

2025-26

ISSUE 4

TCS

HIGH SCHOOL



THE
COTTONWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL
COLLEGE & CAREER HOMESTUDY

COURSE CATALOG

HIGH SCHOOL
BASICS

PROGRAM
INFORMATION

HIGH SCHOOL
FAMILY
RESOURCE

[The Cottonwood School Website](#)

TCS VISION

The Cottonwood School provides a flexible personalized learning experience, empowering families to tailor a program designed around the specific needs of each student. In collaboration with well qualified credentialed teachers, students engage in diverse and dynamic learning pathways and unparalleled enrichment opportunities to achieve personal and academic success.

TCS MISSION

The Cottonwood School develops the individual gifts of students to become critical thinkers, responsible citizens, and innovative leaders prepared for academic and real-life success in the 21st century.

CORE VALUES

The following three core values are what distinguish TCS from other schools:

Mentoring – to inspire students to forge their paths in the world

Passionate – to strive for excellence

Collaborative – to be active, engaging, and contributing team members

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

TECHNOLOGICALLY PROFICIENT

CRITICAL THINKERS

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS

RESPONSIBLE AND SELF-DIRECTED CITIZENS

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CTE Career Technical Education

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SUBJECT AREA	TCS	CSU/UC (A-G)
ENGLISH	30 credits	4 years
SOCIAL SCIENCE World History US History US Government Economics	10 Credits 10 Credits 5 Credits 5 Credits	2 years
MATHEMATICS (MUST INCLUDE ALGEBRA 1)	20 Credits	3 years (2 years algebra & 1 year geometry) 4 years recommended
LABORATORY SCIENCE Physical Science Life Science	10 Credits 10 Credits	2 years with lab 3 years recommended
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	10 Credits	1 year of same discipline
LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH		2 years of the same language 3 years recommended
COLLEGE PREPARATORY ELECTIVES	90 Credits	1 year
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED	200 Credits	

- High school graduation requirements are not the same as college admission requirements.
- All grades must be a 'C' or better to validate CSU/UC college admission standards
- If transferring, check local high school graduation requirements as graduation requirements will vary
- Contact your counselor if you have any questions

CONTACTS

[Jonas Heppner, Counselor](#)

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[Lindsey Romero, Counselor](#)

[Carey Brown, Curriculum](#)

OTHER RESOURCES

[Cottonwood Virtual High School](#)

[Concurrent Enrollment](#)

[NCAA](#)

*must be logged in to parent account

[Cottonwood College Prep Academy \(CCPA\) Course Catalog](#)

*Contact Lindsey Romero for more information

HIGH SCHOOL FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE

Use the link "HS High School Family Resource" in the bottom of each subject area page below to receive detailed information on courses including:

- Course Information
- Outline
- Instructional Program Offerings
- Curriculum Options:
 - Vendor, Cost, How to Order, Type of instruction

NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS

Newly Added Courses

AP Courses: [AP World History: Modern](#), [AP Government and Politics](#), [AP United States History](#), [AP English Language and Composition](#), [AP English Literature and Composition](#), [AP Psychology](#).

[CTE Reorganization: 6 Pathways](#)

Notices

Reach out to your Counselor for help planning your IGP

Highlights

Be sure to catch all the latest podcast episodes on Cottonwood Compass



WORLD HISTORY**Prerequisite:** N/A**Grade:** 10

World History is a course exploring the major turning points that shaped the modern world, from the late eighteenth century through the present, including the cause and course of the two world wars. It traces the rise of democratic ideas and develops an understanding of the historical roots of current world issues through the study of the influence of both ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, Judaism and Christianity on the development of Western political thought. Topics include the rise of democratic governments, political, social, and economic developments of the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and era of discovery, the growth of democracy and nationalism, the industrial revolution, and the two world wars. Postwar problems and recent developments will also be studied.

See AP World History: Modern

US HISTORY**Prerequisite:** World History**Grade:** 11

The US History course studies the major turning points in American history in the twentieth century, beginning with a review of the nation's beginnings and the impact of the Enlightenment on U.S. democratic ideals. Students will practice the skills of analyzing material, historical writing, developing historical arguments, and comparing and contrasting information as they study topics such as the emergence and impact of new technology and a corporate economy, including the social and cultural effects; the change in the ethnic composition of American society; the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. Students consider the major social problems of our time and trace their causes in historical events. They learn that the United States has served as a model for other nations and that the rights and freedoms we enjoy are not accidents, but the results of a defined set of political principles that are not always basic to citizens of other countries.

See AP United States History

ECONOMICS**Prerequisite:** Recommended US History:**Grade:** 12

In this course, students will be introduced to fundamental economic concepts that will enable them to successfully navigate economic issues as citizens, workers, consumers, business owners, and members of civic organizations. Students will also explore the complexities of the U.S. economy and will gain a working understanding of basic economic principles and concepts as they relate to the U.S. and global economy. Students will study the emergence and impact of the new technology and corporate economy as well as the social and cultural effects of this shift.

GOVERNMENT**Prerequisite:** Recommend US History**Grade:** 12

In this course, students will pursue a deeper knowledge of the institutions of American government and the philosophy behind the democratic form of government practiced in the United States. It will include the historical context from which the Constitution was founded and engage students in various projects to show mastery of the course content. Students will utilize skills and knowledge obtained in this course to participate in democratic, civic American life as thoughtful, responsible, and engaged citizens of their various communities.

See AP Government and Politics

ENGLISH 9**Prerequisite:** N/A**Grade:** 9

English 9 is divided into four units, covering multiple genres and writings throughout history and an end of course portfolio. Students will analyze and discuss a variety of classical, contemporary, and informational literature, as well as write argumentative, informative, and narrative essays. Students will have opportunities to interact with the texts and writings, with their peers and instructor in group settings (if available), and independently throughout the course. Students in English 9 should read a variety of rich texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. Students will also focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, conferencing, revising, and creating a final product.

[See English 9 Honors](#)

ENGLISH 10**Prerequisite:** English 9**Grade:** 10

English 10 is divided into four skill-based units, covering multiple genres and writings throughout history and an end of course portfolio. Students will analyze and discuss a variety of classical, contemporary, and informational literature, as well as write argumentative, informative and narrative essays. Students will have opportunities to interact with the texts and writings, with their peers and instructor in group settings (if available), and independently throughout the course. Students in English 10 should read a variety of rich texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. Students will also focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, conferencing, revising, and creating a final product.

[See English 10 Honors](#)

ENGLISH 11**Prerequisite:** English 10**Grade:** 11

English 11 is divided into 4 units covering a variety of literature and informational texts from colonial times to the 21st century and an end of course portfolio. This course will allow students to gain a focused understanding of American history and achieve critical insight into documents written by important voices from diverse cultural perspectives. Students will demonstrate their understanding through rhetorical and literary analysis in well-developed essays and multimedia presentations. Students will conduct critical research and evaluate sources for validity. Students will focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, editing, conferencing, and publishing a final product.

[See English 11 Honors](#)

[See AP English Language and Composition](#)

ENGLISH 12**Prerequisite:** English 11**Grade:** 12

English 12 is divided into four units, covering multiple genres and writings throughout history and an end of course portfolio. Students will analyze and discuss a variety of classical, contemporary, and informational literature from the Anglo-Saxon Period to the Modern Age. Students will write argumentative, analysis, informative, and narrative essays. Students will have opportunities to interact with the texts and writings, with their peers and instructor in group settings (if available), and independently throughout the course. Students in English 12 should read a variety of rich texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. Students will also focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, conferencing, revising, and creating a final product.

[See English 12 Honors](#)

[See AP English Literature and Composition](#)

PRE-ALGEBRA**Prerequisite:** N/A**Grade:** 9-11

Pre-Algebra is a year-long course that presents the major skills and concepts necessary for a student to prepare for high school algebra and higher-level math courses. Topics covered will include integers, number properties, rational numbers, order of operations, and basic equations, among others. Through this course, students will develop logical and analytical thinking skills that will allow them to gain and enhance problem solving abilities useful in all aspects of daily life.

ALGEBRA I**Prerequisite:** Pre-Algebra or 8th Grade Math**Grade:** 9-12

Algebra I is an important class that teaches students to think critically. Topics introduced in Algebra I provide a strong foundation students will need in future math classes. The main goal is to help students move from concrete mathematical thinking (using numbers) to more abstract algebraic thinking (using letters as symbolic values, known as variables). Students will explore and develop patterns using tables, graphs and equations. Additionally, students will solve problems using equations, graphs and tables to investigate linear relationships. Students will also learn to recognize, evaluate and analyze functions.

GEOMETRY**Prerequisite:** Algebra I**Grade:** 9-12

Geometry is a year-long course that presents the major skills and concepts of geometry necessary for a student to describe and measure their world. Students develop analytical thinking skills that will allow them to solve problems involving geometric figures and logical thinking, including the development and use of geometric theorems involving proofs, congruence, similarity, perimeter, area, and volume with a wide variety of geometric figures. This course will challenge students to develop critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills to meet the Common Core Standards in Geometry. Geometry tends to be a math class from high school that is remembered fondly because of its use of hands-on activities and emphasis on construction of a physical space.

ALGEBRA II**Prerequisite:** Geometry**Grade:** 10-12

Algebra II is an extension of Algebra I and Geometry. Students will continue their study of math, review past and learn new methodologies, and use appropriate mathematical language as they examine and explain relationships between mathematical concepts and their applications.

The purpose of the course is to extend students' understanding of functions and the real numbers, and to increase the tools students have for modeling the real world. They extend their notion of numbers to include complex numbers and see how the introduction of this set of numbers allows the solutions of polynomial equations and the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra. Students deepen their understanding of the concepts of functions, and apply equation solving and function concepts to many different types of functions. The system of polynomial functions, analogous to the integers, is extended to the field of rational functions, analogous to the rational numbers. Students explore the relationship between exponential functions and their inverses, the logarithmic functions. Trigonometric functions are extended to all real numbers, and their graphs and properties are studied. Finally, students' statistics knowledge is extended to understanding the normal distribution, and they are challenged to make inferences based on sampling, experiments, and observational studies.

INTEGRATED MATH I**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or 8th Grade Math****Grade: 9-12**

Integrated Math 1 is the first course of a three year college prep math sequence. This course meets the minimum graduation requirement for the state of California, and follows the Integrated Math Pathway in the Common Core State Standards. Students will extend their understanding of numerical manipulation to algebraic manipulation; grow their understanding of functions; deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships; apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend; establish criteria for congruence based on rigid motions; and apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane. Students will be exposed to rich instruction that develops their conceptual understanding, procedural skill, problem solving skills, critical thinking abilities, and strengthen situational analysis abilities.

INTEGRATED MATH II**Prerequisite: Integrated Math I****Grade: 9-12**

Integrated Math II is the second course of a three year college preparatory integrated math sequence. This course follows the Integrated Math Pathway in the Common Core State Standards. Students will begin with a brief exploration of systems and solving equations before delving into quadratic expressions, equations, and functions, including a derivation of the quadratic formula. Students then embark on a deep study of the applications of probability and develop advanced reasoning skills with a study of similarity, congruence, and proofs of mathematical theorems. Students explore right triangles with an introduction to right triangle trigonometry before turning their attention into the geometry of circles and making informal arguments to derive formulas for the volumes of various solids. Throughout the course, activities provide students with opportunities to explore and discover algebraic principles on their own, and how they relate to daily life. Students model and solve real world problems using algebra, functions, probability, and data analysis.

INTEGRATED MATH III**Prerequisite: Integrated Math II****Grade: 10-12**

Integrated Math III is the third course of a three year college preparatory integrated math sequence. In this course, students will expand their knowledge of linear equations, quadratic and complex numbers, polynomials, statistics and probability, distribution, and mathematical modeling. This course incorporates previous mathematical concepts in which students broaden their understanding and recognize that all math is logical, interrelated, and applicable. In Math III, students will deepen and extend an understanding of functions by applying them to new types of functions, such as logarithmic, rational and trigonometric. Students will solve real-world problems, find patterns, make conjectures, and create models to solve problems. This course will assist students in being college and career ready by making the concepts relevant to mathematical applications that are used in the real world.

PRE-CALCULUS**Prerequisite:** Integrated III or Algebra II**Grade:** 11-12

Pre-Calculus is an advanced level of mathematics that combines what students learn in Algebra and Geometry. Students will strengthen their conceptual understanding, mathematical reasoning, and problem-solving skills. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to study college-level calculus. Students will understand how mathematical concepts can be used to model real-world problems. The course is designed to develop a student's critical thinking in the analysis of functions and function modeling.

CALCULUS**Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus**Grade:** 11-12

Calculus 1 focuses on three big ideas: limits, derivatives, integrals and the fundamental theorem of calculus. Students call upon their knowledge and skills developed in previous Algebra and Geometry courses to gain access to these new big ideas introduced in Calculus. Students demonstrate knowledge of the definition and graphical interpretations of limits and learn several techniques and theorems for evaluating these limits. Students understand and use derivatives to solve problems in chemistry, physics, and economics. Students learn various techniques and theorems for finding integrals and use those techniques to solve a variety of application problems.

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY**Prerequisite:** Integrated III or Algebra II**Grade:** 11-12

This course is a step-by-step approach to a beginning statistics course. It is a concrete approach without proofs, explaining concepts and supporting them with real-world examples. The broad range of topics are certain to appeal to the interests of students of diverse backgrounds.

CONSUMER MATH**Prerequisite:** N/A**Grade:** 9-12

Description: Consumer Math is a year-long course designed to deliver essential financial understanding in an engaging way. By completing this course, students will have the foundational knowledge to properly plan their financial futures post-graduation and make sound money decisions in their present and adult lives. Students will learn personal finance through comprehensive lesson plans, activities, projects, and more. Consumer Math consists of 12 units and end-of-semester/end-of-year projects to assess student learning. This course expands upon a student's finance, math, reading, and critical thinking skills.

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE

Prerequisite: N/A

Grade: 9-12

Earth and space science is an inquiry-based course focusing on the study of space, geologic and atmospheric processes, and the impact of human activity on Earth systems. Through experimentation and investigation, students will master the Earth and Space Science/Science and Engineering Strands of the Next Generation Science Standards and the corresponding Next

Generation Science Performance Expectations that give them a comprehensive understanding of:

- 1) the objects that make up our vast universe,
- 2) the history of the universe and our planet Earth,
- 3) the materials and processes that shape our world,
- 4) the interactions between the major spheres of Earth,
- 5) Earth's natural resources and hazards, and
- 6) the roles that humans play in altering our planet. Inquiry-based performance tasks, labs, and activities are the cornerstone way the NGSS: Earth and Space Science standards are introduced and taught in this course.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Prerequisite: N/A

Grade: 9-12

This physical science course addresses overarching ideas of two branches of science, chemistry, and physics, in accordance with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which emphasize critical thinking and engineering practices. Students will develop strong communication skills to communicate their questions, hypotheses, methods, and findings. Students will incorporate graphs and tables to represent their quantitative and qualitative data and use this evidence to support their claims. Upon completing the class, students will have foundational scientific knowledge of the laws and theories regarding matter and energy that encourages the application of science to real-life contexts.

CHEMISTRY

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or higher with a recommendation of Biology

Grade: 10-12

Chemistry is an inquiry-based course, integrating concepts from the Earth Sciences and the application of Engineering. Through experimentation and investigation, students will master the Physical Science concepts of:

- 1) how matter is structured, its properties, nuclear processes and function,
- 2) the role of chemical reactions in shaping the function and structure of matter,
- 3) how atoms, therefore mass, are conserved during chemical reactions,
- 4) Inquiry-based performance tasks, labs, and activities are introduced and taught in this course.

PHYSICS**Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or higher with a recommendation of Chemistry****Grade: 11-12**

In this course, students will integrate the science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and disciplinary core ideas from the NGSS physical science standards. These core ideas revolve around the application of physics in the Earth and Universe. This focus includes forces, motion, energy conversion, nuclear process, waves, communication technology and their application toward understanding the Universe including planetary motion, star and galaxy formation, and Earth's structure and geology. There will be multiple opportunities for students to model and develop solutions to authentic problem-based scenarios.

BIOLOGY**Prerequisite: Recommended Earth and Space Science****Grade: 9-12**

This course examines the concepts that explain how living organisms and systems work. Students will use scientific inquiry, written assignments, interactive labs, and assessments to develop a thorough understanding of cellular biology, genetics, heredity, the chemistry of life, physiology, and ecology. ICS NGSS Biology A and B meet the Grades 9-12 life science graduation requirement and one year of the University of California 'd' entrance requirement for laboratory science.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY**Prerequisite: Recommended Biology****Grade: 11-12**

Anatomy and Physiology is a life-science-based course that deepens student understanding of the interrelationships between structure and function in the human body. In this course, students will learn about the following key concepts: organization of the human body (i.e., cellular, tissue, and organ systems); biochemical composition; and the major body systems. Students will also explore how diseases impact specific body systems by conducting case studies. Students will also complete laboratory assignments to aid them in their understanding of the human body systems and how they function and reinforce the key concepts taught. As students proceed through the course they will be able to identify and describe the major components of each body system. Students will engage in various assignments, such as research papers, labs, and project-based projects.

Students who complete four years of language courses may qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy on their diploma, recognizing proficiency in one or more languages

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I

Prerequisite: n/a

Grade: 9-11

Full year American Sign Language (ASL) course to introduce students to conversational lessons. This course is designed to build skills, teach culture, and introduce vocal and grammatical structures in context of key parameters of American Sign Language.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II

Prerequisite: American Sign Language I

Grade: 10-12

Full year ASL II course to continue students' development of conversational lessons. To build skills in narrative and conversational fluency and introduce grammatical structures in American Sign Language. Students will also learn about culture within the deaf community.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III

Prerequisite: American Sign Language II

Grade: 11-12

ASL 3 is a year-long course that builds on the skills and vocabulary learned in ASL 1 and ASL 2 and delves deeper into applications of those concepts to create a more sophisticated and complex language. Students taking this course will develop a deeper understanding of deaf culture, advance their signing abilities, and be able to sign more naturally. Students will have opportunities to practice interpretation signing during school functions and to teach elementary school children basic signing in a series of field trips to the elementary schools.

ARABIC I

Prerequisite: n/a

Grade: 9-11

Arabic 1 is an introductory course for high school students with none or some knowledge of the Arabic alphabet. Students develop their listening, speaking, conversational, reading and writing skills in Arabic. They participate in simple conversations by using the learned vocabulary, syntax, and grammar of the language orally, verbally, and in written form. They begin to: speak, read, and write basic sentences required for social interactions, explore the cultural diversity in the Arab world, and practice learning Arabic words, phrases, and sentences inside and outside of the classroom setting using the three kinds of words most commonly used to make a sentence in Arabic. The skills acquired encourage students to communicate by applying the target language by addressing the topics of family, friends, sports, kinds of words, celebrations, history, technology, food, and travel. In addition, students develop a better understanding of the similarities and differences between cultures and languages by examining the influence, the beliefs and the values in the Arab culture.

ARABIC II**Prerequisite:** Arabic I**Grade:** 10-12

Upon successful completion of the course, students will attain more vocabulary and grammar skills to get them to an intermediate level of Arabic, where they are able to read and construct short sentences in Arabic. This class will build on the knowledge of Arabic to bring them to an intermediate level in the language. It will consist of lectures, reading materials, and weekly assignments including both conversational Arabic as well as building on reading/writing skills. Students will engage in all forms of communication including conversational and talking in Arabic, reading and writing in the intermediate level Arabic as well.

FRENCH I**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-11

Students begin their introduction to French with fundamental skills in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The course consists of 180 lesson days formatted in an intuitive calendar view, which can be divided into two 90-day semesters. Students will complete vocabulary and grammar concepts, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major French-speaking areas in Europe and across the globe.

FRENCH II**Prerequisite:** French I**Grade:** 10-12

This second-year French course builds upon the content covered in French I. In this course, students will gain increased familiarity with the history, culture, and language of French-speaking countries. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) are foundational to this course. Students will review the basic concepts of first-year French, then build on that foundation to develop increased skills and fluency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop vocabulary and be able to talk about things that happened in the past, present, and future. Students will be able to write paragraphs in all studied tenses, read simple stories and articles, and have conversations on known topics with familiar vocabulary.

FRENCH III**Prerequisite:** Teacher/Counselor Approval needed**Grade:** 11-12

This third-year French course will continue to expand students' language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century are foundational to this course. Students will read, write, listen, and speak about abstract concepts and they will learn new vocabulary from conversations and continue the conversation adequately. Students will read simple novels, articles about current events, and extrapolate information even when some of the vocabulary is unfamiliar in reading. In writing, students write simple 2-3 page papers on concepts that they've studied, and communicate via email, texting, facebook, etc. adequately in the target language. Students will conjugate verbs in the future, conditional, present perfect, and the subjunctive tenses. Students will complete assessments which will include written, speaking, and listening exercises. Students will complete daily textbook assignments (supplementary workbook assignments, as needed) and regular quizzes and tests specific to each unit. Students will participate in speaking and listening activities during their weekly class time, as well as complete cultural projects each semester.

GERMAN I**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-11

German I is a language course with 10 lessons. It is a two-semester course which strengthens students' ability to speak, listen, write and read. Students will learn the foundation of German grammar, will expand their knowledge to German speaking countries in Europe, and learn about the cultural diversity of the German speaking world. The emphasis on improvement of oral skills will be considerable, and the student will be required to speak in the second semester on a variety of topics and in a number of questions and answers. Students can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type, learning how to introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Students will be able to write a card, a short letter and an E-mail, showcasing the vocabulary and verb tenses introduced and practiced in this course. At the end of all 10 units, students will be assessed in reading, writing, and listening skills to determine progression into an Intermediate course.

GERMAN II**Prerequisite:** German I**Grade:** 10-12

German II continues to develop student competence in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language. Building on the skills attained in German I, this course will solidify the basic grammatical patterns of word order, cases, verb forms and tenses, preparing the student for authentic receptive and productive fluency. Basic stylistic elements and culturally significant nuances will be introduced for formal and informal communication situations. An appreciation of Germanic culture and social distinctions will be fostered through authentic readings and topical vocabulary development, preparing students for participation in a global society.

GERMAN III**Prerequisite:** Teacher/Counselor Approval needed**Grade:** 11-12

German III is a continuation of the first two years of German instruction. In this course, the student will continue to learn and practice successful communication through speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Throughout the five units, or themes, of material (Die Gefühle, Der Verkehr, Bei der Arbeit, Land und Leute, and Die Zukunft), the student will learn to express himself using an ever-increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs, articles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. The student will continue to learn and practice successful communication through speaking, writing, reading, and listening. This course presents material according to a specific theme, and the student will learn to express himself through a variety of activities using his ever-increasing vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Culture is presented throughout the course to help the learner focus on the German-speaking world, people, geographical locations, and histories.

JAPANESE I**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-11

Japanese 1 is an introduction to Japanese that will build communicative skills and introduce the learner to the Japanese language and culture. Japanese 1 is a two-semester language course in which students will build and use speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills. This course stresses the use of interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational activities and assessments to introduce novice-low-level Japanese vocabulary and grammar. Students will also become familiar with Japanese values and customs that foster culturally sensitive communication and awareness of cultural differences. Learners will work cooperatively to become able to greet others, ask/answer questions, and describe a variety of topics in regard to themselves and other individuals. The three Japanese writing systems hiragana, katakana, and kanji are all introduced.

JAPANESE II**Prerequisite:** Japanese I**Grade:** 10-12

Japanese 2 is a continuation of the skills introduced in Japanese 1. The course focuses on further developing basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while exploring various culturally relevant topics. Course content will be mostly taught in the target language. During the course, a successful student will further develop their knowledge and communication skills regarding personal and community-wide issues in the target language. Students' proficiency levels at the end of the course are expected to reach the Novice Mid to High range, as described in the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Proficiency Guidelines.

LATIN I**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-11

Latin I introduces students to the Latin language by incorporating Latin into the English grammar curriculum. Latin 1 is a two-semester course that will teach students how to pronounce, write, read and understand Latin texts. In addition, students will increase their vocabulary banks, improve their grammar skills and establish a firm understanding of the foundations of the Latin language and also Roman culture. This class will also prepare students for the Latin 2 class.

LATIN II**Prerequisite:** Latin I**Grade:** 10-12

Latin II continues the student's study of the Latin language by further incorporating Latin into a more complicated English grammar curriculum. Latin II is a two-semester course that will expound on the student's basic understanding of the Latin language. In addition, students will increase their vocabulary banks, improve their grammar skills, and continue to establish a firm understanding of the foundations of the Latin language and also Roman culture. In addition, students will continue to read, understand and interpret Latin texts. This class will also prepare students for the Latin III course.

LATIN III**Prerequisite: Teacher/Counselor Approval needed****Grade: 11-12**

Latin III is designed to review and complete the student's knowledge of the Latin language by finishing the last eight chapters of the Wheelocks Latin 7 Education, and also to gain significant expertise in the study of literature both prose and poetry. This class will strengthen the student's ability to read, write and translate many types of Latin literature. In their literature analysis, students will explore topics such as government, education, religion, and war from a wide range of authors. This exploration will allow them to understand Roman history and how that has shaped aspects of the modern world.

LATIN IV**Prerequisite: Teacher/Counselor Approval needed****Grades: 12**

The fourth year of the Latin course will guide the student from the Principate and into the changes made by Augustus, as well as a full study of Latin poetry and prose. Texts taken directly from the Bello Gallico and the Aeneid, offer the student an opportunity to do linear translations with the aid of newly introduced and previously learned vocabulary. The student is mentored into developing a critical mind that is constantly engaged in comparing and contrasting, and understanding cause and effect.

As they navigate the curriculum, read and translate, students acquire a life learner's view of politics and the influence of characters such as Julius Caesar and Augustus.

RUSSIAN I**Prerequisite: n/a****Grade: 9-11**

Russian 1 is designed to give students who have not studied Russian before a basic knowledge of the language. After mastering the Cyrillic alphabet, students are introduced to the fundamental language skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. They learn the basic language of everyday Russian and the typical structure of the language: phonology, orthography, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.

According to the California standards, students enrolled in this course will be able to perform well at the first stage of the five continuum-specified categories (function, context, text types, accuracy, and content). By the end of this course, students will be able to speak slowly, get a message across in a variety of everyday situations, and will have become familiar with the basic structure of the language. They will become acquainted with the Russian Cyrillic alphabet, both printed and handwritten, and will be able to comprehend an act on both simple written and spoken stimuli. Students will have gained a better appreciation of the relationships between the languages, history, and culture of Russia.

RUSSIAN II

Prerequisite: Russian I

Grade: 9-12

Russian 2 is intended for students who have completed Russian 1 of the Russian language and culture. It is designed to increase proficiency in the four areas of language learning: reading, writing, listening and speaking. They will gain skills and knowledge that will help them to communicate more effectively in Russian by using the structural components of the language: phonology, orthography, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics, according to the California standards. By the end of this course, students will have extended knowledge of vocabulary and will have become more familiar with the basics of the language, while also becoming more familiar with more complex structures. They will develop further fundamental language and grammar skills. Students will learn Russian case, articles, partitives, present tenses of common verbs, negatives, questions, descriptions, adjectives, personal pronouns, polite/familiar forms, prepositions, possessives, and tie phrases/quantities.

Activities in this course will include lectures, listening and speaking actions, numerous exercises, illustrations, interactive pair, and group work, discussions, reading, and writing. Weekly oral presentations and participation in discussions are highly recommended. Each learning period will contain various activities to encourage students' participation and appropriate cultural behavior.

RUSSIAN III

Prerequisite: Teacher/Counselor Approval needed

Grade: 11-12

Russian III is the third-year course in Russian Language. Students will continue to master and refine their communication skills developed in Russian I and II. Reading authentic Russian literary and non-literary texts is at the foundation of the Russian III curriculum. Texts include authentic Russian literature, Internet forums, blogs, advertisements, various genres of non-fictional writing and TV reporting. The course is structured around contemporary and culturally relevant themes and further enhances students' cultural knowledge. The main objective is to help students develop all four skills: speaking, reading, listening, and writing in the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes through individual and pair work, whole class discussion, small group work, and presentation. Students will be able to engage in a conversation in a clearly participatory manner in order to communicate information on autobiographical topics, as well as topics of community, national, or international interest; when reading, understand the main ideas and supporting details of authentic narrative and descriptive texts; when listening, understand the main ideas and most supporting details on a variety of general interest topics, such as news stories, explanations, instructions, and anecdotes; in writing, use a variety of cohesive devices up to several paragraphs in length and exhibit control of the most frequently used syntactic structures and a range of general vocabulary. Basic grammar will be reviewed with an emphasis on verbal conjugation and case government. The reading and videos used in this course span a range of contemporary cultural interests. Current digital technology and communication tools will be purposefully integrated in this course. Only authentic materials will be used in this course.

SPANISH I

Prerequisite: n/a

Grade: 9-11

This one-year Spanish course will introduce students to the culture and history of the Spanish language while actively developing students' ability to comprehend, read, speak, and write in Spanish. Students will be evaluated for grammar use and structure, comprehension, communication strategies, and cultural awareness.

SPANISH II**Prerequisite: Spanish I****Grade: 10-12**

This second-year Spanish course builds upon the content covered in Spanish I. In this course, students will gain increased familiarity with the history, culture, and language of Spanish-speaking countries. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) are foundational to this course. Students will review the basic concepts of first-year Spanish, then build on that foundation to develop increased skills and fluency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop vocabulary and be able to talk about things that happened in the past, present, and future. Students will be able to write paragraphs in all studied tenses, read simple stories and articles, and have conversations on known topics with familiar vocabulary.

SPANISH III**Prerequisite: Teacher/Counselor Approval needed****Grade: 11-12**

This third-year Spanish course will continue to expand students' language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century are foundational to this course. Students will read, write, listen, and speak about abstract concepts and they will learn new vocabulary from conversations and continue the conversation adequately. Students will read simple novels, articles about current events, and extrapolate information even when some of the vocabulary is unfamiliar in reading. In writing, students write simple 2-3 page papers on concepts that they've studied, and communicate via email, texting, facebook, etc. adequately in the target language. Students will conjugate verbs in the future, conditional, present perfect, and the subjunctive tenses. Students will complete assessments which will include written, speaking, and listening exercises. Students will complete daily textbook assignments (supplementary workbook assignments, as needed) and regular quizzes and tests specific to each unit. Students will participate in speaking and listening activities during their weekly class time, as well as complete cultural projects each semester.

SPANISH IV**Prerequisite: Teacher/Counselor Approval needed****Grade: 12**

In Spanish IV students are introduced to a rigorous course of study through novels, poetry, short stories and dramatic productions. In addition, an in-depth study and analysis of Latin culture, including food, music and history will be a cornerstone of the course. The class is fully-immersed in the Spanish language. The pedagogical practice will include direct instruction, guest speakers, field trips and will emphasize collaborative work and conversations among students to foster language proficiency. An expansion of vocabulary and grammar will be a major focus. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to read, write and speak Spanish for content and be well-versed with Latin countries' historical importance and literary pillars.

ART HISTORY**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

Art history gives an introductory glance at the major movements of art throughout history and throughout the planet. Students will develop the understanding and language necessary to discuss art in terms of form, function, context, and content, with a special focus on historical influences and cultural interaction. Students will be led through discussions, enabled to research, encouraged to create, and invited to master each geographical/chronological area we study. Performance is measured through traditional assessments, written exams, and multimedia projects that explore parallel themes in art. In exploring the themes of the course, the curriculum will put special emphasis on the development of the following skills: Artistic Perception; Creative Expression; Historical and Cultural Context; Aesthetic Valuing; and Connections, Relationships, and Applications.

DANCE**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

Beginning Dance is a class that introduces students to the study of dance. Students will study different dance styles and forms, including historical and cultural information on dance. This class is designed for all students with or without previous experience in dance and can prepare students for more advanced classes. Dancers express ideas, stories, rhythm, and sound with their bodies. Students experience and develop an awareness of dance from various times, places, social groups, cultures, a variety of dance genres, styles, and traditions. Students demonstrate an understanding of the roles, purposes, and meanings of dance in the lives of individuals and in communities.

DANCE ADVANCED**Prerequisite:** Dance**Grade:** 10-12

This course helps students learn the intermediate skills of dance while improving their techniques, poise, self-confidence, and creative ability. Through weekly participation in dance instruction, students will demonstrate an intermediate level of consistency and reliability in performing technical skills, development and refinement of proficient skills to create dances with coherence and aesthetic unity. Students will dance in student productions. They will examine ways that a dance creates and conveys meaning before considering the dance from a variety of perspectives, establish, and apply aesthetic criteria in evaluating their own work and that of others. Students will continue to refine proper body alignments, body part articulation, muscle strength and flexibility, and coordination in axial and locomotor movement. They will create dance forms. They will perform and discuss movement, motifs, phrases, and dance compositions with particular attention to how meaning was created.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

This course is designed to address the Visual and Performing Arts standards in the areas of artistic perception, creative expression, historical and cultural content, and aesthetic valuing and connections, relations and applications. Students will also improve their technical and performance skills.

MUSIC THEORY**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

Students will gain a broad understanding of music and the creation of musical compositions. Students will discover and demonstrate the fundamentals of music notation. They will understand tonality and how music is constructed. Students will articulate, discuss and share the creative process of music composition. Students will create and perform their own compositions.

DIGITAL ARTS**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

This course is a study in media arts with an emphasis of two/three-dimensional design and representation through film, photography, and other digital media. The class is structured around completion of digital media arts applications that synthesize and demonstrate learning from the course of study, and that incorporate themes and topics explored in other fine art courses. Digital Media emphasizes the theories and elements of art and the principles of design, and their use and application in digital mediums to inform, persuade, and entertain. Students will develop an appreciation for traditional and contemporary artistic expression, as well as an understanding of the historical and contemporary role of video/film media as a means of communication in, and its influence upon, society and culture. Students will work to design, create, critique, and present two- and three-dimensional visual and digital media projects using technology and industry-based software, such as Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Gimp, Inkscape, Pencil 2, Stop Motion Studio and iMovie, all common in the professional world. In addition, students will develop their skills in critical thinking, problem solving, writing, analysis, and presentation.

PHOTOGRAPHY**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

Photography will build skills of photography through the lens of a camera, while also focusing on visual literacy. Students will be introduced to the elements of art, principles of design, and fundamentals of composition as they apply to the creative process of photography. Critical thinking skills are fostered through the analysis of photography as an art form, and students explore a diverse body of work by influential photographers both past and present. This course also familiarizes students with digital photographic equipment, software, and methods, and investigates the technological advances that have changed the ways photographers utilize their medium. Students develop visual literacy and visual arts vocabulary through the appreciation of photographic works of art, the application of art elements and design principles to their photographic process, and the critical analysis of the aesthetic merit of their own work and the work of others. Students also learn to develop a unique artistic intent and style and evaluate the intent of selected works of art.

PHOTOGRAPHY ADVANCED**Prerequisite:** Photography**Grade:** 10-12

The Advanced Photography course will build upon the techniques and concepts learned in the introductory photography course while introducing students to advanced technical and creative challenges. The entire photographic process — from image capture to printing — will be studied and practiced, allowing students to learn to make meaningful, expressive and technically proficient images. Assignments will encourage students to use the camera as a tool to discover and interact with the world around them.

One of the main goals of the course is to have students think critically about photography using knowledge of the principles of art and design acquired in the course while also allowing their own subjective feelings to inform their evaluations and judgements. Additionally, course content will include discussion of the “future” of photography in the digital era and the manner in which the Internet and social media are changing the way we produce, disseminate, and digest images.

PIANO**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

This course is designed to help students progress with their skills and understanding of playing the piano. The course presents an overview of musical principles and theories, and develops students’ technical skills.

Students will learn skills that transfer to other instruments. Students will also learn to read simple compositions by learning basic elements of music such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and form. Students will study music notation and intervals, ear training, music writing, reading music, and playing pieces on the piano. Students will also be able to read chord charts and develop a basic understanding of music theory.

PIANO ADVANCED**Prerequisite:** Piano**Grade:** 10-12

Advanced Piano is designed to review fundamentals needed for piano performance. Students will increase musical understanding by reviewing and practicing rhythms, key signatures, theory concepts, ear-training, basic composition, and through ensemble performance. Students will learn and reinforce music concepts foundational for instrumental and vocal performance, college music majors, and college piano proficiency exams. Course content also includes the foundation necessary for engaging in multiple opportunities for self-expression, and more deeply understanding a variety of creative efforts. Course content includes Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools and with the objective of preparing students to participate in the social, cultural, and intellectual interplay among people of differing cultural backgrounds and national origins.

THEATER**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

This course will serve as an introduction to the vast world that is theater. The course includes an overview of theater history and theory. World theater traditions and basic acting techniques are explored. This course is designed to expand students' awareness of their own creative and expressive capabilities. Through close and careful attention to technique and desired effect, students gain awareness of their own tendencies on the stage. Specific techniques and concepts to be improved upon are: vocal expression; physical expression; analysis of a character's motivation; improvisational techniques; and the art of set design and prop selection. A key objective of the course is to give learners another outlet for artistic expression, an appreciation for the art and history of theater, a sense of cultural involvement and discovery, and a foundation for potential future involvement in the theater community. The course will culminate in the learners building their own theatrical experiences, informed by the activities and research undertaken throughout the whole of the course and their own understanding of the nature of theater.

THEATER ADVANCED**Prerequisite:** Theater**Grade:** 10-12

Advanced Theatre builds on knowledge and skills introduced in Theater. Students develop more specific skills in the areas of acting, design, playwriting, script analysis, research, directing, and presentation. This course focuses on the performance aspect of drama such as improvisation, monologues, and ensemble acting. Emphasis is on all theater fundamentals, historical theater, and theater of different cultures. Students will learn in-depth the fundamentals of theater including theater terms, the development of theater over time, acting techniques, character analysis, stage movement, and prop and costume usage. Students will also be able to develop the ability to self-correct in response to suggestions, demonstrate the ability to establish aesthetic criteria and apply them in evaluating their own work and that of others, and demonstrate an understanding of theater in various cultures and historical periods.

VISUAL ARTS**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

This course is designed to provide a basic foundation of Visual Arts concepts and allow exploration of these concepts. Students will learn about the five components of the California Standards within this course; Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Historical and Cultural Context, Aesthetic Valuing and Connections, and Relationships and Applications. In addition to expanded opportunities to express ideas through the Visual Arts, students will explore Art Theory, apply the conventions of Art Criticism, and develop basic skills through experimentation with media and techniques used to create Art. Students will explore a variety of Art styles and media such as drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and mixed media. Students will review works by the masters and understand their influences in the world throughout history and among various cultures.

VISUAL ARTS ADVANCED**Prerequisite:** Visual Arts**Grade:** 10-12

This course provides an in depth look at art elements and design principles introduced in visual arts, as well as ways these can be applied to their own work as a means of refining their self-expression. Students will analyze masterworks and define how these principles were used by these artists to tell their 'story'. Students will research art careers they may be interested in and identify how these tools would be applied in those specific art fields. Students will be encouraged to reach out to artists in their own community as well.

VISUAL ARTS INDEPENDENT DESIGN (ONLY THROUGH CVHS LIVE!)**Prerequisite:** Visual Arts Advanced**Grade:** 10-12

This course extends concepts of the elements of art, principles of design, creative expression, analytical interpretations and evaluations, presentation delivery and meaning, and personal connections. Students implement self-reflection and refinement of personal style through artistic investigations, planning project proposals, utilizing complex compositions in original artwork, examining universal themes, and creating a cohesive body of work displayed in a portfolio. Students keep a sketchbook journal, collaborate, design, and curate a virtual gallery show, visit a museum/gallery, take part in community service art projects, and explore and experiment with 21st-century arts media.

VOICE**Prerequisite:** n/a**Grade:** 9-12

Voice is designed for beginning voice students to work on the skills of singing, including vocal technique (in speech and singing), and solo vocal performance. The student will perform a variety of music, including classical, contemporary, and traditional styles from various time periods and cultures. The following vocal/musical skills will be stressed: proper vocal production, sight-reading proficiency, ear training, expansion of range, technical facility, acapella singing, and dynamic nuances. Various languages will be incorporated in the repertoire, designed to challenge and perfect the musicianship of every student. Students will work on self-improvement by fostering and developing greater self-awareness, confidence, and expression. Students will develop an appreciation for vocal art as a cultural force in a civilized world and learn ways in which singing is used in culture and in individual lives. Students will continue developing skills in listening, reading, and performing. Choir music opens an avenue of personal expression that provides the performer deeper understanding of the self and a way to evoke images, feelings, and emotions that communicate not only sound but sense (meaning) to others. Further, students now live in an age of instant music and a social community that considers aesthetic valuing as a strictly personal preference. Students have the opportunity to experience choral music in one or more of three distinctive settings for choral voice: treble choir, bass choir, and/or mixed choir.

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN

Prerequisite: Counselor Meeting for Approval Needed (Counselors will use multiple measures)

Recommended Grade: 10

In AP World History: Modern, you'll learn about the rise and fall of empires, the evolution of technology, and the cultural and social changes that have shaped our world. The course isn't just about memorizing dates and battles — it's about exploring civilizations and cultures from a global perspective to better understand the complex relationships that exist today.

Must take End of Course Exam in May

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

Prerequisite: Counselor Meeting for Approval Needed (Counselors will use multiple measures)

Required Grade: 11

How did the United States become THE United States? What happened to the American economy when factories went from being powered by water to powered by coal? Or how have definitions of who is, and who is not, a U.S. citizen changed over time? In AP United States History, you'll explore and try to answer questions like these, while discussing the ways in which Americans have debated their values, practices, and traditions since even before the country's founding.

Must take End of Course Exam in May

AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Prerequisite: Counselor Meeting for Approval Needed (Counselors will use multiple measures)

required Grade: 12

Have you ever wondered how the government and politics are connected? Or how you can actively participate in the political process? In AP United States Government and Politics, you'll examine the relationships between the president, Congress, and the Supreme Court, and explore how different political ideologies and opinions shape American politics.

Must take End of Course Exam in May

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9 HONORS

Prerequisite: 8th grade Language Arts with a B or better and Teacher/Counselor Approval needed

Grade: 9

English 9 is divided into four units, covering multiple genres and writings throughout history and an end of course portfolio. Students will analyze and discuss a variety of classical, contemporary, and informational literature, as well as write argumentative, informative, and narrative essays. Students will have opportunities to interact with the texts and writings, with their peers and instructor in group settings (if available), and independently throughout the course. Students in English 9 should read a variety of rich texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. Students will also focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, conferencing, revising, and creating a final product.

ENGLISH 10 HONORS**Prerequisite: English 9 with a B or better and Teacher/Counselor Approval needed****Grade: 10**

Honors English 10 is a rigorous course designed to prepare students for college level courses, as well as, assessments such as the SAT and ACT. Students will demonstrate and apply their understanding and appreciation of literature as they develop advanced analytical and critical skills. Students will examine the nature of society, its rules, the members' roles, and individual responsibility. The curriculum will emphasize advanced critical analysis and interpretation leading to pre-writing, drafting, and revising writing assignments. Students will analyze the elements of literature through primary and secondary sources, essays, articles, historical documents, novels, drama, poetry and short stories. Students will effectively apply their understanding of rhetorical devices as they analyze literature and writing. Students will refine writing skills through journaling, discussions, free response, and essays while learning to communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative and explanatory styles. Students will engage with various media types through which they analyze and synthesize information, discuss, create presentations, and collaborate on projects. Student assessments are designed to prepare them for the content, form, and depth of Common Core Standards, as well as, college-level courses. Each semester has a culminating final project and/or comprehensive written exam that allows students to demonstrate higher order thinking skills, problem solving, critical thinking, and investigation with inquiry techniques.

ENGLISH 11 HONORS**Prerequisite: English 10 with a B or better and Teacher/Counselor Approval needed****Grade: 11**

English 11 is divided into 4 units covering a variety of literature and informational texts from colonial times to the 21st century and an end of course portfolio. This course will allow students to gain a focused understanding of American history and achieve critical insight into documents written by important voices from diverse cultural perspectives. Students will demonstrate their understanding through rhetorical and literary analysis in well-developed essays and multimedia presentations. Students will conduct critical research and evaluate sources for validity. Students will focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, editing, conferencing, and publishing a final product.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**Prerequisite: Counselor Meeting for Approval Needed (Counselors will use multiple measures)****Required Grade: 11**

We are surrounded by written language that is often used intentionally to achieve a purpose. In AP English Language and Composition, you'll read nonfiction texts through the eyes of a writer, exploring the choices writers and speakers make to persuade their audience. By analyzing how writing is composed, you'll be able to construct your own persuasive pieces.

Must take End of Course Exam in May

ENGLISH 12 HONORS

Prerequisite: English 11 with a B or better and Teacher/Counselor Approval needed

Grade: 12

English 12 is divided into four units, covering multiple genres and writings throughout history and an end of course portfolio. Students will analyze and discuss a variety of classical, contemporary, and informational literature from the Anglo-Saxon Period to the Modern Age. Students will write argumentative, analysis, informative, and narrative essays. Students will have opportunities to interact with the texts and writings, with their peers and instructor in group settings (if available), and independently throughout the course. Students in English 12 should read a variety of rich texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, etc. Students will also focus on the writing process by working with graphic organizers, drafting, revising, conferencing, revising, and creating a final product.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Prerequisite: Counselor Meeting for Approval Needed (Counselors will use multiple measures)

Required Grade: 12

What makes a work of literature great? In AP English Literature and Composition, you'll examine how authors and poets create meaning through their rich, purposeful use of language. As you write and refine essays about literature, you'll develop the skills of analysis and composition that will allow you to communicate your interpretation effectively.

Must take End of Course Exam in May

ELECTIVES**AP PSYCHOLOGY**

Prerequisite: Counselor Meeting for Approval Needed (Counselors will use multiple measures)

Recommend Grade: 10-12

Have you ever wondered why you act a certain way around different people? Or how your family and society influence your behaviors? In AP Psychology, you'll learn the foundational concepts that detail how and why people think and behave the way they do.

Must take End of Course Exam in May

HUMANITIES

HISTORY ELECTIVE

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

HISTORY OF THE HOLOCAUST

A-G: (GA) History Elective

Description: Delve into the tragic history of rising anti-Semitism that paved the way for the Holocaust and the Nazi party's power. Uncover the systematic persecution faced by European Jews and other marginalized groups, the immense impact of World War II on countless lives, and the global efforts undertaken to prevent future genocides.

MYTHOLOGY

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: Coming Soon

PSYCHOLOGY

A-G: (GA) History Elective

Description: This course focuses on the scientific study of human development, learning, motivation, and personality. Students explore implications for everyday life with a scientific perspective on human behavior. See AP Psychology.

SOCIOLOGY

A-G: (GA) History Elective

Description: This course examines the elements and experiences of social life. Analysis and discussion of social structure, culture, deviant behavior, social institutions, stratification, inequality, and social change will be explored within a domestic and global framework.

WORLD AND REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: This course offers a comprehensive exploration of the earth, focusing on the physical characteristics of its lands and oceans and examining how climate and geography shape the culture and economies of different regions. Students will learn how people adapt to challenging environments and leverage natural resources to their advantage. The course also addresses future geography-related challenges and sustainable resource management. By building a strong foundation in world geography, this course equips high school students to better understand and appreciate the world around them.

WORLD RELIGIONS

A-G: (GA) History Elective

Description: This course provides students with an overview of the world's major religions and belief systems. Each unit focuses on a specific tradition, examining its origins, core beliefs, practices, sacred texts, and the role it plays in societies and cultures. Through readings, research, and presentations, students will develop a deeper understanding of religious diversity, fostering cultural awareness and appreciation.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVE I

Non A-G

Description: As students become literate in the target language, they acquire relevant content through the study of various topics. This in turn expands their access to information from around the globe. At the same time, students use the language to participate in everyday social interactions with members of California's diverse communities. Moreover, the content that students acquire in the language classroom enables them to make connections and reinforce knowledge from other content areas of the curriculum. As they progress along the Language Learning Continuum,* students address a wide variety of content that is age- and stage appropriate. In this course, students will gain increased familiarity with the history, culture, and language of the countries which speak their chosen language. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) are foundational to this course. Students will review the basic concepts of first-year language, then build on that foundation to develop increased skills and fluency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop vocabulary and be able to talk about things that happened in the past, present, and future. Students will be able to write paragraphs in all studied tenses, read simple stories and articles, and have conversations on known topics with familiar vocabulary.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVE II

Non A-G

Description: This second-year language course builds upon the content covered in World Languages I. In this course, students will gain increased familiarity with the history, culture, and language of the countries which speak their chosen language. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) are foundational to this course. Students will review the basic concepts of first-year language, then build on that foundation to develop increased skills and fluency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop vocabulary and be able to talk about things that happened in the past, present, and future. Students will be able to write paragraphs in all studied tenses, read simple stories and articles, and have conversations on known topics with familiar vocabulary.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVE III**Non A-G**

Description: This third-year World Language of Choice course will continue to expand students' language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The three modes of communication (Interpretative, Interpersonal, and Presentational) defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century are foundational to this course. Students will read, write, listen, and speak about abstract concepts and they will learn new vocabulary from conversations and continue the conversation adequately. Students will read simple novels, articles about current events, and extrapolate information even when some of the vocabulary is unfamiliar in reading. In writing, students write simple 2-3 page papers on concepts that they've studied, and communicate via email, texting, facebook, etc. adequately in the target language. Students will conjugate verbs in the future, conditional, present perfect, and the subjunctive tenses. Students will complete assessments which will include written, speaking, and listening exercises. Students will complete daily textbook assignments (supplementary workbook assignments, as needed) and regular quizzes and tests specific to each unit. Students will participate in speaking and listening activities during their weekly class time, as well as complete cultural projects each semester.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVE IV**Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

ENGLISH**CREATIVE WRITING****A-G: (GB) English Elective**

Description: Literature is a powerful art form that captures human emotions, sparks imagination, and offers an escape from everyday life. In this course, you'll explore the writing process, discovering inspiration to craft your own stories while experimenting with hybrid forms of poetry and prose. Learn essential literary techniques and transform your creative ideas into compelling pieces of writing.

CLASSICAL LITERATURE**A-G: (GB) English Elective**

Description: This Classical Literature course explores foundational texts from ancient to early modern eras, emphasizing their themes, narrative structures, and cultural contexts. Students will explore epic poetry, drama, philosophy, and historical writings, focusing on critical reading and analytical writing skills. Each unit includes reading classical works, followed by reflective essays, analyses, or creative responses.

DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE**A-G: (GB) English Elective**

Description: This course explores dystopian themes in literature, examining how authors from various cultures and time periods address real-world issues, especially concerning the preservation of human dignity in corrupt societies. Students will engage in reading, critical analysis, and writing assignments that deepen their understanding of dystopian narratives. The course aims to enhance skills in critical thinking, writing, and textual analysis.

MYTHOLOGY**A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: Coming Soon

WOMEN'S LITERATURE**A-G: (GB) English Elective**

Description: This course focuses on women's literature, exploring themes of race, class, and gender through various texts. The course will also involve studying women's history and social reform movements. Through extensive reading and writing assignments, students will develop analytical, reflective, and argumentative writing skills. Listening and speaking skills will be honed through self-recorded presentations and individual reflections.

MATHEMATICS**PERSONAL FINANCE I****A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: Personal Finance is a year-long course designed to deliver essential financial understanding in an engaging way. By completing this course, students will have the foundational knowledge to properly plan their financial futures post-graduation and make sound money decisions in their present and adult lives. Students will learn personal finance through comprehensive lesson plans, activities, projects, and more. Personal Finance consists of 12 units and end-of-semester/end-of-year projects to assess student learning. This course expands upon a student's finance, math, reading, and critical thinking skills.

PERSONAL FINANCE II (ONLY THROUGH CVHS SELF PACED)

A-G: coming soon

Description: The Personal Finance II course is a one-year course designed as an in-depth study of the principles of personal finance. Using experiential activities and projects, students will learn tools and techniques to become financially literate living and working within a global marketplace. Tools and techniques include budgeting, managing credit and debt, banking, developing investments, reducing financial risk, computing earnings and taxes, renting or purchasing housing, and evaluating post-secondary education and training funding. Also, students will learn to use consumer protection laws, internet safety, and cyber security to safeguard their finances.

COMPUTER

3D MODELING

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: Coming Soon

ANIMATION

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: Coming Soon

CODING

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: Coming Soon

COMPUTER SCIENCE

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: Coming Soon

GAME DESIGN**A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: Coming Soon

CYBERSECURITY**A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: Coming Soon

INTRODUCTION TO JAVA**A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: Coming Soon

SCIENCE**ASTRONOMY****A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: This year-long high school astronomy course invites students to explore the wonders of the universe, from our own solar system to distant galaxies and beyond. Students will delve into the origins and evolution of celestial bodies, examine the physical and chemical principles governing the cosmos, and investigate the latest discoveries in space exploration. The course emphasizes critical thinking and scientific inquiry through hands-on projects, interactive simulations, and observations of the night sky. By integrating historical perspectives with cutting-edge technology, students will gain a deeper understanding of humanity's place in the universe and the ongoing quest to unlock its mysteries.

CRIMINOLOGY**A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: This course introduces students to criminology, the scientific study of crime, criminal behavior, and the criminal justice system. Through an exploration of criminological theories, types of crime, law enforcement, and contemporary issues, students will gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of criminal behavior and societal responses. The course emphasizes critical thinking, analysis, and research, and fulfills A-G elective requirements.

FORENSIC SCIENCE I**Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

FORENSIC SCIENCE II**Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

MARINE SCIENCE**A-G: (GD) Science Elective**

Description: From tiny puddles to vast oceans, water drives processes that influence everything around us, from wildlife and the air we breathe to our own health and beyond! In this course, you'll explore the essential role of water and how its unique properties sustain all life on Earth. Using the Scientific Method, you'll engage in scientific inquiry to study aquatic ecosystems and understand how water, land, and weather interact to create distinct living environments. You'll also learn about key scientists in the field of aquatic science and how to draw valid and reliable conclusions from your studies, just like they did. Let's dive in and discover why water is so vital to life.

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY**A-G: (GO) Other Elective**

Description: This course introduces students to criminology, the scientific study of crime, criminal behavior, and the criminal justice system. Through an exploration of criminological theories, types of crime, law enforcement, and contemporary issues, students will gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of criminal behavior and societal responses. The course emphasizes critical thinking, analysis, and research, and fulfills A-G elective requirements.

ROBOTICS AND ENGINEERING**A-G: (GD) Science Elective**

Description: This is a one-year course sequence designed to teach and apply the entire engineering design process, including the knowledge and skills involved in integrating sensors, electromechanical components, and software. Students will work individually and in engineering teams, primarily in a lab environment, to design, build and test increasingly complex physical objects, electronic control systems, software and robots. Workplace competencies are an important element of this course sequence, which also comprises a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway in the Engineering and Architecture area. The knowledge and skill areas are consistent throughout the sequence, but the difficulty of the concepts and projects grows as students advance.

VETERINARY SCIENCE**A-G: (GD) Science Elective**

Description: This year-long Veterinary Science course introduces students to the fundamentals of animal care and veterinary medicine. The curriculum covers key topics such as veterinary terminology, anatomy, clinical procedures, disease management, laboratory techniques, and animal nutrition. Students will also explore career opportunities and educational pathways within the veterinary field.

BUSINESS AND CAREER**CAREER EXPLORATION****Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

COSMETOLOGY I**Non A-G**

Description: This course is designed for the student to research, explore, and apply the skills needed to succeed in the field of cosmetology. Students are introduced to the principles of makeup techniques, hair and nail care and design, and the science of caring for the skin. You will learn about various beauty regimes related to hair, nails, skin, and spa treatments, and discover how to create your own business model

FASHION DESIGN**Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

INTERIOR DESIGN

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

WORKPLACE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Non A-G

Description: This course is designed for students wanting to gain experience working part-time in a job as well as develop skills related to their job duties. Students will secure their own employment as part of the course.

ARTS

MUSIC ELECTIVE

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

MUSIC ELECTIVE ADVANCED

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

VAPA ELECTIVE

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

LIFE EXPERIENCE AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

CRITICAL THINKING AND STUDY SKILLS

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

DRIVER'S TRAINING

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

HOME ECONOMICS

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

PEER COUNSELING

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

A-G: (GO) Other Elective

Description: ASB Leadership has two goals. One, increase the positive school culture through academic and social events. Two, help students enrolled in the class become more effective leaders. This includes mastery of the following core leadership skills: Communication, planning, organizing, problem solving, constructive feedback and evaluation, writing: critically, reflectively, and persuasively, creativity, professionalism, confidence, public speaking, persistence, and empathy.

HEALTH, FITNESS AND NUTRITION

HEALTH

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

NUTRITION AND WELLNESS

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 12

Non A-G

Description: Coming Soon

OTHER

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUCCESS

Non A-G

Description: This course is a year-long course designed to help English Learning students. The course focuses on listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be addressed as necessary for students to communicate. In this course, students will learn specific rules and strategies designed to improve their reading skills. Students will work and practice their English skills using computer programs. Students are provided with many opportunities for the guided and independent practice of skills

INDEPENDENT PROJECT**Non A-G**

Description: Students are able to create a course of study that is meaningful and relevant to their academic and special interests. The semester or year-long Independent Project offers students the chance to engage in a relevant study of their own design while earning credit. Students should choose a new topic of interest for every yearlong course.

MATH INTERVENTION**Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

READING INTERVENTION**Non A-G**

Description: Coming Soon

Career Technical Education (CTE) is a program of study integrating core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge. Upon successful completion of a CTE Pathway, students will receive a certificate from The Cottonwood School (TCS). The CTE program is a 1-year 20-credit project-based program. While CTE is career-focused education preparing students for the world of work, completion of a pathway helps prepare students for college as well and is a valuable addition to one’s application.

TCS CTE Program		
*All classes are 10 Elective credits each.		
Pathway	Fall Course	Spring Course
TCS Agriculture Careers (Agriscience, Animal Science, & Ornamental Horticulture)	CTE Agriculture Careers	CTE Capstone Agriculture Careers
TCS Business Careers (Entrepreneurship, Managing Business & Marketing)	CTE Business Careers	CTE Capstone Business Careers
TCS Finance Careers (Personal Finance, Real Estate, & Financial Strategy)	CTE Finance Careers	CTE Capstone Finance Careers
TCS Health Careers (Patient Care, Complimentary, & Supportive Services)	CTE Health Careers	CTE Capstone Health Careers
TCS Hospitality Careers (Events, Travel, & Leisure)	CTE Hospitality Careers	CTE Capstone Hospitality Careers
TCS Community Service Careers (Child Development, Education, & Human Services)	CTE Community Service Careers	CTE Capstone Community Service Careers

TCS CTE Program *All classes are 10 Elective credits each.		
Pathway	Fall Course	Spring Course
Just in case		
Just in case		