



St. John's Northwestern is dedicated to the individual preparation of its students for success in college and in life. The combination of smaller classes, access to teachers on a one-to-one basis, experienced faculty, and rigorous courses create a learning environment that is both structured and nurturing. It is our mission to facilitate academic curiosity, intellectual growth and scholastic success for each student. The middle school is for students in grades 6, 7, and 8. The high school program is for students in grades 9 through 12.

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General Information

Grading and Credits

The academic year is divided into 2 semesters; a semester is divided into 2 quarters. Only the semester grade shows on the student's official transcript of academic record. Most courses are worth one-half credit per semester. Some higher level courses such as AP may earn up to 1.5 credit per semester and indicated in subsequent information. Semester grades are calculated as follows:

Middle School Courses:

Quarter Grade (50%) + Quarter Grade (50%) = Semester Grade

High School Courses:

Quarter Grade (40%) + Quarter Grade (40%) + Semester Exam Score (20%) = Semester Grade

Grade points are utilized in the computation of grade point average (GPA) according to the applicable grade scale shown here. Weighted GPA shows on the transcript.

Scheduling

Students select year-long or semester classes to fill 7 class periods. We work hard to give students all requested courses; however, scheduling conflicts may arise in which a student may need to select another course. Only necessary schedule changes are considered after the semester starts. Some AP and college level courses may require a double class period.

Accreditation and Memberships

- Independent Schools Association of the Central States (accreditation)
- National Association of Independent Schools
- Association of Military Schools & Colleges of the United States
- The College Board
- Wisconsin Independent Schools Assoc.
- Midwest Boarding Schools Association
- The Association of Boarding Schools

Standard Grade Scale			Honors/AP/College Level Grade Scale		
Percent	Letter	Grade Points	Percent	Letter	Grade Points
93-100	A	4.0	95-100	H	5.0
90-92	A-	3.7	92-94	H-	4.7
87-89	B+	3.3	90-91	A+	4.3
83-86	B	3.0	88-89	A	4.0
80-82	B-	2.7	86-87	A-	3.7
77-79	C+	2.3	84-85	B+	3.3
73-76	C	2.0	82-83	B	3.0
70-72	C-	1.7	80-81	B-	2.7
67-69	D+	1.3	77-79	C+	2.3
63-66	D	1.0	73-76	C	2.0
60-62	D-	0.7	70-72	C-	1.7
59/Below	F	0	67-69	D+	1.3
			63-66	D	1.0
			60-62	D-	0.7
			59/Below	F	0

HIGH SCHOOL, Grades 9-12

Credit and GPA Transfer Policy

The credit and GPA transfer will follow as closely as possible the credits and grades earned at a student's previous high school. We accept the weighted GPA from other schools with a limit of 1.0 weighted score for Honors and Advanced Placement classes and the normal increase for accelerated classes. If a grade scale is not provided by the previous school, grades will be calculated according to SJN's grade scale.

Honors Courses courses are designed to challenge the student and are offered in the English, mathematics, science, social studies and world languages departments. Students desiring to take honors courses must meet all prerequisites and receive approval from the academic department.

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are full-year honors courses; some courses require more in-class time and therefore, earn more credit. The goal of AP coursework is to earn a minimum score of a 3 on the annual AP Exam to potentially earn college credit for that course. Students should verify with each college of choice regarding the acceptance of AP scores and minimum requirements. Students desiring to take AP courses must meet all prerequisites and receive approval from the academic department.

AP courses for 2023-2024 school year*

- AP Language & Composition (1.5 cr.)
- AP Human Geography (1.0 cr.)
- AP Physics (1.0 cr. each)
- AP Chemistry (1.5 cr.)
- AP Environmental Science (1.0 cr.)
- AP Computer Science (1.0 cr.)
- AP Calculus AB (1.0 cr.)

*Subject to change based on enrollment

Dual credit college courses are semester courses that allow students to earn both high school credit (0.5 cr./semester) and college credit (credits vary). Students receive college credit from our partner university with a grade of C or better. Some college courses require students to qualify through a placement exam (ie. math and English). All college courses are taught by university-certified instructors and may take place on or off the SJNA campus. **An extra fee per college credit hour will be charged to the student's account and is based on university tuition rates.** High school transcripts reflect courses as dual credit but only show high school credit. Transcripts reflecting college credit are available through the hosting university. Students taking college level courses must have all prerequisites met and be approved by the academic department.

College Courses for 2023-2024 school year*					
Semester 1	High School Credit	College Credit	Semester 2	High School Credit	College Credit
College Composition	0.5	3.0	College Communication	0.5	3.0
Early Modern Civilizations (1500-1815)	0.5	3.0	Modern Civilizations (1815 - present)	0.5	3.0
Introduction to Business	0.5	3.0	Financial Literacy	0.5	3.0
College Algebra (full year course)	1.0	3.0	College Statistics (full year course)	1.0	3.0
College Biology (full year course)	1.0	4.0			

*Subject to change based on enrollment

International Students

International students are assessed at the beginning of the term and placed in courses accordingly. Students may need to complete a rigorous ESL learning program before entering into mainstream courses. Graduation requirements may be adjusted based upon a student's English proficiency.

High School Graduation Requirements

To graduate from St. John's Northwestern a minimum of 24 total credits are required. Of the total credits, some academic departments require a specific number of credits and courses as a minimum. Two honors diplomas are offered for students desiring to follow a higher learning track: STEM Honors and Humanities Honors. These options have additional graduation requirements per the chart below. Electives are credits or courses taken by choice beyond the minimum course and department requirements regardless of the department in which they are earned.

Graduation Requirements			
Department	COLLEGE PREP DIPLOMA 24 total credits 2.0 cumulative GPA	STEM HONORS DIPLOMA 25 total credits 3.0 cumulative GPA	HUMANITIES HONORS DIPLOMA 25 total credits 3.0 cumulative GPA
ENGLISH	4.0 credits	4.0 credits	4.0 credits, 2.0 cr. honors level
COLL./CAREER PLAN.	0.5 credit	0.5 credit	0.5 credit
FINE ART	1.0 credits	1.0 credits	1.0 credits
LEADERSHIP (MA JROTC or PA)	2.0 credits	2.0 credits	2.0 credits
MATHEMATICS	3.0 credits Courses: Geometry; Algebra 2	4.0 credits, 2.0 cr. honors level Courses: Trig/Pre-Calc Hnrs or Calculus	3.0 credits Courses: Geometry; Algebra 2
PHYSICAL ED.*	1.5 credits Courses: Health	1.5 credits Courses: Health	1.5 credits Courses: Health
SCIENCE	3.0 credits Courses: Biology; Chem. or Physics	4.0 credits, 1.0 cr. honors level Courses: Biology; Chem. or Physics	3.0 credits Courses: Biology; Chem. or Physics
SOCIAL STUDIES	3.0 credits Courses: U.S. History	3.0 credits Courses: U.S. History	4.0 credits, 2.0 cr. honors level Courses: U.S. History
TECHNOLOGY	1.0 credit	2.0 credits	1.0 credit
WORLD LANGUAGES	2.0 credits, same lang.	2.0 credits, same lang.	3.0 credits, same lang.

English/World Language requirements for international students may differ based upon language proficiency and will be determined by the Academic Office

Course Requirements and Offerings

Full-year courses (unshaded in tables below) earn 1.0 or 1.5 credits. Students taking full-year courses are expected to remain in the course the entire year. **Semester courses (shaded in tables below) earn 0.5 credit;** these courses are offered either 1st or 2nd semester or both semesters as indicated in the following tables. **Course offerings and schedule are subject to change.** Exceptions to requirements or grade levels are approved through the Academic Office. See course descriptions for all course prerequisites.

ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE

Requirements: New international students are given a variety of English language proficiency assessments upon entering SJN. Students not meeting the minimum English proficiency requirements, as determined by the academic department, are required to take one or more ESL courses until the minimum requirement is met. Student schedules will vary in level as well as the number of required courses per individual proficiency level. Students are assessed regularly and are eligible to advance to the next level at every academic semester.

9 th / 10 th / 11 th / 12 th grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	ESL HS Beginning Literacy 1	ESL HS Beginning Literacy 2
	ESL HS Intermediate Literacy 1	ESL HS Intermediate Literacy 2
	HS American Literature for ESL	HS European Literature for ESL
	ESL Study Lab	ESL Study Lab

Course Descriptions

HS BEGINNING LITERACY This is an ESL literacy course for all new international students in high school entering SJNA and testing at the *Length: 1-2 sem.* Entering (Level 1) & Emerging (Level 2) of the WIDA Consortium English Language Proficiency Standards. New international students enrolled in this course may be at the early stages of literacy and/or had little exposure to understanding the written language of English. The focus of this course is to expose ESL students to different academic texts, build reading strategies, academic English vocabulary, grammar and writing at the entering and emerging levels. The course is built on thematic units promoting 21st century academic skills by teaching key reading skills, grammar for writing, higher order thinking skills and a wide range of general and academic vocabulary preparing students for college classrooms.

HS INTERMEDIATE LITERACY This is an ESL literacy course for all new international students in middle school entering SJNA and testing at the *Length: 1-2 sem* Developing (Level 3) & Expanding (Level 4) of the WIDA Consortium English Language Proficiency Standards. New international students enrolled in this course may have already developed foundational grammar, good writing and reading skills and had some exposure to understanding the written language of English. The focus of this course is to expose ESL students to different academic texts, strengthen reading strategies, improve academic English vocabulary, grammar and writing at the developing and expanding levels. Additionally, another goal of this course is to introduce and develop ACT test taking skills by completing ACT reading and writing practice tests. The course is built on thematic units promoting 21st century academic skills by teaching key reading skills, grammar for writing, higher order thinking skills and a wide range of general and academic vocabulary preparing students for college classrooms.

ESL STUDY LAB This study period is scheduled during the academic day and is designed for students to get individualized additional *Length: 1-2 sem.* support in all academic classes. This class specifically supports ESL students at proficiency levels 1-3.

AMERICAN LITERATURE FOR ESL This ESL literature course is designed to model our college preparatory American Literature course with the appropriate level of scaffolding and support in order to begin the transition to appropriate grade level English courses. Students in this course experience an intensive study of literature from Native Americans, European explorers, early Revolutionary writers to the Romantic. Students can expect to read and write in response to poetry, drama, novels, essays, and short stories. It is expected that students think critically and communicate their ideas through oral and writing assignments that expose and analyze writers' intents and purposes. Approval for this course will be based on a student's WIDA proficiency level.

EUROPEAN LITERATURE FOR ESL This ESL literature course is designed to model our college preparatory European Literature course with the appropriate level of scaffolding and support in order to begin to transition to appropriate grade level English courses. This course is primarily designed to cover European literature from 1300-1700. The literature selected is presented chronologically and representative of major eras in history and covers numerous European authors and trends. Readings include novels, short stories, and poetry. Approval for this course will be based on a student's WIDA proficiency level.

ENGLISH

Requirements: 4.0 department credits

Humanities Diploma Requirements: 4.0 department credits, 2 at honors level

9th Grade	English 9 (1.0 cr.) or English 9 Honors (1.0 cr.)	
10th Grade	English 10 (1.0 cr.) or English 10 Honors (1.0 cr.)	
11th / 12th Grade 2.0 credits required, any combination	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	Creative Writing (0.5 cr.)	Speech and Debate (0.5 cr.)
	College Composition (0.5 cr.)	College Communication (0.5 cr.)
	American Literature (1.0 cr.)	
	European Literature (1.0 cr.)	
	AP Language & Composition (1.5 cr.)	

Course Descriptions

ENGLISH 9 This course provides a better understanding of English grammar, sentence structure, paragraph structure and essay structure. This course also concentrates on vocabulary skills while building on higher level reading comprehension. Students are introduced to general vocabulary as well as literary terminology. Students assimilate this knowledge in a working context. English 9 focuses on writing mechanics and an introduction to literature.

ENGLISH 9 HONORS (English 9 Equivalent) This course is for the student who has previously demonstrated excellence in vocabulary development, reading comprehension and written self-expression. Students are expected to read, analyze, and write at an accelerated pace. This is a genre-driven course of poetry, short stories (fiction and nonfiction) and novels as well as drama to include a Shakespearean selection. The student's response to literary assignments drives the majority of one's writing. Students study the historical background of a writer and literary piece to help place context on a variety of themes and criticism. Essay construction is taught as a writing process to provide students with a structure for idea placement. Emphasized is thesis-support essays of mechanical cleanliness and accurate grammatical structure of writing. Additionally, students regularly engage in college-bound vocabulary development and practice.

ENGLISH 10 A course designed to further develop student reading, writing and oral presentation skills. Emphasis is placed upon basic and intermediate composition using rhetorical writing devices: the narrative, descriptive, persuasive, comparison and contrast and expository essays. Analysis of ten short stories using the elements of a short story; appreciation and analysis of drama using one Shakespearean play; introduction to the formal research paper using the MLA format—and development of that topic into a 3-4 minute oral presentation in front of the class; and appreciation and analysis of poetry (to include narrative, dramatic and lyric poetry) are additional requirements. At least two novels are also read, examined and analyzed.

ENGLISH 10 HONORS (English 10 Equivalent) This honors course is designed for students who have already demonstrated excellence in reading, writing, and oral presentation skills. Students are expected to read, write, and present at an accelerated pace. Students will learn narrative, descriptive, persuasive, comparison and contrast, and expository essays, with an emphasis on thesis-support, accurate grammatical structure of writing, college-bound vocabulary and research methods, and more. A combination of novels, poetry (narrative, dramatic and lyric), Shakespearean plays, and short stories will be read, examined, and analyzed in this class.

CREATIVE WRITING Students engage in numerous genres of writing, including but not limited to: various poetic forms, flash fiction, the short story, the memoir, and the graphic novel. Students are expected to engage with the various stages of content creation including learning brainstorming strategies, writing and revising via the drafting process, and producing a finished piece that is publication-ready. As a culminating project, students in the class produce a portfolio of their work representative of their efforts throughout the semester.

SPEECH AND DEBATE This is a one-semester course designed to help students improve communication skills necessary for success both in the classroom and world beyond. Types of speeches will include demonstration, articulation, professionalism, and persuasiveness. The teacher places emphasis on content, organization, logic, and the strategies of effective delivery in public speaking. Students will learn how to argue their points effectively, actively persuade, inspire, inform, and engage an audience on a variety of topics.
Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: English 9 and 10

AMERICAN LITERATURE Students in this course experience an intensive study of American Literature, spanning the time period of 1600- the present. Students will then experience an intensive study of short stories, essays, and novels, and analyze the literature through the perspective of the historical significance, exploring the relationship between American writing and ideas of the past and ideas and philosophies of the present. Students are expected to read actively and think critically to absorb a work, responding in expository and analytical essays. Both fiction and non-fiction literature is assigned as a means to investigate the conflict between tradition and revolution as well as the subsequent freedom of an expanding new America. College-bound vocabulary development is an ancillary piece of this course.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: English 9 and 10

EUROPEAN LITERATURE A European literature survey course intended to prepare the high school senior for freshman year of college. This course is primarily designed to cover European literature from 1300 - the present. The literature selected is presented chronologically and representative of major eras in history and covers numerous European authors and trends. Readings include novels, short stories, and poetry. The weekly schedule includes but is not limited to reading/analyzing literature, maintaining a dialectical journal, vocabulary study, and video presentations. Writing assignments accentuate student clarity of thought, mechanical cleanliness, and evidence-based argument/persuasion.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: English 9 and 10

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text—from a range of disciplines and historical periods.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: English 9 and 10
Instructor consent
Min. 3.0 cum. GPA.

DUAL CREDIT (High School and College Credit) Additional fee.

COLLEGE COMPOSITION This course provides study and practice in rhetoric and essay writing, emphasizing writing as a process of invention, drafting, revising and editing. Students will practice writing in following genres: personal reflective essay, compare and contrast essay, research paper, rhetorical analysis paper, persuasive call-to- action/debate speech. The main goal of the course is to encourage good writing habits for life, both inside and outside the classroom. Effective reading strategies and critical thinking skills are also key components of the course. Students can choose whether to enroll in the class for college credit. Additional fees apply.
Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: English 9 and 10
Instructor consent
Min. 3.0 cum. GPA

COLLEGE COMMUNICATION This course introduces the basic concepts of human communication in relation to personal branding with special emphasis on adapting to diverse cultural audiences. The course includes practice in Informative Speaking, Critical Listening/Evaluation of Persuasive Messages, Interpersonal Communication, and Digital Communication. Creating a personal brand is meant to influence perceptions of others about one’s credibility and expertise. Through communication, people create impressions about their competencies and achievements in order to have an impact on others. Students can choose whether to enroll in the class for college credit. Additional fees apply.
Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: English 9 and 10
Instructor consent
Min. 3.0 cum. GPA

FINE ARTS

Requirements: 1.0 credit minimum requirement

9 th / 10 th / 11 th / 12 th grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	Intro to Art & Design (0.5 cr.)	Intro to Art & Design (0.5 cr.)
	Advanced Art & Design (0.5 cr.)	Advanced Art & Design (0.5 cr.)
	Project Photography (0.5 cr.)	Project Photography (0.5 cr.)
	Yearbook (1.0 cr.)	
	Band: Beginning, Advanced (0.5 cr. each semester)	
	Scottish Highland Drumming: Beginning, Advanced (0.5 cr. each semester)	
	Bagpipes: Beginning, Advanced (0.5 cr. each semester)	

Course Descriptions

PERFORMING ARTS

Additional fees for uniform and instrument rental probable; placement in courses to be determined by instructors

BEGINNING HIGHLAND DRUMMING <i>Length: 2 sem.</i>	This class focuses on the introduction to, and the establishment of, the foundations of Scottish Highland Drumming as an artform. Students learn the basic drumming rudiments and basic fundamental percussive dynamics which complement traditional bagpipe music. With the fundamental rudiments mastered, and basics of music theory and reading understood, they are exposed to their first drum scores. As these scores are learned, students migrate these fundamentals onto the actual drums, enabling them to perform their foundational abilities.
ADVANCED HIGHLAND DRUMMING <i>Length: 2 sem;</i> <i>PREQ: Beg. Drumming</i>	This class focuses on the establishment and continuation of solid individual proficiencies and confidence of Highland Drumming. A cursory review of basic technique learned in beginning and intermediate drumming, as well as the full SJNA Pipe & Drums repertoire will be done. This will lead to a significant increase in the individual repertoire of drum scores which support tunes. Many of these could be used for special small ensemble performances at SJNA Pipes & Drums functions. In addition to repertoire expansion, the students will focus on gaining near total self confidence in Highland Drumming.
BEGINNING BAGPIPES <i>Length: 2 sem.</i>	This class focuses on the introduction to and establishment of the foundations of bagpiping as an artform. Using the practice chanter, students learn the basic scale of the bagpipes as well as the basic fundamental rudiments that adorn traditional bagpipe music. Basic music theory, music reading, and writing are incorporated to prepare the students for learning the tunes that will build the foundation of the SJNA Pipes & Drums repertoire. Students are slowly introduced to the mechanics and operation of the Great Highland Bagpipe
ADVANCED BAGPIPES <i>Length: 2 sem.</i> <i>PREQ: Int. Bagpipes</i>	This class focuses on the establishment of solid individual proficiencies and self reliance with the Great Highland Bagpipes. This includes a continued growth in knowledge of tunes, techniques and musicality. A cursory review of basic technique learned in Beginning and Intermediate Bagpipes, as well as the full SJNA Pipe & Drums repertoire will begin this class. The focus of this class will move into advanced embellishment techniques and an exposure to a much broader understanding of the canon of Celtic folk music. In addition to repertoire expansion, the students will focus on gaining near total self reliance on the Great Highland Bagpipe itself. This includes a thorough knowledge of the setup of the instrument and the impact of the environment on its function. It also includes a review of drone tuning, and establishing a solid knowledge of the harmonic tuning of the bagpipe chanter to the drones.
BEGINNING BAND <i>Length: 2 sem.</i>	Through the use of lesson material and practice, students learn the fundamentals to play a band instrument. This introductory band class is for all instrumentalists of all ability levels. The course provides a great opportunity to maintain or develop skills in instrumental music.
ADVANCED BAND <i>Length: 2 sem.</i> <i>PREQ: Int. Band</i>	This course moves students beyond instrumental fundamentals and gives each band member the opportunity to advance their musicianship to a higher level. The band instructor emphasizes artistic performance and encourages students to acquire more advanced technical and expressive skills while playing and learning more about their specific instrument(s). We dive into the more intricate aspects of music (melody, harmony, timbre, form, texture, rhythm, and meter). This class is designed for students who wish to advance themselves through music.
VISUAL ARTS	
INTRODUCTION TO ART & DESIGN <i>Length: 1 sem.</i>	An introductory course that addresses both 2 and 3 dimensional studio production. The 2-D portion emphasizes observational drawing through studies of still-lives, portraits and figures, while emphasizing the elements of line, value and proportions while the 3-D studio productions will emphasize the principles of balance, harmony, and variety.
ADVANCED ART & DESIGN <i>Prereq.: Intro. to Art</i> <i>Length: 1 sem.;</i> <i>Prereq.: Intro. to Art</i>	This course is ideal for the student interested in further exploration of artwork through painting and drawing, freestyle art, and printmaking. With the foundation of the elements and principles of design (introduced in Intro. to Art), the students explore a number of materials and techniques. Students interested in expanding their own creativity with guided assistance will develop a deeper appreciation for a variety of art forms. Through individual assessments and group critiques, students acquire optimal development on problem solving and critical thinking skills through creative projects including mixed media, sculpture, mosaic, fiber, printmaking, recycled, papier mache and a variety of other mediums. Students explore a variety of artists and art processes.
PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHY <i>Prereq.: Intro. to Art</i> <i>Length: 1 sem.</i>	Learning the foundations of advertising, marketing and photography will be explored in this multimedia class. Students will learn how to create powerful ads, logos and media from concept to completion. They will learn how to take quality photographs using an SLR camera and how to do post production clean up. Production on the yearbook will be another aspect of this class solidifying the properties learned throughout the year long class.
YEARBOOK <i>Prereq.: Intro. to Art</i> <i>Length: 1 or 2 sem.</i>	Yearbook is a semester or year-long elective credit that produces school history, our yearbook. Ideal members of this yearbook staff are creative and motivated people who will have a sense of pride in accomplishing this important school tradition. Yearbook staff are expected to have a high level of maturity and the ability to work independently. Staff will be responsible for the production, design, and publication of the school yearbook, which requires time spent both in and out of class.. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to exercise creativity, while developing new skills in computer design, photography, copywriting, and project management.

MATHEMATICS

Math Requirements: 3.0 department credits; Courses: Geometry, Algebra 2 (or equivalents);

STEM Diploma Requirements: 4.0 department credits, 2.0 credits at honors level; Courses: Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus Honors OR Calculus

9 th Grade	Algebra 1 (1.0 cr.)	
	Geometry (1.0 cr.) or Geometry Hnrs (1.0 cr.) if Algebra 1 taken in 8th grade	
10 th Grade	Geometry (1.0 cr.) or Geometry Honors (1.0 cr.)	
	Algebra 2 (1.0 cr.) or Algebra 2 Honors (1.0 cr.)	
11 th / 12 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	College Algebra (0.5 cr.)*	College Statistics(0.5 cr.)*
	Algebra 2 (1.0 cr.) or Algebra 2 Honors (1.0 cr.)	
	Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus (1.0 cr.) or Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus Honors (1.0 cr.)	
	AP Calculus AB (1.0 cr.)	

Course Descriptions

ALGEBRA 1 This first year algebra course includes work with numerical expressions. It also covers axioms, inequalities, absolute values, word problems, functions, graphing, linear equations, systems, exponents, radicals, and operations with polynomials, factoring, and an introduction to quadratic equations. Computer usage will be directed towards analysis of functions, graphs and systems of equations.
Length: 2 sem.

GEOMETRY The major goals of geometry are to acquaint students with the structure of geometry as a mathematical system and to develop the student's ability to do abstract logical reasoning. This is a basic course in Euclidean plane geometry, with deductive reasoning and proofs. Solid geometry, area, volume, and surface area of various figures are studied. The basic principles of trigonometry are covered in this course. Computer use will be directed towards the development and strengthening of student comprehension in the above areas through the tutorial and project based software included with the text.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Alg. 1

GEOMETRY HONORS This course is designed to be a challenging alternative to the regular Geometry course for those students who had a B or better average in their first year algebra course. Students interested in taking the course should have a strong interest in math. Topics covered in the class will include, but are not limited to: deductive reasoning and proofs, solid geometry, area, volume and trigonometry. Each of these topics will be explored through theory and application. Projects involving research, analysis and writing skills will be used to include a cross curricular approach.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Alg. , instructor consent

ALGEBRA 2 This second year algebra course reviews Algebra 1 topics in more depth and covers complex numbers, rational exponents, conic sections, exponential functions, and systems of equations. Also included are set theory and Venn diagrams. Computer usage will be directed towards the exploration of conic sections, exponential functions and tutorials for students.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Alg. 1

ALGEBRA 2 HONORS This is a second year course in the Algebra sequence and is designed to be an alternative to regular Algebra II course for those students who achieved a B or better average in Algebra I. Students interested in this course should have a strong interest in math and have a solid background. Topics covered in this course will cover but are not limited to: a more in-depth review of Algebra I concepts, rational expressions, matrices, irrational and complex numbers, analytic geometry, solving quadratics and trigonometry concepts.
Length: 2 sem
PREQ: Alg. 1, instructor consent

TRIGONOMETRY/ PRECALCULUS Completing the algebra/geometry sequence, this course reviews algebra topics, with an in-depth study of functions (exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, circular, and transcendental). Graphing techniques, sequences, probability, introductory calculus, and analytical geometry are included. Computer usage will involve analysis of trigonometric functions, statistics and probability. Also the use of graphing utilities will be used throughout.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Alg. 2

TRIGONOMETRY /PRECALCULUS HONORS Completing the algebra/geometry sequence, this course reviews algebra topics, with an in-depth study of functions (exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, circular, and transcendental). Graphing techniques, sequences, probability, introductory calculus, and analytical geometry are included. Computer usage will involve analysis of trigonometric functions, statistics and probability. Also the use of graphing utilities will be used throughout. Course will cover topics more in-depth than the standard course.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Alg. 2, instructor consent

AP CALCULUS AB This course covers all topics as in the AP Calculus Course Description so as to prepare students to take the AP Calculus exam. Throughout the course we will develop and prove many of the formulas and major concepts, such as limits, derivatives, and integrals. Although a high priority will be placed on mathematical concepts, we will also use the graphing calculator as a tool for exploring and experimenting with calculus, interpreting results, and supporting conclusions. This course will provide students with a strong foundation and understanding of this discipline, not based on memorized rules, which will help them succeed in all future study of higher mathematics.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Trig/Pre Calc., instructor consent

DUAL CREDIT (High School and College Credit) Additional fee.

COLLEGE STATISTICS This course provides a fourth year of mathematics for students not pursuing trig/pre-calculus or calculus. Students can choose whether to enroll in the class for college credit. This course provides an understanding of basic descriptive and inferential statistics for students who have a need for quantitative methods. Topics covered are presentation of data in table and graphic forms, measures of central tendency and dispersion, elementary probability theory, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing, regression and correlation theory, Chi-Square usage, analysis of variance and nonparametric methods. Additional fees apply.

Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: Alg. 2, Geom.
Placement test req.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA This course provides a fourth year of mathematics for students not pursuing trig/pre-calculus or calculus. Students can choose whether to enroll in the class for college credit. Course topics include: Function concepts: polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Other topics are systems of equations, matrices and determinants, sequences and series, analytic geometry and conic sections, and mathematical induction. Additional fees apply.

Length: 1 sem;
PREQ: Alg. 2
Placement test req

LEADERSHIP

Leadership requirements: 2.0 department credits

9th / 10th / 11th / 12th grade	JROTC Leadership Education Training (LET 101) The Emerging Leader (1.0 cr.)
	JROTC Leadership Education Training (LET 201) The Developing Leader (1.0 cr.)
	JROTC Leadership Education Training (LET 301) The Supervising Leader (1.0 cr.)
	JROTC Leadership Education Training (LET 401) The Managing Leader (1.0 cr.)
	Leadership Development - Self Leadership/Character and Leadership (1.0 cr.)
	Intermediate Leadership Development - Developing Leadership Skills/Finding One's Own Style (1.0 cr.)
Advanced Leadership - Concepts and Practice/Ethics and Behavior (1.0 cr.)	

Course Descriptions**MILITARY ACADEMY PROGRAM - JROTC**

The nationally accredited JROTC program is a US Army sponsored curriculum designed to prepare cadets for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as citizens along with supporting programs. Seniors in key leadership positions in the Military Academy may be required to take upper level leadership courses.

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION TRAINING 101 (LET 101) The Emerging Leader This course supports 22 lessons designed for first year cadets. First year cadets are introduced to content that will help the inner leader begin to emerge. Lessons covered during this first year include: Customs and Courtesies of JROTC, Social Etiquette and Manners, Thinking Maps, Self-Awareness, Personal Code of Conduct; Personal Growth Plan, Team Building and Drill, Making Decisions and Setting Goals, Anger Management, Resolving Conflict, Understanding and Controlling Stress, Physical Fitness & Service Learning. This beginning leadership course is required for all cadets.

Length: 2 sem.

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION TRAINING 201 (LET 201) The Developing Leader Developing Leaders builds upon the mastery of LET -1 skills and abilities, providing new and more challenging opportunities in leadership development. Lessons covered during this 2nd year include: Elements of leadership, Leadership Attributes, Leadership Competencies and Styles, Becoming a Better Communicator, Delivering Better Speeches, Career Considerations, Ethical Concepts, Team Member Qualities, First Aid Emergencies, Bullying, Preventing Violence, Elements of Health, Benefits of Physical Activity, Nutrition, Body Image Physical Fitness and Evaluating a Service Project.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: LET 101

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION TRAINING 301 (LET 301) The Supervising Leader Supervising Leaders build upon the mastery of LET 1 & 2 skills and abilities, providing Cadets with new and more challenging opportunities as a leader by overseeing planning, project implementation, in the local JROTC program and surrounding community. Lesson covered during this third year include: Command and Staff Roles, Leading Meetings, Planning Projects, Continuous Improvement, Management Skills, Ethical Leadership, Supervising, Personal Planning and Management, Portfolios and Interviews, Responsibilities of a Platoon Leader, Executing Platoon Drill, Prejudice, Negotiating, The Effects of Substance Abuse, Physical Fitness, and Planning for a Service Project.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: LET 201

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION TRAINING 401 (LET 401) The Managing Leader Managing Leaders provide Cadets multiple opportunities to manage and lead in the battalion, in the academy and their respective communities. The LET 4 Cadet is ready to assume responsibilities and manage him or herself and others whom they work with or oversee as a Cadet Manager. Lessons covered this fourth year include: Leadership Accomplishments, Strategies for Teaching, Using Feedback with Learners, Professional Development, Motivating Others, Communicating to Lead, Company Drill, Battalion Drill, Challenges to Fundamental Principles, The Future of Citizen Rights, Physical Fitness and Managing a Service Learning Project.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Invitation by the JROTC department

PREFECT ACADEMY PROGRAM

This sequence of leadership development coursework is designed to create formative experiences focused on students becoming leaders of character, competence, and compassion. Seniors in key leadership positions in the Prefect Academy may be required to take upper level courses.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SEM 1 is designed to educate and inspire developing leaders to become difference makers in their school community, local community, and the world beyond. Through group discussion, presentations, community engagement and team building activities, students will actively pursue topics from followership to collaborative leadership within the framework of various groups. Through a combination of reflections and discussions, students will better understand the importance of themselves as leaders. We then examine the foundation of self-leadership and apply it to the larger framework of the importance of character in leadership. The class pays particular attention to understanding leadership and its various styles, and the prominent leadership traits of intelligence, confidence, charisma, determination, sociability, and integrity. The character of the leader is the fundamental aspect of good leadership, and case studies, discussion, written reflection, and reading assignments, will all contribute to a greater knowledge of the importance of character and leadership.

Length: 2 sem.

INTERMEDIATE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SEM 1 is structured to assist students in developing their leadership skills and abilities. Particular attention will be given to administrative, interpersonal, and conceptual skills, as well as discovering and developing strengths. The course is designed to increase self-esteem as well as self-confidence of the student. Class discussion, case studies, written reflections, external projects, and reading assignments, will aid in further enhancing an understanding of improving leadership skills. SEM 2 is moving beyond developing leadership skills, while learning to articulate and implement a vision for the group or organization. Establishing a constructive climate where structure and cohesiveness contribute to excellence will also prove paramount. Through a combination of case studies, discussion, written reflection, and reading assignments, students will better understand their own leadership styles that will help to give direction to the respective group.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: 1.0 cr. LEAD

ADVANCED LEADERSHIP EDUCATION SEM 1 will explore practical strategies to become a more effective leader. In many situations expectations are placed on leaders to take responsibility for any number of decisions. Various leadership styles will be incorporated into the class to better understand what it is exactly that constitutes a successful leader. Through a combination of case studies, community service, discussion, self-evaluation, written reflection, and reading assignments, students will better comprehend and improve their leadership abilities. SEM 2, Ethics, is the bedrock of leadership, and the class will focus on the responsibility of leaders to foster ethical behavior. The course will explore ethical dilemmas in various situations to better understand the inherent concepts by stressing the application of critical thinking, conflict resolution, and ethical decision making in the context of active leadership. Through a combination of case studies, community service, discussion, self-evaluation, written reflection, and reading assignments, students will better comprehend the importance of ethics as the foundation of leadership.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: 1.0 cr. LEAD

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Requirements: 1.5 department credits starting with class of 2024; may be a combination of academic class or team sport; Courses: Health

9 th / 10 th / 11 th / 12 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	Physical Fitness (0.5 cr.)	Physical Fitness (0.5 cr.)
	Health (0.5 cr.)	Health (0.5 cr.)
	Fall, Winter or Spring Team Sport (0.5 cr.) See course descriptions for details	

Course Descriptions

PHYSICAL FITNESS The Daily WOD (Workout of the Day) uses constantly varied, functional movements, executed at high intensity. Students improve fitness in 10 different areas: cardiovascular endurance, strength, stamina, speed, flexibility, power, balance, coordination, agility, and accuracy. Every workout can be modified and scaled to each student's unique set of abilities.

Length: 1 sem.

HEALTH This high school course teaches the benefits of a lifelong commitment to one's health and wellness, and a respect for others', through personal responsibility and decision-making, positive self esteem, self-reflection, and access to pertinent, useful information. Topics may include fitness, nutrition, human growth and development, at-risk behaviors, mental and social health, relationships, CPR, and general first aid.

Length: 1 sem.

TEAM SPORTS Students who actively participate in a team sport (WIAA sports or Raiders) for 95% of a season may earn 0.5 credit toward the required physical education credits, up to 1.0 credit (2 seasons) total. Students must declare credit intention at the start of the season with approval from the coach.

SCIENCE

Requirements: 3.0 department credits; Courses: Biology; Chemistry or Physics (or equivalents)

STEM Diploma Requirements: 4.0 department credits, 2.0 credit at honors level

9th Grade	Biology (1.0 cr.) or Biology Honors (1.0 cr.)	
10th Grade	Chemistry (1.0 cr.) or Chemistry Honors (1.0 cr.)	
	Physics (1.0 cr.)	
11th / 12th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	Geology and Earth Systems (0.5 cr.)	Space Science and Meteorology (0.5 cr.)
	Chemistry (1.0 cr.) or Chemistry Honors (1.0 cr.)	
	Physics (1.0 cr.)	
	AP Environmental Science (1.0 cr.)	
	AP Physics 1 (1.0 cr.)	
	AP Chemistry (1.5 cr.)	
	College Biology (1.0 cr.)*	

Course Descriptions

BIOLOGY The course studies three fundamental aspects of life. One is the foundational principles of life processes. *Length: 2 sem.* Included in this is photosynthesis, cellular respiration, and protein synthesis. The second component is the cell. The aspects of the cell presented are chromosomes, cell division, cell membrane, and genetics. The third is a survey of organisms found in the 6 kingdoms. Students look at viruses/bacteria, protozoa, invertebrates, vertebrates, and plants. If time permits, ecology is addressed. Labs/activities are incorporated into each unit to enhance the concepts being taught.

BIOLOGY HONORS This full-year course may be taken by an advanced freshman with teacher approval or as a follow up to regular biology. Components covered in regular biology will also be discussed in this course, but additional core topics are introduced, such as cell biology, molecular biology, genetics, ecology, evolution and biodiversity and human physiology. The Biozone IB Science Workbook, an international-based curriculum, is used as a framework. Labs/activities are incorporated into each unit to enhance the concepts being taught. *Length: 2 sem.*
PREQ: Instructor consent, maintain min. 3.0 course GPA

CHEMISTRY This full-year course investigates the composition of substances and their transformations. Specific topics include lab safety, the Periodic Table and trends, scientific measurement (using lab equipment, metric conversions, scientific notation, and significant digit rounding), atomic structure and parts of the atom, electron configuration rules, chemical bonding, chemical names and formulas, the mole and stoichiometry, chemical reactions, chemical reaction rate and equilibrium factors, types & properties of solutions, and acids/bases with pH concepts. When possible and where appropriate, the class relates these principles and concepts to everyday experiences, current uses in society, appreciation for the orderliness of nature, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Student collaboration in assignment problem solving is encouraged. Students are graded on a combination of evaluated quizzes, tests, a plethora of collaborative class assignments, limited/short homework sets, lab papers, and a couple written science papers. *Length: 2 sem.*
PREQ: Biology

CHEMISTRY HONORS This course surveys basic chemical principles, studying the composition of substances and the changes that substances undergo. Topics that are covered in detail include the Periodic Table, scientific measurement, problem solving, parts of the atom and molecules, chemical names and formulas, the mole, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, properties of gasses, chemical bonding, properties of water, properties of solutions, and pH concepts. Emphasis is placed on relating these principles and concepts to everyday experiences, current uses in society, an appreciation for the orderliness of nature, the development of continued critical thinking skills, and science organization skills. Laboratory work, quizzes, tests, note taking, student organization, and analytical thinking are stressed. Course studies more topics more in-depth than standard chemistry. *Length: 2 sem.*
PREQ: Biology

PHYSICS This course is designed to prepare the student who intends to pursue study in science intensive careers in classical areas of mechanics and topics are selected from fluids, sound, electricity, magnetism. Students will integrate algebra, geometry, and trigonometry with principles of physics to analyze and solve real-world problems. Topics are introduced through lecture/discussion sessions with problem solving worksheets, laboratory projects, and writing assignments that test the students ability to explain their conceptual understanding of the listed areas of classical physics. *Length: 2 sem.*
PREQ: Biology, Geo, and Algebra 2 or concurrent

GEOLOGY AND EARTH SYSTEMS <i>Length: 1 sem.</i> <i>PREQ: Biology and Chemistry or Physics</i>	<p>This course is designed to interpret and understand the world around you. Students investigate and study the interactions between the four major Earth's spheres, including the geosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere in order to explain Earth's formation, processes, history, landscapes, how and why Earth changes over time. The course will also explore how current actions of man interact and affect Earth's spheres leading to local and global changes. Topics to be addressed include, but are not limited to, the scientific method, mapping Earth's surface, minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and geologic time. Students will participate in laboratory exercises, small group activities, web-based investigations, class discussions, projects, and research.</p>
SPACE SCIENCES AND METEOROLOGY <i>Length: 1 sem.</i> <i>PREQ: Biology and Chemistry or Physics</i>	<p>This course includes the study of the Earth-moon-sun system, the solar system, the galaxy and the universe. Students learn how processes in space work, how scientists study space and how space technology affects our life on Earth. Students will be able to explain how phenomena such as phases of the moon, seasons and auroras are caused. Students participate in hands-on labs, which will at times involve the use of basic math, including ratios and other basic skills from algebra and prealgebra. Students learn about theoretical astronomical concepts like blackholes and learn how space technology, such as GPS and communications satellites, are used and how they can be affected by events in space such as solar flares.</p>
AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE <i>Length: 2 sem</i> <i>PREQ: Chemistry or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry</i>	<p>This course is weighted on the Honors grading scale that is designed to be taught on a first-year college level. Upon completion of the course the student will be prepared to take the AP Environmental Science Exam which, if passed, may give the student up to 3 hours college credit in Environmental Studies. Student's independent study of each unit is critical to their success as class time is devoted to discussion and lab activity. Units of study include Earth Systems, Biogeochemical Cycles, Soil Science, Agriculture, Ecology, Population Studies, Land Use, Energy Resources and Consumption, Global Climate Change, and Pollution.</p>
AP PHYSICS 1 <i>Length: 2 sem.</i> <i>PREQ: Geometry, Algebra 2 (can be concurrent) and Physics or instructor consent for direct entry</i>	<p>This two-semester honors course covers the units of kinematics, forces, momentum, work and energy, circular motion, gravitation, electricity, and waves and simple harmonic motion. These are the units covered in the AP Physics 1 exam. This course emphasizes conceptual understanding through extensive lab exercises. This conceptual understanding is then translated into the knowledge of algebraic manipulation needed to solve physics problems in the units listed above.</p>
AP CHEMISTRY <i>Length: 2 sem 2 Periods per day</i> <i>Prerequisite: Science – Biology or Honors Biology. "B" or better in Honors Chemistry. "A-" or better in Chemistry with instructor recommendation. Math – Completion of Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 with a minimum of a "B-" in each.</i>	<p>This two-semester course is designed to be a rigorous extension and application of the principles learned in Honors Chemistry. Lab skills will be refined as students complete lab work related to the course. AP Chemistry will be a double period class that will include video lectures, in-class lectures, note taking, collaborative work time, problem solving, and lab. Students enrolled in Advanced Placement Chemistry are required to complete the AP Exam at the end of second semester. Test fees apply. Additionally, workload, content, and expectations will be similar to a first-year college chemistry course. Topics that will be covered include: atomic structure and properties, molecular and ionic compound properties, intermolecular forces and properties, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, acids and bases, and application of thermodynamics. <i>A calculator is required for this course (Texas Instrument is recommended).</i></p>
DUAL CREDIT (High School and College Credit) Additional fee.	
COLLEGE BIOLOGY <i>Length: 2 sem</i> <i>Pre-req: Biology, Chem, or Physics</i> <i>Instructor recommendation</i>	<p>This college course is an introductory course to biology. In this course, students will be introduced to cell division and reproduction, principles of genetic inheritance, gene theory and genetic engineering, and the theory of evolution including the history of the earth, natural selection and methods of speciation. 1.0 high school credit will be earned. Students will earn 4.0 college credits. Additional fees apply.</p>

SOCIAL STUDIES

Requirements: 3.0 department credits; Courses: US History or equivalent

Humanities Diploma: 4.0 total credits, 2.0 credits at honors level

9 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	World History (1.0 cr.)	
	World History Honors (1.0 cr.)	
10 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	American Government (0.5 cr.)	Economics (0.5 cr.)
	AP Human Geography (1.0 cr.)	
11 th / 12 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	American Government (0.5 cr.)	Economics (0.5 cr.)
	Psychology (0.5 cr.)	Sociology (0.5 cr.)
	History of Christianity (0.5 cr.)	Introduction of Early Anglicanism (0.5 cr.)
	College Early Modern Civilizations 1500-1815 (0.5 cr.)*	College Modern Civilizations 1815 - Present (0.5 cr.)*
	US History (1.0 cr.) or US History Honors (1.0 cr.)	
	20th Century History Honors (0.5 or 1.0 cr.)	

Course Descriptions

WORLD HISTORY Classroom material is focused more on Western Civilization, although other influences are discussed as they relate to Western Europe. Course material is presented primarily through lecture and text readings. Two to three related commercial movies are shown throughout the year, with a printed worksheet and test follow up, as well as additional handouts from other sources. Essay and analytical skills are stressed throughout the year by quizzes and tests relying heavily on short answers and essay format.
Length: 2 sem.

WORLD HISTORY HONORS This course is designed to reflect the expectations of most World History courses at the freshman undergraduate level. The primary goals of this class are to promote the learning and understanding of major political, economic, social, military, intellectual, and cultural trends in World History from Early Civilizations to the present. Beyond historical facts and concepts, students will also learn how to think and write critically using a traditional textbook with a multitude of primary source documents plus multiple readings from other textbooks. In the process, students will be expected to develop writing skills that demonstrate inductive and deductive reasoning. It is hoped that the skills and the knowledge learned in this class will be extrapolated to many other college-level courses taken in the years to come.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Instructor consent

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT A survey course to provide students with a basic understanding of American government principles and the functions of a representative democracy. Discussions encompass the nature of the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches. Special attention is given to the value of citizenship and the relationship between personal values and our government. Students use a variety of sources; charts, illustrations, readings, and the internet. These materials, used in learning activities, help students understand the relationship between government and the citizen.
Length: 1 sem.

ECONOMICS Course introduces basic concepts designed to familiarize students with the American economic system. Topics include basic economic systems, the American economy, supply, demand and the market system, financial institutions, labor and management, taxes and fiscal policy. Students use a variety of sources: charts, illustrations, readings, and the Internet. These materials, used in learning activities, help students understand the relationship between economics and the citizens. Special attention is placed on personal finance and individual responsibility. An understanding of the stock market is also discussed.
Length: 1 sem.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY Explore how humans have understood, used, and changed the surface of Earth. Students use the tools and thinking processes of geographers to examine patterns of human population, migration, and land use. Students connect geographic concepts and processes to real-life scenarios, understand information shown in maps, tables, charts, graphs, infographics, images, and landscapes, see patterns and trends in data and in visual sources such as maps and drawing conclusions from themes, and understand spatial relationships using geographic scales.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Instructor consent

U.S. HISTORY A general survey course that concentrates on economic, social, political and military American history. The course begins in Colonial America and ends in the 1960's. Special focus is given to the Civil War, World War II and the Cold War. Course material is presented through lecture, textbook readings, primary sources, and handouts. Students are expected to enhance their critical thinking skills.
Length: 2 sem.

U.S. HISTORY HONORS Students engage in the study of American history from its conception (pre 1600's) through roughly the middle of the 20th century (1950's). The goal is for each student to obtain the communication, critical thinking skills, and subject-matter knowledge equivalent to a college freshman. In addition to acquiring subject matter knowledge, the students engage in the development of appropriate communications to include: note taking, group discussion, paragraph writing, essay writing, researching, and paper writing. The course attempts to develop a critical appraisal of history through the involvement of primary source documents, critical historical narratives, group/class discussion, and student-initiated outside research.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Instructor consent

SOCIOLOGY Sociology is a survey course through which students learn sociological theory and apply it to the world around them. Course activities emphasize and include the student's: examination of the concept of social structure; assimilation of information from lecture, textbook, and outside sources through modern research techniques; communication of knowledge through written and oral expression; participation in cooperative learning activities; and participation in topical discussions.
Length: 1 sem.

PSYCHOLOGY Psychology is a survey course through which students learn psychological theory and apply it to the world around them. Course activities emphasize and include the student's: examination of the concept of social structure; assimilation of information from lecture, textbook, and outside sources through modern research techniques; communication of knowledge through written and oral expression; participation in cooperative learning activities; and participation in topical discussions.
Length: 1 sem.

20TH CENTURY HISTORY HONORS This course examines the development of the United States during the twentieth century and focuses on events which led America to become a world superpower. Emphasis is placed on understanding world events from different perspectives. Social, political, cultural and military history are taught throughout the year. Students are expected to improve their study and critical thinking skills through reading, taking notes, and writing descriptive essays. Students explore the foundations of St. John's Northwestern and explore through research leaders that influenced our school. In addition, students study how America's foreign policy transformed during the first half of the 20th Century. Key topics include Theodore Roosevelt, World War I, Hitler's rise to power. Second semester students study World War II, the Cold War, the 1960's and Vietnam, and the War on Terror.
Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Instructor consent

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY This course will explore the history of the Christian Church from the Resurrection of Christ to the present. Special emphasis will be placed on the early Christian Church, the development and importance of the Catholic Creeds, and the first one thousand years of expansion outward from Jerusalem and into Asia, Africa, and Europe. The context of the split between the Western and Eastern Churches will be discussed, as well as theological developments and controversies of the medieval era. Major events and personalities of the Protestant Reformation and the Roman Counter Reformation will be studied. This course will also seek to cover the rise of various Christian denominations as well as non-denominationalism within the United States. This course will function primarily as a survey of the history of the Christian Church equipping the student with a broad base of knowledge with which to approach more specific future studies.
Length: 1 sem.

INTRO TO EARLY ANGLICANISM This course will explore the history and development of Anglicanism beginning with the arrival of the Christian faith to the British Isles. The history of the Christian faith in England will be covered through the time of Henry VIII. Attention will be paid to the development of Anglicanism within England, as well as its spread throughout the world. The development and history of American Anglicanism will be covered from the colonial era through the present. Important theologians and movements within Anglicanism will be discussed, including important persons, both English and American, as well as the Anglo-Catholic movement so important to the founding of St. John's Hall and ultimately St. John's Northwestern Academies. A field trip to the United Kingdom to explore and present on important locations may be a possibility for this course.
Length: 1 sem.

DUAL CREDIT (High School and College Credit) Additional fee.

EARLY MODERN CIVILIZATIONS 1511-1815 This college world history course covers the history of the development of nation states from the time of the late Renaissance to the end of the Napoleonic Era. Special emphasis is given to the Western world, though all regions are covered. 0.5 high school credit will be earned. Students will earn 4.0 college credits. Additional fees apply.
Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: Instructor consent

MODERN CIVILIZATIONS 1815 - Present This college world history course is a study of global development in the eras of nationalism, colonialism, totalitarianism and contemporary revolution of the 19th and 20th centuries. 0.5 high school credit will be earned. Students will earn 4.0 college credits. Additional fees apply.
Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: Instructor consent

TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING

Technology Requirements: 1.0 total department credits

STEM Diploma: 2.0 department credits; 1 programming and 1 engineering course required and/or AP Computer Science

9 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	Computer Fundamentals (0.5 cr.)	Intro to Computer Science (0.5 cr.)
10 th / 11 th / 12 th Grade	Computer Fundamentals (0.5 cr.) Aviation (0.5 cr.) Cybersecurity (0.5 cr.)	Intro to Computer Science (0.5 cr.) Aviation (0.5 cr.) Cybersecurity (0.5 cr.)
	PLTW Intro to Engineering Design (1.0 cr.)	
	PLTW Principles of Engineering (1.0 cr.)	
	AP Computer Science (1.0 cr.)	
	Introduction to Drones (1.0 cr.)	

Course Descriptions

COMPUTER FUNDAMENTALS In this introductory course, students become familiar with the basics of computer use in the school environment. Basic principles of a personal computer are taught including things like hardware, software and applications, operating systems, and peripherals. Students practice skills in key applications such as word processing, slide shows, and spreadsheets. Basic computer skills such as typing, logic, and math are applied. Students learn about the social and ethical issues within the digital world including using the internet, sharing information, social media, and computer security. This course focuses on fundamentals, with the goal that the students will be middle to advanced computer users by the end of the term.

Length: 1 sem.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE This course introduces students to computer science concepts such as computer architecture, networks, and the Internet. Students use programming languages, algorithms and many other tools to help solve problems. They dive deeper into how a computer works, and investigate hardware and software, and how they work together to make a computer work. This introductory level course will provide a solid foundation in computer science for future study in this subject area.

Length: 1 sem.

AVIATION The aviation science program trains students toward earning their Sport Pilot License (SPL), a new type of pilot certificate designed to get students safely and easily trained for recreational flying in Light-Sport Aircraft (LSA). The aviation program is taught by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) licensed instructors and consists of two parts: ground school and flight training. Ground school is taught on the SJNA campus one day a week; flight training takes place at a local county Airport, one or two times per week. Grades are based on goal completion, classroom work, flight instructor evaluations, flight schedule coordination and exams. Aviation is considered a STEM Honors course.

Length: 1 sem.
PREQ: 15 years of age or older
Additional fees involved

CYBER SECURITY This course is an Introduction to Cybersecurity. The course will explore security as it relates to endpoints, network, network edge, cloud computing, and mobile environments. Students will explore different types of cyber threats, from where they come, how they are constructed and how attacks are met and mitigated. It will also look at cybersecurity from a business and a personal perspective. Data and security issues will be explored, and lastly, the course will explore how regulation and legislation impact this arena.

Length: 1 sem.

INTRODUCTION TO DRONES This introductory course explores the growing field of drones and how they are utilized, with an emphasis on recreational fun, commercial opportunities, and drone piloting and licensing. Drones will be provided in class and students will receive an overview of FAA rules and regulations for safe operation. Students will also learn various drone models and types, how to take pictures and videos, and how to troubleshoot various flight problems and situations. The option to work toward Drone Pilot certification may be available.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: 15 years of age or older
Additional fees involved

PLTW INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN (IED) The major focus of this Project Lead the Way course is learning how to take an idea through a design process and create a 3-dimensional part that can be manufactured or produced. Students learn about various aspects of engineering and engineering design, such as how engineers communicate through sketches and drawings. Students apply learned material through lessons that increase the difficulty of projects. Students use Inventor, a software package from AutoDesk, to help design parts on a 2 dimensional computer screen. Projects are documented in an engineering notebook which allows students to communicate solutions with others. On occasions, students will be assigned an individual project to create a 3-dimensional part and then print it on a 3-dimensional printer. Students wishing to receive honors grade/credit will be required to complete more complex projects.

Length: 2 sem.
PREQ: Alg.1 and Geometry, Minimum cum GPA: 2.80 or instructor consent

PLTW PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING (POE)*Honors level**Length: 2 sem.**PREQ: Alg. 2, computer course (or concurrent), minimum cum. GPA: 2.80 or instructor consent*

This Project Lead the Way course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a postsecondary engineering course of study. Students investigate areas of mechanical engineering in simple machines and bridge trusses (statics). Students will acquire a foundation in the coding and building of robots. Finally, students will learn to use the Revit software program in residential architecture. POE gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through student centered activity projects. Used in combination with a teaming approach, POE challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and problem solving skills based upon engineering concepts. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education. Students wishing to receive honors grade/credit will be required to complete more complex projects.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES*Length: 2 sem.**PREQ: prior computer course or instructor consent*

This course follows the Project Lead The Way curriculum for AP CSP. The following information is from PLTW regarding this course. Using Python® as a primary tool and incorporating multiple platforms and languages for computation, this course aims to develop computational thinking, generate excitement about career paths that utilize computing, and introduce professional tools that foster creativity and collaboration. Computer Science Principles helps students develop programming expertise and explore the workings of the Internet. Projects and problems include app development, visualization of data, cybersecurity, and simulation. PLTW is recognized by the College Board as an endorsed provider of curriculum and professional development for AP® Computer Science Principles (AP CSP). This endorsement affirms that all components of PLTW CSP's offerings are aligned to the AP Curriculum Framework standards and the AP CSP assessment.

WORLD LANGUAGES

World Language Requirements: 2.0 credits of the same language; international students may be exempt from this requirement

Humanities Diploma: 3.0 total credits

9th / 10th / 11th / 12th Grade

Chinese 1, 2, 3, 4 honors, 5 honors (1.0 cr. each level)

German 1, 2, 3, 4 honors, 5 honors (1.0 cr. each level)

Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 honors, 5 honors (1.0 cr. each level)

Advanced language learning available based on student need. Contact the Academic Office for more information.

Course Descriptions**LEVEL 1: CHINESE, GERMAN, SPANISH***Length: 2 sem.*

The first level of the world language curriculum is proficiency oriented and emphasizes communication via listening and the spoken word as well as reading and writing. It focuses on the skills needed not only to travel or work in a foreign country, but also the ability to communicate in the target language here in the United States. The first level provides complete coverage of elementary grammar and vocabulary by means of thematic (non-grammar based) situations as a sound basis for continuing studies in the second level.

LEVEL 2: CHINESE, GERMAN, SPANISH*Length: 2 sem.**PREQ: Level 1*

The second level of the world language curriculum is proficiency oriented and emphasizes communication via listening and speaking, as well as reading and writing. It focuses on the skills needed not only to travel or work in a foreign country, but also the ability to communicate in the target language here in the United States. The second level reviews and reinforces the material presented in the first level. It also presents the compound tenses (i.e. imperfect, preterit, present, and future) that are taught in Level 1 and also greatly expands the vocabulary.

LEVEL 3: CHINESE, GERMAN, SPANISH*Length: 2 sem.**PREQ: Level 2*

The third level of the world language curriculum covers in greater detail the grammar vocabulary learned in the first two levels. Listening, speaking, and especially reading and writing proficiencies are honed with the greater emphasis on grammar as a preparation for college-level classes. The third level reviews and reinforces the material presented in the Levels 1 and 2, but covers the tenses in much more depth.

LEVEL 4 HONORS: CHINESE, GERMAN, SPANISH*Length: 2 sem.**PREQ: Level 3*

Fourth level courses are college-preparatory which study grammar in greater detail. The listening, speaking, reading, and writing proficiencies are presented with a greater emphasis on grammar as a preparation for college-level classes.

LEVEL 5 HONORS: CHINESE, GERMAN, SPANISH*Length: 2 sem.**PREQ: Level 4*

Fifth level courses are college-preparatory which study grammar in greater detail. The listening, speaking, reading, and writing proficiencies are presented with a greater emphasis on grammar as a preparation for college-level classes. Reading, comprehension, listening and speaking proficiency are practiced at all times. These skills are reviewed and constant review of grammar and verb tenses is provided in order to become proficient in the language.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Elective Requirements: Study Skills (freshmen); College/Career Planning (juniors) (0.5 cr.)

9 th / 10 th Grade	Sem. 1	Sem. 2
	Study Skills (0.5 cr.)	Study Skills (0.5 cr.)
11 th / 12 th Grade	College & Career Planning (0.5 cr.)	College & Career Planning (0.5 cr.)
	Personal Finance (0.5 cr.)	Personal Finance (0.5 cr.)
	Intro. Media Studies (0.5 cr.)	Intro. Media Studies (0.5 cr.)
	ACT Preparation (0.5 cr.)	ACT Preparation (0.5 cr.)
	College Intro to Business (0.5 cr.)*	College Financial Literacy (0.5 cr.)*
	Emergency Medical Technician (1.0 cr.) <i>Off campus; requires modified weekly schedule. Additional fees apply.</i>	

NOTE: Elective courses are offered based on enrollment numbers and teacher availability.

Course Descriptions

COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING This course takes students through the college and career planning process. The course is catered to each student's post-secondary plans. In this course, students learn how to fill out an application, create a resume, and write a college essay. They also take an aptitude test and explore both schools and careers based on their individual results.
Length: 1 sem.

INTRO TO MEDIA STUDIES This class is a comprehensive overview of mass media, including historical context and modern applications of the internet, magazines, movies, newspapers, radio, sound recording, and television. Students will gain a better insight of the differences between production and consumption of media, and how each affects society. They will learn how to record and edit audio and video, and they will produce video segments for campus announcements, as well as build and create sets and props.
Length: 1 or 2 sem.
PREQ: 11th or 12th grade; B or higher in current or most recent English course.

PERSONAL FINANCE This course informs students how individual choices directly influence occupational goals and future earnings potential. Real world topics covered include income, money management, spending and credit, as well as saving and investing. Students design personal and household budgets utilizing checking and saving accounts, gain knowledge in finance, debt and credit management, and evaluate and understand insurance and taxes. This course provides a foundational understanding for making informed personal financial decisions leading to financial independence.
Length: 1 sem.

STUDY SKILLS This course is designed to teach students how to effectively use study techniques, time management and apply real-world applications while implementing 21st century skills. Students develop individual strategies for note-taking, listening, test-taking, and organization while understanding the best way to prioritize and manage their time inside and outside of the classroom. In utilizing these skills, students achieve academic success and personal growth.
Length: 1 sem.

INITIAL EMT COURSE Students enrolled in the Initial EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) course will become state certified as an EMT. Along with technical knowledge, first aid training, CPR certification, utilizing basic life support equipment, performing triage, and other essential competencies, students learn all aspects of employment as an EMT. This course is offered off-campus at the Lake Country Fire Rescue Training Center and will require a modified weekly schedule. Additional fees apply.
Length: 2 sem.

ACT TEST PREPARATION This course is designed to help students develop confidence and stamina in the standardized test-taking process. Students will work to improve scores in preparation for applying to college. Working from specially designed testing materials, students are given all the tools and skills necessary to raise their scores, and they practice with these tools in simulated testing conditions throughout the semester course. Includes a membership to Methodize Test Prep for online practice and to monitor growth and improvement.
Length: 1 sem.

DUAL CREDIT (High School and College Credit) Additional fee.

DUAL CREDIT COLLEGE COURSE: INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS This is an introductory college business course that provides an overview of business and the role it plays in economic, social, and political environments. Students explore functions of modern business management and also will learn general business terminology and concepts, and study current business issues and trends. Students will earn 0.5 in high school elective credit and 3.0 college credits. Additional fees apply.
Length: 1 sem
Junior or Senior Status
Approval Required

DUAL CREDIT COLLEGE COURSE: FINANCIAL LITERACY This college economics course is designed to build personal financial skills that have a lifetime of usefulness. It covers the basic areas of personal financial planning; budgeting, cash and credit; housing and transportation; insurance; investments; identity theft and privacy protection; and planning for retirement. Students will earn 0.5 in high school elective credit and 3.0 college credits. Additional fees apply.
Length: 1 sem
Junior or Senior Status
Approval Required

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMY, Grades 6-8

Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 follow a standard course sequence. Students who excel in mathematics or other core subjects may take high school courses for high school credit upon approval from the Academic Office; however, students must still obtain the required department credits in high school. For students to advance to high school, students must demonstrate success in the content areas of English, math, science and social studies.

DEPARTMENT	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
ENGLISH	6th Grade English and Language Arts	7th Grade English and Language Arts	8th Grade English and Language Arts or Humanities Honors
ESL	Beginning or Intermediate Literacy	Beginning or Intermediate Literacy	Beginning or Intermediate Literacy
MATHEMATICS	Mathematics 6	Mathematics 7 or Pre-Algebra	Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1
SCIENCE	Earth Science	Earth & Life Science	Physical Science
SOCIAL STUDIES	Social Studies	Geography	American History or Humanities Honors
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	6/7 Physical Education	6/7 Physical Education	Physical Education/Health
LEADERSHIP	6/7 Aspiring Leaders 1 - Foundational Leadership	6/7 Aspiring Leaders 1 - Foundational Leadership	Aspiring Leaders 2 - Outward Leadership
ELECTIVE ROTATION	6/7 Exploratory Music; Art; PLTW Engineering; Digital Literacy ; Foreign Language Exploratory (FLEX); FACE & Service Learning	6/7 Exploratory Music; Art; PLTW Engineering; Digital Literacy ; Foreign Language Exploratory (FLEX); FACE & Service Learning	PLTW Design and Modeling; PLTW Flight and Space; Computer Science Discoveries; Art; Music: Band, Pipes, or Drums Ensemble; World Language: Chinese, German, or Spanish

6TH GRADE ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS

This 6th Grade course focuses on a continuation of the reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills acquired in elementary school. Students will explore a variety of literary genres, and they will learn to analyze and interpret texts, identify story elements, and understand the author's purpose. Writing skills such as grammar, sentence structure and essay development will be emphasized. Additionally, students will participate in classroom discussions, presentations, and collaborative activities to continue to develop their communication skills.

7TH GRADE ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS

This 7th Grade course provides a basic understanding of grammar usage, spelling, mechanics, and writing processes. Topics include parts of speech, parts of a sentence, kinds of sentence structure, clauses, phrases, agreement, capitalization, punctuation, steps of the writing process, writing effective sentences, writing effective paragraphs, writing effective papers and common writing errors. Spelling mechanics include prefixes, suffixes, word origins, homophones, synonyms, antonyms, spelling changes from singular to plural, spelling changes from adding prefixes and suffixes, possessives, and common spelling errors.

8TH GRADE ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS

This 8th Grade course provides a more in depth understanding of grammar usage, spelling, mechanics, and writing processes. Topics covered include parts of speech, parts of a sentence, kinds of sentence structure, clauses, phrases, verbals, agreement, capitalization, punctuation, steps of the writing process, forms of writing, writing effective sentences, writing effective paragraphs, and common writing errors.

SOCIAL STUDIES 6

This 6th grade social studies course is an exploration of the geography, history, civics, and culture of ancient civilizations in the western hemisphere. Students will learn to think critically, analyze primary and secondary sources, and develop research skills. Students may engage in collaborative projects, presentations, and/or simulations in order to enhance their understanding of history and its impacts on society today.

EARTH SCIENCE 6

Course engages students in hands-on activities, experiments, and observations in order to understand their understanding various topics related to understanding our planet Earth. Topics may include, but are not limited to, Earth's history and structure, rocks and minerals, weather and climate, ecosystems, and Earth's natural resources. Students develop skills such as data analysis, critical thinking, and communication.

EARTH & LIFE SCIENCE 7

Beginning with earth science, students learn about the universe and the relationship between the sun, earth and moon. Minerals and rocks are explored as well as why the earth's surface looks the way it does, what's happening deep under the earth's crust, and what fossils are and what they can tell us about past life. Second semester studies life science, the life of a cell and the six kingdom system.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

Course introduces various topics pertaining to the physical sciences. First semester concentrates on the fundamentals of physics while the second semester focuses on chemistry. This course establishes a stepping-stone for successfully pursuing full-year chemistry and physics courses. Basic information relating to laboratory techniques, the scientific method, experimental procedure, physical and chemical properties of matter, and laws of motion are addressed. Technology use for data collection, analysis, and presentation as well as research is integrated throughout the course.

TECHNOLOGY and DIGITAL LITERACY 7/8

In this introductory course, students will learn the foundations for using technology as an educational tool and resource. Students will receive a foundation on what it means to be a responsible digital citizen. Other skills include but are not limited to keyboarding, document management, word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation skills.

GEOGRAPHY 7

This course provides students with a basic understanding of Geography, both physical and political in nature. In addition, class discussions focus on cultural values, location in the world, and environmental issues and current events for each region examined.

AMERICAN HISTORY 8

A basic survey course commencing with the age of exploration and colonization and continues through the twentieth century. First semester emphasizes colonization, the War of Independence, the Constitution, Civil War, Reconstruction and 20th century United States history which includes World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, the 1960s, and the collapse of the Soviet Union.

HUMANITIES HONORS 8

This new interdisciplinary honors course will be taught in a two-period block format. It combines the requisite curriculum, standards, and expectations in the 8th grade English and social studies courses, but it explores content and skills at a greater depth. There will be a strong emphasis on developing students' ability to analyze complex readings, establish and develop strong claims, and strengthening students' writing and research skills. This course prepares students for the high school honors sequence in English and social studies. Instructor or academic office approval required to enroll.

ESL STUDY LAB

This study period is scheduled during the academic day and is designed for students to get individualized additional academic support in all classes. Students will participate in regular conferencing with their teacher to review assignments, practice and reinforce content, or to review homework support.

MS ESL BEGINNING LITERACY

This is an ESL literacy course for all new international students in middle school entering SJNA and testing at the Entering (Level 1) & Emerging (Level 2) of the WIDA Consortium English Language Proficiency Standards. (WIDA MODEL Screener and Progress Monitoring Test). New international students enrolled in this course may be at the early stages of literacy and/or had little exposure to understanding the written language of English. The focus of this course is to expose ESL students to different academic texts, build reading strategies, academic English vocabulary, grammar and writing at the entering and emerging levels. The course is built on thematic units promoting 21st century academic skills by teaching key reading skills, grammar for writing, lower and higher order thinking skills.

MS ESL INTERMEDIATE LITERACY

This is an ESL literacy course for all new international students in middle school entering SJNA and testing (screened) at the Developing (Level 3)& Expanding (Level 4) of the WIDA Consortium English Language Proficiency Standards. New international students enrolled in this course may have already developed foundational grammar, good writing and reading skills and had some exposure to understanding the written language of English. The focus of this course is to expose ESL students to different academic texts, strengthen reading strategies, improve academic English vocabulary, grammar and writing at the developing and expanding levels. The course is built on thematic units promoting 21st century academic skills by teaching key reading skills, grammar for writing, lower and higher order thinking skills.

PLTW GATEWAY 7-8

This course guides students through a full spectrum investigation of engineering; including the different types of engineering, career paths, and the basics of engineering. Students learn how to turn problems into ideas, and develop a basic understanding of each area of engineering; civil, mechanical, chemical, and biological. Students in this course also work through hands-on activities in the Project Lead The Way curriculum areas of design and modeling automation and robotics, and flight and space.

PLTW DESIGN AND MODELING

In this semester PLTW Gateway course for middle school students, students gain valuable collaboration and critical thinking skills. They discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

PLTW SPACE AND FLIGHT

In this semester PLTW course for middle school students, the exciting world of aerospace comes alive through the Flight and Space (FS) unit. Students continue building 21st century learning skills as they become engineers in order to design and create a prototype, and then test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES 8

Computer Science Discoveries is an elective course which introduces computer science concepts to middle school students. It is a foundational piece to the high school computer science curriculum. The course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as problem solving, programming, physical computing, user centered design, data, and artificial intelligence, while inspiring students as they build their own websites, apps, animations, games, and physical computing systems.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6/7

Middle school PE courses place a strong emphasis on the positive personal and group benefits of teamwork, team sports, and physical fitness. Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of team sports that include, but are not limited to, basketball, kickball, softball, frisbee golf, and broom ball. Students are asked to dress in appropriate PE wear and athletic shoes.

INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ACTIVITY/HEALTH 8

Students develop the physical and mental capabilities to continue their overall development of fitness through teamwork, goal setting, good sportsmanship, problem solving and critical thinking. Curriculum is centered on trying new games and activities, with education directed toward achieving knowledge about their bodies, minds, and environment to make positive and healthy choices. On gym days, students are asked to dress in appropriate PE wear and athletic shoes.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXPLORATION (FLEX) - 6/7

Course introduces students to language learning, builds awareness and appreciation of other cultures, develops an appreciation for the value of learning another language, and increases motivation for future language study. Students explore 4-5 different languages and cultures.

MATHEMATICS 6

Course builds on students' prior learning and math experiences and begins to explore more advanced math concepts. The development of 6th grade math skills include: understanding number sense, practicing the order of operations, understanding the basics of algebraic expression and geometry concepts, measurement and data analysis, with an overall emphasis of developing problem solving strategies and how students might apply these math concepts to real life situations.

MATHEMATICS 7

Course covers basic mathematical skills and gives students a brief preview of selected topics to be studied in depth at a later date. Fractions are covered thoroughly, and an overview of geometry, statistics, number theory, and proportions is presented. A brief introduction to basic algebra concepts is included.

PRE-ALGEBRA

Pre-Algebra is a prerequisite to Algebra 1. This course reviews the underlying principles of algebra and arithmetic skills. It includes a study of basic mathematical operations to include using graphs, problem solving techniques, and fundamentals of estimations.

ASPIRING LEADERS 1 - GRADE 6/7

In the first academic year of Emerging Leaders, students will examine the foundational competencies that all leaders must develop: social awareness, self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills. Through a combination of experiential learning, opportunities for self-evaluation, projects, discussions, and written reflection, students will continue to delve deeper into competencies such as, self-confidence, empathy, perspective taking, stress management, respect for others, goal setting and organizational skills. Students will learn to recognize their own strengths and challenges in these areas, and will also explore personal interest, aptitudes, strengths, and areas of challenge and learn about careers and the world of work. The course will conclude with a culminating activity that allows students to become socially engaged in a service-learning opportunity.

ASPIRING LEADERS 2 - GRADE 8

During the second academic year, students will move beyond self-exploration to a collaborative focus on how they build relationships, communication, work on a team, appreciate diversity, and engage in the world around them. Students will also build upon the previous year of social and emotional competencies as they shift toward application of their strengths, identifying problems, analyzing solutions, and reflecting on moral and ethical principles. Questions will invariably emerge such as, "What motivates me to make a difference?" and "How can I use my gifts and talents to serve others?" The course will conclude with a capstone project that allows students to work on a team to solve a fundamental problem in their community.

FACE & SERVICE LEARNING

This semester course in the middle school elective rotation is for students in grades 6 and 7. This engaging and fun course begins with a Family and Consumer Education unit exposing students to a variety of important life skills such as cooking and healthy eating, budgeting and shopping, first aide and safety, and sewing to name a few. The semester ends with a team service learning project in which students will identify a community issue, learn about the causes, brainstorm solutions, and develop a plan to help the community improve.

EXPLORATORY ART 6/7

Course provides students the opportunity to create both multi-dimensional artwork. Productions will include: drawings, paintings, printmaking, sculpture and mixed media. The students will engage in the life skills of visual problem solving and critical thinking as they create works emphasizing the elements of art and the principles of design.

EXPLORATORY MUSIC 6/7

6th and 7th grade students who are not enrolled in a band, pipes, or drumming ensemble will participate in this elective rotation to learn and sample different instrument families, to receive an introduction to music history and theory, and to explore a wide range of music genres, styles, and topics. Goals are to establish an appreciation for music and to motivate students to continue learning and performing in band, bagpipes, or drumming.

BAND ENSEMBLE

Through the use of lesson material and practice, students learn the fundamentals to play a band instrument. This introductory band class is for all instrumentalists of all ability levels. The course provides a great opportunity to maintain or develop skills in instrumental music. Students with band experience may be considered for the advanced class.

BAGPIPES ENSEMBLE

This class focuses on the introduction to and establishment of the foundations of bagpiping as an artform. Using the practice chanter, students learn the basic scale of the bagpipes as well as the basic fundamental rudiments that adorn traditional bagpipe music. Basic music theory, music reading, and writing are incorporated to prepare the students for learning the tunes that will build the foundation of the SJNA Pipes & Drums repertoire. Students are slowly introduced to the mechanics and operation of the Great Highland Bagpipe.

HIGHLAND DRUMMING ENSEMBLE

This class focuses on the introduction to, and the establishment of, the foundations of Scottish Highland Drumming as an artform. Students learn the basic drumming rudiments and basic fundamental percussive dynamics which complement traditional bagpipe music. With the fundamental rudiments mastered, and basics of music theory and reading understood, they are exposed to their first drum scores. As these scores are learned, students migrate these fundamentals onto the actual drums, enabling them to perform their foundational abilities.