



Merit Academy
School of Rhetoric
Planning Guide and Course Description
Catalog 2022-23/ 2023-24

The concept of Merit Academy began with families and local community members, for families and the greater Ute Pass community. It started with conversations among families and area members about a different education choice, one that embraces a classical and content-rich approach, involves parents to a much greater level, and allows area experts to teach in their field through charter waivers. This school is the culmination of these conversations and efforts.

Merit Academy's unique academic model utilizes the Core Knowledge sequence, long recognized for its rich content and academic rigor. The school is founded on a liberal arts education (Arts of language, mathematics, science, history, Latin, music and art) combined with a constant emphasis on character and leadership development.

MERIT ACADEMY: A CHOICE-IN SCHOOL

Merit Academy is a Woodland Park School District choice (charter) school. By enrolling your students with Merit Academy, you are choosing an intensive, engaging, classical, Core Knowledge academic curriculum of excellence. You are choosing a commitment to our vision and mission. You are choosing to abide by our Code of Honor and virtues. You are choosing the culture and procedures in which we thrive. We realize Merit Academy may not be the choice of school for every family, but families who desire these facets of education have found Merit Academy to be the school they've been searching for.

With a highly qualified and well-trained staff, an academic environment of excellence, and a commitment to character, MA is a great place to be. Welcome!

OUR COMMITMENT *and* STATEMENT OF COMPELLING INTERESTS

Merit Academy recognizes that while there are other school models available in the Ute Pass area, we are committed to the moral character and civic virtue emphasis we have chosen. We will ensure academic excellence within our chosen framework. This model is not for everyone, but it is at the core of what we do.

The statements and purposes that follow here define the identity of Merit Academy. They inform the community of what we are about. They guide those who would enroll students in our school and those who would seek employment with us. They are central to our mission and activities. They will define and be the measures of our success.

PRINCIPLES THAT GUIDE OUR SCHOOL

EDUCATION IS, FIRST OF ALL, A RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS. We recognize that parents are education consumers and must choose the product and delivery method that they determine is best for their child and family. We operate as a business that respects that duty of parents.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE through the use of the ***Core Knowledge*** sequence and other curricular tools that challenge students is a priority. We will not waste our students' time with meaningless busywork, screentime, or mediocre content. We will not be a warehouse. With an intensive

sequence throughout grade levels, students will connect to core subjects through activities that make learning come alive.

KNOWLEDGE-RICH PEDAGOGY, classical liberal arts curriculum, experiential/hands-on study, and Socratic method are the means by which our mission is executed.

CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP) curriculum provides additional aerospace education and STEM projects. Students learn and abide by military customs and courtesies, obtain rank and promotion and learn to lead other students. They participate in flight opportunities and aerospace events. CAP membership is not mandatory, but CAP classes and events are restricted to CAP members only.

CHARACTER EDUCATION for the development of the whole child will include many traits or Core Virtues.

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Merit Academy has a compelling interest in maintaining the integrity of the school and its mission. This includes an insistence that persons associated with it are committed to its educational principles and maintain lives that model strong moral character. This alignment is congruent with and complementary to the statements above that guides our work.

OUR VISION

Students prepared for success in a free society, promoting civic responsibility and contributing their talents in a flourishing republic by pursuing beauty, truth, and good.

OUR MISSION

Merit Academy will cultivate the minds and nurture the hearts of K-12 youth in the Ute Pass/Woodland Park region with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue, employing honored foundations of classical education and Core Knowledge®.

OUR MOTTO

Hodie Determinat Cras, Today Determines Tomorrow.

This will be discussed on many levels throughout the academy. Today's effort determines tomorrow's results, as applied to learning, decisions, choices, actions, athletics, practice, etc. It also connects to the importance history plays in the events of today and tomorrow.

The House System and Our Virtues

The House System fosters student engagement and school spirit through the assignment of every student, teacher, and staff member into one of five groups known as Houses. Houses create smaller cohesive groups where students interact among all grade levels while

encouraging friendships, communication, tradition, academic excellence, student government, and competition.

The House System is quite common in British education systems but is not as common in the United States. Schools that have utilized a House System have found more unity and pride in their school and a heightened civic service. Our House System is an additional component to prepare students for post-graduate success through increased team building and leadership opportunities.

Our Houses are named after our local rocky mountain animals: Falcon, Big Horn Sheep, Bobcat, Elk and Wolf.

The House system and our character education is centered on the five core virtues of Merit Academy: Friendship, Valor, Goodness, Perseverance, and Responsibility.

It is my great honor to introduce you to this mighty and magnificent school. We're the school you've been waiting for!

With Kind Regards,

Gwynne Pekron, Ph.D.
Industrial/Organizational Psychologist
Headmaster & Founder
Merit Academy

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following chart shows comparisons of what Colorado universities currently require. If you go to college without the proper requirements already met, you will be required to take remedial courses, for which you will be billed by the college.

To receive a high school diploma from MA, student must:

1. Meet or exceed the state and school academic standards by completing the school's minimum course and credit requirements (*those listed as Career/Military Enlist Path*), **AND**
2. Complete an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP),
3. Demonstrate College and Career Readiness through one of the following: a.) meet or exceed the cut score or criteria on a state-approved measure of College and Career Readiness in English and Math, OR b.) Complete the requirements and goals as listed on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), English Language Development Plan (ELDP), or Advanced Learning Plan (ALP), **AND**
4. In culmination of training and education, graduating seniors at Merit Academy will be required to design and orally defend a senior thesis. This defense will encompass the trivium of grammar (facts, research, and principles), logic, and rhetoric. Each senior will answer a question that transcends typical essay questions found in other courses. It may be a question that encourages thought and preparation of responsible citizenry, discussion of a core virtue, or promotes deep reflection (i.e. "Describe what a life of goodness means to you"). A satisfactory performance on the senior thesis will be required for graduation. Each thesis will be defended (presented with Q & A) in front of members of their House.

ENGLISH

- College/Academies Path: 4 Credits
- Career/Military Enlist Path: 4 Credits

Includes but not limited to: Concurrent Enrollment English Courses, Literature & Composition I, II, III, IV, Mythology, Creative Writing & Others

MATH

- College/Academies Path: 4 Credits
- Career/Military Enlist Path: 3 Credits

Includes but not limited to: Concurrent Math Courses, Algebra 1, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics, Business Math, Accounting, Financial Literacy & More.

HISTORY

- College/Academies Path: 4 Credits
- Career/Military Enlist Path: 4 Credits

Required: US History: Founding & Foundations (1.0); US History: Confronting Critics & Challenges (1.0); World History: Through the Lens (1.0); Western

Civilization (.5) & Civics (.5) Transfer-in credits will be reviewed to satisfy requirements.

SCIENCE

- College/Academies Path: 4 Credits
- Career/Military Enlist Path: 3 Credits

Includes but not limited to: Concurrent Enrollment Science Courses, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy, Aerospace, Aeronautics, Genetics, Geology, Zoology, Integrated Science, Science Olympiad & More. (at least one lab science, preferably two, required)

FINE ARTS/PERFORMING ARTS/INDUSTRIAL ARTS

- College/Academies Path: 2 Credits
- Career/Military Enlist Path: 1 Credit

Includes but not limited to: Concurrent Enrollment Arts, Theater, Art, Performance, Choir, Band, Music Appreciation, Metals or Wood Works, & More.

LANGUAGES

- College/Academies Path: 2 Credits Language plus 1 Credit Latin
- Career/Military Enlist Path: 1 Credit Latin; 1 Credit Additional Language (including 2nd year Latin)

Students who passed Latin in both 7th and 8th grades with a C or better will have met the Latin requirement for a Latin waiver and will only need 1 additional Language credit, which could include Latin II. **Graduating Class of 2026: .5 Latin required (not 1.0) due to 2022-23 full year scheduling **

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Senior Capstone/Rhetoric
- 1.0 PE or PE/Athletic Waiver
- Enhancements to Total a minimum of 24 Credits:
 - o Civil Air Patrol, Forensics, PE, CTE, STEM, Internship, Additional Academic & Non-Academic Courses (may include concurrent enrollment courses)

PLUS: Students will engage in a post-secondary readiness ICAP program to explore postsecondary career options and interests and to plan a path required to meet those postsecondary interests (military vs vocational vs college and what is involved in each).

Updated Dec. 2022

CO also requires that students pass one of these options for reading, writing, communicating and one of these options for mathematics:

Menu of Options	Reading, Writing, Communicating	Mathematics
<u>Classic ACCUPLACER</u>	62 on Reading Comprehension or 70 on Sentence Skills	61 on Elementary Algebra
<u>Next Generation ACCUPLACER</u>	241 on Reading or 236 on Writing	255 on Arithmetic (AR) or 230 on Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics (QAS)
<u>ACT</u>	18 on ACT English	19 on ACT Math
<u>ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate</u>	Bronze or higher	Bronze or higher
<u>Advanced Placement (AP)</u>	2	2
<u>ASVAB</u>	31 on the AFQT	31 on the AFQT
<u>Concurrent Enrollment</u>	Passing grade per district and higher education policy	Passing grade per district and higher education policy
<u>District Capstone</u>	Individualized	Individualized
<u>Industry Certificate</u>	Individualized	Individualized
<u>International Baccalaureate (IB)</u>	4	4
<u>Scores update for new SAT (2016)</u>	470	500

MA capstone project

multifaceted body of work that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students. School team are developing Capstone criteria to be approved.

School Team developed criteria to be approved.

School Team developed criteria to be approved.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

ONE OPPORTUNITY. LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.

If you want to compete in NCAA sports, you need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at eligibilitycenter.org. Plan to register before your freshman year of high school (or year nine of secondary school). Visit on.ncaa.com/RegChecklist to help guide you through the registration process.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To study and compete at a Division I or II school, you must earn 16 NCAA-approved **core-course credits**, earn a minimum 2.3 (Division I) or 2.2 (Division II) **core-course GPA** and submit your final transcript with proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS

DIVISION I

Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	ADDITIONAL (English, math or science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed to the left, world language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)
4 years	3 years	2 years	1 year	2 years	4 years

For Division I, 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits must be completed before the start of your seventh semester, including seven in English, math or science.

DIVISION II

Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:

ENGLISH	MATH (Algebra I or higher)	SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)	ADDITIONAL (English, math or science)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed to the left, world language or nondoctrinal religion/philosophy)
3 years	2 years	2 years	3 years	2 years	4 years

GRADE-POINT AVERAGE

The Eligibility Center calculates your **core-course GPA** based on the grades you earn in NCAA-approved core courses.

- » Division I requires a minimum 2.3 core-course GPA.
- » Division II requires a minimum 2.2 core-course GPA.

DIVISION III

While **Division III schools** set their own admissions and academic requirements, **international student-athletes** (first-year enrollees and transfers) who initially enroll full time at a Division III school on or after Aug. 1, 2023, are required to complete an **Amateurism-Only Certification account**. Contact the Division III school you plan to attend for more information about its academic requirements.

*More information regarding the impact of COVID-19 can be found at on.ncaa.com/COVID19_Spring2023.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

KNOWLEDGE

Merit Academy has selected the Core Knowledge Foundation's Curriculum Sequence as the framework of its curriculum. The Core Knowledge is distinguished by planned progressions of specific knowledge in history, geography, mathematics, science, language arts, and fine arts. The ninth grade classical honors program includes US History; biology, college composition & literature; algebra I, algebra II and college algebra. Our students also have the option to take courses in foreign language, Latin, physical education, band, choir, computer technology, and other electives.

Children learn by building on what they already know. Thus, it is important for them to begin building foundations of knowledge in the early grades when they are most receptive to attaining an organized body of knowledge. Children are by instinct driven to construct a contextual view of the world. Thus, it is important to provide them an educational framework that assists them in developing the constructs upon which their viewpoints will be based. Academic deficiencies in these areas in the first nine grades can permanently impair the quality of later schooling.

By specifying the knowledge that all children should share, all students can achieve equal access to that knowledge. At risk children especially suffer from low expectations, which often translate into watered-down curricula. In schools using the Core Knowledge Sequence, however, all children are exposed to a coherent core of challenging, interesting, interwoven knowledge. This knowledge not only provides a foundation for later learning but also defines a common heritage and establishes a common ground for communication and cooperation in a diverse society.

In addition to its specificity, the Core Knowledge curriculum is characterized by knowledge that is shared, solid, and sequenced. Literacy in every subject requires a set of mechanical skills and a shared background. The shared, many-cultured knowledge that promotes effective classroom learning also promotes cooperation and respect among students, both in the classroom and in society. Merit's teachers will be able to rely on that shared background knowledge about the students, which will enable them to build sequentially on that knowledge year by year. The ninth grade classical curriculum continues the goals of this curriculum with rich knowledge and skills that build on previous knowledge and prepares students for further high school study. As used above we define knowledge not in the simplistic sense of mere facts but in the broader sense of the word, as follows: Knowledge consists of the facts, the relations between them, the thinking about them, and the effort to understand and connect them. It is not out of ignorance that we discover understanding. It is exactly because of what we already know that we can know more, that we can discern organizing principles, make and test hypotheses, and act rationally.

HOMEWORK

Merit Academy is proud to have a challenging, deep curriculum. This is one of the many things that make Merit a great school. With such a rich and intensive curriculum, the students need time to work at home. We are aware that the student is involved with other interests and activities outside of school. The staff and administration will attempt to coordinate their schedules and calendars so the students are not inundated with work on the same day. It is understood that homework will be given and will vary depending on the work assigned on a given day, the students' organizational skills and study habits, and the nature of the assignments. Students are expected to learn how to use their free time effectively to complete the required work at each grade level. Parents are expected to support their children in this endeavor. Advanced classes may require additional homework time.

Homework is the responsibility of the student. It is not the parent's job to remind the student to do the homework. Young students may need help at first but encourage students to take initiative in doing homework shortly after school or after dinner. School planners and notes home for parent signatures are students' responsibility. Students should ask parents to sign paperwork, rather than parents carrying the responsibility to remember. A good prompt for an inexperienced student would be, "Do you have anything for me?" rather than the parent rummaging through the backpack or folder to find the item and then sign it. This will assist in promoting responsibility and capability.

HOMEWORK TURNED IN LATE

Teachers explain to students at the beginning of the year what their policy is on homework turned in late (other than for excused illness). Consequences may include grade reduction, or loss of credit for the assignment. Repeat offenses may result in detention.

MAKE-UP WORK

If a child is absent from school, it is the family's responsibility to contact the school office to request make-up work for the day(s) missed. Please call no later than 9:00 a.m. to request make-up work on the day of absence. You may pick up the make-up homework at the school office at the end of the school day or we can send it home with a sibling.

Students participating in school or district athletics or extra-curricular activities will be able to make up assignments/tests due to games or competitions. It is the student's responsibility to discuss and plan make-ups with the teacher prior to missing class for these events. Assignments may also be posted on the Infinite Campus or Google Classroom portal.

READING AT HOME

Students who are learning to read need time to re-read the stories and selections they have read at school during the day. This improves fluency and comprehension. All student should have 15-20 minutes reading time in the evening after school. Family reading time is a joy! Try a continued story or a cliffhanger to get your child hooked on reading. Read aloud while traveling or use audio books to help engage imagination and creativity.

REPORT CARDS AND MID-QUARTER PROGRESS REPORTS

MA is on a semester calendar, with mid-quarter reports. Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled on MA's yearlong calendar. Grades and assignment status are available in Infinite Campus to keep parents well informed about students' progress and give opportunity for improvement well before the quarter report and semester grades are posted. Please let us know if you need assistance with connecting to Infinite Campus.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are held each quarter by scheduling an appointment with the teacher. **At least one parent from each family is highly encouraged to attend.** Both are welcome. Please bring your student to participate in the discussion. If you cannot be there during the requested time frame, another time may be scheduled with your teacher.

MA welcomes the attendance of students at Parent-Teacher conferences as well. This is an opportunity to complete the loop of conversation and ensure that all parties are hearing the same reports, affirmations, and concerns. Students' participation is encouraged.

GRADING SCALE

MA uses the following grading scale.

A 94-100; A- 90-93.99;

B+ 87-89.99; B 84-86.99; B- 80-83.99;

C+ 77-79.99; C 74-76.99; C- 70-73.99;

D+ 67-69.99; D 64-66.99; D- 60-63.99;

F 59.99 and below

Although a 70% might appear to be passing at grade-level understanding, test scores under 70% will require additional work to be determined by the teacher. Projects might include correcting missed work, covering a weak area over again, or similar activities designed to ensure students do not continue in subject matter and create "gaps" in their learning.

ENHANCEMENT CLASSES

MA offers "Enhancements" classes such as Art, PE, Music, Latin, and more for grades K-5. Middle school and high school electives include language (Spanish, Latin, German, French), Art, PE, Music, Computer Technology, and much more.

ASSESSMENTS

Merit Academy administers several tests, which currently includes the CMAS (Colorado Measure of Academic Success), the PSAT, and the SAT tests. MA will also provide the NWEA MAP (North West Evaluation Association Measure of Academic Progress) and DIBELS, both of which are nationally normed instruments that helps us track how our students are doing.

We encourage families to participate and assist the school in managing academic growth. We understand that a test is a snapshot in time, and just like a photo, sometimes we have a bad one. Taken together over several tests and years, we can tell how students (and our staff) are doing. MA does not “teach to the test,” but seeks a clear understanding of growth. Students may do some practice activities in advance to prevent test-taking fear or misfires with our computers.

PRE-ARRANGED ABSENCES

Occasionally family events or medical procedures necessitate a pre-arranged absence. Parents are encouraged to plan such times for regularly scheduled school vacation days when possible. Because our funding to provide educational services is based on student count, it is important that students are in school as much as possible through a 10 day window, centered around October 1.

A form must be filled out at the office, and parents may request homework three or more days in advance. Teachers may provide it if it is available. If it is not available in advance, work will be given upon return to school, with one school day allowed for each school day missed before work is due back to the teacher. Absences or work spanning the end of a quarter may not be counted after that quarter is closed out and report cards issued.

Students with more than four unexcused absences per month or 10 days per school year will be termed “habitually truant” under Colorado law.

Absences during CMAS Testing will not be excused except for illness. A doctor’s note may be required. Testing dates will be announced in the parent newsletter.

PLACEMENT, RETENTION AND PROMOTION

Incoming students may be tested for placement. MA Administration and staff will decide on placement in math and reading groups, and on promotion and retention of students through the use of various assessment tools, some nationally standardized and some teacher-created.

Promotion to a higher-grade level is viewed and determined on two areas: academic performance and emotional and social readiness. Students who show decided and documented deficiencies in both areas will be considered for retention. Retention decisions will be based upon:

- Teacher documentation and anecdotal information
- Parent anecdotal information
- Developmental and achievement test scores.
- Consistently scoring 60% or less in assessment instruments (test, quizzes, CMAS, MAP, etc).

Retention concerns will be discussed beginning no later than third quarter by staff and with parents. MA reserves the right to determine final placement of any student. **“Social promotion” of students who have not completed academic work is not allowed.** We recognize the social and emotional pressures created by retention, but affirm the priority of academic success for each students’ future well-being.

School of Logic (Grades 6-8)

It is our goal for parents, teachers, and students to work together during the year to insure students are developing responsible work habits and achieving at passing levels. We do not force a bell curve. A student with a failing year-end grade (F) in a core course (Math, English, History, or Science) may be required by the course instructor to remediate his/her grade by successfully completing a summer school packet prior to promotion to the next level course in the fall.

Students with a cumulative failing grade at year-end in any three or more classes (including specials and electives) will fail the grade and will not be promoted to the next grade. Students receiving special education services will be considered on a case by case basis.

High School (School of Rhetoric) (Grades 9 –12)

Student must have a minimum amount of credits from the proper courses in order to be promoted to the next grade. To be promoted to a sophomore a student is required to have 6 credits, to be promoted as a junior a student is required to have 12 credits and to be considered a senior a student is required to have 18 credits. All students must meet the minimum credits required for each core content area as detailed in the high-school graduation requirements.

We do not force a bell curve. A failing grade is defined as an F in a subject. If a student fails the indicated class or classes, he or she may not have earned enough credit to move on to the next grade level at the end of the year, and will need to repeat any failed semester of a required course.

Course credit is awarded for all courses on a semester basis, whether the course is a semester or year-long course. Students earn 1/2 (.5) credits for each semester course completed with a 60% or higher. However, with a score less than 70%, students may be required to complete additional work to improve comprehension and knowledge base.

HOMESCHOOL ENHANCEMENT

Because we respect and honor school choice and a parent's primary right to selecting the education that suits their students the best, we provide opportunities for our community homeschoolers to engage in enhancements through our program.

K-5 homeschoolers will participate in STEM, art, music, American Sign Language and other courses selected by our homeschool coordinator, following conversations with our homeschool coordinator. Grades 6-12 are able to join in our enhancements with our full time students. Enhancements include classes like those in fine arts, career/tech ed, languages, or additional courses. Students in high school may choose to join our full-time students in college-level courses, science labs, math classes, or the like. These are all available to our homeschool students free of charge.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Based on the entrance requirements of top universities, Merit Academy has outlined a comprehensive set of college preparatory courses. The recommended pathways are indicated through the prerequisite courses. Changes from the recommended pathways may only occur through department level or instructor consent.

Classes that are 1 credit meet every day for a full year; classes that are .5 credit meet every day for one semester OR .5 classes meet on Fridays for 2 class blocks for the full year.

Merit Academy will continue to add courses based on student and faculty interest. Classes may be offered only one term per year or may be offered every other year depending on demand.

Note: Merit Academy reserves the right to cancel classes due to insufficient enrollment.

Concurrent Enrollment: College courses at Merit Academy are offered as Concurrent Enrollment through Pikes Peak State College or University Colorado at Colorado Springs. Those classes are indicated in the class descriptions.

Advanced Placement: Merit Academy offers Advanced Placement (AP) Courses. These courses have additional requirements that will be placed on the student in order to receive credit for this course. AP and college classes are weighted on a 5.0 scale. Advanced Placement (AP) is indicated in the class description.

Honors Classes: Honors classes are more intensive in their delivery and carry a heavier weight for the additional preparation, time and studying. Honors courses (H) or College Prep (CP) receive an additional .5 point for a passing grade. A=4.5 points, B=3.5 points, C=2.5 points, D=1.0 points, F=0.0 points. Honors classes are indicated in the class descriptions.

Foundational Classes: As the name suggests, these classes build upon the foundational pieces of learning that students will need to become productive adults. Foundational classes move at a slower rate and help the student build their skill set. These course are not higher education ready courses and are marked as 090 level classes on the transcript. Foundational classes are indicated in the class description.

HIGH SCHOOL (9TH & 10TH) COURSE LIST 23-24

(courses may be added prior to the start of school)

CAREER/TECHNICAL

Animal & Range Science
CAP (Civil Air Patrol)
Computer Discoveries 1
Computer Principles 1
Internship
Welding Principles & Application
Woodworking Fundamentals

FINE ARTS

Ascend Ensemble
Band 1
Band II
Jazz Band
Ukulele & Guitar
Exploratory Art
Art Appreciation
Intro to Performing Arts

MATHEMATICS

Act Applied Math
Pre-Algebra
Algebra 1 (H)
Geometry (H)
Algebra II/Trigonometry
College: MATH 1034 College Algebra
College: MATH 1420 College Trigonometry

SCIENCE

Physical Science
Biology
Integrated Chemistry & Physics
Chemistry (College-Prep/Honors)
Science Olympiad
Science Bowl

ENGLISH

Western Literature & Composition
Honors/College Prep Western Lit & Comp
American Literature & Composition
College: ENGL 1015 Literature & Comp
College: ENGL 1021 English Comp I
College: ENGL 1022 English Comp II

HISTORY

US History to Civil War
US History: Civil War to Modern Era
College: HIST 1530 US History: Emergence of Modern Era

LANGUAGES

French 1	German 1
French 2	German 2
Spanish 1	Latin 1
Spanish 2	Latin 2

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Karate/Self Defense
Olympic Sports
Team Sports
Pe I

ADDITIONAL ENHANCEMENTS

Forensics & Speech
PSR (Post-Secondary Readiness)
Yearbook

CAREER/TECHNICAL

ANIMAL AND RANGE SCIENCE – CTEARS201

Credits: .5/yr

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th -12th

This course will focus on the introduction to the study and management of ranching; with special emphasis on livestock anatomy/physiology, cattle nutrition, animal husbandry/welfare, integrating the study of animal biological/physical sciences with technology as related to environment, natural resources, food production and agribusiness. Focus will be on the Temple Grandin model of low stress ranching. Students will participate in field trips to local ranches to study first-hand the elements of a successful ranch, and benefit from special guest speakers such as our local large animal vets and ranchers. This is a great introduction into the agricultural industry. Advanced courses in the animal science/ranch management program will develop in future semesters.

CAP (Civil Air Patrol) – CAP

Credits: .5/yr (repeatable for credit)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th -12th

The Civil Air Patrol, established by Congress on Dec. 1, 1941, is the auxiliary to the US Air Force. Today they have 3 main missions: Cadet Programs, Aerospace Education, and Emergency Services. The cadet program offers many opportunities to cadets both while in the program and after graduation. Students receive 10 hours of flight time within CAP. CAP is open to 6th-12th, with 9th-12th eligible for high school credit with additional expectations.

COMPUTER DISCOVERIES 1- PROCOM01

Credits: .25/yr (Friday, 2 semesters) (2022-23)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th-10th

This course is an introduction to Computer Science based on the CS Discoveries curriculum developed by Code.org. This semester students will learn about problem solving, using computers to solve problems, and web development (including some HTML and CSS). A note for those students who completed Coding at Merit Academy last year: this course will be more structured than last year's Coding class with a goal of introducing foundational CS topics and exploring different areas of Computer Science.

COMPUTER PRINCIPLES 1-COMPRN201

Credits: .5/yr (Friday, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th-10th

Computer Principles 1 will introduce students to the foundational concepts of Computer Science and challenge them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. Some topics that will be explored are digital information, the internet, and App Design. This course will be based on the Computer Science Principles course developed by code.org. This course begins preparation for the AP Test in Computer Science Principles.

INTERNSHIP – CTEINT01

Credit: .5, Repeatable

Requirement Met: Enhancement

Grades: 2nd semester 10th-12th (16 years old +)

The purpose of this course is to provide a practical introduction to the work environment through direct contact with professionals in the community. Students learn valuable lessons on the job, including but not limited to: leadership skills, executive functioning skills, job expectations and challenges. Jobs and hosts are partners with the school and are often solicited by the student wishing to study in that organization. Opportunities are endless and may include careers like veterinarians, mechanics, healthcare, engineering, business, finance, etc. This experiential course covers:

- discussion of professional job requirements
- awareness and knowledge of career opportunities
- building vocabulary appropriate to the area of professional interest
- development of decision-making skills
- development of personal and educational job-related skills
- written and oral communication skills
- higher-level thinking skills
- factors affecting job performance
- in-depth research study
- theories of management
- economic factors affecting free enterprise
- knowledge of professional organizations and their impact

WELDING PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS – CTEWEL01

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Arts

Grades: 9th-12th

Welding Principles and Applications is a year-long course where students will learn the basics of shop safety, welding, and correct use of shop tools. Units will cover Arc welding, MIG, and Oxy-Acetylene. Different types of welds will be assigned the first semester of this class with the remaining semester allowing students the option to create projects of their choice.

WOODWORKING FUNDAMENTALS – CTEWDS01

Credits: .5 (2 semesters, block Friday)

Requirement met: Arts

Grades: 9th-12th

Woodworking Fundamentals is a course that allows you to build projects using tools, machines and skills you acquire during the class. Class begins with learning about basic hand tools, machines, safety in the shop, and reading a ruler to the 16th of an inch. After successfully passing a proficiency test on the power tools, students will have the opportunity to use them to build projects. Basic operations, measurements, and construction techniques will be used to create several projects. This is a hands-on class, allowing you to be proud of the projects you build and take home. High School Credit requires additional project requirements and higher rubric expectations.

Additional CTE Courses (2024 and beyond)

ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION – CTECNS01

ADVANCED WELDING – CTEWEL02

Following the American Welding Society curriculum, this course is designed to teach students the requirements to pass trade certification exams. Projects may couple with Advanced Construction on a larger scale.

ADVANCED ANIMAL & RANGE SCIENCES (possibly meets Science requirement) – CTEARS02

CAREER START & TRADES CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Through programs like Career Start or our own CTE trades certification courses with certified instructors, students will be able to take classes that will prepare them for certification exams in various fields. More information about the Career Start program can be found at Pikes Peak State College: <https://www.pikespeak.edu/academics/high-school-programs/career-start.php>

ENGLISH

9TH GRADE- LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION – ENG0101

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters) 2022-23

Requirement Met: English

Grades: 9th, 10th

This course covers vital texts and figures in many pieces of literature, ranging from Shakespeare to The Scarlet Pimpernel. Students see the relationships between history, the literature of the eras, and their own lives today. Nevertheless, like all of our literature courses, this one also seeks to foster a greater depth of thought, increased proficiency in the use and appreciation of the English language, and severe moral reflection. Good works of literature serve as beautiful lenses to receive the universal truths of our world and as sounding boards for our presuppositions about the human significance and interpersonal engagement.

AMERICAN LITERATURE – ENGAML201

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: English

Grades: 9th-12th (typically 10th)

This course covers key texts and figures in the American literary tradition from the colonial period to the postwar era of the 20th century. Students see the relationships between their American history studies, the literature of the eras, and their own lives today. Students also track the effect of the European movements and voices on American authors, some of whom fell in line with those traditions, and some of whom sought to break away.

WESTERN LITERATURE (HONORS) – ENGWLT103(H)

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: English

Grades: 9th-12th (typically 9th)

This required course focuses on key foundational texts of the western literary tradition through the Renaissance. Western literature is deeply rooted in the historical framework of western civilization. Western literature is a reflection of the culture at a particular time and is written by authors who write with an intended purpose to act as a “spokesperson” for that culture and time. Successful western literature students gain insight about themselves by examining the human condition and universal themes of various authors; apply knowledge of literary terms and figurative language; and communicate articulately about literature through reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

ENGL 1021 ENGLISH COMPOSITION 1 – PPSCENG1021

Credits: .5 (1 semester), 3.0 college credits

Requirement Met: English

Prerequisites: Passing Accuplacer Score

Grades: 10th-12th (FA 2022: 9TH)

College Course. Emphasizes the planning, writing, and revising of compositions, including the development of critical and logical thinking skills. This course includes a wide variety of compositions that stress analytical, evaluative, and persuasive/argumentative writing. Scholars will also study classical literature that parallels Western, American, or other themed literature courses.

ENGL 1022 ENGLISH COMPOSTION II – PPSCENG1022

Credits: 1.0 (1 semester), 3.0 college credits

Requirement Met: English

Prerequisites: Passing Accuplacer Score

Grades: 10th-12th (FA 2022: 9TH)

College Course. Expands and refines the objectives of English Composition I. Emphasizes critical/logical thinking and reading, problem definition, research strategies, and writing analytical, evaluative, and/or argumentative compositions. Scholars will also study classical literature that parallels Western, American, or other themed literature courses.

LIT 1015: LITERATURE & COMPOSITION – PPSCLIT1015

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters), 3.0 college credits

Requirement Met: English

Prerequisites: Passing Accuplacer Score or Other Assessment

Grades: 10th-12th

Introduces fiction, poetry, and drama. This course emphasizes active and responsive reading.

Students will study grammar and rules of clean writing as they student essays, poetry, drama and novels from American and Western literature.

Additional English Courses for 2024-25 and beyond**AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION – ENGAP320**

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: B+ in prior English courses and teacher approval

Requirement Met: English

Grades: Typically 11th or 12th or by approval

This course demands effective engagement with significant non-fiction texts for the purpose of identifying, appreciating, and cultivating the various skills intrinsic to production of logical and rhetorically compelling prose. The AP designation indicates that this course complies with the curricular requirements specified by the College Board. We will have the unique opportunity to look at some of the most superbly crafted arguments, speeches, debates, letters, and narratives in history, and we will use these to better our own understanding and use of the English language.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION – ENGAP410

Credit: 1.0 (2 semester)

Prerequisite: B+ in prior English Courses and teacher approval

Grades: Typically 11th or 12th or by approval

The AP English Literature and Composition course extends Liberty Common High School's commitment to serious literary study through textual analysis, close reading, and reflective moral evaluation. The AP designation indicates that this course has been designed in keeping with the formal curricular requirements created by the College Board and that it entails an advanced level of academic rigor. Students should expect to read important works that span various literary periods and genres, a process during which each will develop the knowledge and vocabulary necessary for meaningful engagement with profound and difficult texts.

FINE ARTS

MUSIC-Choir

Ascend Ensemble – FINASC102

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters), Repeatable

Requirements Met: Fine Arts

Grades: 9th-12th

Students study proper vocal production and techniques, sight-reading, music theory, ensemble skills, musicianship, and music appreciation. Repertoire is selected to represent a variety of genres, musical time periods, composers, musical techniques, and languages. Students are graded on their preparation and participation during class and in public performances, with

MUSIC-Instrumental

BAND YEAR 1 – FINBAN101

Credits: 1.0 (2023-24 and beyond); .5 (2022-23)

Requirement met: Fine Arts

Grades: 9th-10th

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Percussion

Need to borrow, rent or purchase an instrument (snare drum for percussion), a good supply of reeds for clarinets/saxophones, folding music stand for home practice, and Essential Elements Book 1. Practice Log requirements of 20 minutes per day, 3 days per week. There will be 2-5 performance opportunities outside of school times. This is a year-long class, not a semester. Signing your student up for this class indicates agreement with these basic requirements.

BAND YEAR 2 – FINBAN102

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Successful Completion of BAND YR 1

Requirement met: Fine Arts

Grades: 9th-12th

Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion

Need to borrow, rent or purchase instrument (snare drum for percussion), a good supply of reeds for clarinet/saxophone, folding music stands for home practice, and Essential Elements Book 2. Practice Log requirements of 20 minutes per day, 3 days per week. There will be 2-5 performance opportunities outside of school times. This is a year-long class, not semester. Signing your student up for this class indicates agreement with these basic requirements.

GUITAR (2022-23) – FINGTR01

Credits: .25, full year, Friday single class

Requirement met: Arts

Grades: 9th

Guitar is a class designed to create skill and appreciation in beginning to Intermediate guitar. Topics of study include major chords, minor chords, minor 7th chords, song

composition, select song acquisition and the pentatonic scale. We will also introduce common strumming and picking methods and styles, to create an enjoyable foundation for a lifetime of guitar. Students will need to bring their own guitar. Due to scheduling, this course is only offered to high school students in 2022-23.

JAZZ BAND – FINJAZ201

Credits: .5 (Friday block, 2 semesters)

Prerequisites: Band 1 or equivalent

Requirement met: Fine Arts

Grades: 9th-12th

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, 2 Percussion with kit experience, 2 keyboards, 2 electric guitar, 2 bass guitar. Need to borrow, rent or purchase instrument, folding music stand for home practice, a good supply of reeds for clarinets/saxophones, and Essential Elements Jazz Book 1. There will be 2-5 performance opportunities outside of school times. This is a year-long class, not semester. Signing your student up for this class indicates agreement with these basic requirements.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE (2022-23) – FINPRC101

Credits: .5 (full year, Friday block)

Requirement met: Arts

Grades: 9th

The beginning percussion ensemble could be taken in tandem with the beginning band. Families would need to provide students with a beginning percussion kit, which includes a snare drum and bells (which is like a small xylophone), along with the beginning band book. If we develop as a drumline toward the end of the year, students in the group will be expected to perform both as a drumline and as part of the concert band. High school requires additional practice logs, research, and expectations within community performances.

UKULELE & GUITAR – FINUGT101

Credits: .5, 2 semesters, Friday block

Requirement met: Fine Art

Grades: 9th-12th

Need to borrow, purchase or rent a concert or soprano ukulele or a guitar. Baritone ukuleles may break out with the guitar class since the strings/fingerings are the same as the guitar top 4 strings). Students are required to have a folding stand for home practice, and Everybody's Ukulele Method Book 1 (or Guitar book as assigned by Director). Practice Log requirements of 20 minutes, 3 days per week. There will be 2-5 performance opportunities outside of school times. Signing your student up for this class indicates agreement with these basic requirements.

THEATER

COMEDY & TRAGEDY

Credits: .5 (Fri Block)

Grades: (9th – 12th)

The study of William Shakespeare's A Midsummer's Night Dream and Macbeth. Students will unlock the language of two of Shakespeare's most popular plays. We will examine themes, symbolism, and character development as we read and perform scenes in class. Students will also be introduced to William Shakespeare and his place in history.

INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMING ARTS – FINHT101

Credits: .5 (Fri Block)

Requirement met: Arts

Grades: 9-12th (greater expectations for high school students/credit)

Enter into the wide world of the Performing Arts. This introductory class will provide a foundation for the many facets of the creative arts world. Academically, we will explore the history of radio, film, television and live theater. Through our voice and body we will demonstrate multifaceted methods of artistic expression including storytelling, radio drama, television acting, creating audio and visual commercials, and acting for live stage productions.

Students will be expected to attend two live theatrical productions and write a review of each. They will also be expected to research and write papers on each historical genre studied.

VISUAL ART

ARTS APPRECIATION – FIN0724

Credits: .5 (1 semester)

Requirements Met: Fine Arts

Grades: 9th-12th

This course will introduce students to the visual arts and the variety of art mediums and techniques used to create two and three dimensional works of art.

Students will study the history of art beginning with the Stone Age to the present.

Note: this is not a studio class. We will study and analyze and, occasionally, "do art" but the primary purpose of this class is to learn about art.

The purpose of this course is to build a context for understanding the arts; structurally, socially, culturally and historically with the intention of making art meaningful to the student's everyday life.

Students will explore and analyze influential works of art as a way to gain an understanding of the arts as a method of communication and expression. While reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and quality of art; students will develop, explore and express their personal aesthetics through art projects, class discussions, gallery visits and writing assignments.

EXPLORATORY ART - FINIA

Credits: .5 (year long, Fridays)

Requirements met: Art

Grades: 9th-12th

This course is a studio class where students will engage in a variety of projects that may include any or all of the following:

Photography, photoshop, digital art, animation, sketching, drawing, journaling, printmaking, painting, multimedia, and more.

Additionally, we may work with 3D forms with clay (kiln-dried, air-dry, polymer, homemade, etc.) as well as paper mache, cellulose, recyclables, found objects, repurposed items, etc to create original sculptures.

Impermanent art, such as rock designs, outdoor sculptures, weaving with natural materials, etc. may be explored. We may have opportunities to explore textiles to include macrame, crochet, knitting, looms, beading, jewelry making, quilling, and more.

This class may require some materials to be purchased by families. Estimate is \$30 per semester per student.

HISTORY

U.S. HISTORY TO CIVIL WAR – HISTUS101

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite:

Requirement met: US History 1

Grades: 9TH or transfer-in (case by case)

This course will help students prepare themselves for the rights and duties of being a citizen of a free regime by understanding the unique story of the unique American experiment in self-government. The course spans the early colonial settlements in North America through the American Revolution and the American Founding. Much emphasis will be placed on the key ideas enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the attempt to incorporate those ideas into the design of the United States Constitution, a constitution unlike any other in prior history.

This course utilizes original source materials, such as The Federalist Papers and other primary sources, to understand what the Founders were saying and doing so that we, today, might judge well whether their Constitutional experiment in self-government is worth conserving.

1st Semester:

- Founding of Jamestown
- Founding of Massachusetts Bay Colony
- John Winthrop
- Roger Williams & the founding of Rhode Island
- Robert La Salle & the founding of the Mississippi Valley
- Ben Franklin & Poor Richard's Almanac
- Great Awakening

- French & Indian War
- Intolerable Acts
- Boston Massacre
- Boston Tea Party
- Thomas Jefferson
- Patrick Henry
- Paul Revere
- Thomas Paine *Common Sense*
- Second Continental Congress
- Declaration of Independence

2nd Semester

- Articles of Confederation
- Northwest Ordinance
- United States Constitution
- Bill of Rights
- Federalist Papers
- George Washington
- Election of 1800
- Marbury vs. Madison

U.S. HISTORY: CIVIL WAR TO MODERN ERA – HISTUS201

Confronting Critiques & Challenges

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement: Meets US History 2

Grades: 10th or transfer in (case by case)

This course will cover the period spanning from the growing sectional conflicts of the 1820s – 1850s, to the Civil War, to today. Final course modules examine contemporary case studies testing policymakers' fidelity to America's founding principles. Students will discuss the founding principles as compared or contrasted to the progressive movement, including Woodrow Wilson's New Freedoms, FDR's New Deal, and LBJ's Great Society.

HIST 1530: US HISTORY, EMERGENCE OF MODERN AMERICA – UCCSHIST1530

Confronting Critiques & Challenges

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters), 3.0 college credits

Prerequisite: B+ or better on prior History class, OR passing Accuplacer AND teacher approval.

Requirement: Meets US History 2

Grades: 10th or transfer in (case by case)

This course will cover the period spanning from the growing sectional conflicts of the 1820s – 1850s, to the Civil War, to today. Final course modules examine contemporary case studies testing policymakers' fidelity to America's founding principles. This course surveys and addresses concepts within the economic, social, and political development of the United States from the Civil War to Modern Era. Students will compare and contrast the founding principles

with tenets leading to the progressive movement, including Woodrow Wilson's New Freedoms, FDR's New Deal, and LBJ's Great Society.

Students selecting HIST 1530 will be required to engage in depth of discussion, projects, assignments, and group exploration of these topics.

Additional History Course Offerings 2024 and beyond

CIVICS/UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT – HISGVT301

Credits: .5 (1 semester)

Requirement Met: History—Civics/Government

Grades: 11th–12th

This course emphasizes the institutions and political forces that have shaped the US federal government and examines the behavior of individuals in the American political system and the non-institutional forces that influence decision-making in US politics (such as political parties, interest groups, and the media). This course enables the student to understand the functions of the federal government and how citizens can participate in the decision-making process.

AP or CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT: UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: History—Civics/Government

Prerequisites: B+ or higher in previous required History course or teacher approval

Grades: 11th–12th

This college level course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret American politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up American politics. The writing component of this course is significant. The course may include a final mock trial regarding a regional, historical case. This course may be used to fulfill the American Government requirement for graduation.

U.S. MILITARY HISTORY OVERVIEW, 1607 -2023 – HISMIL301

Credit: .5

Requirement Met: Enhancement

Grades: 11-12th

This course will provide an overview of U.S. military history from the before the founding until current day. It will examine the impact of military operations on the expansion of the United States, how war influenced the growth of the nation's geography, and its effect on social and technological development. Emphasized events will include King Phillip's War, the Revolution, the Civil War, post-Civil War Indian Wars, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Global War on Terror. These will be examined using the principles of warfare and the Strategic, Operational, and Tactical "SOT Snowman".

- Define the principles of warfare and the differences between strategic, operational, and tactical actions.
- How did warfare influence creation of an American identity?

- How did American military actions follow or lead other nation's development of theories about warfare?
- How did technology provide an advantage in American Warfare?
- What social changes were accelerated by the pressure of military operations?
- Who were the significant leaders of American military campaigns and what was the effect of their leadership?

WORLD HISTORY (H) – HISWLD301(H)

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: Enhancement

Grades: 11-12th or transfer-in

This required course enables students to practice and develop the critical-thinking skills necessary for historical study. This course focuses on the historical development of Europe, Asia, and the Americas. The culture, religions, and history of these areas are examined, as is their impact on history. Why certain cultures were able to exert cultural, political, and ideological dominance is stressed in this course as well. Students analyze the causes and effects of the interactions between cultures. Corresponding themes in geography are addressed.

LANGUAGES

FRENCH 1 - FRE

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: Language

Grades: 9th -12th

Virtual Course with onsite co-teacher

Bienvenue! Welcome! Come and join various native French speakers as they give students a lively introduction to the language and its rich culture. Join them in their everyday environment as they take students through different daily scenarios and give them the necessary skills to read, write, and speak French.

In this course, students learn the basic French language. Students will be able to engage in conversation in French including greeting people, introducing themselves, and exchanging basic information with others. Students learn to count from one to 1,000 and make simple sentences in spoken and written French. Students continue to develop their French skills in semester two.

New words and phrases are introduced with pictures, audio clips, and examples. Students learn basic French grammar to help them build fluency and understand the structure of the French language. Students have many opportunities to practice what they learn through interactive practice activities in the form of games, written practice, and listening and speaking exercises.

Students also explore the cultures of France, Canada, and other French-speaking regions by learning about geography, foods, celebrations, and traditions from each place. Bon Voyage! Enjoy the trip!

FRENCH 2 – LANFRE201

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: Language

Pre-requisite: French 1

Grades: 9th -12th

Virtual Course with onsite co-teacher

Salut! Get set for some more adventure! In French 2, students are immersed in the French language and culture. This course is full of engaging and interactive videos, dialogues, presentations, self-checks, and much more! The purpose of this course is to further develop the French communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In French 2, students will broaden their French vocabulary and knowledge of grammar. Students will also experience the beauty and expressiveness of a language that is shared by different people and cultures throughout the world.

GERMAN 1 - GER

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: Language

Grades: 9th -12th

Virtual Course with onsite co-teacher

This German 1 course is an introductory course teaching basic comprehension and communication in German. It coordinates the study of language with culture through the use of video, audio and mass media production. This course assumes prior or no knowledge of the German language. It introduces the fundamentals of conversational and grammatical patterns of the German language with presentations to present the material. Students who complete the course successfully will begin to develop a functional competency in the four primary language areas: speaking, reading, listening and writing, while establishing a solid grammatical base and exploration into German culture.

GERMAN 2 – LANGER201

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: Language

Pre-requisite: German 1

Grades: 9th -12th

Virtual Course with onsite co-teacher

In German 2 students build on grammar and language skills that they acquired during their course. While reviewing basic grammar skills, (present and past tenses), students learn and study stem-changing verb conjugation and explore cultural themes regarding current events, famous German people, music and famous festivals.

Students increase their proficiency in being able to communicate by forming more complex German sentences in a variety of tenses using all four cases (Nominative, Accusative, Dative and

Genitive). The variety of topics increases also, from exploring different careers to discussing relationships. Cultural themes are entwined throughout this course related to going shopping, to going to the zoo and also to travel throughout the German-speaking world.

LATIN 1 – FRNLAT1

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Latin/Foreign Language

Grades: 9th-12th

It is designed to fully prepare students to continue their study of Latin in higher-level courses, but also to cover the historical and cultural achievements of the Romans and how they affect = Western Civilization. The course also emphasizes English vocabulary that comes from Latin roots and the study of both Latin grammar and English grammar.

LATIN 2 – LANLAT201

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Pre-requisite: Latin 1

Requirement met: Latin/Foreign Language

Grades: 9th-12th

This course starts with an extensive review of Latin 1 and expands into further development of the students' skills with an emphasis on preparing the students with the knowledge necessary to move on to Latin 3.

SPANISH 1 - FRNSL

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Foreign Language

Grades: 9th-11th

Spanish 1 is a beginning high school Spanish course designed to encapsulate a holistic approach to language learning in thematic chapters. Students will study cultures of different Spanish speaking countries as well as listen, speak and write in Spanish in a level appropriate hierarchy. Spanish 1 also introduces grammatical concepts purposely to synergize the language for applications outside of the classroom. The class is designed for appreciation, learning and fun. Spanish 1 will use chapter 1-6 from the **¡Ven Connigo!** book series.

SPANISH 2 – LANSPA201

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisites: Spanish 1

Requirement met: Foreign Language

Grades 10th-12th

Spanish 2 is a continuation of Spanish 1. Students in Spanish 2 will use the 2nd half of the Spanish 1 book chapters 7-12 from the **¡Ven Connigo!** book series. Spanish 2 will review the present tense and irregular present tense verbs with a progression into the 2 past tenses used in Spanish language. Semester 1 will include reviews of Spanish 1 concepts as necessary. Spanish 2 instructions and directions will increase in Spanish to move toward a more immersive language acquisition environment.

Additional Language Courses (2024 and beyond)

French 3 – LANFRE301

Credit: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement Met: Language

Pre-requisite: French 2

Grades: 9th -12th

Virtual Course with onsite co-teacher

Continue your journey in the exploration of the French language and the richness of its diverse cultures. In the French 3 Honors course, you will sharpen the increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills you acquired in French 1 and 2. Communication remains the main focus through speaking, listening, writing, and reading. You will dive a little deeper into the francophone culture and apply what you learn through written practice and listening, reading, and speaking exercises.

Latin 3/Concurrent Enrollment -

This course starts with an extensive review of Latin 1 and 2 and expands into further development of the students' skills with an emphasis on the requirements for this college level Latin course. The course covers an un-adapted readings from prose authors, with an emphasis on historical works.

Spanish 3 – LANSPA301

This course applies Spanish 1–2 skills and grammar knowledge for a deeper understanding of the language as well as the associated literature and cultures. Students continue to broaden their base of vocabulary in Spanish through thematic vocabulary units in class as well as through exposure to vocabulary in authentic texts. Students spend a significant portion of class time deepening their communicative abilities in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Nearly all course activities are conducted in Spanish. Students will read authentic texts by authors from various Spanish-speaking countries.

MATH

ACT WORKKEYS APPLIED MATH – MATHB (foundational)

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 9th , by permission

The ACT[®] WorkKeys[®] Curriculum is a proven tool for helping individuals acquire skills critical to workplace success—and represents the more than 25 years of hard work we've put into understanding and improving career readiness. Applied Math: Builds the ability to apply mathematic principles to problems encountered in the workplace.

PRE-ALGEBRA - MATPE

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 9th or by permission

This course prepares students for a successful transition into Algebra 1. In this course, basic concepts for algebraic equation solving. It also includes expressions, linear equations and graphs, inequalities, percentages, and data displays. Topics from geometry and statistics are introduced as well.

The year is broken down into two sections; A and B. Book 8A covers exponents and scientific notation, linear equations in two variables, expansion and factorization of algebraic expressions, quadratic factorization and equations, algebraic fractions, congruence and similarity, and parallel lines and angles in triangles and polygons. 8B continues with coverage of graphs of linear and quadratic functions; the Pythagorean Theorem; coordinate geometry; different measurement of pyramids, cylinders, cones, and spheres; data analysis; and quadratic equations.

ALGEBRA 1 (H) – MATALG101(H)

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisites: Pre-algebra or passing assessment

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 9th or by permission

This course introduces basic concepts for algebraic equation solving. It includes expressions, linear equations and graphs, inequalities, systems of linear equations, and quadratic equations and graphs. Topics from geometry and statistics are introduced as well.

GEOMETRY (H) – MATGEO201(H)

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or passing assessment.

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 9th, 10th

This course provides a thorough knowledge of the main topics of a classical plane and solid geometry. Students learn how a large body of results may be deduced from a comparatively small number of assumptions. Then, through regular practice, students are trained to present an argument in a clear and orderly fashion using classical geometric definitions, postulates, and theorems. Finally, students are introduced to coordinate geometry and the geometric aspect of trigonometry.

ALGEBRA 2 and TRIGONOMETRY/College Prep – MATAL2301

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or passing assessment.

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 10th-12TH

The emphasis of this course is on functions including radical, piecewise, exponential, logarithmic, inverse, and trigonometric functions. Students also study sequences and series. Also studied are indirect proof, polar coordinates, vectors, and parametric equations. Probability and statistics topics as well as topics in discrete mathematics are included.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA – MATPPCC121

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 11TH, 12TH or upon approval

This course includes topics in algebra designed for students planning to attend college: functions, domains, ranges, graphs, data scatter plots and curve fitting, solving equations and systems of equations, polynomial functions, rational functions, and selected other topics. Graphic calculators and/or computer algebra systems are used extensively. Applications are emphasized.

COLLEGE TRIGONOMETRY – PPSCMAT1034

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: College Algebra

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 11TH, 12TH or upon approval

This course includes topics in trigonometry and analytic geometry designed for students planning to attend college: numerical and analytical trigonometry, application of trigonometric functions, vectors, polar coordinates, analytic geometry, sequences and series, mathematical induction and selected other topics. Graphing calculators are used extensively. Functions and applications are emphasized.

Additional Math Courses for 2024-25 and beyond:

AP/CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 11TH, 12TH or upon approval

AP/College Level Statistics is a year-long mathematics course centered around four main topics: exploring data; planning a study; probability as it relates to distributions of data; and inferential reasoning. Students are expected to propose and carry out a statistical study.

AP CALCULUS AB

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: College Trigonometry

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 11TH, 12TH or upon approval

The objective of AP Calculus AB is to prepare students for college work requiring knowledge and conceptual understanding of calculus. Topics covered in AP Calculus AB are limits,

derivatives of algebraic functions, applications of the derivatives, applications of the definite integral, transcendental functions, and methods of integration. This course prepares students for the AP Calculus AB exam in the spring.

FINITE MATH CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Math Min. Score: ACT 19; SAT: 440: OR ACCUPLACER Elementary Algebra: 85

Requirement met: Math

Grades: 11TH, 12TH or upon approval

A course for students with a good foundation in mathematics who are interested in mathematical models for the life, management or social sciences. Topics include matrix algebra, linear programming, probability, counting methods, descriptive statistics, Markov chains, and game theory. Applications are presented from the areas of biology, business, behavioral science, economics, and the social sciences.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

KARATE/ SELF-DEFENSE - KAR

Credits: .25, 2 semesters, Friday

Requirement met: PE

Grades: 6th-10th

Students will study and practice activities in karate, self-defense, and physical fitness. There is great focus on building strength and confidence with each student. Students work on proper karate form and are able to advance in belts as they move through the course.

OLYMPIC SPORTS - OLSP

Credits: .5, 2 semesters, block Friday

Requirement met: PE

Grades: 6th-10th

Students will discover and participate in different Olympic sports. Explore the origin, purpose, methods, strategies, equipment, and people needed for chosen sports. Organize and participate in the playing of the different sports, whether as an athlete, coach, referee, judge, or whatever else the sport requires!

OUTDOOR ED: MODERN SURVIVAL - PEOE

Credits: .5 (Friday block, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: PE

Grades: 6th-9th

The Outdoor Education/ Modern Survival course is designed to teach students outdoor survival skills and modern survival skills to use outdoors or at home. Possible topics include but not limited to: Making solar stills, various methods of making fire, flintknapping, knife sharpening, making shelters, camping skills, small animal snares, identifying edible plants, Basic first aid. We will also study ways to integrate technology in survival situations and everyday life.

PE 1 - PE

Credits: .5 (1 semester)

Requirements met: PE

Grades: 9th-12th

This is one semester of physical education. Students will participate in both team and individual sports and physical activity. Students will learn the rules of various sports and participate in practicing skills and proper play of those sports.

Upcoming PE Courses

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING – PESTCN201

This course will give students the tools to be physically fit and healthy for a lifetime. The variety of exercises and equipment will allow students to experience many different ways to exercise, including weight lifting, plyometrics, and aerobic activity, hopefully leading to a lifelong interest in fitness. Students will also learn how to create their own Health and Fitness plans that work towards specific health, fitness and career goals.

SWIMMING – PESWM201

Students will learn basic techniques of proper strokes: freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly. As swimmers advance, they will also practice starts and turns and the underwater stroke. Water safety and breathing techniques are foundational components to the course.

SCIENCE

BIOLOGY – SCI0502

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 9th

This year-long course with labs covers the Metric System, microscope, cells, DNA, probability, genetics, genetic diseases, dichotomous keys, portable animal skeleton kits, dissection, human body systems, bacteria, protists, fungi, plants, invertebrates, vertebrates and scientific equipment.

PRACTICAL SCIENCE 9th – 12th (foundational course) – SCIRSCL9

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 9th-12th

This class is an introduction to biological subject matter discussed in Biology. This course covers foundational concepts at a pace more suitable for students who need greater supports or time to grasp the concepts. *Students must have appropriate approval/teacher placement to take this course.*

CHEMISTRY/COLLEGE PREP – SCICHM201(H)

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry (may be taken concurrently with Geometry)

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 10th – 12th

This year-long course with labs emphasizes fundamental concepts regarding the interactions of energy and matter. Rigorous problem solving and quantitative lab work are required. Topics covered include chemical structures, states of matter, reactions, stoichiometry, acids/bases, gaseous reactions, solutions, and thermodynamics.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE – SCIPHY01

Integrated Chemistry And Physics

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 9th -12th

This course prepares students to succeed in general chemistry and general physics. The content is basic chemistry and physics concepts and labs which are built upon in the higher-level classes. Applicable math skills are developed to solve problems in both subject areas. Students who struggle(d) with Algebra will be required to complete Physical Science prior to taking Chemistry.

SCIENCE BOWL – SCIBWL101

Credits: .5 (2 semesters: Fri. block)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th -12th

This course will explore many topics of science and mathematics as outlined by the national competitions of Science Bowl.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Science Bowl® is a nationwide academic competition that tests students' knowledge in all areas of science and mathematics. Middle and high school student teams are composed of four students, and one alternate. Teams face-off in a fast-paced question-and-answer format, being tested on a range of science disciplines including biology, chemistry, Earth science, physics, energy, and math.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD - SCIO

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD C Division – 9th – 12th

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Requirement met: While a repeatable course, only one credit can be applied to the required science graduation credits.

Grades: 9-12

National, state, regional and local competitions that consists of students working in 2's or 3's while competing in 23 different events that cover all areas of science. Events consist of taking tests, doing labs, or building an apparatus. This is a STEM activity that requires in-class and out of class preparations. Students must attend all competitions (3-5) (held on Saturdays) that occur throughout the year. Events and rules are set by National Science Olympiad organization and change each year. This is a Lab-based class.

Additional Science Courses for 2024-25

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY – SCIANP301

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Biology (recommend B grade or better)

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 11th-12th

Science Elective class for the study of anatomy and physiology is designed for students with strong interest in advanced study of biology and biomedical topics. The structure, function, and interaction of the major human body systems are taught during the year. Dissection of vertebrate organs reinforces the study of anatomy and provides a chance for comparison of humans with other animals. A team of volunteer medical professionals gives guest lectures throughout the year, and students are encouraged to attend an optional cadaver lab field trip.

AP BIOLOGY – SCIAPB201

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Bio I or equivalent, by teacher approval

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 10th-12th

AP or Concurrent Enrollment Biology is a college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics like evolution, energetics, information storage and transfer, and system interactions. – Lab based class graded on a college level scale.

ASTRONOMY/CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT ASTRONOMY –

Credits: .5 (1 semester)

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 11th & 12th

Science Elective: This semester-long course is aimed at understanding Earth's place in space. This includes study of the sun; moon; solar system-theories of its origins and how we have explored it; the life cycle of stars and galaxies; constellations—their origins in myth and their use today; and identification of the major seasonal groups. This course also includes the study of the structure, origin, and future of the universe. Students are encouraged to attend an evening session of stargazing.

AP/CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT CHEMISTRY

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 11th – 12th

This course is designed according to the College Board Advanced Placement guidelines to be the equivalent of the general-chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Students gain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course contributes to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas orally and in writing, with clarity and logic through a greater emphasis on chemical calculations, the mathematical formulation of principles, as well as through the nature and variety of experiments done in the laboratory component. Students should expect to spend approximately 10 hours of work per week on the class between the in-class instruction, laboratory work, and studying outside of class.

PHYSICS/AP PHYSICS

Credits: 1.0 (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Requirement met: Science

Grades: 11th – 12th

This is a laboratory course studying the interactions of energy and matter. Units of study include forces, motion, waves, sound, optics, electricity, relativity, heat transfer, and electrostatics. Experiments enhance student's understanding of physical concepts and the methods of science. Students record, analyze, and interpret data through various technologies to examine the fundamental laws of nature. The course requires considerable use of mathematics and problem-solving skills.

ADDITIONAL ENHANCEMENT COURSES

FORENSICS & SPEECH – FRNSPC101

Credits: .5 (block Friday, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th-12th

This course focuses on the fundamentals of oratory skills in formal and informal settings. Students focus on solo or duet speaking opportunities and activities that address the organization, preparation, and delivery of informative and persuasive speeches, oratory presentation, and persuasive interpretation. Students' work includes effective listening, group discussions, oral interpretation of famous speeches, solo or duet acting, and evaluation and preparation of visual aids.

ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERING – COMFC (2022-23)

Credits: .25 (Friday, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th-12th

The initial semester, students imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future that showcase their solution. The second semester explores design on a smaller scale, as scholars also will incorporate programs within 3D design and printing. Students will learn to: Apply concepts, problem solving, and time management skills AND research and propose solutions to engineering challenges.

INTRODUCTION TO AVIATION & AEROSPACE STUDIES (AOPA): (2022-23)

Credits: .5 (Friday block, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th-12th

This course provides the foundation for advanced exploration in the areas of flying and unmanned aircraft systems. Students will learn about engineering practices, problem solving, and the innovations and technological developments that have made today's aviation and aerospace industries possible. Students will also learn about the wide variety of exciting and rewarding careers available to them. The ninth-grade course will inspire students to consider aviation and aerospace careers while laying the foundation for continued study.

INTRODUCTION TO LOGIC (2022-23) - INLOG

Credits: .5 (Friday block, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th-12th

This class will introduce students to informal logic. Students will study concepts in logic and practice logic by applying it to real life and by engaging in strategic games at the end of class. Concepts may be derived from: Fallacy Detective, The Great Chocolate Caper, One-Hour Mysteries, and Escape Rooms in Education.

PSR (POST SECONDARY READINESS) - PSR

Credits: .25/yr, Repeatable

Requirement met: General Enhancement

Grades: 9th -12th

This time allows for students to seek out additional assistance within their courses. PSR is also when students are able to explore credit checks, career opportunities, and recruitment.

STUDY OF MIDDLE EARTH (2022-23) - PROYB

Credits: .25 (Friday, 2 semesters)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Grades: 9th

J.R.R. Tolkien's masterpiece allows for further investigation of narrative and philosophical themes in the western canon while providing particular opportunity for attention to the

elements of myth-creation. Discussions are geared to a deeper understanding and appreciation of the depth that The Lord of the Rings provides without depriving students of a chance to enjoy the plain genius of a good story.

VIDA (2022-23) - RWA

Credits: .25/yr

Requirement met: General Enhancement

Grades: 9th -12th

Vida (“life” in Latin) covers the “living skills” that many parents have requested as a class: typing, formatting written documents, cursive writing, financial literacy, sewing, career exploration, and PSAT prep or study skills/test taking.

YEARBOOK – ENHYBK201

Credits: .5 (2 semesters, Friday block)

Requirement met: Enhancement

Prerequisite: By teacher permission (grades, behavioral referrals are considered)

Grades: 9th-12th

Yearbook is a year-long, deadline-driven class that produces the school yearbook. Members of the staff are expected to have a high level of maturity and the ability to work independently. Students will be responsible for the production, design, and publication of the school yearbook. This product based course requires both in class and after school time, as students will attend school-sponsored events and capture those moments for the yearbook.

This is a wonderful opportunity for members of the team to exercise their creativity, while developing new skills in computer design, photography, copywriting, and project management. Creating the yearbook is a fun process and the end result of all the effort is a product the students can be proud of. Teacher recommendation is required to be a part of the yearbook staff in this class.



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