

** California High School **

SAN RAMON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG 9TH-12TH GRADE 2010-2011

** San Ramon Valley High School **

** Dougherty Valley High School **

** Monte Vista High School **

SCHOOL INFORMATION

California High School

9870 Broadmoor Drive

San Ramon, CA 94583

Website: www.calhigh.net

Registrar: Eileen Wall

Dougherty Valley High School

10550 Albion Road

San Ramon, CA 94582

Website: www.dvhigh.net

Registrar: Nancy Ainsworth

Monte Vista High School

3131 Stone Valley Road

Danville, CA 94526

Website: www.mvhigh.org

Registrar: Cathy Wilkins

San Ramon Valley High School

501 Danville Blvd.

Danville, CA 94526

Website: www.srvhs.net

Registrar: Barbara Murray

Del Amigo High School

189 Del Amigo Road

Danville, CA 9452

Website: www.dahs.srvusd.net

Venture School

10540 Albion Road

San Ramon, CA 94582

Website: www.venture.srvusd.net

San Ramon Valley Unified School District

Educational Services

699 Old Orchard Drive

Danville, CA 94526

www.srvusd.net

ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOLS

DEL AMIGO HIGH SCHOOL

189 Del Amigo Road

Danville, CA 94526

Website: www.dahs.srvusd.net

Del Amigo is a continuation high school that benefits students needing more individualized academic and personal support. Small class sizes, daily attention from advisory teachers, and a low counselor-to-student ratio mean that no student is left behind or “lost” in the crowd of a large campus. Most courses are NCP (non-college-preparatory). However, students may take Cyber High courses (CP) on campus or concurrently enroll in Community College classes. Many students choose off-campus employment after school hours. Students may graduate with a regular diploma from “Del Amigo High School” or return to their home high school for graduation, provided they have accrued sufficient credits.

VENTURE SCHOOL

10540 Albion Road

San Ramon, CA 94582

Website: www.venture.srvusd.net

Venture School offers both college preparatory and non-college preparatory courses through the means of independent study. The flexibility afforded this mode of instruction allows high school students the flexibility to pursue other interests such as:

- Community college courses (based on space availability)
- Early graduation
- Pre-professional sports
- Career opportunities in theater, music, and the arts
- Travel
- Credit recovery

For more information on courses, go to www.venture.srvusd.net and click on the course list.

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High School Graduation Requirements

History/Social Sciences	35 Credits
World Geography, World History, US History, American Government and Economics	
English	40 Credits
Mathematics	20 Credits
Minimum requirement-must complete Algebra 1 or equivalent	
Science	20 Credits
10 credits of Life Science	
10 credits of Physical Science	
World Languages/Visual & Performing Arts/Voc/Career Tech & Applied Art	20 Credits
10 credits in TWO of the above THREE areas	
Physical Education	20 Credits
All 9th graders must participate in P.E. for 10 credits	
Remaining 10 credits can be obtained in 10-12th grades	
Health	5 Credits
Additional credits	80 Credits
TOTAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION	240 Credits

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High School and College Admission Requirements

Subject Requirements (A-G)	High School Graduation Requirements	Cal State University	University of California
Social Studies (A)	(35 credits) World Geography World History 1/2 US History 1/2 Gov't/Econ	2 years: 1 yr. World History 1 yr. US History or 1 yr. World History 1 sem. Gov't 1 sem US History	2 years: 1 yr. World History 1 yr. US History or 1 yr. World History 1 sem. Gov't 1 sem US History
English (B)	4 yrs. (40 credits)	4 yrs. CP (40 credits)	4 yrs. CP (40 credits)
Math (C)	2 yrs (20 credits)	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 4th year recommended
Science (D)	2 yrs (20 credits) 1 yr. Physical and 1yr. Life Science	2 years of lab science (e.g., Biology, Chemistry, Physics, A &P)	2 years of lab science - 3rd year recommended (e.g., Biology, Chemistry, Physics, A &P)
World Language (E)	(20 Credits) required from any two fields	2 yrs of the same language	2 yrs of the same language 3rd year recommended
Visual/Perf. Arts (F)	See World Lang.	1 yr.	1 yr.
Career Tech ED/ Applied Arts	See World Lang.	None	None
Health	1 sem (5 credits)	None	None
Physical Education	2 yrs (20 credits)	None	None
Electives (G)	(80 Credits)	1 year (2 semesters) of additional college prep courses	1 year (2 semesters) of additional college prep courses
Total Credits	240 Credits	Grade of C or higher in all college prep courses	Grade of C or higher in all college prep courses
Test Requirements	Pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)	SAT Reasoning Test or ACT Assessment	ACT Assessment plus Writing or SAT Reasoning Test and two SAT Subject Tests in two different areas (some majors require SAT subject tests in specific subjects). <i>* Beginning with the class of 2012, the UC's are no longer requiring the SAT Subject Tests.</i>

Subject Requirement

To satisfy this requirement for college, students must have successfully completed a specific sequence of high school courses often called the "a-g subjects."

To be accepted by the University, they must appear on a list certified by the high school principal as "Courses to Meet Requirements for Admission to the University of California." The grades earned in the "a-g" subjects taken in the 10th and 11th grades are the only grades the University will use to calculate the grade point average for admission. If students take more courses than the minimum required in an "a-g" subject, the University will use only the highest grades earned.

A student is required to complete 15 "a-g" subjects as described above. At least seven of the required units must be taken in the last two years of high school.

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Create Your Personal Four Year Plan

Grade	Required Courses	Student Courses	Grade		Credit		Career Information and Plans
			1st Sem	2nd Sem	1st Sem	2nd Sem	
9 60 cr	English						Career Goal/Major: Supporting Activities: (9-12) Co-Curricular Activities:
	Math						
	Science/Elective						
	Physical Education						
	Geography/Health						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Summer Plan:							Total Credits to Date: ____ of 60
10 120 cr	English						Career Goal/Major: CAHSEE Scores: ELA ____ Math ____ Co-Curricular Activities:
	Math						
	World History 2/3						
	Physical or Life Science						
	Physical Education						
	Elective/Language						
	Elective						
Summer Plan:							Total Credits to Date: ____ of 120
11 180 cr	English						Career Goal/Major: PSAT ____/____ SAT I ____/____/____ SAT II ____/____/____ ACT ____/____ Co-Curricular Activities:
	U.S. History 1/2						
	Physical or Life Science						
	Math/Elective						
	Elective/Language						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Summer Plan:							Total Credits to Date: ____ of 180
12 240 cr	English						Career Goal/Major: Colleges applied to: Co-Curricular Activities: Community Service:
	Amer. Govt./Economics						
	Physical or Life Science/Elective						
	Math/Elective						
	Physical Education/Elective						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Post High School Goal: CAREER / JUNIOR COLLEGE / 4 YR COLLEGE							Total Credits to Date: ____ of 240

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Accelerated: An advanced high school level curriculum that does not result in a weighted grade (e.g., Accelerated Biology)

Advanced Placement Program/Exams: The Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a program of college level courses and exams for secondary school students. Over 90 percent of the colleges that most AP candidates attend give credit and/or Advanced Placement to students whose AP Examination grades are considered acceptable.

In the San Ramon Valley Unified School District we have courses in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, World Languages, Music and Computer Science that meet the criteria of college level work established by committees of college professors. The AP exams that are given each May contain both multiple choice questions and free response questions that require essay writing, problem solving, etc. Each examination booklet is typically graded by four professors and teachers.

Every examination receives an overall grade on a five point scale: 5 (extremely well qualified) to 1 (no recommendation). An AP Grade Report is sent in early July to each student's home address, school and, if the student requested, to his or her college. Students must earn a score of at least 3 to be eligible to receive college credit.

Advanced Placement and Honors: These are a more challenging and rigorous high school level curriculum that results in a weighted grade for students who earn a grade of "C" or higher (e.g., A = 5.0, B = 4.0)

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA): The NCAA certifies the academic and amateur credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics. All students must register with the NCAA initial - Eligibility Clearinghouse. Students must register at end of junior year and submit a final transcript upon graduation.

Regional Occupation Program (ROP)

The ROP, administered cooperatively by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District and the Contra Costa County Office of Education, provides school-to-career preparation classes for juniors, seniors, and students who are 16 years old or older. Classes are designed to help students learn about career choices, develop job skills, and gain skills useful in college. Most classes can be taken for one or two periods, and some include internships. Students earn elective credits, and some classes offer transferable college credits. Certificates of proficiency are awarded upon successful completion of performance objectives. Students are also eligible to take ROP classes located off-campus.

Why is ROP Different?

The emphasis of ROP courses is on career development. Students can use skills acquired in class to prepare for a career after high school, gain experience towards future college majors, and receive skills that lead to jobs before, during and after college. Instruction is individualized, and training is 'hands-on' using state-of-the-art equipment. All classes incorporate employment readiness training, which is an integral part of career planning.

How to Register:

To register for ROP classes on your campus, see your counselor. To register for off-campus classes see your counselor **and** call the ROP office at **942-3436**. Complete course schedules are located in the counseling office and career center.

Schools: All. This refers to all comprehensive high schools, including California High, Dougherty Valley High, Monte Vista High and San Ramon Valley High.

CSU/UC: The course meets a CSU and UC requirement within the "A – G" subject range.

NCP: Non-college preparatory course.

GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING A COURSE

1. **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.** Carefully check the graduation requirements listed above.
2. **COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.** Look for courses required by many colleges and universities.
3. **CAREER PLANS.** Look for courses that can help you prepare for possible career goals.
4. **YOUR INTERESTS.** Check for courses that let you pursue your own personal interests.
5. **PARENT APPROVAL.** Talk with your parents about your course choices.
6. **TEACHER RECOMMENDATION.** Talk with your teachers about course choices and get their recommendations.
7. **NCAA REQUIREMENTS.** See page 44.

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SOCIAL STUDIES

World Geography and Culture

This required semester-long 9th grade course constructs a foundation for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade social science curricula through the study of culture in a geographical context. Physical geography is organized in terms of location, place, environment, movement, and region. Cultural studies focus on understanding concepts that describe political, economic beliefs, and social systems along with learning about present day ways of life around the world and their historical backgrounds. In addition, students will incorporate map work, globes, graphs, the internet, library resources and class discussions.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: All

Advanced World Geography and Culture

This challenging and accelerated semester-long 9th grade course constructs a foundation for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade social science curricula through the study of culture in a geographical context. Physical geography is organized in terms of location, place, environment, movement, and region. Cultural studies focus on understanding the basic concepts that describe political, economic, social systems and belief systems, along with learning about present day ways of life around the world and their historical backgrounds—including the study of ancient history and religions. Using the “five-circle culture model,” students will compare and contrast diverse major cultures that arose in the world due to specific geographical forces, and also seek to discover the common elements found in all cultures, thereby developing a multi-cultural perspective. Skill development focuses on critical thinking, researching, reading, writing, speaking, and vocabulary enrichment (Cultural Literacy). Study skill development centers upon the use of the student interactive notebook thereby utilizing the “Cornell notes” format for more effective organization and retention. In addition, numerous oral discussions and active participation will be encouraged through the use of “Socratic seminars,” current event updates and a class mock trial simulation.

Prerequisite: Passing score on qualifying examination.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: CHS

World History I & II

This course presents a narrative of world history from the roots of democracy through the present. The course traces the development of civilizations throughout the world. Themes include political change, economic development, the growth of science and technology, the effect of contact between cultures, and creativity in the arts. Skill emphasis will include reading, analysis, speaking, note-taking, writing and research.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: All

SDAIE World History 2/3

(9-12) This class is designed to cover the same curriculum as other World History classes at California High School, but it utilizes techniques specially designed to help English Language Learners master important concepts. It will be rotated every other year with SDAIE U. S. History. The time periods covered in the class is from the 15th century to the present day. Some of the major topics covered are the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, World War I, the Russian Revolution, World War II, Post-WWII Africa, Asia, and Latin America. We will follow the 10th grade standards and benchmarks of the state of California as the basis of the key events and themes studies. Other significant events, social movements, philosophies, and national leaders from several countries will be discussed in depth. One of the goals of this class is to improve writing the “5 Paragraph” essay. Developing the ability to analyze and compare historical documentation is also an area of emphasis in this class.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: CHS

AP European History

This course is a full year introductory college course that covers European history from 1450 to the present. Students will gain an understanding of geography and the chronology of the major events and trends of that time period. Instruction will include the principal themes in modern European history, an ability to analyze historical evidence, and an ability to express historical understanding in writing. The course covers the cultural, political, and socio-economic history of Europe in preparation for the AP exam. For sophomores, this class will replace World History 2/3. For upper classmen, this class will be counted as a Social Studies elective.

Prerequisite: “B” or better in the prior AP Social Studies course, if applicable, or “A’s” in prior college prep Social Studies course and English course, or successful completion of qualifying assessment.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: All

U.S. History I & II

This course is required for graduation. This is a survey course covering the major political, economic, social, and cultural developments of United States history.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: All

SDAIE U.S History

(9-12) This class is designed to cover the same curriculum as other U.S. History classes, but it utilizes techniques specially designed to help English Language Learners. This course will rotate every other year with SDAIE World History 2/3. The time periods covered in the first semester is pre-colonial era to the turn of the Century. We will examine the major historical events in that period, i.e. the forming of the colonies, Revolutionary War, the writing of the Constitution, the Civil War, Immigration, etc. We will follow the 11th grade standards and benchmarks of the state of California as the basis of the key events and themes studies. A goal of this class is to see how one period of time has influenced and shaped succeeding eras. The time period covered in the second semester is 1900 to the present day. We will examine the major historical events in that period, i.e. the two World Wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War, and Watergate. A goal of this class is to see how one period of time has influenced and shaped succeeding eras. The junior year requires all students to complete a research paper on the 20th century, which will be conducted in the second semester.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: CHS

AP U.S. History

All students interested in this course should sign-up for U.S. History. Following the screening test, counselors will place students into U.S. History AP. This class is a challenging two-semester course that is meant to be the equivalent of a freshman college course. The content is comprised of a complete survey of American history from the age of exploration to the present using multiple perspectives. Emphasis will be placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, and interpretation of original historical documents.

Prerequisite: “B” or better in the prior AP Social Studies course, if applicable, or “A’s” in prior college prep Social Studies course and English course, or successful completion of qualifying assessment.

CSU/UC: “a”

School: All

American Studies

This is a college preparatory class that mirrors American literature with their historical context. This two-period class is taught by an English teacher and a U.S. History teacher. This class will enliven literature and history by showing their connections. The U.S. History portion in the first semester is a survey course covering the major political, economic, social and cultural developments in the history of the United States, from the country’s founding through World War I (1918). During the second semester, the course covers from the end of World War I to the present. The English 11 portion is a course in which students will study traditional and contemporary works drawn from American Literature. Materials include novels, plays, short stories, essays, poetry and non-fiction. Student writing focuses on refining the thesis statement and developing the skills necessary for multiple writing tasks as well as the examination of rhetorical techniques in nonfiction writing. The course also includes grammar instruction and vocabulary development. Students will get credit for English 11 and for U.S. History 1 and 2.

CSU/UC: “a”

CSU/UC: “b”

School: CHS

American Government

Students will examine the major principles of the American political system. Particular attention will be paid to the political decision making process employed by Federal, State and local government. Students will also analyze the major institutions of the American political system, such as the Constitution, Presidency, Congress, Supreme Court, political parties, voting, elections, civil liberties and the media. Special emphasis will be placed on helping the student understand his/her role within the American political system.

CSU/UC: "a" or "g"

School: ALL

AP American Government

This course will examine the nature of the American political system and will be concerned with the development of American political culture over the past two hundred years. The principal processes and institutions through which the political systems function will be studied in detail. Specific areas of study will include: 1) the context of American politics, 2) the political process, 3) major institutions of the national government, 4) civil liberties and civil rights, 5) the nature of American democracy. Students may take the AP Exam at the end of the course.

Prerequisite: "B" or better in the prior AP Social Studies course, if applicable, or "A's" in prior college prep Social Studies course and English course, or successful completion of qualifying assessment.

CSU/UC: "a" or "g"

School: All

American Government – NCP

American Government is required for graduation. In this non-college preparation class students will learn the basic structure and values of the United States Government and will study current issues. Emphasis will be on class work and participation as well as current event study and analysis.

Prerequisite: Counselor Recommendation Only

Note: This course is not UC & CSU certified.

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Comparative Government and Politics AP

This is a college level course that requires substantial reading and writing and prepares students for the AP exam in May. The course examines the major components of the political system and culture of the United States, including Federalism, the three branches, political parties and pressure groups, etc. The study of the American political systems serves as the basis for the comparison of other contemporary political systems including Britain, Russia, China, Iran, Mexico, and Nigeria. This course meets the American Government graduation requirement and is linked with English 12.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: SRVHS, MVHS

Economics

This course examines the principles of the American economic system. It includes a study of comparative economic systems, economic policy-making and decision-making, and of economic issues on a personal, national and international level. This course includes principles of micro and macroeconomics.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: All

AP Economics

This course will examine the basic topics that all students of macroeconomics and microeconomics must know in order to take the AP exams in both areas. In macroeconomics the following topics will be covered: national income accounting; measures of economic activity; theories of aggregate demand, including consumption, investment, and the demand for money. Conversely, in microeconomics, the topics will include: the market system, including product markets and resource markets; government activity and the effects on market mechanisms; types of firms and their market functions; and international economics and the world economy (although the main focus of the course is macroeconomics, fundamental microeconomics will receive considerable emphasis as well). This course will be especially valuable for students considering business, law, or government majors in college. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination in both macroeconomics and microeconomics. It is expected that all students enrolled in A/P Economics will register for the AP exam.

Prerequisite: "B" or better in the prior AP Social Studies course, if applicable, or "A's" in prior college prep Social Studies course and Algebra II, or successful completion of qualifying assessment.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: All

Economics – NCP

The study of economics will include microeconomic—individual economic decisions, and macroeconomics—the aggregate national economy including international economics and basic consumer economics. This course meets graduation requirements.

Note: This course is not UC & CSU certified.

Prerequisite: Counselor Recommendation Only

School: MVHS, SRHVS

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SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

Law [Introduction to]

This course provides students with a basis for understanding the American political and legal systems, with a focus on legal ideas and the legal process. Students participate in moot court and mock trials by assuming the roles of trial attorneys for both the prosecution and defense, developing analytical and critical thinking skills as well as oral presentation and teamwork skills.

CSU/UC: “g”

School: MVHS, SRVHS-ROP

Human Geography (AP)

(11-12) The purpose of this course is to introduce qualified students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth’s surface. Major content areas to be studied are as follows: the nature of perspectives of geography, population, cultural patterns and processes, political organization of space, agricultural and rural land use, industrialization and economic development, and cities and urban land use. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendations and pass screening test.

CSU/UC: “g”

School: MVHS

Modern East Asian History (Honors)

(11-12) As the world becomes smaller, knowledge of non-western history becomes all the more important. This course analyzes the modern transformation of East Asia. Topics include: the conflict of Sino centrism and modern nationalism in the Chinese revolution, the Japanese road to Pearl Harbor, and the significance of the Korean War in East Asia.

Prerequisite: Completion of World History 2 or 3 with a grade of B or better

CSU/UC: “g”

School: CHS

Psychology

This course focuses on personal growth and provides students a basic introduction to the field of psychology. Students learn to apply basic psychology concepts to themselves so they have a better understanding of who they are and how they can relate better to those around them.

CSU/UC: “g”

School: All

Psychology (AP)

This class will challenge the student to study psychology at the college level. You will learn about the latest research findings regarding the brain, the mind, and behavior. Units studied will include research methods, consciousness, sensation and perception, neuroanatomy, motivation and emotion, learning theory, mental illness, personality theory, development, etc. This course is designed for the accelerated student seeking college credit through the advanced placement test. It is expected that all students will take the AP exam in May.

Prerequisites: “B” or better in Psychology, or 3.0 overall GPA, or meeting criteria on placement assessment

CSU/UC: “g”

School: CHS, SRVHS, DVHS

Roots of Rock Music (Semester)

(11-12) This is a one-semester elective designed to introduce students to the rich musical heritage of our country and explore US History in the process. Starting with slavery, the course moves from the blues, to rhythm and blues, jazz, the birth of rock and roll, and the evolution of modern rock music. Units include the blues, rockabilly, jazz, surf and hot rod music, the folk scene, soul and Motown, the British invasion, psychedelic era, 70's rock, punk rock, techno and hip hop. Via video, the text, supplementary reading, internet, local musicians and the music itself, this class surveys selected topics in US History. Historical themes will include civil rights, war and peace, social class propaganda, and protest. Please bring an open musical mind to this class. Much of the music will be unfamiliar to many students. This class has a text, unit exams, projects, and about one homework assignment per week. Optional field trips to music clubs in the Bay Area will also be offered.

Prerequisite: Cumulative average of 3.0 or better and a C or better in World History or US History.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: SRVHS

Sociology

Whereas psychology emphasized the examination of individual behavior, sociology studies human society, social relations, and behavior in and among groups. This course will examine topics such as culture and social structure, the adolescent in society, and the criminal justice system. Also included will be the examination of social institutions such as marriage and family and religion.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: DVHS, MVHS

Vietnam Era

(11-12) This course examines US involvement in Vietnam as well as the social and political times in which that conflict took place. Students will use readings, videos, music, guest speakers, classroom exercises and simulations to explore the roots of the Vietnam War, the growing US military presence, the soldier's experience, responses at home and abroad to the war, and the turbulent social and political times in which it took place. The course will examine the Vietnam War from a variety of political perspectives and conclude with a look at Vietnam today and the legacy of the war for both Americans and the Vietnamese.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: SRVHS

World War II (History of)

(11-12) This course will be an intensive study of the major events, leaders and themes of the most significant war in modern history. Topics will include: the role of new military technology, social effects on civilians, the impact of the war on post-war Europe and Asia, and the development of the Cold War. This course will allow students a chance to develop analytical skills by examining primary documents from the era and through the completion of a research project based on those primary documents. An emphasis will be on interpretation of key events from various international perspectives. In addition to understanding why events happened during the war, students will study the root cause and effects of the war.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

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ENGLISH

English 9

English 9 is an introductory course that lays a foundation of skills that students will need throughout high school. It is a literature-based course with an emphasis on critical reading and composition skills. These skills include: literary analysis and close reading, writing expository essays, creative writing, timed writing, grammar and usage, vocabulary, discussion group skills, and dramatic interpretation. Students are exposed to a variety of classical and contemporary genres: novels, short stories, plays, poetry and non-fiction.

CSU/UC: "b"

Schools: All

English 9 Advanced

Advanced English 9 exposes students to a wide range of classic and contemporary literature. Students read a variety of literary types, including essays, short stories, poetry, non-fiction, plays, and novels. Students write a variety of assignments relating to the literature, concentrating on analysis and critical thinking. Students have many opportunities to develop formal and informal speaking skills. Assignments differ from regular English 9 coursework in quantity and depth of analysis, and in the level of expectations. Students are expected to enter the course with a high level of reading comprehension and writing skill. Material will be covered quickly, requiring that students must be able to read and comprehend independently and manage their time appropriately. Long-term individual and group projects require that students set realistic short and long-term priorities.

Prerequisite: qualifying assessment

CSU/UC: “

Schools: CHS

English 9 SDAIE

This class is designed for English Language Learners. The *Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English* course parallels the content core curriculum for English 9 and is aligned to the California State Language Arts Standards. Students read and study the core literature and learn to write structured paragraphs and essays while also utilizing supplementary support materials to enhance comprehension and learning in reading and writing. This course is offered on a rotating basis with SDAIE English 10 so that students can refine their reading, writing, speaking, and analysis in English.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

English 10

English 10 is a college preparatory language arts course which expands and strengthens the skills developed in English 9. This world literature based course emphasizes critical reading, composition and speaking skills. Students will study short stories, poetry, drama, non-fiction and novels. The course also includes extensive writing instruction in a variety of forms, grammar instruction, root word instruction, and vocabulary development.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: All

English 10 Advanced

English 10, Advanced is a rigorous course due to the increased expectations regarding volume of reading, maturity of insight, sophistication of language use, and standards of evaluations. This course exposes students to world and multicultural literature through discussion and critical analysis of various genres, including non-fiction, myth, legend, epic, poetry, short story, and the novel. Course work focuses on the development of analytical thinking skills, with an emphasis placed on critical writing in response to literature. The course also includes grammar instruction, root work instruction, and vocabulary development with words taken from the literature as well as from lists designed for SAT preparation.

Prerequisite: B- in prior Advanced, Honors or AP English course, or meet criteria on placement assessment.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: All

English 10 SDAIE

This class is designed for English Language Learners. The *Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English* course parallels the content core curriculum for English 10 and is aligned to the California State Language Arts Standards. Students read and study the core literature and learn to write structured paragraphs and essays while also utilizing supplementary support materials to enhance comprehension and learning in reading and writing. This course is offered on a rotating basis with SDAIE English 9 so that students can refine their reading, writing, speaking, and analysis in English.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

English 11

English 11 is a college preparatory language arts course in which students will study traditional and contemporary works drawn from American literature. Materials include novels, plays, short stories, essays, poetry and non-fiction. Student writing focuses on refining the thesis statement and developing the skills necessary for multiple writing tasks as well as the examination of rhetorical techniques in nonfiction writing. The course also includes grammar instruction and vocabulary development.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: All

English 11 Honors

Honors English 11 is a chronological study of American Literature, history, philosophy, and culture. Students will be challenged by the high level reading, writing, and speaking that is required as they develop their ability to analyze, think deeply, and express themselves clearly. Students are expected to have mastered reading and writing skills presented in Advanced English 10 prior to entering this course. Material will be covered quickly, requiring that students must be able to read and comprehend independently, and manage their time appropriately. Long-term individual and group projects will require that students set realistic short and long-term priorities, without overextending themselves.

Prerequisite: : B- in prior advance, honors or AP English course, or meet criteria on placement assessment.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: CHS

NCP Novel

Contemporary and classic novels (and/or plays—possibly one Shakespeare play) are studied in a seminar format. Works are chosen to have relevance to student interest as well as literary merit. Collaborative group activities and class discussions are important components of the learning process. Students explore various ways of actively responding to literature in writing. They will be able to write in a variety of forms. Students who choose this course should enjoy reading book-length works. There will be some homework.

Note: This class is not U.C. or C.S.U. certified.

Schools: MVHS (Grade 11)

English 12

English 12 is a year-long course designed to prepare seniors for the rigor and depth of college-level reading and writing requirements. English 12 course work requires a synthesis of the skills taught through the first three years of the high school English program, emphasizing increasingly sophisticated skills in analysis, discussion, and writing. Students read expansively for comprehension of content and to evaluate authors’ biases and purposes. Students write for a variety of purposes in preparation for college, including application essays, placement assessments, expository analysis of non-fiction, and interpretive literary analysis. Students continue to build writing skills through process draft writing, grammar review and vocabulary development. The course provides extensive and challenging reading of many literary genres, including non-fiction, poetry, fiction, and drama, ranging from classical through contemporary literature. Classroom discussions will tackle challenging themes, philosophical views, and contemporary issues.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: All

English Language AP

AP English Language is a rigorous, college level course emphasizing expository writing and critical reading. Writing assignments include in-class timed writings and out-of-class essays. The analysis of many forms of literature (i.e. novels, non-fiction essays, reflective essays, letters, etc.) focuses on how authors use language and literary devices to inform or persuade. Students also continue to work on grammar and vocabulary development. This is an Advanced Placement course that prepares students to take the AP Language and Composition exam in May.

Prerequisite: : B- in prior advance, honors or AP English course, or meet criteria on placement assessment.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: DVHS (Grade 12), MVHS, SRVHS (Grade 11)

English Literature AP

AP English Literature is a rigorous, college level course focusing on the study of significant literary works. Students analyze literature, poetry, and essays in terms of concepts and the role of these concepts in the development of the World. The reading list is extensive and written work emphasizes a mature level of insight, the development of careful and thorough analysis, and sophisticated language use. Participation in class discussion is essential. This is an Advanced Placement course that prepares students to take the AP Literature and Composition exam in May.

Prerequisite:: B- in prior advance, honors or AP English course, or meet criteria on placement assessment.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: DVHS (Grade 11), CHS, MVHS, SRVHS (Grade 12)

British Literature

This survey course of British literature, studied in a historical context, includes the reading and discussion of English authors and novels. Literature-based creative and critical writing is taught. The course work requires a synthesis of the skills taught through the first three years of the high school English program, emphasizing increasingly sophisticated skills in analysis, discussion, and writing. The challenging content is designed to prepare students for college level reading, thinking, literary analysis, and writing.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: CHS (Grade 12)

Creative Writing (Semester)

This course offers experiences in reading, writing and publishing. Students read extensively in short fiction and poetry, developing critical reading skills. Students write frequently and participate in response groups. They create their own magazine or author a web site to publish their work. Students also participate in a public poetry reading and have the opportunity to submit their work to a contest or publication outside the school community.

CSU/UC: “g”

School: SRVHS

Expository Reading and Writing

The goal of the Expository Reading and Writing course is to prepare college-bound seniors for the literacy demands of higher education. Through a sequence of fourteen instructional modules, students in this rhetoric-based course develop advanced proficiencies in expository, analytical, and argumentative reading and writing. The cornerstone of the course presents a process for helping students read, comprehend, and respond to non-fiction and literary texts. Modules also provide instruction in research methods and documentation conventions. Students will be expected to increase their awareness of rhetorical strategies, and to examine the social, political, and philosophical assumptions that underlie the text. By the end of the course, students will be expected to use this process independently when reading unfamiliar texts and writing in response to them. Course texts include contemporary essays, newspaper and magazine articles, editorials, reports, biographies, memos, assorted public documents, and other non-fiction texts. The course materials also include two full-length works (one novel and one work of fiction), as well as an independent reading component. Written assessments and holistic scoring guides conclude each unit.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: DVHS (Grade 12), MVHS

Expository Writing

Expository writing is designed to provide experience in reading selections of poems, vignettes, short stories, screenplays and novels. The course provides extensive reading in the major types of literature, including classics recommended for college bound students. Composition assignments will develop writing methods necessary for success in college as well as creative writing. The course will include a review of writing skills, instruction in stylistic techniques, preparation for the college essay, and preparation of original poems, characters, short stories in a variety of genres. Instruction on children’s literature and screenplay is also included. Students will also be required to read a variety of works independently. Students should expect a considerable amount of homework including challenging reading and writing assignments. ROP credit is available through this course.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: MVHS (Grade 12)

Literature With Emphasis on Movement and Music

A college preparatory English elective that will count for English 12, *Literature with an Emphasis on Movement and Music*, will help students analyze, investigate, and compare/contrast, literature, movement, music, and visual art through historical time periods. Specific attention will be paid to the parallels between genres of literature, dance, and music, and art, the relationship between words and movement, analysis and critique of performance art and music, and the sociological effects and changes surrounding artistic expression. From a historically chronological perspective, students will study all portions of the literary spectrum (novel, non-fiction, essay, short story, poetry, and film) to explore a wide panorama of opinions, themes, observations, and social commentary related to movement, music and the visual arts. While developing critical thinking skills, students will be asked to formulate ideas through frequent and challenging reading and writing assignments in strict preparation for college level performance. The primary focus of this course is literary exploration, with decreasing emphasis on visual art, movement and music.

CSU/UC: “b”

Schools: MVHS (Grade 12)

Literary Analysis Through Film

The curriculum of this course is designed to expose students to a variety of films that includes documentaries, musicals, dramas, comedies and mastering vocabulary specific to the film industry. The course includes curriculum that adheres to the state's Standards & Benchmarks. Students should expect to read and analyze texts throughout the year in addition to reviewing and analyzing films for both industry and literary terms. Writing, discussion and public speaking skills are also an integral part of the course. Independent reading and projects will also be assigned. Students should expect homework that includes both film and text analysis.

CSU/UC: "b"

Schools: DVHS (Grade 12), MVHS

Film as Literature (NCP)

Film as Literature focuses on mastery of the literary elements through the medium of film. Students learn about plot, setting, theme, and irony by analyzing various types of films. The curriculum includes vocabulary specific to the film industry. In addition, the course covers the origins and history of film, propaganda, documentaries, drama, comedies, and other great films. Independent reading is also assigned. Students are required to discuss and analyze film clips for technical aspects. A variety of writing assignments corresponds with the state standards.

This course fulfills the high school graduation requirement, but is not certified for UC and CSU "b" requirement.

School: SRVHS, MVHS

Novel

Students read classic and contemporary novels and study the writing, stylistic, thematic, and artistic elements of the novel as a form of literature. Close reading and essay response to the literature are major components of this course. Course work requires a synthesis of the skills taught through the first three years of the high school English program, emphasizing increasingly sophisticated skills in analysis, discussion, and writing. Novels are often grouped into thematic units of study. The course includes both whole class study and independent reading of novels.

CSU/UC: "b"

Schools: CHS (Grade 12)

Shakespeare

Students study the plays and poetry of Shakespeare, and his influence on literature through time. Students respond to the literature in discussion, essay writing, and group and individual projects. Close reading and analysis of the literature is designed to prepare students for college level reading, thinking, literary analysis, and writing. Students will be required to meet daily reading requirements, write, and participate regularly in class. Course work requires a synthesis of the skills taught through the first three years of the high school English program, emphasizing increasingly sophisticated skills in analysis, discussion, and writing.

CSU/UC: "b" or "g"

Schools: CHS, MVHS (Grade 11-"g," Grade 12-"b")

Women's Literature

Seniors Women's Literature is designed for the student who is committed to serious preparation for college. The course will focus primarily on the general themes of race, class and gender as experienced by women. To enhance our reading and understanding of the texts, we will also study and discuss major trends in women's history, women's involvement in social reform and protest, and how writers depict characters in conflict with vocational roles and family obligations. The course will provide extensive reading in the form of novels ranging from the 17th through the 21st century, as well as essays, poetry, drama and short stories. The writing assignments developed for the course will prepare students for college level writing including the college essay. Students will write frequently about the social issues and human values in the works they have read. Students should expect a considerable amount of homework and challenging reading and writing assignments.

CSU/UC: "b"

Schools: MVHS (Grade 12)

English ELD

This course is for students who have been identified as English Learners based on the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) who score at the Beginning or Early Intermediate level. It is designed to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for everyday and academic purposes. Instruction focuses on communicative and academic skills based on the California ELD Standards.

CSU/UC: "b"

Schools: All

English ELD Advanced

Meets CSU/UC “b” requirement for one year only. This class is for Advanced English Language Learners. Students continue to refine skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and grammar. Grammar instruction emphasizes the “editing process” for personal habitual error patterns each student makes in the English language. Note-taking skills, vocabulary, and literary analysis are emphasized. Students write analytical papers of between three and six paragraphs in length, depending on personal skills level. Subject matter includes the analysis and comprehension of poetry, short stories, novels, film, art, and cultural awareness topics. Students write memoir and personal response papers and a cultural studies project. The class is conducted in a “seminar” style; hence class discussions and oral participation are emphasized. Field trips occur throughout the year in order to help students develop cultural and aesthetic awareness.

CSU/UC: “b” (one year only)

Schools: All

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MATH

Transition to Algebra

The objective of this course is to introduce students to Algebra 1 standards and to review and refine pre-algebra skills. The course content includes review of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percents, ratio and proportion, and data analysis. Additional Algebra 1 content will include variables, introduction to functions, real numbers, solving equations, graphing linear equations and functions, writing linear equations, and solving and graphing linear equations. (NOTE: Calculators are NOT allowed.)

This course is not CSU/UC certified.

Schools: All

Algebra 1

The course content includes working with properties of real numbers, solving linear equations, graphing linear equations and functions, writing linear equations, solving and graphing linear inequalities, systems of linear equations and inequalities, exponents and exponential functions, quadratic equations and functions, polynomials and factoring, rational expression and equations, and radicals and connections to Geometry. (NOTE: Calculators are NOT allowed)

Prerequisite: C or better in Transition to Algebra or proficient on STAR test in General Math.

CSU/UC: “c”

School: All

Standards Algebra

This course is designed to satisfy the State of California and San Ramon Valley Unified School District graduation requirement of passing a yearlong course covering the California Algebra 1 standards. This standards based course is NOT a replacement for Algebra 1 and does not satisfy the prerequisites for High School Geometry.

This course is NOT CSU/UC certified.

School: All

High School Math

This course is designed for 10th graders who need to prepare for the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). This course is also suitable for students who have taken Transition to Algebra.

School: CHS, DVHS

Math Lab

This is an assisted elective course intended to build student confidence and develop basic skills necessary to be successful in the math curriculum. It is meant to be taken concurrently with a math class. The topics will be individualized to meet student needs. This is not a college preparatory class.

School: CHS, MVHS

Geometry

The objective of this course is to help the student understand plane and space relationships. Topics covered are: basic spatial concepts, deductive proofs, parallelism, perpendicularity, congruence, quadrilaterals, ratio and proportion, similar polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem, right triangle trigonometry, circles, coordinate geometry, regular polygons, areas, volumes, compass and straight edge constructions, and optional subjects as time allows.

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra 1 or proficient on STAR test in Algebra 1.

CSU/UC: “c”

School: All

Algebra 2

Algebra 2 is a college prep course which emphasizes review of Algebra I, the Real and Complex Number Systems, solving equations and inequalities, and functions including linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and rational. Sequences and series, determinants, conic sections, the Binomial Theorem, permutations, combinations, and probability will also be covered.

Prerequisite: C or better in Geometry.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: All

Advanced Algebra 2

Advanced Algebra 2 is a rigorous college prep course, designed to prepare the students for Pre-Calculus w/ Trig. It covers the real and complex number systems, solving equations and inequalities, and functions including linear, quadratic, trigonometric, exponential, and rational. Logarithmic sequences and series, the Binomial Theorem, determinants, permutations, combinations, and probability will also be covered. This advanced course spends less time on the initial review chapters, and investigates later chapters in greater depth.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon multiple criteria which include grade in previous course, placement test, and final exam score.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: CHS, SRVHS

Math Topics Advanced

This year long math course is designed for students who need a challenging math curriculum in a fourth year math course. The first three quarters of this course is an introduction to statistics. The student will be introduced to topics including measures of central tendency such as mean, median, mode, and variance. Special emphasis will be placed on the binomial distribution, Z-scores, and the normal curve. The fourth quarter is an introduction to calculus including rational, exponential and log functions and their graphs.

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: CHS, SRVHS

Pre-Calculus With Trigonometry

This is a course in functions, development of the trigonometric functions through the use of the concept of circular functions, graphical characteristics of the trigonometric functions-including translations, amplitude, change of period, domain, range, and sums and differences of functions, inverse trigonometric functions-notations and graphs, trigonometric identities, including addition and double-angle and half-angle formulas, use of degree and radian measures, solution of trigonometric equations, polar coordinates and vectors; solution of problems related to force and navigation, matrices and determinants, higher degree equations, logarithmic functions, rational functions, summation notation, mathematical induction, the conic sections (parabola, ellipse, hyperbola), translations and rotations of the axes and curve sketching. Graphical calculator required (TI-84 recommended; TI-89 is not allowed on many exams).

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra 2. Recommended: B in Algebra 2.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: All

Honors Pre-Calculus With Trigonometry

All students interested in this course should sign up for the regular Pre-calculus with Trigonometry course listed above. A screening process, which includes prior mathematics course and final exam grades, and a placement test, will determine the list of qualified students who will be then placed into Honors Pre-calculus with Trigonometry. This course spends much less time on initial review and investigates the content of in greater depth and rigor, and pace. The chapter on Limits is also covered in the Honors course. A graphical calculator is required (the TI84+ is recommended, the TI-89 is not allowed on many exams).

Prerequisite: Placement based upon multiple criteria which include grade in previous course, placement test, and final exam score.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: All

Algorithmic Geometry (Semester)

This course introduces accelerated math students to 2D and 3D vector geometry, working in the medium of Java computer graphics programming.

No previous programming experience is required. Students create problem solution sketches on paper, then translate their solutions into numerical algorithms written in Java. The power of this approach is the ability to piggyback off all previously-solved problems, enabling a rapid ascent into complex, real-world applications. Course projects offered include molecular modeling, computer vision, GPS positioning, 3D CAD rendering, robot arm motor coordination, 3D optics, and interstellar navigation.

Prerequisite: Precalculus with Trigonometry

School: DVHS

Calculus

The topics covered are: functions, limits, continuity, the derivative, rectilinear motion, minima-maxima problems, related rates, the indefinite integral, the definite integral, applications of the definite integral (area between curves, distance, volume, arc length, areas of surfaces of revolution, etc.), transcendental functions-differentiation and integration, and methods of integration. Problems will be approached from four perspectives: graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal. Graphical calculator required (TI-84 recommended; TI-89 is NOT allowed on many exams).

Prerequisite: C or better in Pre-Calculus.

CSU/UC: "c"

Schools: DVHS, MVHS

AP Calculus AB

All students interested in this course should sign up for Calculus. Following the screening process, counselors will place qualified students into AP Calculus AB. This course includes the following topics: functions and graphs, limits, derivative, continuity and sequences; differentiation of algebraic functions; and applications of differential calculus; Rolles and Mean Value Theorems, graphing, applied minima-maxima, concavity, differentials, related rates, anti-derivatives, the theory and applications of integral calculus, methods of integration, differentiation and integration of transcendental functions. Problems requiring the use of graphical calculators will be included in the curriculum. Graphical calculator problems will also be on the AP Exam. Time is spent in preparing for the AP Exam in Calculus. Problems will be approached from four perspectives: graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal. (TI-84 recommended; TI-89 is NOT allowed on many exams).

Prerequisite: Placement based upon multiple criteria which include grade in previous course, placement test, and final exam score.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: All

AP Calculus BC

This course will include a brief review of the topics covered in AP Calculus AB. Additional topics will include: parametric, polar, and vectors functions, including their derivatives and applications; numerical solutions to differential equations using Euler's method; L'Hopital's Rule; applications of integrals including arc length and surface area; all methods of integration; improper integrals; solution of logistic differential equations; sequences and series and tests for convergence and divergence; Maclaurin and Taylor Series. Problems will be approached from four perspectives: graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal. Graphical calculator required (TI-84 is recommended; TI-89 is NOT allowed on many exams).

Prerequisite: Placement based upon multiple criteria which include grade in previous course, placement test, and final exam score.

CSU/UC: "c"

School: All

Statistics

This course introduces the discipline of statistics to students to provide a solid foundation in problem solving and processing statistical information. Students will leverage statistical analysis and computation using a variety of real-world problems and information from business, science, economics, and other sources. Graphical calculator required (TI-84 recommended)

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra .

CSU/UC: "c"

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Statistics AP

This course prepares the student for basic (non-calculus) college statistics. College statistics is necessary for many non-science majors. The topics covered are those required for the Advanced Placement Statistics Exam. Among the topics covered is exploratory analysis of data (observing patterns and departures from patterns while making use of graphical and numerical techniques), planning a study (deciding what and how to measure), anticipating patterns (producing models using probability theory and simulation), and statistical inference (making inferences with the z-test, t-test, chi-square procedure, and regression analysis). A graphical calculator is required (TI-83 or TI-84 is recommended.)

Prerequisite: *B or better in Algebra 2.*

CSU/UC: "c"

School: All

Personal Finance With Business Applications

(11-12) Using basic math skills, this course is designed to show how students can apply these same skills to the real world of personal finance. Students will be introduced to elements of every day financial transactions, as well as life's major financial decisions. Included will be: Banking Transactions, Income Management, Vehicle Ownership, Loans/Credit Cards, Investments, Real Estate, Renting Apartments, and some basic Business (retail oriented).

This course is NOT CSU/UC certified.

Schools: DVHS, MVHS, SRVHS - (Grade 11)

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SCIENCE

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Life Science

(9-12) Life Science parallels the state standards for Biology. Topics include genetics, cell biology, DNA, body systems, cell chemistry, ecology, and evolution. This course meets the high school life science graduation requirement. Students who pass this course with a "C" or higher and have passed Algebra 1 may take Biology the following year.

This course is NOT CSU/UC certified.

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Biology

(9-12) Biology is a lab-based college prep course that focuses on the major concepts of life science, methods of science, and inquiry-based learning. Topics include science process, genetics, biochemistry, cell biology and physiology, ecology, evolution, and human body systems.

Prerequisite: *Completion of Algebra 1. Concurrent enrollment in Geometry.*

CSU/UC: "d"

School: All

Accelerated Biology With Research

(9) Accelerated Biology is designed for students with a strong interest in science. Students in this course will use a college-level textbook to prepare them for taking AP Biology in their Jr. or Sr. year. The course explores science standards at a greater depth and complexity than in Biology, incorporating real-world applications in a problem-based/hands-on approach. Topics include ecology, taxonomy, evolution, cell biochemistry and physiology, genetics, botany, and human body systems.

This is not a weighted grade course.

Prerequisite: *A's in 8th grade science, 8th grade English and Algebra 1. Concurrent enrollment in Geometry.*

CSU/UC: "d"

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Marine Biology

(10-12) The theme of the marine ecosystem will drive the curriculum involving the coverage of classic biological concepts. Many laboratory activities will be inquiry-based and involve live sea life. Students will also do biotechnology protocols and perform numerous laboratory activities using probe ware interfaced into computers located at each lab station. This course meets the state and district content standards for biology/life science.

Prerequisite: *Biology with a grade of C or better. Must have completed Geometry.*

CSU/UC: "d"

School: CHS

AP Biology

(11-12) AP Biology is for second year Biology students and parallels the content studied in college level introductory biology. Lecture, text, and laboratory experiments will be at the college level, including the 12 required College Board Laboratory Exercises. Students will be encouraged to take the advanced placement exam at the end of the course to earn college/university credit. This course is for the self-motivated student. *Coursework includes a required summer assignment that is due the in the first week of class.*

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology with an A. Completion of Chemistry with a B or better.

CSU/UC: “d” Earns a weighted grade.

School: All

Biotechnology

This course instructs students in the laboratory techniques and basic scientific concepts in the field of bioscience. Lab topics include DNA, Electrophoresis, bacteriological techniques, culturing strains of bacteria, manipulating DNA to achieve transformation of colonies. Instruction covers microscopic techniques such as oil-emersion and staining various types of tissue. Students conduct individual and team research projects using effective technical writing skills to express the results of their work. Sound laboratory procedures and safety is stressed.

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry (recommended)

CSU/UC: “d”

School: CHS, MVHS (ROP), DVHS (Not ROP)

Anatomy and Physiology

(10-12) Anatomy & Physiology provides an in-depth study of the human body, its construction and functions. The topics are reinforced with gross anatomy dissection and laboratory experiments. This course introduces and prepares students to pursue educational and career pathways in science or health science related fields.

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology with a C or better.

CSU/UC: “d”

School: All

Honors Anatomy & Physiology

(11-12) Honors Anatomy & Physiology consists of a faster pace and more in-depth study of the topics covered in regular Anatomy & Physiology. Each major organ system (biochemistry and histology) will be studied in depth through a variety of activities, with a heavy emphasis on gross anatomy dissection and laboratory experiments. This course is recommended for students interested in a science or health-related field such as medicine, nursing, physical therapy, exercise physiology, kinesiology, sports medicine, and veterinary science.

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry with a B. (C or better for Honors Chemistry).

CSU/UC: “d”

School: All

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PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Integrated Physical Science

(9-12) Integrated Physical Science covers basic Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Biological Sciences beyond the eighth grade standards. Topics include atomic and molecular structure, chemical bonds, acids and bases, heat and thermodynamics, waves, electric and magnetic phenomena, dynamic earth processes, biogeochemical cycles, California geology, ecology, and evolution. This course is recommended for freshmen who have not met the requirements to enter Biology or Accelerated Biology.

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1.

CSU/UC: “g” Does not meet the UC “d” lab science requirement.

School: All

Geology

Geology is the study of the earth and the processes that have shaped it. Students will study minerals and rocks, volcanoes, earthquakes, geologic structures, landforms, plate tectonics and other geologic processes. Special emphasis will be placed on local geology (Mt. Diablo, Hayward fault, etc.). This course does not require chemistry or a strong mathematical background. This will be an activity-based course with a large percentage of laboratory time. Students will also complete web-based assignments. This course meets the physical science requirement for graduation and meets the California Science Standards.

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra 1 and/or concurrent enrollment in Geometry, C or better in Biology.

CSU/UC: “g”

School: MVHS

Chemistry

(10-12) Chemistry deals with matter, its properties, and the changes that it undergoes. Topics include: atomic structure and theory, properties of gas, solids, and liquids, chemical bonding, and principles of chemical reactions. This course uses an inquiry approach which includes discussion, lecture, laboratory experiments, and demonstrations.

Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry with a C or better. Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2.

CSU/UC: "d"

School: All

Honors Chemistry

(10-12) Honors Chemistry is designed for students intending to major in science or engineering. It provides a solid foundation for students planning to take chemistry in college. This course includes a more in-depth study of the topics covered in chemistry as well as additional topics. *As an honors level course this class earns a weighted grade.*

Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry with a B or better. Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher. Completion of Biology with a B or better.

CSU/UC: "d"

School: DVHS, MVHS, SRVHS

AP Chemistry

(11-12) AP Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course taken during the first college/university year. Emphasis is given to the theoretical aspects of chemistry, chemical calculations, and laboratory exercises. Topics include: structure of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibrium, chemical kinetics, and thermodynamics. Students are encouraged to take the advanced placement exam at the end of the course and earn college/university credit.

Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry with an A. Completion of Honors Chemistry with a B or better. Completion of Algebra 2 with a B or better.

CSU/UC: "d"

School: All

Physics

(10-12) If you have ever wondered about how things worked (your CD player, pager, cell phone, ice skating, tennis, or rainbows to name a few), then this is the course for you. This course is recommended for all students planning to attend college. Basic physical concepts and their applications to everyday activities (toys, sports, and light) are emphasized through a variety of lab activities and problems. Skills taught in class include problem solving strategies, lab techniques, technical writing (lab reports), and graphical analysis of data. Physical concepts basic to all fields of science and critical thinking skills that can be utilized in any college major are introduced. Topics include motion, forces, energy, wave theory, light, electricity, and magnetism.

Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry with a C or better. Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2.

CSU/UC: "d"

School: All

Honors Physics

(10-12) Honors Physics consists of a more in-depth study of the topics covered in regular Physics and some additional topics. The problems, concepts, and exams are more rigorous and academically challenging than in the regular Physics. The course is recommended for students planning to take Physics in college. It is intended for students planning to major in Physical Science, Engineering, or Math.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a B or better. Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus With Trigonometry.

CSU/UC: "d"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

AP Physics (B)

(11-12) AP Physics (B) is intended for students with an interest in engineering, science or the medical field. The five general areas that are covered are Newtonian mechanics, fluid mechanics and thermal physics, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics and atomic and nuclear physics, are required by the College Board. Basic concepts of calculus may be introduced in connection with physical concepts, such as acceleration and work. Students are encouraged to take the AP Exam at the end of the course to earn college/university credit.

Prerequisite: Completion of Physics with an A. Completion of Honors Physics with a B or better. Completion of Pre-Calculus with a B or better.

CSU/UC: "d"

School: CHS, SRVHS

AP Physics (C)

(11-12) AP Physics (C) 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. The sequence is more intensive and analytic than that in the B course. Strong emphasis is placed on solving a variety of challenging problems, some requiring calculus. The subject matter of the C course is principally mechanics and electricity and magnetism, with approximately equal emphasis on these two areas. The C 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. Students are encouraged to take the AP Exam at the end of the course to earn college/university credit.

Prerequisite: Completion of Physics an A. Concurrent enrollment in Calculus.

CSU/UC: “d”

Schools: DVHS

Environmental Science AP (ROP)

This course provides 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 these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Job shadowing and internships are encouraged.

Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra/Biology. Chemistry, Life Science or Physical Science are recommended.

CSU/UC: “d”

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Forensic Science, Analytical (ROP)

This class will emphasize understanding the underlying scientific theories of forensic science. The class will build upon the student’s prior knowledge of biology and chemistry, using analytical chemistry techniques to analyze and identify trace evidence, including DNA. This course prepares students to further their science education at the university level.

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology, Chemistry and Algebra I.

CSU/ UC: “g”

School: CHS (ROP), MVHS (Not ROP)

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WORLD LANGUAGE**American Sign Language I**

This course will teach basic signs, grammar, finger spelling, and cultural aspects of deafness. Students will learn basic communication as well as song signing. Total participation is mandatory in order to properly learn the language. Activities will include: students working in pairs or groups, role playing, skits, songs, and impromptu presentations. In addition to written homework, students are expected to study/practice the language outside the classroom on a daily basis. Students will also be required to complete a book report and attend one out-of-class function.

Prerequisite: strongly recommended: overall C average.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: All

American Sign Language II

This course further develops basic reception and production skills in American Sign Language. Emphasis will be on Deaf Culture, syntax, and vocabulary of more abstract concepts. Students will be required to sign stories, skits, and songs, as well as attending two out-of-class functions, completing one book report and a research paper. In addition to written homework, students are expected to study/practice the language outside the classroom on a daily basis.

Prerequisite: C or better in American Sign Language I and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: MVHS

American Sign Language III

This course further develops basic reception and production skills in American Sign Language. Emphasis will be on Deaf culture, syntax, vocabulary, and the ability to demonstrate abstract ideas and concepts. Students will be required to sign skits, songs, stories, poetry and create a video. There will be frequent translation exercises as well as a book report, two out-of-class functions, and a report on a famous deaf person. This course may not be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite: C or better in American Sign Language II and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: MVHS

Chinese Mandarin I

This is a beginning Mandarin Chinese course intended for students with no prior knowledge of any Chinese speaking or writing ability. This course will focus on the Chinese Zhuyinfuhau/Hanyupinyin (phonetic) system: tones, rules of phonetic spelling, and pronunciation drill, and Chinese characters: creation and evolution, stroke order, structure, and the writing system. Reading and writing skills are introduced. Students will learn the basic sentence patterns, and develop the Chinese language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

CSU/UC: “e”

Schools: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Chinese Mandarin II

This course is designed for students interested in a continuation of learning Mandarin Chinese. This course will focus on the review of grammar and a further development of reading, speaking, listening and writing skills. This course presupposes a basic knowledge of Chinese Zhuyinfuhau/Hanyupinyin, words, sentences, and grammar. Emphasis will be placed upon practical use of Mandarin, so that students will experience the world of Communication among the Chinese language speaking people. For students who have not taken Chinese 1, please contact the counseling office for a readiness assessment to be admitted to this class.

Prerequisite: C or better in Chinese Mandarin I and teacher recommendation. Students may also be given a placement exam to ensure that they have the background to succeed at this level.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Chinese Mandarin III

This course is designed for students interested in a continuation of learning Mandarin Chinese. This course will focus on the review of grammar and a further development of reading, speaking, listening and writing skills. This course presupposes a basic knowledge of Chinese Zhuyinfuhau/Hanyupinyin, words, sentences, and grammar. Emphasis will be placed upon practical use of Mandarin, so that students will experience the world of Communication among the Chinese language speaking people. For students who have not taken Chinese 2, please contact the instructor to schedule a readiness assessment to be admitted to this class.

Prerequisite: C or better in Chinese Mandarin II and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Chinese Mandarin Honors IV

This course will focus on the review of grammar and a further development of reading, speaking, listening and writing skills. This course presupposes intermediate Chinese ability in characters, sentences, and grammar. Emphasis will be placed upon practical use of Chinese, and prepare for college level Chinese courses.

Prerequisite: B or better in Chinese III and teacher recommendation. For students who have not taken Chinese III, please contact counseling office for a readiness assessment.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Chinese Language and Culture AP V

This course seeks to develop language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) that can be used in various activities. Extensive training in reading comprehension, oral skills and writing skills will be emphasized. This course also covers Chinese culture and history to provide students with a broad understanding of this 5,000 year old country.

Prerequisite: B or better in Chinese Mandarin Honors IV and Teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: DVHS

French I

This course is an introduction to the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will learn cultural information about the French-speaking world.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: All

French II

A continuation of the course of study of the French language and of the associated cultures started in French I. French II is designed to develop the students' speaking and writing skills to a greater extent, to reinforce correct pronunciation and intonation, and to improve listening and reading comprehension. The grammatical study of the language will also be increased. *Prerequisite: C or better in French I and teacher recommendation. Students may also be given a placement exam to ensure that they have the background to succeed at this level.*

CSU/UC: “e”

School: All

French III

Continuation of basic grammar. Fundamentals are presented in the form of moderately long reading passages and emphasis is placed on reading and writing. Conversing in the French language becomes imperative and students are given more advanced cultural readings.

Prerequisites: C or better in French II and recommendation of the French II teacher.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: All

French IV Honors

Emphasis of this class is French for literature and communication. Students will develop speaking skills through oral presentations and class discussions on various topics. Throughout the year students will read works of French authors. Composition and literature assignments will provide the opportunity to review grammar. The class is conducted completely in French. Enthusiasm for French is a must.

Prerequisites: Grade B or better in French III.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: All

AP French Language

This is an intensive course designed to prepare students for the AP French test in May. Students will read from more complex materials: short stories, novels, poetry excerpts and other literature. Basic skills are reinforced through the reading with an emphasis on speaking. Language syntax and grammar are reviewed. By the year's end, the students will be able to understand the spoken language, be able to read and understand literary excerpts, and be able to carry on advanced conversations with few grammatical errors. Summer homework may be required.

Prerequisites: B or better in French IV Honors and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: All

French V Honors

This course will cover selected works from the literature of French-speaking countries. Students are expected to read and analyze literature orally and in writing in French. The language proficiency reached by the end of the course is generally equivalent to that of college students who have completed various semesters of French in composition, conversation and grammar. Students should be able to : 1) understand a lecture in French and to participate actively in discussions on literary topics in French; 2) do a close reading of literary texts of all genres in French; 3) analyze critically the form and content of literary works orally and in writing using appropriate terminology.

Prerequisites: B or better in French IV Honors and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: CHS, MVHS

German I

This course is an introduction to the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will learn cultural information about the German-speaking world.

CSU/UC: “e”

School: MVHS

German II

A continuation of the course of study of the German language and of the associated cultures started in German I. German II is designed to develop the students' speaking and writing skills to a greater extent, to reinforce correct pronunciation and intonation, and to improve listening and reading comprehension. The grammatical study of the language will also be increased. *Prerequisite: C or better in German I and teacher recommendation. Students may also be given a placement exam to insure that they have the background to succeed at this level.*

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

German III

Continuation of basic grammar. Fundamentals are presented in the form of moderately long reading passages and emphasis is placed on reading and writing. Conversing in the German language becomes imperative and there are more advanced cultural readings.

Prerequisites: C or better in German II and recommendation of the German II teacher.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

German IV Honors

Emphasis of this class is German for literature and communication. Students will develop speaking skills through oral presentations and class discussions on various topics. Throughout the year students will read works of German authors. Composition and literature assignments will provide the opportunity to review grammar. The class is conducted completely in German. Enthusiasm for German is a must.

Prerequisites: B or better in German III

CSU/UC "e"

School: MVHS

AP German Literature

This course will cover selected works from the literature of German-speaking countries. Students are expected to read and analyze literature orally and in writing in German. The language proficiency reached by the end of the AP course is generally equivalent to that of college students who have completed various semesters of German in composition, conversation and grammar. Students should be able to : 1) understand a lecture in German and to participate actively in discussions on literary topics in German; 2) do a close reading of literary texts of all genres in German; 3) analyze critically the form and content of literary works orally and in writing using appropriate terminology.

Prerequisites: B or better in German IV Honors.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

Japanese I

This course is only for students with NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE of Japanese. An introduction to the Japanese language with emphasis on proper pronunciation and ability to read and write in two of the three writing systems: Hiragana and Katakana. It will acquaint students with aspects of Japanese tradition, culture and history which affect contemporary lifestyles and beliefs.

Prerequisite: Strongly recommended: A or B in English, overall C average.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

Japanese II

This is a continuing course for the students who have completed the curriculum outlined in Japanese I. Further conversation skills are emphasized through video and audio tapes in conjunction with role-playing in the class. Approximately 100 kanji characters are introduced which enhance the reading and writing skills of more complicated Japanese sentences. (Kanji represents the third of three writing systems in Japanese.) Cultural lessons are provided through projects, movies, animation and calligraphy.

Prerequisites: Required: C or better in Japanese I or equivalent and teacher recommendation

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

Japanese III

A continuation of Japanese II; focus is on fluency in spoken and written skill. Students will gain increased oral fluency and communication skills for everyday use, learn approximately 250 new kanji characters to read and write, increase proficiency in reading skills, and gain insight into Japanese cultural and social practices. Class is conducted entirely in Japanese.

Prerequisite: C or better in Japanese II and teacher recommendation

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

Japanese IV Honors

Students entering from another program may be asked to take a placement exam. Emphasis in this class is on oral fluency and reading and writing skills. Students will learn approximately 500 new kanji characters and will read a variety of Japanese literature and current publications. Cultural lessons are designed to further enhance students' knowledge of Japanese social and cultural practices. Class is conducted entirely in Japanese.

Prerequisite: B average in Japanese III and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

Japanese V AP

Students entering from another program may be asked to take a placement exam. Students will increase oral fluency and communication skills for a variety of real-world purposes. They will learn approximately 600 kanji characters and will gain increased proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Class is conducted entirely in Japanese and students will develop an insight into Japanese cultural and social practices. This course will give materials and guidance to prepare students for the AP Japanese Language and Culture exam.

Prerequisite: B average in Japanese 4 and teacher recommendation

CSU/UC: "e"

School: MVHS

Spanish I

This course is an introduction to the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will learn cultural information about the Spanish-speaking world.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: All

Spanish II (9-12) - Year

A continuation of the course of study of the Spanish language and of the associated cultures started in Spanish 1. Spanish 2 is designed to develop the students' speaking and writing skills to a greater extent, to reinforce correct pronunciation and intonation, and to improve listening and reading comprehension. The grammatical study of the language will also be increased.

Prerequisite: C or better in Spanish 1 and teacher recommendation. Students may also be given a placement exam to insure that they have the background to succeed at this level.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: All

Spanish III

Continuation of basic grammar. Fundamentals are presented in the form of moderately long reading passages and emphasis is placed on reading and writing. Conversing in the Spanish language becomes imperative and there are more advanced cultural readings.

Prerequisites: C or better in Spanish II and recommendation of the Spanish 2 teacher

CSU/UC: "e"

School: All

Spanish IV Honors

Emphasis of this class is Spanish for literature and communication. Students will develop speaking skills through oral presentations and class discussions on various topics. Throughout the year students will read works of Spanish and Latin American authors. Composition and literature assignments will provide the opportunity to review grammar. The class is conducted completely in Spanish. Enthusiasm for Spanish is a must.

Prerequisite: B or better in Spanish III

CSU/UC: "e"

School: All

AP Spanish Language

This is an intensive course designed to prepare students for the AP Spanish test in May. Students will read from more complex materials: short stories, novels, poetry excerpts and other literature. Basic skills are reinforced through the reading with an emphasis on speaking. Language syntax and grammar are reviewed. By the year's end, the students will be able to understand the spoken language, be able to read and understand literary excerpts, and be able to carry on advanced conversations with few grammatical errors. Summer homework may be required.

Prerequisite: B or better in Spanish IV Honors and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: "e"

School: All

AP Spanish Literature

This course will cover selected works from the literature of Spain and Spanish America. Students are expected to read and analyze literature orally and in writing in Spanish. The language proficiency reached by the end of the AP course is generally equivalent to that of college students who have completed various semesters of Spanish in composition, conversation and grammar. Students should be able to: 1) understand a lecture in Spanish and to participate actively in discussions on literary topics in Spanish; 2) do a close reading of literary texts of all genres in Spanish; 3) analyze critically the form and content of literary works orally and in writing using appropriate terminology.

Prerequisite: B or better in Spanish IV Honors and teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: "e"

Schools: MVHS

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VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

VISUAL ARTS

Art NCP

This course is designed for students who want to take an art class in a non-college prep setting. Unlike the other art classes, this curriculum focuses on process instead of product. Students will experience a variety of approaches to art and its place in today's world. Assignments will address the California State Standards for the Visual Arts at the Proficient Level and include exercises using the Art Elements and Design Principals.

Not CSU/UC certified.

School: MVHS

Art 1 (Semester)

This is an introductory skills-based, visual art course that introduces students to a variety of media. Students will also learn about art history and develop aesthetic valuing skills through writing. Class assignments are based on the California Visual Art Standards and introduce students to the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. This class prepares students for the next level of art classes. Lab donation requested for materials.

CSU/UC: "F"

Schools: CHS

Art 1 (Year)

This is an introductory skills-based, visual art course that introduces students to a variety of media. Students will also learn about art history and develop aesthetic valuing skills through writing. Class assignments are based on the California Visual Art Standards and introduce students to the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. This class prepares students for the next level of art classes. Lab donation requested for materials.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: DVHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Art 2 (Semester)

Students apply artistic processes and skills, using a wide variety of media, to communicate meaning and intent to works of art based on the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. Students further develop skills learned in Art 1 to create more individualized works of art moving from proficient to advanced levels. The study of Art History and culture are included in the curriculum. Assignments are based on the California Visual Arts Standards.

Prerequisite: C or better in Art 1.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Art 2 (Year)

Students apply artistic processes and skills, using a wide variety of media, to communicate meaning and intent to works of art based on the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. Students further develop skills learned in Art 1 to create more individualized works of art moving from proficient to advanced levels. The study of Art History and culture are included in the curriculum. Assignments are based on the California Visual Arts Standards.

Prerequisite: C or better in Art 1.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Art 3

(10-12) This advanced year long class emphasizes developing artwork of portfolio quality. Students learn to apply design elements in increasingly sophisticated ways. Strong emphasis upon creativity and craftsmanship. Wide range of mediums available including pastel pencils, acrylic, scratchboard, collage and calligraphic pens. Printmaking will be introduced. Sketchbook work and two research papers required.

Prerequisite: C or better in Art 1 and 2, or permission of instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Advanced Art 5

In this advanced class, students can expect to demonstrate a mature understanding of the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design in a rigorous series of lessons. Students increasingly incorporate their own perspectives and style as they explore various media to produce substantial work. Art history and culture and aesthetic valuing form a significant part of the course. Students begin to build a portfolio as a preliminary step for AP Art. Assignments are based on the California Visual Art Standards.

Prerequisite: C or better in Art 1 and Art 2 or permission of instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: DVHS, MVHS

Studio Art AP

Students work at an advanced skill level to produce an individual portfolio of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional work. This rigorous class requires that students be self-motivated as they prepare to submit a portfolio for the College Board Advanced Placement Exam in the Spring. All work must follow class specifications to assure variety and meet the demands of the portfolio contents with multiple measures for quality production. Students must be able to demonstrate mastery in various media and artistic concepts while producing two categories of work to meet the Concentration and Breadth requirements of the AP portfolio. All assignments are based on the CA Visual Art Standards. Summer work is expected.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

3D Art 1 (Semester)

This art class is an introduction to basic design elements and principles with three dimensional design applications. Students work in a variety of media and with varied techniques to create original works of art. There is a strong emphasis on creativity and craftsmanship. This course is aligned with the California Visual Art Standards.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

3D Art 1 (Year)

This art class is an introduction to basic design elements and principles with three dimensional design applications. Students work in a variety of media and with varied techniques to create original works of art. There is a strong emphasis on creativity and craftsmanship. This course is aligned with the California Visual Art Standards.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: DVHS, MVHS, SRVHS

3D Art 2

This advanced three-dimensional art class explores the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design in increasingly sophisticated ways when applied to a variety of forms and sculptures. Students work in a variety of media with advanced techniques, to create in-depth original works of art. This course is aligned with the California Visual Art Standards.

Prerequisite: C or better in 3D Art 1.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS-Semester Only, DVHS and SRVHS-Year

3D Art 3 (Year)

(10-12) This is an advanced three-dimensional art class which allows students to create larger sculptures using advanced materials and methods.

Prerequisite: C or better in 3D Art 1 and 2.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Ceramics 1 (Semester)

This course explores a variety of techniques in clay construction, wheel throwing, glazing and surface decoration. Students apply the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design using the medium of clay. This course is aligned with the California Visual Art Standards.

UC/CSU: "F"

School: CHS

Ceramics 2 (Semester)

This course based on the CA Visual Art Standards is designed for the student who has a working knowledge of basic elements and principles of art when applied to sculpture as well as the foundation skills in pottery and ceramic sculpture. The course also focuses on historical and cultural influences. Students will develop aesthetic perception skills and strengthen their creative expression in the areas of sculpture and pottery.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Advanced Ceramics 3

Students in ceramics engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and production and lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. Students create works of art in clay utilizing the processes of hand building, molds, wheel throwing, slip and gauze techniques, and the firing processes. Additionally, students: (1) reflect upon the outcome of these experiences, (2) explore cultural and historical connections, (3) write about the process, (4) make presentations about their progress at regular intervals, (5) work individually and in groups, (6) find direct correlations to other disciplines, and (7) explore career options related to ceramics. Art museums, galleries, studios, and community resources are utilized.

Prerequisites: C or better in Ceramics 1 and 2, teacher recommendation or portfolio of student work.

CSU/UC "F" pending approval

School: CHS

Architectural Design (ROP)

This course allows the students to express themselves visually and showcases their creativity. Instruction in the following areas: elements of design, architectural history, sketching and computer design. Students are guided through a series of projects using computer aided design (CAD) software. This competency-based course prepares students for entry-level positions or further training in architectural design. Integrated into the course are career preparation standards which include basic academic skills, communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving, workplace safety, technology and employment literacy.

Prerequisites: Basic Art and Design I, Algebra I, Geometry and/or approval of the instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, MVHS

Advanced Architectural Design (ROP)

This course allows the students to express themselves visually and showcases their creativity. This course goes more deeply into the elements of artistic design, architectural history and computer design. The course provides the opportunity for students to specialize in an area of concentration such as environmental design, architectural model making, civil engineering or 3D development. Students are required to complete a major project of their own design and submit it for further review by entering an approved competition or to a licensed architect/engineer.

Prerequisites: *Architectural Design*

CSU/UC: "F"

School: MVHS

Photography 1 (Beginning)

This is an introductory class in which students will learn to shoot, process and print their own black and white photographs. The course curriculum is aligned to the California Visual Art Standards and addresses the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design with specific applications to photography. Access to a 35 mm camera, auto or manual, is preferable.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS-Semester Only, MVHS and SRVHS-Year

Photography 2 (Semester)

(10-12) In this semester class continuing students will be expected to strive for the highest standards of productivity and individual progress. They will be urged to produce pictures, which are worthy of publication and presentation. Serious advanced students will work on portfolio preparation for individual college and art school applications.

Prerequisite: *C or better in Photo 1 or teacher recommendation*

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Photography Advanced (Year)

Students will further develop their skills in photography, producing pictures worthy of publication and presentation. Students will apply the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design in increasingly sophisticated ways. Curriculum is aligned to the California Visual Art Standards. Access to a 35 mm camera, auto or manual, is preferable.

Prerequisite: *C or better in Beginning Photography.*

CSU/UC: "F"

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Digital Photography

(11-12) This digital photography class will explore the many facets of digital imagery. Students are expected to produce and preserve images that paint a picture, tell a story, or record an event. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of technical editing strategies and techniques through the use of Adobe Photoshop. This digital photography program will deepen the understanding of composition and image design; focusing on color, theory, and practical applications.

Prerequisite at SRVHS only: *Photography 1 (Beginning)*

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Video Production [Art of] (ROP)

Students will acquire the visual arts skills to create quality video productions. Emphasis is on the uses of communication and organizational skills. Students learn the basic skills to produce their own videos while exploring aspects of pre-production, script writing, camera work, lighting and sound.

Prerequisite: *Basic computer skills, fine arts, photography, drama or journalism are recommended.*

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS-(Not ROP), MVHS, SRVHS,

Video Production [Art of] 2

This advanced course provides students with opportunities to work on individual and small group video projects. Workshop methods will be employed to provide students with understandings of advanced principles and practices of videography. Students in this course will be expected to develop project treatments, write and rewrite shooting scripts, develop storyboards, record and edit projects.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: DVHS (ROP), SRVHS (Not ROP)

Digital Arts/Designs for the Web

This is a college preparatory course designed to enable students to achieve an understanding and appreciation of artistic expression and be able to use that expression to enhance communication. Students will create original digital arts projects using contemporary media techniques. Outside research is part of the curriculum.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS-(ROP), DVHS, SRVHS – (Not ROP)

Computer Graphic Arts (ROP)

Students will explore drawing techniques and tools used in computer arts and digital graphics. They will create original art projects using contemporary techniques in computer graphics. Students will keep design journals, critique their work and the work of others, and maintain portfolios of their artwork and writing.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: MVHS, DVHS-Not ROP

Multimedia (ROP)

Students will learn basic skills for combining text, video, graphics, animation and sound to create multimedia presentations that can be used in business, publishing, marketing, teaching or on the internet.

Prerequisite: Intermediate computer skills recommended

CSU/UC: "F"

School: SRVHS

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PERFORMING ARTS

DANCE

Dance 1

(9-12) This is an introductory course for **BEGINNING** level students. Course includes training in basic dance techniques and a variety of dancing styles. Freshmen may take this course for Fine Arts Credit only.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Dance 2

(9-12) For **INTERMEDIATE** students. Continuing development of dance technique, skills, and movement with mandatory performance in class and in the dance productions. Student choreography is required. Students must participate in program support activities. Freshman may take this course for Fine Arts Credit only. Satisfies visual/performing arts requirement for CSU and UC provided it is not used for PE credit.

Prerequisite: Entrance by audition only. See instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Dance 3

(9-12) . For **INTERMEDIATE II** students. Continuing development of dance technique, skills, and movement with mandatory performance in class and in the dance productions. Student choreography is required. Students must participate in program support activities. Freshmen may take this course for Fine Arts Credit only. Satisfies visual/performing arts requirement for CSU and UC provided it is not used for PE credit.

Prerequisite: Entrance by audition only. See instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Dance 4

(9-12) For **ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE** students. Continuing development of dance technique, skills, and movement with mandatory performance in class and in the dance productions. Student choreography is required. Students must participate in program support activities. Freshmen may take this course for Fine Arts Credit only. Satisfies visual/performing arts requirement for CSU and UC provided it is not used for PE credit.

Prerequisite: Entrance by audition only. See instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

Schools: All

Dance 5

(11-12) For **ADVANCED** students. Continuing development of dance technique, skills, and movement with mandatory performance in class and in the dance productions. Student choreography is required. Students must participate in program support activities. Freshmen may take this course for Fine Arts Credit only. Satisfies visual/performing arts requirement for CSU and UC provided it is not used for PE credit.

Prerequisite: Entrance by audition only. See instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

Schools: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

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MUSIC (Instrumental and Vocal)

AP Music Theory (ROP)

(11-12.) This course intends to provide the serious music student with a class equivalent to an undergraduate, college-level course in music theory and ear training. The ultimate goal of the AP Music Theory course is to develop the student's ability to recognize, understand and describe the basic materials and processes of music. The achievement of this goal may be best promoted by integrated approaches to the student's development of: aural, written, creative and analytical exercises. As with all advanced placement courses, the grade is weighted and students are encouraged to take the advanced placement exam. If a school site offers this as an ROP course, students must be at least 16 years or older.

Prerequisite: Ability to read music and consent of the instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Music Today 1

(9-12) Music Today....and Yesterday is a two-part class designed to help students better comprehend our heritage, culture, and the music creating process, through a historically-oriented study of Western Art, Music, Jazz, and Popular Contemporary music. Activities include analyzing musical compositions, studying music through recorded media, and researching various artists, often in group presentations. Music Today 1 will focus primarily on learning to read and comprehend printed music, understanding the music making process and the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary music periods.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Music Today 2

(9-12) This semester class will focus primarily on American art forms including Jazz, Musical Theater, and Rock. Students will still work on some of the concepts learned in Music Today1.

Prerequisite: "C" or better in Music Today 1

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Concert Band

(9-12) The focus of this class is to develop instrumental techniques, using a wide spectrum of wind band literature. The class will include elements of music theory, historical and cultural context, and connections to other disciplines. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory and formal performance attire is required.

Prerequisite: Open to all students with previous music experience on a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument or students developing a second instrument.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Orchestra

(9-12) The focus of the class is to develop string and instrumental ensemble techniques. A variety of orchestra literature will be covered. Previous string experience is encouraged. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory and formal performance attire is required.

Prerequisite: All String players are welcome. Wind and Percussion instruments by audition/consent of instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Symphonic Band

(10-12) The focus of this class is a continuation of intermediate/advanced instrumental techniques using a wide spectrum of intermediate/advanced wind band literature. This class will include a more in depth study of musical elements, historical and cultural context, and connections to other disciplines. 9th graders are welcome to audition. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory and formal performance attire is required.

Prerequisite: Audition/consent of instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Wind Ensemble

(10-12) The focus of this class is a continuation of advanced instrumental techniques using a wide spectrum of advanced wind ensemble literature. This class will include an advanced study of musical elements, historical and cultural context, and connections to other disciplines. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory and formal performance attire is required.

Prerequisite: Audition/consent of instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Jazz Band

(9-12) This is considered an intermediate jazz course. Students must have prior experience on a traditional jazz instrument: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, bass, electric guitar or drum set. The class will include elements of jazz theory, historical and cultural context, and connections to other disciplines. Introduction and enhancement of improvisation skills and techniques will be covered. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory and formal performance attire is required.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of audition process

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Jazz Ensemble

(10-12) This is considered an advanced jazz course. The class will include advanced elements of jazz theory, historical and cultural context, and connections to other disciplines. Advanced improvisation skills and techniques will be utilized. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory and formal performance attire is required.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of audition process

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Marching and Auxiliary Program (Fall Semester)

(9-12) The focus of the class is to develop instrumental techniques, using a wide spectrum of marching band literature. The class will include elements of movement and performance skills. This group will represent the school at school, community and regional events. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory.

Prerequisite: All musicians welcome. Auxiliary by audition.

This course is NOT CSU/UC certified.

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Mixed Chorus

(9-12) Do you want to learn how to sing? This entry-level choir is open to all students wishing to learn the fundamentals of good singing technique and basic musicianship. No previous singing experience is necessary and no audition is required, however students must accurately match pitch. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory. A performance outfit may be required.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Men's Ensemble

Grades 9-12. This beginning level class is open to all men who wish to sing and develop a joy for music. They will learn the basics and fundamentals of good singing and musicianship. No prior experience and no audition is necessary, however students must accurately match pitch. Literature includes classical repertoire, folk songs, pop and jazz. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory. A performance outfit may be required.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: SRVHS

Women's Ensemble

Grades 9-12. This beginning level class is open to all women who wish to sing and develop a joy for music. They will learn the basics and fundamentals of good singing and musicianship. No prior experience and no audition is necessary, however students must accurately match pitch. Literature includes classical repertoire, folk songs, pop and jazz. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory. A performance outfit may be required.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: SRVHS

Concert Choir

Grades 10-12. This class is an intermediate vocal music course. Students will expand their mastery of music fundamentals, vocal technique, and historical/cultural perspectives of choral music. Students are exposed to a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory. This class may take performance related tours. A formal performance outfit may be required.

Prerequisite: Audition or consent of the instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Chamber Singers

Grades 10-12. This group is an advanced ensemble of dedicated and committed students. Members are expected to understand and master music theory, sight-reading, and sing complex music in a variety of genres and performance styles. This group performs extensively throughout the year and a formal performance outfit is required.

Prerequisite: Audition or consent of the instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Treble Choir

Grades 10-12. Members of this intermediate level class continue their vocal development, appreciation of music and music reading skills. This group sings more complex music than that of the beginning level choirs. Participation in regularly scheduled co-curricular performances is mandatory. A performance uniform is required.

Audition or consent of the instructor

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Madrigal Singers

(10-12) Madrigal Singers will study and perform music from the 13th-17th-century European Vocal Tradition. Emphasis will be on performance styles, social/historical references, popular dress, and dance styles. This class will perform at all scheduled concerts including extra community events. In the spring, this class will participate in the CMEA Festival Season (competitively) and tour with Chamber Singers/Concert Choir. Formal attire is required for performances.

Prerequisite: By consent of instructor and audition

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

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THEATRE ARTS

Oral Interpretation

Oral Interpretation is the art of reading, analyzing and interpreting drama, prose, and poetry through the use of voice and body. This course will offer students opportunities to interpret published works as well as to study rhetoric to create and enhance their own works for performance. Students will also be critically assessing and analyzing oral interpretations by professional performers and speakers. In addition, the course offers students a chance to perform outside the classroom at community and school sponsored events. Students will do extensive research and may be required to attend and participate in at least two outside speech contests per semester.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: SRVHS

Theatre Arts 1

This course is an exploration in voice, diction, and movement. You will perform improvisations, pantomime and scenes in order to develop acting and public speaking skills. Class work includes, but is not limited to, the study of method acting, auditioning techniques, performing comedy, stage dialects, and styles of acting.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: All

Theatre Arts 2

Students with a commitment to excellence in theatre will continue more advanced studies of acting techniques, advanced improvisation, and theatre history. Students will create short productions for a final exam performance that reflects the skills and techniques learned.

Prerequisite: Completion of Theatre Arts 1 with a grade of C or better.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Theatre Arts 3

To qualify for theatre Arts 3, a student must have basic and/or technical skills and a willingness to make a commitment to excellence in theatre. This class includes, but is not limited to, the study of method acting, auditioning techniques, performing comedy, stage dialects, and styles in acting. Students will create a production for a final exam performance that reflects the skills and techniques learned during the year.

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts 1-2 and permission of instructor (audition requirement).

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Theatre Arts 4

Students learn all aspects of producing a play, including directing, acting, scene design, construction, costume, sound, and lighting design. Makeup, properties acquisition, construction, publicity, and design are also surveyed. Students will perform and/or assist with two productions and compete in local theatre competitions. Class may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite: Completion of Theatre Arts 1 and 2 with a C or better and audition.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: SRVHS

Theatre Productions

This course investigates technical theatre as a professional vocation. Stage design, lighting design, and sound design are accented while costume design, makeup design, and general properties design are surveyed. Stage management is a major focus of this course. A general knowledge of theatre is required.

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts 1 and permission of instructor.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: DVHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Play Production (ROP)

Students learn all aspects of producing a play including directing, acting, scene design, construction, costume, sound, and lighting design. Makeup, properties acquisition, construction, and publicity design are surveyed also. Students will perform and/or assist with two productions and compete in local theatre competitions. Class may be repeated once for credit.

Prerequisite: Completion of Theatre Arts 1 and 2 with a C or better and audition.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: CHS

Performing Art Production Assistant

(10-12) This course is designed for Intermediate to Advanced students in dance, theatre art, vocal or instrumental music interested in developing skills in directing and producing shows. Fine arts credit only.

Prerequisite: Teacher approval for placement is required.

School: All

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CTE/ELECTIVES/NON-DEPARTMENTAL**

****Check with counselor to see if your school's course is ROP qualified.**

Academic Enrichment

(9-12) Academic Enrichment is a course that focuses on study skills, learning strategies, writing skills, note taking strategies, vocabulary development and academic goal setting.

Prerequisite: Teacher and counselor recommendation.

School: DVHS

Alternative Fuels/Vehicles

(10-12) This course will be an exploration of the use of alternative fuels and of the evolution of the alternative fuel powered automobile. There will be various group projects which will lead to the design of an electrically powered robot.

School: SRVHS

Auto 1

(9-12) This course combines theory and practical applications of automotive technology to acquaint the student with the tools and equipment of the trade. The student need not drive a car to benefit. Systems covered include engines, transmissions, final drives, brakes and clutches. The majority of the class time will be committed to hands on learning in the shop. The course is directed toward students who want a working knowledge of their personal auto as well as toward those who are pursuing a career in automotive technology.

School: SRVHS

Auto 2 (ROP)

A continuation of Auto 1, this course is an expansion of the principles and skills already learned. The rest of the systems of the modern automobile are covered. The emphasis is on learning the shop environment. The course is directed toward students who want to round out their knowledge of automotive technology.

School: SRVHS

Auto Technology

This course prepares the student for entry-level employment and provides the knowledge and skills required to enter into advanced training in the automotive field. The course follows ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) guidelines and includes engine repair, fuel delivery systems, wheel alignment, computer control, air conditioning, electrical systems, brake service and repair, front-end repair, diagnostic equipment and technical reading and writing. Integrated throughout the course are career preparation standards which include basic academic skills, communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving, workplace safety, technology and employment literacy.

School: SRVHS

AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination

Grades 9-12. AVID is a year-long program that helps prepare students in the middle with potential for success in rigorous secondary curriculum for four-year college eligibility. It is an academic elective program based on writing as a tool of learning, inquiry method, and collaborative grouping. The three main components of the program are academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities. **AVID Senior Seminar for seniors does meet the UC and CSU “g” elective requirement.**

Prerequisite: Teacher and counselor recommendation

School: CHS, DVHS

AVID Tutor

(10-12) AVID Tutor is a one year elective course for student tutors in the AVID elective program. Students will tutor five to seven AVID students at least twice a week during the tutorial portion of the AVID elective class, and assist the teacher in providing academic and organizational skills to students. The tutors are expected to be able to help in at least three academic subjects in which they have been successful in an Honors or Advanced Placement level. These could include World Languages, Language Arts, Mathematics, Sciences, and Social Studies. Tutors will receive instruction and training using the inquiry method that encourages higher level thinking by students. These tutors may provide tutorial support in other academic courses.

Prerequisite: Students must complete an application for the course.

School: CHS, DVHS

Biomedical Sciences (Principles of)

9-12) This course is part of the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences Academy. In this course, students will explore the concepts of human medicine and be introduced to research processes and to bioinformatics. Hands-on Projects enable students to investigate human body systems and various health conditions, including heart disease, diabetes, sickle-cell disease, hypercholesterolemia, and infectious diseases.

CSU/UC: approval pending

School: CHS

Business Economics (Introduction to)

(10-12) This survey course provides an introduction to the study of the modern business enterprise. Included will be an examination of the role of business in a market economy; the evolution, formation, and management of American and international operations; the financial, legal, and environmental issues affecting business decisions; the use of information and technology in business decision-making; and the part marketing plays in developing pricing, promoting and distributing products.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: MVHS

Career Exploration (Semester)

In this course students will learn the required skills, training, potential pay and working conditions of various careers. A career plan will be completed with the use of skills analysis and student interests. By exploring a variety of different careers and taking advantage of some of the personality instruments currently available, students will tighten the focus of their educational goals and objectives. A variety of mediums will be used to explore different careers, including internet, print media, and informational interviews.

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Careers in Teaching (ROP)

This entry level course is designed to provide students with knowledge of career opportunities in the field of teaching and other school site educational professions. Active class participation is enhanced by field work at school sites under the guidance of a mentor teacher. All students are required to observe and/or participate in a variety of settings and classrooms at the primary/elementary, middle/junior high and secondary levels. The course helps prepare students for entry into college or university teacher training programs.

School: All, MVHS-Not ROP

Child Development 1

(10-12) We will explore the social, emotional, and physical development of children from conception to the toddler years. Focus will be placed on prenatal care, month-by-month prenatal development, baby safety, care and feeding of infants, the psychological developments of children from birth to the toddler years, and discipline issues. During the class each student will take a "Baby Think it Over" simulator to care for. This experience is designed to simulate what it would be like to be a teen parent. The final is an observation and lesson-planning activity with a toddler playgroup.

School: CHS

Child Development 2

(10-12) We will explore the social, emotional, and physical development of children from the preschool years to late adolescence. Focus will be placed on parenting skills, discipline, child safety, child abuse and neglect, puberty, and the teen years. During the class, students will teach a lesson to elementary age children and demonstrate their knowledge of a specific subject area. The final will include a group presentation of the knowledge they have gained from the class. You do not need to take Child Development 1 to be in this class. There is no "Baby Think It Over" during this class.

School: CHS

Computer Applications (ROP)

This competency-based course provides comprehensive instruction in word processing and other office skills, preparing students for entry level positions in a business office. Learning options include Windows file management and the standard Microsoft Office programs. Also included are internet skills. There is a review of general office procedures, business communication and job search preparation.

School: CHS, SRVHS

Computer 1 (Semester)

(9-12) College bound students need a working knowledge of computer software in order to be successful throughout college and into the work place. Additionally, all college bound students need a strong keyboarding skill (speed and accuracy). Take this course to develop both your keyboarding skill and your command for integrating technology in your life. Throughout this course you will learn to master the #1 Word Processing software; MS Word. Skills in creating, editing and formatting reports for college, resume writing, desktop publishing are all skills included in this course.

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Computer Systems Maintenance

In this class, students will learn the architecture of computers by assembling, upgrading and repairing computers. Students will learn the technical aspects of computer hardware, how to install operating systems and application software. Emphasis is on teamwork and developing problem solving skills.

School: MVHS

Internet/HTML

(9-12) (Internet is 1st semester/HTML is 2nd semester)

Internet: This course focuses on how to utilize computer application programs and the Internet to support your work in and outside the classroom. Students will learn to communicate on the web, move and copy data on the web, do data and file searches, and use the Internet to perform in depth research.

HTML: This course is designed to allow students to begin creating HTML documents and then extend their knowledge of programming and applications. Students will develop HTML documents in support of the complete web site.

Prerequisite: Must pass Internet course or competency exam demonstrating application and computer operation skills.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: MVHS

VS.NET

(9-12) This is the year-long beginning level programming class for students who have little programming experience. Students will learn to use the Visual Studio NET programming environment. Students will develop algorithms while programming in languages such as C#, J#, and Visual Basic. This beginning level course concentrates on logic and analytical thinking skills and is recommended for students who want to investigate computer programming, plan on a business, math, or science major, or are preparing for the AP Computer Science Courses.

Perquisite: Must pass an introductory computer course or the competency exam demonstrating application and computer operation skills.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: MVHS

Java Programming (Semester)

(9-12) This course is a friendly introduction to computer programming and it prepares students for the year-long Advanced Placement Computer Science course. Although students learn to program in the Java Language, most of the concepts learned apply to other programming languages. Topics include program development pseudocode, variables, data types and operators, selection flow control, repetition flow control, methods, strings, arrays and graphics.

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra 1

CSU/UC: "g"

School: SRVHS, MVHS

Java Programming AP

In this class, students learn Java and object-oriented programming language. Instruction includes problem solving and algorithm development, as well as data structures and design. This course is designed to provide the skills for an entry-level position in computer programming or provide a foundation for further studies in computer science at the college level.

Prerequisite: VS.net at MVHS only

School: DVHS, MVHS-(ROP)

Computer 2 (Semester)

(9-12) Students will learn to integrate software applications of word processing, desktop publishing, databases, and spreadsheets, and do beginning programming. Students will also learn the Internet.

Prerequisite: Recommend Computer 1 and experience using computers at the introductory level.

CSU/UC: "g" requirement

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Computer Integrated Manufacturing (ROP) (Project Lead the Way)

(11) This course is part of the Project Lead the Way Engineering Academy. In this course students will learn automated manufacturing concepts by creating three-dimension designs with modeling software and producing models of their designs on computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine tools. The topics covered include machine tool operation, industrial practices, tool motion, CNC programming, simulations, prototyping, robotics and manufacturing systems.

CSU/UC: approval pending

School: CHS

Multimedia (ROP)

Students will learn basic skills for combining text, video, graphics, animation and sound to create multimedia presentations that can be used in business, publishing, marketing, teaching or on the internet.

CSU/UC: "F"

School: SRVHS

Culinary Arts I and II (Semester)

(9-12) These semester classes are designed to help students build skills in beginning and advanced food preparation. Both classes include activities associated with food preparation, which aid students to understand a good diet and create interesting and creative food. Students will gain increased knowledge of food techniques, kitchen sanitation, equipment, career information, and consumer information.

School: CHS, SRVHS

Culinary Arts 1 (Year)

(9-12) This course is designed to give basic knowledge to the beginning cooking student. It covers a wide range of foods from omelets and crêpes to pizza and lasagna. There are practical food labs in which you cook at least three times a week. Learn many helpful cooking hints, including how to prepare foods for yourself as well as a fantastic meal for your guests.

School: DVHS, MVHS

Culinary Arts 2 (Year)

(10-12) This course is designed for the experienced cooking student. Students learn to prepare and serve gourmet meals, study the specifics of meat, poultry, yeast breads, pies, pasta and foreign foods. Students may repeat this course for credit.

Prerequisite: Culinary Arts 1 or teacher permission.

School: DVHS, MVHS

(Culinary) Gourmet Foods

(10-12) This is a semester class for the more advanced food student. A serious but fun approach including field trips to cooking academies and processing plants, guest chefs, Cordon Bleu French cuisine, exotic foreign flavors, American heritage, and soul food. Provides skills in technical knowledge necessary for those considering a career in the increasingly important field of food technology.

School: CHS

Developmental Psychology of Children (ROP)

This course is a study of the developmental stages of children from conception through adolescence. It offers both a theoretical and applied academic foundation to the components of psychology, including cognitive development, biosocial development and psychosocial development. Students have the opportunity for research, clinical observation and application through an internship or practicum in a preschool or elementary school setting.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: MVHS

Engineering Design and Development (Project Lead the Way)

(9-12) This course is part of the Project Lead the Way Engineering Academy. In this capstone course, teams of students will work together to design and construct solutions to engineering problems. Emphasis will be placed on research methods, design problem statement, continuous improvement, cost analysis, prototyping, testing methods, project construction and project presentation. The student's final project will include all supporting documentation, drawings, test evaluations, a parts list and commentary to describe the theory, operation, and purpose of their project.

Pending CSU/UC approval

School: CHS

Engineering (Introduction to) (Project Lead the Way)

(9-12) This course is part of the Project Lead the Way Engineering Academy. In this course, students will gain a basic understanding of the design process used in engineering fields and the application of computer modeling software. Emphasis is placed on the design process, geometric relationships, visualization, technical sketching, modeling documentation, assemblies and production processes. Students will apply the design process to solve problems by improving existing products, inventing new ones, and communicating the details of the product to others.

Pending CSU/UC approval

School: CHS

Engineering (Principles of) (Project Lead the Way)

(10) This course is part of the Project Lead the Way Engineering Academy. In this course, students will explore technology systems and engineering processes to learn how math, science and technology help people. The topics introduced include the design process, communication and documentation, engineering systems, statics, properties of materials, quality assurance, materials testing, and engineering for reliability. Through student activities, projects, and problems students will explore the wide variety of careers in engineering and technology and examine various technology systems and manufacturing processes.

Pending CSU/UC approval

School: CHS

Engineering (Introduction to) (ROP)

(11-12) This course is designed to provide students who are interested in pursuing careers in engineering early exposure to engineering and its links to science. As engineering is interdisciplinary, this course embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. This is a project-based course, where students will develop their critical thinking skills by designing and performing experiments that simulate real-world engineering experiences.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Engineering (Principles of) (ROP)

This course explores the interaction of science and technology. Students are introduced to different types of engineering (mechanical, civil, electrical, computer, and chemical) as well as the underlying mathematics and scientific concepts associated with these disciplines. Using the design team as a model, students work in small groups to research, design, and construct engineering projects. Students will deepen their understanding of science by building on their knowledge of physics and mathematics and by conducting investigative research. Included is instruction in the history of engineering and the scientific theory behind technological advances in civilization.

School: DVHS

Fashion and Interior Design

(9-12) The semester long class will help you develop and discover your creative ability while learning about the fashion and interior design industries. Students will learn about fashion design, merchandising, clothing construction, interior design, furnishings, architecture, and décor.

School: CHS

Fashion Merchandising (ROP)

(11-12) This course is designed for students with a career goal in the field of fashion merchandising, marketing or management. Instruction in the concept areas of advertising, communications, display/visual merchandising, management, marketing, operations and product technology will provide students with a foundation in all aspects of the fashion industry. Individual research projects and portfolios will be designed and exhibited.

School: CHS

Fire Science (ROP)

(11-12) This course prepares students for entry-level positions in the fire fighting industry. Instruction includes fire science, use of firefighting equipment, methods of rescue, emergency procedures and fire department organization. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a practice interview for firefighters by taking a written test, physical ability test and oral exam.

School: CHS

Health

(9-12) This course examines the scientific knowledge and human behavior as it relates to major health issues and behaviors. Through lectures, readings, group projects, collaborative learning videos, and guest speakers, we will explore a variety of topics pertaining to physical, emotional, and social health. The course topics include: self-esteem, abstinence, substance abuse (drug, alcohol and tobacco education), CPR and first aid, fitness, nutrition, STD's (HIV), family life, personality, decision-making, body systems, and growth and development.

School: All

Human Body Systems

(9-12) This course is part of the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences Academy. In this course, students examine the processes, structures, and interactions of the human body systems to learn how they work together to maintain homeostasis and good health. Using real-world cases, students take the role of biomedical professionals and work together to solve medical mysteries.

CSU/UC: Pending.

School: CHS

Journalism (ROP)

Students expand their English/Language Arts skills through creating and publishing the school newspaper and posting stories on the school newspaper web site. Students practice varied forms of journalistic writing including news, features and sports stories, as well as reviews and editorials.

Meets UC and CSU "g" Elective requirement

Prerequisite: English II

School: MVHS

Journalism (Not ROP) (Semester)

(9-12) Through the exploration and analysis of all types of journalistic writing, students will become aware of the purposes and responsibilities of the professional journalist. They will learn about the vast scope and influence of the mass media and develop basic news writing skills. This course does require that the student write on a variety of topics and journalistic styles. This course is highly recommended as a prerequisite for those students hoping to join the Newspaper class.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: CHS, SRVHS

Leadership

(9-12) The Leadership/Student Council class is the student council and student activities center. All class officers and ASB officers are elected to leadership. A number of other positions are open to students through an application process. Positions for the upcoming school year are filled during spring of the previous year. Students are responsible for the activities and spirit of the student body. Leadership students must have a willingness to serve the student body as well as set a positive example to fellow students and the community. The goal of the leadership class is to develop the skills necessary for students to fulfill the duties of their positions and to become effective leaders in the future. The course gives students an opportunity to work with their peers, school staff, and community members in order to promote a positive school experience and develop a school community of which we can be proud.

Prerequisite: Election or appointment.

School: All

Life Skills (Semester)

(10-12) This semester course is designed for students who want to learn more about life beyond high school and what it takes to succeed when living "on your own". You will learn about goals, budgeting, credit cards, college, careers, housing, health, nutrition, parenting and relationships.

School: CHS

Marketing and Merchandising (ROP)

(11-12) This course prepares students for entry-level positions in the retail marketing and merchandising industry. It combines instruction with paid or unpaid internship training in local businesses. Instruction includes sales techniques, customer relations, cashiering, inventory control, an overview of the retail industry and marketing economics. Special emphasis is placed on customer service skills.

School: CHS

Mock Trial

(9-12) Mock Trial is a project-based course. Students learn the basics of a criminal case and then focus on one particular case to reenact. Students act as attorneys, witnesses, and supporters. They create and practice direct examinations, cross-examinations, opening and closing statements, and objections. After-school time is required to compete in the Contra Costa County Mock Trial Competition in February, but most other work is done in class.

School: CHS

Newspaper (ROP)

(10-12) This year-long course will produce the student newspaper. There will be an emphasis on basic skills of journalism including reporting, writing, editing and layout. Some after school time is required.

Prerequisite: Teacher permission and interview or completed Journalism

CSU/UC: "g"

School: CHS, SRVHS-(Not ROP)

Peer/Link

(10-12) Students will learn communication skills including listening, paraphrasing, assertiveness, barriers that block communication, nonverbal communication, attending behaviors, empathy, questioning skills and "I" statements. Students will also learn "Thrival" skills: anger management, respecting others, conflict resolution skills, problem-solving, management of feelings, understanding one's own personality, decision-making, and development of emotional intelligence. These skills will be used to provide students support in the areas of conflict management, helping new students, mentoring, and teaching communication skills throughout the school and local community. Link Crew students will be involved with incoming 9th grade activities.

Prerequisite: Application, interview, and selection process

School: MVHS

Reading Strategies 180

(9) Reading strategies with an emphasis on non-fiction literature. Strategies include: critical and deductive reasoning practice through the use of context clues, previewing techniques, comparison and contrast, cause and effect relationships, etc. Vocabulary development skills include root word comprehension and phonics and the use of the SCHOLASTIC READ 180 interactive reading skills program.

Prerequisite: Enrollment determined by score on annual assessment testing and/or teacher recommendation.

School: CHS

Recording Studio [Digital Recording Studio] (ROP)

In this class, students learn the process of recording—from live performance to CD. Students will have hands-on training in the studio, gaining a working knowledge of the equipment, including computer equipment and recording software. Students wishing to train as studio musicians learn the important aspects of that career and do a minimum of seven live performances per year. Students gain experience in recording, mixing down, and burning CD music projects.

Prerequisites: Prior musical background is helpful

School: MVHS, SRVHS

Robots/Vehicles (Building Basic)

(9-12) This semester course provides a hands-on experience to build and test robots. It will introduce basic robotic applications using computers and Lego kits. The VEXKIT will also be introduced. Catch the robotics revolution!

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1

School: CHS, MVHS, SRVHS

Robotics Engineering Technology (ROP)

This course explores the interaction of science and technology. Students will apply the scientific method and build on physics and mathematical concepts. Using the engineering design team concept as a model, students work in small groups to research, design, program and construct robotic devices used in competition.

Prerequisites: Algebra, Geometry. Recommended: Computer programming, architectural design or physics

CSU/UC: "g"

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Speech and Debate

(9-12) This course content involves the study and performance of public speaking. Students will also be given the opportunity to participate in dramatic and humorous interpretation. Students will learn the fundamentals of public speaking through the study and performance of a wide variety of speeches. Students will participate in committees, research topics of current interest, and write and debate bills in a mock congress. Students will also write and deliver speeches on a variety of subjects (i.e. campaign, graduation, acceptance, persuasive, dramatic, humorous, newscast, pet peeve, etc.) Tournament competition is encouraged but not a requirement of the course.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Speech 2

Speech 2 will give students extended practice in the major speech forms: expository, persuasive, debate, impromptu, congress, and literary interpretation. Speech 2 is also specifically designed to prepare students for speech competition. Students will be critically assessing and analyzing speeches as well as debating and discussing relevant issues with their peers. Students will work on research, organizational skills and technology to improve their communication skills. Students will be required to participate in at least two outside speech contests per semester. Does not meet the English requirement for graduation.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Oral Interpretation and/or teacher permission.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: SRVHS

Speech and Debate (Advanced with Debate Emphasis)

(10-12) The course involves the study and performance of public speaking with an emphasis on debate. Students will learn the fundamentals of public speaking through the study and performance of a wide variety of speeches and debates. Students will participate in committees, research topics of current interest, and write and debate bills in a mock congress. Students will also write and deliver speeches on a variety of subjects (i.e., campaign, graduation, acceptance, persuasive, Lincoln-Douglas style debate, parliamentary debate, newscast, etc.) Tournament competition is encouraged but not a requirement of the course.

School: DVHS, MVHS

Speech and Debate (Advanced with Speech Emphasis)

The course content involves the study and performance of public speaking. Students will also be given the opportunity to participate in dramatic and humorous interpretation. Students will learn the fundamentals of public speaking through the study and performance of a wide variety of speeches. Students will participate in committees, research topics of current interest, and write and debate bills in a mock congress. Students will also write and deliver speeches on a variety of subjects (i.e., campaign, graduation, acceptance, persuasive, dramatic, humorous, newscast, pet peeve, etc.) Advanced students are expected but not required to attend tournaments.

CSU/UC: "g"

School: DVHS, MVHS

Sports Medicine (ROP)

This course explores human anatomy and physiology and lays the foundation for further study of these sciences. Students learn how systems of the body function and interact through physical activity. Students taking this class may be eligible for an after-school sports medicine practicum with the school's athletic teams.

Prerequisite: Biology

CSU/UC: "g"

School: All

Sports Medicine [Advanced] (ROP)

This class provides a framework of advanced skills for understanding functional anatomy and kinesiology, building on the concepts learned in Sports Medicine. The lecture/lab format focuses on clinical hands-on applications of theory and knowledge, including evaluation, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of athletic injuries. Internship opportunities are available at after-school athletic events and working with other health care professionals.

Prerequisite: Biology, Sports Medicine

School: All

Teacher Aide

(11-12) Teaching assistants are used by teachers in all fields to help in organization and preparation of materials, small group work, tutoring, clerical duties, etc.

Prerequisite: Teacher permission.

School: All

Television Production

Television Production students acquire the technical skills to produce content for broadcast television. Students practice reporting, shooting and editing news segments as a part of school news programs and talk shows. Teams of students will also produce a variety of video in public service announcements, action and comedy shorts.

School: MVHS

Video Broadcasting ROP

(11-12) This is an advanced video production class in which students build upon previously acquired skills and work together to create a news and entertainment magazine for TV, which can be broadcast through the school network, through a local community channel, or uploaded to the Internet. The class structure mimics the workplace environment of a broadcasting studio by creating job titles in which students specialize to produce the show. Students fulfill all roles of a broadcasting studio, including production manager, lead story editor, audio engineer, special effects and graphic designer, acquisition manager, tape logger, promotion and commercial developer, producer, writer, correspondent, camera operator, and editor. By meeting together as a group to produce a product, the students learn what it's like to produce a TV show in a working broadcast environment. This competency-based course prepares students for entry-level positions in the broadcasting industry, as well as preparing them for advanced communication studies at the postsecondary level. Integrated throughout the course are career technical education standards which include basic academic skills, communication, career planning, technology, problem solving, safety, responsibility, ethics, teamwork, and technical knowledge.

CSU/UC: "g" approval pending

School: CHS

Work Experience

(11-12) This course enables students to earn 5 credits for a combination of one class period of weekly instruction and a minimum of 10 hours per week of work experience. Class attendance, assignments, and documented hours are required for credit. Instructor will visit each work site two times during the semester for evaluation purposes. Instruction includes issues such as business planning, labor issues, careers, searching for a job, business management, health, safety, etc.

Prerequisite: Must have a part-time job (cannot be self-employed).

School: All

Yearbook (Year)

Students in this class are responsible for the production of a high quality yearbook. Students enrolled will perform tasks of reporting, copywriting, word processing, graphic design, photography and desktop publishing. Selection into this course will be based on submittal of an application form. You will learn skills basic to the assembly of a publication: data gathering, layout, design, accurate writing, teamwork and above all the meaning of the words commitment and deadlines.

Prerequisite: Teacher permission; application required at MVHS

School: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS (10-12), MVHS (9-12)

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE 9 (Year)

A required course for all 9th graders. An orientation and introduction to high school physical education. Activities will align with the State Standards and Framework, level 1 in the fall and level 2 in the spring. Level 1 Standards include aquatics, rhythms/dance, individual and dual activities, and fitness. Level 2 Standards include combative, gymnastic/tumbling, team activities and fitness. This course will include the State Fitness Gram in the spring.

Schools: All

Students scoring below the State standards on 2 or more of the Fitness Gram tests will be required to enroll in a Physical Education Course in 10th grade

Aquatic Certification

Fall/Spring. This course will provide certification in the areas of Lifeguard Training, First Aid, and CPR for the Professional Rescuer. Students who apply for lifeguard positions will benefit from this class along with students who want to have the knowledge of basic safety skills in these areas.

Prerequisite: Must be 15 years of age, be able to swim 500 yards using crawl stroke with rhythmic breathing, breast stroke using pull, breath, kick and glide method, and swim 20 yards, surface dive 7-10 feet to retrieve a 10 lb. object from bottom of pool and return to surface, swim 20 yards to starting point with object and exit the water without using a ladder or steps all within 1:40 time. Have some knowledge of lifeguard training, first aid, and CPR.

School: SRVHS

Badminton

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. Students will be given the opportunity to improve their badminton skills and knowledge. This course may consist of doubles and singles format as well as conditioning as needed to improve badminton strategies.

Schools: MVHS, DVHS

Basketball

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. This is a highly structured disciplined co-ed program designed to improve skills specific to ball handling, shooting, offense and defense in basketball. This class will include conditioning specific to preparing students for an advanced level of competition.

School: CHS, SRVHS

Body Boot Camp

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. Combines weight lifting and aerobic exercise. This course will give students the opportunity to develop cardio respiratory efficiency, muscular strength and endurance and flexibility through a variety of activities. This course is designed to help students shape their bodies through exercise, to be physically fit and lead a healthy lifestyle.

Schools: CHS, DVHS, MVHS

Cardio Fitness

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. Combination of aerobic activities including warm-up techniques, high and low impact aerobics, step training, flexibility exercises, hand-held weights resistance training and specific muscle group work designed for both men and women. May include cardio walking off campus.

Schools: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

****Dance Classes are listed under fine arts and may be used for either Fine Arts or PE credit. Please consult your counselor.**

Kickboxing

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. This course is designed to provide an introduction to basic kickboxing techniques (Muay Thai). Students will be given the opportunity to improve fitness, discipline and self-confidence and be introduced to different cultures.

Schools: MVHS

Net Sports

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. This course will provide students with the opportunity to learn skills and techniques in a variety of net games. Emphasis will be placed on team, partner and individual strategy and may include badminton, tennis, volleyball and pickle ball.

Schools: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Power Walking

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. Students will be given the opportunity to learn how power walking can increase cardiovascular endurance and encourage mental well being.

Schools: DVHS, MVHS

Sports Conditioning

Fall/Spring. This co-ed course provides student athletes with general conditioning concepts and activities, as well as sport specific training techniques and practices.

School: All

Team Sports

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. Students will be given the opportunity to learn the skills and techniques of a variety of team sports through participation. Sports may include flag football, indoor/outdoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, softball, hockey and ultimate Frisbee. Emphasis will be placed on sportsmanship and team strategy.

Schools: CHS, DVHS, SRVHS

Tennis

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring. This course is designed to instruct students in the fundamentals of tennis strokes and serves. Basic rules and scoring will be covered as well as tournament play.

Schools: CHS, DVHS

Weights

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring This course will provide instruction for students with little or no experience, as well as opportunities for intermediate-advanced level students to develop individualized lifting programs. Students will receive instruction in lifting techniques, spotting, and breathing techniques. The curriculum may include Olympic lifting techniques, plyometrics, and a variety of movement activities.

Schools: All

Yoga

(10 – 12) Fall/Spring Presents selected exercises from yoga techniques, which allow the student to increase his/her efficiency, and quality of living through improved breathing patterns, habits of relaxation, and posture that contribute to the development of strength, flexibility, balance and coordination. The program may include power walking.

Schools: All

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SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students who are eligible for special education, and have a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP), may receive special education services in a variety of ways: in a general education class with support from a special education teacher, in a tutorial or academic success class taught by a special education teacher, individually or in a small group in a special education classroom with a special education teacher for a part of a school day, or in a Special Day Class (SDC) with core academics taught by a special education teacher. Scheduling for any of these options is based on the services outlined in a student's IEP and coordinated by the student's special education case manager in conjunction with the counseling office.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA)

The NCAA certifies the academic and amateur credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics. All students must register with the NCAA initial - Eligibility Clearinghouse. Students must register at end of junior year and submit a final transcript upon graduation.

NCAA Division I Freshman - Eligibility Standards

All students must register with the NCAA initial - Eligibility Clearinghouse. Students must register at end of junior year and submit a final transcript upon graduation.

Obtain guidelines at www.ncaa.org.

Obtain forms at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net to obtain forms and to register on-line.

Changes in the Division I initial-eligibility index, or sliding scale. Check the website for the scale.

The 16 core course rule increases the number of core courses from 14 to 16. Students must complete three years of Mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher), and four years of additional core courses. The additional core course may be taken in any area: English, Mathematics, Natural/Physical Science, Social Science, World Languages or Non doctrinal Religion/Philosophy. The breakdown of the requirements is listed below.

DIVISION I

16 Core Courses:

4 years of English
3 years of mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher)
2 years of natural/physical science
(1 year of lab if offered by high school)
1 year additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
2 years Social Science
4 years of additional courses (from any area above or World Languages, non doctrinal religion/philosophy, computer science*).

DIVISION II

14 Core Courses:

3 years of English
2 years of mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher)
2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical Science
2 years of Social Science
3 years of additional courses (from any area above or World Languages, non doctrinal religion/philosophy, computer science*).

If you have questions about NCAA eligibility, please log on to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

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