

HOOSAC SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG 2020 – 2021

English

Our approach to the study of English is threefold. Our curriculum seeks to develop the student's ability to think, speak and write through the practices of critical reading and literary analysis, discussion and public speaking, and various modes of writing. Students are placed in English courses that best serve their academic and intellectual needs based on diagnostic writing samples as well as a meticulous assessment of the student's reading and writing experience to-date. Because we tailor our teaching to the specific needs and strengths of the individual student, the English classroom at Hoosac is often a place where the less confident student first overcomes the belief that he or she cannot learn to write. Yet, it is that same commitment to individual attention that often allows the more advanced student to begin to overcome persistent obstacles in the development of his or her writing.

Outside of the classroom as well, the English Department is a vital and active part of academic and creative life at Hoosac, regularly organizing events such as the annual school-wide oratory contest, essay contests, and student-faculty creative writing workshops. The English Department at Hoosac also, twice yearly, oversees the production of a student literary magazine, guides our student-run Peer Writing Assistance Program, and hosts regular guest speakers and guest led workshops. In addition to our work within Hoosac, membership in various professional organizations has allowed us a greater presence in the larger academic community, opportunities for professional development in our field and a means of staying informed of current issues in college preparatory English education.

The Literary Experience 1 cr. Year Course

This is a required course for students in Form III. The Literary Experience provides an introduction to discussing and writing about literature. More specifically, the course guides students through the literary experience from the pre-critical to the analytical and evaluative. Along with intensive training in standard grammar and mechanics, students learn to use several methods of composition including expository, descriptive, persuasive and narrative.

Literary Genres 1 cr. Year Course

A required course for Form IV, Literary Genres develops composition skills and expands reading skills and tastes. Students review the principles of grammar and mechanics with special emphasis on structure, transitions, unity and clarity, as well as beginning to make use of more sophisticated rhetorical and stylistic tools. They refine their literary skills as they study vocabulary and evaluate literary nuances that differentiate the genres of poetry, drama and narrative. Speaking and listening skills receive attention in many classroom activities.

Traditions in American Literature 1 cr. Year Course

This is a required course for Form V. The survey course follows the rise of a unique national identity throughout its literature. This class traces the development of American literature from its Puritan roots through the beginnings of Modernity in the early 20th century. The introduction of literary history helps the student understand how literature was not only shaped by historical events, but also helped to shape those events. Students write a variety of papers, record their thoughts and interpretations in journals, and make many class presentations.

Traditions in British Literature 1 cr. Year Course

This course is designed to prepare the VIth Form student for the reading, writing and research demands they will experience in their college work. The course traces English Literature from its Anglo-Saxon roots through modernity and also introduces students to the myriad cultural and philosophical ideas that accompany the evolution of English literature. Students continue to advance their writing and speaking with the continued practice of various modes of composition as well as a variety of individual and group presentations.

AP Literature and Composition 1 cr. Year Course

Prerequisite: Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

Our approach in the AP Curriculum is threefold. We engage in the experience of literature (emotional and pre-critical responses), the interpretation of literature (using critical analysis to arrive at the multiple meanings of a work), and the evaluation of literature (determining a piece's cultural and social significance.) This class is recommended only for students prepared and willing to complete copious amounts of reading and writing throughout the school year. Essays will be assigned weekly and will reflect the level of rigor set by the College Board. All students will take the AP Examination in Literature and Composition in May.

AP Language and Composition 1 cr. Year Course

Prerequisite: Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text from many disciplines and historical periods.

Academic Writing 1 credit Year Long

Academic Writing provides intensive instruction in all phases of the writing process, including pre-writing, research, writing, revision and publication. The first trimester provides a grounding in grammar, mechanics, style and diction. While continuing to develop stylistic control and argumentation techniques, the second half of the course introduces students to seven essay paradigms: description, the personal narrative, the compare-contrast essay, the cause and effect essay, analysis, classification, and the definition essay. Students also regularly engage in peer editing work intended to teach them to constructively critique the work of their fellow students as well as their own. Throughout the year, supplemental readings provide students with diverse examples of various forms of published writing.

ELL

The First Year ELL Program includes: Each course is yearlong and 1 credit

Language Fundamentals: Focuses on basic sentence construction, emphasizing grammar, vocabulary, spelling and composition. Basic grammar is presented in interesting contexts that are relevant to students' lives and then recycles the language and context throughout each activity. Learners gain knowledge and skills in both language and contextual subject matter. The course will also develop speaking and pronunciation skills.

Language and American Culture: focuses on enriching vocabulary and knowledge of culture through American literature and history.

Environmental Science: offers students adaptive instruction in environmental science while building English proficiency. Lessons cover topics in life, earth and physical science, using a highly visual approach to develop necessary skills, foster comprehension of key concepts and develop the student's mastery of academic language. The curriculum is specifically designed to help build language and communication skills through hands-on activities.

Survey of American History I: explores the History of the American continents from indigenous and colonial beginnings through the post-Civil War reconstruction period, from approximately 1600-1890. The course emphasizes the role of the Americas in the commerce and politics of the trans-Atlantic world, the westward expansion of the United States, and the political and social consequences of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil War. Students learn vocabulary and sentence structure that is appropriate to analyzing and writing about history.

The Second Year ELL Program includes: Each course is yearlong and 1 credit

Language Arts focuses on sentence structure and paragraph composition. Increasingly complex grammatical constructions are presented in various topical contexts. Students will practice analyzing and writing compound sentences and sentences with subordinate clauses. Students will learn complex verb tenses, including the present and past perfect, as well as active and passive voices. Students will continue to develop their speaking and pronunciation skills.

Applied language skills in American Literature Course: students continue to enrich vocabulary and knowledge of culture focusing on developing language skills through the examination and analysis of American Literature. Students will be tasked with writing essays, participation in class discussion and giving oral presentations.

Natural world Course: engages students through academic readings on stimulating topics from the fields of natural science and biology. Topics include the water cycle, plant and animal life, and the human body. Students develop important skills such as reading for the main idea, reading for speed, understanding vocabulary in context and note-taking. By completing writing assignments, students build academic writing skills and incorporate what they have learned. The listening component focuses on developing student's listening and discussion skills.

Survey of American History Course II: continues students' study of American history from the previous year. Modern American History traces the development of the social, political and economic institutions of the United States from the onset of the Gilded Age in approximately 1890 to the close of the 20th century. Topics include progressive era reforms, the Great Depression, the World Wars and their impact on the United States, the Cold War, the civil rights movement and the rise of contemporary American culture.

The Third Year ELL Program Year Course 1 credit

Language and the Humanities: The third year of the ELL curriculum serves as a bridge between the ELL curriculum and coursework designed for native English speakers. It also prepares students for the TOEFL exam, an important step in the college admissions process for ELL students. Language and the Humanities utilizes a variety of authentic, non-adaptive texts, both fiction and non-fiction, to facilitate reading and writing practice. Students are asked to read, write, critique and revise as they would in a native English classroom. Advanced grammatical structures, such as defining and non-defining clauses, participle phrases and reported speech are emphasized.

History

World Cultures: Year Course 1 credit II and III forms

This course presents a survey of major cultural regions and their historic development in the world. There is a particular emphasis of western civilization. The major political, economic, social, cultural and religious institutions of each region are studied in relation to historical themes. In this course students will analyze the unique ways in which different civilizations have satisfied similar wants and needs.

Early American History: Year Course 1 credit

This course presents a survey of the foundation and development of the United States of America. In this course the strands of citizenship, history, geography and economics are woven into the student knowledge base. The students are also given numerous opportunities to develop and sharpen their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Major topics of the course include the

Exploration/Colonization, the American Revolution, Constitutional Government, Westward Expansion, and the Growth of Democracy, States Rights and Slavery.

Modern European History: Year Course 1 credit

This is the last component of the study of World History. This course picks up where World Cultures left off, after the French Revolution. This class will examine the following materials: international order and diplomacy, communism, fascism, Third World problems, international economics, international terrorism, religious fundamentalism and other contemporary issues. This class will examine how to write a research paper and how to cite materials for a research paper. Students will be required write a research paper as a final project of this course.

Modern U.S. History and Government: Year Course 1 credit V or VI Form

This is the last component of the study of U.S. History. This course picks up where Early American History left off, at the beginning of the Civil War. Students will examine reconstruction, the role of national government, WWI and isolationism, WWII, becoming a world power, suburbanization/immigration, reform/rights movements, issues of communism and Cold War. This course will have a required Research Paper.

Latin American History: Year Course 1 credit

A general introduction to the civilizations, populations, economies, societies and politics of Latin America. This class will investigate all the different advances of civilization often not explored in other high school classes. Students will be able to determine why each civilization developed as it did and the great discoveries each country created. Finally, students should be able to determine the role Europe played in the development of modern Latin America.

Race, Reparations and Reform: Year Course 1 credit

This course will survey the social and political contours of African American campaigns to secure restitution in the United States. This course will take a look at social justice, reconciliation and the political economy. It will examine the differing strategies that African Americans have devised historically to secure land, and educational and voter protection in the United States. The course will also explore how social scientists and public policymakers have framed the issue of restitution throughout United States history.

AP United States History 1 credit Year Course

Prerequisite: Permission from the Dean of Academics

AP US History is a rigorous, college level course examining the social, economic and political history of the United States. Attention will be given to multiple perspectives, including those of historically marginalized groups. Students will be responsible for keeping and organizing notes from a college level textbook. These will be supplemented by primary source materials including decisions by the Supreme Court, political speeches, public and personal documents, and literary texts. Students will take the SAT II in U.S. History and may also choose to take the AP Exam.

Honors European History 1 credit Year Course

Prerequisite: Permission from the Dean of Academics

AP European History focuses on developing students' abilities to think conceptually about European history from approximately 1450 to the present and apply historical thinking skills as they learn about the past. Five themes of equal importance — interaction of Europe and the world, poverty and prosperity, objective knowledge and subjective visions, states and other institutions of power, and individual and society — provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation throughout the course. These require students to reason historically about continuity and change over time and make comparisons among various historical developments in different times and places.

Science

Earth Science: 1 credit Year Course

Earth Science is an introductory science course touching on topics such as geology, oceanography, weather, earthquakes and volcanoes. Hands-on projects that require basic Earth Science is an introductory science course touching on topics such as geology and laboratory skills, make this course fun as well as educational.

Environmental Science: 1 credit Year Course

At Hoosac, Environmental Science will show the connection between science, technology and society. Students will apply prior scientific knowledge to current environmental issues, and will become better-informed people in society and decision-makers. Students will relate global, national and local issues to concepts they learn in the environmental science classroom.

Physical Science: 1 credit Year Course

At Hoosac, Physical Science is a laboratory science course, which consists of one semester of introductory level Chemistry and one semester of introductory Physics which is structured to teach and utilize the scientific method and metric measurements in all units. Emphasis is placed on inquiry-style learning and development of skills such as observing, inferring, data collecting and graphing.

Biology: 1 credit Year Course

The secrets of life are revealed through class and laboratory work in Biology. There is special emphasis on cellular structure and function, life processes and genetics and heredity. Current events in Biology are also an important part of this course.

Chemistry: 1 credit Year Course

This is a year-long laboratory course with a concentration in Chemistry fundamentals.

Physics: 1 credit Year Course

The Physics program will emphasize some of the most important concepts while drawing examples whenever possible from modern phenomena and everyday experiences. Students will learn to see Physics as a part of their surroundings.

AP Biology: 1 credit Year Course

Prerequisite: Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

AP Biology is designed for students with exceptional abilities and high achievement levels. This course involves lecture-discussion, presentations and laboratory activities. The course includes interrelationships of living organisms, levels of biological organization, human biology, social implications, biochemistry, ecology and genetics. Extensive laboratory work and problem solving are essential components.

AP Physics: 1 credit Year Course

Prerequisite: Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of Physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits.

AP Chemistry: 1 credit Year Course

Prerequisite: Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

The AP Chemistry Course at Hoosac will cover concepts known as the big ideas. These concepts are as follows:

Big Idea 1: The chemical elements are fundamental building materials of matter, and all matter can be understood in terms of arrangements of atoms. These atoms retain their identity in chemical reactions.

Big Idea 2: Chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and the arrangement of atoms, ions, or molecules and the forces between them.

Big Idea 3: Changes in matter involve the rearrangement and/or reorganization of atoms and/or the transfer of electrons.

Big Idea 4: Rates of chemical reactions are determined by the details of the molecular collisions.

Big Idea 5: The laws of thermodynamics describe the essential role of energy and explain and predict the direction of changes in matter.

Big Idea 6: Any bond or intermolecular attraction that can be formed can be broken. These two processes are in a dynamic competition, sensitive to initial conditions and external perturbations.

Mathematics

Pre- Algebra: Year Course 1 credit

Pre-Algebra is a preparation course for the study of Algebra I. This course may serve as either a course in remediation or for the reinforcement. It strengthens skills and re-teaches concepts and computational skills necessary for the successful study of a course in Algebra I.

Integrated Math: Year Course 1 credit

This course is designed for the student who needs a little more support and a slower paced class. This course will cover most intermediate algebra skills and will also include introductory topics in Geometry. Real world applications will be used to help the students understand how and why math works. This course will give students the foundation for math they will need to be successful in the future.

Algebra 1: Year Course 1 credit

Algebra 1 topics include recognizing and developing patterns using tables, graphs and equations. In addition, students will explore operations on algebraic expressions, apply mathematical properties to algebraic equations. Students will solve problems using equations, graphs and tables to investigate linear relationships.

Algebra 2: Year Course 1 credit

Algebra 2 is a continuation of mathematics that includes the study of more complex forms of functions that involve inequalities, absolute values, quadratic equations, circles and ellipses and some trigonometry.

Geometry: Year Course 1 credit

Some of the topics covered in this course are plane and solid geometry, triangles, polygons, parallel lines, angles and their measures, and the calculation of area, surface area, and volume of two and three dimensional figures. Formal proofs and applied problems are used in the exploration of these topics.

Advanced Algebra: Year Course 1 credit

College Algebra includes fundamental topics covered in Algebra 2 with a more careful look at the mathematical details and a greater emphasis on the concept of function. It covers quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions, equations and inequalities; the use of matrices and determinants in solving linear systems of equations, solving non-linear systems; sequences and series.

Precalculus: Year Course 1 credit

This course will cover the following topics in an effort to prepare students for Calculus; polynomial, rational, root, inverse, exponential and logarithmic functions, analytical geometry, matrices, trigonometric functions and their applications and sequences and series.

Precalculus (Honors): Year Course 1 credit.

Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

This is a faster paced version of Precalculus that also includes limits, derivatives and integrals.

Statistics: Year Course 1 credit

This course will cover frequency distributions, central tendency, variation, probability, binomial distributions, hypothesis testing, correlation and regressions. Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Geometry

AP Calculus AB: Year Course 1 credit.

Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

This Calculus course is designed for the advanced math student who has successfully completed courses through Precalculus. Topics include derivatives and their rules and applications, integrals and their applications, vectors, partial derivatives, multiple integrals and vector calculus.

AP Calculus BC: Year Course 1 credit.

Approval by the Dean of Academics and course instructor

Calculus BC includes all of the topics covered in Calculus AB, as well as convergence tests for series, the use of parametric equations, polar functions, including arc length in polar coordinates, calculating curve length in parametric and function equations, integration by parts, improper integrals, differential equations for logistic growth, and using partial fractions to integrate rational functions, models, and the use of interactive computer models.

Linear Algebra: Year Course 1 credit

The principal topics of Linear Algebra include vectors, matrices, determinants, linear transformations, eigenvalues, eigenvectors, real vector spaces, proofs, and selected applications. This is usually taken as a sophomore year in college.

Business**Financial Management: Year Course 1 credit**

This course is about financial issues of our times. Several of these issues are usually thought of as being inherently noneconomic. Others provide illustrations of the core of economic science. Many are controversial and thus are likely to evoke noneconomic reactions to what we have to say. However, the one feature that ties all of the issues together is that they illustrate the power of economics in explaining the world around us.

Marketing: Year Course 1 credit

This is an introductory marketing class designed for business-minded students interested in knowing the secrets to business success. This course will provide a basic understanding of the fundamental marketing process with an emphasis toward competing in a free enterprise system. Major components consist of marketing principles, product development, pricing, channel management and sales promotion.

Business Math: Year Course 1 Credit

In this course, we will be discussing and practicing the practical mathematical skills necessary to succeed in modern business study and practice. The aim of this course is to prepare students with the skills necessary to complete meaningful mathematical analysis and computation to better understand and function in a modern business environment. Because of the diversity of skills, one needs to command in the modern business world, students will develop a deeper understanding of the following subjects, including;

Arithmetic

Algebra

Calculating checking accounts

Calculating simple and compounding interest

Calculating and devising payroll

Calculating consumer and business credit

Calculating revenue

Calculating mortgages

Media Industries: Year Course 1 Credit

The overall goal of this class is to foster media literacy, defined as our ability to critically analyze and evaluate media messages. In order to pursue this goal, the class will focus on a series of historical moments that defined the role played by various media industries not only in the United States but also within the broader international context. We will analyze the effects that different modes of media financing – the free market vs. the non-profit mechanism - have on the content of our newspapers, magazines, books, television, radio and movies. We will point out the ways in which various media actively shape, and at the same time, reflect the changing social and cultural values of our society. Ultimately, we will ask whether we can still talk about mass communication at a time when more and more people rely on personalized social websites or smartphones for their contact with the outside world.

Other Required Courses

Ethics

Ethics is a year-long course which VI Formers must successfully complete as a requirement for graduation. The study of Ethics at Hoosac School examines from both theoretical and practical points of view a basic question: what is the good? Throughout the year, we evaluate both religious and secular ethical theories beginning with Plato and Aristotle, and progressing through classical Eastern and Western writings on morality, including Hun Tzu, Nietzsche, Aquinas, Locke, Mill, Hume, Kant, among others. The course is seminar-based in form and includes frequent written work and examinations as well as class presentations.

Ethics: Year Course 1 credit

This course is an introduction to many of the moral and ethical questions that serve as the cornerstone of western intellectual tradition. Through the preparation of primary and supplemental readings, group discussion and analysis of those readings, and many essays and class presentations, students will begin to learn to navigate the richly complex world of morality and, in the process, become acquainted with the major schools of Ethical thought including Contractualism, Egoism, Hedonism, Naturalism, Existentialism, Kantianism, and Utilitarianism.

Health: Course ½ credit

The Health class is designed to meet the required criteria as set by New York State Department of Education. It is designed to give the student a better understanding of the factors affecting their health, both emotionally and physically.

The Hoosac Visual Arts Program

All students are encouraged to study the visual arts. Hoosac's visual arts program is designed to provide students with meaningful opportunities to investigate fine arts and art history, as well as how art teaches about world cultures. Students experience a variety of media - both traditional and non-traditional - as well as approaches to using technology as an artistic tool. Students taking art courses will be challenged in ways that will help them develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills as well as artistic, technical and aesthetic sensibilities. Studies have shown that students who study the arts score considerably higher on standardized exams such as the SAT and ACT. Critiques accompany each unit of study and provide students an opportunity to exhibit, discuss, and write about their work. Studio Art is a pre-requisite for all of Hoosac's art classes except Art History/Contemporary Art/Art of Global Cultures/Visiting Artist Seminar. All of the course offerings are recommended for students working towards the Advanced Studio Art/Portfolio class.

Studio Art: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

This is a comprehensive foundation course. It is for those who want to broaden their understanding and appreciation of the visual arts and develop art skills. Experiences in this course include varieties of drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media incorporating elements of art, principles of design, and connections to art history and culture. Studio Art is the prerequisite course for all other Visual Arts electives.

Drawing and Painting/Two Dimensional Art: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

This elective teaches drawing and painting techniques that are broad in scope and meant to challenge the student's ability as well as build upon skills introduced in Studio Art. Once students have developed a strong understanding of how to work in a variety of media such as pencil, watercolor, ink and acrylic paint, they will use that knowledge to create art inspired by different themes.

Printmaking/ Two Dimensional Art: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

Printmaking is a course designed to teach students ways of exploring the many facets of making prints that lead to exciting graphic designs. This class will examine the processes involved to create monoprints, lino-cuts, woodcuts and more. Students will learn to create designs with an emphasis on positive and negative space, learn to transpose their designs onto different types of plates, and also practice the inking process in order to use different printing processes. In addition, students will explore how to work with variations of finished prints through multiple color solutions.

Mixed Media: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

In this course, students will explore a variety of materials and techniques, with a particular focus on traditional and non-traditional materials and techniques, and combining them into cohesive, original works of art that stem from two and three-dimensional design, drawing and painting methods while expanding on the Elements of Art & Principles of Design. Students will explore both abstraction and realism, while experimenting with texture, shallow relief, collage and assemblage, and incorporating the elements of art and principles of design.

Sculpture /Three Dimensional Design: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

This elective gives students the opportunity to create works of art in three dimensions. The course will cover a wide variety of styles. Students will learn techniques such as additive and subtractive techniques, assemblage and carving. Students will discover sculptural aspects such as the human figure, abstract form, site-specific, environmental and kinetic art. Projects will be historically based as well as spontaneous, giving students a wide variety of sculptural experiences.

Digital Art/Photography: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

This elective introduces the student to the use of the computer as an artistic tool. Students will learn to use photography as a form of self-expression, personal vision and communication. While it is important for students to learn the technical aspects of photography, this course focuses on integrating elements and principles of design, as learned in previous coursework, in order to create strong photographs. Technical areas covered in the course include how to work in black and white and in color, with light and shadow, space, composition and subject matter, and how to use Adobe Photoshop both to improve image quality and to significantly alter images. The course also includes creating original digital images.

Graphic & Advertising Design (Digital and Traditional): Trimester Course 1/3 credit

In this course, students will develop aesthetic criteria to create and apply the principles of design to the field of advertising and graphic design. Students will use traditional media and computer hardware, software and supporting technologies to communicate ideas visually. Students use a variety of media to explore concepts and techniques, from the academic and structured to the experimental and nontraditional. Career opportunities in the arts and arts-related fields will be explored.

Advanced Studio Art/Portfolio Development: Year course 1 credit

Permission from the Dean of Academics and course Instructor

This course is intended for the highly motivated and dedicated student who is able to assume responsibility, work independently and is interested in the serious study of Art. The portfolio covers a wide range of art forms. Students will have the opportunity to take a challenging hands-on art course, and develop a portfolio that can be used to support acceptance into college (academic colleges as well as art schools). The course is open to students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art and who have previous art training.

It is a rigorous course that encourages students to achieve at high levels. Excellence is every Advanced Studio Art/Portfolio student's goal. Each student is challenged to think for her/himself, to develop a personal style and to search for original, inventive answers to problems set out by the teacher and by the individual student. The ability to analyze a problem and solve it with original ideas drawn from personal experience (artistic, academic and life) is stressed.

Students create works that incorporate past art experiences with new ones. Technique, skill, media, visual elements and ideas are integrated into each work the student creates. Though enrollment in the course assumes that the student has already developed fairly high level technical skills, further development of these skills, building new ones, and a more in-depth experimentation and exploration of ideas, art forms, approaches, materials and techniques are encouraged.

Creating original works of art is the major portion of the course, but constant evaluation and critical assessment of the student's and others artwork is equally important. Learning experiences in this course address three major concerns that are constants in teaching art: a sense of quality in the student's work, the student's concentration on and intense exploration of a specific visual problem, and the student's need for a breadth of experience in the formal, technical and expressive aspects of creating art. Students create works that incorporate past art experiences with new ones. Technique, skill, media, visual elements and ideas are integrated into each work the student creates.

Music Department

Music Performance Workshop: Trimester Course or Year Course

In this music class, students have the time to work individually on practicing an instrument and/or singing. Given the wide range of ability levels, the expectations and goals are tailored to the specific interests of the student. Eventually, every student will be able to participate in a group performance, even if they are complete beginners. Music theory and ear training are also included as needed.

Other Year-Long Courses:

Psychology: Year Course 1 credit

The aim of the course is to familiarize students with a wide range of theories and research investigating human behavior. The course has been developed to be as interesting and challenging as possible. The objective is to explore how the science of psychology has contributed to an understanding of individual, social and cultural diversity.

Ancient Mythology: Year Course 1 credit

Ancient Mythology will explore and examine the myths of ancient civilizations, particularly those of Greece and Rome, through the close reading of original sources as well as modern theory and scholarship. Students will work to gain a critical understanding of mythology in relation to ancient cultural values, social mores, and religious beliefs that can also be applied to modern narratives. In class, analytical thinking and creative discussion are essential to discovering the structure and importance of mythology and why it has had such a lasting influence on today's society.

Theater Arts: Year Course 1 credit

In this course, students will focus on reading and performing dramatic works ranging from ancient Greek tragedy, to Shakespeare, to contemporary humor. Throughout this course, all areas of the theater and the various skills needed to produce and stage a production will be covered: acting, directing, backstage, set design, costuming, lighting and sound, playwriting and dramaturgy. Students will frequently work in groups or independently to present scenes or monologues in class; additionally, school-wide performances will be organized and scheduled accordingly.

Fundamentals of Acting: Trimester Course 1/3 credit

Fundamentals of Acting is a course which encompasses a broad range of competencies, such as speech, liberal and performing arts, and theater theory. It aims to form an understanding of what art is in its broad and narrow senses, familiarize learners with an actor's process, in particular character and text analysis, teach them the core acting concepts as seen and employed by major theater practitioners, and give them an opportunity of self-discovery and self-expression.

Trimester Electives

Some electives may not be offered every trimester or year. All courses listed here are 1/3 credit.

Horticulture

Computer: Graphic Design

Computer: Video Production

Dramatics: Play Production

Dramatics: Stagecraft and Design

Observational Astronomy

Wood Shop

SUCCESS

SUCCESS is a special tutorial which meets in groups of 1-3 students. Each SUCCESS student is assisted by their tutor in work preparation, development of personal study skills, and homework planning. The tutor will act as a liaison with other instructors in planning and designing systems of study which can enable the student to meet with success, eventually becoming mainstreamed in a regular course of study without tutorial assistance. This program is only available to students who have enrolled in the SUCCESS PROGRAM having made arrangements with the Admission Office

Graduation Requirements:

English 4 credits

Mathematics 3 credits

Science 3 credits

History 3 credits (one must be American or US History)

Ethics 1 credit

Health ½ credit

Fine Arts 2 credits

Foreign Language 2 credits

Electives 5 credits