

Grade 10

Course Descriptions

Elements of Language

In this course Language Arts skills and strategies are taken to a new level. Prepositional, verbal, and appositive phrases are used in writing application sections. Independent and subordinate clauses, modals, passive voice, troublesome modifiers, spelling rules are all put into practice in punctuating poems, writing interior dialogues, writing a guidebook, using phrases in writing newspaper articles, etc. Proper capitalization and punctuation is emphasized and altogether throughout the entire course students are given text structures key to success on standardized testing. The writing and communication parts focus and develop the writing of effective sentences, understanding paragraphs and compositions, reflecting on experiences, examining causes and effects, analyzing a short story, and using persuasion in advertising.

Resource – *Elements of Language, Holt, 2009*

World Literature

Grade 10 students have one more chance to reinforce their knowledge on the Theory of Literature through analyzing a variety of chosen texts by world-known authors. Mood, character development, narrative devices, persuasive techniques and rhetorical devices in literary works are some of the topics among all other which this fascinating collection stories, poems, and plays explores. Students start reading and analyzing world classics. The Greek tragedy “Antigone”, the Medieval romance “Sir Gawain and the Green Knight”, and “The Tragedy of Julius Caesar” by Shakespeare are the selected masterpieces to deepen and enrich the high schoolers’ understanding of values, character flaws, and the importance of wise choices in life.

Resource – *Literature, Holt McDougal, 2010*

Algebra 2

Algebra 2 course (streaming) is designed to help those students who may struggle with math of those who benefit from more repetition. Students will be prepared for Pre – Calculus through fundamental and advanced geometry instruction. Trigonometry concepts, statistics and applications for other subjects as physics and chemistry are also included.

Students will review and reinforce basic geometry and algebra units and apply their knowledge and understanding of the concepts in more advanced academic level and practice. In the fall semester instruction covers expanded geometry and wide range of

algebra units review. Students will also manipulate radicals, complex fractions, graphical solutions of various equations, uniform motion problems of all types, polynomials and value word problems.

In the spring semester, students learn to multiply and divide rational expressions as well as Polynomials. They will manipulate imaginary numbers, abstract equations, and chemical mixture problems, and quadric equations, radical equations, estimating with scientific notations, fractional exponents and direct and inverse variation.

Grades summarize 6 exams, 90 homework assignments, bimonthly quizzes and classroom participation and demonstrations.

Resource: *Algebra 2, An Incremental Development, 3rd Edition by John H. Saxon*

World History

This course introduces students to the political, economic, religious and social trends that shaped Europe and the World from the Renaissance in Europe to the modern ideas of Democracy, National State, and Mass Society (1350-1914). Students will acquire knowledge of the chronology of events and movements as well as develop the ability to analyze historical documents and express historical understanding. This course covers the European Renaissance, Reformation, Absolutism, the Age of Enlightenment and Revolutions, the French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars, Industrialization and Nationalism, and Mass Society and Democracy.

It develops 8 historical thinking skills within the 4 major categories of 1. Analyzing historical sources and evidence (analyzing evidence and interpretation), 2. Making historical connections (comparison, contextualization, and synthesis), 3. Chronological reasoning (causation and periodization), and 4. Creating and supporting a historical argument (argumentation).

The course includes diverse primary sources including written documents and images as well as maps and quantitative data (charts, graphs, tables). Students are provided opportunities to explain different causes and effects of historical events or processes, and to evaluate their relative significance as well as opportunities to develop written arguments that have a thesis supported by relevant historical evidence. The course includes essays, discussions, and variety of interactive methods of teaching.

Resource - McGraw-Hill Education – World History and Geography – 2014 edition

Biology

This course studies the cell, the molecular basis of heredity, biological evolution, interdependence of organisms, matter and energy, and organization in living systems and the behavior of organisms. It includes also Human Anatomy and Physiology, which studies

the structure and function of the human body with emphasis placed upon the concepts that help correlate their principals. Some basics of microbiology are also included, diversity of microbial life, the central role of microorganisms in nature and the importance of microorganisms in daily life, as well as some of the most popular diseases, caused by microorganisms. The course highlights anatomy and physiology of plants, as well as vertebrates and invertebrates, emphasizes to their structure and functions, which actually starts with cell biology. The course investigates the life processes that occur within the cell such as, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, and transport of substances. Furthermore, other chapters studied include topics, connected with genetics, ecology, and evolution. Students practice their laboratory skills and develop their critical thinking. In addition, students conduct a science fair project in order to further develop their scientific research skills. The course offers fundamental preparation for science courses in 11th and 12th grades.

Resource – *Biology, Holt*

Physical Education (Elective)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill related components of fitness which are critical for students' success.

The main goal of this course is to also develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting in both competitive and non-competitive activity settings. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

Art (Elective)

This course offers students an introduction to Visual Arts. Students will explore the creative process through studio projects (drawing, painting, composition, sculpture, fiber, graffiti, decoupage, collage, written work, art appreciation and art history). The elements and principles of art will be emphasized as they apply to each artist's style. Some art projects will be self- directed, fueled by the students' own interests with research in art history, cultures, modern and contemporary art.

Course objectives: The students will identify and create artwork based on the elements of art and principles of design, demonstrate through their artwork how to use the elements of art to show movement and express feelings, recognize, compare and use different media to create their artwork, develop a respect and appreciation for the artwork of

artists, including classmates' art, recognize and compare differences in several art mediums, create representational and abstract art, learn to create depth in 2-dimensional artwork using one point perspective, communicate thoughts, feelings and experiences to others through art, develop creative problem solving and higher-level thinking skills, learn about modern and contemporary art, develop critical thinking and imagination, understand terms that are basic to art media, procedures and techniques, as well as appreciation, maintain a sketchbook for a variety of drawings assignments to perfect their hand-eye ability and drawing skills.

Course topics: Fundamentals of Drawing and Composition, Elements of Art, Principles of Design, Art History and Art Criticism, Drawing, Color theory, Sculpture, Painting, Fibers, Graffiti, Decoupage, Collage.

Resource: *"The Visual Arts: A History "*, by Hugh Honour and John Fleming; *"The Art Teacher's Survival Guide for Elementary and Middle School"*, by Helen D. Hume; *"Children and their Art"*, by Michael Day and Al Hurwitz.

Spanish (Elective)

The course introduces students to the effective learning of a new foreign language. The organization, sequencing and distribution of contents follow the policy established by the European Language Framework and the Curriculum Plan of Institute Cervantes. Both documents represent the core of the concept and are applied to the School's context, and to the cognitive development and motivation of the students.

By the end of the course students are expected to develop skills corresponding to A2+ level, i.e. they will be able to understand oral and written texts in the past and talk about past events. Also the students be able to use the future and imperative for orders, instructions and suggestions. The methodology aims to develop the communicative competence of the learners and fosters their four language skills. It supposes a lot of active participation, sometimes it combines with cross-curricular techniques.