Summer Online Course Catalog

Where will this SUMMER take you?

Semester and Year-long Courses

Accredited Online Private School
Laurel Springs School
Laurel Springs School is committed to providing a fine education to all of its students. As part of that commitment, Laurel Springs makes its programs, facilities, and services available on a non-discriminatory basis, including to students with disabilities. Please view our policy on the About Our School page of our website.

The summer months are an ideal time for students to get ahead with online courses that accommodate activities and travel. Students may choose from our catalog of year-long and semester courses, and select from a variety of start dates that work with their schedule.

World Language and elective titles are great choices for students who want to enrich their high school transcript for college applications. Additionally, the Advanced Placement courses that are offered this summer include live exam prep sessions in Spring 2018.

Appropriate time management is key for our summer courses, which follow an accelerated schedule. Students are expected to stay on track with their coursework to finish by their session end date. Our Learning Management System recommends due dates for assignments based on the dates and duration of each course, and students are responsible for submitting their work on schedule. Their designated teachers will provide feedback to match each student’s pace.

To ensure that students have the necessary preparation for academic success, our Summer Orientation will be accessible prior to the course start date.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SUMMER COURSES call our admissions office (800) 377-5890

Accreditation by AdvancED, WASC, and SACS CASI ensures full reciprocity of credits that students earn from Laurel Springs.

Laurel Springs School is committed to providing a fine education to all of its students. As part of that commitment, Laurel Springs makes its programs, facilities, and services available on a non-discriminatory basis, including to students with disabilities. Please view our policy on the About Our School page of our website.
PICK THE DATES THAT FIT YOUR SUMMER SCHEDULE.

Students are encouraged to pick course dates that allow them to enjoy traditional summer activities, such as vacation time and travel. Our semester courses last six weeks, and our year-long courses last twelve weeks, with a Summer Orientation course available prior to the course start date.

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<th>SEMESTER COURSES</th>
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<th>YEAR-LONG COURSES</th>
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<td>May 31–August 22</td>
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Courses must be paid in full upon enrollment. Summer courses are not eligible for tuition refunds.
Lower and Middle School Online Courses

Stay ENGAGED and GET AHEAD for the upcoming school year.

Our goal is to set your child up for success to take an online summer course. When students take a summer course, they are encouraged to create a weekly schedule that includes time to work on assignments within the framework of other activities and obligations. Students will be the most successful if they map out a plan for when they will complete their coursework, gain the support of their family, and stay in frequent contact with their teachers.

Faculty and staff are available during the summer months to help students stay on track with their courses by providing time management advice and strategies. It is imperative that students communicate regularly with teachers to receive helpful feedback and remain on pace with course assignments.

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Math 5

Math 5 students receive instruction from a variety of sources including hands-on activities, interactive lessons, and practical math applications. Students focus on several critical areas including developing fluency with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of fractions. They will learn to extend division to 2-digit divisors, integrate decimal fractions into the place value system, and perform operations with decimals to hundredths. They will also develop fluency with whole numbers and decimal operations. The first semester begins with operations and expressions, moves into decimals and money, and ends with more work on fractions. Students will gain valuable skills throughout the semester as they carry out real-life simulations such as grocery shopping. The second semester begins with continued work with fractions. Students will also study the measurement of length, weight, and volume. They will end the course with a focus on geometry. Varied types of instruction are used to enhance student learning including video, real-life applications, activities, and creative projects.

Science

5th Grade Science emphasizes earth and space science, life science, and physical science. Students begin the course by investigating the solar system and planets, and then turn their focus to physical science and the tools that measure force, time, and distance. The semester concludes with a look into life science and the ways that organisms are interconnected. Part B of the course emphasizes life science. The semester begins with an examination of the many ecosystems of the earth and the way that all parts of ecosystems depend on each other. Students will explore the ways ecosystems change and how those changes affect an ecosystem’s ability to support its populations. They will also examine how plant structure allows plants to respond to different environmental stimuli. In addition, students will develop an understanding of the importance of good nutrition to all living organisms. The course concludes with a look into the scientific process and the importance of investigations and conclusions in the study of science. Instruction includes real-life applications, hands-on projects and assessments, videos, and short research projects.

English

5th grade English integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of vocabulary and grammar in a way that engages today’s learners and supports them in building a broad and diverse set of literacy skills. Students study classic literature as well as more contemporary forms, including media and multimedia products. Writing assignments expose students to writing for a variety of different purposes including narration, persuasion, and exposition. Students also learn how to participate in collaborative discussion and peer review sessions. In each lesson, engaging and relevant models and step-by-step instruction guide students toward mastery and appreciation of 21st century communication in all its forms and functions.

Social Studies

5th Grade Social Studies combines the study of United States history through the Civil War with a geographical exploration of the United States. Course topics include the early settlements of North America, the Revolutionary War and the people that played a significant role in it, the new nation and what life was like for European immigrants and those on the frontier, slavery and the causes of the Civil War, and the cultures, people, and geography of the United States from past to present. Students will explore the country region by region and come to appreciate all that it has to offer. Students conclude the course by planning and describing a trip they would like to take to a particular place within the United States. They will take a hands-on approach as they get to know the geography, climate and culture of their country. Video, creative projects involving technology, journaling, and varied assessments will be used throughout the course.

Grade 6

English

6th Grade English integrates literature, vocabulary, writing and grammar together in a 21st Century setting. Students will be given the opportunity to create blogs (on-line journals) where they can log and reflect upon their independent reading. They will also be asked to engage in discussion forums where they will post their writing for the teacher and other students enrolled in the course to view and respond. Students have the opportunity to create a multimedia report rather than a traditional research paper. This course will help students to become life-long learners who are actively engaged in their own learning and who take ownership of their scholastic endeavors.

Social Studies

Ancient Civilizations

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

**Math 6**
Students begin the first semester of Math 6 with a review of basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers. More complex concepts are built upon these basics. Students learn how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide integers, decimals, and fractions. The course also includes lessons on ratios and proportions. The second semester of Math 6 introduces students to the order of operations in solving application problems. Building on these concepts, students are introduced to the basics of algebra and algebraic expressions. They then learn how to apply these problem-solving skills to percents and solving single and multiple step equations. An exploration of Geometry, probability and statistics concludes the second semester.

**Science Earth Science**
6th Grade Science introduces students to a variety of science topics, skills and ideas spanning the disciplines of life science, earth science, and physical science. Students will have the opportunity to explore several different scientific fields through research, experimentation, and interactive activities. Throughout the course, students will use the scientific method and understand that the scientific method applies to all scientific disciplines and endeavors.

**Grade 7**

**English**
Through this exciting course, students will engage in an interactive, hands-on array of reading and writing activities designed to enhance and integrate literacy across all content areas – science, social studies, math, art and more. Students will develop effective communication skills through listening, speaking, and writing via activities designed to strengthen vocabulary, improve grammar, and reinforce reading comprehension through strategy instruction. Students will gain a greater appreciation for literature while recognizing the application of new life-skills through reading and writing activities designed to teach and incorporate fun at the same time. Colorful and interactive activities will motivate and facilitate better reading and writing skills to keep students constantly engaged.

**Social Studies World History & Cultures**
In World History and Cultures, students explore the disciplines of world history, landform and geography, money and economics, the powers and parallels of political science, sociology, and anthropology. Beginning with the mysteries of the ancient empires of the Americas, students study the fall of the Roman Empire, the rise of the Franks in Europe, and the enchanting Kingdom of Ghana. Students investigate Revolutionary Europe, the Industrial Revolution, Nationalism and Imperialism, World Wars I and II, the wonders of Colonial India, the United Nations as a peacekeeping and political force, the politics of the war in Vietnam, past and current issues in the Middle East, and modern Africa. The course ends with a broad but compelling introduction to the Information and Space Ages.

**Math Pre-Algebra**
Pre-Algebra students gain mastery in working with and evaluating mathematical expressions, equations, graphs, and other topics. This course is divided into 5 units of study: Basics, Fractions, Decimals and Percent, Number Basics, and Word Problems. Assessments within the course include multiple-choice, short answer, or extended response questions. Also included in this course are self-check quizzes, audio tutorials, and interactive games.

**Science 7**
7th Grade Science provides students with enlightenment and instruction on the nature of science. The course uses a discovery process to teach the scientific method and the use of metric measurements in scientific investigations. Next, students study the universe, stars, constellations, and objects in the solar system. From there, students discover how Earth materials are formed and what they can teach us about our planet’s past. They investigate the natural processes that shape Earth’s ecosystem and landscape and the creation of different environments. Next, they study the basic concepts of force, motion and equilibrium. Students then explore human biology with a special emphasis on body systems and the functions that contribute to biological wellness. Finally, students examine the basics of environmental science, including agricultural science and its impact on biotechnology as well as the effects of human interaction with the earth. Through the use of stunning photography and lively animation, students interact with endangered species and learn about natural resource use, environmental health, pollution, and biodiversity.
English
In 8th Grade English, students learn to read critically with full comprehension across genres and communicate through effective writing. As students develop critical reading and writing skills, they will make important life connections through the variety of material they study. Additionally, students will practice vocabulary, grammar, and listening skills with each weekly lesson. All material will be connected to a universal theme for each unit: Tolerance; Determination; Social Justice; Times of War; Search for Self; and Cultural Traditions. As students encounter a variety of text structures and multi-media, they will be able to see how these different elements connect to one large idea and see how these large ideas connect across other content areas being studied. Each student will be required to engage in activities and assessments that require critical thinking skills and that meet rigorous academic expectations. As students complete this course, they will be able to see the relevance that this course has in their daily lives and their future academic and career goals.

Social Studies
U.S. History
Students build on their knowledge of geography, civics, and political societies beginning with the world as it was in the 1500s followed by the natural unfolding of events from the explorations, the establishment the colonies, the colonial era leading up to the causes of and including the French and Indian War and The Revolutionary War. The development of American government from a confederation to a constitutional one, the launching of the Republic, through the War of 1812, the growth and development of the nation through the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark exploration on through Manifest Destiny and the Mexican War will follow. Students will explore the changes in the nation from immigration and abolition issues to the Civil War and Reconstruction, westward expansion, to the development of the U.S. as a world power and into World War One. They will explore the 1920’s, the Great Depression and World War Two.

Math
Students select either Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1.

Pre-Algebra
Pre-Algebra students gain mastery in working with and evaluating mathematical expressions, equations, graphs, and other topics. This course is divided into 5 units of study: Basics, Fractions, Decimals and Percent, Number Basics, and Word Problems. Assessments within the course include multiple-choice, short-answer, or extended response questions. Also included in this course are self-check quizzes, audio tutorials, and interactive games.

Algebra 1
Algebra I is the foundation; the skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future high school math courses. The material covered in this course is important, but everyone can do it. Anyone can have a good time solving the hundreds of real-world problems algebra can help to answer. Hands-on labs make the numbers, graphs, and equations more real. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the skills and strategies to solve all kinds of mathematical problems.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Science 8
This course provides a rigorous and comprehensive foundation for the 8th-grade student about to enter high school science. It covers the relevant topics in all the major scientific disciplines, building on prior knowledge and expanding on subjects introduced earlier in middle school. Students begin with a review of the scientific process and get deeper into critical analysis of theories and experimental research. They will move on to discuss principles of physical science and energy. In the life science portion of the course, students will cover structure and function of organisms, genetics and evolution, and tenets of ecology. This will flow into the environmental science topics including earth’s cycles and environmental problems. A brief discussion of the solar system will also be covered. Students will learn about the assigned topics through interactive activities, experimentation, discussion, and engaging text and animations.

LaurelSprings.com (800) 377-5890 Where will this summer take you?
Health & PE

Grade 4
The Fourth Grade Health and Physical Education Portfolio combine a semester of P.E. with a semester of health, all in a fun workbook format. Students choose their own physical education activities while completing worksheets on the human body. Some of the health topics covered include: self-esteem, friends, growing up, emotions, importance of rest and sleep, nutrition, safety, families, and effects of tobacco.

Grade 5
5th Grade Health/P.E. combines the study of various aspects of human health with the practice of physical activities to promote physical well-being and health. Students learn about the importance of physical activity, eating a balanced diet, emotional health, bike safety and much more. Students select one or more physical activities to focus on for the year. Students set personal fitness and skill attainment goals for their chosen activities and report on those goals as they progress through the year.

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

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

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

Kindergarten-Grade 2

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

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

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

Grades 3–5

Spanish 1
This course for beginners with little exposure to world languages is geared toward younger minds that are still especially receptive to language learning through contextual interpretation and imitation. Highly visual and amusing stories and activities are geared toward these developing children, encouraging them to begin telling stories themselves. This course is not just a set of language lessons, but an appealing adventure for young minds, rich with graphics, games, and engaging interactive activities. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress. Communication expressions include greetings, introductions, songs, por favor and gracias and other expressions of daily courtesy, simple storytelling, and free-response questions. Vocabulary starts with numbers from 1-10, animals, and shapes before moving into days of the week, seasons, colors, fruits and vegetables, simple directions, and useful “around town” expressions. Grammar moves from simple sentence construction, first-and third-person verbs, and indefinite articles to demonstrative pronouns, simple conjunctions, simple possession, and ser and estar. Children also begin to encounter the third-person past tense, imperative verbs, and second-person present-tense verbs. Cultural topics introduce the geography and customs of Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish 2
The adventure story continues to build upon the base of vocabulary and linguistic structures introduced in Elementary Spanish 1. Interactive activities and increasingly challenging games continue to drive children toward a strong set of intermediate language skills. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress. Communication expressions include social exchanges, more complex storytelling, songs, recipes, word puzzles, and interrogative words. Vocabulary includes advanced family- and animal-related words and a review of numbers. Poems, stories, and songs are used throughout. Grammar moves from negative and reflexive verbs and third-person plural present verbs to noun-adjective agreement, first-person past-tense verbs, and the plural imperative. Cultural topics include cuisine, climate, geography, and history.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary Spanish 1 or equivalent
French 1
This course for beginners with little exposure to world languages is geared toward younger minds, still especially receptive to language learning through contextual interpretation and imitation. Highly visual and amusing stories and activities are geared toward these developing children, encouraging them to begin telling stories themselves. This course is not just a set of language lessons, but an appealing adventure for young minds, rich with graphics, games, and engaging interactive activities. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress. Communication expressions include greetings, introductions, oui and non, s’il vous plaît and merci and other familiar phrases, songs, simple storytelling, and description activities. Vocabulary starts with ja and nein, danke and bitte and other familiar phrases, songs, simple storytelling and description activities. Vocabulary starts with ja and nein, danke and bitte and other familiar phrases, songs, simple storytelling, and description activities. Grammar starts with simple nouns, first-, second-, and third-person present-tense verbs, direct and indirect articles, the conjunction und, the pluralization of nouns, third-person plural present-tense verbs, third-person past-tense verbs, simple prepositions, and expressions conveying "there is", "there are", "isn't", and "will be." Cultural topics introduce the geographies and customs of German-speaking countries, with a special focus on German-speaking Switzerland.

German 1
This course for beginners with little exposure to world languages is geared toward younger minds, still especially receptive to language learning through contextual interpretation and imitation. Highly visual and amusing stories and activities are geared toward these developing children, encouraging them to begin telling stories themselves. This course is not just a set of language lessons, but an appealing adventure for young minds, rich with graphics, games, and engaging interactive activities. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress. Communication expressions include greetings, introductions, ja and nein, danke and bitte and other familiar phrases, songs, simple storytelling, and description activities. Vocabulary starts with animals, body parts, numbers, shapes, small objects, and colors, before moving on to food, farm-related words, useful "around town" expressions, and household terminology. Grammar starts with simple nouns, first-, second-, and third-person present-tense verbs, direct and indirect articles, the conjunction und, the pluralization of nouns, third-person plural present-tense verbs, third-person past-tense verbs, simple prepositions, and expressions conveying "there is", "there are", "isn't", and "will be." Cultural topics introduce the geographies and customs of German-speaking countries, with a special focus on German-speaking Switzerland.

French 2
The adventure story continues to build upon the base of vocabulary and linguistic structures introduced in Elementary French 1. Interactive activities and increasingly challenging games continue to drive children toward a strong set of intermediate language skills. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress. Communication expressions include a wider array of social greetings, introductions, simple commands, suggestions, questions, German folk songs, and enhanced storytelling. Vocabulary expands to include the domains of animals, body parts, numbers, shapes, small objects, familial relationships, food, cooking, and new words useful for telling stories such as “The Three Little Pigs” and “Chicken Little” in German. Grammar adds more third-person present-tense verbs, direct and indirect articles, and the conjunction aber, progressing toward new third-person plural present-tense forms, third-person past-tense verbs, additional prepositions, and expressions conveying “very.” Children are also exposed to the simple future tense in the third person.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary French 1 or equivalent

Latin 1
Latin remains a vital tool in improving children’s fundamental understanding of English and other languages. While being, in the strictest sense, a “dead” language, Latin comes alive in this course through the use of gaming and multimedia techniques, creating the foundation for a deep understanding of cultural, political, and literary history. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress. Communication expressions include greetings, introductions, familiar phrases, relationships, cause and effect, likes and dislikes, and questions. Vocabulary progresses from animals, body parts, family relationships, colors, food, plants, and numbers to small objects, shapes, and household words. Grammar begins with simple sentence construction, first- and third-person verbs, demonstrative pronouns, conjunctions, and simple possession before moving on to basic third-person past-tense and imperative forms, as well as certain second-person present-tense forms. Cultural topics introduce the history of the Latin language, and daily practices as well as military, political, and artistic aspects of the Roman Empire.
World Language

Grades 6–8

Spanish 1
This multimedia, game-based course for early teen beginners in Spanish turns adventures and activities into rigorous lessons in grammar and vocabulary, with instruction equivalent to that found in the first semester of high school Spanish I. Listening comprehension, oral production, reading, writing, and cultural awareness are all emphasized in accordance with standards formulated by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages). Communication topics include greetings, introductions, relationships, cause and effect, likes and dislikes, and questions. Vocabulary includes common daily adjectives, animals, body parts, family and household words, colors, food, and numbers 1 to 900. Grammar progresses from simple original sentence construction, verb infinitives, and base forms to irregular verbs, Latin-derived cognates, concrete objects and associated verbs, adjectival agreement, and demonstrative pronouns. Cultural topics include the economies, traditions, histories, and political structures of Spanish-speaking nations.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary Spanish 1 & 2, Middle School Spanish 1, or equivalent

French 1
This multimedia, game-based course for early teen beginners in French turns adventures and activities into rigorous lessons in grammar and vocabulary, with instruction equivalent to that found in the first semester of high school French I. Listening comprehension, oral production, reading, writing, and cultural awareness are all emphasized in accordance with standards formulated by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages). Communication topics include greetings, introductions, relationships, cause and effect, likes and dislikes, and questions. Vocabulary includes common daily adjectives, animals, body parts, family and household words, colors, food, and numbers 1 to 900. Grammar progresses from simple original sentence construction, verb infinitives, and base forms to irregular verbs, Latin-derived cognates, concrete objects and associated verbs, adjectival agreement, and demonstrative pronouns. Cultural topics include the economies, traditions, histories, and political structures of French-speaking nations.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary French 1 & 2, Middle School French 1, or equivalent

Spanish 2
The solid basis acquired in Middle School Spanish 1 is expanded through appealing practice and instruction in the form of games and stories, with instruction equivalent to that found in the second semester of high school Spanish I. These activities guide children to express more complex thoughts and understand native language from a variety of culturally authentic sources. Children increase skills in reading, listening comprehension, and vocabulary as they learn sentence patterns and advanced phrases. They learn to identify objects from descriptions, translate to and from Spanish, create stories, and understand and give directions. Vocabulary emphasizes geography, math, plants, animals, and directions, conveyed through increasingly complex poems, stories, and ditties. Grammar topics include object pronouns with finite and infinite verbs, past- and present-tense verbs, action verbs, imperfect tense, participle verb endings, indicative and subjunctive verb forms, and dependent verb clauses. Cultural topics expand to include higher-level content, with special emphasis on the literary and social treasures of Spanish-speaking countries.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary Spanish 1 & 2, Middle School Spanish 1, or equivalent

French 2
The solid basis acquired in Middle School French 1 is expanded in this course with instruction equivalent to that found in the second semester of high school French I. Children continue their introduction to French with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of world-language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Children are initially trained to recognize key sounds and basic vocabulary, not only in written form but also through ear training that leads quickly to oral production. An ongoing adventure story introduces vocabulary and grammar topics, and prompts children to use skills from the four language-learning areas. They learn fundamental grammar as embedded in authentic spoken language.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary French 1 & 2, Middle School French 1, or equivalent

German 1
This multimedia, game-based course for early teen beginners in German turns adventures and activities into rigorous lessons in grammar and vocabulary, with instruction equivalent to that found in the first semester of high school German I. Children are introduced to the fundamental building blocks in four key areas of world language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. They are initially trained to recognize key sounds and basic vocabulary, not only in written form but also through ear training that leads quickly to oral production. An ongoing adventure story introduces vocabulary and grammar topics, and prompts children to use skills from the four language-learning areas. They learn fundamental grammar as embedded in authentic spoken language.
German 2
The solid basis acquired in Middle School German 1 is expanded in this course with instruction equivalent to that found in the second semester of high school German I. In this continuing introduction to German, children deepen their focus on four key skills in world-language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. A continuing storyline introduces and reinforces new vocabulary, while activities prompt children to analyze meaning from context, and then to reproduce new vocabulary items in functional real-life oral expression. Additional verb tenses and idiomatic expressions are also introduced. As in German 1, children learn grammar through supplemental texts that supply traditional charts, tables, and explanations.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary German 1 & 2, Middle School German 1, or equivalent

Latin 1
This multimedia, game-based course for beginners in Latin transforms a “dead” language into a living one, with instruction equivalent to that found in the first semester of high school Latin I. Students learn the fundamental building blocks of world-language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and cultural presentations covering significant aspects of Roman culture, and assessments. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Chinese 1
This multimedia, game-based course for early teen beginners in Chinese turns adventures and activities into rigorous lessons in grammar and vocabulary, with instruction equivalent to that found in the first semester of high school Chinese I. They learn the elegant simplicity of Chinese grammar and the subtleties of Chinese pronunciation through entertaining lessons that give a base of conversational ability and listening comprehension. Children build a foundation for reading and writing in the Chinese language through an adaptive technology that lets them choose an approach that works best for them. Engaging graphics, videos, and games keep them interested, and make learning a new language exciting.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Mandarin Chinese 1 or equivalent

Latin 2
The solid basis acquired in Middle School Latin 1 is expanded in this course with instruction equivalent to that found in the second semester of high school Latin I. Children continue building the fundamentals: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept; numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar; reading and listening comprehension activities; speaking and writing activities; cultural presentations covering significant aspects of Roman culture; and assessments. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Latin 1 or equivalent

Chinese 2
The solid basis acquired in Middle School Chinese 1 is expanded in this course with instruction equivalent to that found in the second semester of high school Chinese I. They learn the elegant simplicity of Chinese grammar and the subtleties of Chinese pronunciation through entertaining lessons that give a base of conversational ability and listening comprehension. Children build a foundation for reading and writing in the Chinese language through an adaptive technology that lets them choose an approach that works best for them. Engaging graphics, videos, and games keep children interested, and make learning a new language exciting.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Mandarin Chinese 1 or equivalent
Electives

Grades 4–6

Introduction to Coding—Semester
The course uses CodeMonkey to teach students to program an adorable monkey to get all its bananas back from the bad gorilla who stole them. As they progress in the game, students will meet different friends like our trusty turtle, who will help them in their journey as they face more complex challenges to solve. This is a beginning course to teach block coding.

Grades 6–8

Photography: Drawing with Light—Semester
Photographs play an important role in our world. We photograph to preserve memories, document events, and create artistic works. This course introduces students to the basics of photography, including camera functions and photo composition. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve photographs of animals, people, and vacations. They will also begin working with their photographs using photo-editing software. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

Career Explorations—Semester
When you think about your future, what careers do you see? Police officer? Nurse? Farmer? Restaurant manager? In Middle School Career Exploration, you’ll explore careers in more than 15 different career areas. From the energy field to sales and from law to transportation, you’ll learn more about what careers are available and what you need to do to be a success. In addition, you’ll examine how to choose the career that is best for you based on your own unique personality and interests. And you can begin developing your leadership skills now. Middle School Career Exploration will help you prepare for your future now! What do want to be?

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

Environmental Science—Kids4Earth
Kids4Earth offers students opportunities to explore and take action on a wide range of environmental issues. The course features Global 500 Laureates recognized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for their outstanding achievements in bringing about environmental awareness and change. During this course, students will learn that they can and do make a difference through their actions. They will also receive practical advice for protecting and improving the environment. The first semester of the course focuses on the living Earth, both terrestrial and aquatic. The second semester focuses on Earth’s place in the universe, the history of life on Earth, the geological time scale, great turning points in Earth’s history, atmospheric history, and mass extinctions. Endorsed by UNEP, Kids4Earth is aligned to North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) standards for environmental education and California standards for life science education.
Electives

Grades 6–8

Middle School students can take these Upper School electives for high school credit.

**Forensic Science I: Secrets of the Dead**

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

College Prep

**Mythology & Folklore: Legendary Tales**

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

College Prep • UC Approved

**Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals**

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

College Prep
Make the most of your **SUMMER** and **GET AHEAD** for next year.

Summer sessions have become an increasingly popular academic option for students who are looking to remain productive even after they have completed their coursework for the school year. Students tell us all the time about the positive effects of staying engaged over the summer and report being more prepared to hit the ground running for their fall academic program.

Benefits of Taking an Online Summer Course with Laurel Springs:

- Laurel Springs is an accredited private school.
- Our team of professionals has decades of experience working with students’ primary schools to ensure that credits from our courses are transferred to the student’s Upper School transcript.
- Taking summer courses also helps you lighten your course load during the regular school year and enhancing your transcripts.
- Students are able to complete prerequisite courses during the summer so they can enroll in more advanced courses in the fall.
- Wide range of summer start dates to accommodate your busy schedule.

### Upper School Online Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
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<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Grade 9

**English Fundamentals**

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Honors English Fundamentals**

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Grade 10

**World Literature**

In World Literature, students learn how the human experience—real life—is the foundation of the best stories, plays, poems, films, and articles. In each unit of the course, students explore a specific aspect of the human experience such as laughter, obstacles, betrayal, fear, and transformation. Through the study of literature, nonfiction, and life, students explore what it means to be human, what it means to be fulfilled, triumphant, empowered, and transformed. As in life, students have many choices in this course. They choose the order in which they complete the units. Students also choose some of the works they read and have countless choices when it comes to demonstrating what they have learned.

Whether reading a poem or a novel, writing a story or an analysis, or studying a Shakespearean tragedy or a modern suspense film, students explore what it means to be human, a subject on which they are already experts!

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Honors World Literature**

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved
Grade 11

**American Literature**

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Honors American Literature**

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Grade 12

**British Literature**

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Honors British Literature**

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College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

**Shakespearean Literature—Semester**

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

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

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

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

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP English Literature & Composition

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

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved
Social Studies

Grade 9

World Cultures
In this course, students explore the planet continent by continent, nation by nation, culture by culture, and people by people. Using up to date, compelling online resources and activities, students study each region to more clearly see its similarities and differences to other regions. Exploration of each new region begins with a study of where each region is located as well as physical characteristics including absolute and relative location, climate, and significant geographical features. Next, students study each region from a cultural, economic, and political perspective, paying particular attention to the effects of human behavior on the region. Students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams, online discussions, projects and writing assignments to establish an understanding of human and physical geography.

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Honors World History
The main objective of this course is to present a global history from the very beginnings of agriculture and herding to present-day. Students will view the main periods of human history through the lens of global contact. Topics covered include the beginning of civilization, empires of the Mediterranean world, the world in transition, the emergence of modern nations, the development of industrial society, world wars in the 20th century, and contemporary global issues. As with all human endeavors, nothing in history happens in isolation, and the course acknowledges this concept by prompting honors level students to consider the reverberating impacts of historical events, both on the national scale and on the “ordinary human” level. In the online course, students will use multimedia and online exploration to establish a chronology and understanding of influential historical events. The text-based course is a rich and varied single primary source full of informative photographs, charts, graphics and analytical graphs. Both courses offer research, writing and project opportunities.

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Grade 10

World History
Students in the World History course explore and analyze the social, cultural, political, and economic aspects of key global civilizations throughout human history. Using a variety of instructional resources including primary sources, art, graphs, and maps, students use their creative writing, analysis, critical thinking, and research skills to develop a deep understanding of the connections, patterns, and themes in history. Topics covered include the beginning of civilization, empires of the Mediterranean world, the world in transition, the emergence of modern nations, the development of industrial society, world wars in the 20th century, and contemporary global issues. In the online version, students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams and online discussions to establish a chronology and understanding of influential historical events. The text-based course is a rich and varied single primary source full of informative photographs, charts, graphics and analytical graphs. Both courses offer research, writing and project opportunities.

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Grade 11

American History
Students in this course study the political, cultural, and social development of the United States through a variety of writing assignments, discussions, and projects. The course begins with a review of early exploration and settlement of the Americas, the arrival of European settlers on North American soil, and a reflection of personal customs brought by each culture that may still be present in a student’s family today. Students examine conflicts with Britain and the ideas that lead to the American Revolution including the pivotal people, events, and outcomes of that war. Students will also explore the importance of the Bill of Rights and its impact on American citizenship, the effects of European migration on Native American cultures, the causes and effects of the Civil War as well as reconstruction, immigration, and industrialization. Students will differentiate the domestic impacts of World War I and World War II, progressive reform, U. S. foreign policy, the causes and effects of the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and culminating with leaders and issues of the contemporary United States. In the online course, students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams and online discussions to establish a chronology and understanding of influential historical events. The text-based course is a rich and varied single primary source full of informative photographs, charts, graphics and analytical graphs. Both courses offer research and writing opportunities.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of one year of high school social studies

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved
Honors American History
Students in this course conduct an in-depth study of significant events in the history of the United States. There is a brief review of early exploration and settlement concluding with the arrival of European settlers. Students will then delve deeply into the American Revolution and the founding of the United States. Students are introduced to and investigate World War I, World War II, and the Cold War, making applications to the overall American story. This course will not only address the controversies within issues such as the Civil Rights movement, Women’s Rights movement, and the Vietnam War, but also put them into context and explore their lasting impact on the contemporary United States. Students will write a college-style research paper investigating topics of personal interest and will obtain factual information about history while developing critical and creative thinking skills. Students explore the political, cultural, and social development of the United States through extensive honors level writing and/or in-depth projects, with the added honors level rigor in the areas of critical and creative thinking, essay writing, and analytical exploration. In the online course, students will use multimedia and online exploration to establish a chronology and understanding of influential historical events. The text-based course is a rich and varied single primary source full of informative photographs, charts, graphics and analytical graphs. Both courses offer research and writing opportunities. Prerequisite: Successful completion of one year of high school social studies
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Economics—Semester
Economics students engage in relatable, real-world applications to explore macro- and microeconomic concepts and the American Free Enterprise System. As students are introduced to basic economic principles, they begin thinking like economists and come to realize the importance of understanding different economic systems. Students will analyze and interpret data to understand the laws of supply and demand. Students will also be presented with economic applications in the worlds of business, money, banking, and finance in order to see how economics is applied both domestically and globally. Students also study how the U.S. government is involved in establishing economic stability in the American Free Enterprise System and how the U.S. economy influences the global economy. Students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams, online discussions, projects and writing assignments to establish an understanding of economic systems.
College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved

Honors Philosophy & Ethics—Semester
Students examine in-depth the role of philosophy past, present and future. Upon completion of the course, students can expect to better understand the basic history of the various schools of thought, appreciate various methods for understanding and challenging logical and analytical arguments, and personally explore their own philosophical orientation on many current topics. Imperative ethical and philosophical questions will be examined and analyzed such as: Does right change over time, or depending on circumstances? Which is more powerful, truth or beauty? What is a white lie? Is there a correlation between legal and ethical? Should a behavior be allowed if nobody has a problem with it? Which right is more important, that of the community, or the individual? Is it more honorable to be true to your nature, or to overcome it? Students have the opportunity to respectfully debate views with classmates within a virtual discussion board.
College Prep • NCAA Approved

American Government—Semester
American Government is the study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus of this course is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded as well as the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students study the principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, republicanism, federalism, and individual rights. They also examine the roles of individuals and groups in the American political system with a focus on voting, the electoral process, polling, and interest groups. Students compare the American government with other modern systems and assess the strengths and challenges associated with the American system. The final unit of the course focuses on economic systems, choices, revenue and expenditures, and the budget making process of the United States government. Students will use multimedia and multi-modality resources, quizzes, unit exams, online discussions, writing assignments and projects to develop and show mastery of this subject matter material.
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved
AP U.S. History
In AP U.S. History, students investigate the development of American economics, politics, and culture through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, research, and writing. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law. Through the examination of historical themes and the application of historical thinking skills, students learn to connect specific people, places, events, and ideas to the larger trends of U.S. history. Critical reading activities, feedback-rich instruction, and application oriented assignments hone students’ ability to reason chronologically, to interpret historical sources, and to construct well-supported historical arguments. Students write throughout the course, responding to primary and secondary sources through journal entries, essays, and visual presentations of historical content. In discussion activities, students respond to the positions of others while staking and defending claims of their own. Robust scaffolding, rigorous instruction, relevant material, and regular opportunities for active learning ensure that students can achieve mastery of the skills necessary to excel on the AP exam.
Prerequisite: “A” or “B” in Social Studies
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP World History
This course spans the Neolithic age to the present in a rigorous academic format organized by chronological periods and viewed through fundamental concepts and course themes. Students analyze the causes and processes of continuity and change across historical periods. Themes include human-environment interaction, cultures, expansion and conflict, political and social structures, and economic systems. In addition to mastering historical content, students cultivate historical thinking skills that involve crafting arguments based on evidence, identifying causation, comparing and supplying context for events and phenomenon, and developing historical interpretation.
Prerequisite: “A” or “B” in Social Studies
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP U.S. Government & Politics—Semester
Students in AP U.S. Government & Politics study the intricacies of American political culture through primary source documents and in-depth profiles of presidents, Congress people, and Supreme Court Justices. Students research the roles of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. The course finishes with an examination of policy-building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of American History
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP Microeconomics—Semester
In AP Microeconomics, students study the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers in the economic system. Through learning activities including quizzes, discussions, and document-based questions, students study the nature and functions of product markets and factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1
College Prep • UC Honors Approved Elective • NCAA Approved

AP Macroeconomics—Semester
In AP Macroeconomics, students study the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Through learning activities including quizzes, discussions, and document-based questions, students study national income and price-level determination, economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2
College Prep • UC Honors Approved Elective • NCAA Approved

AP Human Geography—Grades 9-12
The AP Human Geography course is designed to provide college level instruction on the patterns and processes that impact the way humans understand, use, and change Earth’s surface. Students use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world in which we live. Students are challenged to use maps and geographical data to examine spatial patterns and analyze the changing interconnections among people and places.
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP Psychology—Grades 9-12
Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences.
This college level course will expand your knowledge, challenge your mind and, at times, actually be entertaining! It will help you to better understand yourself and those around you.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology
College Prep • UC Honors Approved Elective • NCAA Approved
Grades 9-12

Algebra 1

Algebra 1 is the foundation; the skills acquired in this course contain the basic knowledge needed for all future high school math courses. The material covered in this course is important, but everyone can do it. Anyone can have a good time solving the hundreds of real-world problems algebra can help to answer. Hands-on labs make the numbers, graphs, and equations more real. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. This course is designed to give students the skills and strategies to solve all kinds of mathematical problems.

Honors Algebra 1

The skills acquired in Algebra 1 contain the basic knowledge needed for all future high school math courses. This course is designed to provide students with the skills and strategies to solve a variety of mathematical problems. The content in this course is tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business, and health. In this course, hands-on labs are used to make the numbers, graphs, and equations more real. In addition to the traditional Algebra 1 topics, students in the Honors course have the advantage of working on the composition of functions and inverse functions, solving radical equations, arithmetic and geometric sequences and series. Students will also learn about normal distribution, systems involving non-linear equations, graphing and solving rational equations, and polynomial identities. Students take periodic exams and review material as needed to attain mastery of the content.

Geometry

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

Honors Geometry

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

Algebra 2

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

Math
**Honors Algebra 2**

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

Requirement: Students need a TI-83, TI-84 Plus, or TI-89 graphing calculator.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry or Honors Geometry with an A or B
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Honors Pre-Calculus**

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

Requirement: Students need a TI-83, TI-84 Plus, or TI-89 graphing calculator.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 or Honors Algebra 2 with an A or B
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Pre-Calculus**

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

Requirement: Students need a TI-83, TI-84 Plus, or TI-89 graphing calculator.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

**Calculus**

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

Requirement: Students need a TI-83, TI-84 Plus, or TI-89 graphing calculator.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved
AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus AB is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to one semester of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, business, and engineering. The course emphasizes problems that are expressed graphically, numerically, and algebraically. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve real-world problems. The course continues with techniques of integration, indefinite integrals, definite integrals, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and various applications of integration.

Requirement: Students need a TI-83, TI-84 Plus, or TI-89 graphing calculator.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP Calculus BC

AP Calculus BC is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to two semesters of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and the course moves at a faster pace as compared to AP Calculus AB. This course helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, engineering, and advanced mathematics. Through the study of functions, limits, derivatives, integrals, and infinite series, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions, apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models, and understand change geometrically, visually, analytically, numerically, and verbally.

Requirement: Students need a TI-83, TI-84 Plus, or TI-89 graphic calculator.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved

AP Statistics

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2
College Prep • UC Honors Approved • NCAA Approved
Grades 9-12
Non-Lab Courses

Survey of Earth Science–Semester
In this course, students explore a broad range of introductory topics related to Earth and space. Topics of study include early Earth, geological history, fossils, minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes. Additionally, students will learn about the carbon and nitrogen cycles, the atmosphere, the ozone layer, the greenhouse effect, weather, climate, air and ocean circulation patterns, the solar system, and our galaxy.
College Prep

Honors Survey of Earth Science–Semester
In this course, students explore a broad range of introductory topics related to Earth and space. Topics of study include early Earth, geological history, fossils, minerals and rocks, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes. Additionally, students will learn about the carbon and nitrogen cycles, the atmosphere, the ozone layer, the greenhouse effect, weather, climate, air and ocean circulation patterns, the solar system, and our galaxy. Historical achievements in the field of Earth Science and consideration of potential future developments contribute to students' learning and personal development. Students also have the opportunity to engage in independent research on subjects of students' interest.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of previous science course with an A or B
College Prep

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

Grade 9-12
Lab Courses

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

Biology
Biology introduces the fundamental concepts including the nature of life, basic chemistry, animal structure and function, plant structure and function, reproduction and development, genetics, evolution, diversity of living things, and ecology. Through inquiry-based investigations, independent experiments, and activities, students gain firsthand experience with observing, classifying, identifying, measuring, inferring, hypothesizing, interpreting, and predicting. Students conduct kitchen-based laboratory experiments to apply scientific concepts in a practical setting.
Requirement: Students must purchase a lab kit at an additional cost.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of an 8th grade science course
College Prep • NCAA Approved

Honors Biology
This Honors level course is a research and writing intensive version of Biology. Students will learn about the fundamental concepts of biology and how they relate to one another as well as an in-depth look at living things and how they interact. This includes a thorough investigation into classification, the living world, ecology, diversity of life, and conservation biology. Throughout the course and activities, students utilize their strengths in observation, interpretation, and prediction. Students will participate in weekly
thought-provoking lesson activities and short-answer essays and complete a semester term paper on a chosen topic. Students complete a semester term paper on a chosen topic.
Requirement: Students must purchase a lab kit at an additional cost.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of an 8th grade science course with an A or B

Chemistry
This introductory chemistry course is designed for students pursuing a technical career or admission to college. Topics of study include phases of matter, atomic and molecular models, polarity, solutions, ionic bonding, stoichiometry, acids and bases, Le Chatelier’s Principle, the mole, nuclear reactions, the periodic table, isomers, molecular orbitals, chemical reactions, energy and change, osmosis, entropy, reaction rates, and more. This course enhances inquiry-based learning activities and instruction emphasizes the mathematical, theoretical, and experimental basis of modern chemistry. Throughout this course, students actively engage in exploration and analysis that will improve their ability to explain and predict phenomena using scientific skills.
Requirement: Students must purchase a lab kit at an additional cost.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Algebra 1

Physics
The branch of science we call physics mainly focuses on matter and energy. It uses the four major concepts: mass, energy, force, and charge. The goal of physics is to describe the behavior of the world. This course stresses the importance of physics in day-to-day life and aims to help students understand the theoretical concepts of physics through practical applications. Students learn and experience the behavior of motion in one- and two-dimensions, force, work, energy, momentum and collisions, gravitation, heat, thermodynamics, waves, electricity, circuits, magnetism, and atomic physics. This helps the student understand its functions and observe the relationship between one another. Around 45% of the course involves virtual laboratories. In addition, the course contains multiple practical activities in each unit that require household objects such as rulers, meter sticks, balls, strings, paper and pencil. The course concludes with a basic exploration of atomic physics and magnetism and the relationship between the two.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry
Co-requisite: Enrollment in Algebra 2

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

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

Honors Marine Science
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AP Biology–Lab
During this course, students are engaged in a wide variety of activities with substantial emphasis on interpreting and collecting data in virtual labs, writing analytical essays, and mastering Biology concepts and connections. The key themes of the AP Biology course are: the scientific processes, the effects of science on technology and society, the chemistry and make-up of living organisms, genetics, diversity, and evolution. Throughout this course, students will be expected to answer questions, reflect on issues, and complete lab activities. The primary emphasis is to develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms and technical details.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 1
College Prep • NCAA Approved

AP Chemistry–Lab
In this course students will build their understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying chemical reactions and electrochemistry, students move on to understand how the chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and arrangements of the molecules, as well as the forces between those molecules. Students will examine the laws of thermodynamics, molecular collisions, and the reorganization of matter in order to understand how changes in matter take place. Finally, students will explore chemical equilibria including acid-base equilibria. This course prepares students for further study in science, the health sciences, or engineering.
Requirement: Students must purchase a lab kit at an additional cost.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2
College Prep • UC Approval requires on-site lab • NCAA Approved

AP Environmental Science
This course provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Additionally, students will learn to identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and human-made. Students will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing problems. Laboratories support student content mastery in both hands-on and virtual experiences.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Chemistry
College Prep • NCAA Approved
World Language

Grades 9-12

Spanish

Spanish 1
Spanish 1 is an introductory course in learning academic Spanish. It is also the foundation course for Spanish 2 and 3. In this course, students begin their introduction to Spanish by building fundamental skills in the four key areas of world language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The majority of study is focused on verb conjugation, grammar, basic vocabulary, and basic pronunciation. Cultural information addresses major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Spanish 2
Spanish 2 is a thorough review of the material learned in Spanish 1 and helps students to expand their mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. The course blends learning the Spanish language with exposure to, and appreciation of, various aspects of Hispanic cultures around the world. Students practice speaking Spanish while conjugating irregular and reflexive verbs and possessive adjectives and pronouns and using both the preterite and imperfect tenses to describe actions in the past. By the second half of the year, the course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Spanish 1 or Middle School Spanish 1 & 2

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Spanish 3
In Spanish 3, students continue to develop fluency in the use of vocabulary, regular and irregular verbs, and more advanced grammatical forms. They deepen their understanding of the Spanish language by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of activities that teach students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through information speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in both formal and information spoken and written contexts. Students also continue exploring cultural practices in Spanish-speaking regions of the world. This course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Spanish 1 & 2

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Spanish 4
Spanish 4, aligned to the national Foreign Language standards, is a continuation of the first three years. Students will continue to sharpen their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the course, students learn to express themselves with more sophisticated vocabulary and grammar. Present-tense verbs, past-tense verbs, articles, and adjectives are all part of the grammar that is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Culture is sprinkled throughout the course in an attempt to help the learner focus on the Spanish speaking world and their culture, people, geographical locations and histories.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Spanish 3

College Prep

French

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

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

French 2
French 2 is a thorough review of the material learned in French 1 and helps students to expand their mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French. The course blends learning the French language with exposure to, and appreciation of, various aspects of Francophone cultures around the world. Students practice speaking French while conjugating irregular and reflexive verbs and possessive adjectives and pronouns and using both the preterite and imperfect tenses to describe actions in the past. By the second half of the year, the course is conducted almost entirely in French.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School French 1 or Middle School French 1 & 2

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved
French 3
In French 3, students continue to develop fluency in the use of vocabulary, regular and irregular verbs, and more advanced grammatical forms. They deepen their understanding of the French language by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of activities that teach students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through information speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in both formal and informal spoken and written contexts. Students also continue exploring cultural practices in Francophone regions of the world. This course is conducted almost entirely in French.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School French 1 & 2
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

French 4
French 4, aligned to the national Foreign Language standards, gives students the opportunity to sharpen listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through activities that are based on proven methods of instruction. Throughout the course, students will learn to express themselves using their growing vocabulary. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind as students expand their usage of different verb tenses and moods. The course is rich in authentic text and native-speaker recordings and presentations to enrich culture, grammar and vocabulary presentations. Cultural lessons and activities appear throughout the course to enhance the student's knowledge of the French-speaking world, including its history and geography.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School French 3
College Prep

German 2
In this continuing introduction to German, students deepen their focus on four key skills in world-language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. A continuing storyline introduces and reinforces new vocabulary, while activities prompt students to analyze meaning from context, and then reproduce new vocabulary items in functional real-life oral expression. Additional verb tenses and idiomatic expressions are also introduced. As in German 1, students learn grammar through supplemental texts supplying traditional charts, tables, and explanations. Engaging graphics, video, and games keep students interested, making learning languages exciting. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School German 1 or Middle School German 1 & 2
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Latin
Latin 1
Latin 1 includes the fundamental building blocks of world-language study: reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking. Students learn Latin vocabulary and are exposed to a wide range of grammar patterns that bolster their understanding of how languages work. They compose Latin sentences and compare and contrast Roman cultural practices, products, and perspectives with other cultures. Student progress is assessed through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions. Each week, students learn new vocabulary and grammar and complete reading, listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities based on the weekly theme. Cultural presentations covering significant aspects of Roman culture provide the student with an opportunity to get to know the ancient Romans and understand the impact that Latin language and culture has on them to this day! The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved
Latin 2
Latin 2 guides students through more advanced study of Latin by exploring ancient mythology. Every two weeks a new myth is introduced that drives the weekly vocabulary, grammar lessons, and culture lessons. The weekly lessons stress the fundamental building blocks of world-language study: reading, writing, listening comprehension, and speaking. Students read and translate the myths and write, both in Latin and in English, in response to prompts based on the myths they are studying. Students listen to the myths read aloud and answer comprehension questions. Students also recite Latin tongue twisters and nursery rhymes to practice speaking in Latin. They also continue to learn more complex Latin grammar and are introduced to more aspects of Roman culture. The students’ progress is assessed weekly through quizzes and speaking/writing submissions. Students have opportunities to compare and contrast the stories they are translating and learning in Latin with more modern stories from different cultures. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Latin 1 or Middle School Latin 1 & 2
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Chinese

Chinese 1
Students use compelling stories, games, videos, and multimedia experiences in this introduction to Chinese. They learn the elegant simplicity of Chinese grammar and the subtleties of Chinese pronunciation through entertaining lessons that help them build foundational skills in conversation and listening comprehension. Students practice reading and writing in the Chinese language through an adaptive technology that lets them choose an approach that works best for them. Engaging graphics, video, and games keep students interested, making learning languages exciting. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress.

College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved

Chinese 2
In Chinese 2, students continue with engaging stories, games, videos, and multimedia experiences. They further their understanding of Chinese grammar and pronunciation through lessons refining previous practice in conversation and listening comprehension. Innovative cultural videos and lessons build awareness of the rich legacy of Chinese culture. Students expand their foundation for reading and writing in Chinese through adaptive technology, providing opportunities to generate fun narratives, a range of well-formed sentences reflecting a solid grasp of grammar structures, and a wide vocabulary. Engaging graphics, video, and games keep students interested, making learning languages exciting. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Mandarin Chinese 1 or Middle School Mandarin Chinese 1 & 2
College Prep • UC Approved • NCAA Approved
Fine Arts

Grades 9-12

Art Appreciation—Semester
This one-semester course will introduce learners to the various forms of the visual arts, such as painting, sculpture, film, and more. Students will learn how to look at a work of art, identify and compare key characteristics in artworks, and understand the role art has played throughout history. Through hands-on activities, virtual museum tours, discussion, and research, learners will develop an overall appreciation for the art they encounter in their daily lives.

College Prep

Art History–Ancient to Modern
The first semester of Art History begins with a general discussion of art and the place of art in the development of human civilization. Students study the oldest known art forms and conduct a global survey of historical art from the dawn of human history through the Byzantine, Romanesque, and Gothic periods. The second semester of the course begins with the Renaissance period and progresses through time to conclude with a study of modern art from America and Mexico. Throughout both semesters, students create simple art projects based on the styles and movements they have studied and use web resources from the greatest museums in the world including the Guggenheim, the Met, and the Louvre.

College Prep

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

Music Appreciation
Online Music Appreciation introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music from the most primitive surviving examples of the art through contemporary works from around the globe. The course is offered in a two-semester format. The first semester covers primitive musical forms and classical music. The second semester presents modern music including jazz, gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop. The course explores the interaction of music and social movements and examines how an emerging global society and the Internet are bringing musical forms together in new ways all over the world.

College Prep

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

College Prep

AP Fine Arts
Grades 11-12

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

College Prep
Health & Personal Wellness—Semester

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

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements

Physical Education Portfolio

Choose any sport or exercise program, including but not limited to aerobics, baseball, basketball, football, ice skating, martial arts, mountain biking, tennis, equestrian training, skiing, surfing, or dance. In order to receive credit, you will document your activities in our online learning system or in our secure online community site called MyLaurelSprings by creating a blog. Students will be required to comment on other students’ blogs. At the end of the course, students will have the opportunity to make a live presentation about their program to an audience of their peers.

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements

Advanced PE 1—Semester

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

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements

Advanced PE 2—Semester

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

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements

Fitness Fundamentals 1—Semester

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

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements

Fitness Fundamentals 2—Semester

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

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements

Walking Fitness—Semester

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

Meets Elective Graduation Requirements
Electives

All electives are semester courses unless noted.

Grades 9-12

ACT Preparation
This course utilizes the award winning ACT PrepWorks software for English, Science, and Math. Students will use adaptive content that builds on each section of the ACT exam. Students will take a pre-test for each section and then complete lessons and practice questions before taking a post test. Students will also take three full length ACT practice exams
College Prep

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

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

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

AP Computer Science A—Full-Year
AP Computer Science A is equivalent to the first semester of a college-level introductory computer science course. The course involves developing the skills to write programs or part of programs to correctly solve specific problems. AP Computer Science A also emphasizes the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and when appropriate, reusable. At the same time, the development of useful computer programs and classes is used as a context for introducing other important concepts in computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms and typical applications. In addition, an understanding of the basic hardware and software components of computer systems and the responsible use of these systems are integral parts of the course.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 & 2
College Prep

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

Archaeology: Detectives of the Past
George Santayana once said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The field of archeology helps us to better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped to shape our modern world. This course focuses on this techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students will learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artefacts are located and preserved. Finally, students will learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.
College Prep
Astronomy: Exploring the Universe
Why do stars twinkle? Is it possible to fall into a black hole? Will the sun ever stop shining? Since the first glimpse of the night sky, humans have been fascinated with the stars, planets, and universe that surrounds us. This course will introduce students to the study of astronomy, including its history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Additional topics include the solar system, the Milky Way and other galaxies, and the sun and stars. Using online tools, students will examine the life cycle of stars, the properties of planets, and the exploration of space.
College Prep • UC Approval requires on-site lab

Biotechnology: Unlocking Nature’s Secrets
Can we bring back extinct species? Will the cures for cancer, malaria, and other diseases come from the combination of natural materials and new technologies? How is science changing the foods we eat? Welcome to the world of biotechnology! In this course, you will explore the history of biotechnology, including early attempts at food preservation, the development of antibiotics, and changes to food crops around the world. You’ll also learn more about some of the challenges of biotechnology, such as the growth of antibiotic resistant bacteria and questions about the safety of commercially produced genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Finally, you’ll research new biotechnologies and how they are changing the world we live in.
College Prep • UC Approved

Careers in Criminal Justice
Most of us have watched a sensationalized crime show at one time, but do we really know how things work behind those dreaded prison bars? The criminal justice system is a very complex and serious field that requires many dedicated people willing to pursue equal justice for all. Careers in Criminal Justice will begin to illuminate exactly what those career choices are and how the juvenile justice system, the correctional system, and the trial process all work together to maintain social order. Find out exactly what happens when the television show ends and reality begins.
College Prep • UC Approved

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

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

Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact
Digital Photography I focuses on the basics of photography including aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students are introduced to the history of photography and basic camera functions. Students use the basic techniques of composition and camera functions to build a portfolio of images with various subjects including people, landscapes, close-up photos, and action shots.
College Prep • UC Approved

Consumer Math—Full-Year
This comprehensive review and study of arithmetic skills apply to both personal and vocational business opportunities. Topics include whole numbers, fractions, percentages, basic statistics, and graphs. Practical applications in finance, taxes, budgeting, banking and home ownership are provided.
College Prep

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

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Entrepreneurship: Starting Your Business

Do you dream of owning your own business? This course can give you a head start in learning about what you’ll need to own and operate a successful business. Students will explore creating a business plan, financing a business, and pricing products and services.

College Prep • UC Approved

Forensic Science I: Secrets of the Dead

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

College Prep

Forensic Science II: More Secrets of the Dead

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

College Prep

Foundations in Personal Finance

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

College Prep

Gothic Literature: Monster Stories

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Great Minds in Science: Ideas for a New Generation

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Health Sciences: The Whole Individual

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

College Prep • UC Approved
Electives

History of the Holocaust

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Introduction to Computer Science and Coding (Honors)

The introduction to computer science curriculum teaches the foundations of computer science and basic programming. Once students complete the Introduction to Computer Science and coding course, they will have learned material equivalent to a semester college introductory course in Computer Science and be able to program in JavaScript. The course features CodeHS curriculum customized for Laurel Springs.

College Prep • UC Approved

Introduction to Forestry & Natural Resources

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Introduction to Manufacturing: Product Design & Innovation

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

College Prep • UC Approved

International Business: Global Commerce in the 21st Century

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Human Geography: Our Global Identity

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

College Prep • UC Approved

Hospitality & Tourism: Traveling the Globe

With greater disposable income and more opportunities for business travel, people are traversing the globe in growing numbers. As a result, hospitality and tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. This course will introduce students to the hospitality and tourism industry, including hotel and restaurant management, cruise ships, spas, resorts, theme parks, and other areas. Student will learn about key hospitality issues, the development and management of tourist locations, event planning, marketing, and environmental issues related to leisure and travel. The course also examines some current and future trends in the field.

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

Journalism: Investigating the Truth
Are you always the first one to know what's going on at school or in your town? Maybe your Facebook or Instagram accounts are the reliable place to find the latest breaking news? If so, you are just the kind of person every online, print, and broadcast news outlet is searching for, and Journalism: Investigating the Truth is the perfect course for you! Learn how to write a lead that really “grabs” your readers, interview sources effectively, and write engaging news stories. You will explore the history of journalism and how the modern world of social media can provide an excellent platform for news. Turn your writing, photography, and collaborative skills into an exciting and rewarding journalism career.
College Prep • UC Approved

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

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

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

Nano Science 1
Grades 11 & 12 Science Elective
This is an eye-opening survey course designed to introduce nanotechnology. For each topic, the course presents the fundamental scientific principles of nanomaterials and discusses the engineering of these nanomaterials into functional devices, which will become the next generation of consumer products. Each lecture emphasizes the science underlying the most advanced applications of nanotechnology which, as we will see, can be explained using the existing laws, theories, and principles of physics, chemistry, and biology. This course is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards. You will explore how nanomaterials can be integrated into functional devices to greatly improve the next generation of consumer products. Nanotechnology is a rapidly growing field of “STEM” (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). A highly interdisciplinary study, nanotechnology embraces concepts from biology, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, and physics, and encompasses the manipulation of very small materials, called “nanomaterials.”
Pre-Requisite: Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 1
College Prep

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

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

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

Personal Psychology II: Living in a Complex World
Personal Psychology II continues the study of self-improvement initiated in Personal Psychology I. Topics include memory, intelligence, emotion, health, stress, and personality. This course features virtual psychology experiments that give students insight into human behavior.
College Prep • UC Approved

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

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

Public Speaking
The art of public speaking is one which underpins the very foundations of Western society. This course examines those foundations in both Aristotle and Cicero’s views of rhetoric, and then traces those foundations into the modern world. Students will learn not just the theory, but also the practice of effective public speaking, including how to analyze the speeches of others, build a strong argument, and speak with confidence and flair. By the end of this course, students will know exactly what makes a truly successful speech and will be able to put that knowledge to practical use.
College Prep • UC Approved

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

SAT Preparation
This course utilizes the award winning SAT PrepWorks software for verbal and math. Students will use adaptive content that builds on each section of the redesigned SAT. Students will take a pre-test for each section and then complete lessons and practice questions before taking a post test. Students will also take three full length SAT practice exams.
College Prep

LaurelSprings.com (800) 377-5890
Sociology I: The Study of Human Relationships
The world is becoming more complex. How do your beliefs, values and behavior affect the people around you and the world in which we live? Students will examine social problems in our increasingly connected world, and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.
College Prep • UC Approved

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

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

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

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

Theater, Cinema, & Film Production—Full-Year
Lights! Camera! Action! This course will introduce students to the basics of film and theater productions. Students will learn about the basics of lighting, sound, wardrobe, and camerawork for both film and theater settings. The course also explores the history of film and theater and the influence that they have had on society. Students will analyze and critique three influential American films, Casablanca, Singin’ in the Rain, and The Wizard of Oz.
College Prep • UC Approved

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

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

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

College Prep • UC Approved