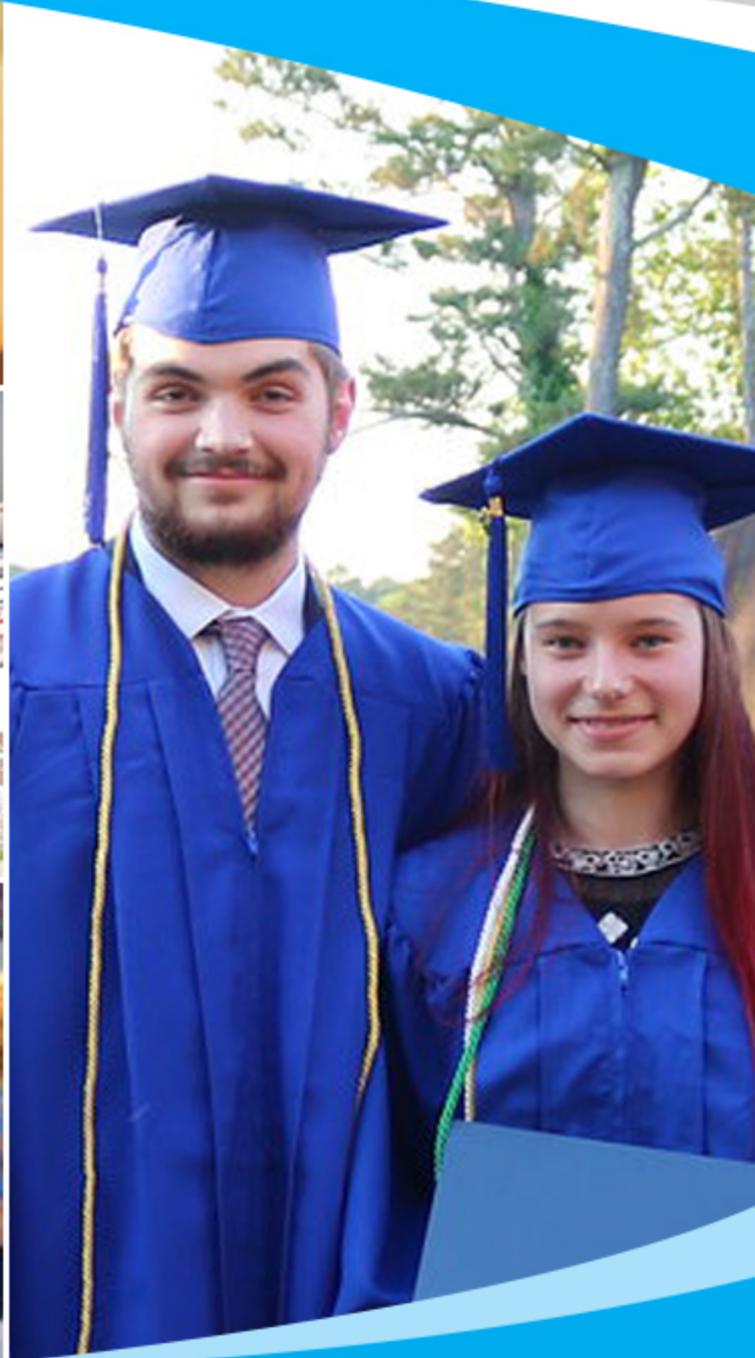


# 2020-2021 CATALOG



Atlanta  
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

ATLANTA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

[HTTP://WWW.ATLANTACOUNTRYDAYSCHOOL.ORG/](http://www.atlantacountrydayschool.org/)  
8725 DUNWOODY PL UNIT 2 | ATLANTA | GA 30350



# Scope and Sequence

## Grades 6-12

	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	9th grade	10th grade	11th grade	12th grade
English	World Literature	American Literature	Georgia Literature	Writing and Rhetoric	World Literature	American Literature <i>or</i> AP Language and Composition	British Literature <i>or</i> AP Literature and Composition
History	World History	U.S. History	Georgia History	World History A	World History B <i>or</i> AP World History	U.S. History	Civics and Global Citizenship & Global Economics
Math	Saxon Math Course 1	Saxon Math Course 2	Saxon Math Course 3 <i>or</i> Algebra I	Algebra I <i>or</i> Geometry	Geometry <i>or</i> Algebra II	Algebra II <i>or</i> Pre-cal	Pre-calc <i>or</i> Calculus
Science	Earth Science	Life Science	Physical Science	Environmental Science	Biology	Chemistry	Physics <i>or</i> Physical Science
World Languages				Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Spanish IV

## Graduation Requirements

In order to successfully graduate from ACDS, all graduation candidates must complete and satisfactorily pass the following minimum high school core requirements in grades 9-12.

Areas of Study	Units Required
English/Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Science	4
Social Studies	4
CTAE and/or World Languages and/or Fine Arts	3
Health/PE	1
Electives	4
Total Units (Minimum)	24

### Elective Opportunities

ACDS offers elective courses in grades 6 through 12. These offerings vary depending upon faculty availability, scheduling, and enrollment.

### Earned Credits

A “credit” is given for the successful completion of a course. To receive a credit, the following criteria must be met:

- An A, B, C, or D earned as the final average grade in the course
- A minimum of 130 hours of instructional time per credit earned

## Grading Scale

- A: 100–90
- B: 89–80
- C: 79–70
- D: 69–60
- F: 59–0

## GPA Quality Points

- Standard course - No additional quality point
- Honors course - .5 additional quality point
- AP course - 1 additional quality point

## Advanced Placement (AP)

ACDS offers a number of advanced placement courses for high school students. These offerings are dependent upon faculty availability, scheduling and enrollment, but may also be taken independently through school-selected blended learning programs. The goal of the ACDS AP Program is to offer any student who exhibits exceptional ability or the promise of exceptional ability the opportunity to reach his or her maximum potential. These rigorous and demanding courses are intended to develop students capable of completing college-level coursework and to help those students recognize and attain earlier access to advanced opportunities. In order to encourage placement in the most productive learning environment, the AP faculty recommend that students fulfill certain prerequisites before enrolling in a AP course. Students who are interested in taking an AP course are encouraged to discuss the possibility with AP faculty members. All AP students must complete the AP exam for their respective courses. Students who satisfactorily complete an Advanced Placement course will receive 1 additional quality points to their standard GPA.

## Honors Credit

ACDS offers Honors options for many of the courses available in grades 9 through 12. These offerings are dependent upon faculty availability, scheduling, and enrollment. The goal of the Honors Program is to offer any student who exhibits exceptional ability or the promise of exceptional ability the opportunity to reach his or her maximum

potential. These rigorous and demanding courses are intended to challenge students to complete robust coursework and to help those students recognize and attain earlier access to advanced opportunities. Admission to Honors level courses is earned through teacher recommendation. Students who satisfactorily complete an Honors level course will receive .5 additional quality points to their standard GPA.

### **Community Service Hours**

High school students who attend ACDS are required to complete a total of 100 hours participating in community service as a graduation requirement. Students are encouraged to complete a minimum of 25 hours per high school year with the option of completing all of their community service hours at any time in the course of grades 9 through 12. Students who enter ACDS in the middle of their high school career must complete a minimum of 25 hours per school year until graduation. The requirement may be fulfilled in a variety of ways; however, students are encouraged to gain preapproval of activities prior to completing them. Students must provide documentation of service hours by filling out a community service form. Students should be involved in activities that are volunteer opportunities only. ACDS hopes to promote a feeling of community, citizenship, and growth in character through this requirement.

### **Midterms and Final Exams**

Midterms and final exams will be given to high school students at the end of the spring semester. All exams count as two test grades in their respective course area. The instructor of the course creates both the midterm exam and the final exam.. AP Exams are counted as final exams for any class but will not be factored into the final average. Some courses require exams tied to performances, long-term projects, and other non-traditional exam types. Any senior that has an overall A average for the year in a course with less than three absences will be exempt from his or her final exam.

### **Repeating Course Policy**

If a student does not pass a course and does not earn credit for that course, he/she may retake the course. Thereafter, if the course is passed, both grades are factored into the student's overall GPA, and credit is earned. Any course required for graduation must be taken again if not passed the first time.

## **Withdrawal from a Course**

Withdrawal from a course after the first ten days of school would result in the course being recorded on the student's transcript as either a Withdrawn Passing (WP) or Withdrawn Failing (WF). No credit is earned if a student withdraws from a class mid-year.

## **Honors and AP Recommendation Process**

Teacher recommendations are required in order for students to enroll in an advanced-level course. Recommendations are required as a means of ensuring students who demonstrate a need for acceleration are placed in an academic setting with the appropriate level of challenge and rigor. Please consider the recommendation of your child's teacher respectfully. Students seeking enrollment in an Honors or Advanced Placement must meet the following criteria in order to receive a recommendation for the course. Students will not be permitted to enroll in an Honors or Advanced Placement course without a teacher recommendation signifying successful achievement of this criteria. The AP faculty strongly urges students and their parents to attend an orientation meeting and/or speak personally with the appropriate instructor in order to be fully informed of the expectations associated with an AP course before enrolling. All students are expected to take the AP exam for that course when they are administered in the Spring Semester. The final grade for the course will appear on final report cards and transcripts, with a notation that the course was taken online. AP courses will be listed on transcripts, and will be included in cumulative GPA calculation and class rank.

## **AP/Honors Consideration**

AP/Honors considerations will be based on a student's ability to do the following:

- Demonstrates consistent work completion and submission that reflects his or her own words, thoughts, and skills, as well as a high level of personal effort that results in proficiency in content knowledge
- Regularly participate in class activities and seek meaningful interactions with peers
- Consistently display behavior which demonstrates a desire to work collaboratively to support a productive learning environment
- Submit assignments on or before the due date

- Independently read and analyze texts within that subject area
- Maintain an overall course average of 90% or above
- All recommendations will be reviewed again by teachers at the conclusion of the school year. Students recommended for AP/Honors courses are expected to maintain their performance in order to maintain their recommendation.

## Course Descriptions

### English

#### 6th grade - World Literature

This course introduces students to world literature from antiquity through the 21st century, including oral traditions, poetry, fiction, the essay, and drama. Emphasis is placed on key ideas that express the commonality of the human spirit and experience across cultures. Students read, analyze, and respond to texts in class discussions, assessments, and essays.

#### 7th grade - American Literature

This course focuses on 18th, 19th, and 20th century American literature, including poetry, short stories, novels, biographies, and dramas. Readings cover a wide range of eras, genres, settings, and themes, and themes to allow for an understanding of the American “classic” and the unique contributions of American writers to the canon. Significant American social issues such as slavery, civil rights, and freedom of speech, as well as the intrepid, pioneering spirit of the individual, are explored in this course. Students read, analyze, and respond to texts in class discussions, assessments, and essays.

#### 8th grade - Georgia Literature

This course is a study of the leading figures of the Southern Literary Renaissance, with special emphasis on Georgia and the social, political, and economic conditions in the postbellum South that led to its development. Significant American social issues such

as slavery, civil rights, and freedom of speech, as well as the intrepid, pioneering spirit of the individual, are also explored in this course. Students read, analyze, and respond to texts in class discussions, assessments, and essays.

### **9th grade - Writing and Rhetoric**

This course sharpens students' written communication skills and knowledge of good research techniques across all core academic disciplines. Students review and practice the elements of effective writing for English, history, science, and math courses; develop advanced vocabulary; and practice citation and documentation of source material in a variety of formats. This course places emphasis on how the audience, purpose, and organization of one's writing can vary from one genre to the next, and thus equips students with the skills they need to successfully navigate differing requirements in their high school and college careers. In addition, this course is designed to enrich the effectiveness of verbal and nonverbal communication and overall public speaking abilities. Students will study speech communication as a process that includes speaking, listening, and perception by creating, delivering, and evaluating public speaking.

### **10th grade - World Literature**

This course introduces students to world literature from antiquity through the 21st century, including oral traditions, poetry, fiction, the essay, and drama. Emphasis is placed on key ideas that express the commonality of the human spirit and experience across cultures. Students read, analyze, and respond critically to texts in class discussions, assessments, and essays.

### **11th grade - American Literature**

This course seeks to introduce students to exemplary works of great American authors, poets, thinkers, and essayists. Students will explore great works from unique American voices. Important questions will be addressed through close reading, analysis, discussion, Socratic dialogues and seminar, research, and writing. American Literature captures the American spirit and personality. Voices from periods of American history ranging from the colonial period through the modern age will be examined in pursuit of defining the American dream and contextualizing its place in today's world.

## **11th grade - AP Language and Composition**

This course is an introductory college-level composition course. Students cultivate their understanding of writing and rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style.

## **12th grade - British Literature**

This course introduces students to British literature, including prose, poetry, and drama, from its beginnings circa the 9th century through the mid-20th century. Representative works of major authors are studied in their literary, historical, and sociopolitical contexts. The course introduces recurrent themes in the scope of British literature and culture. Students read, analyze, and respond critically to texts in class discussions, examinations, and essays.

## **12th grade - AP Literature and Composition**

This course is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works.

# **History**

## **6th grade - World History**

This course explores key events and global historical developments since the dawn of recorded history that impact the events of our modern world. Students will examine the historical roots of significant events, movements, ideas, economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, literature & the arts. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, explore historical movements and concepts, and test theories. Students will refine their ability to read for comprehension and critical analysis; summarize, categorize, compare, contextualize, and evaluate information; write clearly and convincingly; express facts and opinions

orally that analyze causation, change, and continuity over time; and use technology appropriately to present information.

### **7th grade - U.S. History**

This course involves a study of United States history from the first presidency of George Washington through the early 21st century. Themes of study include the development of the United States presidency over time, the impact of reform movements and change over time, the impact of technology and economic changes through United States history, and the changing role of the United States in world affairs. Students are expected to master basic concepts, develop critical thinking, and master the basics of historical thinking at a strong level.

### **8th grade - Georgia History**

This course traces the history of Georgia in the context of the development of the South and the United States and the world. The chronological focus of the course includes a geographic overview, earliest inhabitants of Georgia, the foundation of Georgia in the eighteenth century through the state's development in the twentieth century. Students also examine the characteristics of state government, public issues, and citizen rights and responsibilities. In addition, the students will explore contemporary and historical comparisons of state and national political institutions.

### **9th grade - World History A**

This course explores key events and global historical developments since the dawn of recorded history to the start of modernity that impact the events of today. Students will examine the historical roots of significant events, movements, ideas, economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, literature & the arts. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, explore historical movements and concepts, and test theories. Students will refine their ability to read for comprehension and critical analysis; summarize, categorize, compare, contextualize, and evaluate information; write clearly and convincingly; express facts and opinions orally that analyze causation, change, and continuity over time; and use technology appropriately to present information.

## **10th grade - World History B**

This course explores key events and global historical developments from the start of modernity to the globalized 21st century that impact the events of today. Students will examine the historical roots of significant events, movements, ideas, economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, literature & the arts. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, explore historical movements and concepts, and test theories. Students will refine their ability to read for comprehension and critical analysis; summarize, categorize, compare, contextualize, and evaluate information; write clearly and convincingly; express facts and opinions orally that analyze causation, change, and continuity over time; and use technology appropriately to present information.

## **10th grade - AP World History**

The purpose of the AP World History course is to develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge deployed in conjunction with leading interpretive issues and types of historical evidence. The course builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage. Periodization, explicitly discussed, forms the organizing principle for dealing with change and continuity throughout the course. Specific themes provide further organization to the course, along with the consistent attention to contacts among societies that form the core of world history as a field of study. Students are expected to take the AP World History Exam.

## **11th grade - U.S. History**

This course involves a detailed study of United States history from the first presidency of George Washington through the early 21st century. Themes of study include the development of the United States presidency over time, the impact of reform movements and change over time, the impact of technology and economic changes through United States history, and the changing role of the United States in world

affairs. Standard level students are expected to master basic concepts, develop critical thinking, and master the basics of historical thinking at a strong level.

### **12th grade - Civics and Global Citizenship**

This course provides students with a sound understanding of civic life, politics, and government, including a short history of the government's foundation and development in the United States of America. Students learn how power and responsibility are shared and limited by the government, the impact American politics has on global affairs, the law in the American constitutional system, and the rights that the American government guarantees its citizens. The course also teaches for global citizenship which refers to a sense of belonging to a broader community and common humanity with an emphasis on political, economic, social, and cultural interdependence and interconnectedness between the local, the national, and the global. From this course, learners will become more globally competent through the process of investigating the world, recognizing perspectives, communicating ideas, and taking action.

### **12th grade - Global Economics**

This course offers an overview of various aspects of the global economy and its linkages to related issues of resources, development, international business, and trade. It investigates the phenomenon of globalization and seeks to provide an understanding of today's increasingly interdependent world. This course recognizes that the economy cannot be treated separately from other domains of social studies so such topics as political and economic theories and models, historical context, consumption trends, the role of telecommunications, and others will be discussed. From this course, learners will become more globally competent through the process of investigating the world, recognizing perspectives, communicating ideas, and taking action.

## **Math**

### **6th grade - Saxon Math 1**

This course requires students to work primarily with numerical expressions, including decimals, the order of operations, LCM, GCF, reciprocals, factors, fractions, exponents, and ratio problems. Later in the course, algebraic expressions, equations, and

inequalities will be covered, along with aspects of geometry, including polygons, circles, area, and volume.

### **7th grade - Saxon Math 2**

This course continues to work primarily with numerical expressions, including decimals, the order of operations, LCM, GCF, reciprocals, factors, fractions, exponents, and ratio problems. Later in the course, algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities will be covered, along with aspects of geometry, including polygons, circles, area, and volume.

### **8th grade - Saxon Math 3**

This course introduces students to topics such as exponents, probability, ratios and proportions, surface area and volume, multi-step equations, linear equations, sequences, inequalities, polynomials, and data analysis. Skills and concepts are built through critical thinking, helping students become more proficient and more confident problem solvers.

### **8th or 9th grade - Algebra I**

This course covers the fundamentals of algebra and builds the algebraic foundation essential for solving increasingly complex problems. Higher-order thinking skills use real-world applications, reasoning, and justification to make connections through verbal and numeric representations. High school credit will be given starting in ninth grade.

### **9th or 10th grade - Geometry**

This course increases the focus on students' visualization and problem-solving skills in the application of geometric ideas. After a review of geometric formulas, students will move on to studying proofs, triangle congruence, quadrilaterals, arcs and sectors, constructions, and circles. Students will be introduced to trigonometric ratios, transformations, and symmetry as well. Instruction in this course integrates synthetic and coordinate approaches to geometry and reinforces and extends knowledge of algebra.

## **10th or 11th grade - Algebra II**

This course provides a review and extension of the concepts taught in Algebra I. Topics covered will include operations with real numbers, systems of linear equations and inequalities, factoring, algebraic fractions and fractional equations, quadratic functions and some work with conic sections, exponential functions, complex numbers, and logarithms.

## **11th or 12th grade - Pre-Calculus**

This course continues to build upon a student's study of algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities. Pre-Calculus includes a study in linear, quadratic, and polynomial functions; rational functions; exponential modeling; logarithmic functions; trigonometric functions and their graphs; the Unit Circle; trigonometric identities; vectors; sequences and series; conics; and parametric and polar equations.

## **12th grade - Calculus or AP Calculus AB**

This course explores the key concepts, methods, and applications of single-variable calculus including functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Students will become familiar with concepts, results, and problems expressed in multiple ways including graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Technology will be used to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. Students will have the opportunity to earn AP credit for college if they take the AP version of this course.

# **Science**

## **6th grade - Earth Science**

This course develops an awareness of Earth's systems and humanity's interactions with those systems. Broad topics included in the course are the Earth in the Universe, Earth systems, structures, processes, and Earth history. Understanding the awareness of earth's systems and the human impact on those systems will be the main focus of this course. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the lithosphere, the hydrosphere, the atmosphere, and the biosphere. One of the main goals of this course is to provide the

student with the means to understand the interrelatedness of Earth's systems. Students will make inquiries and analyze data through guided laboratory investigations. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve the collection of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides the background for understanding the nature of the scientific inquiry.

### **7th grade - Life Science**

This course develops an awareness of Earth's systems and humanity's interactions with those systems. Broad topics included in the course are the Earth in the Universe, Earth systems, structures, processes, and Earth history. Understanding the awareness of earth's systems and the human impact on those systems will be the main focus of this course. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the lithosphere, the hydrosphere, the atmosphere, and the biosphere. One of the main goals of this course is to provide the student with the means to understand the interrelatedness of Earth's systems. Students will make inquiries and analyze data through guided laboratory investigations. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve the collection of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides the background for understanding the nature of the scientific inquiry.

### **8th grade - Physical Science**

This course will provide a rich knowledge base to provide a foundation for the continued study of science. Broad topics included in the course include forces and motions, matter: properties and change, and energy: conservation and transfer. The investigations are approached in a qualitative manner in keeping with the mathematical skills of the students. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve

collections of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides a background for understanding the nature of scientific inquiry. In addition, the scientific process skills necessary for inquiry are acquired through active experience. These process skills support the development of reasoning and problem-solving ability and are the core of scientific methodologies.

## **9th grade - Environmental Science**

This course provides students a more in-depth understanding and awareness of the Earth's systems. Broad topics included in the course include the Earth in the Universe, Earth systems, structures, and processes, Earth history, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, climate patterns, and global and human resources. Emphasis will be placed on plate tectonics, rock and mineral formation, Earth's resources, Earth's origin, and cycles that circulate materials through Earth's systems. One of the main goals of this course is to provide the student with the means to understand the principles that govern the planet. The student will make inquiries and analyze data through laboratory investigations. Through the investigation of current events, students will obtain an awareness of environmental issues and how topics discussed in class are related to world events. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve the collection of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides a background for understanding the nature of scientific inquiry. In addition, the scientific process skills necessary for inquiry are acquired through active experience. These process skills support the development of reasoning and problem-solving ability and are the core of scientific methodologies.

## **10th grade - Biology**

This course explores topics on cell biology, ecological relationships, genetics, evolution and adaptations, organismal classification systems, and biological molecules. Broad topics included in the course include structures and functions of living organisms, genetics and inheritance, disease and living organisms, DNA technology, natural

selection, classification of species, molecular biology, and biochemistry. This class is designed to give students an opportunity to participate in hands-on activities and labs that focus on enhancing the learning of basic biological standards. Conceptual knowledge of the relationships between structure and function found in biology will be highlighted. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve the collection of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides a background for understanding the nature of scientific inquiry. In addition, the scientific process skills necessary for inquiry are acquired through active experience. These process skills support the development of reasoning and problem-solving ability and are the core of scientific methodologies.

## **11th grade - Chemistry**

This course introduces the study of the composition and properties of matter. Students will have additional problem-solving opportunities throughout the year. Laboratory experiments are incorporated throughout the curriculum to enhance and reinforce chemistry concepts, as well as to learn and develop laboratory skills. Broad topics covered include atomic structure, electron structure, bonding, chemical nomenclature, chemical quantities, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, gas laws, thermochemistry, electrochemistry, solutions, and nuclear chemistry. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve collections of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides a background for understanding the nature of scientific inquiry. In addition, the scientific process skills necessary for inquiry are acquired through active experience. These process skills support the development of reasoning and problem-solving ability and are the core of scientific methodologies.

## **12th grade - Physics**

This course explores the mathematical and motion-oriented study of matter and energy. It provides an understanding of the scientific method as well as the physical principles and laws that govern kinematics, mechanics, light, sound, waves, and electromagnetism. Students are provided with various laboratory experiences that are designed to enhance and reinforce the concepts and principles studied in physics. In the academic/standard course, more time is taken to explore the concepts and tie those in mathematically. Students are expected to have taken or currently be taking Algebra II while taking physics. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve the collection of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of

## **12th grade - Physical Science**

This course provides a deeper and richer knowledge base to the foundation for the continued study of science. Broad topics included in the course include forces and motions, matter: properties and change, and energy: conservation and transfer. The investigations are approached in a qualitative manner in keeping with the mathematical skills of the students. Traditional laboratory experiences provide opportunities to demonstrate how science is constant, historic, probabilistic, and replicable. Although there are no fixed steps that all scientists follow, scientific investigations usually involve collections of relevant evidence, the use of logical reasoning, the application of imagination to devise hypotheses, and the development of explanations to make sense of collected evidence. Student engagement in scientific investigation provides a background for understanding the nature of scientific inquiry. In addition, scientific process skills necessary for inquiry are acquired through active experience. These process skills support the development of reasoning and problem-solving ability and are the core of scientific methodologies.

## **9th-12th grades - Health and Physical Education**

This course encourages students to take responsibility for their mental, physical, and emotional well-being, and thereby promote the flourishing of the complete person. Students use contemporary textbooks to study nutrition, personal responsibility, and physical fitness, alongside original source texts from ancient, medieval, and modern eras on issues relating to these topics. Students are encouraged to think philosophically on a wide range of issues and utilize concepts learned in the classroom to analyze challenges they face outside of school. In addition, students will complete a variety of activities throughout the course to improve their psychomotor (physical), cognitive (knowledge) and affective (personal/social behavior) abilities.

# **World Languages**

## **9th grade - Spanish I**

This course introduces the study of the Spanish language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. This course strives to help the learner acquire knowledge by integrating the four basic skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. By the end of this course, students will have acquired skills in basic communication, vocabulary, and grammar, and will have a beginning knowledge of the Hispanic culture. Instruction will gradually change from English to Spanish and by midyear, students will be expected to understand basic Spanish instructions for assignments and classroom tasks.

## **10th grade - Spanish II**

This course helps the student gain an understanding of the Spanish language by integrating the four basic skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The use and immersion of Spanish in the classroom will be the primary goal. An effort to use the language at all times is expected. By the end of this course, students will have solidified their understanding of Spanish I key vocabulary and sentence structures necessary for limited personal communication, as well as learned how to communicate in past, future, and perfect tenses.

### **11th grade - Spanish III**

This course continues the study of spoken and written language. This fast-paced course includes advanced grammar structures, vocabulary, and extensive listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural activities. Instruction and assessment are almost entirely in Spanish and students are expected to communicate in Spanish.

### **12th grade - Spanish IV**

This course further continues the study of spoken and written language while expanding cultural and literary knowledge of the Spanish language. This fast-paced course includes advanced grammar reviews while learning the basics of literary analysis in Spanish. There are also extensive listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural activities. Instruction and assessment are almost entirely in Spanish and students are expected to communicate in Spanish.

### **12th grade - AP Spanish Language and Culture**

This course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. Students should learn language structures in context and use them to convey meaning. In standards-based world language classrooms, the instructional focus is on function and not the examination of irregularity and complex grammatical paradigms about the target language. Language structures should be addressed according to how they serve the communicative task and not as an end goal unto themselves. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives to promote both fluency and accuracy in language use and avoid overemphasis on grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication.

# Electives

## AP Blended Learning

AP courses provide students with an opportunity to study a subject in greater depth and provide insight into college coursework while building the skills students need for the college classroom. Students may elect to take AP courses online individually through school selected third-party providers during normal school day hours. Following the completion of the course, students may opt to take the AP exam for a chance to qualify for AP college credit.

## AP Psychology

This course engages students in the understanding and articulation of psychology as a science. Students are introduced to psychology, with a focus on the scientific study of human development, learning, motivation, and personality. It emphasizes the empirical examination of behavior and mental processes and infuses perspectives fostering students' growth, development, and understanding of cultural diversity. Students of psychology acquire information from a variety of sources, use information as they make decisions and evaluations, and solve problems. The study of psychology enables students to recognize and cope with uncertainty and ambiguity in human behavior.

## Art

This course is open to all interested students. The degrees of difficulty for each grade level will vary according to the abilities of each class as a whole. This course focuses on a variety of art media to build a strong foundation and understanding of art elements, principles of design, art history, and art theory. Lessons focus on engaging a student's imagination, enhancing critical thinking skills, and developing technical and perceptual skills. Students are introduced to artists and art movements from history with follow-up assignments that provide the opportunity to interpret style and themes using their own imagery.

## **Curriculum Assistance**

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who seek a quiet environment to individually complete homework assignments. This is helpful for students who devote large amounts of time to after-school activities or for those who are acclimating to rigorous course loads. Students are expected to arrive to class with individual work to complete.

## **Global Leadership**

This course provides students with insight into the nature and scope of global leadership as well as its successes, limitations, and failures. Students will examine the core traits, behaviors, and values of what makes managers effective leaders. The course will focus on the human side of leadership and management in a global context, exploring how successful leaders have built effective organizations and companies through essential competencies, relationships, visions, and interaction within and across businesses. The course will also assess the importance of cross-cultural and intercultural leadership as well as sensitivity towards a variety of social, ethical, and diversity issues. From this course, learners will become more globally competent through the process of investigating the world, recognizing perspectives, communicating ideas, and taking action.

## **Individualized Blended Learning**

This course is a formal education program in which students may take a variety of courses online through a school-selected third-party provider during the regular school day. This program allows students to access a wider variety of coursework than typically offered through the standard curriculum.

## **Performing Arts**

This course develops and enhances the skills necessary to produce successful music and dramatic performances as individuals and ensembles. Musically, this course focuses on proper technique through rehearsal and performance of a diverse repertoire. Theatrically, this course focuses on acquiring acting techniques and strategies and

provides exposure to a variety of dramatic exercises. Community performances are held throughout the term, and the semester culminates with a concert and play.

## **Philosophy and Ethics**

This course examines the perennial problems in philosophy. Students read selections from a variety of philosophical traditions that help them to uncover that philosophical questions, regardless of age, remain relevant in the 21st century. In addition, this course examines historical philosophers' views on ethics and the ethical systems they formulated in light of the contexts in which they wrote. Through this course, students understand history through the moral ideologies that have and continue to influence the actions of mankind.

## **Religious Foundations of Civilization**

This course provides an academic and historical understanding of the major religions of the world that influence the 21st century. This survey course details the origins of religious movements, as well as the impact of religious traditions on world events. Essential beliefs and practices of Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and Hinduism are detailed for historical and cultural understanding with the essential outcome being an informed understanding of different worldviews.

## **Statistics**

This course for seniors will introduce students to theoretical and practical applications of statistics. In the first section of the course, students will focus on establishing patterns in data as well as the different ways data models vary from the standard models. After the foundation is secured, students will begin conducting studies and use various methods of statistical analysis to interpret the data. Students will also use probability and simulation to describe real-world mathematical scenarios and will explore the simulations using both calculators and other technologies. Finally, students will complete the course by establishing population parameters and using statistical modeling to test a hypothesis about a population. As students progress through the course, they will learn to identify bias in sampling and statistical analysis using current polling data.