

# Brooklyn Amity School

## HS Course Description

**Introduction:**

This catalog is a reference manual for students, parents, and faculty at Brooklyn Amity School. It is a complete guide to the possible course offerings at BAS. Each department has described its specific course offerings, highlighting the main components of each course as well as the prerequisites, which must be met for the course enrollment.

Planning an individual student's high school program of studies requires a good communication between the students, parents, and school. The courses at BAS provide students with many opportunities to meet their educational needs. Beyond state, district, college and career requirements, the students are encouraged to select courses that will be academically stimulating and personally enriching. The aspirations, achievements, and abilities of the student should determine the program of studies that he or she pursues in high school.

In selecting particular courses, the following criteria should be considered.

Does the course:

- Meet the high school graduation requirements?
- Provide an outlet for interests in specific subject areas?
- Reflect an appropriate proficiency level?
- Provide a background for post high school plans leading to career options?
- Meet college entrance requirements?

When planning their academic programs, students should

- Determine their priorities. Low enrollment totals may lead to the cancellation of a course.
- Choose courses, not teachers. Requests for schedule adjustments will not be honored based on the issue of personnel.
- Discuss specific subject area choices with counselors, teachers, and/or department supervisors who can share valuable insight into the nature of specific courses.
- Make their scheduling inquiries first to the guidance counselor.

**Minimum Scheduling Requirements**

All Brooklyn Amity School students must be scheduled for a minimum of 7 credits per year unless there are individual cases, which must be approved by the administration. Semester courses are less likely at BAS, but may run first and/or second semester depending on the needs and the number of student requests for enrollment.



## Grade Level Promotion Requirements

For graduation, students are recommended to earn at least the following number of credits by the end of the mentioned grade level so that they can graduate in four years.

- By the end of 9<sup>th</sup> grade                    7 credits
- By the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade                14 credits
- By the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade                21 credits
- By the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade                25 credits

## Diploma Types and Graduation Requirements

Brooklyn Amity School offers three types of diplomas: General High School Diploma (25 credits), College-Prep Diploma (25 credits and a GPA of 3.0 or above), and Honors College-Prep Diploma (28 credits and a GPA of 3.5 or above). In order for a student to receive a high school diploma from BAS, each student must:

### A. College-prep diploma requirements.

1. Language Arts Literacy:                4 credits, including at least two years of Literature courses (domestic students). **In order for international students to take Literature courses, the ESL proficiency must be met, which is to score a 65 from the TOEFL or a 5.5 from IELTS.**
2. Mathematics:                                3 credits, including Algebra I & Geometry.
3. Science:                                        3 credits, including Biology and one of the following: chemistry, environmental science, or physics.
4. Social Studies:                                3 credits, including one year of American History and one year of Modern World History
6. World Languages:                            2 credits, however, we strongly recommend 20 credits in one language for students who aim to get into top colleges.
7. PE & Health:                                 2.5 credits
8. Visual & Performing Arts:                1 credits
9. Computer & Technology:                 1 credits

10. Electives 5 credits including life and college readiness

11. Total requirements: 25 credits for graduation

B. Successfully complete a minimum of 25 credits from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade for an honors college-prep diploma.

1. Language Arts Literacy: 4 credits, including at least two years of Literature courses (domestic students). International students must meet the ESL proficiency, which is a TOEFL score of 60 or an IELTS score of 5.5 will have two literature requirements; otherwise, they will not allowed to take literature courses.

2. Mathematics: 4 credits, including Algebra I & Geometry.

3. Science: 3 credits, including Biology and one of the following: chemistry, environmental science, or physics.

4. Social Studies: 4 credits, including one year of American History and one year of Modern World History

6. World Languages: 2 credits, however, we strongly recommend at least 20 credits in one language for students who aim to get into top colleges.

7. PE & Health: 2.5 credits

8. Visual & Performing Arts: 1 credits

9. Computer & Technology: 1 credits

10. Electives 3

11. Total requirements: 25 credits for graduation

Note: Minimum graduation requirements should not be confused with college/university admission requirements. The general rule of thumb for most four-year colleges/universities is that applicants should have completed a minimum of 4 units in English, 3 units in math, science, social studies, and world languages while top colleges recommend a minimum of 20 units, 4 units in each subject. (Academic units are considered to be full year courses in college preparatory courses in English, math, science, social studies, and world languages.)



## **GPA CALCULATION: WEIGHTED GPA**

Brooklyn Amity School weights the courses to calculate the grade point average (GPA).

Course Coefficients used in calculating the weighted GPA

AP Course Coefficient:	1.3325
Honor Course Coefficient:	1.2500
College Prep. Course Coefficient:	1.0825
Un-weighted Course Coefficient:	1.0000

## **Grading Scale**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Double Value</b>
A+	98 - 100	4
A	93 - 97	4
A-	90 - 92	3.67
B+	87 - 89	3.33
B	83 - 86	3
B-	80 - 82	2.67
C+	77 - 79	2.33
C	73 - 76	2
C-	70 - 72	1.67
D+	67 - 69	1.33
D	63 - 66	1
D-	60 - 62	1
F	0 - 59	0

## **Important Scheduling Deadlines**

1. Changing courses after the academic year has started can often be very disruptive to a student's schedule. Thus, elective course changes will not be permitted if they interfere with academic courses already scheduled. Additionally, schedule changes will **ONLY** be permitted after the completion of the fifth full day of school.

2. Adding classes/Dropping classes: (Remember, all students must maintain a minimum course load of 37.5 credits per year!)

\* Last day to add/drop a first semester class or a year long course: By the third Friday of the first quarter



\* Last day to add/drop a second semester class: By the third Friday of the third quarter

Note: Under special circumstances such as a teacher's dissatisfaction with the student, the administration has the right to drop a student from a year long course at the end of the first quarter.

4. Please note: Students need written permission of the parent, teacher, department supervisor, director of guidance and dean of academics when requesting to add or drop classes beyond the indicated deadlines by using the add/drop form.

5. A student who withdraws from any course prior to the above deadlines will be removed from the class roster and no record of this withdrawal will appear on the student's permanent record. A withdrawal after the deadline will receive a record of Withdraw Pass (WP) or Withdraw Fail (WF) on the student's permanent transcript.

6. A student taking a college course should ask the college to send a transcript to the Guidance Office of Brooklyn Amity School if the student would like the course to be shown at Amity's transcript.

### **Scheduling Timeline**

March: Courses will be selected by the students with the approval of the guidance office. For the course selection, each student will be given a course list, which must be discussed with the parents and teachers before discussing with the guidance counselor.

April: Course list will be finalized for the student. A copy of the list will be emailed or mailed to the parents of the student.

May: Student and teacher scheduling will be finalized and delivered.

All requests for course changes must be done two weeks before the end of the school year. In case students and parents ask for one final change, it must be done by August 15.

Final schedules will be mailed or emailed home one week prior to the first day of school.

### **Instructional Levels**

Courses at Brooklyn Amity School may be offered in four different levels of difficulty and sophistication. They are appropriately designed for students who have demonstrated corresponding levels of achievement, performance, and interest.



## **ELL**

ELL students who are not proficient in English will not be placed in regular literature courses. Those students will be assigned ELL support classes based on their levels. Those courses may include (but not limited to) courses like Reading and Literature, Grammar and Writing, ELL Integrated Skills.

## **College Prep**

Curricula designed to intellectually challenge and continue the academic development of the majority of students who have made satisfactory progress to date, through our college preparatory curriculum.

## **Honors**

Rigorous honors curricula that move at an accelerated pace through the course material and include especially challenging reading and writing assignments. These courses are designed for students who have demonstrated excellent proficiency in reading and writing, who can work well with abstract ideas, and who reliably and independently manage a challenging academic workload.

## **Advanced Placement**

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are an opportunity for students to take college level classes while completing their high school career. AP classes are extremely demanding. Students should only take these classes if they demonstrate college level skills in reading and writing, as well as have a commitment to do hard work with a desire to understand and discuss difficult concepts. Students who take the course must also take and pass an exam. Upon earning a passing exam grade, the course may be considered for college credit.

## **ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS COURSES**

### **Introduction:**

The English Program has a strong focus on composition and literature while instilling intelligent habits of speaking and listening. Our first concern in composition is to assist students in writing honestly and developing styles with authentic voice. Emphasis is placed on personal, technical, and analytical forms of writing as well as those skills necessary to enhance our scientific curricula.

Literary analysis is a major concentration with special attention to meaningful, personal involvement with the literature. Our curriculum is designed to acquaint each student with some of the major cultural and aesthetic movements of American Literature and British Literature, giving attention to the voices of women, minorities, and non-western writers. See the following chart for the typical sequence of courses.



## **Accelerated Reading      ENG 100**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** This course is a personalized and guided independent reading course for students to improve their reading levels. The course is fully blended with the Accelerated Reader Enterprise tool from Renaissance Learning. Students' reading level diagnosis and progress monitoring are done through online tools from AR enterprise. Students take quizzes from each book they read and accumulate points. AR utilizes the ATOS readability formula—a verified measure of quantitative text complexity for the Common Core State Standards. Each book with an AR Quiz has an ATOS book level and an interest level—a qualitative measure of text complexity. This information is free and easily accessible on AR BookFinder. The ATOS Analyzer allows you to submit text and instantly receive an ATOS level. Students are required to enroll in this course until they reach 12.9 reading level or above.

## **Introduction to Literature    ENG 101**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Completion of eighth grade English and reading at, or above grade level.*

**Description:** This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course introduces and defines various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections. Emphasis is placed on strengthening needed vocabulary, grammar, and writing skills. The completion of frequent writing assignments is an expectation. Literature is an important component; therefore, students should expect a substantial amount of reading. They will be exposed to the genres of mythology, classical literature, and contemporary fiction. **Romeo and Juliet, Maus I and II, Lord of the Flies, The Odyssey, and Of Mice and Men** may be among the titles chosen. In addition to these readings, an anthology will be utilized. A formal research paper shall be assigned. Before entering this course, parents and students should carefully consider the recommendation of the teacher and the department head.

## **Honors Introduction to Literature    ENG 102**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: At least a grade of B+ in eighth grade English and reading above grade level*

**Description:** This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course introduces and defines various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections. This course concentrates its study on the major literary forms, vocabulary development, and grammar. The literary emphasis is placed on analysis of the form, content, and style of the short story. Other major genres considered in detail are the epic, novel, and drama. Works studies may include **The Odyssey, Great Expectations, Tale of Two Cities, Maus I and Maus II, Of Mice and Men, A Separate Peace, Lord of the Flies, and Romeo and Juliet.** Etymology

supplements the formal study of college-level works and those reflected from literature in the development of vocabulary skills. Grammar is taught formally, on an individualized basis, and through various writing assignments. Special emphasis is placed on phrases, causal relationship, sentence structure, and study skills. The writing of formal research papers will be addressed. Before entering this course, parents and students should carefully consider the recommendation of the teacher and the department head.

### **World Literature    ENG 201**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Introduction to Literature or administrative/teacher approval*

**Description:** This course offers a balanced focus on composition and literature. Typically, students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays and compositions. Through the study of various genres of literature, students can improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to deliver his or her message. World Literature course uses representative literature selections from ancient and/or modern times from countries around the world. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they comprehend the diversity of literary traditions and the influences of those traditions. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required. Literature read shall include such titles as **Black Boy, Lord of the Flies, Of Mice and Men, The Glass Menagerie, and Julius Caesar.**

### **Honors World Literature    ENG 202**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** At least B- in Honors Introduction to Literature or at least A- in Introduction to Literature course and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** World Literature course uses representative literature selections from ancient and/or modern times from countries around the world. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they comprehend the diversity of literary traditions and the influences of those traditions. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required. Since Honors World Lit. represents the last molding stage of student growth in language skills (i.e. grammar, sentence structure, composition, vocabulary, reading, and other related areas), the curriculum is carefully developed in an effort to prepare students to meet the more in depth requirements of high school English. There is a heavy focus on literary analysis, and students will read widely and deeply. Numerous genres are taught, including drama, short stories, non-fiction, novels, and poetry. Works studied may include **Animal Farm, To Kill a Mockingbird, 1984, and Julius Caesar.** There is a heavy emphasis on writing, therefore students should enter this course with strong writing skills intact. Written research projects, essays, and oral presentations are requirements.

**American Literature            ENG 301**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of World Literature or administrative/teacher approval*

**Description:** This course continues to develop students' writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and begin to learn the techniques of writing research papers. Students continue to read works of literature, which often form the backbone of the writing assignments. Literary conventions and stylistic devices may receive greater emphasis than in previous courses. American Literature course focuses upon commonly known American authors and their work. These may include Hemingway, Miller, Poe, and O'Neill. There will be continuous emphasis on vocabulary building as a corollary to the reading. Writing units will be designed to strengthen students' communication skills. The student selecting this course will have a very good background in American Literature and in the mechanics of grammar and writing. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and as they understand how the literature reflects the society of the time. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

**Honors American Literature            ENG 302**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *At least B- in Honors World Literature or at least A- in World Literature course and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Honors American Literature opens through the familiarization with the main literary genres and progresses through the study of significant works of American Literary Art. A study of American Literature parallels and enhances the study of U.S. History. Literary works studied are also viewed imaginatively and related to immediate experience. In essence, students taking Honors American Literature are exposed to and urged to express the American literary spirit. Subtext and critical thinking skills are addressed and an emphasis is put on obtaining an understanding of how to apply what students have learned. The class also focuses on expression and the creative process, understanding how to turn your thoughts into words on a page. A variety of mediums are addressed including, short story, play and poetry writing. Major works that are covered include: *The Crucible, Fahrenheit 451, The Catcher in the Rye, The Things They Carried, The Great Gatsby, Scarlet Letter* and others as well as a vast assortment of classic American short stories and poetry. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and as they understand how the literature reflects the society of the time. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

**British Literature**                      **ENG 401**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** Successful completion of American Literature or administrative/teacher approval*

**Description:** This course blends composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language arts skills. Typically, students primarily write multi-paragraph essays, but they may also write one or more major research papers. This course is devoted to British Literature and works studied shall include Chaucer, Shakespeare, Keats, Shelley Stoker, Milton, Swift, Wilde, and Huxley. Societal influences on their writing will also be examined. Oral and written presentations will be an integral part of this course. The study of grammar will arise from needs identified in student's written work. The student selecting this course will have a very good background in British Literature, the mechanics of grammar, and writing. The class will cover British Literature from the Anglo-Saxon period up to contemporary works. Students are provided with the contextual history of each literary period and work so that they may make the connections between the works and the times in which they were written. Key works in the class include: Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Macbeth, Frankenstein, Jekyll and Hyde and Dracula. Other material includes excerpts from Paradise Lost, Gulliver's travels and a wide assortment of British poetry.

**Honors British Literature**                      **ENG 402**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** At least B- in Honors American Literature or at least A- in American Literature course and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** This course is a challenging study of British Literature. This course blends composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language arts skills. Typically, students primarily write multi-paragraph essays, but they may also write one or more major research papers. The class shall approach the works chronologically and consider the influence of the evolving British culture on language, discourse, and literary styles. Students will study works by Chaucer, Shakespeare, Blake, Keats, Shelley, Milton, Swift, Wilde, and Huxley. Reporting orally and writing will be integral parts of this course. Additionally, grammar shall be addressed through the needs identified in student writing. Students taking this course need to be capable of maintaining intensive reading and writing projects as well as have the capacity to deliver well developed oratories. This class cover British Literature from the Anglo-Saxon period up to contemporary works. Students are provided with the contextual history of each literary period and work so that they may make the connections between the works and the times in which they were written. A heavy focus is placed on student's abilities to understand the subtext of various works and how these works fit into history both in the time they were written and today. Critical thinking skills are also a key to this classroom and students are constantly challenged to find characters motivations and the reasons behind why certain themes exist. Key works in the class include: Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Hamlet, Frankenstein, Brave New World and Dracula. Other material includes excerpts from Paradise Lost, Gulliver's travels and a wide assortment of British poetry.



### **AP English Language and Composition**

**ENG 501**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Honors World Literature, with at least a grade of a B and teacher/administrative approval.*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level English courses, AP English Language and Composition course exposes students to prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. This course will provide students with workload challenges consistent with an undergraduate English composition course. This courses emphasizes the interaction of authorial purpose, intended audience, and the subject at hand, and through them, students learn to develop stylistic flexibility as they write compositions covering a variety of subjects that are intended for various purposes. Students entering AP English are already skilled in basic composition, and are proficient in their use of standard English grammar and mechanics. Expected in this course is refinement of these skills to develop sophistication and stylistic maturity in writing. Focus is on a variety of writing genres, particularly the synthesis, argumentative, and analytical essay. There is also a heavy focus on the study of rhetoric, defined as the art of discourse, an art that aims to improve the facility of speakers and writers. The course emphasizes critical reading of various prose styles, with a heavy emphasis on non-fiction. This is a yearlong course, which is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Exam given in May.

### **AP English Literature and Composition**

**ENG 511**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Honors American Literature, with at least a grade of a B and teacher/administrative approval.*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level English courses, AP English Literature and Composition courses enable students to develop critical standards for evaluating literature. Students study the language, character, action, and theme in works of recognized literary merit; enrich their understanding of connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone; and write compositions of their own (including literary analysis, exposition, argument, narrative, and creative writing). An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This is a yearlong course, which is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Exam given in May.



**Film Studies                    ENG 007**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: B- or higher in a prior English Literature course*

**Description:** This course will serve as an introduction to film appreciation and production. Students will view a selection of films and analyze the aesthetic elements including cinematography, editing, sound, script, acting, direction, and mise en scene. In addition, students consider the context in which a film was created, and how elements such as cultural roles, genre, political issues, economics, ethics, and history influenced the film. Students will engage in analysis and actively participate in class discussion. In addition they will engage in writing critical reviews, and conducting research. Students will create at least one short film of their own.

**Writing Composition                    ENG 002**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: B- or higher in a prior English Literature course and teacher recommendation*

**Description:** This course focuses on students' writing skills and develop their ability to compose different types of papers for a range of purposes and audiences. Writing Composition course enables students to explore and practice descriptive, narrative, persuasive, or expository styles as they write paragraphs, essays, letters, applications, formal documented papers, or technical reports. Although composition courses may present some opportunities for creative writing, their focus usually remains on nonfiction, scholarly, or formal writing.

**Public Speaking                    ENG 005**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: B- or higher in a prior English Literature course*

**Description:** Public Speaking course enables students, through practice, to develop communication skills that can be used in a variety of speaking situations (such as small and large group discussions, delivery of lectures or speeches in front of audiences, and so on). Course topics may include (but are not limited to) research and organization, writing for verbal delivery, stylistic choices, visual and presentation skills, analysis and critique, and development of self-confidence. Students will also listen to speeches and experiment with different styles, rhythms, and formats. Oral presentations and written work are required on a weekly basis. Students will learn and gain skills to speak confidently and convincingly in a public.



**Creative Writing                      ENG 003**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: B- or higher in a prior English Literature course and teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** Creative Writing course offers students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although this course mostly covers several expressive forms, classes will sometimes concentrate on particular form such as poetry or playwriting.

**Journalism                              ENG 004**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: B- or higher in a prior English Literature course and teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** Journalism course is usually associated with the production of a school newspaper, yearbook, or literary magazine and emphasizes writing style and technique as well as production values and organization. Journalism course introduces students to the concepts of newsworthiness and press responsibility; develop students' skills in writing and editing stories, headlines, and captions; and teach students the principles of production design, layout, and printing. Photography and photojournalism skills may be included.

**Drama                                      ENG 006**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: B- or higher in a prior English Literature course and teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** Drama course is intended to promote students' experience and skill development in one or more aspects of theatrical production, but they concentrate on acting and performance skills. This course focuses on improving technique, expanding students' exposure to different types of theatrical techniques and traditions, and increasing their chances of participating in public productions.



## MATHEMATICS COURSES

### Introduction:

The purpose of the Mathematics Department is to provide a sound, contemporary, and comprehensive mathematics curriculum that offers each student an opportunity to realize his potential as a critical and logical thinker. The department strives to provide experiences that stress the concepts and skills necessary for success in today's society as a citizen, student, worker, consumer, and provider.

The Mathematics Department provides a program of courses to fulfill the needs of students with varied interests and abilities. The choice of courses allows the student to be challenged and successful, and to approach mathematics with confidence. While we want students to feel challenged, we do not want students to be enrolled in a course that is inappropriate. In order to determine the best course, students should consult with their present mathematics teacher, their guidance counselor, and their parents. All of our courses include investigation so that the use of either a calculator or computer technology is an integral component.

Students taking Algebra II and higher level courses must have a TI-NSPIRE CX CAS graphing calculator.

### **Algebra I     MATH 101**

Credits: 5

*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or equivalent.*

**Description:** Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

### **Honors Algebra I     MATH 102**

Credits: 5

*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or equivalent with a grade of A- or above*

**Description:** Honors Algebra I is a rigorous course, which covers all the topics of Algebra I, with additional emphasis on the more complex theorems. A student who chooses this course should be aware of the following: the range of topics is greater and in more depth than a non-accelerated course, and the pace is faster.



### **Geometry MATH 201**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I*

**Description:** Geometry courses, emphasizing an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically include topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

### **Honors Geometry MATH 202**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I with a grade of A- or above*

**Description:** Honors Geometry is a rigorous course, which covers all the topics of geometry, with additional emphasis on the more complex theorems of solid geometry. The nature of geometric proofs is emphasized. A student who chooses this course should be aware of the following: the range of topics is greater and in more depth than a non-accelerated course, and the pace is faster.

### **Algebra II with Trigonometry MATH 301**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I and Geometry*

**Description:** Algebra II with Trigonometry course combines trigonometry and advanced algebra topics, and are usually intended for students who have attained Algebra I and Geometry objectives. Topics typically include right trigonometric and circular functions, inverses, and graphs; trigonometric identities and equations; solutions of right and oblique triangles; complex numbers; numerical tables; field properties and theorems; set theory; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; and properties of higher degree equations.



### **Honors Algebra II with Trigonometry     MATH 302**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I and Geometry with a grade of B+ or above*

**Description:** Honors Algebra II is a rigorous course, which covers all the topics of standard Algebra II. Additional emphasis is placed on the concepts of functions, analysis, conics, logarithmic and exponential functions, and matrices. A student who chooses this course should be aware of the following: the range of topics is greater and in more depth than a non-accelerated course, and the pace is faster.

### **SAT Math     MATH 003**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Completion of Algebra I and Geometry*

**Description:** SAT Math course is a course designed to cover Algebra I, Geometry, and some Algebra II topics to prepare the students for the Math Section of the SAT. Students who score less than 550 in Math Section of SAT or less than 55 in Math section of PSAT are highly recommended to take this course.

### **Business Mathematics     MATH 004**

Credits: 5 high school credits and 3 college credits

**Prerequisite:** *Completion of Algebra I and Geometry and Passing the College Placement Test*

**Description:** Basic skills in arithmetic computation necessary for business operations. Reviews fundamentals of arithmetic processes, fractions, decimals, percentages, problem solving, trade and cash discounts, borrowing and lending money, and determining markup. The material covered offers a basis for subsequent courses in accounting, merchandising, and related business subjects. 3 hours lecture

### **Introduction to Statistics & Probability     MATH 005**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Completion of Algebra II with a grade of B-*

**Description:** Foundations of Precalculus or Precalculus may be taken concurrently. This course would serve as a non-rigorous first course in statistics, data analysis and probability with a strong emphasis on applications and the thinking behind data gathering and interpretation, rather than on theory and computation. (This course is not intended to prepare students for the AP exam in Statistics.) Students will learn about statistics and data by working with data. The use of graphing calculators will be incorporated throughout the course. This approach reflects the way real-life statisticians contribute to



our understanding of the world. It will also help students be more discerning consumers of statistics, teaching them to look closely at what the numbers from surveys, election polls, and medical studies are really saying.

### **Functions and Trigonometry      MATH 311**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Geometry and Algebra II*

**Description:** This course is an intermediate course in mathematics for the student who has completed Algebra II and Geometry and wishes to strengthen their mathematical background. This course is for those students who are not recommended to take Precalculus. The course offers a review of algebraic and geometric concepts, a preview of precalculus topics, and an introduction to discrete mathematics. In addition, special attention will be given to the study of the basic elementary functions: trigonometry, exponential and logarithms. The TI-Nspire graphing calculator (or equivalent) will be used in this course. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and approval by the Mathematics Department.

### **PreCalculus    MATH 401**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Geometry and Algebra II with a grade of B or above*

**Description:** This course is an intermediate course in mathematics for the student who has completed Algebra II and Geometry and wishes to strengthen their mathematical background. This course is for those students who are not recommended to take Precalculus. The course offers a review of algebraic and geometric concepts, a preview of precalculus topics, and an introduction to discrete mathematics. In addition, special attention will be given to the study of the basic elementary functions: trigonometry, exponential and logarithms. The TI-Nspire graphing calculator (or equivalent) will be used in this course. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and approval by the Mathematics Department.

### **AP Calculus AB      MATH 501**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *PreCalculus with a grade of B+ or above*

**Description:** This course covers the rate of change of a function, differentiation of algebraic and transcendental functions, plane analytical geometry, and integrals. Use of a graphing calculator is integrated throughout the course. This course is equivalent to a first-year college offering in calculus



and follows the College Entrance Examination Board's recommended syllabus for the AB level of the Advanced Placement Calculus Exam. Success on this exam could mean advanced placement for up to two semesters of college calculus.

### **AP Calculus BC      MATH 502**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *AP Calculus AB with a score of 3 or above on the AP Exam or Calculus I course taken from a college with a grade of B or above.*

**Description:** In addition to the topics of Calculus AB, students in this course will study differential equations, sequences, series, polar coordinates, and parametric equations. Use of a graphing calculator is integrated throughout the course. This course is a sequential course to AP Calculus AB and completes the College Entrance Examination Board's recommended syllabus for the Calculus BC Advanced Placement Exam. Success on this exam could mean advanced placement for up to three semesters of college calculus.

### **AP Statistics      MATH 511**

Credits: 5

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Algebra II with a grade of B+ or PreCalculus with a grade of B or above.*

**Description:** This course is equivalent to an introductory, non-calculus based college course in statistics. Since statistics is a key element of many courses of study in college, any student interested in psychology, sociology, humanities, business, economics, biology/life sciences, medicine, mathematics/statistics, engineering, etc. would benefit from this course. The purpose of the advanced placement course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploratory analysis, planning a study, probability, and statistical inference. Students must have their own graphing calculator (TI-Nspire CX is required), which has a full menu of statistical functions. Science, engineering, business, and mathematics majors usually take an upper division calculus-based course in statistics, for which the AP Statistics course will be an effective preparation. All students who take this course are required to take the AP exam in May. After the AP exam students will complete a major statistical research project of their choice.



## SCIENCE COURSES

### Introduction:

Science Department aims to create a learning community to support student achievement of the learning standards in science, leading to a scientifically literate population. Students will engage in inquiry-centered curriculum programming which fosters the development and understanding of science content, concepts, skills and attitudes.

The Science Department course offerings are designed to ensure the learning of science for all 9-12 students by providing equitable access to exemplary teachers, inquiry-centered curriculum and instruction, standards-based assessments, and a wealth of resources and community support.

The program objectives emphasize the development of concepts and skills students need to demonstrate a reasonable command of a science knowledge base and to interpret the world around them using a scientific approach. The science program fosters the development of a personal interest in and an understanding of the impact of science on society as a whole. The normal sequences of courses are as shown below:

### **Environmental Science      SCI 111**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** ?

**Description:** Environmental Science course examine the mutual relationships between organisms and their environment. In studying the interrelationships among plants, animals, and humans, these courses usually cover the following subjects: photosynthesis, recycling and regeneration, ecosystems, population and growth studies, pollution, and conservation of natural resources.

### **Biology/Living Environment      SCI 101**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** None.

**Description:** Biology course is designed to provide information regarding the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. Biology also introduces the major topics of modern biology organized in a phylogenetic approach. The major themes explored include the process of science, structure and function of the hierarchies of biological organization, unity, and the diversity of organisms. The course content, combined with a double period of laboratory work, reflects recent developments in biological science. The teaching team utilizes a variety of instructional techniques to accomplish course objectives



### **Honors Biology      SCI 102**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *B+ or higher in prior science course and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Honors Biology offers an in-depth survey of college preparatory material for students who have demonstrated ability in science through a high performance level in middle school science classes. The course work assumes that students have excellent reading comprehension, math skills, and show higher order thinking skills. Laboratory investigations and outside readings supplement an intense, comprehensive course of study. Class discussions focus on core foundations and recent developments in biological science. Classes each cycle include regular meetings and a double period of laboratory experience. The course helps to prepare students for the SAT II - Biology Test.

### **AP Environmental Science      SCI 521**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Biology and Chemistry with a grade of B+ or above with administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** AP Environmental Science course is designed by the College Board to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, identify and analyze environmental problems (both natural and human made), evaluate the relative risks associated with the problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Topics covered include science as a process, ecological processes and energy conversions, earth as an interconnected system, the impact of humans on natural systems, cultural and societal contexts of environmental problems, and the development of practices that will ensure sustainable systems.

### **AP Biology      SCI 501**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry with a grade of B+ or above and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Adhering to the curricula recommended by the College Board and designed to parallel college level introductory biology courses, AP Biology courses stress basic facts and their synthesis into major biological concepts and themes. These courses cover three general areas: molecules and cells (including biological chemistry and energy transformation); genetics and evolution; and organisms and populations (i.e., taxonomy, plants, animals, and ecology). AP Biology courses include college-level laboratory experiments.



### **Molecular Genetics            SCI 121**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Biology with a grade of B or above and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Plants and their relationships to humans and the biosphere: plant structure and function, growth and development; plant genetics and biotechnology; plant diversity and evolution; practical and economic uses of plants.

### **Earth Science            SCI 002**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Earth Science course offers insight into the environment on earth and the earth's environment in space. While presenting the concepts and principles essential to students' understanding of the dynamics and history of the earth, these courses usually explore oceanography, geology, astronomy, meteorology, and geography.

### **Chemistry    SCI 201**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Chemistry course involves studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

### **Honors Chemistry    SCI 202**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Algebra I with a grade of B- or above and administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** Honors Chemistry is designed for students who have demonstrated strong academic skills in math and science and are motivated to take a rigorous, fast-paced chemistry course. Chemical principles and quantitative relationships are explored through laboratory work, reading assignments, and class discussion. The course provides a survey of the concepts of inorganic chemistry with emphasis on the molecular nature of matter, the periodicity of matter, and chemical equilibria. Students are expected to use principles of quantitative reasoning in solving problems. The scope and depth of the course provides students more than adequate preparation for college level chemistry and the SAT II- Chemistry Achievement Test, which they would be expected to aim to complete. An investigative practical project is included in year cycle. Students are encouraged to develop higher order thinking and problem solving skills, as well as link chemical concepts with other science and engineering.

**AP Chemistry      SCI 511**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Chemistry and Algebra II with B+ or above and administrative / teacher approval.*

**Description:** Following the curricula recommended by the College Board, AP Chemistry course usually follows high school chemistry and second-year algebra. Topics covered may include atomic theory and structure; chemical bonding; nuclear chemistry; states of matter; and reactions (stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics, and thermodynamics). AP Chemistry laboratories are equivalent to those of typical college courses.

**Physics      SCI 301**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I with a grade of B or above and administrative/teacher approval*

**Description:** Physics is a laboratory science course that examines the relationship between matter and energy and how they interact. This course will have a strong emphasis in the mathematics of physics. Students explore physics concepts through an inquiry approach. Embedded standards for Inquiry, Technology & Engineering, and Mathematics are taught in the context of the content standards for Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Waves and Sound, Light and Optics, Electricity and Magnetism and Atomic & Nuclear Science. Students will be ready for AP Physics based on their passing grade.

**Honors Physics      SCI 302**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Algebra II with a grade of B+ or above ,or administrative/teacher approval*

**Description:** Honors Physics is an introductory survey course in physics for students who have demonstrated proficiency in algebra and geometry. A rigorous analytical approach is used in the study of the applications of physics to everyday phenomena. Topics include mechanics, waves, light, sound, electricity, and magnetism. Laboratory work and experimental design are an integral part of the curriculum. A double period of laboratory is included in each cycle. This course is excellent preparation for the SAT II - Physics Achievement Test.

**AP Physics B            SCI 531**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Honors Physics and Honors Algebra II with grades of A-, and/or administrative/teacher approval*

**Description:** This course provides a systematic introduction to the main principles of physics and emphasizes the development of conceptual understanding and problem-solving ability using algebra and some trigonometry. In most colleges, this is a one-year terminal course including a laboratory component and is not the usual preparation for more advanced physics and engineering courses. However, the B course provides a foundation in physics for students in the life sciences, pre-medicine, and some applied sciences, as well as other fields not directly related to science. Physics B seeks to be representative of topics covered in similar college courses, as determined by periodic surveys. Many colleges and universities include additional topics such as special relativity. Some AP teachers may wish to add such supplementary material to an AP Physics B course. Many teachers have found that a good time to do this is late in the year, after the AP Exams have been given.

**AP Physics C            SCI 532**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *AP Physics B with a score of 3 or above on the AP exam and Calculus AB course concurrently and/or administrative / teacher approval.*

**Description:** This course ordinarily forms the first part of the college sequence that serves as the foundation in physics for students majoring in the physical sciences or engineering. The sequence is parallel to or preceded by mathematics courses that include calculus. Methods of calculus are used wherever appropriate in formulating physical principles and in applying them to physical problems. Strong emphasis is placed on solving a variety of challenging problems, some requiring calculus. The subject matter of the AP Physics C: Mechanics course is classical mechanics and includes topics in kinematics; Newton's laws of motion, work, energy and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; circular motion and rotation; oscillations; and gravitation. The AP Physics C: Mechanics course is the first part of a sequence which in college is sometimes a very intensive one-year course but often extends over one and one-half to two years, with a laboratory component. Use of calculus in problem solving and in derivations is expected to increase as the course progresses. Calculus is used freely in formulating principles and in solving problems.

**Scientific Research and Design            SCI 003**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** *Satisfactory completion of two science courses or administrative / teacher approval.*

**Description:** Scientific Research is a laboratory science course that enables students to both apply and expand previous science content knowledge toward the endeavor of engaging in open-ended, student-centered investigations that are designed to answer testable questions. Embedded standards for Technology & Engineering are taught in the context of the content standards that enable students to: Practice Ethics, Think Critically, Investigate, Analyze and Evaluate Data, and Communicate Results.



**Anatomy and Physiology**                      **SCI 131**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Biology with a grade of C+, and/or administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** This course provides a comprehensive study of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Topics include body organization; homeostasis; cytology; histology; and the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous systems and special senses. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of principles of anatomy and physiology and their interrelationships. Laboratory work includes dissection of preserved specimens, microscopic study, physiologic experiments, computer simulations, and multimedia presentations

**Astronomy**                                      **SCI 311**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I with a grade of A- or higher and/or administrative/teacher approval.*

**Description:** This class is an elective, inquiry-based science which will focus on the fundamental study of the universe. It will primarily explore the nature of weather patterns, moon phases, seasons, stars and galaxies. Students will explore these phenomena through a sequence of lab activities where they will make observations, analyze data, do research and problem solve in order to develop an understanding of how these forces of nature affect Earth.



## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

### **Introduction:**

The Social Studies Department aims to prepare students for their future roles as voting citizens of a democratic world power. It is our hope that our students will have a positive influence in world affairs over the decades ahead. Students will be introduced to the historical and cultural influences, which have shaped the present day world, in both the United States and elsewhere. They will be assisted in developing and applying the intellectual and analytical tools of the social sciences to deepen and broaden their understanding of past trends, current events, and potential future developments

In all courses, the department emphasizes critical thinking skills, especially the comparing and contrasting of differing opinions and perspectives about important social and political questions. Students must complete three years of social studies to meet the graduation requirements of Brooklyn Amity School including one year of United States History. Additionally, students are encouraged to continue their study of social studies beyond the minimum three-year requirement. The following chart depicts this department's course offerings.

### **Ancient Civilizations            SOC 100**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Teacher/Administrative approval*

**Description:** Ancient Civilizations course provides a survey of the evolution of society from the ancient Middle East through Greek and Roman civilizations. Typically, in this course, students study the rise and fall of civilizations and empires, with an emphasis on the legacies they provide to successive societies. Readings focus on the effects of geography on the growth of civilization, the interaction of cultures, the evolution of social and political institutions, religion and philosophy. Students read significant amount of primary sources as well as secondary accounts and interpretations.

### **World Cultures            SOC 101**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Teacher/Administrative approval*

**Description:** This course is a people-centered study involving an in-depth look at the world's major cultures using the 5 geographic themes. The study of each of these cultures will focus upon historical and present-day culture and geography, family life and structure, social organizations, attitude on education, religious beliefs and institutions, economic life, political trends, and the intellectual and artistic accomplishments of men and women within the culture. The study of each of the cultures will be supplemented by the development of reading, writing, research, geography, critical thinking, study skills/note-taking, technology use and presentation skills.



## **Honors World Cultures      SOC 102**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** This course places intense emphasis on development of students' academic skills. Its content focuses on several important geographical and cultural areas of today's world. The first portion of this course familiarizes students with the basic ideas and concepts that are referred to throughout the remainder of the year. Geographical and cultural areas studied include the Middle East, Africa, the Indian Subcontinent, China, and Japan. For each area, the topics that may be examined include geography, history, culture, economy, government, and the worldly role of said areas. The pace, selection of materials, and instructional emphasis are intended to meet the goals outlined for this level. Before entering this course, parents and student should consider the recommendation of the teacher and the department head carefully.

## **Modern World History      SOC 111**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** Teacher/Administrative approval*

**Description:** Modern World History course provides an overview of the history of human society in the past few centuries—from the Renaissance period, or later, to the contemporary period—exploring political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural developments. This course will be analyzing events and their impact on both the past and the present. Students will have the opportunity to work in a variety of learning situations—individually, in small groups, and as a large classroom. The curriculum will reflect the Secondary World History Standards established by Common Core Standards.

## **Honors Modern World History      SOC 112**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** Modern World History course provides an overview of the history of human society in the past few centuries—from the Renaissance period, or later, to the contemporary period—exploring political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural developments. This course will be analyzing events and their impact on both the past and the present. Students will have the opportunity to work in a variety of learning situations—individually, in small groups, and as a large classroom. Critical thinking skills such as decision making, problem solving, and cause and effect will be emphasized. The curriculum will reflect the Secondary World History Standards established by Common Core Standards.



## **United States History            SOC 201**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** Teacher/Administrative approval*

**Description:** U.S. History course provides students with an overview of the history of the United States. This course is a traditional survey course, organized chronologically, that exposes students to a wide-range of issues, trends, and individuals. This course shall cover such developments in United States History as the Civil War including the Colonial Period; the American Revolution; evolution of The United States Constitution; as well as the divisions and causes of the Civil War; reconstruction; the growth of industrialization; immigration; the emergence of the United States as a world power; World War I; the Great Depression; World War II; The Civil Rights Movement; and the Vietnam War.

## **Honors United States History            SOC 202**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** Rigorous honors curricula that move at an accelerated pace through the course material and include especially challenging reading and writing assignments. Honors US History is a traditional survey course, organized chronologically, that exposes students to a wide- range of issues, trends, and individuals. This course shall cover such developments in United States History as the Civil War including the Colonial Period; the American Revolution; evolution of The United States Constitution; as well as the divisions and causes of the Civil War; reconstruction; the growth of industrialization; immigration; the emergence of the United States as a world power; World War I; the Great Depression; World War II; The Civil Rights Movement; and the Vietnam War. These courses are designed for students who have demonstrated excellent proficiency in reading and writing, who can work well with abstract ideas, and who reliably and independently manage a challenging academic workload.

## **Advanced Placement United States History            SOC 511**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level U.S. History course, AP U.S. History course provides students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to address critical problems and materials in U.S. History. Students learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. The course examines the discovery and settlement of the New World through the recent past. This course has two principal aims: to give a good basic grounding in the foundations of society in the United States, and to introduce students to the discipline of history, and the process of thinking historically. Some of the themes explored will include the exploration, conquest, and settlement of the land; the impact of the environment on culture, and vice-versa; the formation of national identity, and



the question of American “exceptionalism.” This course will also examine the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. Engaging a range of approaches, students will consider political, economic, cultural, and social histories while paying particular attention to gender, race, sexuality, class, region, nation, and shifting global contexts. Students will explore the ways in which we learn and narrate stories of America’s past, individually and collectively, and address the profound consequences this holds not only for general historical understanding and practice, but also for analyzing the nation’s present, future, and the wider workings of power. This class draws upon a variety of texts, including narrative history, journalism, government documents, legal decisions, visual culture, fiction, music, material culture, and documentary and feature film. This course aims to prepare students for AP US History Exam in May.

**Early College Experience United States History (UConn)**

**SOC 515**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** This course has two principal aims: to give a good basic grounding in the foundations of society in the United States, and to introduce students to the discipline of history, and the process of thinking historically. Some of the themes explored will include the exploration, conquest, and settlement of the land; the impact of the environment on culture, and vice-versa; the formation of national identity, and the question of American “exceptionalism.” This course will also examine the history of the United States from the end of the Civil War to the present. Engaging a range of approaches, students will consider political, economic, cultural, and social histories while paying particular attention to gender, race, sexuality, class, region, nation, and shifting global contexts. Students will explore the ways in which we learn and narrate stories of America’s past, individually and collectively, and address the profound consequences this holds not only for general historical understanding and practice, but also for analyzing the nation’s present, future, and the wider workings of power. This class draws upon a variety of texts, including narrative history, journalism, government documents, legal decisions, visual culture, fiction, music, material culture, and documentary and feature film. Students will receive Social Studies credits from the University of Connecticut upon successful completion of this course.

**Advanced Placement US Government and Politics**

**SOC 521**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level U.S. Government and Politics courses, this course provides students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States, involving both the study of general concepts used to



interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. This course covers the constitutional underpinnings of the U.S. government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties and interest

groups, the institutions and policy process of national government, and civil rights and liberties. This course is a full year course in United States government and politics that is equivalent to a college level course. It offers an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. AP GoPo explores the formal and informal structure of the U.S. Government and the politics that influence its implementation. The purpose of this course is to interpret and analyze literature and data to recognize how our government functions while becoming acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. Familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics is a requirement to study the specific examples of these general concepts. This course aims to prepare students for AP Exam in May.

### **Advanced Placement World History**

**SOC 531**

Credits: 1

***Prerequisite:** B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

Description: Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level World History courses, AP World History courses examines world history from 8000 BCE to the present with the aim of helping students develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contracts and how different human societies have interacted. This full-year course explores the expansive history of the human world. Students learn many facts, but also the critical thinking skills necessary to analyze historical evidence. Five themes will be used as a frame of reference in the chronological study of our world's history; these themes are: Interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state-building, expansion and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures. An important skill acquired in the class is the ability to examine change over time, including the causation of events as well as the major effects of historical developments, the interconnectedness of events over time, and the spatial interactions that occur over time that have geographic, political, cultural, and social significance. It is important for each student to develop the ability to connect the local to the global, and vice versa. Students will also learn how to compare developments in different regions and in different time periods as well as contextualize important changes and continuities throughout world history.



**Advanced Placement Human Geography                      SOC 501**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

Description: Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level Human Geography courses, AP Human Geography introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped the ways in which humans understand, use, and alter the earth’s surface. Students use spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human

social organization and its environmental consequences and also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. Students will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. The particular topics studied follow the five college-level goals that build on the National Geography Standards developed in 1994 and revised in 2012.

**Advanced Placement European History                      SOC 541**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

Description: Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level European History courses, AP European History course examines European civilization from the High Renaissance period to the recent past and also exposes students to the factual narrative. In addition, this course helps students develop an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history and the abilities to analyze historical evidence and to express that understanding and analysis in writing. This course aims to prepare students for AP European History exam in May.

**Psychology    SOC 008**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *Teacher/Administrative approval*

**Description:** Psychology course introduces students to the study of individual human behavior. Course content includes (but is not limited to) an overview of the field of psychology, topics in human growth and development, personality and behavior, and abnormal psychology. Questions to be answered will be “Where do thoughts and memories come from? What are emotions? And why do we behave the way we do?” Students will begin to understand the human mind by exploring the research and theories of some of the most brilliant psychologists throughout history. In addition, students will learn psychological tips that they can use every day, like how to cope and reduce stress.



**Advanced Placement Psychology**                      **SOC 551**

Credits: 1

**Prerequisite:** *B+ or above in a prior Social Studies course and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level Psychology course, AP Psychology is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals . Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students will also learn about the ethics and methods

psychologists use in their science and practice. Students will be immersed in modern psychological techniques investigating the ethics and morality of human and animal research. In this college-level course, the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each major area of psychology will be studied and students will enhance their scientific critical thinking skills.

**Civics, Citizenship and the Law**                      **SOC 002**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** *Completion of US History or/and teacher/ administrative approval*

**Description:** Civics, Citizenship and the Law examines the general structure and functions of American systems of government, the roles and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system. This course focuses on the practical understanding of the American law and legal system as it may affect the lives of people on a daily basis. It also addresses the requirements of citizenship as well as the specific functions of local, state, and national governments. Students may enroll in this course for either college or honors credit. Grading of honors students will be at a higher standard than that for college students. The expectations of those enrolled in this course at the honor’s level will be greater for those students who are not. These expectations shall include additional reading and writing assignments.

**Contemporary Issues**                                      **SOC 003**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** *Teacher/ Administrative approval*

**Description:** Contemporary Issues course studies the political, economic, and social issues facing the United States, with or without an emphasis on state and local issues. This course may focus on current issues or may examine selected issues that span throughout the 20th century to the present. Local and national newspapers and journals will be studied in the class and discussions will be based on reading and writing assignments from those sources.



**Economics**                      **SOC 004**

Credits: 0.5

***Prerequisite:** B- or above in prior Social Studies course and Teacher/ Administrative approval*

**Description:** Economics course provides students with an overview of economics with primary emphasis on the principles of microeconomics and the U.S. economic system. This is a basic course in Economics and it will introduce students to supply and demand, the different forms of business organization, and money and banking. The functioning of our financial institutions will be introduced. Current economic events will be discussed as they apply to the topics being covered. Economic principles may be presented in formal theoretical contexts, applied contexts, or both. This course is recommended to students who want to gain a general understanding of the U.S. economy.

**Advanced Placement Macroeconomics**                      **SOC 561**

Credits: 0.5

***Prerequisite:** Completion of Algebra II and B- or better average in Math and English and Teacher/ Administrative approval*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level macroeconomics, AP Macroeconomics course provides students with a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price determination and developing students’ familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. Throughout the course, students will be applying the theory they are learning to current economic conditions. Students will learn how Gross Domestic product is determined, inflation and unemployment. The rate of economic growth in our economy and what The Federal Reserve should do about interest rates will be discussed. Students will learn how to analyze various economic indicators that depict the state of our economy. Fiscal and monetary policy will be taught. This one semester college-level course provides a foundation for a course in AP Microeconomics. The course will prepare students to take the AP Macroeconomics Exam given in May.

**Advanced Placement Microeconomics**                      **SOC 562**

Credits: 0.5

***Prerequisite:** Successful completion of AP Macroeconomics and Teacher/ Administrative approval*

**Description:** Following the College Board’s suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level microeconomics, AP Microeconomics course provides students with a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers (both consumers and producers). The course will cover theories of consumer and business behavior. Students will analyze the different costs, price, and output decisions faced by firms. Four different market models will be studied: pure competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly, and pure monopoly. This course places

primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, while also including a study of factor markets and the role of government in the economy. This one semester course should be taken after AP Macroeconomics. This course will prepare students to take the AP Microeconomics Exam given in May.

**Early College Experience American Studies (UConn)                      SOC 517**

Credits: 0.5

***Prerequisite:** Successful completion of two years of high school history and two years of high school English are recommended and teacher/administrative approval*

**Description:** What is an American? This course takes a multidisciplinary inquiry approach into the diversity of American Societies and cultures. This Early College Experience course seeks to introduce methods by which we can study our lives in the same interdisciplinary fashion that we live them. Since its inception in the 1930s, American Studies has looked beyond the formal disciplinary bounds that defined university education to see what happens when history, art, literature, popular culture, politics, and law are all used in an exploration of the American experience. The results can be surprising: fiction, film, aesthetics, and political movements, for example, have all been found to wield influence far beyond their respective realms. Understandings of history, literature, and legal principles, too, have led to surprising changes in the way we art, nature, religion, and contemporary society. Consequently, for over seventy years, American Studies has been reminding the public at large, that as much as we need to break-down and analyze, we also must integrate and assess. Students will receive Social Studies credits from the University of Connecticut upon successful completion of this course.

**Introduction to Business                      SOC 005**

Credits: 5 high school credits or 3 college credits

***Prerequisite:** College Placement Test in English*

**Description:** This course introduces the various fields of business study and is taught by a college professor or taught at a college. Students must pass the placement test of the college or show proficiency (SAT/ACT/TOEFL/IELTS scores) to be able to take this course. Topics include economic systems, small business development, forms of American businesses, management, marketing, accounting, finance, banking, and ethics. It prepares for higher-level business studies and is excellent for non-business majors who wish to gain an introduction to financial and economic survival leading to successful financial planning.



### **Marketing SOC 006**

Credits: 5 high school credits or 3 college credits

*Prerequisite: Introduction to Business with a grade of C or above*

**Description:** This course introduces the various fields of business study and is taught by a college professor or taught at a college. Students must pass the placement test of the college or show proficiency (SAT/ACT/TOEFL/IELTS scores) to be able to take this course. Topics include economic systems, small business development, forms of American businesses, management, marketing, accounting, finance, banking, and ethics. It prepares for higher-level business studies and is excellent

for non-business majors who wish to gain an introduction to financial and economic survival leading to successful financial planning.

### **International Business SOC 007**

Credits: 5 high school credits or 3 college credits

*Prerequisite: Introduction to Business with a grade of C or above*

**Description:** Provides an understanding of the cultural, political and economic environments of international business. The role and responsibilities of international organizations are reviewed and discussed. A particular emphasis will be placed on the structure of international business and business operations. The course is taught by a college professor or taught at a college. Students must pass the placement test of the college or show proficiency (SAT/ACT/TOEFL/IELTS scores) to be able to take this course.

### **Social Studies for the ELL SOC 001**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** The ELL World History course is an ELL course, teaching the basics of World History while familiarizing students with the phraseology and vocabulary of history to prepare them for regular-stream history classes. Students will perform similar tasks to those required in regular-stream classes, though the instructor will use ELL principles and place more weight on the ability of students to communicate ideas and present facts in a coherent manner. This class will be taught by a Social Studies instructor in consultation with the ELL Department.

## Intensive ELL Program

Brooklyn Amity School Intensive English Language Learning (IELL) Department was developed to assist students in moving from low-intermediate English proficiency to a proficiency level which will allow them to succeed in regular college-preparatory classes. Students study grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, speaking/pronunciation, listening, and some other primary subject courses. All courses are designed to prepare students for the rigorous coursework of college preparatory classes they will encounter after completing the BAS Intensive ELL Program.

While in the ELL program, students will be expected to learn and adapt to a US school system as well as the language and culture of the United States. ELL program is considered as a training for future classes in the college preparatory program. Students will be held to high standards of academia, and will be expected to reach a level of excellence.

### **Integrated Skills      ELL 101**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Integrated Skills is the primary course of academic and daily practical communication. This course combines practice for all language skills into one integrated course encompassing listening, speaking, reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and other essential skills and allows students to practice them in various situations across multiple disciplines. This multi-pronged approach allows students to review, utilize and apply what they learn in one area of study and apply it to other areas of study to reinforce and accelerate language proficiency. This course utilizes a textbook, a workbook, additional worksheets, ELL video DVDs, listening CDs, and other interactive tools. For the first quarter, this is a double-session course. This course will be taught by an ELL instructor.

### **Listening&Speaking      ELL 131**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** The ELL Listening and Speaking Course focuses on elevating and expanding both situational comprehension and unscripted conversational ability in a wide range of environments. Focus is primarily on classroom interaction, note-taking and dictation, conversation with instructors and classmates, presentations, and interviews, and practical communication for daily life such as shopping, telephone calls, and requesting and giving directions. This course will be taught by an ELL instructor.



### **Reading&Literature ELL 121**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** The ELL Reading and Literature Course provides views and insights into Native-English-Speaking culture, exposing students to the nuance and sensibility of works written in English from the very simple to the moderately complex. At the same time, it requires student practice with the structures, grammatical patterns and vocabulary of the English Language, thereby increasing vocabulary and preparing them for writing. Students improve comprehension naturally through highlighted language patterns and discussion about the texts. The first half to three-quarters of the year (reading) focus on basic reading ability and comprehension; the third and fourth quarters (literature) focus on reading for content analysis and discussions about the implications of the text. This course will be taught by an ELL Instructor.

### **Grammar&Writing ELL 111**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** The ELL Grammar and Writing Course provides students with the most practical grammar patterns and teaches the application of the same in various contexts. While the course does also provide analytical grammatical instruction, this is not the primary focus. Students will be exposed to the various patterns of grammar in use and will learn to identify meaning, nuance, and implication based upon grammar structures. This will segue into basic essay writing for both formal and informal situations. Students will learn to correct grammar mistakes, use the most appropriate structures and registers, write reports, and keep a journal.

### **Academic Vocabulary ELL 141**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** ELL Academic Vocabulary has the objective of increasing students' vocabulary as quickly and effectively as possible while also providing test-taking strategies, and practice for the TOEFL and IELTS tests. Students study corpora-based vocabulary in a variety of contexts with specific foci such as irregular verbs, academic words, and the most common words of the language in order of usage frequency. Students are required to utilize dictionaries, internet resources, study guides, and school provided textbooks to complete coursework. Students learn spelling, contextual usage, and research skills while increasing their vocabularies and usage ability. This class will be taught by an ELL instructor.



### **American Culture ELL 151**

Credits: 0.5

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** The ELL American Culture course is an ELL course teaching the basics of aspects of life in America and the American culture such as customs and traditions with their historical background, social life, diversity and food culture so as to prepare the ELL students to better understand the forthcoming literature and social studies courses.

### **Science Terminology for the ELL**

**SCI 001**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** The Science Terminology for ELL course is an ELL course which teaches students the phraseology and vocabulary of science to prepare them for regular-stream science classes. Students will perform similar tasks to those required in regular-stream classes, such as laboratory experiments and laboratory reports; however, the instructor will use ELL principles and place more weight on the ability of students to use logic, present facts, and communicate ideas in a coherent manner as would be required in regular science classes. This class will be taught by a science instructor in consultation with the ELL Department.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

As there has been a great emphasis on issues pertaining to international relations and diplomacy, the study of foreign languages has become very important. Effectiveness of improved communication among peoples of the world depends on the ability to understand each other's language and culture. The study of languages, cultures and literature gives us a better understanding of our modern, complex and multicultural world, therefore, those who have studied a world language will most probably be better prepared to help institute peaceful international relationships of the future.

At Brooklyn Amity School, students learn to speak, read, think, understand, and communicate in two of Turkish, Spanish, French and Russian languages. Four years of the same language is highly recommended by the most selective colleges.



### **Spanish I SPA 101**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** This introductory course is designed for students who has no prior knowledge of and/or who have had less than a full school year of previous formal exposure to Spanish language. Instructional emphasis is placed on developing proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and culture. while learning fundamental grammar and useful idiomatic expressions through use of the language in practical situations. Students write short paragraphs and engage in conversation on a regular basis. An appreciation of native cultures including the cities, people, holidays, and customs is incorporated into the class.

### **Spanish II SPA 201**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Spanish I*

**Description:** In this course, students add to their foundation in practical communicative skills, using the target language to gain information, to discuss topics of interest, and to describe events of the present, past, and future. Pronunciation, vocabulary, idiom and grammar are expanded to support oral and written communication and reading comprehension. Students read for information and for pleasure, compose short compositions, and engage in conversation. Students continue learning about the culture of the country of the target language.

### **Spanish III SPA 301**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Spanish II*

**Description:** The goal of this course is to provide a firm basis in all the skills that the student has been acquiring for ease in oral and written communication with native speakers of the target language. Students add significantly to their vocabulary, to their understanding of the language, and to their writing skills by reading progressively more difficult works, discussing these works, and writing about the readings. Speaking assignments give the students the opportunity to develop their oral proficiency.

**Spanish IV SPA 401**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Spanish 111*

**Description:** In Spanish IV course, vocabulary, use of idioms, and grammatical constructions are expanded and reinforced aiming to advance students' skills and abilities to read, write, speak, and understand the Spanish language so that they can maintain simple conversations with sufficient vocabulary and an acceptable accent, easily understand speech spoken at a normal pace, read uncomplicated but authentic prose, and write narratives that indicate a good understanding of grammar and a strong vocabulary.

**French I FRE 101**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** French 1 course is designed for students who has no prior knowledge of and/or who have had less than a full school year of previous formal exposure to French language. It introduces students to French language and culture with an emphasis on basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. French culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of the French-speaking people.

**French II FRE 201**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: French I*

**Description:** French II course builds upon skills developed in French I, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in French and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of French-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).



### **French III    FRE 301**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: French II*

**Description:** French III course focuses on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining more facility and faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates, being able to paraphrase or summarize written passages, and conversing easily within limited situations.

### **French IV    FRE 401**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: French III*

**Description:** French IV course focuses on advancing students' skills and abilities to read, write, speak, and understand the French language so that they can maintain simple conversations with sufficient vocabulary and an acceptable accent, have sufficient comprehension to understand speech spoken at a normal pace, read uncomplicated but authentic prose, and write narratives that indicate a good understanding of grammar and a strong vocabulary.

## **RUSSIAN LANGUAGE**

### **Russian 1    RUS 101**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** Russian 1 course is designed for students who has no prior knowledge of and/or who have had less than a full school year of previous formal exposure to Russian language. It introduces students to Russian language and culture with an emphasis on basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. Russian culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of the Russian-speaking people.



## **Russian II    RUS 201**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Russian I*

**Description:** Russian II course builds upon skills developed in Russian I, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in Russian and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of Russian-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).

## **Russian III    RUS 301**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Russian II*

**Description:** Russian III course focuses on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining more facility and faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates, being able to paraphrase or summarize written passages, and conversing easily within limited situations.

## **Russian IV    RUS 401**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Russian III*

**Description:** Russian IV course focuses on advancing students' skills and abilities to read, write, speak, and understand the Russian language so that they can maintain simple conversations with sufficient vocabulary and an acceptable accent, have sufficient comprehension to understand speech spoken at a normal pace, read uncomplicated but authentic prose, and write narratives that indicate a good understanding of grammar and a strong vocabulary

## Turkish Language

### Turkish I     TUR 101

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** Turkish 1 course is designed for students who has no prior knowledge of and/or who have had less than a full school year of previous formal exposure to Turkish language. It introduces students to Turkish language and culture with an emphasis on basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. Turkish culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of the Turkish-speaking people.

### Turkish II     TUR 201

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Turkish I*

**Description:** Turkish II course builds upon skills developed in Turkish I, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in Turkish and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of Turkish-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).

### Turkish III     TUR 301

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Turkish II*

**Description:** Turkish III course focuses on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining more facility and faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates, being able to paraphrase or summarize written passages, and conversing easily within limited situations.



### **Turkish IV    TUR 401**

Credits: 1

*Prerequisite: Turkish III*

**Description:** Turkish IV course focuses on advancing students' skills and abilities to read, write, speak, and understand the French language so that they can maintain simple conversations with sufficient vocabulary and an acceptable accent, have sufficient comprehension to understand speech spoken at a normal pace, read uncomplicated but authentic prose, and write narratives that indicate a good understanding of grammar and a strong vocabulary

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Personal access to computing power is increasing. Access to information and to channels of communication is important aspects of life in our society. The power of computers as a medium for providing and communicating information has made the ability to use information technology a vitally important skill. Our school offers students computer skills, graphics editing, web design database programming and visual programming courses according to their grades. Each end of the year, our students take final integrated project about what they learn during the year. Our programs are designed for students to develop their design, analyze and programming capabilities.

### **Computer / Office Applications    COM 101**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** In Computer Applications course, students acquire knowledge of and experience in the proper and efficient use of previously written software packages. This course explores a wide range of applications, including (but not limited to) word-processing, spreadsheet, graphics, and database programs, and they may also cover the use of electronic mail and desktop publishing. It will also explore topics in the development of computers, hardware, software, and computer terminology. The software currently being explored includes Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), Outlook Express, Google Drive, Online storage and sharing tools and Internet Explorer.

**Web Page Design      COM 201****Credits: 2.5*****Prerequisite:*** None

**Description:** Web Page Design course teaches students how to design web sites by introducing them to and refining their knowledge of site planning, page layout, graphic design, and the use of markup languages—such as Extensible Hypertext Markup, JavaScript, Dynamic HTML, and Document Object Model—to develop and maintain a web page. In addition that, Using professional editing and design software programs: *Dreamweaver, Photoshop, Final Cut Express, or Final Cut Pro*, students may complete projects from a simple multi-page website to a complex multimedia micro site. This course also covers security and privacy issues, copyright infringement, trademarks, and other legal issues relating to the use of the Internet.

**Graphic Design      COM 211****Credits: 5*****Prerequisite:*** As an introductory course, no previous experience with digital design is necessary

**Description:** Graphic Design course emphasizes design elements and principles in the purposeful arrangement of images and text to communicate a message. They focus on creating art products such as advertisements, product designs, and identity symbols. Graphic Design course investigates the computer's influence on and role in creating contemporary designs and provide a cultural and historical study of master design works of different periods and styles.

This course also provides students with the opportunity to explore the capability of the computer to produce visual imagery and to apply graphic techniques to various fields, such as advertising, TV/video, and architecture. Course topics include modeling, simulation, animation, and image retouching. using two professional design and editing software programs from Adobe: *Photoshop* and *Illustrator*. This course places an emphasis on the print medium for delivery of designs, while stressing software mechanics and creative design techniques.

**AP Computer Science A      COM501****Credits: 5*****Prerequisite:*** A or above in Algebra I and ability to program at least one language.

**Description:** AP Computer Science A course provides students with the logical, mathematical, and problem-solving skills needed to design structured, well-documented computer programs that provide solutions to real-world problems. This course covers such topics as programming methodology, features, and procedures; algorithms; data structures; computer systems; and programmer responsibilities.



### **AP Computer Science AB COM502**

**Credits: 5**

**Prerequisite:** *A or above in Algebra I - II and AP Computer Science A*

**Description:** AP Computer Science AB courses (in addition to covering topics included in AP Computer Science A) provide a more formal and extensive study of program design, algorithms, data structures, and execution costs.

### **C++ Programming COM 401**

**Credits: 5**

**Prerequisite:** *A or above in Algebra I - II*

**Description:** C++ Programming course provides an opportunity for students to gain expertise in computer programs using the C++ language. As with more general computer programming courses, the emphasis is on how to write logically structured programs, include appropriate documentation, and use problem solving techniques. More advanced topics may include multi-dimensional arrays, functions, and records.

### **Java Programming COM 411**

**Credits: 5**

**Prerequisite:** *A or above in Algebra I - II*

**Description:** Java Programming course provides students with the opportunity to gain expertise in computer programs using the Java language. As with more general computer programming courses, the emphasis is on how to structure and document computer programs, using problem-solving techniques. Topics covered in the course include syntax, I/O classes, string manipulation, and recursion.

### **3D Modeling and Animation COM 301**

**Credits: 5**

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I or/and teacher/administrator approval*

**Description:** "3D Modeling and Animation" are integral elements of the communications industry, including film, video, games, digital storytelling, industrial design and architecture.

This course focuses on elevating the student's understanding of the medium by combining the technical craft with observation and intuitive expression. Using industry standard tools, students learn to fuse artistic and technical knowledge while designing elements for video, television, film, rich and mobile media, virtual environments and other emerging forms of human/computer interaction.

**Robotics COM 001****Credits: 5***Prerequisite: Teacher/administrator approval*

**Description:** Robotics course develops and expands students' skills and knowledge so that they can design and develop robotic devices. Topics covered in the course include mechanics, electrical and motor controls, pneumatics, computer basics, and programmable logic controllers.

## Visual & Performing Arts

The goal of the Visual & Performing Arts department is to explore a variety of media, ideas and techniques through the production of artwork and the discussion of art history. Students will develop an appreciation for the arts and an understanding of the ways art communicates ideas.

**Drama—Stagecraft ART 100****Credits: 2.5***Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Drama—Stagecraft course is intended to help students develop experience and skill in one or more aspects of theatrical production, but concentrate on stagecraft (such as lighting, costuming, set construction, makeup, stage management, and so on). Initial course is usually introductory in nature, while more advanced courses concentrate on improving technique, expanding students' exposure to different types of theatrical techniques and traditions and increasing their chances of participating in public productions. This course also provides a discussion of career opportunities in the theater. Fee : \$100 per semester

**Art History and Foundation ART 171****Credits: 2.5***Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Art History course introduces students to significant works of art, artists, and artistic movements that have shaped the art world and have influenced or reflected periods of history. These courses often emphasize the evolution of art forms, techniques, symbols, and themes. In this course you will explore the concepts of art. Using a variety of mediums including pencil, charcoal, paint and clay you explore the visual language of art. Through the creation of original works of art that demonstrate important visual concepts like contrast, pattern, repetition, unity, emphasis and balance you will



develop an understanding of the concepts. You will identify the use of the principles of design in history works and the work of your peers. You will analyze and interpret the work of the class and famous works of art to develop an understanding of how art communicates ideas and emotions. Fee : \$80 per semester

### **Creative Art—Comprehensive ART 121**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Creative Art—Comprehensive course provides students with the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. It also provides a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initially, it covers the language, materials, and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic styles. Although Creative Art course focuses on creation, it also include the study of major artists, art movements, and styles. This course also surveys a wide range of crafts, or they may focus on only one type of craft; possibilities include calligraphy, quilting, silk-screening, cake-decorating, tole-painting, mask making, knitting, crocheting, paper-making, and so on.

Fee : \$100 per semester

### **Introduction to Drawing/Painting /Printmaking ART 101**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** In the Intro to Painting and Drawing class students learn basic drawing and rendering skills. They are given projects that teach them how to look. Students work from still life and photographs, and experiment with several drawing and coloring techniques. They will learn to transfer images to scale using a grid system. By the end of the term, each student completes numerous pieces in a variety of sizes, styles, and mediums. Students are encouraged to push the media by developing a unique and creative relationship with it.

Fee : \$100 per semester



### **Advanced Drawing/Painting /Printmaking ART 111**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: Approval of the instructor and/or department supervisor*

**Description:** Drawing/Painting/Printmaking course is comprehensive course. The Advanced Painting and Drawing class is designed for responsible, creative and self-motivated students with good drawing and painting skills. Students are expected to have an understanding of the human figure, color, composition, and the use of different mediums. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, and so on).

Each student works on independent projects chosen either by themselves or in collaboration with the painting instructor. Students are expected to keep a personal sketchbook and are encouraged to challenge themselves and experiment with materials. Fee : \$120 per semester

### **Sculpture ART 141**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: Approval of the instructor and/or department supervisor*

**Description:** Sculpture course is comprehensive course that focuses on creating three-dimensional works. Students typically work with several media (such as clay, ceramics, wood, metals, textiles, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium. Ceramic Processing/Production courses include studying the properties of ceramics and heat resistant composites and using these materials to construct usable products. This course enables students to experience the process of translating an idea into a finished product, with instruction in planning, designing, selecting materials, and using tools and machines. Fee : \$100 per semester

### **Ceramics ART 151**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: Approval of the instructor and/or department supervisor*

**Description:** Ceramic Processing/Production course includes studying the properties of ceramics and heat resistant composites and using these materials to construct usable products. These courses enable students to experience the process of translating an idea into a finished product, with instruction in planning, designing, selecting materials, and using tools and machines. Fee : \$100 per semester



## **Photography and Digital Photography ART 131**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: Approval of the instructor and/or department supervisor*

**Description:** Photography course exposes students to the materials, processes, and artistic techniques of taking artistic photographs. Students learn about the operation of a camera, composition, lighting techniques, depth of field, filters, camera angles, and film development. The course may cover black-and-white photography, color photography, or both. As students advance, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic style. This course also covers major photographers, art movements, and styles.

Digital technology has had the most profound effect on imaging, since the invention of photography. In Digital Photography, students will have an opportunity to explore new frontiers as they examine the interaction of traditional photographic methods along with computer technology. Students can work in black and white or color. They can scan images into computers and take advantage of the one million plus colors that are available on computers. By using layers, students will be able to combine images. Final prints may be printed on photographic papers or a variety of other computer papers, allowing for additional manipulation of images. This course shall be a team-teaching effort between the photography and computer instructors. Fee : \$100 per semester.

## **Metal and Wood Processing/Production ART 161**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Metal and Wood Processing/Production course includes studying the properties of metals, woods, and composites and using these materials to construct usable products. This course enables students to experience the process of translating an idea into a finished product, with instruction in planning, designing, selecting materials, and using tools and machines. Fee : \$100 per semester.

## **MUSIC**

### **Individual Technique—Instrumental Music MSC 101**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Individual Technique—Instrumental Music course provides individuals with instruction in instrumental techniques. This course can be conducted on either an individual or small group basis.



### **Individual Technique—Vocal Music MSC 111**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Individual Technique—Vocal Music course provides instruction in and encourage the development of vocal techniques (including aural development) other than the ability to sing in groups. These courses may be conducted on either an individual or small group basis.

### **Chorus MSC 121**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Chorus course provides the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

### **Music Theory MSC 131**

**Credits: 2.5**

*Prerequisite: None*

**Description:** Music Theory course provides students with an understanding of the fundamentals of music and include one or more of the following topics: composition, arrangement, analysis, aural development, and sight reading.

## **Physical Education**

### **Introduction:**

Physical Education is a required subject for all students in grades K-12. When students reach the commencement level of the learning standards for physical education, they will have the knowledge and skills to participate in a variety of healthy activities; understand and appreciate the benefits of maintaining a healthful lifestyle; understand how to evaluate and access resources in their community to pursue a healthy and active life; and will be aware of the many career opportunities available in this field.

### **Physical Education PEH 100**

**Credits: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Physical Education courses provide students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.



### **Health and Fitness PEH 102**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Health and Fitness courses combine the topics of Health Education courses (nutrition, stress management, substance abuse prevention, disease prevention, first aid, and so on) with an active fitness component (typically including aerobic activity and fitness circuits) with the intention of conveying the importance of lifelong wellness habits.

### **Drivers' Education PEH 301**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Drivers' Education courses provide students with the knowledge to become safe drivers on America's roadways. Topics in these courses include legal obligations and responsibility, rules of the road and traffic procedures, safe driving strategies and practices, and the physical and mental factors affecting the driver's capability (including alcohol and other drugs).

### **Team Sports PEH 102**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Team Sports courses provide students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one team sport (such as volleyball, basketball, soccer, and so on).

### **Individual/Dual Sports PEH 103**

Credits: 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Individual/Dual Sports course provides students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one individual or dual sport (such as tennis, golf, badminton, jogging/running, racquetball, and so on).



## **NON-TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS/PERSONALIZED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Exploring Universal Values LCR**

Credits: 0.25

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher/admin approval*

**Description:** This is a course designed to teach or review the essential literature of basic universal values such as respect, courage, self-discipline, honesty, work, trust, and compassion. Through the course, the students will learn/realize how these values are essential to a more democratic and civilized social life and raise awareness about what the consequences might be like in the case of lacking such values.

### **Personal Development LCR**

Credits: 0.25

**Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Personal Development courses emphasize strengthening self-esteem, recognizing and resisting negative peer pressure, and developing coping skills for dealing with changes within one's self and within others. These courses may also have a substance-abuse prevention component.

### **Career Exploration LCR**

Credits: 0.25

**Prerequisites:** None / or Exploring Universal Values

**Description:** Career Exploration courses help students identify and evaluate personal goals, priorities, aptitudes, and interests with the goal of helping them make informed decisions about their careers. These courses expose students to various sources of information on career and training options and may also assist them in developing job search and employability skills.

### **Employability Skills LCR**

Credits: 0.25

**Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Employability Skills courses help students match their interests and aptitudes to career options with a focus on using employment information.

effectively, acquiring and improving job-seeking and interview skills, composing job applications and resumes, and learning the skills needed to remain in and advance within the workplace. Course content may also include consumer education and personal money management topics.

### **Cooperative Education LCR**

Credits:0.25

#### **Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Cooperative Education is a capstone course designed to assist students in the development of effective skills and attitudes through practical, advanced instruction in school and on the job through cooperative education. Students are released from school for their paid cooperative education work experience and participate in 200 minutes per week of related classroom instruction. Classroom instruction focuses on providing students with job survival skills and career exploration skills related to the job and improving students' abilities to interact positively with others. For skills related to the job, refer to the skill development course sequences, the task list or related occupational skill standards of the desired occupational program. The course content includes the following broad areas of emphasis: further career education opportunities, planning for the future, job-seeking skills, personal development, human relationships, legal protection and responsibilities, economics and the job, organizations, and job termination. A qualified career and technical education coordinator is responsible for supervision. Written training agreements and individual student training plans are developed and agreed upon by the employer, student and coordinator. The coordinator, student, and employer assume compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

### **Self Management LCR**

Credits:0.25

#### **Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Self-Management courses introduce students to the skills and strategies helpful in becoming more focused, productive individuals. These courses typically emphasize goal-setting; decision-making; managing time, energy, and stress; and identifying alternatives and coping strategies. They may also allow students to explore various career and lifestyle choices

### **Social Development Instruction LCR**

Credits: 0.25



**Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Social Development Instruction courses teach students the social skills needed for independent functioning within the community. Topics may include self-control, self-expression, obeying rules, decision-making, appropriate situational behavior, interacting with others, and maintaining relationships. Students may develop independence, self-confidence, and self-reliance

**Workplace Experience WPE Credits:**

**Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Workplace Experience course provides students with work experience in a field related to their interests. Goals are typically set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). This course may include classroom activities as well, involving further study of the field or discussion regarding experiences that students encounter in the workplace.

**Community Service COS**

Credits:

**Prerequisites:**

**Description:** Community Service courses provide students with the opportunity to volunteer their time, energy, and talents to serve a community project or organization. These courses are usually (but not always) conducted with a seminar component, so that students can use their volunteer experiences to learn how to solve problems, make decisions, and communicate effectively.