

Merit College Preparatory
Academy



9-12 Grade
Course Descriptions
2019 – 2020

This course description booklet can help you plan your classes for the coming year. In order for you to fully understand the expectations of each class, please read each description carefully.

Parents, teachers, and counselors can help you plan next year's program of study. Select the courses you wish to take, as well as the courses you need to take for your grade level.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of Merit College Preparatory Academy not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or disabilities in its programs, services, activities, admissions, access, treatment or employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

Civil rights compliance inquiries related to Merit College Preparatory Academy may be directed to Jesse Meeks, Director, 1440 W. Center Street, Springville, Utah, 84663, 801-491-7600.

Merit Academy Graduation Requirements

Language Arts - 4.0 - Three courses from the following Foundation Courses **plus** one CREDIT from the Applied and Advanced list

Foundation Courses	Applied and Advanced Courses
English 9 or English 9 H English 10 or English 10 H English 11 or English 11 H English 12 or English 12 H AP Literature and Composition**	Basic Reading Skills Creative Writing 1 & 2 Mythology Adolescent Adult Literature Debate and Speech World Languages 3, 4, or AP English 1010 (UVU CE)** English 2010 (UVU CE)**

Language Arts Notes: ** These courses can also be used for the one credit in Applied and Advanced.

Mathematics - 3.0 - Secondary I, II, and III. Secondary III or Secondary IIIH can be replaced by an Applied or Advanced Course with written parent request. **We recommend 4 years of math in the Foundation Course sequences for college preparedness.**

Math Intervention: students who earn an F in a math class and/or receive a 1 or 2 on Rise or Aspire Plus testing and/or by teacher recommendation will be transferred into Math Intervention. This transfer will take place mid year or at the beginning of a new year. This course will take a student back to Pre-Algebra and fill in learning gaps so they can return to foundation courses.

Foundation Courses	Advanced Courses - require Secondary Math III as a prerequisite								
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Secondary I</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Secondary IH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary II</td> <td>Secondary IIH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary III</td> <td>Secondary IIIH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>College Prep</td> <td>AP Calculus</td> </tr> </table>	Secondary I	Secondary IH	Secondary II	Secondary IIH	Secondary III	Secondary IIIH	College Prep	AP Calculus	AP Calculus AB College Prep Concurrent Enrollment* 1030 - Basic Quantitative Literacy, 1040 - Elementary Introduction to Statistical Reasoning, 1050 - College Algebra (like Secondary IIIH - or precalculus)
Secondary I	Secondary IH								
Secondary II	Secondary IIH								
Secondary III	Secondary IIIH								
College Prep	AP Calculus								
	Applied Courses: Computer Programming Introductory Statistics								

Science - 3.0 - A total of **2.0** credits from two of the five areas of science on the Foundation Courses (**Biology is required**) list **plus 1.0** credit from the Foundation Courses list or Applied and Advanced Courses list

Foundation Courses		
Earth Systems Earth systems Biological Science Biology AP Biology Biology 1010 CE*	Chemistry Chemistry AP Chemistry Computer Science AP Computer Science+ Computer Science Principles+ Computer Programming III+	Physics Physics Physics with Technology+ AP Physics
Applied or Advanced Courses		
Astronomy** Astronomy 1040 CE* Geology 1700-Fundamentals of GPS/GIS Navigation CE* Engineering Principles + 1, 2 Robotics + 1, 2	+CTE Courses ** Include Applied/Advanced CE Courses	

Investigation Science
 Investigation Science Demo
 Marine Biology
 Wildlife Biology
 Zoology

Social Studies - 3.0 from the following: 2.5 from the required course list (or their equivalent) and .5 elective from any course from the social studies area, which could include an additional half credit added to any of the required half-credit courses. Students must pass the Civics Exam to graduate from Merit.

Foundation Courses

World Civilization/Geography	US History 2 - 11th	U.S. Government and Citizenship - 12th
Geography - 9th World Civilization - 10th	US History 2 HIST 2700 HIST 2710 CE*	US Government and Citizenship Political Science 1100 CE*

Social Studies Elective Courses

Psychology
 Sociology
 Social Psychology
 Early World Wars
 Late World Wars and Terrorism
 Student Government
 Economics Elective CE*
 Geography 1300 Elective CE*
 History 1500 Elective CE*
 Political Science Elective CE*
 Sociology 1010 CE*

Fine Arts - 1.5 credits from the following:

Stagecraft	Beginning Orchestra
Theater Performance	Intermediate Orchestra
Musical Performance	Advanced Orchestra
Theater Foundations	Ukulele I, II
Dance Company	Guitar I, II, III
Dance I, II, III	Modern Piano
Hip Hop	Jazz Band
Beginning Ballroom Dance I	Art Foundations I, II
Ballroom Dance II	Drawing I, II
Art 1010 CE*	Painting
Theater 1010 CE*	Ceramics I, II
Theater 1013 CE*	3D Design
Theater 1023 CE*	Independent Art
Music 1030 CE*	AP Art

Physical Education and Health Education - 2.0 credits from the following:		
Participation Skills (.5 credit required) Health (.5 credit required) Team Sports (.25 credit per season up to .5 maximum credit will fulfill participation skills or Individual Lifetime Activities) Health 9th	Fitness for Life (.5 credit required) Fitness for Life 10th	Individualized Lifetime Activities (.5 credit required) Individual Lifetime Activities Team Sports (.25 credit per season up to .5 maximum credit will fulfill participation skills or Individual Lifetime Activities) Kickboxing Weights and Conditioning Ballroom Dance - per board approval Hip Hop Dance - per board approval Dance 1, 2, 3 - per board approval Dance Conditioning - per board approval
CTE (Career and Technical Education) - 1.0 credit from the following:		
Woodshop Robotics I, II Keyboarding Programming I, II TV Broadcasting AP Computer Science Management 1250 CE*		
Digital Studies - .5 credit from the following:		
Exploring Computer Science Web Page Design		
Financial Literacy - .5 credit from the following:		
Financial Literacy Business 1210 CE*		
General Electives - Need 8.5 credits		
Ameritus Service Knights German I, II, III Spanish I, II, III Mandarin Chinese I, II Student Government Game Theory Explore Lab Entrepreneurship Hip Hop Ballroom Dance Social Media T.V. Broadcasting Philosophy 205G CE* Humanities 2010 CE* Humanities 1010 CE* Criminal Law 1330 CE* Communications 1500 CE* Communications 2110 CE* HFST 1500-Lifespan Development CE* Business 1600-Entrepreneurship Seminar CE* NURP 1000-Medical Terminology CE* Aviation Science 1010 CE* Human Development 1500 CE* Psychology 1010 CE*		
Note: Any other credit bearing courses from any subject area not being used for a specific graduation requirement will count as electives.		

Total Credits Required For Graduation: 27

College Bound Preparedness Recommendations:

Take 2 to 4 years consecutively of the same foreign language in grades 9-12.

Take 3 to 4 years of lab based science.

Take 4 years of progressive math.

Take 3.5 credits of social sciences.

Take AP courses and earn a B grade or higher.

Prepare for the ACT Test and strategize to get your best score.

Apply for scholarships.

Fill out your FAFSA form as soon as possible your senior year.

Online Classes:

Students can take up to 6 credits each year online and still graduate through Merit.

F Grades:

When you earn an F grade in a class you may retake the class. Some F grades may be expunged and others will be averaged into the transcript.

Home School Transfer Credit:

Course work must show mastery of the curriculum and be evaluated by the curriculum committee to receive credit and grades; there may be additional examinations required beyond the coursework to show mastery. For a course to be evaluated by Merit it must be taught on campus by a faculty member currently employed at Merit or evaluated by a faculty member currently employed at Merit who has an endorsement in the course area. There will be a course evaluation fee. Final decision and grade award must be approved by administration.

Graduation Exceptions:

Exceptions to the listed requirements must be approved by the counselors and administration or follows: Students must submit a petition, in writing, to the graduation committee for consideration. The petition must be submitted before May 1st of graduation year. Decisions of the graduation committee are final and will be returned to the applicant in written form. Approved exceptions to the prescribed graduation requirements will be the exception and not the rule.

English Courses

English 9

Students will study a variety of genres of literature in order to become competent readers of both fiction and nonfiction. The 9th grade curriculum will include literature that will help strengthen core values and encourage students to discover ways to make a positive difference in the world. Students will engage in classroom discussions and group presentations and projects that will allow them to learn and grow from each other's unique insights and ideas. Students will write often and work to produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 9**

English 9 Honors

Pre-requisite: (Teacher recommendation or approval)

Follows the same curriculum as English 9, but requires more writing and in-depth analysis of the works of literature covered during the year.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 9**

English 10

In 10th grade English, we focus on helping students become college-ready in the areas of reading, writing, vocabulary acquisition, speaking and critical thinking. Students will study a variety of thought-provoking literary works as they work to become competent readers of both fiction and nonfiction. They will write to persuade and inform and will engage in sustained research projects. They will participate in collaborative discussions and engage in a wide variety of fusion presentations that showcase their knowledge.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 10**

English 10 Honors

Pre-requisite: (Teacher recommendation or approval)

Honors English 10 follows the same curriculum as English 10, but requires more writing and in-depth analysis of the works of literature covered during the year.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 10**

English 11

The English 11 curriculum focuses on examining the connection between academic learning to real-life situations. This course helps students prepare for their post-high school lives, be it college or career. It builds on the skills acquired in English 10. English 11 focuses on reading and writing experiences that align with the Common Core standards for this age group. Vocabulary instruction offers young adults opportunities for reading comprehension by tackling challenging text. Writing moves to analysis and interpretation of multiple ideas and perspectives to extend thinking and demands a synthesis of ideas to form conclusions and recommend actions. Assignments range from traditional to Fusion/Project-based. This class is grammar intensive.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 11**

English 11 Honors

Pre-requisite- Teacher recommendation or approval

Honors English 11 follows the same curriculum as English 11, but requires more writing and in-depth analysis of the work of literature uncovered during the year.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 11**

English 12

In 12th grade English, we will—with some exceptions—treat this course like an upper-division college English course. There will be longer reading assignments and class discussions, with a number of essays, depending on the term, but there will be less ‘scaffolding’ (i.e., fewer daily assignments to prepare for bigger assignments). 12th grade English students will be required to do some of the same fusion assignments as the other English classes, but it will be assumed that students of 12th grade English already have the basic skills of critical literary analysis. The purpose of this English class is not only to reinforce these skills, but to give

students a sense of the “culture” of an upper-division college English class, which students are rarely exposed to in high school.
(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 12**

AP Literature and Composition

Pre-requisite: (Teacher recommendation or approval)

Our goal in this class is to learn a little about a lot of literature and history. We are looking for a dilettantish knowledge across history in the Western World and depth of analysis and evaluation for a few pieces of literature. We will be studying literature in a mostly chronological fashion. For each unit or movement, we will read and analyze poems, essays, speeches, and either a novel or drama with short stories as appropriate. You will be writing formal essays, annotating reading as well as AP practice exams. The purpose of this class is to prepare you to pass the A.P. Exam in May. Depending on the policy of the college, by earning a 3 or higher on the exam, you can often gain college credit. Most of all, this class is geared to help you think critically and communicate your ideas to others. This course satisfies the graduation requirement for either English 11 or 12.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Successful completion of this course satisfies the 1 credit graduation requirement that must be selected from the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board Approved English list.

Creative Writing I

English Elective

Creative Writing I is the introduction to Creative Writing course. Students in this class will be introduced to two main forms of Creative Writing - the personal essay and the short story. Students will have weekly short writing assignments and reading assignments to become better students of how the professionals do it. This class isn't for the faint of heart - we write every day! - but for any student looking to expand their writing skills, they will find this class to be very rewarding and worthwhile. You will leave with a portfolio of writing that you can be proud of.

(Semester Course – 0.5 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Successful completion of this course satisfies .50 credits toward the 1 credit graduation requirement that must be selected from the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board Approved English list.

Yearbook

English/Fine Arts Elective

This course not only satisfies an English elective credit, it can also serve as a resume builder for any design job. Students will learn Adobe InDesign, and design concepts such as symmetry vs. balance, line, color and Point of View. Students will also learn organization techniques in completing tasks that require much of it, and they will learn to meet real-world deadlines.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9- 12**

Successful completion of this course satisfies the 1 credit graduation requirement that must be selected from the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board Approved English list.

Mythology

Myths are traditional stories that have endured many years. Some of them work to makes sense of significant events, while others tell the stories of gods and goddesses, heroes and heroines. This course will focus on the myths of ancient Greece, King Arthur, and even modern myths (Star Wars, Marvel, DC) as a way of exploring the nature of myth and the function it plays for individuals, societies, and nations. During this course, students will read: The Epic of Gilgamesh, The Odyssey, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, and bits and pieces from other mythologies and texts, such as "Hero with a Thousand Faces," by Joseph Campbell. Students will work on a semester project; each student will select a world mythology, conduct research, craft a classroom workshop, and then teach the class their chosen mythology.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9- 12**

Successful completion of this course satisfies 0.50 credit graduation requirement that must be selected from the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board Approved English list.

Young Adult Literature

Are you a passionate reader? This is the class for you!

Did you used to be a passionate reader, but now reading is more of a chore? This is the class for you!

Are you a reluctant reader? This is the class for you!

The objective of this class is to reconnect you with the joy of reading. Over the course of the semester, we will explore a variety of reading genres including:

- Contemporary Realistic Fiction
- Adventure, Mystery and Humor
- Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror
- Historical Fiction
- Biography
- Nonfiction/Informational Texts
- Poetry, Drama, and Short Stories
- Comics, Graphic Novels, Picture Books, and Magazines

Readers will also have an opportunity to learn more about some of their favorite authors and, because part of the joy of reading is sharing what you have read with a reading community, we will also explore ways to connect with fellow readers via book talks, book blogs, reader reviews, literature circles, and book trailers.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Successful completion of this course satisfies the 1 credit graduation requirement that must be selected from the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board Approved English list.

Mathematics Courses

Secondary Mathematics I

The fundamental purpose of Mathematics I is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Mathematics 1 uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The final unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Summary: Relationships between Quantities, Linear and Exponential Relationships, Reasoning with Equations, Descriptive Statistics, Congruence, Proof, and Constructions, Connecting Algebra and Geometry through Coordinates (Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 9**

Secondary Mathematics I Honors

Pre-Requisite: Teacher Recommendation

Secondary Mathematics I Honors will cover all the same content as Secondary Math I with the addition of vector and matrix quantities.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 9**

Secondary Mathematics II

Pre-requisite: Secondary Math I

The fundamental purpose of Mathematics II is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Secondary Mathematics I as organized into 6 critical areas, or units. The need for extending the set of rational numbers arises and real and complex numbers are introduced so that all quadratic equations can be solved. The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods, including their use in making and evaluating decisions. The study of similarity leads to an understanding of right triangle trigonometry and connects to quadratics through Pythagorean relationships. Circles, with their quadratic algebraic representations, round out the course. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Summary: Relationships between Quantities, Linear and Exponential Relationships, Reasoning with Equations, Descriptive Statistics, Congruence, Proof, and Constructions, and Connecting Algebra and Geometry through Coordinates.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 10**

Secondary Mathematics II Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher Recommendation

Secondary Mathematics I Honors will cover all the same content as Secondary Math II with the addition of complex numbers, vectors, matrices, trigonometry, conic sections, and 3D shapes.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 10**

Secondary Mathematics III

Pre-requisite: Secondary Math II

It is in Secondary Math III that students pull together and apply the accumulation of learning that they have from their previous courses, with content grouped into four critical areas, organized into units. They apply methods from probability and statistics to draw inferences and conclusions from data. Students expand their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions. They expand their study of right triangles trigonometry to include general triangles. And, finally, students bring together all of their experiences with functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Summary: Inferences and Conclusions from Data, Polynomial, Rational, and Radical Relationships, Trigonometry of General Triangles, and Trigonometric Functions, and Mathematical Modeling.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 11**

Secondary Mathematics III Honors

Pre-requisite: Teacher Recommendation

Secondary Mathematics III Honors will cover the same content as Secondary Math III with the addition of being able to identify key features of rational functions, compose functions, function inverses, understand, find, and solve equations involving Trig. Functions, work with Polar and Cartesian coordinates, draw parametric graphs, and work with arithmetic & geometric series.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 11**

College Prep Math

Pre-requisite: Secondary Math III

College Prep Math reviews and extends concepts from Algebra 1 and Geometry to prepare students with the algebra skills and understanding needed for an entry level college algebra course. Throughout this course, students will make sense of problems, persevere in solving them, and understand how math relates to the “real world”.

Summary: Linear/quadratic equations, inequalities, polynomial/rational expressions, functions, radicals, complex numbers, exponents/logarithmic expressions, every day mathematical problems, conic section, data

(Full Year Course – 1.0) **Grade 12**

Can be used as a fourth-year math credit or can replace Secondary Math III (usually taken in 11th grade) if a parent/legal guardian has signed the opt-out form. This course is listed as one of the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board approved mathematics list.

Pre-Calculus

Pre-requisite: Secondary Math III

The main goal of Pre-calculus is for students to gain a deep understanding of the fundamental concepts and relationships of functions. Students will expand their knowledge of quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions to include power, polynomial, rational, piece-wise, and trigonometric functions. Students will investigate and explore mathematical ideas, develop multiple strategies for analyzing complex situations, and use graphing calculators and mathematical software to build understanding, make connections between representations, and provide support in solving problems. Students will analyze various representations of functions, sequences, and series. Students will analyze bivariate data and data distributions. Students will apply mathematical skills and make meaningful connections to life’s experiences. Pre-calculus is highly recommended preparation for students who plan to continue their formal education beyond high school.

Summary: Evaluate-Analyze-Solve Problems, Analyze Function Behavior, Use Algebraic-Spatial-Logical Reasoning to Solve Geometry and Measurement Problems, Probability, Statistics

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 12**

This course is listed as one of the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board approved mathematics list.

AP Calculus AB – The AP test is optional

Pre-requisite: Pre-calculus/Secondary Math III Honors

For students to be adequately prepared for the Calculus AB Exam, the topics in differential and integral calculus will be the focus. Students may take the AP Calculus exam for college credit or may take a college calculus course.

Summary: Students will work with functions represented in a variety of ways, define derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation, understand the meaning of the definite integral both as a limit of Riemann sums and as the net accumulation of change, use integrals to solve a variety of problems, understand the relationship between the derivative and the definite integral as expressed in both parts of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, communicate mathematics and explain solutions to problems both verbally and in written sentences, model a written description of a physical situation with a function, a differential equation, or an integral, use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions, determine the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement, and develop an appreciation of calculus as a coherent body of knowledge and as a human accomplishment.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 12**

This course is listed as one of the advanced and applied courses on the Utah State Board approved mathematics list.

Science Courses

Earth Systems

Students will learn about the materials which compose Earth, the rock cycle and types of rocks, Earth's resources, formation and movement of soil, glaciers, deserts, and alluvial landscapes, earthquakes, volcanoes, plate tectonics, mountain building, and geologic time. Topics including the ocean floor, seafloor sediments, waves, tides, and shoreline processes, characteristics of the atmosphere, precipitation, air pressure and wind, storms, climate, early astronomy, Earth-Moon-Sun interactions, and our Solar System are also presented. Students explore careers in Earth Science and learn about key scientists.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 9**

Biology

Biology is the study of living things and the interactions they have with their environments. This class aims to provide all students with the opportunity to gain an appreciation for asking the questions “how” and “why” in terms of the living world around them. It also aims to help students develop a love and desire for

lifelong learning and to connect the knowledge gained in the classroom to their lives outside as a responsible, contributing member of society.
(Full Year Course - 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

AP Biology

Pre-requisite- Teacher recommendation

The AP Biology course is designed to enable you to develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts in and across domains. The result will be readiness for the study of advanced topics in subsequent college courses — a goal of every AP course.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Chemistry

Pre-requisites: Must have completed Secondary Mathematics I with a B or better or completed Secondary Math II.

This one-year introductory course is designed for those students who exhibit interest in science and gives a general overview of the study of molecules and their interactions. Chemistry is an inquiry- based course that examines matter and the changes it undergoes. We will cover the essential topics to give you a firm foundation for classes you may take later and for the chemistry you experience in everyday life. The course will attempt to give you a deeper understanding of the scientific processes that go on around you and the interconnections among the sciences, technology, society, and the environment.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 10-12**

AP Chemistry

Pre-requisite: Must have taken Chemistry and completed Secondary Math II with a B or better

This course is an in-depth look into all the wonders of Chemistry, and continues building on the knowledge learned in Chemistry. Students will be able to take the AP Chemistry test for college credit at the end of the course. It fills a graduation requirement in science.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Physics

Pre-requisites: Must have completed Secondary Mathematics I with a B or better or completed Secondary Math II.

The Physics Core has three major concepts for the focus of instruction: (1) motion of objects, (2) forces acting on objects, and (3) energy. Physics students will design and perform experiments, and come to their own conclusions as they read, observe, compare, describe, infer, and draw conclusions. In this class, students will be designing, building and testing catapults, bridges, rockets, hot air balloons, and many more hands-on and engaging activities. Homework will be designed to further each students' understanding and mastery of concepts. Physics is not just for those who have traditionally succeeded in science, and it is not just for those who will choose science-related careers. In a world of rapidly expanding knowledge and technology, this class will help students gain the skills they will need to understand and function responsibly and successfully in the world.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

AP Physics

Pre-requisites: Must have taken Secondary Math II, with a B or better.

The AP Physics 1 Course will cover the topics of Kinematics, Gravitation, Momentum, Energy, Rotational Motion, Electrostatics, Electricity, and Waves. AP Physics 1 students will design and perform experiments, and come to their own conclusions as they read, observe, compare, describe, infer, and draw conclusions. In this class, students will be designing, building and testing using hands-on and engaging projects. Homework will be designed to further each students' understanding and mastery of concepts. AP Physics is for students who have demonstrated an interest and proficiency in physics.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Astronomy

Science Elective

Have you ever wondered what those dots in the sky really are? You may know them as stars, but what are they really!? Is there more out there than what we know? Are you curious about the unknown beyond Earth? What is the future of

mankind? Are Star Wars and Star Trek based on truths about space? If you have ever asked any of these questions, or you are just interested in space, then come take astronomy. We will delve into these questions and more as I guide you through the universe.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Successful completion of this course can be used as .50 credits of the 1 science elective credit required for graduation. Listed as one of science elective options on the Utah State Board Approved Science list.

Wildlife Biology

In wildlife biology, we will be getting familiar with the history and concepts behind conservation biology as well as learning about local conservation efforts while learning about the local Utah wildlife. After this class, students should be able to identify conservation concerns as well as research and come up with a wildlife conservation plan or project. Students will also be able to identify local plants and wildlife, and know how to get involved with local efforts. Ultimately, students will gain an appreciation for wildlife and for the efforts that go into protecting it.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Successful completion of this course can be used as .50 credits of the 1 science elective credit required for graduation. Listed as one of science elective options on the Utah State Board Approved Science list.

Investigation Science

Science Elective

Investigation Science teaches students the process scientists use to solve problems they encounter both in research and in the real world. Students will learn about spatial reasoning, how the brain processes information, and how to use that information. Students will study how problems were dealt with in the race for space, and will solve problems presented to them during the semester. Students will also learn that failing is a big part of succeeding. Come and be ready to have your brain challenged daily.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Successful completion of this course can be used as .50 credits of the 1 science elective credit required for graduation. Listed as one of science elective options on the Utah State Board Approved Science list.

Investigation Science-Demo I

Science Elective

Pre-requisites: Must have taken Chemistry or be currently enrolled.

Investigation Science-Science Demo Is an advanced, hands on, science lab.

Students learn to do chemical demonstrations, work with metals, and help set up and run laboratory experiments for the science classes.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 10-12**

Successful completion of this course can be used as the 1 science elective credit required for graduation. Listed as one of science elective options on the Utah State Board Approved Science list.

Human Physiology

Learn about the parts and systems of the human body, what they do, and how they all work together to help us function.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Successful completion of this course can be used as the 1 science elective credit required for graduation. Listed as one of science elective options on the Utah State Board Approved Science list.

Social Studies

World Civilizations

This course is a survey course of the major civilizations and their influence upon people of the world. The class will begin with the contributions of the ancient Greeks, Romans and Egyptian and move to other regions of the world including China, the Middle East, Northern Africa, Europe and the Americas. This course will also discuss the historical, economic and political influence of these civilizations on our world and their lasting impact on human activity. Students can also expect 2 research projects for this course. This course is taught in conjunction with Geography for Life so students should enroll in both classes for their 9th grade year.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grade 9**

Geography

The purpose of this course is to develop a better understanding of the physical and human characteristics of the world. Students will learn about and use Geographic information and technology to study the world. Students will also learn to value differences of other cultures as this course prepares students to participate in the world as a responsible global citizens. This course will begin with the fundamentals of geography focusing on basic Geography skills, the physical

impact of geography on people and the connections between countries and regions. Students will understand the five themes of geography (location, place movement, region, and human-environment interaction) and their impact on the people of the world. This course is taught in conjunction with World Civilizations so students should enroll in both classes for their 9th grade year.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grade 10**

U.S. History II

This course is designed to cover events in U.S. History from the era of the Civil War to present day. We will discuss the rich heritage our nation offers and develop a greater understanding of the social, political and economic changes that have affected our nation and influence us today. This course will begin with a review of the colonial experience, the birth and growth of the nation and the U.S.

Constitution and the impact of the Civil War. Then we will pick up in the late 19th century with the growth of industry and the progression to contemporary America.

(Year Long Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grade 11**

U.S. Government

This is a survey course of United States Government and Citizenship. The goal of this course is to inform and prepare students to be active and responsible citizens. Students will understand the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, the privileges and protections provided by the Constitution and the three branches of government. This course is designed to prepare and excite students to be part of our democratic society. It is recommended that students take this class during their senior year due to their proximity to voting and draft age. If possible, students will take a field trip to the Utah State Capitol.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grade 12**

AP U.S. History

Pre-requisite-Teacher recommendation

The AP U.S. History course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content learning objectives organized around seven themes, such as identity, peopling, and America in the world. In line with college and university U.S. history survey courses' increased focus on early and recent American history and decreased emphasis on other areas, the AP U.S.

History course expands on the history of the Americas from 1491 to 1607 and from 1980 to the present. It also allows teachers flexibility across nine different periods of U.S. history to teach topics of their choice in depth.

(Full Year Course -1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Psychology

Students will demonstrate a broad knowledge of the basic theoretical perspectives that guide psychological inquiry (biological, behavioral, cognitive, and sociocultural) and applying psychological principles to personal and social issues and problems.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

This course can be used as the additional .50 credit social studies elective needed for graduation.

Early World Wars

Early American wars covers the conflicts the United States was involved with from its founding of Jamestown through the 19th century. The class covers conflicts with Native Americans over the first 200 years of history, the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the Mexican-American War and the American Civil War.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

This course can be used as the additional .50 credit social studies elective needed for graduation.

Late World Wars and Terrorism

Contemporary American wars and terrorism covers the conflicts involving the United States during the last century beginning with the wars of imperialism, The course will cover continued conflicts between the U.S. and Native Americans, the Spanish American War and conflicts in central and south America. Emphasis will be given to WWI and WWII, and the Cold War fighting in Korea and Vietnam. Finally the course will end with a look at the war on terror and the impact of terrorism on the United States and around the world.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

This course can be used as the additional .50 credit social studies elective needed for graduation.

Directed Coursework

Financial Literacy

In this course students will be informed and prepared to be prudent managers of financial resources, enabling them to achieve long and short term financial goals and security. They will be engaged in establishing career goals that will provide adequate income and personal fulfillment, be able to demonstrate an understanding of personal financial planning and sound money management skills, and they will actively participate in and understand management of personal savings and investments. They will also learn to accept responsibility for and understand personal and societal consequences of financial decisions.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Exploring Computer Science

This class is a little bit of everything! Topics include: basic computer use including Microsoft Office (Excel), keyboard shortcuts, internet use, etc.; basic photo editing / graphic design (Photoshop, GIMP, etc.); basic web development; problem solving games and algorithm design; and basic programming / game making. This class welcomes all skill levels, especially those who feel like beginners when it comes to computers.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grade 9**

Ameritus Service Knights

This class is centered around the joy of service. Come have fun with us while we make a positive difference by serving in our homes, neighborhoods, school, community and the world! Possible focuses are: CERT (preparing for a crisis), school and community service projects, and humanitarian aid. We log our activities and put together a service resume at the end of the semester that will come in handy for future application and resumes.

(Semester Course – 0.5 Credits) **Grades 7-12**

Foreign Language

Spanish I

This is a beginning course in conversational Spanish. Listening, speaking, reading and writing will be taught with emphasis on oral proficiency.
(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Spanish II

Pre-requisite: Spanish I

This course is open to all students who have successfully completed Spanish 1. Listening, speaking, and the Spanish culture will be the primary emphasis of the course, with some reading and writing as well.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Spanish III

Pre-requisite: Spanish II

This is a course in advanced conversational Spanish. Students will learn to converse using more advanced vocabulary and grammatical skills including past, future, and subjunctive verb tenses. Students will also gain a deeper understanding of the culture.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

German I

In German I we will engage in the four basic skills of a language: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Holidays and cultural topics will be explored. We will also study about the German-speaking countries. Learning to pronounce the alphabet will be an ongoing task. The student will recognize and formulate basic sentence structures, express basic vocabulary pertaining to a variety of topics, understand simple written and oral directions.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

German II

Pre-requisite: German I

In German II the use of DEUTSCH HEUTE 2 and additional reading materials will develop your listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills quickly and efficiently as you continue to learn German. Clear and concise grammar explanations and plenty of opportunities to practice communicating allow you to progress rapidly.

Students will comprehend short reading selections, develop an appreciation for

similarities and differences of the German culture as compared to their own, and express ideas through the written word.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Fine Arts

Beginning Ballroom Dance

Ballroom 1 is a beginning level dance class that will cover the Fox Trot, Cha-cha, Country Swing Waltz, line dances, and the Swing. Students will have opportunities to create dances of their own and perform at the end of semester concert. Come join the fun!

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Dance I

Dance I is a beginning level dance class that will cover many styles of dance from contemporary, hip hop, and African, to jazz and ballet. Students will have opportunities to work in groups and create their own work, and work together as a class. Each semester includes performance opportunities at the school

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7–12**

Dance II

Pre-requisites: Dance I

Dance 2 is an intermediate level dance course. Students will build on skills learned in Dance 1, with a stronger emphasis on technique, and time space and energy.

Many different styles of dance will be learned including contemporary, hip hop, ballet, jazz, and cultural dance. There will be opportunities for students to perform throughout the year including sporting events and an end of year concert.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 8-12**

Dance III

Pre-requisites: Dance II, or teacher permission

Dance 3 is an advanced level class with an emphasis on choreography and continued emphasis on technique. Students will study choreographic design, and dance history. There will be many group projects and solo work. Performance opportunities will include Inspirations, sporting events, concerts, and assemblies. This class is a preparation for Dance Company.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Dance Company

Prerequisite: Audition Only

Merit Dance Company is the advanced level performing arm of the dance department. Students will have opportunities to choreograph and perform original dance pieces, learn new choreography from professional choreographers, and attend festivals with professional dancers and college faculty. Merit Dance Company will perform at assemblies, Inspirations, basketball games, State High School Dance Festival, Fall and Spring concerts, and other performance opportunities. Auditions will be held during the Spring and Fall semester. Full year commitment is required.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Hip Hop

Hip Hop class will expose students to the history of the dance genre, along with its various styles. We will be focusing on the understanding of the basic elements of dance- time, space, and energy through this dance medium. There will be opportunities to perform at the end of the semester concert, and other school activities.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Theater Costume Design

Pre-requisite: Teacher Recommendation

This class will explore the costume revolution and fashion throughout the ages. We will study each decade from Shakespearean to Modern expression through textile history. This will include hairstyles and accessories popular to each period. At the end of the semester we will perform a fashion show from the decades studied in class. Students will be required to present a costume they have designed. This can be done with a drawing, a sewn item or computer generated graphic.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 10-12**

Theater Craft

Pre-requisite: Teacher Recommendation

This class focuses on set design, set building, stage management and crew, lighting design and the business and technical aspects of a theater production. Students must attend a professional play during the semester and give technical observations from the production.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Theater Foundations I

This class discovers techniques for play writing, puppetry, characterization, improvisation, using voices and bodies effectively to tell a story on stage. This class will help students feel comfortable speaking in public, reading and writing play texts, and collaborating. The student will be required to attend a professional play during each semester. They will also discover the wonderful influence theater can have on the rest of their world.

(Semester Course - 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Making a Scene

Advanced theater. This is a Theater Class designed to refine skills previously learned. Students will select scenes, monologues, or musical pieces to develop and then perform at festival. Prerequisite: Theater Foundations. Audition only

(Semester Course - 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Musical Performance

Pre-Requisite: Audition

This class rehearses and performs a play during the 1st semester and a musical production during the second semester. Theater Company membership requires singing, acting and dancing skills. There will be after-school and occasional Saturday rehearsals required. This class is for the students who have auditioned and been cast in the play or musical during that semester.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Theater Performance

Pre-Requisite: Audition

The Focus of Theater Performance is to gain more experience and become a versatile performing artist. Students will be performing a drama/comedy play. The class also involves Duo-Acting, One Act Plays, challenging scene work, reading texts, monologues, practicing selected material. The student will be required to attend a professional play during each semester. They will also discover more about the wonderful influence theater can have on the rest of their world.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7- 12**

3D Design

This course is for the Middle School and High School Visual Arts Core Curriculum. 3-D Design provides an overview and introduction to fine crafts, their media, and the cultures they represent, including skills such as wood burning, basket weaving, jewelry making, and leather stamping. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skill, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7 - 12**

Art Foundations I

This is the required Junior High School Visual Arts Core course. It is designed to provide an overview of Visual Arts while studying a broad variety of art tools and materials through the use of art and design elements. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

(Semester Course -0.5 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Art Foundations II

This is an entry-level course for the High School Visual Arts Core Curriculum. It is designed to provide an overview and introduction to Visual Arts through studying a variety of art tools and materials. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Drawing I

This course is an intermediate course for the High School Visual Arts Core Curriculum. Drawing focuses on black and white or monochromatic rendering from life, pictures, masterworks, and imagination. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

(Semester Course – .50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Successful completion of Art Foundations II prior to taking this course is highly recommended, but not required.

AP Art

Pre-requisite: Teacher Recommendation

This is an advanced course for the High School Visual Arts Core Curriculum. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skill, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics. Students will complete projects to be included in their AP Art portfolio and will take the AP Art test for college credit if desired.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Ceramics II

This is a beginning course for the High School Visual Arts Core Curriculum. Ceramics develops basic skills in the creation of 3D forms and pottery from clays. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Jazz Band

Jazz Band is the advanced band course at Merit Academy. Students enrolling in this course should at least have 1 year experience on their instrument, have participated in Jazz Band last year, or get special approval from Mr. Buckley and Mr. Myler.

Students in Jazz Band will learn jazz harmony and theory, including scales and modes, instrument technique and jazz articulation, and basic piano skills including chord voicings. Students will actively listen to jazz and do ear training to improve connection between mind and instrument. All of this will be applied in performance, both through reading charts and improvising solos.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Advanced Orchestra

In Advanced Orchestra class, skilled string players participate in Merit Academy's Best in State award-winning ensemble, Symphonic Strings. This course provides opportunities to foster and refine musical expression through instrumental

performance, analytical/evaluative skills, and aesthetic judgment. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with fluency, the polishing of performance skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to experience the spontaneity of improvisation and the creative process of composition. Students will hone listening skills and increase their ability to analyze and critique music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Placement in Advanced Orchestra is by audition.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Intermediate Orchestra

In Intermediate Orchestra class, experienced student string players develop and refine their skills in the Merit Academy Concert Strings. This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play orchestral string instruments. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with increasing fluency, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to experience the spontaneity of improvisation and the creative process of composition. Students will heighten listening skills and increase their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Placement in Intermediate Orchestra is by audition.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Beginning Orchestra

In Beginning Orchestra class, we begin our journey toward string instrument mastery in the Merit Academy String Orchestra. This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play orchestral string instruments. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to experience the spontaneity of improvisation and the creative process of composition. Students will strengthen listening skills and their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given

to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Enrollment in Beginning Orchestra is open to all students, and students registered for this class will be given an instrument assignment (violin, viola, cello, or bass). They will need to rent or purchase a quality instrument based on their assignment before classes begin.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Band I

In Band 1, we begin our journey toward instrument mastery in the Merit Academy Wind Band. This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to experience the spontaneity of improvisation and the creative process of composing. Students will strengthen listening skills and their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Enrollment in Band I is open to all students, and students registered for this class will be given an instrument assignment (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or percussion). They will need to rent or purchase a quality instrument based on their assignment before classes begin.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Band II

In Band II class, experienced student band musicians develop and refine their skills in the Merit Academy Concert Band. This course further develops and refines core concepts and fundamentals of classic band literature introduced in Band I, and introduces the basics of jazz musicianship. Study includes the development of genre-appropriate style, the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with increasing fluency, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to experience the spontaneity of improvisation and the creative process of composition. They will heighten listening skills and increase their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music

experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Placement in Band II is by audition.
(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Guitar and Ukulele II

Building on the foundational skills developed in the Beginning class, this class provides dedicated musicians with a place to refine their skills, develop their abilities, and explore their creative potential. We will have the opportunity to create experiences in songwriting, recording, filming, music literacy, and ensemble playing.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Beginning Guitar

In this class, we'll strive for excellence as we play music in a wide variety of genres. We will have experiences in songwriting, ensemble playing, singing as we play (just like the pros do) and listening to recordings of the great musicians. We'll play melodies and chords to hits by stars like the Beatles, the Beach Boys, Elvis, and The Rolling Stones, as well as traditional folk songs and classical themes. Beginning Guitar is great for beginners AND for those who already play the instrument and want to take their music reading ability to the next level. It's also great for singers who want to develop their musicianship by learning to play an instrument.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Beginning Ukulele

In this class, we'll strive for excellence as we play music in a wide variety of genres. We will have experiences in songwriting, ensemble playing, singing as we play (just like the pros do) and listening to recordings of the great musicians. We'll play melodies and chords to hits by stars like the Beatles, Elvis, and Kermit the Frog, as well as traditional folk songs and classical themes. Beginning Ukulele is great for beginners AND for those who already play the instrument and want to take their music reading ability to the next level. It's also great for singers who want to develop their musicianship by learning to play an instrument.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Health and P.E.

Health

The goal of this course is to empower students to adopt a healthy lifestyle both today and in the future. Health II builds on prior knowledge from Health I and goes in depth to help students find more understanding about how their decisions can impact both themselves and others. This class is a project based class using including student input to help develop the curriculum specialized to their needs. Subjects that will be covered are: Nutrition, Physical Fitness, Stress/Depression, Bullying, Healthy Relationships, Child Development, Human reproduction, Surviving after High School and much more.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Fitness for Life

This course is an individualized course designed to give students the knowledge and skills necessary to self-assess, create, conduct, evaluate, and redesign personal fitness programs. Through participation, students learn to compare fitness benefits from a variety of individual and team activities. Knowledge of the relationship between proper nutrition and the benefits of a consistent fitness regimen, as well as how poor habits affect the body, is the common thread that runs through this course as students learn to create a lifestyle that includes physical activities and wellness.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 10-12**

Participation Skills

Instruction in physical education strives to develop healthy, responsible students who have the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to work together in groups, think critically, and participate in a variety of activities that lead to a lifelong healthy lifestyle. The Physical Education Core Curriculum utilizes appropriate instructional practices to develop competence and confidence in a variety of movement forms such as sports, dance, and recreational and physical fitness activities. The emphasis is on providing success and enjoyment for all students, and not just for those who are physically gifted. The Physical Education Core

represents a shift from a team sports-dominated program to a lifetime activity format with connections to community resources. Knowledge of the relationship between proper nutrition and the benefits of a consistent fitness regimen is the common thread running through the Physical Education Core.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Individual Lifetime Activities

Improved fitness is a goal of each Individual Lifetime Activities course. The curriculum provides diverse offerings to meet the individual needs of all students and to develop competency in up to three lifetime activities. Competency is defined as the ability to apply basic skills, strategies, and rules using standardized guidelines or rubrics.

Examples of activities which may be included, but not limited to, are golf, archery, bowling, weight training and conditioning, aerobics, walking, jogging, climbing, social dance, disc golf, tennis, disc football with no more than six members per team, in-line skating, biking, fishing, martial arts, and aquatics. Physical fitness and proper nutrition are emphasized as necessary for maintaining good health throughout life, and physical activity is taught as a means of reducing stress.

Assigned reading and writing assignments, which include activity journals and/or portfolios, broaden the physical education experience and contribute to the literacy of students.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Aerobics

Aerobics is a form of physical exercise that combines rhythmic aerobic exercise with stretching and strength training routines with the goal of improving all elements of fitness (flexibility, muscular strength, and cardiovascular fitness).

Activities will include Pilates, Zumba, Yoga, Running, Kickboxing, etc.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Kickboxing

Muay Thai or Thai Boxing is the national sport and cultural martial art of Thailand. It was developed several hundreds of years ago as a form of close-combat, and it is referred to as “The Art of Eight Limbs” because it makes use of punches, kicks, elbows and knee strikes. Each day will look like:

Dynamic warm ups or play an activity to warm up for the day.

Demonstrate combo #1 and then practice it with their partner for 1 round.

Demonstrate combo #2 and then practice it with their partner for 1 round.

End with a game that helps us practice the skills we learned.
(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Intensity

This is a crossfit/cardio/circuit training class where the main design is to get moving and have fun doing it. We will alternate activities that we do throughout the class to keep a fun variety to the different workouts we will be doing. This class will help get students fit in a fun way. All of the workouts will be explained to the students so that they understand how/what the point of the workout is.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 8-12**

Career and Technical Education

Engineering Technology

During your school career, you have learned mathematics, science, English, social studies, and various other subjects, but what can you do with this knowledge? With engineering technology, you will utilize the skills that have developed in previous classes to design, create, and solve problems that you are hired to solve. You will learn about safety, different materials, explore the impact of technological systems, processes, materials, and tools used to facilitate solutions to problems. Work with your team to solve these problems and build skills that will help you out of high school whether you choose to pursue a career or continue with your education in college. This class will count as a CTE credit and it is intended for 9-12. It is a semester long class. Come and explore the world of engineering and develop skills that will help you outside of school.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Robotics I

The first in a sequence of courses that prepares individuals with a lab-based, hands-on curriculum combining electrical, mechanical and engineering principles. Students will learn to design, build, program, and control robotic devices. A rigorous study and application of electrical concepts will include: sources of energy, electrical safety, use and identification of basic electronic components, sensors and actuators. Engineering concepts will include: mechanical design,

prototype development, design testing, programming, and proper engineer documentation.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Robotics II

The second in a sequence of courses that prepares individuals with a lab-based, hands-on curriculum combining electrical, mechanical and engineering principles. Students will learn to design, build, program, and control robotic devices. A rigorous study and application of electrical concepts will include: sources of energy, electrical safety, use and identification of basic electronic components, sensors and actuators. Engineering concepts will include: mechanical design, prototype development, design testing, programming, and proper engineer documentation.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Intro to IT

Information Technology is a growing field that covers various topics, including networking, hardware, ethical hacking, databases, programming, and web development. We will explore the Linux OS by using Raspberry Pis. This class is very similar to Exploring Computer Science in that we touch on many topics but this class is considered more technical and recommended for those who are already interested in technology and programming who want to explore many fields.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Web Development

Learn how to make websites! You will learn to code HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. This class is the perfect mix of creativity and problem solving. In addition to making websites, you will learn how the internet works and the proper use of it.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Advanced Web Development

Now that you know a bit about HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, it's time to explore the tools that professionals use for full-stack development. This includes learning front-end frameworks like jQuery or React.js and back-end (server side) languages

like PHP, Node.js, or Python. You and JavaScript will become close friends. You will also learn more about Search Engine Optimization and Content Management Systems such as WordPress. You will create a professional portfolio of your web projects in this class.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Programming 1

Learn the basics of programming and software development in Python. Topics include conditionals, loops, branching, and functions. At the end of the semester, you will get to make a small game using an engine such as Godot or Unity.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Programming 2

Learn object-oriented programming in C# and advanced game development strategies. The whole semester is spent making a game of your choice (in Unity) with small projects interspersed (Choose Your Own Adventure Game, Database, ChatBot, etc.).

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Woodworking

This is a beginning woodworking class where students will learn to apply technical knowledge and skills to lay out and shape stock; assemble projects; saw and sand projects; and stresses the safe use of a variety of hand and power tools and machinery. Due to limited classroom storage space, students will only be able to build small projects, but will have options for choosing what they want to build. They will also prepare for and take the State woodworking precision exam during the semester.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Photoshop

this course is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge and skills related to the graphic design industry. It is intended to serve as a starting point for several pathways, focusing in photoshop. Assignments

will cover the following areas: creative design & layout, typography, color, related software, and computer and professional skills.

(Semester Course - 0.50 Credit) **Grades 8-12**

Entrepreneurship

Care about your future? Wanna be your own boss someday? Does choosing your own lifestyle sound intriguing? Wanna be the most innovative person on your corporate team? You can; by learning the principles of Entrepreneurship & how they apply to YOUR LIFE. Entrepreneurship & Life Skills (ELS) course will open your minds to the possibilities YOU can & should seize. Participants will explore business & life principles, market forces, business news, the minds, ideas, successes & failures of top shelf entrepreneurs. High level participation is expected, encouraged & mentored. Our exploration tools will be our minds, imaginations, & mixed media; videos, text book, work book, activities, role playing & open discussions. You will be challenged to hone & use YOUR reason, logic, vision & wisdom to uncover the enlivening world of Entrepreneurship. And if you want it bad enough you can leave this course with all the tools required to create your own business.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Culinary Entrepreneurship

During this course students will be trained for career opportunities in the food service/culinary arts industry. students will have the opportunity to learn and practice safety and sanitation procedures, and to use and maintain commercial food service equipment. They will perform quality food preparation as it relates to catering, bakery, school, restaurant, hospitality, and fast food business operations. students will brainstorm, plan menus, learn cost effectiveness, analyze market food products. End results will be used to fund class culinary food field trips where they will gain real world culinary experiences.

(Full Year Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 11-12**

Photography

This course is an introduction to the field of commercial photography. This course will cover a number of basic concepts, including but not limited to: purchasing a digital camera; image capture; image editing; and image output. This course will also feature Adobe Photoshop, its features and use. These concepts will enable the student to be more knowledgeable and prepared to enter the field of commercial photography.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Other Electives

Basic Sewing

Students will learn basic machine operation, basic sewing techniques, and necessary tools and terminology to put together a full sewing kit. A humanitarian project will be completed.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Speech and debate

Speech and Debate with Mr. Wright is a fun and challenging class in which students will stretch themselves, face their fears, think deeply on important issues, learn to persuasively speak their opinions, and use their skills to compete in various competitions and events throughout the semester. Our world has no shortage of problems. Thankfully we live in a country that has always looked to its own people to determine the answers. We the People really do get to decide what our country will be. And that decision is made in the American free market of ideas. Those who can think deeply and speak persuasively are the ones who guide the discussion in our market of ideas. Students who take this class will be better prepared for higher education, business, and life in general, but most importantly, they will be the next generation of decision makers for our society.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Game Theory

This course will introduce you to the exciting world of Game Theory and Design! Hopefully, if you're in this class, you enjoy games already. Games can be very fun, exciting, and an enjoyable pastime. There are some willing to pay 10s if not 100s

of dollars for some games! While not everyone likes the same type of games, most people do find them enjoyable.

This class aims to not only explore games and gaming, but to help you towards creating a game of your own! We will be covering the basics of games, their purposes, types, etc., and explore them thoroughly. The second half of the class will focus on you collaborating with some of your classmates in creating several games of your own! If you apply what you learn well in the class, perhaps you can create the next popular game sold in stores everywhere!

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Student Leadership

Pre-requisite- Teacher Approval

Student government is a class for students seeking to develop leadership skills by serving their fellow students. Through activity planning, service projects, and leadership lectures, students will develop qualities that will improve their leadership abilities.

(Year Long Course – 1.0 Credit) **Grades 9-12**

Audio Engineering & Introduction To Singer/Songwriter

Learn how to produce music to be "radio ready" by using techniques in tracking, mic placement, signal flow, mixing and mastering that goes on in major Hollywood studios. If interested, take your singing to a whole new level by developing and training the ear and learning vocal techniques as you record your favorite songs. SINGING NOT REQUIRED to take the class.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Video Production & TV Broadcasting

Perform in front of the camera or work behind-the-scenes!.Create T.V. quality programs, promotional videos, commercials and documentaries. Learn hosting, writing, camera operating, editing and lighting for HDTV..

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Creating Youtube & Facebook Videos

Create interesting content to be used on a YOUTUBE channel or FACEBOOK. Explore marketing geared towards several social media platforms.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**

Musical Videos & Production

Produce music videos by performing as a band, vocal artist or instrumentalist. Develop skills in audio and visual productions including camera-work, audio engineering, storyboarding, setting, location and performance.

(Semester Course – 0.50 Credit) **Grades 7-12**