

HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE CATALOG
2018-19



PAVIRTUAL
CHARTER SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF PARTNERSHIP, LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

Dear Students and Parents/Learning Coaches,

This high school course catalog is intended to guide you as you plan for the 2018-2019 school year. The high school catalog includes course offerings and descriptions, graduation requirements, and general high school information.

Please take the opportunity to review the course offerings carefully to be certain that you are selecting courses that fulfill the Pennsylvania Department of Education requirements, which are in alignment with PA Virtual graduation requirements and are of interest to you as a student. There are a number of courses that may require a prerequisite course. Please be sure you have met the prerequisites for each course you select. A prerequisite represents the criteria, requirement, and skills needed to be successful in a subsequent class. Your course selections should be made in consultation with your learning coach and school counselor. Use the credit audit form included for you to chart the courses you have completed, intend to complete, and the future projected courses that you will be required to complete. Please remember you have access to an unofficial transcript in the Sapphire Community Portal which provides you with your academic history.

Your Educational Partners,

PA Virtual Guidance Department

Minimum Graduation Requirements

Students are urged to make the best use of their time by enrolling in courses at appropriate levels of challenge that will offer them a rigorous program of studies throughout their years. This generally means that students should earn more than the minimum number of credits required for graduation. A total of 21 credits are required for graduation and to receive a diploma from PA Virtual Charter School. All students are required to take the minimum of 5.25 credits each year. NOTE: These graduation requirements are governed by PA Department of Education. These credits are in the following areas:

English

Four credits
minimum (4)

Mathematics

Four credits
minimum (4)

History

Three credits
minimum (3)

Science

Three credits
minimum (3)

World Language

Two credits
minimum (2)

**must be same language*

Fine Arts

One credit
minimum (1)

Physical Education

One credit (1)

Health

.5 credit

Electives

1.5 credits
minimum

Career

.5 credit

Graduation Project

In addition to the above credit requirements, PA Virtual requires that seniors, as a condition of graduation, complete a culminating Senior Experience. The procedures relating to this requirement are explained in detail to students in the fall of their senior year

.5 credit

TOTAL MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION

21 credits

NCAA Approved Courses

PA Virtual Charter School courses that are NCAA approved are marked with an asterisk (*) after the course title. For more information on the NCAA, please visit www.ncaa.org.

Early Graduation Program

If you are interested in the Early Graduation Program please contact your counselor.

Minimum Enrollment and Promotion Requirements

Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 must earn a minimum of 5.25 credits per year to be promoted to the next grade. Promotion to a grade level will be based on the following standards:

Sophomore—minimum of 5.25 credits earned

Junior—minimum of 10.5 credits earned

Senior—minimum of 15.75 credits earned

Graduate—21 credits earned

Course Area	Duration	Credit
English	Semester	1
History	Semester	1
Math	Semester	1
Science	Semester	1
Fine Art	Semester	1
Physical Education	Semester	1
Health	Semester	.5
Electives	Quarter	.5
Reaching Academic Potential	Semester	.25
Achieving College and Career Goals	Semester	.25
Graduation Project	Full Year	.5

ENG 108: English 9 *

Prerequisite: NONE

This course challenges students to improve their written and oral communication skills, while strengthening their ability to understand and analyze literature in a variety of genres.

Literature: Students read a broad array of short stories, poetry, drama, novels, autobiographies, essays, and famous speeches. The course guides students in the close reading and critical analysis of classic works of literature, and helps them appreciate the texts and the contexts in which the works were written. Literary selections range from classic works such as Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* to contemporary pieces by authors such as Maya Angelou.

Language Skills: Students broaden their composition skills by examining model essays in various genres published writers. Through in-depth planning, organizing, drafting, revising, proofreading, and feedback, they hone their writing skills. Students build on their grammar, usage, and mechanics skills with in-depth study of sentence analysis and structure, agreement, and punctuation. Student vocabularies are enhanced through the study of Greek and Latin root words, improving students' ability to decipher the meanings of new words.

ENG 109: Honors English 9 *

Prerequisite: 90% or higher in Grade 8 English

The English 9 Honors course includes engaging and interactive instruction about reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language, with a focus on exploring a wide variety of genres and their elements. Students learn how to carefully read, interpret, and analyze literature and nonfiction works of cultural or historical significance appropriate to Grade 9. Throughout this course, students practice narrative, informative, and argument writing. Students also develop and deliver presentations, and participate in discussions with their peers.

ENG208: English 10 *

Prerequisite: ENG108 or ENG104

In this course, students build on existing literature and composition skills and move to higher levels of sophistication.

Literature: Students hone their skills of literary analysis by reading short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and works of nonfiction, both classic and modern.

Language Skills: In this course, students become more proficient writers and readers. In composition lessons, students analyze model essays from readers' and writers' perspectives, focusing on ideas and content, structure and organization, style, word choice, and tone. Students receive feedback during the writing process to help them work toward a polished final draft. In addition to writing formal essays, resumes, and business letters, students write and deliver a persuasive speech. Students expand their knowledge of grammar, usage, and mechanics through sentence analysis and structure, syntax, agreement, and conventions. Students strengthen their vocabularies through thematic units focused on word roots, suffixes and prefixes, context clues, and other important vocabulary-building strategies.

ENG209: Honors English 10 *

Prerequisite: ENG109 or 90% or higher in ENG 108

In this course, students build on existing literature and composition skills and move onto higher levels of sophistication. Students work on independent projects that enhance their skills and challenge them to consider complex ideas and apply the knowledge they have learned.

Literature: Students hone their skills of literary analysis by reading short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and works of nonfiction, both classic and modern.

Language Skills: In this course, students become more proficient writers and readers. In composition lessons, students analyze model essays from readers' and writers' perspectives, focusing on ideas and content, structure and organization, style, word choice, and tone. Students receive feedback during the writing process to help them work toward a polished final draft. In addition to writing formal essays, resumes, and business letters, students write and deliver a persuasive speech. Students expand their knowledge of grammar, usage, and mechanics through sentence analysis and structure, syntax, agreement, and conventions. Students strengthen their vocabularies through thematic units focused on word roots, suffixes and prefixes, context clues, and other important vocabulary-building strategies.

ENG303: American Literature *

Prerequisites: ENG208 or ENG209

In this course, students read and analyze works of American literature from colonial to contemporary times, including poetry, short stories, novels, drama, and nonfiction. The literary works provide opportunities for critical writing, creative projects, and synchronous/asynchronous discussions. Students develop vocabulary skills and refresh their knowledge of grammar, usage, and mechanics in preparation for standardized tests.

ENG304: Honors American Literature *

Prerequisites: ENG209 or 90% or higher in ENG208

In this course, students read and analyze works of American literature from colonial to contemporary times, including poetry, short stories, novels, drama, and nonfiction. The literary works provide opportunities for critical writing, creative projects, and synchronous/asynchronous discussions. Students develop vocabulary skills and refresh their knowledge of grammar, usage, and mechanics in preparation for standardized tests. Students enrolled in this challenging course will also complete independent projects that deepen their understanding of the themes and ideas presented in the curriculum.

ENG403: British and World Literature *

Prerequisites: ENG303 or ENG304

Students read selections from British and world literature. They analyze the themes, styles, and structures of these texts and make thematic connections among diverse authors, periods, and settings. Students complete guided and independent writing assignments that refine their analytical skills. They have opportunities for creative expression in projects.

ENG404: Honors British and World Literature *

Prerequisites: ENG304 or 90% or higher in ENG303

Students read selections from British and world literature. They analyze the themes, styles, and structures of these texts and make thematic connections among diverse authors, periods, and settings. Students work independently on many of their analyses and engage in creative collaboration with their peers.

ENG500: AP English Language and Composition *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in ENG304

Students learn to understand and analyze complex works by a variety of authors. They explore the richness of language, including syntax, imitation, word choice, and tone. They also learn composition style and process, starting with exploration, planning, and writing. This continues with editing, peer review, rewriting, polishing, and applying what they learn to academic, personal, and professional contexts. In this equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, students prepare for the AP exam and for further study in communications, creative writing, journalism, literature, and composition.

*AP courses are subject to extend beyond one semester in an effort to prepare for the AP Exam.

ENG510: AP English Literature and Composition *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in ENG404 or ENG500

In this course, the equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, students are immersed in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and discussions. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analyses of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. Students prepare for the AP Exam and for further study in creative writing, communications, journalism, literature, and composition.

*AP courses are subject to extend beyond one semester in an effort to prepare for the AP Exam.

MTH113: Pre-Algebra

Prerequisites: NONE

In this course, students learn computational and problem-solving skills and the language of algebra. Students translate word phrases and sentences into mathematical expressions; analyze geometric figures; solve problems involving percentages, ratios, and proportions; graph different kinds of equations and inequalities; calculate statistical measures and probabilities; apply the Pythagorean theorem; and explain strategies for solving real-world problems. A textbook provides students with a ready reference and explanations that supplement the online material. Online lessons provide demonstrations of concepts, as well as interactive problems with contextual feedback.

MTH128: Algebra I *

Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation or Pre-Algebra

Students develop algebraic fluency by learning the skills needed to solve equations and perform manipulations with numbers, variables, equations, and inequalities. They also learn concepts central to the abstraction and generalization that algebra makes possible. Topics include simplifying expressions involving variables, fractions, exponents, and radicals; working with integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers; graphing and solving equations and inequalities; using factoring, formulas, and other techniques to solve quadratic and other polynomial equations; formulating valid mathematical arguments using various types of reasoning; and translating word problems into mathematical equations and then using the equations to solve the original problems. It covers additional topics including translating functions, higher degree roots, and more complex factoring techniques.

MTH128A: Algebra IA

Prerequisites: NONE

This is the second course in the two year algebra sequence. In this course, students build on what they learned in Algebra I to complete their knowledge of all topics associated with a deep understanding of Algebra I. They learn about relations and functions, radicals and radical expressions, polynomials and their graphs, factoring expressions and using factoring to solve equations, solving quadratics, rations expressions, and logic and reasoning.

MTH129: Honors Algebra I *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in Grade 8 Math or Pre-Algebra

This course is intended to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in middle school. Because it is built to follow revised middle school math courses, the course covers slightly different ground than previous versions of algebra. In this course, students deepen their understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other. Students also apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. The course also covers analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions.

MTH208: Geometry *

Prerequisites: MTH128

In this comprehensive course, students are challenged to recognize and work with geometric concepts in various contexts. They build on ideas of inductive and deductive reasoning, logic, concepts, and techniques of Euclidean plane and solid geometry. They develop deeper understandings of mathematical structure, method, and applications of Euclidean plane and solid geometry. Students use visualizations, spatial reasoning, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Topics of study include points, lines, and angles; triangles; right triangles; quadrilaterals and other polygons; circles; coordinate geometry; three-dimensional solids; geometric constructions; symmetry; the use of transformation and non-Euclidean geometries

MTH209: Honors Geometry *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in MTH128 or MTH129

Students work with advanced geometric concepts in various contexts. They build in-depth ideas of inductive and deductive reasoning, logic, concepts, and techniques of Euclidean plane and solid geometry. They also develop a sophisticated understanding of mathematical structure, method, and applications of Euclidean plane and solid geometry. Students use visualizations, spatial reasoning, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Topics of study include points, lines, and angles; triangles; right triangles; quadrilaterals and other polygons; circles; coordinate geometry; three-dimensional solids; geometric constructions; symmetry; the use of transformations; and non-Euclidean geometries. Students work on additional challenging assignments, assessments, and research project.

MTH308: Algebra II *

Prerequisites: MTH128 or MTH129 and MTH208 or MTH209

This course builds upon algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I and prepares students for advanced-level courses. Students extend their knowledge and understanding by solving open-ended problems and thinking critically. Topics include conic sections; functions and their graphs; quadratic functions; inverse functions; and advanced polynomial functions. Students are introduced to rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions; sequences and series; and data analysis.

MTH309: Honors Algebra II *

Prerequisites: MTH129 and MTH 209 or 90% or higher in MTH128 and MTH208

This course builds upon advanced algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I and prepares students for advanced-level courses. Students extend their knowledge and understanding by solving open-ended problems and thinking critically. Topics include functions and their graphs; quadratic functions; complex numbers, and advanced polynomial functions. Students are introduced to rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions; sequences and series; probability; statistics; and conic sections. Students work on additional challenging assignments, assessments, and research projects.

MTH403: Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry *

Prerequisites: MTH128 or MTH129, and MTH208 or MTH209, and MTH308 or MTH309

Pre-calculus weaves together previous study of algebra, geometry, and functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The course focuses on the mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses. Topics include linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions; systems of equations; and conic sections in the first portion. The second portion covers trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; applications of trigonometry, including vectors and laws of cosine and sine; polar functions and notation; and arithmetic of complex numbers.

MTH322: Consumer Math*Prerequisites: NONE*

In Consumer Math, students study and review arithmetic skills they can apply in their personal lives and in their future careers. The course begins with a focus on occupational topics; it includes details on jobs, wages, deductions, taxes, insurance, recreation and spending, and transportation. In the second section of Consumer Math, students learn about personal finances, checking and savings accounts, loans and buying on credit, automobile expenses, and housing expenses. Narrated slide shows help illustrate some of the more difficult content. Throughout the course, students participate in online discussions with each other and their teacher.

MTH413: Probability and Statistics **Prerequisites: MTH128 or MTH129, and MTH208 or MTH209, and MTH308 or MTH309*

Students learn counting methods, probability, descriptive statistics, graphs of data, the normal curve, statistical inference, and linear regression. Proficiency is measured through frequent online and offline assessments, as well as asynchronous discussions.

MTH433: Calculus **Prerequisites: MTH128 or MTH129, and MTH208 or MTH209, and MTH308 or MTH309, and MTH403*

This course provides a comprehensive survey of differential and integral calculus concepts, including limits, derivative and integral computation, linearization, Riemann sums, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and differential equations. Content is presented in 10 units and covers various applications, including graph analysis, linear motion, average value, area, volume, and growth and decay models.

MTH500: AP Calculus AB **Prerequisites: 90% or higher in Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry*

This course is the equivalent of an introductory college-level calculus course. Calculus helps scientists, engineers, and financial analysts understand the complex relationships behind real-world phenomena. Students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions and apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models. Students also learn to understand change geometrically and visually (by studying graphs of curves), analytically (by studying and working with mathematical formulas), numerically (by seeing patterns in sets of numbers), and verbally. The content aligns to the sequence of topics recommended by the College Board.

SCI113: Earth Science *

Prerequisites: NONE

This course provides students with a comprehensive earth science curriculum, focusing on geology, oceanography, astronomy, weather, and climate. The program consists of in-depth online lessons, an associated reference book, collaborative activities, virtual laboratories, and hands-on laboratories students can conduct at home. The course prepares students for further studies in geology, meteorology oceanography, and astronomy courses, and gives them practical experience in implementing scientific methods.

SCI114: Honors Earth Science *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in previous science course

This course provides students with an honors-level earth science curriculum, focusing on geology, oceanography, astronomy, weather, and climate. The program consists of online lessons, an associated reference book, collaborative activities, and laboratories students can conduct at home. The course prepares students for advanced studies in geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy courses, and gives them more sophisticated experience in implementing scientific methods. Additional honors assignments include debates, research papers, extended collaborative laboratories, and virtual laboratories.

SCI203: Biology *

Prerequisites: NONE

In this comprehensive course, students investigate the chemistry of living things: the cell, genetics, evolution, the structure and function of living things, and ecology. The course consists of in-depth lessons, including extensive animations, collaborative explorations and virtual laboratory experiments.

SCI204: Honors Biology *

Prerequisites: SCI114 or 90% or higher in previous science course

This course provides students with a challenging honors-level biology curriculum, focusing on the chemistry of living things: the cell, genetics, evolution, the structure and function of living things, and ecology. The program consists of advanced lessons, including extensive animations, collaborative explorations, and virtual laboratory experiments students can conduct at home. Honors biology include, research papers, extended collaborative laboratories, and virtual laboratories.

SCI303: Chemistry *

Prerequisites: SCI203 or SCI204

Chemistry provides an in-depth survey of all key areas, including atomic structure, chemical bonding and reactions, solutions, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, organic chemistry, and nuclear chemistry.

SCI304: Honors Chemistry *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in SCI203 or SCI204

This course focuses on key areas, including atomic structure, chemical bonding and reactions, solutions, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, organic chemistry, and nuclear chemistry, enhanced with challenging model problems and assessments.

SCI403: Physics *

Prerequisites: MTH403, SCI303 or SCI304 or 90% or higher in SCI203 or SCI204. MTH403 can be taken concurrently to SCI403.

This course provides a comprehensive survey of all key areas: physical systems, measurement, kinematics, dynamics, momentum, energy, thermodynamics, waves, electricity, and magnetism, and introduces students to modern physics topics such as quantum theory and the atomic nucleus.

SCI404: Honors Physics *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in SCI303 or SCI304

This advanced course key areas include physical systems, measurement, kinematics, dynamics, momentum, energy, thermodynamics, waves, electricity, and magnetism, and introduces students to modern physics topics such as quantum theory and the atomic nucleus. Additional honors assignments include, research papers, extended collaborative laboratories, and virtual laboratories.

SCI500: AP Biology *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in SCI203 or SCI204 and SCI303 or SCI304

This course guides students to a deeper understanding of biological concepts including the diversity and unity of life, energy and the processes of life, homeostasis, and genetics. Students learn about regulation, communication, and signaling in living organisms, as well as interactions of biological systems. Students carry out a number of learning activities, including readings, interactive exercises, extension activities, hands-on and virtual laboratory experiments, and practice assessments. These activities are designed to help students gain an understanding of the science process and critical-thinking skills necessary to answer questions on the AP Biology Exam. The content aligns to the sequence of topics recommended by the College Board.

SCI530: AP Environmental Science

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in SCI203 or SCI204 and SCI303 or SCI304

Students examine the natural world's interrelationships in AP Environmental Science. During this course, they identify and analyze environmental problems and their effects and evaluate the effectiveness of proposed solutions. They learn to think like environmental scientists as they make predictions based on observation, write hypotheses, design and complete field studies and experiments, and reach conclusions based on the analysis of resulting data. Students apply the concepts of environmental science to their everyday experiences, current events, and issues in science, politics, and society. The course provides opportunities for guided inquiry and student-centered learning that build critical thinking skills. Prerequisites for enrollment include two years of prior coursework in laboratory sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, or Physics).

HST203: Modern World Studies *

Prerequisites: NONE

In this comprehensive course, students follow the history of the world from approximately 1870 to the present. They begin with a study of events leading up to 1914, including the Second Industrial Revolution and the imperialism that accompanied it. Their focus then shifts to the contemporary era, including two world wars, the Great Depression, and global Cold War tensions. Students examine both the staggering problems and astounding accomplishments of the twentieth century, with a focus on political and social history. Students also explore topics in physical and human geography, and investigate issues of concern in the contemporary world. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting independent research.

HST204: Honors Modern World Studies *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in MS World History

In this advanced course, students investigate the history of the world from approximately 1870 to the present. They begin with an analysis of events leading up to 1914, including the Second Industrial Revolution and the imperialism that accompanied it. Their focus then shifts to the contemporary era, including two world wars, the Great Depression, and global Cold War tensions. Students undertake an in-depth examination of both the staggering problems and astounding accomplishments of the twentieth century, with a focus on political and social history. Students also explore advanced topics in physical and human geography, and investigate issues of concern in the contemporary world. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting research.

HST303: U.S. History *

Prerequisites: HST203 or HST204

This course provides students with a comprehensive view of American history from the first migrations of nomadic people to North America to recent events. Lessons include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating time lines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting independent research.

HST304: Honors U.S. History *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in HST203 or HST204

This course provides students with a comprehensive view of American history from the first migrations of nomadic people to North America to recent events. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting independent research.

HST313: Modern U.S. History *

Prerequisites: HST303 or HST304

This course provides students with a comprehensive view of American history from the industrial revolution of the late nineteenth century to recent events. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting independent research.

HST314: Honors Modern U.S. History *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in HST303 or HST304

This course provides students with a comprehensive view of American history from the industrial revolution of the late nineteenth century to recent events. Lessons include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting independent research. Students complete independent projects each semester.

HST413: US and Global Economics *

Prerequisites: HST203, HST303, and HST313

In this course, students explore choices they face as producers, consumers, investors, and taxpayers. Students apply what they learn to real-world simulation problems. Topics of study include markets from historic and contemporary perspectives; supply and demand; theories of early economic philosophers such as Adam Smith and David Ricardo; theories of value; money (what it is, how it evolved, the role of banks, investment houses, and the Federal Reserve); Keynesian economics; how capitalism functions, focusing on productivity, wages, investment, and growth; issues of capitalism, such as unemployment, inflation, and the national debt; and a survey of markets in such areas as China, Europe, and the Middle East.

HST510: AP U.S. Gov't and Politics

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in HST 303 or HST 304, HST313 or HST314

This course is the equivalent of an introductory college-level course. Students explore the operations and structure of the U.S. government and the behavior of the electorate and politicians. Students gain the analytic perspective necessary to evaluate political data, hypotheses, concepts, opinions, and processes and learn how to gather data about political behavior and develop their own theoretical analysis of American politics. Students also build the skills they need to examine general propositions about government and politics, and to analyze specific relationships between political, social, and economic institutions. Students prepare for the AP Exam and for further study in political science, law, education, business, and history.

WLG100: Spanish I *

Prerequisites: NONE

Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of world 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).

WLG200: Spanish II *

Prerequisites: WLG100

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. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

WLG300: Spanish III *

Prerequisites: WLG200

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 more formal 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 and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries. 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).

WLG500: AP Spanish Language and Culture *

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in WLG300

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical and communicative skills. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course prepares students for the College

Board's AP Spanish Language and Culture exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The course is designed as an immersion experience and is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish. In addition, all student work, practices, projects, participation, and assessments are in Spanish. The course is based on the six themes required by the College Board, namely, Global challenges, Science and technology, Contemporary life, Personal and public identities, Families and communities, and 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. In addition, students participate in a forum where they are able to share their own opinions and comments about various topics and comment on other students' posts.

WLG110: French I *

Prerequisites: NONE

Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of world 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).

WLG210: French II *

Prerequisites: WLG110

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. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

WLG310: French III *

Prerequisites: WLG210

Students further deepen their understanding of French 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 French-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. 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).

WLG510: AP French Language & Culture

Prerequisites: 90% or higher in WLG310

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. The AP French Language 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.

WLG120: German I *

Prerequisites: NONE

Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of world 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, 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).

WLG220: German II *

Prerequisites: WLG120

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, 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. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

WLG130: Latin I *

Prerequisites: NONE

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 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).

WLG230: Latin II *

Prerequisites: WLG130

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, understand and use 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).

FINE ARTS

1.0 credit per course

ART010: Fine Art

Prerequisites: NONE

This course combines art history, appreciation, and analysis, while engaging students in hands-on creative projects. Lessons introduce major periods and movements in art history while focusing on masterworks and the intellectual, technical, and creative processes behind those works. Lessons provide opportunities for drawing, painting, sculpting, and other creative endeavors.

ART020: Music Appreciation

Prerequisites: NONE

This course introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music. The course explores the history of music, from the surviving examples of rudimentary musical forms through to contemporary pieces from around the world. The first section covers early musical forms, classical music, and American jazz. The second section presents modern traditions, including gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip hop. The course explores the relationship between music and social movements and reveals how the emergent global society and the prominence of the Internet are making musical forms more accessible worldwide.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1.0 credit

OTH020: Physical Education

Prerequisites: NONE

Student participation in weekly cardiovascular, aerobic, muscle-toning, and other activities. Students fulfill course requirements by keeping weekly logs of their physical activity. The course promotes the value of lifetime physical activity and includes instruction in injury prevention, nutrition and diet, and stress management.

HEALTH EDUCATION

.5 credit

OTH010: Skills for Health

Prerequisites: NONE

This course focuses on important skills and knowledge in nutrition; physical activity; the dangers of substance use and abuse; injury prevention and safety; growth and development; and personal health, environmental conservation, and community health resources. The curriculum is designed around topics and situations that engage student discussion and motivate students to analyze internal and external influences on their health-related decisions. The course helps students build the skills they need to protect, enhance, and promote their own health and the health of others.

English Electives**ENG010: Journalism**

Prerequisites: NONE

Students are introduced to the historical importance of journalism in America. They study the basic principles of print and online journalism as they examine the role of printed news media in our society. They learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, and journalistic writing techniques as they read, respond to, and write their own news and feature articles. Students conduct interviews, research, write, and design their own publications.

ENG020: Public Speaking

Prerequisites: NONE

Students are introduced to public speaking as an important component of their academic, work, and social lives. They study public speaking occasions and develop skills as fair and critical listeners, or consumers, of spoken information and persuasion. Students study types of speeches (informative, persuasive, dramatic, and special occasion), read and listen to models of speeches, and prepare and present their own speeches to diverse audiences. Students learn to choose speaking topics and adapt them for specific audiences, to research and support their ideas, and to benefit from listener feedback. They study how to incorporate well-designed visual and multimedia aids in presentations and how to maintain a credible presence in the digital world. Students also learn about the ethics of public speaking and about techniques for managing communication anxiety.

ENG030: Creative Writing *

Prerequisites: NONE

Students create original essays, poems, and short stories in this course, which uses two textbooks and focuses on the four-step process writing model. They read professionally written forms of creative writing as models and then integrate their impressions of these works with their personal life experiences as they compose their own writing projects. Students are encouraged to write about topics they find engaging as they practice writing on the following themes: narration, definition, process analysis, cause and effect, and comparison/contrast.

OTH036: Gothic Literature

Prerequisites: NONE

Since the eighteenth century, Gothic tales have influenced fiction writers and fascinated readers. This course focuses on the major themes found in Gothic literature and demonstrates how the core writing drivers produce a suspenseful environment for readers. It presents some of the recurring themes and elements found in the genre. As they complete the course, students gain an understanding of and an appreciation for the complex nature of Gothic literature.

Math Elective**BUS030: Personal Finance**

Prerequisites: NONE

In this introductory finance course, students learn basic principles of economics and best practices for managing their own finances. Students learn core skills in creating budgets, developing long-term financial plans to meet their goals, and making responsible choices about income and expenses. They gain a deeper understanding of capitalism and other systems so they can better understand their role in the economy of society. Students are inspired by experiences of finance professionals and stories of everyday people and the choices they make to manage their money.

Science Electives**SCI030: Forensic Science**

Prerequisites: NONE

The topics in forensic science, including the application of the scientific process to forensic analysis, procedures and principles of crime scene investigation, physical and trace evidence, and the law and courtroom procedures from the perspective of the forensic scientist. Through lessons, virtual and hands-on labs, and analysis of fictional crime scenarios, students learn about forensic tools, technical resources, forming and testing hypotheses, proper data collection, and responsible conclusions.

OTH032: Astronomy

Prerequisites: NONE

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. This course introduces 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 examine the life cycle of stars, the properties of planets, and the exploration of space.

Science Elective**OTH033: Veterinary Science**

Prerequisites: NONE

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 examines some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Toxins, parasites, and infectious diseases affect not only the animals around us, but at times, us humans as well! Through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues are studied and applied.

History Electives**HST010: Anthropology**

Prerequisites: NONE

Anthropologists research the characteristics and origins of the cultural, social, and physical development of humans and consider why some cultures change and others come to an end. In this course, students are introduced to the five main branches of anthropology: physical, cultural, linguistic, social, and archeological. Through instruction and their own investigation and analysis, students explore these topics, considering their relationship to other social sciences such as history, geography, sociology, economics, political science, and psychology. Emulating professional anthropologists, students apply their knowledge and observational skills to the real-life study of cultures in the United States and around the world. The content in this course meets or exceeds the standards of the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS).

HST020: Psychology *

Prerequisites: NONE

In this course, students investigate why human beings think and act the way they do. This is an introductory course that broadly covers several areas of psychology. Instructional material presents theories and current research for students to critically evaluate and understand. Each unit introduces terminology, theories, and research that are critical to the understanding of psychology and includes tutorials and interactive exercises. Students learn how to define and use key terms of psychology and how to apply psychological principles to their own lives. Unit topics in this one-semester course include methods of study, biological basis for behavior, learning and memory, development and individual differences, and psychological disorders.

History Electives

HST060: Sociology *

Prerequisites: NONE

Through this course, students explore human relationships in society. Instructional materials emphasize culture, social structure, the individual in society, institutions, and social inequality. Unit topics include society and culture, what is sociology, the nature of culture, conformity and deviance, social structure, roles, relationships and groups, and social stratification. Students also learn about social institutions, the family, religion and education, government and economic systems, the individual in society, the early years, adolescence, the adult years, continuity and change, communities and change, social movements and collective behavior, social problems, minorities and discrimination, poverty, crime, and problems of mass society. Students use a textbook for the course.

OTH031: Archaeology

Prerequisites: NONE

George Santayana once said, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” The field of archaeology helps us better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped shape our modern world. This course focuses on the techniques, methods and theories that guide the study of the past. Students learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artifacts are located and preserved. Finally, students learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

HST222: Contemporary World Issues

Prerequisites: NONE

Students analyze governments, economies, peoples, and cultures from around the world in this course. Instruction emphasizes the structures and policies of the United States and how they compare to other systems in the international community. Students apply critical thinking and research skills to examine current events and contemporary issues, including human rights, the strengths and weaknesses of globalization, America’s role in the international economy, the severe environmental threats facing many regions around the world today, how religion is often used to facilitate and justify violence, and America’s “War on Terror” and its impact on the Middle East and Islamic culture.

Technology and Computer Science Electives**TCH010: Computer Literacy**

Prerequisites: NONE

Students must be able to effectively use technology to research, organize, create, and evaluate information. In this introductory course, students become familiar with the basic principles of a personal computer, including the internal hardware, operating system, and software applications. Students gain practice in using key applications such as word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software, as well as understand social and ethical issues around the Internet, information, and security. In the first part of the course, the focus is on the fundamentals: learning and using the applications, and understanding the basic roles and responsibilities of the software, hardware, and operating system. In the second part, the focus is on gathering and analyzing data, and using the right tools and methods to collect and present data.

TCH030: Image Design and Editing

Prerequisites: NONE

This introductory design course is for students who want to create compelling, professional-looking graphic designs and photos. Students learn the basics of composition, color, and layout through the use of hands-on projects that allow them to use their creativity while developing important foundational skills. Using GIMP software to create a graphic design portfolio with a wide variety of projects involving the mastery of technical topics, such as working with layers and masks, adding special effects, and effectively using typefaces to create visual impact.

TCH040: Web Design

Prerequisites: NONE

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the essentials of web design, from planning page layouts to publishing a complete site to the web. Students learn how to use HTML to design their own web pages. The course covers basic HTML tags for formatting text, as well as more advanced tags. Through real-world design scenarios and hands-on projects, students create compelling, usable websites using the latest suite of free tools

TCH071: Game Design I

Prerequisites: NONE

This course is for anyone who loves gaming and wants to design and build original games from scratch. Students learn how to use popular game-development software to create engaging, interactive games in a variety of styles. After learning about game genres, students learn about all aspects of the game-design process.

Additional Electives**TCH072: Game Design II**

Prerequisites: TCH071

This course continues Game Design I. Students will continue to sharpen their skills and learn about the principles of game design, how to create 3D content, programming concepts, event modeling, simulation, and testing, interface and audio, and learn about the business of game design.

OTH080: Nutrition and Wellness

Prerequisites: NONE

This course provides students with an overview of good nutrition principles that are necessary for physical and mental wellness and a long, healthy life. Instructional materials include discussions of digestion, basic nutrients, weight management, sports and fitness, and life-span nutrition. The Nutrition and Wellness course emphasizes an understanding of today's food and eating trends and gives students the capacity to intelligently evaluate all available sources of nutrition information and make informed decisions. Unit topics include a course introduction, wellness and food choices in today's world, digestion and major nutrients, and body size and weight management.

ART190: Drawing and Design I

Prerequisites: NONE

This is an introductory art course. Students will learn about basic design, observation and perspective, form and tone, and composition. The students will be creating actual art pieces that demonstrate mastery of the art skills.

ART290: Drawing and Design II

Prerequisites: ART190

This course continues Drawing and Design I. Students will continue to hone their skills in basic design, observation and perspective, form and tone, and composition. The students will be creating actual art pieces that demonstrate mastery of the art skills.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Graduation Project

.5 credit

Prerequisites: NONE

Students apply classroom lessons in real-world settings through the Graduation Project. Under the supervision of a staff member, the Graduation Project is student-driven and based on the student's career and academic interests. Students will learn and utilize the skills of planning and conducting research, developing a research paper, and presenting their graduation project to a staff committee.

OTH040:Reaching Your Academic Potential

.25 credit

Prerequisites: NONE

Students learn essential academic skills within the context of their learning style, individual learning environment, and long-term goals. This course helps students develop habits for more successful reading, writing, studying, communication, collaboration, time management, and concentration. It also provides insights into how the brain works when it is learning, and ways to maximize its potential.

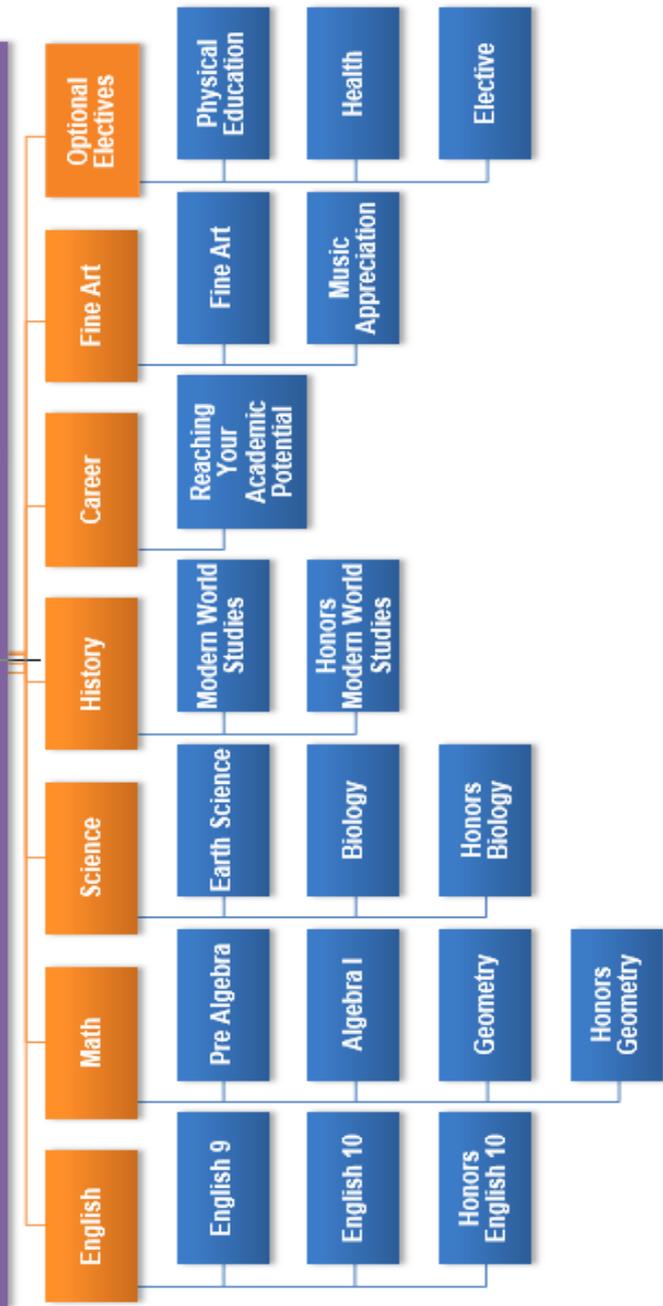
OTH050:Achieving College and Career Goals

.25 credit

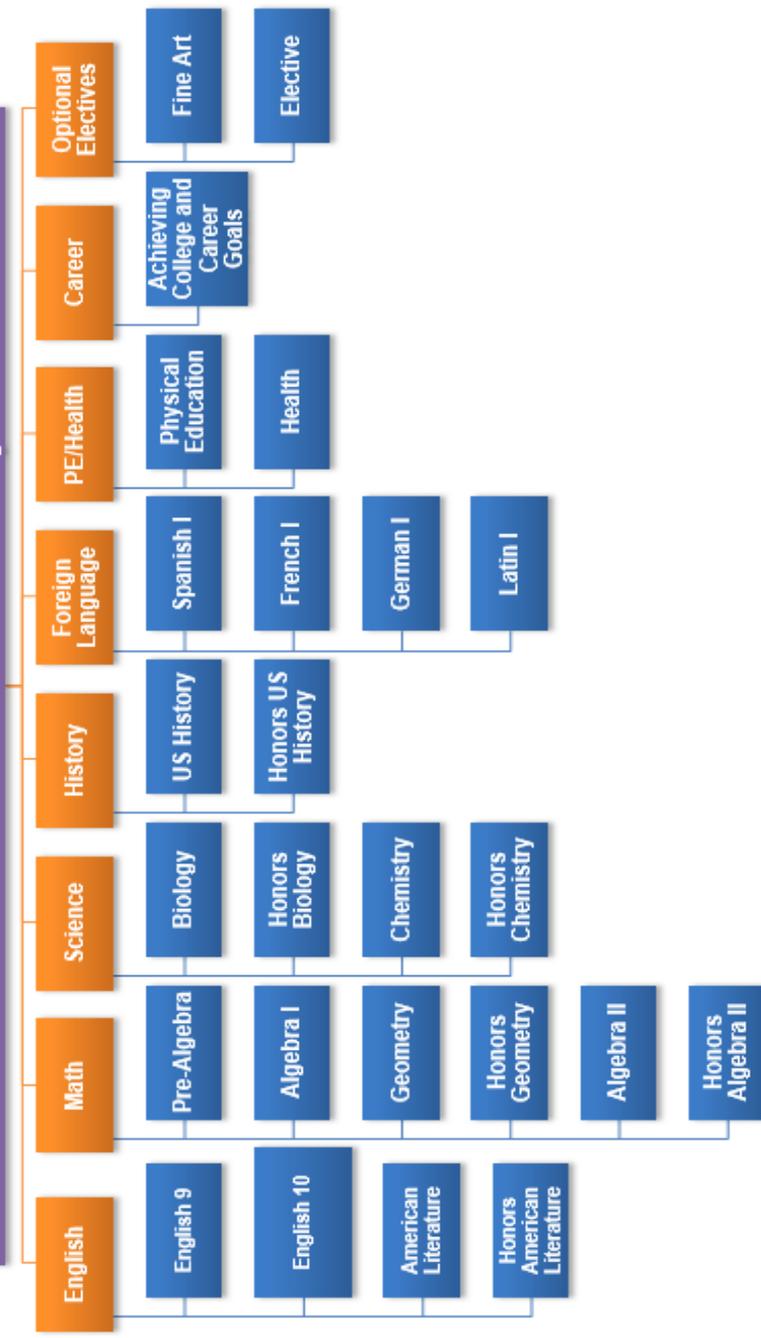
Prerequisites: OTH040

Students explore their options for life after high school and implement plans to achieve their goals. They identify their aptitudes, skills, and preferences, and explore a wide range of potential careers. They investigate the training and education required for the career of their choice, and create a plan to be sure that their work in high school is preparing them for the next step. They also receive practical experience in essential skills such as searching and applying for college, securing financial aid, writing a resume and cover letter, and interviewing for a job.

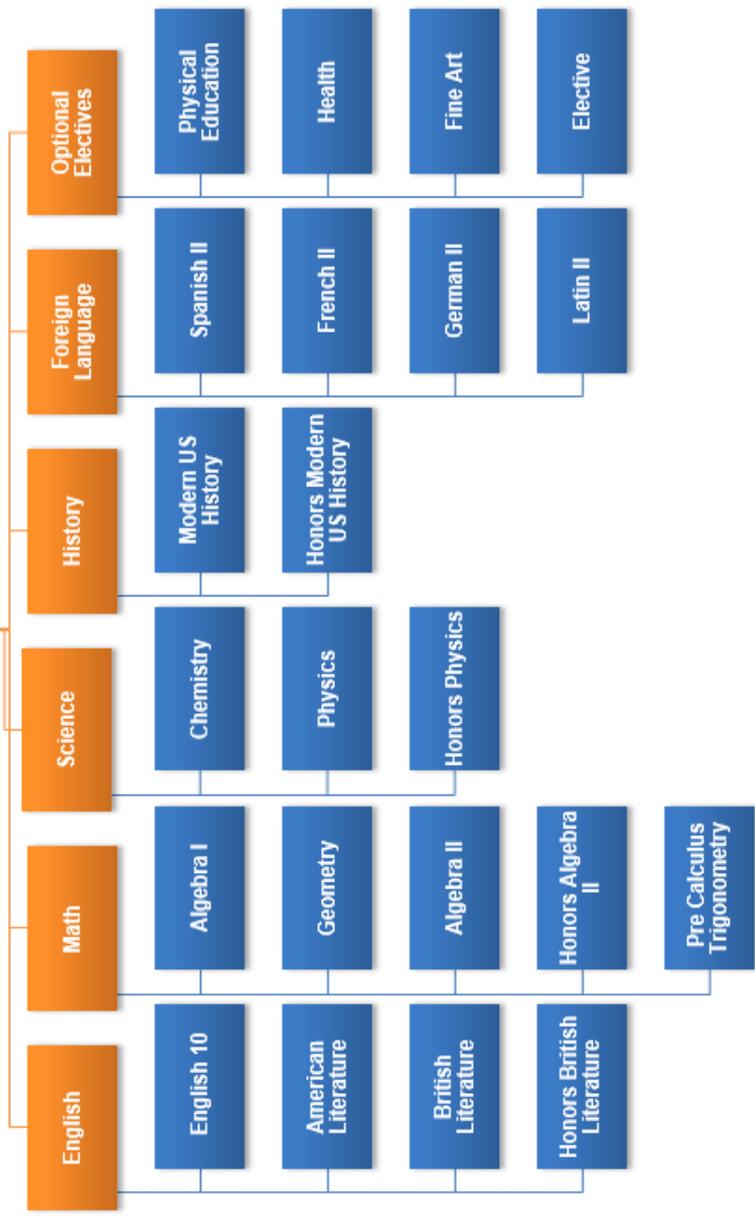
9th Grade Course Sequence



10th Grade Course Sequence



11th Grade Course Sequence



12th Grade Course Sequence

