

International School of Qingdao

Secondary Course Catalog 2022-2023

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1.0 High School Information

1.1 Graduation Requirements

24 high school credits are required for graduation. One-half credit is given for each full semester of a course successfully completed in grades 9 through 12. A failing grade (below 60%) does not earn any credit. The following credits must be earned towards graduation:

Table 1.1. Required Departmental Credit for Graduation

Credits	Subject Area
4	English Language Arts
3	Social Studies (required Economics ½ credit or AP Economics credit)
3	Sciences
3	Mathematics
3	Philosophies (see requirements in 2.5)
2	Foreign Languages (suggested two years of one language)
1	Fine Arts
2	Health & Wellness (see requirements in 2.8)
Additional credits can be earned through elective options.	

1.2 Grading Scale and Grade Point Average

Most courses assign numerical grades. Numerical grades are then converted to GPA points, which are averaged together to determine overall high school GPA. See table 1.2 to see numerical grade to GPA point determinations.

Table 1.2. Grading Scale and GPA Configuration

Numerical grade	Letter grade	GPA points
98-100	A+	4.00
93-97	A	4.00
90-92	A-	3.66
88-89	B+	3.33
83-87	B	3.00
80-82	B-	2.66
78-79	C+	2.33
73-77	C	2.00
70-72	C-	1.66
68-69	D+	1.33
63-67	D	1.00
60-62	D-	0.66
Below 60	F	0.00

Students may choose to repeat a course in which they have received an unsatisfactory score, with administrative approval. Only the higher score will be counted toward overall GPA. A student's record will show all courses a student has taken.

High school students may transfer credits from other recognized schools. Any number of courses may be transferred as long as the student received a minimum of a C. Grades below a C will not be transferred. A student's GPA will be calculated only from courses taken at ISQ.

1.3 Independent Studies

Students are only eligible for independent studies if they have completed all the coursework offered by the school in that subject area. Independent studies must be approved by the Secondary Principal of Teaching and Learning with consultation from the appropriate departmental HOD.

1.4 Honors Courses

Honors classes parallel the curriculum offered in the corresponding regular classes but may cover additional topics of study, move at a faster pace, and/or cover topics in greater depth. Students who began high school in the 2021-22 school year will receive 0.33 additional grade points for grades of C- or higher in honors courses. Students who begin high school after the 2021-22 school year will no longer be awarded additional grade points. Students may only take honors classes as they are available and if they have met prerequisite requirements, including having received a teacher recommendation from a teacher in the subject area.

1.5 Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

AP courses are designed to prepare students to take the College Board AP exams in May. These national curricula are developed by both high school and college teachers in order to teach College Board AP standards. AP courses are designed to provide an additional challenge for students wishing to learn more about a specific subject area. Furthermore, they are taught at the rigor level and expectations of a first-year university course. Most colleges and universities in the United States will even grant college credit for qualifying AP scores. However, AP is not appropriate for everyone, and students enrolled in them should expect a much heavier workload and more stringent grading. More information about the official AP program can be found on the College Board [website](#).

Students who began high school in the 2021-22 school year will receive .66 additional grade points for grades of C- or higher in AP courses. Students who begin high school after the 2021-22 school year will no longer be awarded additional grade points. Students enrolled in AP courses are eligible (and expected) to take the corresponding College Board AP exams in May and for whom test fees will be paid by the school. However, if a student chooses to take an AP test for a class in which s/he is not enrolled, s/he must pay for related exam and administration fees. The practice of self-studying and taking exams for AP courses that ISQ offers is highly discouraged.

Students wishing to take AP courses should meet the following criteria:

- Demonstrate academic promise in the subject area by having earned at least a B- in the prior class taken in the subject area
- Receive a recommendation from a teacher in the corresponding subject area
- Have an overall GPA of 2.67
- Typically, have demonstrated a high competency in spoken and written English as well as reading comprehension. WIDA level 5 scores are necessary

Due to the rigorous requirements of AP courses, students are to take no more than three AP courses simultaneously. If students are heavily involved in athletics or other extracurricular activities, fewer than three AP courses may be appropriate. Online dual enrollment classes will be considered to have the coursework requirement similar to an AP class and will count toward the three AP cap. AP Capstone classes will not be counted toward the AP cap conditions.

Exceptions to these criteria are considered on a student-by-student basis by the Secondary Principal of Teaching and Learning.

1.6 AP International Diploma (APID)

An additional offering for students applying to universities outside of the United States is called the AP International Diploma (APID). The APID helps a student demonstrate their willingness and ability to take college-level academic courses and is a globally recognized certificate for students with an international outlook. Universities worldwide utilize the APID in admissions. AP teachers, counselors, parents, and students may search the AP International Recognition database for universities that acknowledge the APID.

Students do not need to apply for the APID because it is automatically awarded to students who meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Score a 3 or higher on 5 or more AP exams representing the following content areas:
 - Content Area 1: Language and World Languages (such as AP English Language, AP English Literature, and AP Chinese)
 - Any two eligible AP world language or English exams if the exams are across two different languages OR
 - Any one AP world language or English exam AND a letter of proficiency in a language not available as an AP Exam AND one additional AP exam (cannot be English or a world language)
 - Content Area 2: Global Perspectives (such as AP World History, AP Macroeconomics, and AP Comparative Government)
 - Content Area 3: Sciences and Mathematics (such as AP Chemistry, AP Calculus, and AP Computer Science A)
 - Content Area 4: Additional AP Subjects such as Fine Arts (such as AP Studio Art) or an additional exam from Content Areas 2 or 3
- Attend a school outside the United States or its territories

Find more information and qualifying details about the APID on the College Board [website](#). The APID is not a substitute for a high school diploma, but rather provides additional certification of outstanding academic excellence.

While students planning to attend universities in the United States will not find the APID useful, there are other valuable awards from College Board in which ISQ students may be interested including the following:

- AP Scholar, granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams

- AP Scholar with Honor, granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.
- AP Scholar with Distinction, granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.
- AP International Scholar, granted to the one male and one female student attending an American international school that is not a DoDEA school outside the U.S. and Canada with the highest average grade on the greatest number of AP Exams. The minimum requirement is a grade of 3 or higher on three exams.

Find more information and qualifying details about these and other AP awards on the College Board [website](#).

1.7 Grand Canyon University Dual Enrollment

In collaboration with Grand Canyon University, ISQ began offering Dual Enrollment (DE) college-level courses beginning in the 2020-21 academic school year. Dual Enrollment courses enable eligible ISQ students to simultaneously earn university and high school credit and enhance their academic journey.

Students completing one typical 7-week course will receive ½ credit toward graduation requirements and an addition of .66 grade points.

For available courses, requirements, and approval see the Principal of Teaching & Learning.

Updated course descriptions can be found in the [Grand Canyon Course Catalog](#).

1.8 ISC Academy

Courses not offered on campus at ISQ may be available at ISC Academy, which shares the same vision and purpose as ISQ and are taught by ISC Affiliated teachers. Students cannot sign up for courses that can be taken at ISQ, unless special circumstances apply.

Courses for ISC Academy are proposed in the spring of the preceding school year and finalized at the beginning of the school year. Adequate interest and teacher availability apply to most courses.

1.8 Academic Planning

In the spring of each school year, students have the opportunity to request enrollment in courses offered for the following school year. Students are not guaranteed that they will be enrolled in all classes requested. Courses' enrollment limitations are set by the instructors with approval by the Secondary Principal of Teaching and Learning. Priority for student requests changes depending upon the course, though graduation requirements is typically considered the highest priority in determining course enrollment.

When making course requests, students should keep in mind the graduation requirements. While ISQ does not guarantee enrollment in all requested courses, ISQ does ensure that students will have the opportunity to take classes that will fulfill graduation requirements. The following table serves as an example for a sample four-year graduation plan. See the **Appendix 1** to find a “Course Map Template.”

Table 1.8. Sample Graduation Plan

Requirements	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English (4 credits)	English I	English II	English III/IV (British focus)	English III/IV (US focus)
Social Studies (3 credits)	Modern World History	Cont. World History ½, Cont. Society ½	AP Economics	AP Human Geography
Science (3 credits)	Biology	Chemistry	AP Chemistry	AP Physics I
Mathematics (3 credits)	Algebra 2	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus	Advanced Calculus
Philosophy (3 credits)	Introduction to Philosophy	Service and Leadership ½	Applied Ethics ½	Worldview Survey and Development
Language (2 credits)	Chinese Novice	Chinese Intermediate		
Health & Wellness (2 credits)	Health & Wellness I	Health & Wellness II		
Fine Arts (1 credit)			High School Art	High School Band
Elective	Transition	AP Biology	AP Comparative Gov.	
Elective			Journalism	Journalism
Elective				
Total Credits (24 required)	8	7.5	7.5	7

Regarding course load requirements, no student may be enrolled in more than eight credits simultaneously at ISQ. Grades 9 through 11 students must take at least seven credits per semester. Grade 12 students must take at least six credits per semester. Students will be assigned to specific areas during periods in which they are not enrolled in a course; this time is referred to as study hall. Students with heavy course loads that include honors and AP courses are encouraged to schedule study hall(s) in order to have dedicated time to work on homework assignments and school projects. No credit is given for study hall; however, attendance and regular school requirements apply.

Students wishing to enroll in multiple courses in the same department (e.g. two maths or two sciences) in the same school year must seek permission from the appropriate Heads of Department(s).

2.0 Course Descriptions

Courses listed below may not be offered every year. Students are advised to read the notes for each course carefully.

2.1 English Language Arts (4 credits)

English I 20901

1 ELA Credit (Grade 9 Requirement)

Prerequisites: None

English I exposes students to a blend of contemporary and classic literature and informational texts that help them to gain an understanding of the importance of feeling empathy for others, assuming the responsibilities of leadership, pursuing dreams, and recognizing the power of love. Exploration of these thematic concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help students demonstrate proficiency of Grade 9-10 [AERO standards](#), which are divided into four strands (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking, and Language Foundations) and advocates 21st Century college and career readiness.

English II 21001

1 ELA Credit (Grade 10 Requirement)

Prerequisites: English I credit or equivalent

English II exposes students to a blend of contemporary and classic literature and informational texts that help them to consider how much control we, as well as technology, exert over our lives as well as what we share and gain through interaction with others. Exploration of these thematic concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help students demonstrate mastery of Grade 9-10 [AERO standards](#), which are divided into four strands (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking, and Language Foundations) and advocates 21st Century college and career readiness.

Speech

½ ELA Credit (Grade 10, 11, and 12) 29505

Prerequisites: None

This course will provide oral communication experiences that help students think creatively and express themselves effectively. Students will participate in a variety of speech activities, including delivering extemporaneous and persuasive speeches, as well as participating in interviews. Students will learn appropriate inflection, volume, pitch, diction, and articulation for speaking. Although Speech is considered a .5 English credit, students who take Speech will still need to complete 4 credits of English. **Note:** None

English III/IV (American focus)

21101

1 ELA Credit (Grade 11 or 12)

Prerequisites: English II credit or equivalent

English III exposes students provide students with a blend of (primarily American) contemporary and classic literature and informational texts from early colonial times to the 21st century in which students contemplate the historical roles of identity, individualism, society, and love. Exploration of these thematic concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help students demonstrate proficiency of Grade 11-12 AERO standards, which are divided into four strands (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking, and Language Foundations) and advocates 21st Century college and career readiness.

English III/IV (British focus)

21201

1 ELA Credit (Grade 11 or 12)

Prerequisites: English II credit or equivalent

English III/IV invites students to study a blend of contemporary and classic literature (with a focus on British works) and informational texts and to analyze literature, conduct research, create presentations and speeches, and rhetorically analyze and evaluate speeches and essays. Thematic studies will be centered around Courage & Humility, The Human Condition, Service & Compassion, and Emotional Currents. Exploration of these thematic concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help students demonstrate mastery of Grade 11-12 AERO standards, which are divided into four strands (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking, and Language Foundations) and prepares students for 21st Century college and career skills.

Note: None

AP English Language and Composition

29520

1 ELA Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (English II, English II, or AP English Literature)

From the [AP English Language and Composition Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level 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 primarily in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text— from a range of disciplines and historical periods. This course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum.

Note: Offered in even-odd (e.g. 2018-2019) school years

AP English Literature and Composition

29521

1 ELA Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (English II, English II, or AP English Language)

From the [AP English Literature and Composition Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of

figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. This course aligns to an introductory college-level literature and writing curriculum.

Note: Offered in odd-even (e.g. 2019-2020) school years

AP Seminar

09521

½ ELA Credit; ½ Elective Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (English II, III or AP English)

From the [AP Seminar Course and Exam Description](#), Seminar, the first course in the AP Capstone experience, is a foundational college-level course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

Note: Students with a score of A- or above in all of their classes may be granted permission to take AP Seminar as a fourth AP.

Additional note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

AP Research

09520

½ ELA Credit; ½ Elective Credit (Grade 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5; AP Seminar exam score of 3 or above

From the [AP Research Course and Exam Description](#), Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, is a college-level course that allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio, paper, and presentation with an oral defense.

Note: Students with a score of A- or above in all of their classes may be granted permission to take AP Research as a fourth AP.

Additional note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

2.2 Social Studies (3 credits)

Note: Students must earn either Economics ½ credit or AP Economics credit

Modern World History

59501

1 Credit (Grade 9 Requirement)

Prerequisites: None

This is a year-long, one-credit, survey course designed to delve into the highlights of world history from about A.D. 1000 to the end of the 19th century. While it is impossible to adequately discuss the history of the entire world in the course of one

year, this course will help the student to do two things. Firstly, to discern the general shape of a historical period, and secondly to deeply explore important ideas, people, events, and inventions (and a few catastrophes), within the context of history. This context frames who we are—it is the earlier chapters of the story we live, and therefore vital for students to understand. Thus, this course is designed to cultivate a curiosity to drive future learning, using the skills of research, interpretation and analysis of evidence, construction of arguments, and respectful discussion with others. **Note: None**

Contemporary World History 59502

½ SS Credit (Grade 10 Requirement unless enrolled in AP World History)

Prerequisites: Modern World History credit or equivalent

This is a semester-long, half-credit, seminar course covering key trends in world history from 1900 to the present. Students will explore the realities and possibilities of the world in which we live through extensive readings, student-led seminars, and analysis of historical and current events. In this exploration, students will hone their skills of historical analysis and discussion in order to examine the key events of the past century—including the World Wars, the Cold War, Decolonization, and Globalization—and their influence on our lives today.

Note: None

Contemporary Society 59503

½ SS Credit (Grade 10 Requirement unless enrolled in AP World History)

Prerequisites: Modern World History credit or equivalent

This is a semester-long, half-credit course in which students explore major social concepts that shaped and are shaping the contemporary world, especially their own spheres of influence. These concepts are framed by the AERO Standards and include culture, society, religion, institutions, communities and individual identity. Through the extensive use of current readings, class discussions, and student-led seminars students will be equipped to orient themselves in an ever-complexifying social world, and to base their lives, and decisions on truth. **Note: None**

Economics 59504

½ SS Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites:

This is a semester-long, half-credit course that will cover both microeconomic and macroeconomics concepts and theories. This is a rewarding course designed to help students understand the reality of scarcity and the cost of every choice. Students will manipulate supply and demand curves to explain the impact of tariffs on world trade. This class will also cover the different types of firms including perfectly competitive, oligopolies, and monopolies. Students will evaluate the impact of government policy in regulating the business cycle and how it affects unemployment and inflation. Finally, students will explore a real-life budget and personal finance simulation in which they apply all of their economic knowledge to thrive after their school career. **Note: Students must earn Economics ½ credit or AP Economics credit to graduate.**

Government

59505

½ SS Credit (Grades 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Typically, Modern World History credit or equivalent

Government is a part of our lives. It is often an unseen or unacknowledged part of our lives, but it is an important part all the same. If you are part of a group of people, it is likely that some system or rules are used to make decisions, give responsibilities, manage resources, or even define boundaries of the groups existence. This semester-long, half-credit course examines the foundations of political structures and also your place within those structures. Equally as important as understanding government is knowing what is a virtuous response to and in that government. We will do a great deal of “real-life” analysis of government – particularly by following current news trends and developments. **Note: None**

U.S. History

3301

½ to 1 SS Credit (typically, only available when other SS credits are not attainable)

Prerequisites: Approval from Secondary Principal of Teaching and Learning

The first semester of this course introduces students to the Age of Exploration through the Reconstruction Era. The second semester of this course allows students to further study the Reconstruction Era through modern history.

Note: Typically, only offered as monitored independent study

AP World History (Modern)

59521

1 SS Credit (Grade 10; typically, available to Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Modern World History and English I or II)

From the [AP World History Course and Exam Description](#), this course investigates significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

Note: Sophomores taking AP World History may not concurrently take AP Biology

AP Comparative Government

59522

1 SS Credit (Grades 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Grade 10 SS credit and English II)

The course uses a comparative approach to examine the political structures; policies; and political, economic, and social challenges of six selected countries: China, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Students compare the effectiveness of approaches to many global issues by examining how different governments solve similar problems. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. **Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest**

AP Economics

59523

1 SS Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Grade 10 SS credit and English II)

AP Economics is a course consisting of a semester-long study of AP Microeconomics and a semester-long study of AP Macroeconomics, each of which are equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course in economics. From the [AP Microeconomics Course and Exam Description](#), this portion of the course is a college-level introduction to the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers. The course also develops students' familiarity with the operation of product and factor markets, distributions of income, market failure, and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. From the [AP Macroeconomics Course and Exam Description](#), this portion of the course is a college-level introduction to the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination. It also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. **Note: Students must earn Economics ½ credit or AP Economics credit to graduate.**

AP Human Geography

59520

1 SS Credit (Grades 10,11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Grade 10 SS credit and English II)

The AP Human Geography course is an equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. The course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped the human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Student employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools that geographers use in the research and application of the findings. **Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest**

2.3 Sciences (3 credits)

Note: Many universities in the United States require three laboratory science credits and a fourth science credit

Additional note: Students wishing to enroll in multiple math courses in one year must seek permission from the appropriate Heads of Department(s)

Biology

49501

1 Science Credit (Grade 9 Requirement)

Prerequisites: None

This one-year laboratory science course is devoted to the study of living systems. It also covers the study of relationships amongst organisms and the interaction of organisms and their environment. Specific topics include the scientific method of inquiry, cell structure and function, cell chemistry, genetics, reproduction and development, evolution, comparative anatomy, and ecology. Exploration of these concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help

students demonstrate mastery of Biology [AERO standards](#) and paired with [Next Generation Science Standards](#).

Chemistry

49502

1 Science Credit (Grade 10 Recommended Credit)

Prerequisites: Demonstrated understanding of Algebra I

This one-year laboratory science course is designed to introduce students to a broad base of general chemical concepts while relating chemistry to real life experiences. The basic concepts include scientific measurement, the history of atomic discovery, bonding, chemical nomenclature, reactions, the kinetics of matter, solutions, and acid and base chemistry. Students are introduced to laboratory techniques as they learn to use the scientific method to make chemistry useful and meaningful. Exploration of these concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help students demonstrate mastery of Chemistry [AERO standards](#) and paired with [Next Generation Science Standards](#).

Physics

49503

1 Science Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Algebra II credit OR concurrent enrollment in Algebra II

This one-year laboratory science course is a trigonometric-based study of physical phenomena that will serve as a foundation for understanding the science and technology that shape society. Selected topics of study include mechanics, thermodynamics, waves, electrostatics, electric circuits, geometric and physical optics, and modern physics. Exploration of these concepts is paired with instruction and learning opportunities designed to help students demonstrate mastery of Physics [AERO standards](#) and paired with [Next Generation Science Standards](#).

AP Biology

49520

1 Science Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Biology and English I) AND have earned at least a B- in Chemistry OR be concurrently enrolled in Chemistry

From the [AP Biology Course and Exam Description](#), this course centers on four main ideas: 1) The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life 2) Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, reproduce, and maintain homeostasis 3) Living system store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes 4) Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties. Students gain the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. A required series of laboratory exercises reinforce principles and concepts presented during lectures.

Note: Sophomores taking AP Biology may not concurrently take AP World History

AP Chemistry

49521

1 Science Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Chemistry and Algebra II)

From the [AP Chemistry Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level science course cultivates students' understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore content such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium.

AP Physics

49524

1 Science Credit

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Geometry) and concurrent enrollment or completion of Algebra II AND Pre-Calculus

From the [AP Physics 1 Course and Exam Description](#), this is a college-level, algebra-based science course that cultivates students' understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics such as: kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electric charge and electric force, DC circuits, and mechanical waves and sound.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

AP Computer Science A

49522

1 Science Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Algebra II)

From the [AP Computer Science A Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course helps students develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course engages students in the creative aspects of the field by allowing them to develop computational artifacts based on their interests. Students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills by working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and will discuss and write about the impacts these solutions could have on their community, society, and the world.

Note: Offered in odd-even (e.g. 2019-2020) school years

Additional note: AP Computer Science A is not a laboratory science course

AP Computer Science Principles

49523

1 Science Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Algebra II OR concurrent enrollment in Algebra II)

From the [AP Computer Science Principles Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course helps students develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course engages students in the creative aspects of the field by allowing them to develop computational artifacts based on their interests. Students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills by working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and will discuss and write about the impacts these solutions could have on their community, society, and the world.

Note: Offered in even-odd (e.g. 2018-2019) school years

Additional note: AP Computer Science Principles is not a laboratory science course

AP Environmental Science

49527

1 Science Credit (Grade 11, 12)

Prerequisites: None

From the [AP Environmental Science Course and Exam Description](#). The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify

and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

2.4 Mathematics (3 credits)

Note: Many universities in the United States encourage three math credits

Additional note: Students wishing to enroll in multiple math courses in one year must seek permission from the appropriate Heads of Department(s)

Geometry

39503

1 Math Credit (Grade 9)

Prerequisites: Demonstrated understanding of Algebra I

Geometry focuses on the recognition, understanding and use of geometric properties and relationships among points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons of Euclidean Geometry. Students complete algebraic, coordinate, and deductive proofs of these relationships and study measurements of both two and three-dimensional figures. Students will also be introduced to advanced topics such as right triangle trigonometry, which will prepare them for Algebra 2 and beyond. *Note:* Grade 9 Requirement, if not taken in middle school

Algebra II

39502

1 Math Credit (Grades 9 and 10)

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry credit

Algebra II expands on the topics started in Algebra I. Students learn how to work with and graph functions, solve linear equations and systems, quadratic functions, and exponential and logarithmic functions. The course introduces students to series, conic sections, introductory probability and statistics, matrices, and trigonometric functions. *Note:* None

Pre-Calculus

39504

1 Math Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Algebra II credit

Pre-Calculus focuses on the development of the student's ability to understand and apply functions and advanced mathematics concepts to solve problems. The course includes a rigorous, in-depth study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. It also covers conic sections, polar coordinates, sequences and series, an introduction to limits, derivatives, and integrals as well as probability and functions of random variables. The course provides the necessary skills and background for both AP Calculus and AP Statistics. Emphasis is placed on active participation through modeling, experiments, technology lab activities, group activities, and communication in mathematics.

Note: Pre-Calculus and Honors Pre-Calculus typically taught in the same class (see 1.4)

Introduction to Statistics

1601

1 Math Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Algebra II credit

This course begins with descriptive statistics: analysis of 1 or 2 categorical or quantitative variables. Methods of obtaining data are introduced, including sampling and experimental design. Probability is introduced, beginning with basic rules, and advancing to discrete and continuous distributions, with a strong focus given to normal models. Once established, probability serves as a bridge to inferential statistics for proportions, means, and frequencies of categorical variables. Students will also demonstrate understanding through the use of technology.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

AP Statistics

39523

1 Math Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Honors Pre-Calculus OR concurrent enrollment in Honors Pre-Calculus)

From the [AP Statistics Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course introduces students to the concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes evident in the content, skills, and assessment in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, probability and simulation, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing to reveal understanding. Note: None

AP Calculus

39520

1 Math Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Honors Pre-Calculus)

AP Calculus is a college-level course consisting of a semester-long study of AP Calculus AB and a semester-long study of AP Calculus BC. From the [AP Calculus AB and BC Course and Exam Descriptions](#), this course is divided into two primary divisions: differentiation and integration. Topics studied in differentiation include continuity, limits, the basis and application of differentiation, curve sketching, motion, optimization, implicit differentiation and related rates. For integration, topics include riemann sums and definite integrals, integration methods including u-substitution, integration by parts, and trig substitution, and other miscellaneous topics such as the fundamental theorem of calculus, the mean value theorem, areas and volumes of revolution and cross sections and differential equations.

Advanced Calculus

1408

1 Math Credit (Grades 11 and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (AP Calculus); AP Calculus BC exam score of 5

This course is an introduction to multivariable calculus. The course begins with vectors, vector-valued functions, velocity, acceleration, unit tangent vectors, arc length, and curvature. Functions of two and three variables are then introduced, along with continuity, partial differentiation, the chain rule, directional derivatives and Lagrange multipliers. The next focus is on multiple integration over Cartesian and polar domains, moments, triple integrals, and substitutions. Additional topics include: differential equations, linear algebra, and vector fields.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

Additional note: Honors-level course (see 1.4)

2.5 Philosophies (3 credits)

Note: Students are required to take specific courses in 9th and 12th grades, and one semester of Philosophy in 10th and 11th grades.

Introduction to Philosophy 19501

1 Philosophy Credit (Grade 9 Requirement; Grades 10 and 11)

Prerequisites: None

Students will develop an understanding of basic philosophical methods and ideas, including their origins and relevance. They will solve philosophical problems and explore the philosophy expressed in ancient wisdom literature. **Note:** Grade 9 Requirement

Applied Ethics 19506

½ Philosophy Credit (Grades 10 and 11)

Prerequisites: Intro to Philosophy

Students will examine contemporary ethical issues from different points of view, with an emphasis on the biblical perspective. Students will research the issues to determine what they believe and why they believe it.

Note: Offered based on teacher availability

Worldview Survey and Development 19508

1 Philosophy Credit (Grade 12 Requirement)

Prerequisites: World Religions

Students will analyze major worldviews and religions using a critical and comprehensive approach. The goal is to seek truth and evaluate for internal logical consistency. Ultimately, students will fully explore their own personal worldview, articulate it clearly, and defend it before an audience. **Note:**

Service & Leadership

½ Philosophy Credit (Grades 11 and 12) 19502

Prerequisites: Intro to Philosophy or equivalent

Service & Leadership is a one-semester Philosophy elective course for upper level high school students operating on two parallel tracks. The first engages students with relevant materials that will inform and challenge their worldviews. The second requires students to participate in practical service projects at multiple levels to gain insight into service and leadership. **Note:** Offered as a Philosophy Elective

World Religions

0.5 Philosophy Credit (Grades 10 and 11) 19507

Prerequisites: Intro to Philosophy or equivalent

World Religions prepares students to be world citizens who can dialogue civilly with people from other belief systems, cultures and religions and includes a detailed examination of many of the world's religions. Religion is defined as a story with its accompanying beliefs about what is real that unifies a person's life and worldview, giving it meaning and determining its course of action.

Note: Required beginning with Class of 2024

2.6 Foreign Languages (2 credits; suggested both credits in one language)

Note: Students taking Chinese classes are given proficiency tests each year to determine appropriate course placement.

Novice Chinese 4102

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: None

This course is designed to help students learn the basics of Chinese language and to be able to communicate at a survival level. Easy characters will also be introduced. This is very practical course, equipping students with basic language skills.

Intermediate Chinese 4103

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: proficiency test placement OR Chinese Intro Level credit

This course is designed to strengthen students' Chinese language ability. Pin Yin is only served as reference and students are expected to recognize intermediate Chinese vocabulary. Students will also be required to research information and present their projects in Chinese.

Advanced Chinese 4104

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: proficiency test placement OR Chinese Intermediate Level credit

This course focuses on Chinese literature. In this course students will study a variety of literary genres including short stories, drama, poetry, essays, novels, and classical Chinese literature. Students will also be required to compose written pieces themselves.

AP Chinese 4402

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5

From the [AP Chinese Language and Culture Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course in Chinese emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills, including vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. The course is taught almost exclusively in Chinese and engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts and fosters awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).
Note: Priority given to non-native Chinese speakers and typically based on graduation requirements

Native Chinese 4405

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: proficiency test placement OR AP Chinese credit

This course is the highest level Chinese course offered and is designed for near-native level Chinese speakers and teaches students to study famous Chinese literature and ancient poetry; to write, create and produce quality work that can be

published in and outside school; and to be familiar with Chinese culture such as history, geography, architecture, drama and nationality. Students in this course will be involved in developing and/or leading various school-wide activities that promote Chinese culture and contribute to the community, such as translating scripts for theatrical productions into Chinese and/or interpreting should the need arise. The most important assignment of this course is to compile and edit the ISQ Chinese annual magazine.

Note: Honors-level course (see 1.4)

Spanish I

79506

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: None

Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Spanish language and the richness of its diverse cultures. In the Spanish I course, students will learn basic grammar and vocabulary skills to help build fluency and language proficiency. Students will explore the culture of Spanish-speaking countries through engaging interactive games, videos, and audio recordings and apply what they learn through written practice, listening, and speaking exercises.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

Korean I

4501

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: None

In this course, students will learn and be able to correctly pronounce the Korean alphabet, use basic expressions in their daily lives, understand and express content related to personal and familiar topics, and understand basic words and grammar. Emphasis is placed upon further acquisition of communicative competency through listening, speaking, reading, and writing with accurate sounds and grammar.

Note: Korean I and Korean II typically taught in the same class

Additional note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

Korean II

4502

1 Foreign Language Credit

Prerequisites: Korean 1 credit

In this course, students will continue their studies by learning vocabulary commonly uses in places such as stores, restaurants, banks, etc., as well as exploring the Korean culture as it applies to ordinary life. Emphasis is placed upon further acquisition of communicative competency through listening, speaking, reading, and writing with accurate sounds and grammar.

Note: Korean I and Korean II typically taught in the same class

Additional note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

2.7 Fine Arts (1 credit)

High School Art 5512

½ Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisites: None

This course is an introduction to fundamental art mediums including drawing and painting. Students will explore these materials as a foundation for creating art. Students will learn a wide variety of techniques from two-dimensional shading and value to acrylic painting.

Advanced High School Art 5513

½ Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisites: HS Art credit and/or recommendation from Fine Arts HOD

This course is an upper-level exploration of three essential art mediums: drawing, painting, and mixed media. As they create art, students will expand upon the knowledge gained in HS Art. Students in the advanced class will develop technique and explore their personal voice in art.

Note: HS Art and Advanced HS Art typically taught in the same class

Additional note: Students applying to this class benefit by having a portfolio

AP Studio Art 5300

1 Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (typically, Advanced HS Art)

From the [AP Art and Design Program Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course consists of three different courses and AP Portfolio Exams—AP 2-D Art and Design, AP 3-D Art and Design, and AP Drawing—corresponding to college and university foundations courses. Students may choose to submit any or all of the AP Portfolio Exams. Students create a portfolio of work to demonstrate inquiry through art and design and development of materials, processes, and ideas over the course of a year. Portfolios include works of art and design, process documentation, and written information about the work presented. Students will be required to produce artwork at a strict pace throughout the course and will be guided to deepen their reflection and thought process about their own work. In May, students submit portfolios for evaluation based on specific criteria, which include skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas and sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision, guided by questions. Students may choose to submit any or all of the AP Portfolio Exams.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

High School Choir 5101

1 Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisites: Approved course application

In this course, students explore the world of music through vocal practice, listening sessions, and discussions on diverse music genres and styles. As they experience the joy of cooperation in a musical setting, students work to improve vocal, sight reading, and harmonizing skills as well as gain an understanding of different kinds of music and set their own definition and value of it, which can enrich their everyday lives. This course also strengthens students' breathing and singing abilities and fosters confidence in stage performance and singing.

Note: Students must complete at least one semester of HS Choir before participating in the festival

High School Band

5155

1 Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisites: Approved course application

HS Band is a course designed for intermediate and advanced players of all orchestral instruments (strings, woodwinds and brass). Students will deepen their musical understanding and strengthen their ability to play as part of an ensemble. In the fall semester students will perform at the Secondary Christmas Gala. In the spring they will perform as part of the ISQ Secondary Fine Arts Gala and, in March, woodwind and brass players will participate in the ISC Choral & Band Festival in Tianjin.

Note: Only offered with teacher availability AND adequate student interest

HS Theater

5520

½ Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisites: Approved course application/audition

This course exposes students to the various elements and fundamentals of Performing Arts. Students will be introduced to the craft of acting through the performance of improvisation, pantomime and mime, monologues, directing, scenes, and ensemble projects. Students will gain an understanding of the history of theatre as well as the varieties of drama. Some performances related to this course will require extracurricular and out-of-school involvement.

Note: None

2.8 Physical Education (Credits 2)

Health and Wellness I

1 Physical Ed and Health Credit

89501

Grade Level(s): 9/10/11

Prerequisites:

The purpose of this course is to partner with Health and Wellness II to teach students the necessary physical skills, knowledge and personal-social attributes needed to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle. Times of skill development are used to make students more successful at a variety of physical activities. Activities include volleyball, team handball, flag rugby, jogging, badminton, weight training, and fitness activities. These skills are intended to help students discover activities they wish to pursue after high school. The course also includes one health day every week, which is intended to give students the necessary skills to make healthy choices. These health days will include lecture, discussion, laboratory, and investigative settings. Topics include fitness, sports participation, methods of training, spiritual health, health and skill-related fitness, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, skeletal and muscular system, and sports injuries/first aid. Students will also undertake a personal exercise program during the 2nd quarter, which requires researching, planning, and undertaking a program to improve an aspect of either their physical or skill-related fitness. Note: None

Health and Wellness II

1 Physical Ed and Health Credit,

89502

Grade Level(s): 10/11/12

Prerequisites: Health and Wellness I

The purpose of this course is to partner with Health and Wellness I to teach students the necessary physical skills, knowledge, and personal-social attributes needed to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle. Times of skill development are used to make students more successful at a variety of physical activities. Activities include volleyball, badminton, Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, weight training, fitness activities, football, and flag rugby. These skills are intended to help students discover activities they wish to pursue after high school. The course also includes one health day every week, which is intended to give students the necessary skills to make healthy choices. These health days will include lecture, discussion, laboratory, and investigative settings. Topics include wellness, fitness, cardiovascular system, respiratory system, nutrition, weight management, sexual health, psychological health, environmental health, spiritual health, infectious diseases, and cancer. **Note:** None

2.9 Additional Electives

AP Computer Science A

49522

1 Science Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Algebra II)

From the [AP Computer Science A Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course helps students develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course engages students in the creative aspects of the field by allowing them to develop computational artifacts based on their interests. Students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills by working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and will discuss and write about the impacts these solutions could have on their community, society, and the world.

AP Computer Science Principles

49523

1 Science Credit (Grades 10, 11, and 12)

Prerequisites: Criteria outlined in 1.5 (Algebra II OR concurrent enrollment in Algebra II)

From the [AP Computer Science Principles Course and Exam Description](#), this college-level course helps students develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course engages students in the creative aspects of the field by allowing them to develop computational artifacts based on their interests. Students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills by working individually and

collaboratively to solve problems, and will discuss and write about the impacts these solutions could have on their community, society, and the world.

Digital Media

5044

½ Credit

Prerequisites: None

This course introduces students to the current digital media platforms used in the video making process. Students practice producing and editing short videos. They are also introduced to the digital equipment used in theater.

Note: Offered based on teacher availability

Model United Nations

6203

1 Credit

Prerequisites: Approved application

MUN consists of multiple objectives depending upon students' experience with the MUN program. First-year students are typically introduced to the MUN program through an exploration of the six major branches of the United Nations, the preparation steps needed for successful participation in MUN conferences, debate structure, public speaking skills, debate styles, and role-playing simulations.

Throughout this introductory exploration, students are introduced to globalization and its impact on all parts of the world; current events and their effects on environment, economic development and the complexities surrounding war and peace; and current regional and global alliances and how they influence the domestic and international decision-making processes. Second-year students are typically introduced to leadership in an international setting and peer-teaching opportunities using previously learned skills and knowledge as they delve into important topics and issues that directly correlate with international leadership.

Note: Does not count as a SS credit

Journalism

5203

1 Credit

Prerequisites: Approved application

This course gives students the opportunity to write articles, take photographs, design newspaper pages, edit articles and page designs for the school's monthly to quarterly newspaper, *The Current*. By November, students will be running nearly all aspects of the development of this publication under the teacher's supervision. Daily tasks are set and run by the co-editors who are chosen by the teacher the year before. In the second semester, all students (except those in MUN) will be expected to participate in an off-campus field trip in which they will create several newspapers over the course of three days for the ISC Model United Nations conference (MUNiSC) held in Qingdao. Students may also be required to build and maintain a website.

Note: Does not count as an ELA credit

Student Aide

6997

½ Credit

Prerequisites:

Student Aides are assigned to support specified ISQ staff members.

Note: Students may not receive more than ½ credit as Student Aide

Student Intern

2214

½ Credit

Prerequisites: Approved application

Throughout the duration of a semester, a student will shadow a specified staff member who will serve as a mentor to the student. The student will learn foundational career-readiness skills and demonstrate understanding through practical application. Intern opportunities are offered in various departments of the school whose supervisors have agreed to participate in the Student Intern program. For example, students interested in pursuing a degree or career in lab sciences may apply to be a Science Lab Assistant and students interested in pursuing a degree or career in teaching may apply to be a Teaching Assistant.

Note: Students may not receive more than ½ credit as Student Intern

AP Psychology

09522

1 Credit

Prerequisites:

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

Middle School Course Descriptions

Character Development 6

10601

This multidisciplinary course emphasizes character development and understanding the nature of truth and knowledge. It introduces students to the concept of worldviews and how they shape the world we live in and our understanding of it.

Character Development 7

10701

This multidisciplinary course emphasizes character development and understanding the nature of relationships. This class will allow students to examine how relationships influence them and their worldview as well as give students tools to have and maintain healthy relationships with their peers and teachers.

Character Development 8

10801

This multidisciplinary course emphasizes character development and understanding the nature of leadership. In this class students will examine examples of leaders throughout history and apply the concepts they are discovering through project-based service learning.

Culture and Communication 6

06550.1

In Culture and Communication, Grade 6, students will develop oral and written cross-cultural communication strategies. Students investigate culture, geography and ways of living in various countries of the English-speaking world. Grade 6 students focus specifically on Canada. They will learn techniques for adjusting to a Western style academic environment, and they will increase their academic vocabulary. In addition, students will examine how their daily habits, activities, and emotions influence their studies and their relationships with others. They will study some of the social and relational challenges faced by middle school students and practice strategies to work through some of these difficulties.

Culture and Communication 7

06550.2

In Culture and Communication, Grade 7, students will develop oral and written cross-cultural communication strategies. Students investigate culture, geography and ways of living in various countries of the English-speaking world. Grade 7 students focus specifically on Canada. They will learn techniques for adjusting to a Western style academic environment, and they will increase their academic vocabulary. In addition, students will examine how their daily habits, activities, and emotions influence their studies and their relationships with others. They will study some of the social and relational challenges faced by middle school students and practice strategies to work through some of these difficulties.

Culture and Communication 8

06550.3

In this class, Grade 8, students will develop cross-cultural communication strategies, both orally and in writing. Students will investigate culture, geography and ways of living in various countries of the English-speaking world. They will learn techniques for adjusting to a Western style academic environment, and they will increase their academic vocabulary. In addition, students will examine how their daily habits, activities, and emotions influence their studies and their relationships with others. They will study some of the social and relational challenges faced by middle school students and practice strategies to work through some of these difficulties.

English 6

20601

Grade 6 English is the start of the epic adventure of middle school. We will begin the year targeting writing as it is foundational to success in and out of the English classroom. We will develop our paragraph writing skills and introduce multi-paragraph writing. Throughout the year, we will also spend time explicitly studying grammar and vocabulary in order to learn to communicate clearly. As we read grade-level fiction and non-fiction texts centered on this theme of adventure, we will be establishing close reading and critical thinking strategies. None

English 7

20701

Grade 7 English will continue the journey that we began in grade 6. We will begin the year targeting writing as it is foundational to success in and out of the English classroom. We will focus on paragraph writing, developing our multi-paragraph writing skills. Throughout the year, we will also spend time explicitly studying grammar and vocabulary in order to learn to communicate clearly. As we read grade-level fiction and non-fiction texts centered on this theme of journeys, we will be growing in our use of close reading and critical thinking strategies.

English 8

20801

Grade 8 English will confront and overcome challenges. We will begin the year targeting writing as it is foundational to success in and out of the English classroom. We will improve our paragraph writing, continuing to develop multi-paragraph writing skills and research skills. Throughout the year, we will also spend time explicitly studying grammar and vocabulary in order to learn to communicate clearly. As we read grade-level fiction and non-fiction texts centered on this theme of challenges, we will be expanding our use of close reading and critical thinking strategies.

Math 6

30601

Math 6 prepares students with the essential mathematical skills for future study in Pre-Algebra and subsequent Algebra classes. Among the 12 units, major concepts include: arithmetic, patterns and variables, number theory, data and graphs, ratios and proportions, geometry and measurement, probability, integer operations, equations, and inequalities.

Pre-Algebra

37501

Pre-Algebra serves as a bridge between arithmetic and Algebra. This course will build a foundation of algebraic concepts through the use of technology, manipulatives, problem solving, and cooperative learning. Concepts include algebraic expressions, linear equations, polynomials, factoring, inequalities, geometry, statistics, and graphing. Problem solving, reasoning, estimation, and connections between math and everyday applications will be emphasized throughout Pre-Algebra.

Algebra I

37502

The purpose of this course is to explain families of functions, with special emphasis on linear and quadratic functions. As students learn about each family of functions, they will learn to represent them as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. They will also learn to model real-world situations using functions in order to solve problems arising from those situations.

Science 6

40601

Science 6 is designed for incoming middle school students, to ready them for the rigor of middle school level science skills. Throughout the year, students will focus on building skills in lab skills and content knowledge targeting the main ideas of life science, Earth/Space science, and physical science in connection with how they operate as an intricate system. Through various hands-on labs and content learning, students will strengthen their ability to investigate real-world problems using the scientific method.

Science 7

40701

Science 7 is designed for 7th grade students, targeting to expand and build on scientific knowledge. This course is to investigate the world of the living and nonliving things, at levels both large and small, by experimenting with aspects of interactions on Earth. Students explore a variety of the physical world, complexity of matter, relationship between living things and Earth, and discover the scientific world of geography. Students perform laboratory activities to learn about the application of scientific methods.

Science 8

40801

This is an integrated course that includes topics such as geologic time, natural selection and adaptations, evidence of evolution, forces and motion, mechanical energy, electromagnetic forces, introduction to waves, light, information technology, Earth, and human activities, the Sun-Moon-Earth system, and exploring the universe. The goal of this course is to understand the scientific concepts, "real life" application, and to develop a set of engineering skills by engaging in hands-on science investigations.

Western Geographic Regions

50601

In this year-long course, students will be exploring the regions of the Western World (Europe, Russia, and the Americas) through the through the lens of physical and human geography while giving special emphasis to the major geographical themes of location, place, movement, human-environment interactions, and regions. Special focus will also be given to mapping skills, especially map layering practices similar to that of geographic information systems.

Eastern Geographic Regions

50701

In this year long course, students will study the regions of the Eastern World (Africa, Asia, and Oceania) through the lens of geography and history. Students will be able to explain forces that result in world interaction, and explain causes and effects of migration. Students will examine the interactions between people and the environment. They will learn how culture shapes behavior and identity. Students will examine economic effects of environmental changes, as well as analyze and describe strengths and weaknesses of various forms of government.

Ancient Civilizations

50801

In this year-long course, students will study past civilizations (including the early cradles of civilization, the Classical, pre-Columbian Americas, and others) to understand both the character of the present and the challenges of the future. Throughout the course emphasis is placed on understanding the rise, flourishing, and legacy of all major civilizations. Students will learn and demonstrate competency in historical research, identifying patterns of historical change, examining major religions, explaining the different systems of governance, and describing the influence of scientific knowledge and the use of technologies on cultures. Students will develop skills that will enable them to conduct research, obtain and utilize credible resources, and acquire the background knowledge necessary to construct a coherent essay, a major assessment piece of this course.