Our Mission

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

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Lower & Middle School

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Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
Students in kindergarten English will begin to identify and write each letter and learn the sounds the letters produce through a structured phonics program. They will engage in rich literature selections that will build comprehension skills, increase fluency and instill a love of reading. Students will begin to read and write simple phonetic words. They will also read for 30 minutes each day in a book of their choosing and engage in retelling activities.

MATH | TEXT
In the Kindergarten Math course, students will build foundational skills with interactive, step-by-step instructions and activities in key math concepts covering counting, sequence, place value of whole numbers, addition, real-world problems, subtraction, comparing weights, and identifying shapes.

SCIENCE | TEXT
Kindergarten Science encourages students to learn with hands-on exploration. They will learn to investigate, ask questions and draw conclusions through the use of flipcharts and equipment kits. 21st-century skills are introduced through STEM lessons and labs. Students will learn about animals and their habitats, plants, weather and the seasons, energy, and motion.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
In Kindergarten Social Studies, children will learn about the foundational concepts of identity, diversity, cooperation, and citizenship. These themes, among others, are woven into a discovery of significant people, places, and historical events. Children will also be introduced to using primary sources, maps, and time lines to learn about the world around them.

Online Curriculum

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

MATH | ONLINE
During the first semester students will learn foundational math facts. They will learn to count to 12, how to compare sizes, ordinal numbers putting items in order, what a number line is and its uses, basic measurements such as inches and feet, and how to tell time on digital and analog clocks. Students will have many opportunities to practice these new concepts by interacting with online confirmation exercises and filling out worksheets offline. A special emphasis this semester is for students to have fun with numbers, finding success with concepts such as bigger and smaller and being comfortable in an online environment. Students learn to count to twenty. They work with comparing objects using the terms tall, longer, and shorter as well as comparing two objects using the terms lighter and heavier. They will continue their exploration of basic geometric shapes such as cones and spheres. The will work with the concept of first, middle, and last. Arranging and sorting receive special emphasis this semester. Students will also work on writing numbers with 3, 4, and 5 given special attention. Students will learn the concepts of left and right. Coins are also a focus as students will count pennies, nickels and dimes. Finally, the number 7 is studied using the colors of the rainbow. Projects include making paper fingers and thumbs and creating designs with them. They will also make the numbers 1-10 out of dough.

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

SOCIAL STUDIES | ONLINE
This course introduces students to their place in the community and the responsibilities of being a member of society. Great figures of U.S. history such as Pocahontas, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are a focus of learning in this semester. Students will also learn about everyday heroes, the responsibilities of pet ownership, the importance of rules, table manners, and eating well. A skill that students will practice throughout the semester is retelling stories. Students may do this by recording audio, retelling the stories orally, or writing their observations. They will learn how to use details and basics of narratives. Projects will help students think about what pets need and defining emotions. In the second semester students are introduced to map reading skills. They will be taught to read maps of the U.S. and the world. From learning about location to how water is represented to floor plans, students are introduced to map skills that will last a lifetime. Students will also learn about symbols of the U.S. such as the American flag and the eagle. From there students learn about holidays with a particular focus on Thanksgiving. Another focus is on currency. They will be introduced to what money is, how money can be spent, the power of buying locally, and the difference between wants and needs. Projects will include a piece on distinguishing facts from fiction, buying locally, and focusing on the differences between needs and wants.
Kindergarten

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Portfolio | Online
Kindergarten Health helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include identifying feelings, conflict resolution, basic anatomy and physiology, nutrition, safety, managing stress, keeping the environment healthy and community helpers. Students record activity in a journal.

Online Curriculum

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

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

Math | TEXT
In the First Grade Math course, students will build on previously learned concepts and are provided with step-by-step instructions and activities in new math concepts covering numbers in base ten, counting, place value of whole numbers, subtraction, addition, properties of operation, measurement and data, time, how to interpret data, and identifying two and three-dimensional shapes.

Science | TEXT
First Grade Science encourages students to learn with hands-on exploration. They will learn to investigate, ask questions and draw conclusions through the use of flipcharts and equipment kits. 21st-century skills are introduced through STEM lessons and labs. Students will learn how scientists work and apply these skills to observe and learn about plant life, animals and how they differ, and earth resources.

Social Studies | TEXT
In 1st Grade Social Studies, children will begin to orient themselves with their surroundings. They will develop investigative skills that guide them to make connections to the people and places closest to them. They will celebrate community and country through interactive explorations all while building the skills they need to understand their place in the world.

Grade 1

Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
Students in 1st grade English will continue to learn phonics through a structured program. They will build their comprehension and fluency skills through the use of engaging, rich literature selections. Students will begin to learn the conventions of writing and grammar. Students will also read for 30 minutes each day in a book of their choosing and engage in retelling activities.

MATH | TEXT
In the First Grade Math course, students will build on previously learned concepts and are provided with step-by-step instructions and activities in new math concepts covering numbers in base ten, counting, place value of whole numbers, subtraction, addition, properties of operation, measurement and data, time, how to interpret data, and identifying two and three-dimensional shapes.

SCIENCE | TEXT
First Grade Science encourages students to learn with hands-on exploration. They will learn to investigate, ask questions and draw conclusions through the use of flipcharts and equipment kits. 21st-century skills are introduced through STEM lessons and labs. Students will learn how scientists work and apply these skills to observe and learn about plant life, animals and how they differ, and earth resources.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
In 1st Grade Social Studies, children will begin to orient themselves with their surroundings. They will develop investigative skills that guide them to make connections to the people and places closest to them. They will celebrate community and country through interactive explorations all while building the skills they need to understand their place in the world.
Grade 2

Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
Students in 2nd grade English will continue with a structured phonics program as they are introduced to word families. They will learn the conventions of writing and grammar and build fluency and comprehension skills through the use of engaging and rich literature selections. Students will also read for 30 minutes each day in a book of their choosing and engage in retelling activities.

MATH | TEXT
In 2nd Grade Math, students build on previously learned concepts and are provided with step-by-step instructions and activities of new math concepts. Real-world applications will teach them how to work with money and time to compare value. They will also collect data, build graphs, and discuss the information. Students will start working with the multiplication table and continue learning about 2 and 3 dimensional shapes.

SCIENCE | TEXT
Second Grade Science encourages students to learn with hands-on exploration. They will learn to investigate, ask questions and draw conclusions through the use of flipcharts and equipment kits. 21st-century skills are introduced through STEM lessons and labs. Students will apply their scientific skills to learn how plants and animals adapt to their environment, earth and its resources.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
In 2nd Grade Social Studies, children are given the tools to investigate our country and world through the lenses of history, geography, economy, and government. In each chapter, they will learn about ways in which people interact with the world around them and explore ways that they can impact their own world as well. They will make connections between their community’s past and present to prepare themselves for their role in their community’s future.

Online Curriculum

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

SOCIAL STUDIES | ONLINE
Students will begin to explore the basic fundamentals of social studies by exploring the Ancient Cultures of China, Africa, and the Celts through ancient folk tales and fables. They will examine the importance of geography and direction. Learners will be introduced to economics and the role that money plays in every civilization. Students learn the difference between natural, human, and capital resources and will gain a basic understanding of what scarcity is and why it is good that we do not always get everything that we want. Students will learn about Rosa Parks and Susan B. Anthony through short stories.

MATH | ONLINE
Students will build fluency with basic math facts and add and subtract within 1000 to solve word problems using strategic methods. Students with demonstrate arrays with repeated addition. They will use place value to estimate and solve word problems to demonstrate skills. Students will measure and compare length and represent it on a number line. They will work with money and time to compare value. Students will collect data and represented on graphs to discuss it. They will recognize common 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes by specific characteristics.

SCIENCE | ONLINE
Second Grade Science introduces students to the process of observation and how important it is to the study of science. Students will use their observation skills throughout the course as they examine many different types of animals and their environments. Learners will come to understand the different groupings of animals. They will also learn how animals communicate and the relationship between animals and humans. Grade 2 Science provides students with the opportunity to expand their minds and see for themselves the way that animals and nature are a part of their everyday lives.
Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
Students in 3rd grade English will study spelling, writing, reading, grammar, literature, and cursive handwriting. Students will demonstrate audible reading and read choice books throughout the year while keeping a reading journal. The English program promotes effective oral and written communication. The program is based on the writing process with all grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling skills introduced, practiced and reviewed in the context of writing. Handwriting skills are practiced with an emphasis on legibility and consistency of letter formation and spacing. Students continue the transition from manuscript (printing) to cursive writing.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
This year, students will learn about different communities. Students will read about what it was like to live in a different time. They will meet people from communities in other states and countries. They will visit many places to find out how people in different communities live. Students will study history, artifacts, biographies, and maps in their study of communities. Students will learn to think like a historian as they study the history of their community.

MATH | TEXT
Students will review the various mathematical operations of addition and subtraction, then continue with more advanced operations. The topics covered include most of the strands of mathematics: geometry, algebra, fractions, measurement, data and graphs, and probability. Each chapter begins with a Show What You Know section, contains a series of sequential lessons on the topic including a Mid-Chapter Checkpoint, and concludes with a review/test section. Each chapter is also interspersed with problem-solving activities for real-life application.

SCIENCE | TEXT
The performance expectations in third grade help students formulate answers to questions such as: “What is typical weather in different parts of the world and during different times of the year? How can the impact of weather-related hazards be reduced? How do organisms vary in their traits? How are plants, animals, and environments of the past similar or different from current plants, animals, and environments? What happens to organisms when their environment changes? How do equal and unequal forces on an object affect the object? How can magnets be used?” The crosscutting concepts of patterns; cause and effect; scale, proportion, and quantity; systems and system models; interdependence of science, engineering, and technology; and influence of engineering, technology, and science on society and the natural world are called out as organizing concepts for these disciplinary core ideas. In the third grade performance expectations, students are expected to demonstrate grade-appropriate proficiency in asking questions and defining problems; developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, constructing explanations and designing solutions, engaging in argument from evidence, and obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information. Students are expected to use these practices to demonstrate understanding of the core ideas.

Online Curriculum

ENGLISH | ONLINE
This research-based course provides structured lessons on reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, composition, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students study parts of speech including nouns, verbs, adverbs, and prepositions. Students will go through the writing process creating a first-person story and will also write essays, a poem, and a letter to a friend. In addition, appropriate spelling words will be studied throughout the course.

SOCIAL STUDIES | ONLINE
This social studies course covers a variety of topics with the second half focused on the United States. Student will learn about communities and the environment within those communities. They will jump to the distant past and learn a brief history from Mesopotamia through early American history. Along the way, they will look at some important inventions and economic principles. From there, students focus on the United States, how it began and out branches of government. Student will learn how to be a good citizen. The course ends by looking at various cultures (including food and music) and celebrations (including different kinds of holidays).

MATH | ONLINE
This research-based course focuses on computational fluency, conceptual understanding, and problem solving. Students will review addition and subtraction with models, and then will learn what multiplication and division means before practice finding products and quotients with single digit multipliers and divisors. Students will learn about volume, weight, and time as well as finding the area and perimeter of common shapes. Students will end the course learning basic elementary statistical ideas within a financial lesson.
Grade 3

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

HEALTH & WELLNESS
Portfolio | Online
3rd Grade Health helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include personal safety, healthy behaviors, nutrition, disease prevention, conflict resolution, basic anatomy and physiology, and the values of respect and cooperation. Students record activity in a journal.
Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
Students in 4th grade English will study spelling, writing, reading, grammar, literature, and cursive handwriting. Students will demonstrate audible reading and read choice books throughout the year while keeping a reading journal. The English program promotes effective oral and written communication. The program is based on the writing process with all grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling skills introduced, practiced and reviewed in the context of writing. Handwriting skills are practiced with an emphasis on legibility and consistency of letter formation and spacing. Students complete transition from manuscript (printing) to cursive writing.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
Fourth Grade History is based upon the Houghton Mifflin Social Studies Series. It covers the various regions of our country from their early beginnings through their most important contributions to our shared history. The course covers our land and its resources, the economy, the people, and the biographies of significant individuals, as well as our place in the world. Students will learn to think critically, analyze and compare events, and apply these skills in written evaluations and timelines.

MATH | TEXT
Students will review the various mathematical operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, then continue with more advanced operations. The topics covered include all the strands of mathematics: geometry, algebra, fractions, decimals, measurement, data and graphs, and probability. Each chapter begins with a Show What You Know section, contains a series of sequential lessons on the topic including a Mid-Chapter Checkpoint, and concludes with a review/test section. Each chapter is also interspersed with problem-solving activities for real-life application.

SCIENCE | TEXT
In Science, emphasis is placed on the inquiry process, developing investigative skills and understanding the nature of science. Instruction centers on developing student understanding of how to study science, the engineering process, plants & animals, energy and ecosystems, weather, earth & space, properties of matter, changes of matter, energy, electricity, and motion.

Online Curriculum

ENGLISH | ONLINE
This research-based course provides structured lessons on reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, composition, vocabulary, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students study parts of speech including subject-verb agreement, synonyms and antonyms, homophones, and idioms. Students will maintain a reading and a response journal in addition to writing an imaginative story, a persuasive letter, a five-paragraph essay, and a research report. Appropriate spelling words will also be studied throughout the course.

SOCIAL STUDIES | ONLINE
Fourth Grade Social Studies covers various topics including pre-United States history (including Native American and Spanish rule), and important events like the Gold Rush and the Great Depression. US and State governments and constitutions will be explored. Every Unit includes a lab for students to complete allowing them to dive further into the topics discussed and covered. Students will learn California specific items as well as national and global.

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

SCIENCE | ONLINE
This research-based course provides structured lessons designed to introduce students to general science principles in a variety of science disciplines. Student study topics in biology including types of plants and types of animals. In environmental science, students look at ecosystems. Students study weather, rocks, and the moon as part of earth/space science topics. Students finish up looking at the physical science topics of machines, electricity, and waves.
Grade 5

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Portfolio | Online

4th Grade Health helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include personal safety, healthy behaviors, nutrition, disease prevention, conflict resolution, basic anatomy and physiology, and the values of respect and cooperation. Students record activity in a journal.

Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT

5th Grade English includes an anthology of carefully-selected pieces that capture student interest with adventures, mysteries, memorable characters, and prompts that spark creative thinking. Related workbooks develop grammar, spelling, and vocabulary skills while written reports, oral presentations, hands-on projects, and independent readings appeal to the full spectrum of learning styles and dispositions.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT

5th Grade Social Studies begins with the geography of America and continues with a study of the First Americans and their early tribal societies and civilizations as well as the first European explorers and their interactions with native peoples. The heart of the course focuses on America’s transition from a British colony to an independent nation based on the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. The course also covers the Civil War, industrialization, immigration, and the United States today.

MATH | TEXT

Students will review and show their fluency with whole numbers and decimals. Students will continue learning operations with fractions before moving on to the last critical area, geometry and measurement. The topics covered include all the strands of mathematics: geometry, algebra, fractions, decimals, measurement, data and graphs, and probability. Each chapter begins with a Show What You Know section, contains a series of sequential lessons on the topic including a Mid-Chapter Checkpoint, and concludes with a review/test section. Each chapter is also interspersed with problem-solving activities for real-life application.

SCIENCE | TEXT

Throughout the year, students will learn to think and act like scientists by learning a wide array of topics from cell structures to planets. This course is driven by investigation, and students will have many opportunities to design and implement their own experiments. Weekly assignments may include reading from the textbook, answering questions, conducting an experiment, or completing a quick Insta-Lab. Students will receive a lab kit and manual along with their textbook and course syllabus. Additional materials will be necessary for some of the labs, but most materials are readily available in your home or in a local store for minimal cost.

Online Curriculum

ENGLISH | ONLINE

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 | ONLINE

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.
MATH | ONLINE

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 | ONLINE

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.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Portfolio | Online

5th Grade Health helps young learners establish a basic understanding of the aspects of health. Students focus on the various aspects of their health and how they can make healthy choices. Topics of study include personal safety, healthy behaviors, nutrition, disease prevention, conflict resolution, basic anatomy and physiology, and the values of respect and cooperation. Students record activity in a journal.
Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
In this course, students explore, analyze and interpret literature in a thematic-based collection ranging from the classics of ancient literature to modern works. The thematic topics of the course include: Facing Fear, Animal Intelligence, Dealing with Disaster, Making Your Voice Heard, Decisions that Matter and What Tales Tell. The students will work with a variety of genres including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama and essays both in analysis, history and science. The course introduces and reinforces close reading, vocabulary and language skills as well as a variety of essay writing forms and project-based assignments that range with the readings to include a variety of cultures, styles and perspectives reflecting both ancient and modern populations. This foundational course prepares students for continued analysis of literature and writing skills at the middle school or traditional junior high level, with ongoing practice in writing, reading strategies and speaking skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
Ancient Civilizations
6th Grade Social Studies explores the places where ancient civilizations began, how geography influenced early cultures, and how early cultures helped to shape the world as we know it today. Some of the ancient cultures that students study in the course include those located in Mesoamerica, Rome, Greece, China, India, the eastern Mediterranean, Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush. In these locations, ancient people crafted the first complex societies, cities, governments, and empires.

MATH | TEXT
This research-based course provides students with a deep understanding of mathematical practices. It is a comprehensive course that covers topics such as fractions, ratios, percents, units of measure, algebra and data distributions. Each chapter begins with a Show What You Know section, contains a series of sequential lessons on the topic including a Mid-Chapter Checkpoint, and concludes with a review/test section. Each chapter is also interspersed with problem-solving activities for real-life application.

SCIENCE | TEXT
Earth Science
Earth Science explores how the Earth's systems function as an integrated whole. Topics include rocks, minerals, and soil; erosion; earthquakes and volcanoes; weather and climate; ecosystems; and energy. The course contains a combination of reading, review questions, research, experiments, projects, and tests.

Online Curriculum

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

SOCIAL STUDIES | ONLINE
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.

MATH 6 | ONLINE
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 using 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.
Grade 6

SCIENCE | ONLINE
Science 6
This course provides structured lessons designed to introduce students to general science principles in physical science including topics in energy, force and motion as well as energy resources. Students study topics in earth science related to the structure of the earth and rocks and minerals. Basic chemistry lessons include the periodic table and compounds and mixtures. Students explore astronomy with units in outer space and space exploration. Students learn biology topics such as cells and kingdoms. Lastly, students are introduced to the study of ecology and ecosystems.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Portfolio | Text or Online
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

Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
In this course, students explore, analyze and interpret literature ranging from the classics of ancient literature to modern works. This course introduces and reinforces close reading, vocabulary, and language skills. Students complete a variety of essay writing forms and project-based assignments that include a variety of cultures, styles and perspectives, reflecting both ancient and modern populations worldwide. The topics of this course include: Bold Actions, Perception and Reality, Nature at Work, Risk and Exploration, The Stuff of Consumer Culture and Guided By-A-Cause. Students also work with a variety of genres including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama and essays both in analysis, history and science. This foundational course prepares students for continued analysis of literature and writing skills with ongoing practice in writing, reading strategies, and speaking skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT
World History & Cultures
This course focuses on gaining historical literacy of civilizations that existed from approximately 250 A.D. to 1800. These civilizations include the Roman, Byzantine, Islamic, West African, Central African, South African, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Khmer, European, Ottoman, Olmec, Mayan, Aztec, and Incan. The study also introduces the six branches of history (geography, culture, economics, government, belief systems, and science & technology), as well as several tools and strategies historians use to discover and interpret the past.

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

SCIENCE | TEXT
Life Science
In Life Science, students study the scientific method, the cell, genetics and heredity; agricultural technology and genetic engineering, evolution and classification of organisms, geology as it relates to life, microscopic organisms, the structure and function of plants, the structure and function of vertebrates and invertebrates, and the structure and function of the human body.

Online Curriculum

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

World Cultures
In World 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 | ONLINE

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 | ONLINE

Science 7
This course provides structured lessons designed to introduce students to life science including topics in cells, genetics, as well as characteristics and process of life. After looking at weather, students study plant characteristics and functions before learning about animal characteristics and behavior. After looking at animals in general, students learn about the human body systems. Lastly, students finish with a lesson in ecology and ecosystems.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Portfolio | Text or Online
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.
Text-Based Curriculum

ENGLISH | TEXT
In this course, students explore, analyze and interpret literature ranging from the classics of ancient literature to modern works. This course introduces and reinforces close reading, vocabulary, and language skills. Students complete a variety of essay writing forms and project-based assignments that include a variety of cultures, styles and perspectives, reflecting both ancient and modern populations worldwide. The thematic topics of the course include: Culture and Belonging, The Thrill of Horror, The Move Toward Freedom, Approaching Adulthood, Anne Frank’s Legacy. Students also work with a variety of genres including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama and essays both in analysis, history and science. This foundational course prepares students for continued analysis of literature and writing skills with ongoing practice in writing, reading strategies, and speaking skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES | TEXT

U.S. History
US History focuses on the political, cultural, and social development of the United States. The course begins with a brief review of early exploration and settlement, beginning with the prehistoric migration of Asiatic tribes and concluding with the arrival of European settlers. Students study the English colonies through their interactions with Native Americans, English rulers, and other economic trading partners. Next, students examine the broad implications of the American Revolution on the United States and the pivotal events and people involved. The remainder of the course examines the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, Western expansion, the causes and results of the Civil War, immigration, industrialization, progressive reform, and foreign policy.

MATH | TEXT
Students select either Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1.

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

Algebra 1
Students develop an organized approach to solving a wide variety of algebraic problems using symbols, methodologies, and language necessary to properly communicate and analyze the concepts of algebra. Students gain comfort in conventional systems while strengthening their own intuitive development with problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Topics include: basic operations, properties, functions, expressions, monomials, polynomials, factoring, algebraic fractions, variables, roots, radicals, quadratic equations, and word problems. Students are tested periodically and review material as needed to demonstrate their mastery of the course content.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

SCIENCE | TEXT

Physical Science
Physical Science is a study of the relationship of matter to energy. Beginning with the basic building blocks of matter, lessons describe how matter and energy interact and investigate the physical laws that govern our universe. Students explore examples of how physical laws affect our world in lessons dealing with chemistry, motion, energy, states of matter, friction, gravity, pressure, fire, atoms, and outer space. This course includes exploratory labs that demonstrate the various concepts addressed in the lessons.

Online Curriculum

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

SOCIAL STUDIES | ONLINE

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
Grade 8

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 | ONLINE
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 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.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

SCIENCE | ONLINE
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 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 taught.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Portfolio | Text or Online
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.
Kindergarten–Grade 2

SPANISH 1 | K-2 | ONLINE
This introductory Spanish course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the Spanish language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking culture. This course, designed specifically for younger students, focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition through stories, games, songs, and practice activities. Students are exposed to Spanish language and Spanish-speaking cultures in a fun environment where they can explore meanings and begin to express themselves through simple words and phrases.

SPANISH 2 | K-2 | ONLINE
This second level of the introductory Spanish course continues the exploration of the language through an immersive, fun, and interactive experience designed for younger learners. In each unit, students are immersed in a different world where they meet unique characters who send them on a series of engaging tasks to acquire the vocabulary, learn the culture and further their acquisition of basic Spanish skills. The content and characters for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking cultures as well as an authentic song, a karaoke and a culture video. This second level introductory course continues the focus on vocabulary acquisition and expression through simple words and phrases.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of K–2 Spanish 1

FRENCH | K-2 | ONLINE
This introductory French course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the French language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story from the French-speaking world. This course, designed specifically for younger students, focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition through stories, games, songs, and practice activities. Students are exposed to the French language and French-speaking cultures in a fun environment where they can explore meanings and begin to express themselves through simple words and phrases.

CHINESE | K-2 | ONLINE
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 | ONLINE
This introductory Spanish course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student's first exposure to the Spanish language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking culture. Although the course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles are intuitively grasped through the story, games, activities, songs, and assessments. In addition, students learn to perform simple tasks in connection with each unit’s theme. Students engage in language learning in a rewarding, low-stress environment; get comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of Spanish; learn simple Spanish phrases; begin to read, write, speak and listen for meaning in Spanish; and recognize distinctive practices and products of Spanish-speaking culture.

SPANISH 2 | ONLINE
This course is the second year of our introductory Spanish courses. It provides a fun, interactive experience for a student’s continued exposure to the Spanish language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, myth or legend from Spanish-speaking culture. The course uses each authentic story as a way to help students acquire vocabulary and other key concepts. The course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles, pronunciation, and culture, all of which are grasped through the story, games, activities, songs, and assessments. In addition, students learn to perform simple tasks in connection with each unit’s theme. Students engage in language learning in a rewarding, low-stress environment; get comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of Spanish; learn simple Spanish phrases and sentences related to each theme; continue to read, write, speak and listen for meaning in Spanish; and recognize distinctive practices and products of Spanish-speaking culture.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary Spanish 1
World Languages

FRENCH 1 | ONLINE
This introductory French course provides a fun, interactive experience for a student’s first exposure to the French language. The content for each unit is based on an authentic story, tale or legend from French-speaking culture. Each story provides a framework for students to learn vocabulary, acquire basic grammar principles, practice pronunciation, and explore cultural topics. Story and song animations, practice activities, games, and assessments encourage students to engage with the French language in a rewarding, low-stress environment. As students move through the course, they will become more comfortable with the sounds and rhythms of French. They will learn simple French phrases related to each theme, and continue to read, write, speak and listen for meaning. They will also come to recognize some of the history, practices, and products that define French-speaking cultures around the world.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Elementary French 1

GERMAN 1 | ONLINE
The German Elementary I course consists of approximately 90 lesson days formatted in an intuitive calendar view, which can be taught over a semester. The content for each unit is based on an immersive authentic German story that ties in the vocabulary from the unit. Although the course focuses principally on vocabulary acquisition, basic grammar principles are intuitively grasped through the story, games, activities, songs, and assessments. Culture lessons are presented through multimedia lessons covering cultural aspects of major German-speaking areas in Europe.

CHINESE 1 | ONLINE
Students are introduced to Mandarin Chinese through a series of dynamic and engaging animations based on authentic Chinese stories. These stories share an aspect of Chinese culture and language from famous myths to historical tales familiar to all Chinese children. Each story introduces key vocabulary words and phrases that are then practiced through a series of interactive games and activities. In addition, other video and media materials are used to further demonstrate culture and daily life in China.

Students are challenged with comprehension quizzes at the end of every unit, as well as teacher-graded assignments where they will be able to speak Mandarin Chinese. All of the materials in the course are designed to familiarize students with Chinese culture, characters, vocabulary and simple phrases.

Grades 6–8

SPANISH 1 | ONLINE
This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices that reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

SPANISH 2 | ONLINE
Students continue their language learning adventure by progressing to the next level of middle school Spanish. Throughout the course, students focus on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts.
presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Spanish 1

FRENCH 1 | ONLINE
This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School French 1

FRENCH 2 | ONLINE
Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).
GERMAN 1 | ONLINE

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

GERMAN 2 | ONLINE

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School German 1
**World Languages**

**LATIN 1 | ONLINE**
Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

**LATIN 2 | ONLINE**
Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Middle School Latin 1
World Languages

CHINESE 1 | ONLINE
Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Chinese 1

CHINESE 2 | ONLINE
Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Middle School Chinese 1
Electives

**Grades 4–5**

**INTRODUCTION TO CODING | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

**CODING 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

**CODING 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

**Prerequisite Middle School Coding 1A**

**DIGITAL ART & DESIGN | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

**EXPLORING MUSIC | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

**Grades 6–8**

**2D STUDIO ART | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

**DIGITAL ART & DESIGN | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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**CAREER EXPLORATIONS | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

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

Prerequisite Middle School Game Design 1A

GAME DESIGN 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will further advance your knowledge of game design! Diving into the development process, you will create details and add component pieces to a game while learning to prototype, troubleshoot, and test. Additionally, you will explore critiquing and advertising a game, strengthening your ability to create a fully functioning game from start to finish.

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

PHOTOGRAPHY: DRAWING WITH LIGHT | ONLINE—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.
Grades 3–5

Microcourses are an opportunity for your child to participate in hands-on learning activities combining skills from various subjects on a shortened timeline. Only three weeks long, they are big on discovery and exploration, but small on time commitment.

Funtastic Food

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

Powerful Graphic Novels

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

The Power of the Sun

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

Back to Life: De-Extinction in the Ice Age

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

ACADEMY LOUNGE
Open To LSS Gifted and Talented Academy Students Only (6-12)

Available to students in the Gifted and Talented Academy at Laurel Springs School, students engage in two meetings per month. The first meeting introduces all in attendance to a specific, relevant topic in a multi-media, high level thinking, creative and interactive manner. The second meeting builds on the topic with student led discussions, presentations, and collaborations with students divided into middle school and high school discussion groups. It is a relaxed setting where the discovery and critical thinking of relevant topics expands each student’s horizons, by exploring, practicing and sharing individual and unique perspectives as students strive to understand the ever changing world of the 21st century.

ANIMAL & PET (K-8)

Animal and pet lovers come together each month for their shared passion of caring for, supporting, and uplifting animals. Students share information and images about members’ pets, their habits, or their funny antics. In addition, members recognize, discuss, and relate to the needs of animals around the world. Guest speakers are invited to enhance the understanding and needs of all animals and pets to create the best life possible for our four-legged, furry creature friends.

ART (7-12)

Monet, Matisse, Picasso, and contemporary artists are revealed and explored by members in the Art Club. Students gain inspiration from artists across the globe and varying eras. Members also share their own artistic expressions and endeavors culminating in a virtual art club portfolio distributed school wide. Art Club advisors share their passion of art and creative expression while students lead the meetings and share their artistic expressions.

ASTRONOMY (7-12)

Club Members discuss space-related news, photography, and insights about astronomy including solar systems, planets, stars, galaxies, space travel, astrophysics, and more. Laurel Springs Upper School science teachers and the Academic Department Chair lead student discussions focused on their common interest in astronomy and may conduct simple hands-on activities and experiments related to astronomy and physics.

BOOK (6-12)

Book club advisors strive to create a warm and student-centered experience where participants can both enjoy and be challenged by their peers as they consider literature through discussion, critical thinking, and reflection. Each fall, students help craft a yearly book list, then a rotation of student led meetings fosters leadership and speaking skills. Objective and expressive thoughts and discussions are encouraged and acknowledged as important contributions building analytical skills. Book Club truly honors the Laurel Springs School mission by supporting students’ innate enthusiasm for learning.

CREATIVE COMPUTING (5-12)

The Creative Computing Club explores the merging of creativity and technology. Members engage in meaningful and critical discussions about the world of computing. From coding to the Maker Movement; from Google's CS-First to the digital worlds of Minecraft, this club will explore how computers play a vital and vibrant part of everyday life in preparation for college, career and beyond in the 21st century.

CREATIVE WRITING & PHOTOGRAPHY (7-12)

Students discover and engage in real world publishing experiences as members of the Creative Writing and Photography Club. Students are considered staff writers, photographers and editors with the culmination of the annual publication of the Laurel Springs Vision and Voices Magazine at the end of each year. This club is for students who enjoy writing and reading poetry, fiction and non-fiction, and submitting photography to be published. Members improve, enhance, and build on their talent for creativity through peer editing and teacher guidance. Student editors lead a lively monthly meeting to share their creative passions.

DRAMA (K–12)

Do you love to perform, act out scenes and maybe you’re even a playwright who would like to hear your words spoken by fellow actors? Then the LSS Drama Club is for you. Join us to collaborate; rehearse; perform and get feedback about your performances. Construct, shape, and grow your acting craft. This club is a great way to meet fellow actors attending LSS. All the world’s a stage and this is an opportunity that will expand your passion while working
Clubs, K–8

with other thespians and theatre players. We will discuss and explore contemporary and classical theatre, as well as comedy, drama, tragedy, musicals, stage make up, audition techniques, and play production.

**ENVIRONMENTAL (7-12)**

As members of a global community, there is nothing more important to many of Laurel Springs students than the environment. Laurel Springs is proud to have been the recipient of the United Nations Global Environmental 500 Award. This club is for those who love nature, Earth, and seek to find a closer connection with Earth, explore environmental literacy and environs; individually and as a community.

**EQUESTRIAN (7-12)**

This club is for students that have a love for horses and/or riding, from beginners to experienced riders. There are no requirements except for the shared love of horses. Students participate in discussions, exhibit their performances, and participate in group projects. Members enjoy a place to share their passion for horses, meet, collaborate, and celebrate a love for all things equine. Students run each meeting, while learning about different training techniques, horse care, and disciplines from other club members.

**FASHION (7-12)**

The Fashion Club takes a closer look at the ever-changing fashion industry and combines the creative and productive aspects that are part of contemporary culture. Members share original designs, reveal and review current fashion trends, designs from fashion week, and explore red carpet fashion. Between meetings members work independently creating original designs which they share at each meeting. They challenge themselves and each other by creating inspiration boards resulting in feedback, support, and encouragement from fellow fashionistas.

**FOODIE (K-12)**

An engaging club is for those who love to eat a variety of foods; cook a variety of foods, and critique a variety of foods! Members will explore food through cultures around the world; meal times (breakfast, lunch and dinner); meal categories (appetizers, main dishes, side dishes, soups, salads and desserts); will explore healthy cooking options and the year will culminate in the publication of a LSS Foodie Club's Cook Book and Restaurant Reviews.

**FRENCH (7-12)**

Bonjour! French Club members revel in the immersion into French culture, cuisine, and even the French countryside as members have the opportunity to speak French during all meetings. Members hone skills already acquired in French World Language courses and embark on a journey of France and the French speaking world including its landscapes and all aspects of its culture. Viva la France!

**LSS MATH TEAM (7-12)**

Do you love math? Do you love to solve problems? Would you like to meet others that like to do the same? Join the newly formed LSS Math Team to participate in competitive fun by working individually and in teams to solve challenging enriching math problems. Online competitions during the year, as well as the culmination of a Math Team final project presented to the school at an annual May Math Jubilee.

**MODEL UNITED NATIONS (7-12)**

Imagine preparing for the global experience as a member of the United Nations who strives for peace and balance among cultures around the world. This club engages in an authentic simulation of the United Nations (UN) by learning about the UN system, skills of debate, compromise, conflict resolution, and negotiation. Model UN team members meet twice a month to explore and reveal the workings of world diplomacy through the lens of current events. Real world experience culminates in two ways for members—1. All members participate in a virtual Model UN Conference in April each school year, and 2. Interested members attend the international Model UN Conference in New York City in May where they visit the Model UN building. Members participate in authentic debate as Model UN delegates assigned to research and present solutions based on an actual country and an authentic global issue.
**MUSIC (K-12)**
Have you heard of a didgeridoo? It is a unique musical instrument used by the aboriginal people of Australia. Members of the music club are lovers of music. A veteran teacher and talented musician leads students who love, create, or live for music on an interactive, creative, and musical journey. Members will celebrate, educate, support, inspire, create, listen to, and express their love for the spirit of music.

**NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (7-9)**
NJHS Members Only
This club is based on and connected with nationally recognized organizations with mandated criteria for acceptance. It is therefore an invitation only club for students who meet the strict standards, undergo a rigorous application process and have been accepted into the organization. The registration process and acceptance is held once a year. One of the main components for eligibility is a student’s overall (cumulative), maintained Grade Point Average of 3.5 or higher (on a 4.0 unweighted scale). Only current members can attend meetings.

**PHOTOGRAPHY (K-8)**
Members in the Photography Club have a unique and creative eye capturing images around them. Members submit their varied images of landscapes, people, abstracts, and then share with other members. Some topics are driven by a specific theme or period of time. The shared interest is a love for documenting our amazing world through photography. Members also hone their craft by exploring topics like framing the photos; cropping, filters, creativity, well-known photographers and so much more.

**READ, WRITE, & SHARE (PEN PALS) (K-8)**
Members in the Read, Write, and Share Club experience the best of the three worlds. Reading unique and enjoyable books; sharing these books with peers; discuss individual passions; and, for those who desire, writing to another student via the Pen Pal program. Members can be Pen Pals only, or join the monthly meetings for connection, collaboration, and fun getting to know other Laurel Springs students.

**SCRUBS (7-12)**
Scrubs Club members research, explore and discuss the health industry; health professions; diseases; healing and all topics related to medical professions at home and around the world. Open ended opportunities and conversations allow members to discover all things curative—especially that which members are interested in discovering. The club begins each year with introductions, including medical profession intentions and culminates in a Health Fair open to all LSS students.

**SIGN LANGUAGE (7-12)**
Sign language is simply fascinating, beautiful, unique, and expressive. Not only is sign language helpful to for communication, it is also a fun and interesting language to learn! Knowing sign language has many benefits. Did you know that it is the 4th most studied language at colleges and universities in the US and sign language is the 3rd or 4th most used language in the US after English and Spanish, with over 2 million people who speak American Sign Language. Bilingualism enriches and enhances your cognitive process, and signing can enhance your creative thinking and more as members explore, discover, share and unlock the wonderment of this beautifully visual language.

**SONGBIRDS (5-12)**
Do you want to combine your musical talent and your desire to perform? Then this club is for you! Members will go on an exploration of what it takes to perform, record, and share their music. Passionate about all things musical, club members will enjoy the musical talents of each participant and offer constructive feedback when it is invited. Students will learn techniques associated with recording, performance, voice, lyricism, and instrument arrangement. Moreover, members will uncover the varying ideas of sound, song, genres of music, and collaborate to create pieces of music together.

**SPANISH CLUB (7-12)**
Hola. ¿Cómo estás? Spanish Club members celebrate in the immersion into Spanish, Latin and other Spanish speaking cultures, cuisine, and countries. Members have the opportunity to speak Spanish during all meetings, honing skills already acquired in Spanish language courses. Members must speak Spanish fluently or be currently enrolled in a LSS Spanish course. This club is open to students in grades 7-12.

**SPORTS CLUB (7-12)**
The Sports Club unites student athletes and sports fans alike to openly discuss topics on sports nutrition, current events, sport psychology, favorite professional athletes and sports teams, and much more! Students are encouraged to share and discuss their current sports as well as collaborate on ideas for balancing academics and training, providing effective strategies used in their sport and life, and get to learn the unique backgrounds of our large and diverse sports community!

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT (7-12)**
Real world leadership experience is the focus of the Laurel Springs Student Government team. Members are comprised of three elected officers and confirmed representatives from each grade level, grades 7-12. An election convention is held each year as candidates campaign and gain understanding in a respectful, objective setting—
Clubs, K–8

including rechanneling defeat and demonstrating resiliency to become an active, involved, voting members of a decision making body. Officers, representatives, and members actively participate and learn about civic literacy, amend by-laws as needed in an ever evolving student campus, and execute projects that are both community and global oriented.

SUPERHEROES CLUB (K-12)
Superheroes in comics, superheroes in your everyday life, you as a superhero. Join this LSS club exploring the varying roles that superheroes play in all our lives. We begin the year exploring the favorite attributes of the timeless character heroes introduced through comics, television, film and the like. We then expand into our appreciation for the super heroes we experience in our everyday lives. Finally, we complete the year with expressions, activity and/or projects by collectively and individually volunteering globally or locally to make a difference in the lives of others. Up, up and away! Open to students in K-12 grades

TED-ED SPEECH CLUB (7-12)
Using the TED Talk style of presenting big ideas in a short form, LSS students will get a chance to explore what it means to offer quality expressions via speech. Members will identify their passions, interests and talents and the means to share with others in an authentic, clear and expansive manner. Additionally, students will identify and outline their own, unique big idea. Students will have an opportunity to “talk” and benefit from authentic feedback from peers equally excited about this common interest, speaking. Finally, members will be chosen to share their big idea talk school wide, as LSS students, staff and faculty will be invited to hear them speak via web cam. All members will also be able to upload their talk on the TED-Ed Talk student web site.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM CLUB (7-12)
Travel Club is not only fun, it’s educational and life enhancing. In addition to developing global awareness and compassion, this club expands knowledge of the hospitality and tourism industry. Members share and expand their experience and using photos, presentations, and unique perspectives. Engaging activities also explore cultural norms, and possibly absurdities, while identifying food, clothing, architecture, and rituals unique to the culture, country or continent. This club is open to students in grades 7-12.

U-FIT FITBIT CLUB (K-12)
Ready to challenge yourself, challenge your LSS peers and support each other in health and fitness goals? Members will come together both in twice monthly meetings and on the private LSS Fitbit dashboard and challenge site while working with the club adviser to attain, maintain and sustain fitness goals. No Fitbit device needed to join. Open to students in K-12 grades.
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Grade 9

ENGLISH FUNDAMENTALS | TEXT OR ONLINE

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.

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HONORS ENGLISH FUNDAMENTALS | ONLINE

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. Students in the Honors version of English Fundamentals 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.

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Grade 10

WORLD LITERATURE | TEXT OR ONLINE

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!

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HONORS WORLD LITERATURE | ONLINE

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.

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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.

American Literature Online

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 and lived and wrote about their experiences. Finally, students will be asked to observe, investigate and report on stories of today. The goal for this course is for students to become thorough, accurate and compelling writers. Honors students read additional literary works and complete additional assignments that require more advanced analysis and critical thought. Honors students are also expected to work at a more independently inquisitive level and commit to not only learning at a higher and more rigorous level, but to creating work that is reflective of this rigor.

Honors American Literature Online

Comparative Literature emphasizes the reading and analysis of eight renowned works of fiction and drama. Students analyze how the cultural and historical context of each text impacts its themes, plot, characterization, and other literary conventions. In addition, students will learn about voice, tone, as elements of narration, and write several papers of various lengths. By studying a wide a range of literary styles and eras, students will learn to produce different effects through the use of written language. They will have opportunities to express ideas while experimenting with different forms of communication, such as audio, video, drawings, and song.

Comparative Literature

In British Literature, the students will 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.

British Literature Online

In Honors British Literature, the students will 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. 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.

Honors British Literature Online

Shakespearean Literature emphasizes the reading and analysis of eight renowned works of fiction and drama. Students analyze how the cultural and historical context of each text impacts its themes, plot, characterization, and other literary conventions. In addition, students will learn about voice, tone, as elements of narration, and write several papers of various lengths. By studying a wide a range of literary styles and eras, students will learn to produce different effects through the use of written language. They will have opportunities to express ideas while experimenting with different forms of communication, such as audio, video, drawings, and song.

Shakespearean Literature

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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.

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HONORS SHAKESPEAREAN LITERATURE | ONLINE—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. 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.

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DRAMA LITERATURE | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

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HONORS DRAMA LITERATURE | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

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AP Grades 11–12

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

College Prep • UC Honors Approved English • NCAA Approved English

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION | ONLINE

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 English • NCAA Approved English

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION | ONLINE

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

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Grade 9

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

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

Grade 10

WORLD HISTORY | TEXT OR ONLINE
World History is a survey of the development of civilizations from prehistoric times to the present. The journey begins with ancient civilizations including Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China, and the foundations of western civilization: ancient Greece and Rome. Students will analyze developments in Africa, Asia, and Europe during the Middle Ages, including the Crusades. Students will understand how the Renaissance and Reformation provided a springboard for the Age of Reason and the Scientific Revolution. An inquiry into events such as the American War of Independence and French Revolution will prepare students to consider the great advances and social upheaval sparked by the Industrial Revolution. Students will probe the causes, events, and consequences of the two world wars and the rise and fall of Communism. The course concludes with a look at developments shaping current events. Students will complete several essays and one research paper per semester.

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

Grade 11

AMERICAN HISTORY | TEXT OR ONLINE
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 multimodality 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 Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science**

**HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY | ONLINE**

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

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

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

**Grade 12**

**AMERICAN GOVERNMENT | TEXT OR ONLINE—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 Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science**

**HONORS AMERICAN GOVERNMENT | TEXT—SEMESTER**

This advanced American Government course tries to develop a satisfactory response to the question: Why should we be engaged with government and politics? This course demonstrates that students’ interests are at stake and that they therefore need to take a personal interest in the outcomes of government. At the same time, the course teaches students how to become politically engaged. In addition to providing a core of political knowledge, the course shows them how they could apply that knowledge as participants in the political process.

Questions about political participation and political equity will be addressed. For example, the size and composition of the electorate will affect who is elected to public office and what policy directions the government will pursue. Arguments about immigration and charges that police often use excessive force against members of minority groups have raised questions about whether the government treats all Americans equally. As a result, this course attempts to show how students are connected to government, why students should think critically about government and politics, and how Americans from different backgrounds experience and shape politics.

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

**ECONOMICS | TEXT OR ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

HONORS ECONOMICS | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

Grade 9–12

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

HISTORY OF THE HOLOCAUST | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS | ONLINE—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

HONORS PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Honors Approved Elective • NCAA Additional Core Approved

PSYCHOLOGY | ONLINE

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

Sociology | Text or Online—Semester

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved Social Science

AP Grade 11–12

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

AP European History | Online

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

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

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

AP U.S. History | Online

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 to 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 Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science

AP U.S. Government & Politics | Online—Semester

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

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of American History

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

**AP MICROECONOMICS | ONLINE—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 Social Science**

**AP MACROECONOMICS | ONLINE—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 Social Science**

**AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY | ONLINE**

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 Social Science • NCAA Approved Social Science**

**AP PSYCHOLOGY | ONLINE**

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 Social Science**

**AP WORLD HISTORY - MODERN | ONLINE**

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

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

**Course will be available beginning August 3, 2020.**
Grades 9–12

**ALGEBRA 1 | TEXT OR ONLINE**
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.

**HONORS ALGEBRA 1 | ONLINE**
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.

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

**ALGEBRA 2 | TEXT OR ONLINE**
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.

**Graphing Calculator Recommended**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry**

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

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

**College Prep • UC Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics**

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**Mathematics**
Mathematics

HONORS ALGEBRA 2 | ONLINE
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.

Graphing Calculator Recommended
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry or Honors Geometry with an A or B
College Prep • UC Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics

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

Graphing Calculator Recommended
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2
College Prep • UC Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics

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

NCAA Approved Mathematics
Course will be available beginning August 3, 2020.

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

Course will be available beginning August 3, 2020.
AP Grades 11–12

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

AP CALCULUS AB | ONLINE

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.

Graphing Calculator Recommended

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus

College Prep • UC Honors Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics

AP CALCULUS BC | ONLINE

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.

Graphing Calculator Recommended

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus

College Prep • UC Honors Approved Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics

AP STATISTICS | ONLINE

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 Mathematics • NCAA Approved Mathematics
Grades 9–12

Lab activities are incorporated in all science courses.

EARTH SCIENCE | TEXT OR ONLINE

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.

College Prep  •  NCAA Approved Science  •  UC Approved Science

HONORS EARTH SCIENCE | ONLINE

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

College Prep  •  NCAA Approved Science  •  UC Approved Science

PHYSICAL SCIENCE | ONLINE

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.

College Prep  •  NCAA Approved Science  •  UC Approved Elective

HONORS PHYSICAL SCIENCE | ONLINE

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

College Prep  •  NCAA Approved Science

BIOLOGY | TEXT OR ONLINE

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an 8th grade science course

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of an 8th grade science course with an A or B
College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Approved Science

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry
Co-requisite: Enrollment in Algebra 2
College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Approved Science

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 & Geometry
Co-requisite: Enrollment in Algebra 2
College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Honors Approved Science
Science

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology
College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Approved Elective

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology
College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • NCAA Approved Science • UC Approved Elective
Science

AP Grades 11–12

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

AP BIOLOGY | ONLINE

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 Science

AP CHEMISTRY | ONLINE

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 • NCAA Approved Science • UC Honors Approved Science

AP PHYSICS 1 | TEXT

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

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

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

College Prep • NCAA Approved Science

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE | ONLINE

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 Science
American Sign Language (ASL)

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

College Prep • UC Approved Language

ASL 2 | ONLINE
Explore the vocabulary you need for shopping, making purchases, and dealing with emergencies. Building upon the prior prerequisite course, you will progress your communication skills and foster your understanding of deaf culture. You will learn about classifiers, glossing, and mouth morphemes, as well as how to give descriptions and directions. In Part B, students will increase their proficiency by learning about sequencing, transitions, role-shifts, and future tenses. Students will learn how to tell a story and ask questions, benefiting with greater exposure to deaf culture. Speed, conversations, signing skills, and cultural awareness are characteristic of this course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of ASL 1
College Prep • UC Approved Language

Spanish

SPANISH 1 | ONLINE
Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

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

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

SPANISH 3 | ONLINE
Students further deepen their understanding of Spanish by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of a variety of activities which teach the students how to
understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through informal speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in both formal and informal spoken and written contexts. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, use correct vocabulary terms and phrases naturally, incorporate a wide range of grammar concepts consistently and correctly while speaking and writing, participate in conversations covering a wide range of topics, respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of Hispanic literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Spanish 2**

**College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core**

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**French**

**FRENCH 1 | ONLINE**

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

**College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core**

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**FRENCH 2 | ONLINE**

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

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School French 1**

**College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core**

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**GERMAN 1 | ONLINE**

Students begin their introduction to German with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of world-language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are initially trained to recognize key sounds and basic vocabulary, not only in written form but also through ear training that leads quickly to oral production. An ongoing adventure story introduces vocabulary and grammar topics, prompting students to use skills from the four language-learning areas. Students learn fundamental grammar as...
Latin

LATIN 1 | ONLINE

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Latin 1

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

LATIN 2 | ONLINE

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School Latin 1

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

World Languages

embedded in authentic spoken language. Engaging graphics, video, and games keep students interested, making learning languages exciting. An integrated, game-based reward system keeps learners motivated and eager to progress.

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

GERMAN 2 | ONLINE

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of High School German 1

College Prep • UC Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core
World Languages

Chinese

CHINESE 1 | ONLINE
Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

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

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 3 or native fluency in Spanish
College Prep • UC Honors Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core

AP Grades 11–12
The level of rigor in these AP World Language courses is equivalent to that required of students in a freshman or sophomore college course in this area of study. These courses have been audited and approved by the College Board and prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement examination. AP is a registered trademark of the College Board.

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

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

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

College Prep • UC Honors Approved Language • NCAA Approved Additional Core
ART HISTORY I: 30,000 BCE - 1900 CE | ONLINE
Interpreting the origins of art gives students a unique perspective on their own work. In Art History I, students will analyze various art forms including painting, sculpture and architecture over the changing periods of time. Beginning with study of the earliest cave paintings, students will create art to immerse themselves in the content and study movements and masters over changing periods of time.

College Prep

ART HISTORY II: 1901 - PRESENT | ONLINE
Appreciating the cultural context of art in the modern era relies on analyzing artistic principles, abstract symbolism and design techniques. Students in Art History II will explore trends from Post-Impressionism to street art and understand the formal and conceptual issues that foster changes in art throughout history.

College Prep

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

College Prep

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Arts and Society I: 4000 BCE—1750 CE

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

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

EXPLORATIONS IN STUDIO ARTS | ONLINE
Drawing and painting are two of the most basic forms of self-expression. In Explorations in Studio Arts, students will elevate those skills and develop an understanding of colors, shapes, composition, and design. By studying renowned artists and their styles, students will investigate their own forms of expression and build a vocabulary of tools and materials to enhance their creativity.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY | ONLINE
Understanding the tools available opens up the possibilities to create images with impact. In Introduction to Digital Photography, students will study the history of photography as well as the basic operation of a digital camera. As they are introduced to different styles of photography and photographers, students will begin to develop artistic skills as well as their own voice through their photographs.

College Prep

PHOTO MANIPULATION | ONLINE
Manipulating an image is its own unique form of art. By using accessible software tools and applications including Photoshop, students in Photo Manipulation will learn strategies for creating complex imagery. Students will incorporate the principles of design while creating unique new concepts in their art.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

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

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

STUDIO ARTS I: TECHNIQUES AND TOOLS | ONLINE
With the right foundation, creativity can flourish. In Studio Arts I, students build the groundwork for their art by practicing unique exercises to develop drawing, painting and mixed media skills. Incorporating their understanding of composition, design, colors and forms, students will use the appropriate materials and tools to work from realism to abstract.

College Prep

STUDIO ARTS II: CONCEPTS AND EXPRESSIONS | ONLINE
Developing a unique personal style and creating complex imagery is possible for any artist. Students in Studio Arts II will engage in techniques that take their work to a more sophisticated level. Analyzing other artists and their works will help students find deeper meaning and new interpretations.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Arts I: Techniques and Tools

College Prep

Music

AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION | ONLINE
Music in America has a rich history. In American Music Appreciation, students will navigate this unique combination of culture and creativity that spawned jazz, rock and roll, and hip hop. From early church music to 21st century pop, students will gain a new understanding of the key developments, people and genres in American music.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

CLASSICAL MUSIC APPRECIATION | ONLINE
What defines classical music? Students in Classical Music Appreciation will gain an understanding of the structure of conventional music that follows long-established principles, as compared to more spontaneous music, like folk and jazz. By studying composers and the society that shaped them, students will gain a new appreciation for the classical music form.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

EXPLORATIONS IN MUSIC 1 | ONLINE
Music can be simple, yet incredibly complex. Students in Explorations in Music I are introduced to music theory, instrument families, music notation and organization. By analyzing the ways music is connected to other disciplines and industries and learning music terminology, students will progress in their understanding of music.

College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts
EXPLORATIONS IN MUSIC 2 | ONLINE
What is a symphony and an opera? How do you recognize a song from Japan or Russia? In Explorations in Music II, students will study different forms of music from around the world. By learning about the musical identities of different cultures and countries, students will be able to identify different genres, instruments and styles in the world of music.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Explorations in Music 1
College Prep

MUSIC APPRECIATION: THE ENJOYMENT OF LISTENING | ONLINE—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

MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD | ONLINE
There is a vibrant chord of music that runs through every culture in the world. Students in Music Around the World will explore the music of Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. From Finland to Mongolia to Zimbabwe, students will study the impact a country’s history and societal values have on the music of that nation.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

MUSIC THEORY 1 | ONLINE
Understand the beautiful language of music. In Music Theory I, students will learn the “alphabet” that makes up music including music notation. Learn how to read music and to follow the structure including pitch, rhythm, harmony, scales, keys and chords, empowering any avid music listener or future musician.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Explorations in Music 2
College Prep

MUSIC THEORY 2 | ONLINE
Elevate music comprehension by understanding the concepts and rules. Music Theory II is both theoretical and practical and encompasses advanced harmonic and rhythmic structures, instrumentations and key changes. Through sight and sound, students will deepen their appreciation of music with a grasp of music theory.
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Music Theory 1
College Prep

Dance

CHOREOGRAPHY AND CHOREOGRAPHERS | ONLINE
Choreographers shape the dances we see. Students in Choreography and Choreographers will gain insight into the creative processes used by choreographers and will trace the work of influential choreographers from the 16th century to the present.
College Prep

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

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

EXPLORATIONS IN DANCE 1 | ONLINE
Grace, beauty, and the pursuit of excellence are hallmarks of ballet and modern dance grew out of that tradition. In Explorations in Dance I, students will study the foundations of the ballet style from clothing and training to rehearsal and performance and the evolution of modern dance. Students will meet the artists on stage and behind the scenes who help to create the magic of ballet and modern dance.
College Prep

EXPLORATIONS IN DANCE 2 | ONLINE
The bright lights of Broadway have showcased many dancers’ talents. Students in Explorations in Dance II will be introduced to the audition process, learn about the roles of agents and unions, as well as explore some of the most exciting Broadway shows. The basics of jazz and tap dance are introduced as well as the many places dancers can use their talents.
College Prep
Fine Art

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

Theatre

EXPLORATIONS IN THEATRE 1 | ONLINE
It takes many people to make a play come to life. Explorations in Theatre I lets the student step into the shoes of the actor, director, and playwright and follow them through the process of getting the play from the paper to the stage.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

EXPLORATIONS IN THEATRE 2 | ONLINE
Beyond the actors you see on stage, many others are behind the scenes making it all happen. Students in Explorations in Theatre II will build a vocabulary of the people and the equipment at work behind the scenes in the theater. Understanding the business aspects of producing a performance as well as the artistic considerations in technical production enhances future audience members' appreciation for the theatre.
College Prep

HISTORY OF THEATRE I: 524 BCE—1650 CE | ONLINE
Humans have been performing since the first person told a story. Students in History of Theatre I will gain an appreciation of the ancient literature, architecture, acting styles and artists that were major influences in early theatre. From ancient times to 1650, students will learn how theatre and society have influenced each other to engage and entertain.
College Prep

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

THEATRE AROUND THE WORLD | ONLINE
If all the world is a stage, then Theatre Around the World is an adventure. Students will travel through the countries of the world to see the similarities and differences of theatre in each culture. From ancient Indian Sanskrit theatre to famous African playwrights, students will understand how theatrical expression can unite people across the globe.
College Prep • UC Approved Visual and Performing Arts

AP Grades 11–12

AP ART HISTORY | ONLINE
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 • UC Honors Approved Visual and Performing Arts
Health & Physical Education

Health

HEALTH & PERSONAL WELLNESS | ONLINE—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

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PORTFOLIO | ONLINE
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 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 | ONLINE—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 | ONLINE—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 | ONLINE—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 | ONLINE—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 | ONLINE—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

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

AGRISCIENCE 1 AND 2
AGRICIENCE 1 | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Explore the importance of agriscience from learning about its history and contribution to human civilization to growing plants and designing garden spaces. You will form a complete picture of how agriscience continues to develop the world through knowledge of the management of seed stock, how plants function, the role of animals, and the use of chemicals. Special attention will be paid to safety, promoting a healthy environment, and designing for sustainability.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Agriscience 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

ANIMATION | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Are you inherently creative? Do you have an eye for drawing, technology, and timing? If so, 2D Animation is the course for you! 2D animation creates movement in a two-dimensional artistic space. And in this course, you will learn the necessary skills to do just that. 2D Animation will give you the tools to conceptualize and bring your animation dreams to life! Using a variety of software and design programs, you’ll have the power to transform your creative notions into reality! Design, define, and complete a variety of digital design projects including creating your own website! Learning about 2D Animation could lead to a thriving career in the growing world of technology and animation!

College Prep

ANTHROPOLOGY 1: UNCOVERING HUMAN MYSTERIES | ONLINE—SEMESTER
The aim of anthropology is to use a broad approach to gain an understanding of our past, present and future, and in addition address the problems humans face in biological, social and cultural life. This course will explore the evolution, similarity and diversity of humankind through time. It will look at how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the anthropological world are just one of the powerful learning tools utilized in this course.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

ANTHROPOLOGY 2: MORE HUMAN MYSTERIES UNCOVERED | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Anthropology has helped us better understand cultures around the world and through different time periods. 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 • UC Approved Elective

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A | ONLINE
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 | ONLINE
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
ARCHEOLOGY: DETECTIVES OF THE PAST | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

ASTRONOMY: EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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 Approved Elective

BIOTECHNOLOGY: UNLOCKING NATURE’S SECRETS | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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 Elective

BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep

BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

Prerequisite: Business Information Management 1A

College Prep

CAREERS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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 Elective

CODING 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective
Electives

CODING 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Building on the prior prerequisite course, nurture your understanding of programming to take on new challenges! Discover a variety of development tools to create code while learning about methods for modular programming and coding structures. Explore security considerations, like encryptions, and toolkits to elevate your coding skills! Finally, start creating your own comprehensive software for the web and move through programming problems as part of the Capstone Project.
Prerequisite: Coding 1a
College Prep • UC Approved Elective

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND CODING | ONLINE
The computer science curriculum teaches the foundations of computer science and basic programming. Once students complete the computer science and coding course, they will have learned material equivalent to a 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 Elective

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

CREATIVE WRITING | ONLINE—SEMESTER
For many hundreds of years, literature has been one of the most important human art forms. It allows us to give voice to our emotions, create imaginary worlds, express ideas, and escape the confines of material reality. Through creative writing, we can come to understand ourselves and our world a little bit better. This course provides students with a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry. By the end of this course, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.
Prerequisite: Cybersecurity 1A
College Prep • UC Approved Elective • NCAA Approved English

CRIMINOLOGY: INSIDE THE CRIMINAL MIND | ONLINE—SEMESTER
In today’s world, crime and deviant behavior rank at or near the top of many people’s concerns. In this course, we will study the field of Criminology — the study of crime. We will look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals, but also their misdeeds. Why do some individuals commit crimes 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 • UC Approved Elective

CYBERSECURITY 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Ever wonder what it’s like to be a hacker? Or think about who is trying to steal your passwords while you’re shopping online using the free Wi-Fi at your local coffee shop? Can someone be watching your personal, private information? Can anything be kept “secret” online? We depend more and more on the technologies we interact with every day. This creates the need for increased system and network security measures. And, it means we all need to know more about how to protect valuable and vulnerable information. This course introduces you to the tools, technologies, and methods needed to protect online information and addresses how these issues are impacting safety and rights on a global and personal level. Learn what exciting career possibilities await you in the new and high-demand field of cybersecurity.
College Prep • UC Approved Elective

CYBERSECURITY 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Ever wonder what it’s like to be a hacker? Or think about who is trying to steal your passwords while you’re shopping online using the free Wi-Fi at your local coffee shop? Unmask the cybersecurity threats around you by understanding hackers and identifying weaknesses in your online behavior. Learn to avoid the various types of cyber attacks, including those to your social media accounts, and to predict the potential legal consequences of sharing or accessing information that you do not have rights to. Dig into these crimes in depth by taking a look at cyber forensics and other cybersecurity careers. In a world where such threats have no boundaries, cybersecurity will undoubtedly play an increasingly larger role in our personal and professional lives in the years to come.
Prerequisite: Cybersecurity 1A
College Prep • UC Approved Elective
Electives

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 1: CREATING IMAGES WITH IMPACT | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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 Elective*

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 2: DISCOVERING YOUR CREATIVE POTENTIAL | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP: STARTING YOUR BUSINESS | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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 Elective*

**EXERCISE SCIENCE | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep*

**FASHION & INTERIOR DESIGN | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

Do you have a flair for fashion? Are you constantly looking for new ways to decorate or design your room? If so, Fashion and Interior Design is the course for you. Explore the world of design and begin to understand the background and knowledge needed to develop a career in this exciting field. Try your hand at designing through a project-based process, learning how color, composition, and texture can all affect great aesthetics. You’ll develop the essential communications skills necessary to build a successful business and begin to develop the kind of portfolio that will lead to future career opportunities. Perhaps it’s time to get your stylish foot in the door.

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

**FIRST AID & SAFETY | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep*

**FORENSIC SCIENCE 1: SECRETS OF THE DEAD | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*
**FORENSIC SCIENCE 2: MORE SECRETS OF THE DEAD | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

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**FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

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**FOUNDATIONS IN PERSONAL FINANCE | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep*

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**GAME DESIGN 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

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**GAME DESIGN 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*Prerequisite: Game Design 1A*

*College Prep*

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**GOTHIC LITERATURE: MONSTER STORIES | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

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

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

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

HEALTH SCIENCE 1: THE WHOLE INDIVIDUAL | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Will we ever find a cure for cancer? What treatments are best for conditions like diabetes and asthma? How are illnesses like meningitis, tuberculosis, and the measles identified and diagnosed? Health sciences provide the answers to questions such as these. In this course, students will be introduced to the various disciplines within the health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. They will explore the importance of diagnostics and research in the identification and treatment of diseases. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

HIGH SCHOOL SEMINAR | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Required Course
As part of our college prep program, each high school student will take part in grade-level specific college and life seminars. These courses introduce students to the importance of college and life planning, preparation for standardized tests, writing skills, decision-making strategies, time management and academic integrity all within a delivery that is appropriate for their grade level. Students are given access to online resources that allow them to explore personal interests and learning styles; take PSAT, SAT and ACT practice tests; research financial aid options and review the college and career options that best fit their needs and goals. Each year, students will receive .5 credit for these required courses, and they will continue to develop their preparation throughout all four years of high school.

Freshman Seminar—focuses on the transition into high school, exploring interests, getting involved and goal setting. The students’ homeroom teacher will serve as a guide through the course, supporting personal and academic growth both in managing their current Laurel Springs experience and examining life after high school.

Sophomore Seminar—focuses on academic planning, standardized testing time lines and preparation, career exploration and developing areas of personal interest. The students’ homeroom teacher will serve as a guide through the course, supporting personal and academic growth both in managing their current Laurel Springs experience and examining life after high school.

Junior Seminar—focuses on academic planning, the college admission process, standardized testing options and taking the appropriate actions to successfully prepare for senior year. The students’ homeroom teacher will serve as a guide through the course, supporting personal and academic growth both in managing their current Laurel Springs experience and examining life after high school.

Senior Seminar—focuses on college applications, financial aid, career resources and graduation. The students’ homeroom teacher will serve as a guide through the course, supporting personal and academic growth both in managing their current Laurel Springs experience and examining life after high school.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM: TRAVELING THE GLOBE | ONLINE—SEMESTER
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. Students 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 Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective
Electives

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

College Prep

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep

INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 1 | ONLINE—SEMESTER
This two-semester course introduces students to the field of nursing. In the first semester students will learn about the history and evolution of nursing, education and licensure requirements, career path options, and nursing responsibilities. Students will also focus on foundational information such as basic anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, pharmacology, first aid, and disease prevention.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 2 | ONLINE—SEMESTER
This two-semester course introduces students to the field of nursing. In semester two students will examine various nursing theories, as well as focus on the nursing process, including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment options. Students will also learn about professional and legal standards and ethics. Additional skills of communication, teaching, time and stress management, patient safety, and crisis management will be included.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Nursing 1

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 1 & 2

INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 1 & 2
JOURNALISM: INVESTIGATING THE TRUTH | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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 Elective

MANUFACTURING: PRODUCT DESIGN & INNOVATION | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

LAW & ORDER: INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL STUDIES | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

LEADERSHIP SKILLS DEVELOPMENT | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep

MARKETING FOUNDATIONS 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep

MARKETING FOUNDATIONS 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

Prerequisite: Marketing Foundations 1A

College Prep
Electives

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective
Electives

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

PEER COUNSELING | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Helping people achieve their goals is one of the most rewarding of human experiences. Peer counselors help individuals reach their goals by offering them support, encouragement, and resource information. This course explains the role of a peer counselor, teaches the observation, listening, and 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 Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

PERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY 1: THE ROAD TO SELF-DISCOVERY | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Self-knowledge is the key to self-improvement! More than 800,000 high school students take psychology classes each year. Among the different reasons, there is usually the common theme of self-discovery! Sample topics include the study of infancy, childhood, adolescence, perception and states of consciousness. Amazing online psychology experiments dealing with our own personal behavior are featured within this course.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

PERSONAL PSYCHOLOGY 2: LIVING IN A COMPLEX WORLD | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Personal Psychology II continues the study of self-improvement initiated in Personal Psychology I. Topics include memory, intelligence, emotion, health, stress, and personality. This course features virtual psychology experiments that give students insight into human behavior.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

PERSONAL TRAINING CAREER PREP | ONLINE—SEMESTER
This course examines the role and responsibilities of a personal trainer. Students will learn the steps to become a personal trainer, including performing fitness assessments, designing safe and effective workouts, and proper nutrition principles. Concepts of communication and motivation will be discussed, as well as exercise modifications and adaptations for special populations. Students will also examine certification requirements, business and marketing procedures, and concerns about liability and ethics. In addition, throughout the course students will be able to explore various exercises, equipment, and tools that can be used for successful personal training.

College Prep

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

College Prep

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

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

PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND FINANCE 1A | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Gain fundamental knowledge that will help you pursue a career in business! You will explore the different types of businesses and ownership forms, the impact of governments on business, and the marketing of goods and services. You will also engage with the principles of globalization, free trade, and various economic systems. Finally, the impact of technology on business, business ethics, and social responsibility are discussed, providing you with a foundational knowledge of business.
College Prep

PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS, MARKETING, AND FINANCE 1B | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will expand your knowledge of the basics to explore advanced topics, such as marketing strategy, banking, and investments. Finally, examine employability skills and careers in business, finance, and marketing as well as various entrepreneurship opportunities.
Prerequisite: Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance 1A
College Prep

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

PUBLIC SPEAKING | ONLINE—SEMESTER
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 Elective

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

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

SAT PREPARATION | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

SOCIAL MEDIA: OUR CONNECTED WORLD | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

SOCIAL PROBLEMS 1: A WORLD IN CRISIS | ONLINE—SEMESTER

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

SOCIAL MEDIA: OUR CONNECTED WORLD
SOCIAL PROBLEMS 2: CRISIS, CONFLICTS, & CHALLENGES | ONLINE—SEMESTER
The Social Problems II course continues to examine timely social issues affecting individuals and societies around the globe. Students learn about the overall structure of the social problem as well as how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments and the individual.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

SOCIOLOGY 1: THE STUDY OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS | ONLINE—SEMESTER
The world is becoming more complex. How do your beliefs, values and behavior affect the people around you and the world in which we live? Students will examine social problems in our increasingly connected world, and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

SOCIOLOGY 2: YOUR SOCIAL LIFE | ONLINE—SEMESTER
Sociology is the study of people, social life and society. By developing a “sociological imagination” students will be able to examine how society itself shapes human action and beliefs... and how in turn these factors re-shape society itself! Fascinating online videos journeys will not only inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own.

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep • UC Approved Elective

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

College Prep

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

College Prep

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

College Prep

THEATER, CINEMA, & FILM PRODUCTION | ONLINE
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 Elective

College Prep • UC Approved Elective
Electives

**VETERINARY SCIENCE: THE CARE OF ANIMALS | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

**WOMEN’S STUDIES: A PERSONAL JOURNEY THROUGH FILM | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*

**WORLD MYTHOLOGY | ONLINE**

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 • NCAA Approved English*

**WORLD RELIGIONS: EXPLORING DIVERSITY | ONLINE—SEMESTER**

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

*College Prep • UC Approved Elective*
What are microcourses? Microcourses provide students the opportunity to explore interdisciplinary subjects and real-world trends on an abbreviated schedule. During the three-week course, students have the chance to discover, explore, question, propose, and develop a project of their own creation.

Our microcourse offerings are designed to prompt students in being purposeful and playful with their learning, in the hopes they discover a passion with potential to evolve into professional and academic pursuits. Upper School students earn 1/8 credit for each three-week microcourse. Four microcourses equal 1/2 credit.

**ASTOUNDING ARCHITECTURE**
Students will investigate the impacts of innovative architecture while exploring their own ideas of what makes a great architect. Through a guided discovery of architectural trends, particularly the Tiny Home Movement, students will seek to understand the cost of architectural creativity and apply what they learn by implementing the architectural design process to their own project proposal and plans.

**FUN WITH PHYSICS**
Students begin the course by observing thrilling experiments to spark their curiosity about how and why the world around them works, including everything from electricity to space. By the second week, students are ready to examine the laws of physics that make these phenomena possible and design their own experiment showing how what they’ve discovered works in a process or product of their own creation by the end of week three.

**SCIENCE OF MY SPORT**
Students take the role of inventor in this course finding a problem in the sport of their choice, taking information scientists have provided, and creating an object or a process to solve that problem. Anything from protective athletic gear to menu plans for athletes in recovery could be the next discovery one of our students makes!

**STRATEGIC MONEY**
Students will discover various aspects of the financial world including savings, investments, interest, and stocks, and engage in money management tasks with a goal of increasing their (imaginary) holdings by the end of the course and creating a portfolio of how and why they saved, invested, or spent their money.
ADVANCED COMPOSITION AND EXPRESSIVE CLARITY
In this course, students will hone their purposeful communication skills to present, persuade, and defend their claims. Beginning with an examination of Aristotle’s rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, and logos), students will discover how writing can wield persuasive power through an appeal to authority and goodwill, the emotions, and logic. Next, students will study concrete language and physical description, adopting some techniques from celebrated creative writers, to make their writing more vivid. Students will have a chance to develop their long-form writing, exploring different genres such as the research proposal and the op-ed. Finally, students will work to tailor their oral and written composition by considering the situation and the perspective of the people receiving it. With a focus on clarity and style, students will leave the course with an understanding of why great writing and speaking matter and the ability to use effective word choice, phrasing, sentence structure, and tone with confidence across a variety of mediums.

Advanced Composition and Expressive Clarity classes are held in Minerva’s Active Learning Platform. Students are required to attend a live synchronous class for 90 minutes, twice per week, over 10 weeks.

Prerequisite: This course is available to Laurel Springs Academy students who are at least age 15 and in grades 10-12. Students must have completed at least 1 Advanced Placement (AP course) earning a final grade of 82.5% (B) or higher, or completed Honors level English and Social Studies courses the school year prior, earning a final grade of 86.5% (B+) or higher.

UC Honors Approved English • NCAA Approved English
Offered in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

APPLIED CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING
In this interdisciplinary course shaped by current issues facing society today, students will solve concrete problems using algorithmic thinking, reasoning, and analytics while employing skills from the fields of economics, statistics, science, and human geography. Students will apply deductive and inductive arguments, identify and explain biases, and reverse engineer solutions across domains. By the end of the course, students will have a foundation in critical and creative thinking upon which they can build expertise in any discipline.

Applied Creative and Critical Thinking classes are held in Minerva’s Active Learning Platform. Students are required to attend a live synchronous class for 90 minutes, twice per week, over 10 weeks.

Prerequisite: This course is available to Laurel Springs Academy students who are at least age 15 and in grades 10-12. Students must have completed Advanced Composition and Expressive Clarity and Geometry.

UC Honors Approved Elective
Offered in Spring 2021
Laurel Springs School in Partnership with Minerva

STRATEGIC LEARNING AND GROWTH
As upper school students prepare to take on the demands of planning for their continued education, they will face many challenges. In this course, students will discover the science behind learning and the cognitive processes associated with executive functioning. Through a blend of theoretical and practical activities, students will also use tools to reflect, plan, and perform in ways that will allow them to master new skills and reach goals more effectively, preparing them for what lies ahead. Students completing the course will work to develop a growth mindset and to create strategies for success during the final years of high school and beyond.

Strategic Learning and Growth classes are held in Minerva’s Active Learning Platform. Students are required to attend a live synchronous class for 90 minutes, twice per week, over 10 weeks.

Prerequisite: This course is available to Laurel Springs Academy students who are at least age 15 and in grades 10-12. Students must have completed at least 1 Advanced Placement (AP course) earning a final grade of 82.5% (B) or higher, or completed Honors level English and Social Studies courses the school year prior, earning a final grade of 86.5% (B+) or higher.

UC Honors Approved Elective

Offered in Fall 2020
ACADEMY LOUNGE
Open to LSS Gifted and Talented Academy Students Only (6-12)

Available to students in the Gifted and Talented Academy at Laurel Springs School, students engage in two meetings per month. The first meeting introduces all in attendance to a specific, relevant topic in a multi-media, high level thinking, creative and interactive manner. The second meeting builds on the topic with student-led discussions, presentations, and collaborations with students divided into middle school and high school discussion groups. It is a relaxed setting where the discovery and critical thinking of relevant topics expands each student’s horizons, by exploring, practicing and sharing individual and unique perspectives as students strive to understand the ever-changing world of the 21st century.

ART (7-12)

Monet, Matisse, Picasso, and contemporary artists are revealed and explored by members in the Art Club. Students gain inspiration from artists across the globe and varying eras. Members also share their own artistic expressions and endeavors culminating in a virtual art club portfolio distributed school wide. Art Club advisors share their passion of art and creative expression while students lead the meetings and share their artistic expressions.

ASTRONOMY (7-12)

Club Members discuss space-related news, photography, and insights about astronomy including solar systems, planets, stars, galaxies, space travel, astrophysics, and more. Laurel Springs Upper School science teachers and the Academic Department Chair lead student discussions focused on their common interest in astronomy and may conduct simple hands-on activities and experiments related to astronomy and physics.

BOOK (6-12)

Book club advisors strive to create a warm and student-centered experience where participants can both enjoy and be challenged by their peers as they consider literature through discussion, critical thinking, and reflection. Each fall, students help craft a yearly book list, then a rotation of student-led meetings fosters leadership and speaking skills. Objective and expressive thoughts and discussions are encouraged and acknowledged as important contributions building analytical skills. Book Club truly honors the Laurel Springs School mission by supporting students’ innate enthusiasm for learning.

CREATIVE COMPUTING (5-12)

The Creative Computing Club explores the merging of creativity and technology. Members engage in meaningful and critical discussions about the world of computing. From coding to the Maker Movement; from Google’s CS-First to the digital worlds of Minecraft, this club will explore how computers play a vital and vibrant part of everyday life in preparation for college, career and beyond in the 21st century.

CREATIVE WRITING & PHOTOGRAPHY (7-12)

Students discover and engage in real-world publishing experiences as members of the Creative Writing and Photography Club. Students are considered staff writers, photographers and editors with the culmination of the annual publication of the Laurel Springs Vision and Voices Magazine published at the end of each year. This club is for students who enjoy writing and reading poetry, fiction and non-fiction, and submitting photography to be published. Members improve, enhance, and build on their talent for creativity through peer editing and teacher guidance. Student editors lead a lively monthly meeting to share their creative passions.

DEBATE (9-12)

There is nothing more lively at Laurel Springs than the Debate Club. Members learn what it means to cultivate and maintain your own individual voice, as the opinions of members can be heard echoing down the virtual halls of Laurel Springs School. Using contemporary topics introduced by the advisor, club members then vote, choose, briefly research, take a pro or con position, gather their arguments, and debate the topic until consensus and resolution is reached. Proper debate techniques are used, as well as expanding into the unique opportunities available in a virtual setting as students explore civic literacy, global awareness, and individual liberties through the utilization of critical, creative, and innovative thinking. This club meets in a supervised setting with feedback and guidance from an advisor who is a seasoned member of the debate community.

DRAMA (K-12)

Do you love to perform, act out scenes and maybe you’re even a playwright who would like to hear your words spoken by fellow actors? Then the LSS Drama Club is for you. Join us to collaborate; rehearse; perform and get feedback about your performances. Construct, shape, and grow your acting craft. This club is a great way to meet
fellow actors attending LSS. All the world’s a stage and this is an opportunity that will expand your passion while working with other thespians and theatre players. We will discuss and explore contemporary and classical theatre, as well as comedy, drama, tragedy, musicals, stage make up, audition techniques, and play production.

ENVIRONMENTAL (7-12)
As members of a global community, there is nothing more important to many of Laurel Springs students than the environment. Laurel Springs is proud to have been the recipient of the United Nations Global Environmental 500 Award. This club is for those who love nature, Earth, and seek to find a closer connection with Earth, explore environmental literacy and environs; individually and as a community.

EQUESTRIAN (7-12)
This club is for students that have a love for horses and/or riding, from beginners to experienced riders. There are no requirements except for the shared love of horses. Students participate in discussions, exhibit their performances, and participate in group projects. Members enjoy a place to share their passion for horses, meet, collaborate, and celebrate a love for all things equine. Students run each meeting, while learning about different training techniques, horse care, and disciplines from other club members.

FASHION (7-12)
The Fashion Club takes a closer look at the ever-changing fashion industry and combines the creative and productive aspects that are part of contemporary culture. Members share original designs, reveal and review current fashion trends, designs from fashion week, and explore red carpet fashion. Between meetings members work independently creating original designs which they share at each meeting. They challenge themselves and each other by creating inspiration boards resulting in feedback, support, and encouragement from fellow fashionistas.

FILM PRODUCTION & SCREENWRITING (7-12)
Members of the Screenwriting and Film Production Club will explore elements of the filmmaking process including writing, directing, producing, cinematography, and editing. In the film industry, the screenplay is referred to as the “master document.” Without a script, no other position in the industry would exist. It is in story development and the creation of the three-act screenplay that this club will focus time throughout the school year. The development of writing skills will serve students, regardless of their future interests or career paths. Club members will utilize the teachings of Robert McKee and the late Syd Field; referencing Robert McKee’s “Ten Screenwriting Commandments,” his book “Story,” as well as Field’s screenplay outline.

FOODIE (K-12)
An engaging club is for those who love to eat a variety of foods; cook a variety of foods, and critique a variety of foods! Members will explore food through cultures around the world, meal times (breakfast, lunch and dinner); meal categories (appetizers, main dishes, side dishes, soups, salads and desserts); will explore healthy cooking options and the year will culminate in the publication of a LSS Foodie Club’s Cook Book and Restaurant Reviews.

FRENCH (7-12)
Bonjour! French Club members revel in the immersion into French culture, cuisine, and even the French countryside as members have the opportunity to speak French during all meetings. Members hone skills already acquired in French World Language courses and embark on a journey of France and the French speaking world including its landscapes and all aspects of its culture. Viva la France!

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC PRODUCTION CLUB (9-12)
The Laurel Springs High School Music Production Club (MPC) strives to build collaborative and educational connections between music producers. Our goal is to encourage the discussion, practice, creation and analysis of music production techniques, along with sound design, as well as the use of effects, plug-ins, midi and loops, across a variety of Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) platforms such as Logic, Garageband, Tracktion, Studio One, Ableton and Audacity. Open to high school students 9-12 grades.

LSS MATH TEAM (7-12)
Do you love math? Do you love to solve problems? Would you like to meet others that like to do the same? Join the newly formed LSS Math Team to participate in competitive fun by working individually and in teams to solve challenging enriching math problems. Online competitions during the year, as well as the culmination of a Math Team final project presented to the school at an annual May Math Jubilee.

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION PLACE (9-12)
Please join us for thirty minutes, twice a month, to gain an understanding of the benefits of meditation, as well as engaging in 10-20 minutes of meditation. Come release and return to the peace that you are. As it is within, so it is without. Enjoy living life in a more relaxed and mindful mental state. Meditation can offer stress relief, focus and an overall sense of well-being. In this meditation place, students will learn the varying types of meditation including guided meditation, mantra meditation, meditation with focused breathing and more.
MODEL UNITED NATIONS (7-12)
Imagine preparing for the global experience as a member of the United Nations who strives for peace and balance among cultures around the world. This club engages in an authentic simulation of the United Nations (UN) by learning about the UN system, skills of debate, compromise, conflict resolution, and negotiation. Model UN team members meet twice a month to explore and reveal the workings of world diplomacy through the lens of current events. Real world experience culminates in two ways for members—1. All members participate in a virtual Model UN Conference in April each school year, and 2. Interested members attend the international Model UN Conference in New York City in May where they visit the Model UN building. Members participate in authentic debate as Model UN delegates assigned to research and present solutions based on an actual country and an authentic global issue.

MUSIC (K-12)
Have you heard of a didgeridoo? It is a unique musical instrument used by the aboriginal people of Australia. Members of the music club are lovers of music. A veteran teacher and talented musician leads students who love, create, or live for music on an interactive, creative, and musical journey. Members will celebrate, educate, support, inspire, create, listen to, and express their love for the spirit of music.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY
NJHS Members Only (7-9)
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
NHS Members Only (10-12)
This club based on and connected with nationally recognized organization with mandated criteria for acceptance. It is therefore an invitation only club for students who meet the strict standards, undergo a rigorous application process and have been accepted into the organization. The registration process and acceptance is held once a year. One of the main components for eligibility is a student’s overall (cumulative), maintained Grade Point Average of 3.5 or higher (on a 4.0 unweighted scale). Only current members can attend meetings.

SCRUBS (7-12)
Scrubs Club members research, explore and discuss the health industry; health professions; diseases; healing and all topics related to medical professions at home and around the world. Open ended opportunities and conversations allow members to discover all things curative—especially that which members are interested in discovering. The club begins each year with introductions, including medical profession intentions and culminates in a Health Fair open to all LSS students.

SIGN LANGUAGE (7-12)
Sign language is simply fascinating, beautiful, unique, and expressive. Not only is sign language helpful to for communication, it is also a fun and interesting to learn! Knowing sign language has many benefits. Did you know that it is the 4th most studied language at colleges and universities in the US and sign language is the 3rd or 4th most used language in the US after English and Spanish, with over 2 million people who speak American Sign Language. Bilingualism enriches and enhances your cognitive process, and signing can enhance your creative thinking and more as members explore, discover, share and unlock the wonderment of this beautifully visual language.

SONGBIRDS (5-12)
Do you want to combine your musical talent and your desire to perform? Then this club is for you! Members will go on an exploration of what it takes to perform, record, and share their music. Passionate about all things musical, club members will enjoy the musical talents of each participant and offer constructive feedback when it is invited. Students will learn techniques associated with recording, performance, voice, lyricism, and instrument arrangement. Moreover, members will uncover the varying ideas of sound, song, genres of music, and collaborate to create pieces of music together.

SPORTS CLUB (7-12)
The Sports Club unites student athletes and sports fans alike to openly discuss topics on sports nutrition, current events, sport psychology, favorite professional athletes and sports teams, and much more! Students are encouraged to share and discuss their current sports as well as collaborate on ideas for balancing academics and training, providing effective strategies used in their sport and life, and get to learn the unique backgrounds of our large and diverse sports community!

STUDENT GOVERNMENT (7-12)
Real world leadership experience is the focus of the Laurel Springs Student Government team. Members are comprised of three elected officers and confirmed representatives from each grade level, grades 7-12. An election convention is held each year as candidates campaign and gain understanding in a respectful, objective setting—including rechanneling defeat and demonstrating resiliency to become an active, involved, voting members of a decision making body. Officers, representatives, and members actively participate and learn about civic literacy, amend by-laws as needed in an ever evolving student campus, and execute projects that are both community and global oriented.
SUPERHEROES CLUB (K-12)
Superheroes in comics, superheroes in your everyday life, you as a superhero. Join this LSS club exploring the varying roles that superheroes play in all our lives. We begin the year exploring the favorite attributes of the timeless character heroes introduced through comics, television, film and the like. We then expand into our appreciation for the super heroes we experience in our everyday lives. Finally, we complete the year with expressions, activity and/or projects by collectively and individually volunteering globally or locally to make a difference in the lives of others. Up, up and away! Open to students in K-12 grades.

SPANISH CLUB (7-12)
Hola. ¿Cómo estás? Spanish Club members celebrate in the immersion into Spanish, Latin and other Spanish speaking cultures, cuisine, and countries. Members have the opportunity to speak Spanish during all meetings, honing skills already acquired in Spanish language courses. Members must speak Spanish fluently or be currently enrolled in a LSS Spanish course. This club is open to students in grades 7-12.

TED-ED SPEECH CLUB (7-12)
Using the TED Talk style of presenting big ideas in a short form, LSS students will get a chance to explore what it means to offer quality expressions via speech. Members will identify their passions, interests and talents and the means to share with others in an authentic, clear and expansive manner. Additionally, students will identify and outline their own, unique big idea. Students will have an opportunity to “talk” and benefit from authentic feedback from peers equally excited about this common interest, speaking. Finally, members will be chosen to share their big idea talk school wide, as LSS students, staff and faculty will be invited to hear them speak via web cam. All members will also be able to upload their talk on the TED-Ed Talk student web site.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM CLUB (7-12)
Travel Club is not only fun, it’s educational and life enhancing. In addition to developing global awareness and compassion, this club expands knowledge of the hospitality and tourism industry. Members share and expand their experience and using photos, presentations, and unique perspectives. Engaging activities also explore cultural norms, and possibly absurdities, while identifying food, clothing, architecture, and rituals unique to the culture, country or continent. This club is open to students in grades 7-12.

U-FIT FITBIT CLUB (K-12)
Ready to challenge yourself, challenge your LSS peers and support each other in health and fitness goals? Members will come together both in twice monthly meetings and on the private LSS Fitbit dashboard and challenge site while working with the club adviser to attain, maintain and sustain fitness goals. No Fitbit device needed to join. Open to students in K-12 grades.

YEARBOOK (9-12)
Collecting student memories from around the world, the Yearbook Club members create the Laurel Springs Yearbook, a yearly publication comprised of students, activities, clubs, and events from the current school year. Members collaborate with teachers, club advisors, and fellow students to design pages, make graphic art decisions, and learn what it takes to publish a school yearbook—bringing our virtual campus alive for all to share and see. This club meets from January to May.
We honor the talents, learning styles, and interests of all our students.