



Riverside Poly High School



Course Description Catalog

This information was prepared by the Poly High School Counseling Office in an effort to assist students in making informed decisions when selecting courses for the upcoming school year. The course descriptions below were taken from the official RUSD course catalog of courses approved by the RUSD Board of Trustees. (Some of the classes listed here may not be offered if the number of students requesting the course is low.)

RUSD Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements 10 credits = 1 year, 5 credits = 1 semester

Subject Areas	UC/CSU A-G Requirements	RUSD Graduation Requirements
English	40	40 credits, 4 years
History/Social Science	20	30 credits, 3 years
Math	30	30 credits, 3 years
Science	20	20 credits, 2 years
PE		20 credits, 2 years
Foreign Language	20	30 credits in any of the three areas. 20 credits must come from the same concentration.
VAPA	10	
CTE		
Electives	10	50 credits
Total Credits		220 credits

English Language Arts Courses

Introduction to Literature/Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 9 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the study of literature and composition at the high school level through the integration of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The literature units of study will include short stories, mythology, novels, drama, and poetry. Composition study will emphasize writing as a process and will focus on content, form, and conventions.

Honors Introduction to Literature/Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 9 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: Honors Introduction to Literature is designed for the university-bound English language arts student. The accelerated curriculum parallels that of Introduction to Literature and Composition (listed above), but requires a more rigorous level of critical thinking, literary analysis, and writing skills. Additionally, specified summer reading may be recommended.

World Literature and Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 10 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: World Literature and Composition is designed to introduce students to the themes in world literature through the integration of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The literary units of study will include short stories, essays, novels, drama, and poetry. Composition study will continue to emphasize writing as a process and to focus on content, form, and conventions.

Honors World Literature and Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 10 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: This course is designed for the university-bound language arts student. The accelerated curriculum parallels that of the World Literature (listed above) and Composition, but requires a more rigorous level of critical thinking, literary analysis and writing skills. In addition, specified summer reading may be recommended.

American Literature and Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 11 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: This course is designed to introduce language arts students to a more sophisticated level of chronological study of the major writers and periods of American literature than American Literature and Composition. The literary units of study will include short stories, essays, novels, drama, and poetry. Composition study will be literature-based, will emphasize writing as a process, and will focus on content, form, conventions, and style. A research paper is required in this course.

AP Language and Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 11 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted

Prerequisite: World Literature or (recommended) Honors World Literature)

Description: This course is an intensive study of composition and language. A student may receive college credit in English when he or she enters college if he or she achieves a score of 3, 4, or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in English Language and Composition. A fee for the examination is required. In addition, specified summer reading may be recommended.

English Literature and Composition

Year / 10 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to literature of the English-speaking peoples through the integration of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The literary units of study will include short stories, essays, novels, drama, and poetry. Composition study will continue to emphasize writing as a process and to focus on content, form, conventions and style.

Expository Reading and Writing

Year / 10 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A-G Course

Prerequisite: student must be on track for graduation in all UC/CSU A-G areas and have scored "Ready" or "Conditionally Ready" on the EAP/Early Assessment Program Exam administered during state testing in the Spring of 11th grade. **Description:** This course is designed to prepare college-bound seniors for the literacy demands of higher education. Expository Reading and Writing specifically addresses the demand of reading and analyzing a wide variety of college level texts and instructs students with skills necessary to meet the expectations of post-secondary Language Arts 12th Grade Content Standards.

AP English Literature

Year / 10 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted

Description: This course is an intensive study of composition and literature. A student may receive college credit in English when he or she enters college if he or she achieves a score of 3, 4, or 5 on the Advanced Placement examination in English Literature and Composition. A fee for the examination is required. In addition, specified summer reading may be required.

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Description: English 9/10/11/12 and Language Arts Workshop is a 2 period class designed to build student reading and writing achievement for students reading two or more years below grade level. Instruction includes small group direct instruction in reading and writing, and computer adaptive work with reading comprehension, vocabulary, and spelling. Student instruction is based on personalized instruction to allow students to progress at an appropriate pace. Periodically throughout the year, instruction also includes traditional grade level literature and writing genres to expose students to literature and composition at the current grade level. Small group instruction includes units of study for independent reading, grade level genre writing, and listening and speaking skills. *this course meets the graduation requirement for English but is not a college prep course.

ELD/English Language Development 1**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Description: ELD 1 is designed for the beginning student. The focus of this course is on establishing a solid foundation in the fundamentals of listening, speaking, reading, and writing English. Instructional techniques include modeling and using visual aids and context clues to obtain and convey meaning. This course will use non-verbal student responses, such as gestures and drawings, to document comprehension, while encouraging students in the ongoing development of oral and written expression.

ELD/English Language Development 2**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Description: ELD 2 is designed for the student at the Early Intermediate level of English. This course emphasizes basic skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It will focus on expanding listening comprehension and production of the English language, building reading comprehension based on acquired knowledge and the transference of literacy skills, and increasing the use of writing skills as an integral part of language exploration. *this course meets the graduation requirement for English but is not a college prep course.

ELD/English Language Development 3**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12/ UC Approved A-G Course**

Description: ELD 3 is designed for the student at the Intermediate fluency level who can communicate and comprehend thoughts and ideas in English at a greater level of complexity. The course is designed to promote the development of cognitive academic language through activities that require critical and creative thinking. Lessons and literature will support elements of core academic programs and will continue to emphasize listening, speaking, reading, and writing in a context-embedded and low-anxiety environment. This course will also emphasize cross-cultural awareness through literature-based lessons.

Strategic Language Arts 9 & Strategic Language Arts 10**Year / 10 elective credits / Grades 9-10**

Prerequisite: Students are placed in this course based on prior grade in 7th / 8th / 9th grade Language Arts, screening or assessment results, and teacher recommendation.

Description: This course is designed for struggling readers who are .5 to 1.9 years below grade level in English Language Arts. The strategic class is linked with the regular English class and allows students additional time to master the grade level curriculum and state content standards. This period of strategic instruction utilizes core materials to prepare students for the skills, concepts and language of the upcoming lesson in the regular English Language Arts classroom, reinforces core concepts and provides instruction on academic vocabulary and language structures. Classroom instruction will include such scaffolding as: building prior knowledge, strengthening vocabulary, pre-teaching of specific strategies and processes, and direct instruction of concepts.

Mathematics Courses

Math 1**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Description: Mathematics 1 course formalizes and extends the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. This course includes standards from the conceptual categories of Numbers and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, This course includes standards from the conceptual categories of Numbers and includes standards from the conceptual categories of Numbers and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. This course includes standards from the conceptual categories of Numbers and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. *this course replaced Algebra 1 as of 2014/2015 school year.

Strategic Math 9/10**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-10 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: Students are placed in this course based on prior grade in 7th and or 8th grade Math, screening or assessment results, and teacher recommendation. *This course is taken in addition to Math 1.*

Description: This course is designed for students struggling in mathematics who are .5 to 1.9 years below grade level in math. The strategic class is linked with a regular math class and allows students additional time to master the grade level curriculum and state content standards. This period of strategic instruction utilizes core materials to prepare students for the skills, concepts and language of the upcoming lesson in the regular mathematics classroom, reinforces core concepts and provides instruction on academic vocabulary. Classroom instruction will include such scaffolding as: building prior knowledge, strengthening vocabulary, pre-teaching of specific strategies and processes, and direct instruction of concepts.

Math 2**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 1.

Description: The focus of the Mathematics II course is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Mathematics I. This course includes standards from conceptual categories of Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. *this course replaced Geometry as of 2015/2016 school year.

Math 2 Accelerated**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Math 1. **Description:** The focus of the Accelerated Mathematics 2 course is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Mathematics 1. This course includes standards from conceptual categories of Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Additionally, Accelerated Mathematics 2 includes select Pre-Calculus standards so when taken consecutively with Accelerated Mathematics 3, students will have studied all Pre-calculus standards preparing them to move directly to Calculus. *students must take Math 2 Accelerated in order to take Math 3 Accelerated.

Math 3**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Math 2

Description: This course includes standards from the conceptual categories of Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. For the Mathematics 3 course, instructional time will on four critical areas: (1) applying methods from probability and statistics to draw inference and conclusions from data; (2) expanding understanding of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions; (3) expanding right triangle trigonometry to include general triangles; and (4) consolidating functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems. *this course replaces Algebra 2 beginning in 2016/2017.

Math 3 Accelerated**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Accelerated Math 2.

Description: This course includes standards from the conceptual categories of Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Additionally, Accelerated Mathematics 3 includes select Pre-Calculus standards so when taken sequentially with Accelerated Mathematics II, students will have studied all Pre-Calculus standards preparing them to move directly to Calculus. For the Accelerated Mathematics 3 course, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) applying methods from probability and statistics to draw inference and conclusions from data; (2) expanding understanding of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions; (3) expanding right triangle trigonometry to include general triangles; and (4) consolidating functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems. * this course replaces Honors Algebra 2 beginning in 2016/2017.

Intermediate Algebra**Year / 10 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry and Algebra 2 or Math 2 and Math 3. **Description:** Intermediate Algebra is designed to be comparable to Intermediate Algebra (or the equivalent) pre-college/pre-university level mathematics courses. The course delves into high school level Algebra I and Algebra II at a greater depth, preparing students to enroll in post-secondary College Level mathematics courses upon graduation from high school. Its aim is to provide opportunities to further develop proficiencies across the full range of algebra skills. It was designed in collaboration with community college math faculty to ensure alignment with the post-secondary Intermediate Algebra Math 35. Curriculum and assessments are aligned with Math 35 syllabus. Intermediate Algebra is designed to enable high school students, who satisfactorily complete the course, to proceed directly into college level math coursework without need of remediation.

Pre-Calculus**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12/ UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2/Math 3.

Description: See below.

Honors Pre-Calculus**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12/ UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Algebra 2/Math 3 Accelerated.

Description: Pre-Calculus is a course in which the topics from Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 will be reviewed and extended to include the essential topics of college algebra and elementary analytic geometry courses. There will be extensive use of the graphing calculator. Topics include: problem solving, functions, graphing, mathematical modeling, applications, trigonometry, discrete math, and introductions to differential and integral calculus. Successful completion of this course prepares students to enter Advanced Placement Calculus AB (from Pre-Calculus) or BC (from Honors Pre-Calculus).

AP Calculus AB**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12/ UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus.

Description: Calculus AB, Advanced Placement is a standard college-level calculus course. The syllabus of Calculus AB Advanced Placement, provided by the College Board Advanced Placement Program, will be followed. Topics will include: functions, limits, differentiation, integration, plane analytic geometry, and their applications.

AP Calculus BC**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12/ UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Pre-Calculus.

Description: Calculus BC, Advanced Placement a standard college-level calculus course. The syllabus of Calculus BC Advanced Placement, provided by the College Board Advanced Placement Program, will be followed. Topics will include all of the topics of the AP Calculus AB course, as well as infinite series, parametric and polar equations, improper integrals, vector analysis, and differential equations.

AP Statistics**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12/ UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus.

Description: Statistics, Advanced Placement provides a basic foundation in probability and statistics. Topics covered are: central tendency, variation, probability, counting technique, probability distributions (discrete and continuous), sampling, statistical inference, and least square regression line. This course will follow the syllabus for Statistics Advanced Placement provided by the College Board Advanced Placement Program.

Multivariable Calculus**Year / 10 credits / Grades 12/ UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC.

Description: Multivariable Calculus provides an alternative to AP Statistics for seniors who wish to pursue their study of calculus beyond Calculus BC and might be more suitable for some depending upon their future interests. Students that complete this course will be well prepared for the rigors of college, having completed first- and second-year calculus in high school. This course begins with a review of Integration techniques, L'Hopital's Rule, Improper Integrals, Infinite Series, and parametric and Polar equations, which are taught in AP Calculus BC. It then moves into multivariable calculus concepts, exploring the rectangular coordinate system in three-dimensional space, vectors, and operations with vectors. Lines, planes, quadric surfaces, spherical and cylindrical coordinates, vector-valued functions, curvature, Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion, partial derivatives, centroid, Lagrange Multipliers, and multiple integrals in different coordinate systems are introduced. At the end, students will learn integrals of functions over a curve or a surface, Green's theorem, the divergence theorem, and Stoke's theorem.

Personal Finance**Year / 10 credits / Grade 12**

Description: This course is designed for students to gain an understanding of personal finance principles as they relate to income, money management, spending, credit, saving, and investing. Seniors will be able to use this knowledge and related skills to take individual responsibility for personal economic well-being.

*History - Social Science***World History****Year/ 10 credits / Grade 10 / UC Approved A—G Course**

Description: In this course students examine major turning points in the shaping of the modern world, from the late eighteenth century to the present. This year begins with an introduction to current world interdependence of people and cultures throughout the world.

Multimedia World History (*pending RUSD & UC approval, if not approved students would take traditional World History)**Year/ 10 credits / Grade 10**

Description: Multimedia World History is a course in which students will analyze significant periods in World History including the roots of democracy through modern times while developing basic skills in graphic design, multimedia and video production. Students will use major world events such as revolutions, wars and globalization as the inspiration for design and media projects to synthesize the knowledge into cohesive assignments that are both content driven and conceptual. Students have the opportunity in this course to demonstrate their knowledge of historical content by creating graphical and video content using the elements and principles of design, composition and non-linear editing. Upon completion of this course, students will have fulfilled their world history requirement and be prepared to take additional design and video production courses.

AP European History**Year/ 10 credits / Grade 10 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted**

Description: This course is an in-depth study of European History covering the years of the late Medieval Period through Contemporary Europe. In addition to a basic exposure to the factual narrative, the course will help the student develop an understanding of some of the principal themes in European History and an ability to analyze historical information. Topics outlined in the College Board Advanced Placement course description for European History Advanced Placement are presented. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement examination.

United States History**Year/ 10 credits / Grade 11 / UC Approved A—G Course**

Description: United States History includes the chronology of this nation's past from the late 19th century to the present. Emphasis is placed on historical geography as well as the relationship among political, economic, and cultural history. Students will be encouraged to think critically about problems in history and society while examining democratic ideals and the American heritage. Reading and practice in writing are emphasized.

AP United States History**Year/ 10 credits / Grade 11 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted**

Description: This course is an in-depth, introductory college-level study of United States history that prepares students for the Advanced Placement examination. The course covers historical problems, topics, events, personalities, and geographical influences that have shaped the United States from the Age of Exploration to the present.

American Government**Semester / 10 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A—G Course**

Description: This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. Included will be a study of the different systems of government in the world today and an analysis of current major social issues. A multi-dimensional study of cultural, geographic, ethical, social, political, and economic aspects of those systems will highlight the contributions made by each generation of Americans and emphasize the ways in which these citizens dealt with problems and inequities. A study of significant court cases and their changing interpretations will allow students to focus upon key issues such as human rights. This course is intended to prepare students to function as informed, participating citizens in a pluralistic society. This study will be enriched with representative literature and will include the use of primary source documents.

AP American Government**Semester / 5 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted**

Description: This is a one semester, introductory college-level course in which the contents are divided into five areas: constitutional underpinnings of American Government, including the Federalist Papers; political behavior and beliefs of the American public; political parties and interest groups; the institutions and process of policy making at the national level; and civil liberties/civil rights. This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. This course follows the course description provided by the College Board and prepares students for the Advanced Placement examination.

Economics**Semester / 5 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A—G Course**

Description: This course is designed to enrich students' understanding of the operations and institutions of economic systems and to deepen their understanding of the economic problems and institutions of America and the world in which they live. The course will focus on the relevance of economic concepts to the students' daily lives. Through a multi-dimensional study of the basic economic problems which face all individuals, groups, and nations, such as scarcity, choices, and economic efficiency, students will apply previously acquired information to make reasoned decisions on economic issues as citizens, employees, consumers, business owners and managers, and members of civic groups. This study will be enriched with representative literature and will include the use of primary source documents.

AP Macro Economics**Semester / 5 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted**

Description: This course introduces students to fundamental economic concepts such as scarcity and opportunity costs. Students will study comparative advantage to determine the basis on which mutually advantageous trade can take place between countries and to identify comparative advantage from differences in output levels and labor costs. Other basic concepts that are explored include the functions performed by an economic system and the way the tools of supply and demand can be used to analyze a market economy. This course will offer the macroeconomics curriculum recommended by the College Board and will prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination

AP Micro Economics**Semester / 5 credits / Grade 12 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted**

Description: The purpose of an AP course in Microeconomics is to provide a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. *Students pick from either AP Macro or AP Micro.

AP Art History**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted (**

Description: This is two-semester course for college bound students. The central questions in this course include the following: What is art and how is it made? Why and how does art change? How do we describe our thinking about art? Through these essential questions, students explore the big ideas of AP Art History, effectively and precisely articulating an artwork's meaning and function, its maker's methodology, and the ways it reflects and affects its historical and cultural context. With these core questions as the foundation, this course is organized into ten cultural/chronological units, emphasizing daily practice of questioning techniques, methods of discussion, analytical paradigms, guided discovery, and independent learning. These enable our students to develop critical thinking and visual literacy skills with which they can mine meaning from any artwork they encounter throughout their lives. This course is equal to a college course in art history. Students prepare to take the Advanced Placement examination in Art History.

*Science Courses***Anatomy and Physiology****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Algebra 1/Math 1 and a grade of C or higher in Biology.

Description: This course will survey the structural and functional coordination of the systems of the vertebrate bodies. The course will include the study of cells, tissues, organs, and systems.

Biology**Honors Biology****Year / 10 credits / Grade 9 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Description: Biology deals with basic biological concepts and principles. Students study the life processes of living organisms and the interdependence of all living things. Emphasis is on the structural and functional aspects of plants and animals. Biology Honors is designed for students who are self-motivated and self-directed and who have demonstrated above average study skills. This course is a study of biological concepts and principles, with an emphasis on the scientific method, life processes, and interdependency of all living organisms.

Chemistry**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course****Honors Chemistry****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course/ Weighted**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Biology and Algebra 1/Math 1.

Description: Chemistry deals with the nature of elements, compounds and mixtures, atoms and molecules, and how they interact and change. Through frequent laboratory experiences and class discussions, the students become familiar with scientific concepts, procedures, and equipment. A study of chemistry is critical for the following fields: biology, health sciences, agriculture, forestry, engineering, the physical sciences, home economics, or physical education. Chemistry Honors is a more intense and faster paced course than the general Chemistry class.

Earth Science**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Description: Earth Science is a yearlong college preparatory course (G area) that covers the California Content Standards for earth science. It includes the topics of astronomy, geology, oceanography, meteorology, climatology, and paleontology. Students complete a variety of activities and laboratory investigations are emphasized. This course satisfies the graduation requirement for physical science.

Environmental Science**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Description: This course emphasizes the use of computer modeling to understand the relationships and interdependence between organisms and their environment. Students will investigate the effects of the environment on a diversity of organisms, including humans. The environmental problems caused by the needs of an ever-increasing human population on a static world will be investigated. Solutions to these problems as well as career opportunities and options in the field of environmental science will be explored.

Physics**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Algebra 1/Math 1.

Description: Physics is designed to meet the needs of those students who are interested in the fields of engineering, architecture, mathematics, medicine, or any of the physical sciences. Emphasis is placed on mechanics, heat, light, sounds, electricity, and nuclear physics. Mathematical applications are tested at a level appropriate for technical careers.

AP Biology**Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: A grade of B or higher in Biology and a C or higher in Chemistry

Description: This course involves an in depth study of various biological topics, such as molecular and cellular biology, organismal biology, and population biology. Emphasis is placed on laboratory experiments and observation. This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination in Biology.

AP Chemistry**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Chemistry or Honors Chemistry and concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or higher.

Description: This second-year course is taught as an introductory college level chemistry course and prepares students for the Advanced Placement examination in Chemistry.

AP Environmental Science**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: completion of 2 years of high school science.

Description: Advanced Placement Environmental Science is an integrated course that embraces a wide variety of topics in different areas of scientific studies to help understand or correct natural phenomena or problems created by humans. Students will investigate the interrelationships of the natural world; will identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and man-made, and the relative risks associated with those problems; and will consider alternative solutions to resolve these current problems and prevent them from recurring in the future.**AP Physics 1****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Algebra 1/Math 1

Description: This course is the equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The yearlong course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits.**AP Physics 2****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Physics 1.

Description: This course is the equivalent to a second-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The yearlong course covers fluid mechanics; thermodynamics; electricity and magnetism; optics; atomic and nuclear physics.*Army JROTC Courses & Physical Education***Army NJROTC Military Science Level 1 / 2 / 3 / 4****Year / 10 credits / Grades 9–12**

Prerequisite: Level one has no prerequisite, Level 2 and beyond requires the prior level to have been completed successfully.

Description: Army J.R.O.T.C. is essentially a leadership development program conducted within the environment of a military organization. Each of the four-year course offerings is divided into sub-courses that provide practical application of leadership and citizenship theory. This course covers an introduction to R.O.T.C. and the Army, hygiene and first aid, introduction to maps and map reading, marksmanship, and safety, leadership development and drill, introduction to techniques of oral communication, and physical training. Each year of this class can count for one year of Physical Education credit or elective credit.**Physical Education 9****Year / 10 credits / Grades 9****Description:** This course is required for all 9th grade students and is designed for students to participate in a course that will enhance physical fitness, social cooperation, and knowledge of human movement through a variety of activities. This will provide them with skills and knowledge needed for an ongoing healthy lifestyle beyond the school experience.**Enrollment in Marching Band, ROTC or a Sport PE class is an acceptable alternative to this course.***Co Ed Physical Education 10****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12**Prerequisite: 9th grade Physical Education**Description:** Coed P.E. provides students with the skills of individual and team sports. This class is for those students who wish a variety of activities. Emphasis is placed upon improving skill level and intra-class competition. **Enrollment in Marching Band, ROTC or a Sport PE class is an acceptable alternative to this course.***Walking for Lifetime Fitness****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12**Prerequisite: 9th grade Physical Education with a C or higher**Description:** This course is designed to introduce fitness walking as a lifetime activity to benefit one's overall health. The fitness walking process will be emphasized as students practice brisk walking, stretching, walking up and down hills, taking and recording heart rates weekly and using their own data to chart and graph how fitness levels improve. Walking will take place both on and off campus and parent permission is required to participate in off campus walks.**Enrollment in Marching Band, ROTC or a Sport PE class is an acceptable alternative to this course.***Aerobics****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12****Description:** Aerobics provides improvement in cardiovascular strength and physical fitness. Activities include stretching, strength exercises, jogging etc.**Dance 1A/Dance 1B****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12****Description:** Dance P.E. provides experiences in rhythmic movement and dance techniques.**Weight Lifting****Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12**Prerequisite: 9th grade Physical Education with a C or higher**Description:** This course includes a wide variety of activities such as weight lifting, jogging, and exercising in order to develop and maintain fitness.**Sport PE****Year or semester depending on the sport/ 5 or 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: Head coach's approval.

Description: Sports P.E. is for students involved in *selected* interscholastic sports. Physical education credit can be earned for successful completion of the course.**not all athletic teams have a sport PE class. Sport PE classes are only offered for teams in which the coach is available during the school day to hold practice. If a coach holds practice during the school day the student must be enrolled in the Sport PE class if they will be practicing during that time. No exceptions.**AVID Elective Courses***AVID 9 / 10 / 11****Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-11**

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the AVID program/AVID Coordinator approval.

Description: AVID is a yearlong elective course required for AVID students. The course emphasizes note-taking skills; time management techniques; collateral reading; guest lectures; SAT, ACT, and PSAT exam preparation; and writing skills across the curriculum. Tutoring and individualized academic counseling are provided. Students participate in field trips that enhance high school students' understanding of the demands of college life.**AVID 12/Senior Seminar****Year / 10 credits / Grade 12**

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the AVID program/AVID Coordinator approval.

Description: The AVID Senior Seminar is the culmination of a student's years in the AVID program, and the course involves substantial critical reading and writing, preparation for external exams such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate, and weekly Socratic seminars. Students enrolled in the Senior Seminar are required to complete weekly timed writings and analytical discourse in subjects across the curriculum. In addition, students are required to make oral presentations to the class on topics related to college entrance, contemporary issues, and social concerns. As with all AVID courses, the Senior Seminar features tutors—college students who lead discussions and analysis of the academic subjects in which the students are enrolled. Senior Seminar students, working with the tutors, are expected to participate in and eventually act as moderators for Socratic Seminars. These discussions move beyond didactic instruction and assist students in gaining multiple perspectives on texts, supporting arguments with clear reason and evidence, and developing their critical thinking skills to the degree necessary for success in college.

Human Studies Electives

African American Studies

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: African-American Studies is an exploration of the history and culture of peoples of African descent in the United States and is intended for students of all backgrounds and cultures. Through a humanities approach, utilizing literature, art, poetry, dance, drama, music, and video, students will establish links among historical, contemporary, and personal events. They will apply a wide range of active strategies and tools that involve both primary and community resources. Participation in debates, dramatizations, simulations, civic activities, group discussions, writing, and research will develop and extend students' consciousness of the key role African-Americans play in our diverse society.

Chicano Studies / Ethnic Diversity

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: **Chicano Studies** is an exploration of the history and culture of the Mexican-American peoples of the United States and is intended for students of all backgrounds and cultures. Through a humanities approach, utilizing literature, art, poetry, dance, drama, music, and video, students will establish links among historical, contemporary, and personal events. They will apply a wide range of active strategies and tools that involve both primary and community resources. Participation in debates, dramatizations, simulations, civic activities, group discussions, writing, and research will develop and extend students' consciousness of the key role Chicanos play in our diverse society. **Ethnic Diversity** in America is an exploration of the history, culture, and contributions of peoples (including African-Americans, Indigenous Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, European Americans, and Latinos) to the United States. This course is intended for students of all backgrounds and cultures. Through a humanities approach, utilizing literature, art, poetry, dance, drama, music, and video, students will establish links among historical, contemporary, and personal events. They will apply a wide range of active strategies and tools that involve both primary and community resources. Participation in debates, dramatizations, simulations, civic activities, group discussions, writing, and research will develop and extend students' consciousness of the key role these groups play in our diverse society.

Philosophy & Ethics in Action

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: Ethics: The course will emphasize diverse ethical positions centered throughout the world, and students will use a pluralistic approach to study specific contemporary ethical dilemmas. Students will engage in class discussion, will create both oral and written argument supporting their ethical positions, and will explore both text-generated and teacher-generated questions. Among the historical theories of ethics included for study in this course are the ethics of divine commands, the ethics of selfishness, the ethics of consequence, the ethics of duty, the ethics of rights, the ethics of character, and the ethics of diversity. **Philosophy:** This semester course will offer the student a survey of major philosophical works and their inherent theoretical underpinnings. Major Eastern and Western philosophers such as Confucius, Rousseau, Nietzsche, Sartre, Heidegger, and others will be studied. The course will be organized thematically and will offer the student the opportunity to develop a research project, as well as to contribute more informal writings. Whole class and small group discussions will facilitate the student's understanding of text.

Psychology & Sociology

Semester or Year / 5 or 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Courses

Description: Psychology is the science that will help a young person gain a better understanding of self and others. The course attempts to enhance the students' awareness of and curiosity about possible reasons for their behavior and the consequences of human behavior. Students will learn about the importance of psychology in peoples' lives and careers. It is a study of human behavior and personality that examines the nature of the individual as influenced by relationships with others and society. Learning and thinking, intelligence, heredity and environment, physiology and mechanisms in behavior and experience, as well as the normal and abnormal development of personality will be considered. The application of psychological principles to modern problems will be emphasized, as will the use of the scientific method in the study of behavior.

AP Psychology

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields of psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in the practice of this science. This course is taught as an introductory college-level psychology course, utilizing the curriculum recommended by the College Board, and prepares students for the Advanced Placement examination.

CTE/ Computer Technology and Video Production Electives

Information Technology & Tech Tools 2 (Year 1)

Semester or Year / 5 or 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Description: The Info Tech course is designed to provide students with a fundamental working knowledge of computer technology. Topics include software applications, computer hardware, career awareness and exploration, and social and ethical issues relating to computers. The Tech Tools course emphasizes word processing, reinforces keyboarding skills, and expands formatting skills. Students will learn to use more advanced functions of word processing software. This course is recommended for college preparation, as well as for career and personal development.

Graphic Design & Video Production (Year 1)

Semester or Year / 5 or 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Description: The Graphic Design course emphasizes graphics to promote the marketing and advertising of an individual or business. Students learn to utilize software to develop and design newsletters, flyers, menus, advertisements, and similar documents. The Video Production course is especially recommended for students interested in futures in marketing and business. This course focuses on the basic techniques, styles and requirements of acting, directing, writing and production for film and television.

Exploring Computer Science (Year 1 or 2)

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course

Description: This course will provide students with foundational knowledge of computer science. Students will explore topics of human computer interaction, problem solving, web design, computer programming, data modeling, and robotics. Throughout the course, students will understand the algorithmic underpinnings of computer applications and gain technical expertise using computation tools.

Web Design 1 / 2 (Year 1)

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Description: This project-oriented class explores the fundamental principles behind the creation of an effective web presence, as well as the role of the web designer in today's information culture. Students evaluate layout designs of various web sites on the Internet. Coursework includes creating web pages working with text, using paragraphs, layouts, storyboarding techniques, flowcharts, tables, cells, and frames; Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) links; Word Editor (note Pad), Publisher, and FrontPage 2000. Students utilize such Internet Browsers as Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator to view their web page projects. Students learn to use graphic images in JPEG, GIF, and TIFF formats, as well as importing images using available peripherals.

Basic Programming 1A/1B (Year 2)

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Information Technology (Computer Applications) or Exploring Computer Science, Algebra I completed or concurrently enrolled, or teacher recommendation.

Description: This is a year-long course in Basic programming divided into two semesters. The first semester will cover topics including decision making and looping structures, arrays, and formatting. The second semester will cover object-oriented programming, data control, file handling, and graphics. Students will use the language to create programs to solve interdisciplinary problems. Use of the computer is integral to the course.

Advanced Digital Video (Year 2)

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Video Production

Description: This course offers students a hands-on training in filmmaking and advanced digital video skills utilizing digital camcorders, non-linear editing software and television studio equipment. The emphasis will be on refining advanced skills and techniques including planning, producing, directing, editing, rendering/distributing and performing for video. Students will shoot, produce and broadcast videos of school and community events stressing professional productivity, storytelling through video and responsible broadcasting standards.

TV/Video Production-Live Broadcast (Year 2) *pending RUSD approval**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12**

Prerequisite: Video Production

Description: Students will learn basic principles of television production and live broadcasting including setup and operation of equipment, ENG (electronic news gathering), live web-casting and live-to-tape studio production. An emphasis is placed on the planning process (including script writing, researching and developing stories, conducting interviews, and developing on-camera talent), and crew functions of live and live-to-tape studio and mobile productions. Students will utilize industry-standard broadcasting equipment including ENG cameras, steady-cams, live switchers, instant replay, and wireless technology.

AP Computer Science (Year 2 or 3)**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A-G Course / Weighted**

Prerequisite: Basic Programming 1A/1B, completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or teacher recommendation.

Description: This is an advanced placement course with instruction in the C++ language. This course prepares students to take the AP examination in Computer Science. Emphasis is on programming methodology, algorithms, and data structures. The College Board syllabus for Advanced Placement Computer Science will be followed.

CTE/ Culinary Arts

Poly High School has a fully functional restaurant style kitchen that students have the opportunity to take classes in while learning from a trained Chef. Upon successful completion of the three year program students have the skills required to gain employment in the restaurant or food service industry. Students obtain a food handler certification as part of the class.

Culinary Art (Year 1)**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Description: This course exposes students to the skills of safety, sanitation, measurement and recipe conversions. Instruction includes; food safety, sanitation, and meal management. This course provides introduction objectives in food preparation, storage and service.

Advanced Culinary Art (Year 2)**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12**

Prerequisite: Culinary Art

Description: This course prepares students with entry-level skills that will enable them to seek employment in institutional, commercial or independently owned food establishments or other food and hospitality industry occupations. Instruction includes topics such as safety and sanitation; side work and customer orders; use of commercial equipment, and cash handling skills. Students will develop these skills in a campus-based restaurant or catering environment.

Culinary Café (Year 3)**Lunchtime Culinary Café *must be concurrently enrolled in Culinary Café****Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: Advanced Culinary

Description: This course is designed as the lab portion of a full culinary arts program where students have the ability to demonstrate skills in food production and food service skills. Students will operate a campus run restaurant as a server, busser, dishwasher, line cook expeditor, cashier, and provide customer service. *Students enrolled in this course may also take additional 5 credits per semester which requires working in the campus restaurant during lunch.*

CTE/ Sports Medicine and Emergency Responder Electives

Poly High School's Sports Medicine program gives students the opportunity to learn from and work alongside certified Athletic Trainers and Emergency Responders.

First Responder/Emergency Medical Responder**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Description: This class will teach students to provide immediate care to an ill or injured person and train them to assist emergency medical services (EMS) providers. Instructional content area skills include the history of health care, EMS overview, CPR and first aid skills, patient assessment, legal and ethical issues, and triage and emergency responsibilities.

Sports Medicine**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Description: Students have the opportunity to prepare for jobs such as fitness/exercise assistant, physical therapy aide, or athletic trainer assistant. Students will learn anatomy and physiology, body mechanics, vital signs, first aid, nutrition, exercise physiology, injury care and maintenance, patient interaction skills, and use of equipment and techniques to aid patients in rehabilitation. Subject to an acceptable interview with a cooperating employer, students will train at a community location such as hospitals, clinics, sports/fitness facilities and convalescent care to practice and develop skills learned in the classroom.

Advanced Sports Medicine**Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Sports Therapy.

Description: This rigorous competency-based course will provide students with foundational concepts in anatomy and physiology and integrate hands-on training in the specialized fields of sports medicine, physical therapy and fitness instruction. Anatomy and physiology are utilized as the basic building blocks in understanding how the circle of care occurs within sports medicine. The human body has many intricate parts with coordinated functions that are maintained by a complex system of checks and balances. Understanding the structure and function of the human body allows individuals in sports medicine to utilize concepts that are mastered within the course to solve routine and non-routine problems. Students will be required to think critically, draw conclusions, investigate, and formulate a plan of action to determine a proper course of care and return the athlete safely to his or her activity.

Sports Medicine Lab**Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Sports Medicine/Advanced Sports Medicine

A curriculum based and on site educational program for students to develop their skills as a physical therapy aide, athletic trainer assistant, fitness instructor, medical, and sports equipment salesperson. The students will train at community locations to practice and develop the skills they have learned in the classroom. Subject matter will also include such items such as personal attitude, appropriate work habits, and professional appearance. The training program may be directed to meet the student's individual needs and interests, depending upon the community training site. Training sites will include high schools, junior colleges, and college athletic training programs, private health clubs, hospitals, and private physical therapy clinics. **this course is typically offered after school in order to allow students to access the community locations and after school athletic programs at Poly.*

School Service and Leadership Electives

ASB/Student Government

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Election or Appointment

Description: Student Government is a class designed for all members of the student council. The class provides a time during which the council meets and conducts its business. During the class, students are taught rules and procedures relating to the effective operation and organization of student government and the basic concepts of democratic government. Students are expected to put in time after school working on projects sponsored by executive council, such as dances, fundraisers, homecoming, and community services.

AVID Tutor

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: AVID Coordinator and Counselor approval.

Description: This course is designed for students who are designated to work with AVID students individually and in small groups in all academic areas. It is recommended that tutors are 11th or 12th graders enrolled in college preparatory programs.

Cross Age Tutor

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Teacher and Counselor approval

Description: This course is designed for students who are designated to work with students both individually and in small groups in all academic areas. It is recommended that tutors are 11th or 12th graders enrolled in college preparatory programs.

Link Crew/Student Mentors

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Application process, Link Crew Advisor approval.

Description: Link Crew/Student Mentors 1 is designed to teach students the skills necessary to become effective student mentors. These areas include: communication, decision-making, and problem solving skills; goal-setting; listening and tutoring techniques; strategies for cross-age support; reporting obligations; and seeking support from community service agencies. Topics covered include: alcohol, drug, and tobacco information; suicide intervention; stress management; understanding family issues; teen pregnancy; and sexually transmitted diseases. Student Mentors 1 is designed to teach the skills students need to work effectively with peers. Upper classmen are paired with groups of under classmen to provide support, guidance and assistance transitioning to high school.

Media Center Assistant

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Librarian and Counselor approval.

Description: This course provides an opportunity for students to learn basic library skills, including circulation procedures, book arrangement, use of card catalog, and the processing of book and non-book materials. Regular attendance and completion of assigned duties are essential. Student progress is evaluated on the basis of correct completion of duties, grades on assignments, and regular attendance.

Office Assistant

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Principal's Secretary and Counselor approval. **Description:** Students work under the direction of office personnel in completing tasks as assigned. The person for whom the student works assigns student tasks. These can include, but are not limited to, word-processing, answering the telephone, working at the counter or window in the various offices, and running errands.

School Newspaper/Journalism 2

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Journalism Teacher approval

Description: Journalism 2/Newspaper is an advanced course in journalistic writing that provides instruction in composition as well as experience in publication.

School Yearbook

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Yearbook Teacher approval

Description: Students work under the direction of the advisor and the student editors to produce their school yearbook. Staffers must meet all deadlines required by the contract in order for the yearbook to be received and distributed by the last week of classes in June. Students are required to spend extra time outside of class to meet deadlines.

Teacher's Assistant

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12

Prerequisite: Teacher and Counselor approval.

Description: Students work under the direction of a teacher. Student tasks may include, but are not limited to, completing paperwork, preparing documents, assisting other students, research, and running errands particular to the needs of the classroom.

Special Education Classes

Community Education

Prerequisite: Designation as a life skills student. **Description:** This elective course provides students enrolled in a non-diploma life skills program with direct instruction and actual experiences in shopping, eating in restaurants, using public transportation, and other community situations.

Independent Critical Skills (ICSM)

Prerequisite: Designation as a life skills student. **Description:** This elective course provides severely handicapped students with direct instruction and experience in those critical skills required for independent living as identified in the IEP.

Job Skills 1 and 2

Prerequisite: 12th grade and registration as a Department of Rehabilitation client

Description: These courses are designed to provide direct instruction in those skills required to be successful in the workplace. The Special Education Job Skills Class will provide skills students need to seek, apply for and keep a job as they relate to successful transition to a career path. Students will participate in on-going campus career exploration activities.

Recreational Education

Prerequisite: Designation as a life skills student. **Description:** This elective course provides students enrolled in a non-diploma life skills program with direct instruction and hands-on experiences in the areas of recreation and leisure-time activities.

Strategies for Success 9/10/11/12 (SFS)

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Description: The purpose of the course is to provide RSP students with one special education class to provide additional support in their general education (mainstream) classes. The students enrolled in this course have been identified through an IEP as needing RSP support in a variety of skill and academic areas. In addition to approximately 20 minutes of daily direct skills instruction in various learning strategies that students will use to complete assignments in academic classes (i.e., study skills, self-advocacy, and test-taking and organizational strategies), CAHSEE preparation and transition, students will receive additional support for their academic classes from their RSP teacher. The RSP teacher will pre-teach, re-teach and review concepts, model and teach strategies that give students tools to access and successfully complete the work required of them in general education classes. These strategies are designed to provide students with systematic procedures for completing common school tasks (i.e., projects, essays, daily assignments) to increase their academic success in general education classes. The RSP teacher will also work with the student to monitor student performance and upcoming or missing tests/assignments in general education classes.

Supervised Study

Description: These elective courses are designed to provide students with a structured environment for assistance with assignments, as well as to provide direct instruction in study skills and learning strategies.

Vocational Education

Prerequisite: Designation as a life skills student. **Description:** These elective courses are designed to provide students enrolled in a non-diploma life skills program with a variety of job-training opportunities.

Foreign Languages

French 1

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: This course is designed to present the language and culture of the French-speaking people. The focus is communication and comprehension through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These courses will develop in students an appreciation for and an understanding of other cultures, and will encourage them to continue exploration of foreign language.

French 2

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: French 1. **Description:** This course reviews and builds on French 1 work, enabling students to expand their communicative proficiency and their cultural awareness.

French 3

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: French 2. **Description:** This course reviews and extends communicative skills and cultural awareness developed in levels 1 and 2 of French. Increasing emphasis is given to conversation and vocabulary building, as well as to reading and writing.

French 3 Honors

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: French 1 and French 2 with an A or B, teacher recommendation. **Description:** This course will extend the regular course of study of French 3 through a more rigorous application of content. This application will be expanded through special projects, additional readings, compositions, and oral presentations.

AP French Language

Year / 10 credits / Grades 11-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: French 3/3 Honors with a grade of A or B, teacher recommendation. **Description:** This course provides advanced study for those students who have chosen to develop their proficiency in French without special emphasis in literature. The curriculum covers the equivalent of a third-year college course in composition and conversation. The content follows the Advanced Placement Course Description published by the College Entrance Examination Board. All coursework is conducted in French.

Spanish 1

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: This course is designed to present the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking people. The focus is communication and comprehension through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These courses will develop in students an appreciation for and an understanding of other cultures, and will encourage them to continue exploration of foreign language.

Native Spanish Speaker 2

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Students who speak Spanish in the home are encouraged to take this course (or a higher level) as their first year Spanish course.

Description: This course is designed for students who are enrolled in the English Language Arts core curriculum and are orally proficient in both Spanish and English. Students will extend the understanding of the formal conventions of the Spanish language in a meaningful context. Emphasis will be placed upon improving reading and writing in Spanish, as well as recognizing and refining skills in applying different types of discourse appropriately. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be placed in the appropriate level of Spanish based on student need and teacher recommendation.

Spanish 2

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Spanish 1.

Description: This course reviews and builds on Spanish 1 work, enabling students to expand their communicative proficiency and their cultural awareness.

Spanish 3

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Spanish 2.

Description: This course reviews and extends communicative skills and cultural awareness developed in levels 1 and 2 of Spanish. Increasing emphasis is given to conversation and vocabulary building, as well as to reading and writing.

Spanish 3 Honors

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 with an A or B, teacher recommendation.

Description: This course will extend the regular course of study of Spanish 3 through a more rigorous application of content. This application will be expanded through special projects, additional readings, compositions, and oral presentations.

AP Spanish Language

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Spanish 3/3 Honors with a grade of A or B, teacher recommendation.

Description: This course provides advanced study for those students who have chosen to develop their proficiency in Spanish without special emphasis in literature. The curriculum covers the equivalent of a third-year college course in composition and conversation. The content follows the Advanced Placement Course Description published by the College Entrance Examination Board. All coursework is conducted in Spanish.

AP Spanish Literature

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Spanish 3/3 Honors with a grade of A or B, teacher recommendation.

Description: This course provides advanced study for those students who have chosen to develop their proficiency in Spanish with a special emphasis on literature. The content follows the Advanced Placement course description published by the College Entrance Examination Board. All coursework is conducted in Spanish.

Performing Arts (VAPA)

Marching Band and Instrument Courses

Marching Band

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Try out/Audition **Description:** Marching Band provides instruction for all marching units, including Band, Drill Team, and Color Guard. During the fall semester precision drills marching routines are covered with special emphasis on half time and parade routines. This class is intended to include all members of the Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. Rehearsals and performances are scheduled outside of school and are co-curricular. **Each semester of this course satisfies a semester of required Physical Education credit.*

Students participating in the Marching Band program are also concurrently enrolled in one of the following classes:

Color Guard/Pageantry

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Try out/Audition and concurrent enrollment in the Marching Band program **Description:** This course is designed to provide instruction for an auxiliary unit to Marching Band. Precision drills and marching routines are covered with special emphasis on half time and parade routines. Each semester of this course satisfies a semester of required Physical Education credit. **Concurrent enrollment in P.E. or Marching Band will result in elective credit for this course. * Class is held during 7th period daily.*

Instrumental Techniques

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Try out/Audition and concurrent enrollment in the Marching Band program. **Description:** This course will teach the beginning student how to play an instrument and will provide an opportunity for intermediate or advanced students to improve their ability on their instruments. The course will primarily consist of individual help and assigned practice time. Some large instruments are furnished, but students are generally expected to provide their own instruments.

Jazz Ensemble

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Try out/Audition and concurrent enrollment in the Marching Band program

Description: This course will teach the beginning student how to play an instrument and will provide an opportunity for the intermediate or advanced student to improve his or her ability on the instrument. This course will provide individual help and assigned practice time. Some large instruments are furnished, but most students are expected to provide their own instruments. Six-string acoustical guitar may also be taught in this class.

Symphonic Winds

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Try out/Audition and concurrent enrollment in the Marching Band program

Description: This course will emphasize all aspects of music at an advanced level, specifically as it applies to instrumental, technical, and aesthetic development. It is designed specifically for the advanced high school instrumental musician who is more advanced than Concert Band, but not yet ready for Wind Ensemble.

Wind Ensemble/Wind Ensemble Honors

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Try out/Audition and concurrent enrollment in the Marching Band program

Description: Wind Ensemble is designed for the advanced player and only the most serious music students should consider this course.

Wind Ensemble Honors emphasizes all aspects of music at an accelerated pace and at an advanced level, specifically as it applies to instrumental, technical, and aesthetic development.

Choir, Music and Music Technology Classes

Chamber Singers

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: This advanced course is designed for students who demonstrate outstanding ability in vocal music and desire a more intensive study of great choral literature from the Renaissance to the present. **Rehearsals and performances outside the regular school day are scheduled.*

Chorus

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: This is a course for the student who likes to sing and wants to study the art of vocal music. Although designed for the student who has a little or no previous experience, the course may include students on an intermediate level. Emphasis is on reading music, beginning vocal production, theory, and the study of composers. **Rehearsals and performances outside the regular school day may be scheduled.*

Concert Choir

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: This course provides an opportunity for students to develop music skills and to increase musical understanding. **Rehearsals and performances outside the school day are scheduled.*

Music Technology 1

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: This yearlong course will introduce students to music and help them to develop a creative outlet and means for artistic expression. Students will develop technological and creative skills as they learn music theory, how to compose using technologically enhanced methods, and recording techniques using industry standard software and equipment. Students will produce original compositions, arrangements and compilations.

Music Technology 2

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Music Technology 1

Description: Music Technology 2 is an advanced study of the theories and skills learned in Music Technology 1. Students will continue to produce original compositions, arrangements and compilations.

AP Music Theory

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted

Prerequisite: Musical capability and instructor recommendation

Description: The ultimate goal of the Music Theory Advanced Placement course is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. The achievement of this goal may be best promoted by integrated approaches to the student's development of aural skills through listening exercises, sight-singing skills through performance exercises, written skills through dictation exercises, compositional skills through creative exercises, and analytical skills through music analyses. This course will prepare students to take the AP Music Theory examination administered by The College Board.

Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Description: An advanced course that offers instruction in the performance of jazz and popular music and is designed for the advanced singer. Rehearsals and performances outside the school day as scheduled.

Orchestra Classes

Orchestra
Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
 Prerequisite: Try out/Audition
Description: Orchestra provides group instruction and practice on various orchestral instruments. Some larger instruments are furnished, but most students are generally expected to provide their own.

Orchestra Advanced
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12
 Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Orchestra.
Description: Advanced Orchestra provides group instruction and practice on various orchestral instruments. Some larger instruments are furnished, but most students are generally expected to provide their own.

Orchestra Honors
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
 Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Orchestra Advanced.
Description: Honors Orchestra is designed to challenge instrumentalists who are committed to the pursuit of excellence on their chosen string instruments. Their high performance proficiency level will allow them to perform more advanced music than is required in the high school orchestra. An exit exam will be required at the end of the academic year.

Theatre Classes

Technical Theatre 1/2
Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
Description: Technical Theatre 1/2 focuses on the development of the basic skills and concept of theatrical design and production. Through various processes (reading, writing, lecture, demonstration, hands-on activities and technology) students will achieve a basic level of proficiency and understanding of the cultural, historical, creative and aesthetic aspects of technical theatre. **some evening and after school participation may be required*

Technical Theatre 3/4
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12
 Prerequisite: a grade of C or higher in Technical Theatre 1/2
Description: Technical Theatre 3/4 is a course for the student interested in exploring skills and careers in the production and managerial arts industry. Students will deepen their knowledge in basic lighting theory and practice, basic set construction techniques, basic sound theory and practice, theatre management principles, and costumes and prop theory and practices, and begin to design in this area. Theatre 2 students will begin to supervise their student crews and be responsible for the design and execution of an individual technical design area. Students will be building sets, hanging and focusing lights, choosing music and editing sound files, and applying all other design fields in support of the educational productions in the Performing Arts Department. **some evening and after school participation may be required*

Theatre Arts 1/2
Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
Description: Theatre Arts 1 concentrates on the development of fundamental acting skills and basic creative and imaginative processes. Participation in classroom assignments and memorization work are required. Areas of study may include stage gestures, movement, individual and group pantomime, improvisation, blocking and presentation of scenes from plays, diction, vocal projection, reading and critiquing dramatic literature, and evaluating and critiquing acting on stage, film and television. Theatre Arts 2 focuses on development of skills needed to present effectively and creatively a monologue or scene from a play. Participation in classroom assignments and memorization work are required. Areas of study may include review, practice, and extension of skills learned in Theatre Arts 1 as well as ensemble acting, relaxation, concentration, believability, motivation, vocal variety and rhythms, movement and gesture, and the elimination of unconscious habits that distract the audience.

Theatre Arts 3/4
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
 Prerequisite: a grade of C or higher in Theatre 1/2 or teacher recommendation
Description: Theatre Arts 3 concentrates on the creation of characterizations using skills and techniques learned in Theatre Arts 1 and 2. The main body of course work will center on the rehearsal and presentation of scenes, one-act plays, and/or full-length plays. Areas of study may include various styles of acting, discussion and practice of the concept of empathy, character analysis and motivation. Further expansion of previously learned skills and techniques such as memorization, concentration, believability, movement, gestures, vocal variety, diction and projection will be continued. Some work may also include non-acting areas, such as costumes, props, set design and construction, lighting and sound, make-up, box office management, and audience behavior. Theatre Arts 4 will continue the work in development of characterization introduced in Theatre Arts 1 and begin the development of student appreciation for theatre as an art and literary form. Areas of study will include those studies in Theatre Arts 2, acquainting the student with the theatre as both an aesthetic and literary means of expression, instilling an appreciation of the problems of a theatre artist, helping students acquire ease and poise in public presentations and cultivating appreciative and knowledgeable audience behavior and response to theatrical productions.

Advanced Theatre
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
 Prerequisite: Theatre 3/4 or teacher recommendation
Description: Advanced Theatre Arts involves advanced work in acting, building on the skills and techniques developed in previous course work, and will encourage the development of effective creative expression and leadership ability in theatre arts. Areas of study may include advanced work in characterization, motivation and character analysis, stage movement and gestures, use of voice and body in theatrical production. Students may encounter detailed problems in acting and directing and perform as student directors, stage managers, leading actors or coordinators of major areas of production. Students may attempt more complicated characterizations for performance, develop sound knowledge of production techniques, and represent school at competitions, festivals and other public performances. **After school and/or evening rehearsals and performances may be scheduled.*

Musical Theatre
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12
 Prerequisite: Instructor approval/Try out
Description: This yearlong course is to provide a focused and specialized investigation into the genre of musical theatre with public performance as a final result and scholarship in the earlier portion of the class. This tightly focused investigation will allow increased rigor and an authentic experience for the student actor who wishes to sing and dance in a dramatic context. This course is designed to provide students with a set of skills required of beginning musical theatre performers, such as breathing techniques, common vocal exercises, basic dance positions and steps, scene study, stage mechanics and physical training from a variety of theorists. Along with the skills sets studied, students will explore musicals from different stages in American musical theatre.

Visual Arts (VAPCA)

Art and Ceramics Classes (continued on last page.....)

Art Design 1/2
Year / 10 credits / Grades 9-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
Description: Art Design 1/2 offers basic applications of the elements and principles of art as applied to three-dimensional projects. Through basic design projects, students will develop aesthetic awareness, as well as demonstrate knowledge of basic skills. Students will work in a variety of media. Students will be introduced to the cultural and historical heritage of three-dimensional art. The second semester expands on basic principles and elements taught in the first semester. Students will increase their knowledge, abilities, and craftsmanship in a variety of three-dimensional media. Both vocational and cultural information will be introduced in greater depth.

Art Design 3/4
Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course
 Prerequisite: a grade of C or higher in Art Design 1/2
Description: Art Design 3/4 The first semester will increase the skills and interest of those students who show exceptional abilities in three-dimensional design. Students may wish to specialize in various content and media areas. Self-analysis and critiques of work will be emphasized. Students' interest in other artists and the cultural heritage of three-dimensional works will be encouraged to expand their own aesthetic awareness. In the second semester, students will expand and isolate specific skills and interests. Students will specialize in specific content and media that each student investigates independently. Students will be required to justify their work through both historical and contemporary works that influence their ideas. Students will increase their abilities to self-analyze not only their own work, but the work of their peers. In depth critiques and one-on-one discussions will be conducted periodically throughout the course strengthening each student's concept and aesthetic awareness of art.

Visual Arts (VAPCA)

Art and Ceramics Classes

AP Art History

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course / Weighted

Description: This is two-semester course for college bound students. The central questions in this course include the following: What is art and how is it made? Why and how does art change? How do we describe our thinking about art? Through these essential questions, students explore the big ideas of AP Art History, effectively and precisely articulating an artwork's meaning and function, its maker's methodology, and the ways it reflects and affects its historical and cultural context. With these core questions as the foundation, this course is organized into ten cultural/chronological units, emphasizing daily practice of questioning techniques, methods of discussion, analytical paradigms, guided discovery, and independent learning. These enable our students to develop critical thinking and visual literacy skills with which they can mine meaning from any artwork they encounter throughout their lives. This course is equal to a college course in art history. Students prepare to take the Advanced Placement examination in Art History.

AP Studio Art – 2D (Art Design) **possibly coming in the 2016-2017 school year*

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Art Design 3/4 or consent of the instructor

Description: AP Studio Art 2D portfolios are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. AP Studio Art 2D portfolios are reviewed by college, university and secondary school art instructors using rigorous standards. This class is intended to address two-dimensional (2-D) design issues. Students are asked to demonstrate mastery of 2-D design through any two-dimensional medium or process, including but not limited to, graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, weaving, illustration, painting, and printmaking. Video clips, DVDs, CDs, and three-dimensional works may not be submitted. AP Studio Art 2D is not based on a written exam; instead students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. Students may earn college credit for a passing score on their submitted portfolio. The AP Program is a cooperative endeavor that helps high school students complete college-level courses and permits colleges to evaluate, acknowledge, and encourage that accomplishment through the granting of appropriate credit and placement.

Ceramics 1/2

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

**9th grade enrollment may be limited*

Description: Ceramics 1/2 is a one-year basic class to develop students' skills in ceramics. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of ceramic techniques, thereby expanding their artistic knowledge and skills. Students will be introduced to historical and cultural ceramic heritage, as well as to basic concepts in aesthetic perception. The second semester continues to develop basic techniques explored in Semester 1. Expanded individuality and craftsmanship will be stressed in all projects. Students will continue to study historical and cultural heritage as well as aesthetic perception.

Ceramics 3/4

Year / 10 credits / Grades 10-12 / UC Approved A—G Course

Prerequisite: Ceramics 1/2 or instructor approval **Description:** Ceramics 3/4 is an advanced class that allows the serious visual arts student to continue to refine their skills, explore new techniques and investigate areas of personal interest. Students design and build complex three-dimensional forms/sculptures using a variety of methods that demonstrate an advanced understanding of the principles of design and the elements of art. Students incorporate various cultural and historical styles, motifs, and techniques in their work. Students continue to further expand and refine their aesthetic sensibilities by critiquing, analyzing and responding to various works of art, including their own work. Students develop a greater understanding of the relationship between the visual arts and other curricular areas as well as the connection between creative and career skills.

