nine-week course designed to provide a foundation of art terminology and concepts through note-taking, guided practice, and a variety of projects.

Topics Covered

- Elements of Art: Color, Line, Shape, Form, Space, Texture
- Principles of Design: Balance, Variety, Harmony, Emphasis, Proportion, Movement, Rhythm, Unity
- Introductory Art Criticism and Aesthetics

Skills and Major Projects

Projects vary from course to course, but each assignment features one or more of the topics covered to increase overall understanding.

- Beginning drawing, shading
- Color Theory, paint mixing

Goals

Students will leave this class with a working understanding of the very basic language of art, and be able to discuss some famous works of art using that language. Students will have acquired increased observational skills and basic drawing skills.

Course Title: Art 8 (CHAD Sequence)

Grade: 8

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

This is a required nine-week course for eighth graders designed to provide a sequential follow-up to the art terminology and concepts introduced in the seventh grade, only there is an emphasis in working in three-dimensional media.

Topics Covered

The Elements of Art (color, line, shape, form, space, texture) and the Principles of Design (balance, variety, harmony, emphasis, proportion, movement, rhythm, unity) are reviewed and expanded upon through discussion, introduction of assignments, and exposure to artists recognized as masters in their fields. Different cultures are explored (both past and present), and integrated into a variety of projects.

Skills and Major Projects

Students will become more familiar with relief and in-the-round sculpture. This will include additive and subtractive sculptural approaches. Materials and types of projects vary from quarter to quarter, but the concepts and problem solving skills needed are constantly reinforced. Preliminary drawings are essential for idea development and communication with the teacher, and thus required for the student to better problem solve.

Goals

Students will leave this class with an enriched sense of what art is all about. Upon completion of CHAD 7 and 8 Art, students will have experienced the making of both 2-D and 3-D art in various ways. Students will be more equipped to delve deeper into the appreciation and creation of art; having found an area that appeals to them. Finding this niche will build confidence, thus prompting many to continue on to Advanced Art, where they will further develop their artistic skills and art appreciation.

Course Title: Art 9
Grade: 9
Texts Used: N/A

Overview

This is a possible fulfillment of a required fine arts credit for freshmen. It is a semester or year-long course.

Topics Covered

All elements and principles of art are reviewed and reinforced. Artistic standards are raised. Longer, more in-depth assignments are given and will involve self-evaluation, and class critiques. Some major artists and art styles are explored and imitated. Philosophy of art, cultural influences, historical significance and aesthetics is explored further.

Skills and Major Projects

Students will be honing technical skills in rendering drawings. More attention is given to human proportion, spatial relationships, and perspective. Portraiture, landscapes, still-lives and textile design may be investigated. More color theory is learned. Collage, printmaking, ceramics and metal-smithing will be explored.

Goals

The goal of this course is to increase any given student's ability, boost confidence, increase visual awareness, and help them appreciate how integrated art and design is in our daily lives. Especially motivated students may, as a result of this class, decide to continue their art education and perhaps pursue this course of study at the college level. If that is the case, the student and instructor will make a conscious effort to start thinking of projects as pieces to keep for starting a portfolio, and will look for ways to expand on the portfolio's contents with extra assignments and enrichment courses that can be taken outside of class.

Course Title: Advanced Art
Grades: 10-12
Text: excerpts from a variety of texts

Overview

This is an advanced art course designed for students to take by semester or all year. It can be repeated. Students who choose to take this course should have taken the other three art courses offered, especially the prerequisite Art 9.

Topics Covered

More sophisticated approaches will be taken for the same topics previously offered in visual art courses. Education about additional artists, art movements, styles, and new techniques will take place. Historical perspective and cultural influences will play a larger role in the artistic process. Students at this stage will be expected to comfortably use art terms while communicating idea development and justifying design choices.

Skills and Major Projects

Because every art process must start with ideas, it is essential that communicating those ideas visually through preliminary sketches is held as a top priority. Therefore, drawing is continually emphasized as a skill to improve. Graphic design and illustration is explored further. More advanced ceramic, sculpture and jewelry projects will be undertaken. Raku firing will be a major project for first semester.

Goals

The goal of this class is to further train students in visual arts to the point that, if they so choose, they can begin studying art at the college level. At the very least, they will have broadened their fundamental experience and improved their basic production skills. At best, students will have developed a body of work that best represents their style, range and ability in portfolio form. Students will have also learned about setting up and displaying artwork for the public, and sometimes, about creating artwork for “clients” to serve theatre, advertising and poster needs.

Course Title: Drama (CHAD Sequence)

Grade: 6, 7, 8

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

CHAD stands for Computer, Health, Arts, and Drama. In these exploratory courses, students in the Middle School spend one academic quarter in each area. These are intended as introductory, interactive, and relatively informal activities that encourage students to be more aware of themselves as members of a community. The philosophy of exploring one’s potential is the guiding spirit for these courses. One-quarter credit is given for completion of each unit.

The drama and speech component emphasizes public behavior, public speaking, games and play more than acting. First and foremost, students in these classes are *not* graded on skills/talent that they manifest entering the class. For grading purposes, focus is primarily on active participation and how they take constructive criticism and incorporate it into their *revised* “performances.” The primary objective in these classes is to give reclusive students a chance to practice their communication skills in a safe and supportive environment... and to offer more performance-inclined students the opportunity to strengthen their existing talents.

Topics Covered

- Exercises and games
- Daily role-playing
- Social performance
- Vocal technique and exercises
- Physical work and exercises
- Improvisation
- Public Speaking
- Leadership

The difference between the seventh and eighth grades will be in the amount and the depth of the work.

Skills and Major Projects

The course builds to a class project of putting together and performing a short story. The students have only themselves to use as actors, set pieces and props. For seventh graders, the piece is taken from an already existing script. Eighth graders may attempt an original piece.

Goals

The student is expected to take part in this class energetically and with purpose. The atmosphere will be safe and inviting creatively, but it is the student's enthusiasm and fearlessness that decides the experience for each other.

Course Title: Theatre 9

Grade: 9

Texts Used: Variety of scripts and texts

Overview

This course is essentially a class on acting *fundamentals*. One of the most oft-heard phrases in the theatre is "all acting questions are really Acting I questions." This course is set up to be an Acting I class. Although this is not a course for professionals, students will learn the art and *craft* of acting as if they were. Students will read the writings of many of the great acting teachers; people like Stanislavsky, Boleslavsky, Strassberg, Adler and Michael Chekhov – as the basis for our work and to create a vocabulary for the rest of their theatrical lives. All of this is taught with scene work as the foundation. It is a class truly intent on introducing the students to *ACTING*.

Topics and Sources

- Readings from several acting textbooks (ie: Stanislavsky, Benedetti, Boleslavsky)
- Various Plays by the established playwrights (Miller, Inge, Williams, Simon, etc.)
- Warmups and exercises
- Forensics study (3rd Quarter)
- Film study (4th Quarter)

Skills and Major Projects

The student is expected to take part in this class energetically and with purpose. The class will be a safe haven for creativity, expression and failure (actually an actor's best friend). It is, though, up to the student to bring enthusiasm and fearlessness to this atmosphere. It is what will determine their success in the class.

As with all performance studies classes, the grading will be predicated on growth and participation, not talent. The skill level of individual students is not relevant – only what they do with it.

Goals

At the end of the year, students should have a very good understanding of what sort of work and method are necessary in acting, and they should have a healthy understanding of the basic vocal and physical technique and script analysis skills necessary for them to become more mature and effective performers.

Course Title: Advanced Theatre

Grades: 10–12

Texts Used: *On Directing* by Harold Clurman, *Books* by Stanislavski, Bennedetti, Goldman and various writing, acting and directing texts.

Overview

This three-year course of study is based on the three pillars of theatre production – the actor, the director and the playwright. Of course, during the run of the term, we will cover other areas of theatre, including Comedy & Tragedy, Theatre aesthetics and Theatre production.

Our other main topic for the year will be Theatre History. We will study Western Theatre history from its origins in the Middle East, through The Renaissance and Shakespeare, stopping for a while with the Russians, then onto Modern Theatre. There are countless history texts, but we will use chapters, and writings from a select group, including Londre, Brockett, Nicole and Chambers.

Topics Covered

Year One: The Director

- First Quarter – The study of Theatre History, including a research paper and a group project.
- Second Quarter – The study of The Director – including instant directing projects (theatre equivalent of pop quizzes), and a short scene.
- Third Quarter – Forensics. Any students not on the team will be working on a separate history/directing project.
- Fourth Quarter – A film study of a foreign film – including the works of Fellini, Bergman, Kurosawa, Truffaut and Rey.

Year Two: The Actor

Year Three: The Playwright

Skills and Major Projects

The advanced theatre classes continue the study of script analysis, performance technique, scene work, and critical analysis. In addition to the continuing focus on acting skills, students will learn basic skills in directing and playwriting. Every year, students will finish the course with an extended major project.

Goals

At the end of the course, students should be very confident about their knowledge of the process of acting and the expectations of directors and teachers in college and at fine arts schools. Students should also be prepared to audition well and handle various styles of performance.

Course Title: Forensics (Spring Semester)

Grade: 9-12

Texts Used: NA

Overview

Forensics helps students develop their speaking skills through a variety of modalities, including improvisation, prose, poetry, etc. Students will have the opportunity to compete outside of school.

Course Title: Instrumental Music
Grade: 6-12
Texts Used: Various music scores

Overview

Instrumental Music is for students who have a minimum of three consistent years of instrumental experience and want to develop their skills in playing and performing with others. Students must own their own instrument. This course can be taken in addition to or instead of Chamber Choir.

Skills and Major Projects

The Upper School choir students will continue to learn to be comfortable performing in front of an audience, applying the skills that they learn in the overview above. These students will perform at three major concerts in the school year—the fall concert, the holiday Lessons and Carols concert, and the spring concert. Various students and ensembles will prepare for KSHSAA competitions.

Goals

- To perform specific musical techniques specific to the student's instrument
- To develop the student's musical literacy
- To learn how to perform in group settings
- To learn how to critique music and discuss music politely
- To be exposed to new and different music
- To have students audition and perform in KMEA ensembles

Course Title: *Voci Sesto* – 6th Grade Choir
Grade: 6
Texts Used: Various scores and sources

Overview

The choral/general music program at Bishop Seabury Academy is integral to the school's liberal arts mission. Choral music has voice types designated as Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. Voice types are designated by vocal range and not gender. Music has been proven to help students excel in the following ways:

- improved language development
- increase in IQ and executive functioning
- improved test scores
- increased brain connectivity
- increased spatial intelligence

Music can help students excel in the core curriculum. The last item on this list, spatial intelligence, helps students understand how things work together. This skill is critical in careers like architecture, engineering, math, and computer science. Music enhances memory recall by structuring information into patterns.

Students are empowered to:

- Sing independently, on pitch and in rhythm, with appropriate timbre, diction, and posture, and maintain a steady tempo in person and via Connected Learning.

- Sing expressively, with appropriate dynamics, phrasing, and interpretation.
- Perform easy rhythmic, melodic, and chordal patterns accurately and independently on rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic classroom instruments.
- Read whole, half, dotted half, quarter, and eighth notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4 meter signatures.
- Use a system (e.g., syllables, numbers, or letters) to read simple pitch notation in the treble clef in major keys.
- Identify symbols and traditional terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation and interpret them correctly.
- Use standard symbols to notate, meter, rhythm, pitch, and dynamics in simple patterns presented by the teacher.
- Use appropriate terminology in explaining music, music notation, music instruments and voices, and music performances.
- Explain, using appropriate music terminology, their personal preferences for specific musical works and styles.
- Identify by genre or style aural examples of music from various historical periods and cultures.
- Describe in simple terms how elements of music are used in music examples from various cultures of the world.
- Demonstrate audience behavior appropriate for the context and style of music performed.

Course Title: Middle School Choir

Grade: 7 and 8

Texts Used: Various music scores and films

Overview

The choral music program at Bishop Seabury Academy is integral to the school's liberal arts mission. Choral music has voice types designated as Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. Voice types are recognized by range and not gender. Music has been proven to help students excel in the following ways:

- improved language development
- increase in IQ and executive functioning
- improved test scores
- increased brain connectivity
- increased spatial intelligence

Music can help students excel in the core curriculum. The last item on this list, spatial intelligence, helps students understand how things work together. This skill is critical in careers like architecture, engineering, math, and computer science. Music enhances memory recall by structuring information into patterns.

Students are empowered to:

- Sing accurately and with good breath control throughout their singing ranges, alone and in small and in smaller ensembles in person and via Connected Learning.
- Sing, with expression and technical accuracy, a repertoire of vocal literature with a level of difficulty of 2, on a scale of 1 to 6, including some songs performed from memory,
- Sing music, representing diverse genres and cultures, with expression appropriate for the work being performed,
- Sing music written in two and three parts,

- Read a whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 3/8, and alla breve meter signatures,
- Read at sight simple melodies in both the treble and bass clef,
- Identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression,
- Use standard notation to record their musical ideas and the musical ideas of others,
- Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level of difficulty of 2, on scale of 1 to 6,
- Describe specific music events in a given aural example, using appropriate terminology,
- Analyze the uses of elements of music in aural examples representing diverse genres and cultures,
- Demonstrate knowledge of the basic principles of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and harmonic progressions in their analyzes of music,
- Develop criteria for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of music performances and compositions and apply the criteria in their listening and performing,
- Classify by genre and style (and, if applicable, by historical period, composer, and title) a varied body of exemplary (that is, high-quality and characteristic) musical works and explain the characteristics that cause each work to be considered exemplary,
- Describe ways in which the principles and subject matter of other disciplines taught in the school are interrelated with those of music, and
- Learn to navigate the changing voice. Increase in range and focus.

Skills and Major Projects

The seventh and eighth grade choir/General Music students will learn to be comfortable performing in front of an audience, applying the skills that they learn in the overview above. These students will perform at three major concerts in the school year—the fall concert, the holiday Lessons and Carols service, and the spring concert. Outstanding students will be recognized at the spring concert.

Students will participate in the Worlds of Fun Music Festival hosted by the University of Missouri. Field trips will include a trip to the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Bales Recital Hall, University of Kansas Music Dept., to name a few.

Goals

The seventh and eighth grade choir students will have successful performances at their concerts, and they will have a deeper knowledge of how those successful performances happened. Becoming skilled, well-rounded musicians will give them the confidence to tackle increasingly challenging music. These students may (after leaving the eighth grade) continue their choir studies by joining the upper school choir, Chamber Choir, and the auditioned Chamber Singers (ninth-twelfth grades).

Course Title: Upper School Choir

Grade: 9-12

9th -12th Chamber Choir

9th -12th Chamber Singers (auditioned)

Texts Used: Various music scores and films

Overview

The choral music program at Bishop Seabury Academy is integral to the school's liberal arts mission.

Choral music has voice types designated as Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. Voice types are recognized by range and not gender. Music has been proven to help students excel in the following ways:

- improved language development
- increase in IQ and executive functioning
- improved test scores
- increased brain connectivity
- increased spatial intelligence

Music can help students excel in the core curriculum. The last item on this list, spatial intelligence, helps students understand how things work together. This skill is critical in careers like architecture, engineering, math, and computer science. Music enhances memory recall by structuring information into patterns.

Students are empowered to:

- Sing, with expression and technical accuracy, a large and varied repertoire of vocal literature with a level of difficulty of 4, on a scale of 1 to 6, including some songs performed from memory either in person or Connected Learning.
- Exploring and defining the vocal mechanism,
- Sing music in four parts, with and without accompaniment,
- Sing in small ensembles with one student on a part,
- Sing, with expression and technical accuracy, a large and varied repertoire or vocal literature with a level of difficulty 5, on a scale of 1 to 6,
- Perform, with expression and technical accuracy, a large and varied repertoire of instrumental literature with a level of difficulty of 5, on a scale of 1 to 6,
- Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level of difficulty of 3, on a scale of 1 to 6,
- Analyze aural examples of a varied repertoire of music, representing diverse genres and cultures, by describing the uses of elements of music and expressive devices,
- Demonstrate extensive knowledge of the technical vocabulary of music,
- Compare ways in which musical materials are used in a given example relative to ways in which they are used in other works of the same genre or style,
- Analyze and describe uses of the elements of music in a given work that make it unique, interesting, and expressive,
- Evolve specific criteria for making informed, critical evaluations of the quality and effectiveness of performances, compositions, arrangements, and improvisations and apply the criteria in their personal participation in music,
- Evaluate a given musical work in terms of its aesthetic qualities and explain the musical means it uses to evoke feelings and emotions,
- Explain how elements, artistic processes (such as imagination or craftsmanship), and organizational principles (such as unity and variety or repetition and contrast) are used in similar and distinctive ways in the various arts and cite examples,
- Compare the uses of characteristic elements, artistic processes, and organizational principles among the arts in different historical periods and different cultures,
- Compare characteristics of two or more arts within a particular historical period or style and cite examples from various cultures,
- Explain how the roles of creators, performers, and others involved in the production and presentation of the arts are similar to and different from one another in the various arts,
- Identify and explain the stylistic features of a given musical work that serve to define its aesthetic tradition and its historical or cultural context,

- Read a whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted notes and rests in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, 6/8, 3/8, and *alla breve* meter signatures,
- Read at sight simple melodies in both the treble and bass clef,
- Identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression,
- Sight-read, accurately and expressively, music with a level difficulty of 4, on a scale of 1 to 6,
- Identify symbols and traditional terms referring to dynamics, tempo, and articulation and interprets them correctly when performing, and
- Use standard symbols to notate, meter, rhythm, pitch, and dynamics in simple patterns presented by the teacher.

Skills and Major Projects

The Upper School choir students will continue to learn to be comfortable performing in front of an audience, applying the skills that they learn in the overview above. These students will perform at three major concerts in the school year—the fall concert, the holiday Lessons and Carols concert, and the spring concert. Outstanding Upper School choir students will be recognized at the spring concert. Various students and ensembles will prepare for KSHSAA competitions.

Field trips will include a trip to the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Bales Recital Hall, University of Kansas Music Dept., to name a few.

Goals

The Upper School choir students will continue to have successful performances at their concerts, and they will have a deeper knowledge of how those successful performances happened. Some of these students will have successful solo performances at KSHSAA competitions. Graduating students will take these skills on to university.

Other Courses

Course Title: SEE Learning

Grade: 6

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

The Social, Emotional and Ethical Learning curriculum (SEE) builds on years of research in social-emotional education and was developed at Emory University's Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion-Based Ethics. SEE Learning complements BSA's mission, vision and values, as it develops students' social, emotional, and ethical intelligence through: attention training; compassion and ethical discernment; systems thinking; and resilience and trauma-informed practice. SEE is integrated alongside the CHAD sequence in grades 6-8. SEE will be supplemented by additional lessons on a variety of topics that support identity development and belonging in the community.

Course Title: Computers (CHAD Sequence)

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

These two courses provide an introduction to the various computing resources available to students at Seabury -- computers, printers, scanners, software, as well as external, Web-based resources. In the 7th-grade course students learn first how to log onto the Seabury network and save their settings and files to a secure central location that is accessible to them from any computer on the Seabury network. The rest of the course focuses on skills and specific applications that students will use to do assignments for their other academic courses. Students learn various features of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel, as well as fundamentals of Web design and skills in using the Internet effectively to do academic research. Since the addition of the 1:1 iPad program in 2015-16 students also learn to use a variety of apps, including photography and video recording and editing. In the 8th grade course the focus shifts from applications toward other IT skills, including an introduction to programming using JavaScript, Python, and the drag-and-drop Scratch programming platform.

Topics Covered

The course focuses on computing skills that will be of benefit applied to the content of their academic courses.

- Keyboarding (or touch typing) skills – Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing, Version 12.0
- Word processing and advanced layout and formatting – MS Word, Apple Pages
- Slide-based presentations with automatic timing and animations – MS PowerPoint, Apple Keynote
- Spreadsheets for invoices and simple accounting – MS Excel, Apple Numbers
- Internet use for academic research – How to use search engines and find authoritative sources
- Introduction to computer programming

Skills and Major Projects

Students learn fundamental skills such as proper keyboard and typing techniques, as well as specific applications that they can use to do various assignments and activities for their academic courses at Seabury and beyond. Students will be able to add advanced layout and formatting to Word documents, as well as create basic spreadsheets and assemble slide-based presentations on most topics they encounter in their academic courses. In the 8th-grade course students learn some basic programming skills in Python, drawing and animation with JavaScript, and simple game design with the Tynker.com implementation of the Scratch programming platform.

Goals

At the end of the course, students should be able to use their accounts effectively for storing files in an organized manner, conduct effective searches for resources to use in their academic studies, use the applications studied to streamline and/or enhance the presentation of their academic work, as well as write short computer programs to solve simple computational problems or manipulate input from the program user.

Course Title: Independent Study

Grade: 9-12

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

Independent study may be organized by an individual student or a small group of students to study a chosen topic under the supervision of a teacher. The requirements in this course must be equivalent to that in a regular course. Students interested in an independent study should see the Director of Enrollment for the Independent Study Proposal Process and Form well in advance of the end of the previous semester to allow for planning. An Independent Study Proposal must be submitted to the Director of Enrollment at least one week before the end of the previous semester in order to be considered by the Curriculum Committee to be added to the schedule and included on the student transcript.

Course Title: Independent Explorations Program (IExP) (Honors)

Grade: 9-12

Texts Used: N/A

Overview

The Independent Exploration Program (IExP) for Upper School students at Bishop Seabury is designed to match the following items under one thematic umbrella:

- Elective coursework
- Extracurricular activities
- Community service
- Internships
- Independent studies
- Off-campus research projects

Students who apply for this program will complete work in at least three of these categories along with a capstone project that will synthesize the learning and growth that they have experienced by participating in the program.

All students who participate in the program will be required to work with a mentor outside of the school, someone who is an expert in the relevant field who can assist the student in determining appropriate activities to pursue as part of the program.

This program is for motivated students who wish to go beyond the standard classwork in pursuing a topic that is of great interest to them. Examples of potential IExP projects could include business, medicine, environmental science/activism, technology, engineering, public policy, historical research, writing, drama, music, language studies, and other topics that school administrators might be willing to approve based on the student's proposal.

This program is entirely voluntary. Interested students will complete an IExP proposal and submit it to the IExP Director/the College Counselor, and the proposal will be reviewed by the appropriate faculty and administrators, who will approve it or send it back to the student for revision. Students may apply to the program as early as 9th grade and should do so no later than the end of 11th grade. The IExP Director will assist the student in finding an appropriate mentor and in utilizing resources both within and outside of the Seabury community, though IExP projects will be primarily student-driven.

Students who complete the program will receive recognition on their official school transcript. Students who are in the midst of completing their IExP project at the time that they apply to college will receive an IExP candidate designation on their transcript, provided that they have completed at least two of their required three milestone projects.