

2018-2019 Course Selection Guide

Requirements for South Carolina State Diploma

English	4 units
Math	4 units
Science	3 units
Biology 1 unit	
Two other sciences	
Social Studies	
US History	1 unit
US Government	½ unit
Economics	½ unit
Other Social Studies	1 unit
Physical Education or ROTC (including health)	1 unit
World Language or Occupational Education	1 unit
Computer Science	1 unit
Electives	7 units
TOTAL	24 units

Mission

The mission of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities is to serve artistically gifted high school students of South Carolina through programs of pre-professional instruction in an environment of artistic and academic excellence. The school is a resource for all teachers and students in South Carolina.

College Admission Requirements

Students who plan to attend college or other post-secondary schools should consult catalogs of colleges to assure they are choosing the right courses. Typically, colleges expect students to take as many academic courses in English, social studies, mathematics, and science as possible. The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, in partnership with the state's public colleges and universities, has developed new prerequisites for college admission.

These changes are designed to help ensure that students are better able to meet the needs of an increasingly dynamic and complicated society. Entering college students must be prepared as never before to undertake rigorous academic coursework at South Carolina's colleges and universities.

4 Units of English: Completion of English I, II, III, and IV or AP Lang/Comp and AP Lit/Comp. College Prep will also meet this criterion.

3 Units of Mathematics: These include Algebra I (Math Tech I and II can count together as a substitute if student completes Algebra II), Algebra II, and Geometry. A fourth higher-level mathematics course is strongly recommended.

3 Units of Laboratory Science: 2 units must be taken from different fields and selected from among Biology, Chemistry, or Physics. The third unit can be from the same field as one of the first two units or from any laboratory science for which biology and/or chemistry is a prerequisite. Courses in earth science, general physical science, or introductory or general environmental science for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement.

2 Units of the Same World Language: 3 units are strongly recommended because some colleges require three units.

3 Units of Social Science: 1 unit of U.S. History; a half unit in Government and a half unit in Economics are required. World History or another history elective is recommended.

1 Unit of Physical Education or ROTC

4 Units of Electives: These must be taken from 3 different fields from Computer Science, English, Fine Arts, Foreign Languages, Humanities, Laboratory Science (excluding earth science, physical science, environmental science or other science courses for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite), Mathematics above Algebra II, and Social Sciences. It is suggested that one unit be in Computer Science which includes programming and one unit in Fine Arts (appreciation of, history, or performance).

Advanced Placement

Through Advanced Placement courses, students may earn college credit and/or advanced standing at many colleges by earning a certain score on Advanced Placement Tests, which are offered by the College Board in May of each school year. To prepare for these tests, students may take one or more of the following Advanced Placement courses:

Art History • Biology • Calculus (AB)
English Language & Composition
English Literature & Composition • Environmental Science
European History • French
General Art Portfolio • Human Geography
Music Theory • Spanish • Statistics • U.S. History

Since the state of South Carolina pays the fee charged for each test, **students must take the examination if they are enrolled in the course.** Students interested in Advanced Placement may obtain further information from their teachers and counselors. (Not all AP courses are offered every year.)

Honors Courses

Honors courses may be offered at any grade level in the core courses: English, math, science, and social studies. Honors courses in other content areas may be designated if the students enrolled in the course will earn their third and/or fourth Carnegie unit in the content area. The “content area” may be defined by the local school district but will at least include visual and performing arts, vocational education, and world language.

Withdrawal from Courses

- Students and parents need to choose courses carefully. There are new guidelines that outline consequences for students who withdraw from a course.
- With the first day of enrollment as the baseline, students who withdraw from a course within 3 days in a 45-day course, 5 days in a 90-day course, or 10 days in a 180-day course will do so without penalty.
- Students who withdraw from a course after the specified time of 3 days in a 45-day course, 5 days in a 90-day course, or 10 days in a 180-day course shall be assigned a WF and the F (as a 52%) will be calculated in the student’s overall grade point average/ratio.
- The 3-, 5-, and 10-day limitations for withdrawing from a course without penalty do not apply to course or course level changes initiated by the administration of a school.

Students may retake the same course at the same difficulty level under the following conditions:

- Only courses in which a grade of a D or F was earned may be retaken. The student may retake the course during the current year or during the next school year, but not later than the second year.
- Due to the unique scope and sequence of our curriculum, it may not be possible to repeat some courses, particularly those imbedded in other classes, such as humanities and specific arts courses.
- The student’s record will reflect all courses taken and the grade earned, with the following exception:

Students taking courses for a Carnegie unit prior to their ninth grade year may retake any such course during their ninth grade year. In this case, only the ninth grade retake grade will be used in figuring the student’s GPR and only the ninth grade attempt will show on the transcript. This rule will apply whether the grade earned is higher or lower than the pre-ninth grade attempt.

Academics

English

10 Point South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep	Honors	Dual Credit AP/IB
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

Honors or CP English II/III

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10

In addition to fulfilling the state curriculum standards for English II/III, students will read, discuss and write about works of literature primarily by authors from around the world writing in English, including those from, but not limited to, England, Ireland, India, the Caribbean, and Africa. Foundational texts in translation, such as ancient Greek tragedy, will also shape the curriculum, as well as other texts of interest with thematic connections. In conjunction with these primary texts, students will explore films and other visual media, “reading” their visual and structural elements. All selections alternate from year to year, so students who take both English I and II will have the opportunity to read works from a range of authors and periods. Students taking English I are required to take a state-mandated end-of-course exam which counts 20% of the final grade.

Honors or CP English III/IV

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: English I and II

In addition to fulfilling the state curriculum standards for English III/IV, this course asks students to read, discuss, and write about a variety of literary forms by authors from a range of historical and cultural perspectives. The course will emphasize broad global and artistic contexts of literature, and often takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of literature. Class work is differentiated for individual students at CP and Honors levels, and students will have flexibility about changing levels in the early weeks of the course.

AP English Language and Composition

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisites: Grade of B or better in English II or III Honors

This seminar will provide regular close reading and writing practice connected to a course of study in literature from a variety of historical and cultural perspectives. Many of the readings in the course are non-fiction, in order to prepare students for the types of readings and analytical, expository writing they will find on the AP exam and in the college writing courses for which it awards credit. In addition to the prerequisite above, students considering this course should keep in mind the intensity of its demands and the rigors of the AP exam in May.

Honors English IV/V

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: English I, II, and III

In addition to fulfilling the state curriculum standards for English IV, this advanced course involves students in reading, discussing, and writing about a variety of literary forms and authors from diverse cultures and periods. Special topics may also be offered, depending on student interest and faculty load. These may include film studies, single-author studies, popular culture and literary art, and digital forms of

communication. Whatever the topic, the course will take an interdisciplinary approach, exploring literature in the context of history, culture, other works of art, and artistic movements. English V elective credit will be awarded to students taking this course who have already earned the state's four minimum English credits. Seniors applying to competitive colleges, conservatories, universities, and art schools are strongly encouraged to take English (AP Literature or English V) or another course that will continue their growth and practice as readers and writers in their senior year.

AP English Literature and Composition

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Grade of B or better in English III Honors, or English IV Honors, or teacher recommendation

This seminar provides regular practice with AP essay prompts connected to a course of study in world literature, which includes an emphasis on genre study (fiction, poetry, and drama). Through discussion and regular (daily) writing, the class will also provide intensive preparation for the exam in AP English Literature and Composition. In addition to the prerequisite above, students should keep in mind the intensity of a college-level English class and the rigors of the AP exam.

Mathematics

The TI-84 is used in all math courses at the Governor's School. Technology is an important part of each course taught in high school and the calculator is used on a daily basis. It is recommended that each student own a calculator. All textbooks and supplementary materials are written for the TI-84 calculator.

CP Algebra II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-11

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Algebra II is the study of functions. It is designed to prepare students to use advanced algebraic concepts and skills confidently in higher mathematics. Students will use traditional methods as well as technology to explore functions and their graphs. Problem solving and critical thinking skills will be incorporated throughout the course.

Honors Algebra II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-11

Prerequisite: Algebra I with math teacher recommendation or Algebra I Honors

This is an honors-level course for students who have been highly successful in Algebra I or Algebra I Honors and who are candidates for AP Calculus. This course will be a more extensive study of the algebraic concepts traditionally covered in Algebra II and includes the study of polynomial functions. Students will work with more intensity and produce more complex and difficult material.

Honors Geometry

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-11

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors or Algebra I with math teacher recommendation

This course utilizes mathematical proof in the development of two- and three-dimensional geometric concepts and properties. Other topics include angle measurements and relationships, line relationships, properties of polygons and solids, similarity and congruence, the Pythagorean relationship, circles and constructions, area, volume, and transformations. This honors-level course is for candidates for AP Calculus.

CP Precalculus

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisites: Geometry, Algebra II

Precalculus focuses on the development of the student's ability to understand and apply the study of functions and advanced mathematics concepts to solve problems. The course will include a thorough study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions.

Honors Precalculus

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisites: Geometry Honors and Algebra II Honors or Geometry and Algebra II with math teacher recommendation

Honors Precalculus focuses on the development of the student's ability to understand and apply the study of functions and advanced mathematics concepts to solve problems. The course will include an in-depth study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Other topics that may be studied are sequences, series, vectors, conic sections, parametric equations, and an introduction to calculus. This honors-level course is for candidates for AP Calculus.

AP Calculus AB

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: Honors Precalculus or math teacher recommendation

This is a course for the mathematically gifted student capable of college-level work. This course focuses on limits, differentiation and integration of elementary functions. The course outline reflects the content currently recommended by the College Entrance Examination Board. Students enrolled in the course are required to take the AP Calculus Exam in the spring.

CP Probability and Statistics

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Algebra II

Probability and Statistics is a course in which students learn the fundamental principles of probability and statistics and apply these principles to data analysis. Students will be encouraged to utilize the skills emphasized in this course through projects, investigations, case studies, and other appropriate methods. The students will work with sets of data to perform analyses and summarize the results; examine ways to organize and display data and draw conclusions about relationships that may exist in data sets.

AP Statistics

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisites: Geometry Honors and Algebra 2 Honors

This is a college level mathematics course for students who have been highly successful in Algebra 2 Honors. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools of elementary statistics as they collect, analyze, and draw conclusions from data. Students will have extensive opportunities to explore data, plan studies, anticipate patterns, and use statistical inference. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP statistics exam in May.

Science

Honors Biology

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra I

In this course, students explore questions about the living world by examining the levels of organization that define life, from the cell to entire ecosystems. Topics will include the chemical foundations of biology, the cellular basis of life, Mendelian and molecular genetics, evolution and ecology. Students taking this course are required to take a state-mandated end-of-course exam which will count as 20% of the final grade.

AP Biology

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisites: Chemistry 1 Honors, Biology 1 Honors, and approval of teacher. Physics 1 Honors is also recommended.

In this course, students explore questions about the living world by examining the levels of organization that define life, from the cell to entire ecosystems. Topics will include the chemical foundations of biology, the cellular basis of life, Mendelian and molecular genetics, evolution and ecology.

CP Chemistry

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II CP

In this course, students will explore the materials of the universe and the changes these materials undergo. The application of problem-solving skills to real-world problems using chemical concepts will be emphasized. Topics will include naming chemical compounds, writing chemical equations, stoichiometry, modern atomic theory, chemical bonding, states of matter, and acid-base chemistry.

Honors Chemistry

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II Honors

In this course, students will explore the materials of the universe and the changes these materials undergo. The applications of advanced problem-solving skills to real-world problems using chemical concepts will be emphasized. Topics will include naming chemical compounds, writing chemical equations, stoichiometry, modern atomic theory, chemical bonding, states of matter, and acid-base chemistry. Students interested in AP Chemistry or science-based college majors should take Honors Chemistry.

Honors Physics

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II Honors

This honors-level course focuses on the basic principles which determine the interactions between matter and energy with extensive laboratory work. The course includes topics on mechanics, electricity, magnetism, thermodynamics, optics, sound, and an introduction to quantum physics. Students in this course will gain a basic knowledge of physics which they can build on in future college classes.

CP Environmental Science

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisites: Biology I and CP Chemistry I

This course is designed to promote an understanding of human impact on the environment. The course includes physical and chemical properties, living systems, and inter-relationships. The course provides opportunities for student participation, research, field testing, experimentation, and decision making. Please note the Commission on Higher Education considers this a rigorous, upper level course and not an introductory class. To provide students with the proper rigorous background needed in the class, the prerequisites are Biology 1 AND Chemistry 1.

AP Environmental Science

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisites: Biology 1, Chemistry 1

The AP Environmental Science course provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the relationship of organisms in nature, to analyze environmental problems and to search for a solution for these problems. This course will be offered on alternating years.

Marine Science H

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 9-12

Prerequisites: Biology 1, Chemistry 1

This honors-level course involves oceanographic studies with emphasis on geology and physiology of the ocean. Research on topics such as: over fishing, endangered species, legislation, environmental management of shorelines, etc. Students will have the opportunity to learn and research about the ocean through required readings and field studies. The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education accepts this course as a science course for college admission with the prerequisites of Biology 1 and Chemistry 1. Students in this course will be required to work with more intensity, at a deeper level, and produce a wider range of more complex material. This course will be offered on alternating years.

Social Studies

Honors United States History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

As specified by the South Carolina curriculum standards, this survey course begins with the colonial period and continues through the present day, integrating both the political

and cultural history of the United States. Students will also research and create an American history project on a topic approved by the teacher. The class prepares students for the state-mandated end-of-course exam in U.S. History that all students take in May.

AP United States History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: Minimum B average in English and social studies courses

This course is the equivalent of a college survey course in U.S. History and prepares students for the AP U.S. History Exam in May. Emphasis is placed upon the analysis of primary documents and the writing of historical essays. Students who enroll in this demanding course must be willing to complete extensive reading and writing assignments; there is an average of one hour of preparation for each class meeting. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

Honors Economics

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Levels: 11-12

Economics is an introductory course focusing on fundamental theories and principles. Key concepts associated with both microeconomics and macroeconomics are introduced; these concepts include economic systems, the relationship of supply and demand, the role of government, and monetary policy. Topics related to personal financial literacy are also included in the course.

Honors American Government

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Levels: 11-12

American Government is an introductory course to the American governmental system. Areas of emphasis include the Constitution, electoral process, functions of the three branches of government, and the role of state and local governments.

AP US Government and Politics

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: It is strongly recommended that students take US History prior to enrollment or be enrolled concurrently in US History. This is a first semester course; students are expected to enroll in Honors Economics for second semester.

AP US Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.

Honors Holocaust Seminar

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

This course will take a close look at the darkest crime of

the Twentieth Century: the attempt by the Nazis to systematically destroy an entire group of humans, the Jews. The roots and causes of anti-Semitism will be explored as well as the tragic results. Included in the course are lessons on Jewish culture with a broad sweep of Jewish history and Judaism. The course concludes by comparing the Holocaust with other genocides, and a special emphasis will be placed upon preventing genocide today.

AP European History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: Minimum of B average in English and social studies classes

This course is the equivalent of a college-level survey of European History from the Renaissance through the present day. Students will gain a greater understanding of factors that have shaped European society. Emphasis will be placed on analysis of primary documents and the writing of historical essays. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

AP Human Geography

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: Minimum of B average in English and Social Studies courses

This course is designed to provide students with the equivalent of a college introductory course to Human Geography. The course provides a systematic study of human geography, including the following topics: Nature and Perspectives on Geography; Population; Cultural Patterns and Processes; Political Organization of Space; Agricultural and Rural Land Use; Industrialization and Economic Development; Cities and Urban Land Use; Globalization. Focusing on these ideas will help students understand spatial interaction and behavior, use of the earth and its resources, political organization of space, human settlement patterns, globalization and the growth of urbanization. The use of maps and the significance of mental maps will be emphasized in the course. Using documents and other primary data, students will develop writing and analytical skills necessary to analyze point of view, context, and bias, and to understand and interpret information. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

World Languages

CP French II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: Completion of French I with a grade of C or higher

This course continues the skill development begun in Level I. Oral communication continues to be emphasized. Students use the present, past, and future tenses in level-appropriate Standards-based activities. The target language is used as much as possible.

Honors French III

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in French II and teacher recommendation

This course expands the students' language skills at an advanced pace. Accurate control of language structures is emphasized in written and oral communication. The target language is used almost exclusively.

Honors French IV

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: A grade of B or higher in French III and teacher recommendation

This course emphasizes continuing skill development according to national standards. French is used for all discussions and activities. Enthusiastic class participation is expected.

AP® French Language and Culture

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisites: French III or IV Honors (or equivalent in an immersion setting) and teacher approval.

The AP French Language course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Language exam given by The College Board. Students develop a vocabulary for reading newspapers, periodicals, modern literature, and on-line materials addressing the AP core themes. A wide variety of spoken and written materials is used to enable students to understand French in formal and informal situations and to enhance their abilities to express themselves accurately and resourcefully, both orally and in writing. Exclusive use of French provides an immersion environment within the classroom.

CP Spanish I

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Spanish I is a college preparatory course designed to give students a basic foundation for continuing the study of the Spanish language and associated cultures. This course stresses effective communication in the target language as well as in developing life-long learning skills. The course introduces and facilitates learning basic vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, skills in using resources, and cultural knowledge as a foundation for future study.

CP Spanish II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish I with a grade of C or higher

This course continues the skill development begun in Level I. Emphasis on oral communication is continued. Students use present, past, and future tenses in level-appropriate Standards-based activities.

Honors Spanish III

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in Spanish II and teacher recommendation

This course expands students' language skills at an advanced pace. Accurate control of language structures is emphasized in written and oral communication.

Honors Spanish IV

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: A grade of B or higher in Spanish III and teacher recommendation

This course is designed to challenge students to expand upon and to use the knowledge and skills acquired from the successful completion of Spanish III. Students will be expected to continue to study and reinforce language skills and cultural knowledge and to use complex grammar structures and vocabulary in order to read, write, listen, and communicate verbally and creatively in the target language.

AP® Spanish Language and Culture

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisites: Spanish IV Honors (or equivalent in an immersion setting) and teacher approval.

The AP Spanish Language course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Language exam given by The College Board by focusing on the AP core themes. Students develop proficiencies in the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication. As much as possible, students read and listen to authentic texts from the Spanish-speaking world throughout the class. A wide variety of spoken and written materials is used to enable students to understand Spanish in formal and informal situations and to enhance their abilities to express themselves accurately and resourcefully, both orally and in writing. Exclusive use of Spanish provides an immersion environment within the classroom.

CP-Honors German II-III

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in German I

This course is based on linking language skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking. It also offers insights into the German culture. Since the class is a multi-level class, ranking from German II learners with basic skills to upper level students, various themes will be covered in order to ensure that every student can improve his individual level of proficiency.

Honors German IV

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Prerequisite: A grade of B or higher in German II/III

This advanced course focuses primarily on developing reading and listening skills through a multimedia approach and secondarily on enhancing writing and speaking skills in response to the media texts.

Humanities

Introduction to Humanities

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 10

This course is designed to introduce students to the Governor's School experience and to the interdisciplinary nature of the Humanities curriculum.

Honors Humanities I and II: Contexts and Continuities

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Levels: 11-12

The humanities curriculum highlights connections between and among artistic and academic disciplines. The course focuses on three broad, guiding questions: Who are we as

artists? Why do we do what we do? Why do the arts have value for society? Through a series of readings, discussions, film screenings, guest artists and scholars, panels, and other activities, students will pursue their own answers to these lifelong questions. Juniors take Humanities I, which introduces students to each of our five arts disciplines. Seniors in Humanities II develop and present a PechaKucha talk as a sort of capstone to their SCGSAH experience. Both courses also help students reflect on their experiences in this community.

Required Electives

Physical Education I/Personal Fitness

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

Physical Education I is designed to allow each student the opportunity to develop the knowledge and the skills necessary to maintain a physically active and healthy lifestyle while meeting the required state standards for this course. Students enroll in the SC Virtual School to complete requirements for this course. (More information is available at VirtualSC.org.)

Exploring Computer Science

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-12

This course of study is designed to allow students to explore a variety of computer science topics such as Web design, human computer interactions, programming, and problem solving. Optional topics include mobile applications, robotics, and digital animation. Students will develop critical thinking, logic, and problem solving skills relevant to today's technology. Microsoft Office will be used to give students an opportunity to develop skills in word processing (WORD), spreadsheets (EXCEL), and presentations (POWERPOINT).

Electives

Honors Music History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

Prerequisite: Open to non-music students with permission of instructor

Please see Music section for course description.

Honors Art History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Open to non-visual arts students with permission of instructor

Please see Visual Arts section for course description.

AP Art History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Open to non-music students with permission of instructor

Please see Visual Arts section for course description.

Arts

Creative Writing

Honors Poetry I

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

This course is designed to explore the art of writing poetry, focusing on the elements most relevant to poets writing today and presented from the point of view of practicing poets. Included is an examination of poetic diction, rhythm, metered and free verse, figurative language and symbols, tone, meaning and idea. This introductory course involves extensive reading, writing, and informal critique. Students are exposed to the works of such poets as Mary Oliver, Ross Gay, Safia Elhillo, Richard Hugo, Carrie Fountain, Larry Levis, and Nate Marshall.

Honors Poetry II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

In this course, students continue to explore voice, tone, and form. Students read contemporary poets who are relevant to the craft needs of each student. Poetry I is focused upon exploring and discovering voice and, thus, content; in this course, greater attention is placed upon musical and formal poetic elements. Students create and develop a sixteen-page portfolio of poems that incorporates their developed voices, along with a sophisticated understanding of both music and form.

Honors Fiction I

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

This course focuses on the elements of the short story and includes a wide reading of accomplished fiction writers, daily writing, and both group and individual critique. The course emphasizes theme and its formulation, plot, characterization, atmosphere, symbolism, point of view, dialogue, and aspects of style. Students read fiction by Tim Gautreaux, Flannery O'Connor, Raymond Carver, Tim O'Brien, Tobias Wolff, and Lorie Moore, among others.

Honors Fiction II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

This course emphasizes the development of individual voice and style through daily writing. It includes reading relevant works and writing reviews and stories, keeping journals, extensive revision, discussion, and analysis.

Honors Creative Nonfiction I

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

This course focuses on self-discovery and includes portraits, encounters, and memoirs, along with the more traditional personal essay. Works read and discussed include selections from Chuck Kosterman, Annie Dillard, David Sedaris, Joan Didion, Tracy Kidder, and Ian Frazier.

Honors Creative Nonfiction II

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

A continuation of Creative Nonfiction I, this course pays

close attention to voice, style, and tone. There is also a focus on the extended essay, with an emphasis on revision. Students read, analyze, and interpret contemporary essayists such as Susan Orlean, John McPhee, and Bruce Chatwin, among others.

Honors Writing for Media

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 11

This class is designed so that students learn various forms and processes of writing that have developed online. By utilizing web texts—from popular blogs to online journals—students will both strengthen their writing skills and explore ways to bridge the gap between hyperspace and the printed page. Texts include *Blogger's Boot Camp* by John Biggs and Charlie White; *Will Write for Food: The Complete Guide to Writing Blogs* by Diane Jacob; *How to Blog a Book* by Nina Amir; and *Meaty: Essays* by Samantha Irby.

Honors Screenwriting I

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 12

Students discover what it means to write for film, with an emphasis on developing an original idea they can expand into a full-length script. In addition to learning the process of screenwriting and the structure of a typical script, students will read and analyze screenplays by writers such as William Goldman, Alan Ball, Robert Benton, Robert Towne, and Bo Goldman.

Honors Intensives

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Levels: 11-12

Junior and Senior Intensives are end-of-the-year short courses (7-8 class days each), rotating between fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and screenwriting. Students are expected to complete a single project—at the instructor's discretion during each intensive. These courses are designed to test the students' attention to craft and their ability to meet a deadline in a tight time frame.

Dance

Honors Ballet Technique

Unit Credit: 2

Grade Levels: 10-12

An intense course of study based upon long-established concepts and ideas taken from the Vaganova, Cecchetti, R.A.D. and Cuban schools. Students develop the physical and mental coordination, the refined sense of music and movement, and the muscular strength and flexibility necessary for a successful professional career in dance.

Honors Pointe Technique/Variation/Partnering/ Pas De Deux

Unit Credit: .45

Grade Levels: 10

Unit Credit: .45

Grade Level: 11

Unit Credit: 1.5

Grade Level: Ballet Program 12

Unit Credit: .25

Grade Level: Modern Program 12

One of the defining elements of classical ballet, Pointe Technique focuses on acquiring strength in order to create lightness and elegance.

The B class students learn to dance on pointe with ease and elegance and to use basic vocabulary relative to various

positions of the body, arms, and head.

The A class students work toward gaining a solid understanding and control of the technique in order to perform demanding combinations with ease and intricate coordination.

Ballet Variation classes provide an opportunity for students to learn a variety of classical and contemporary solo works. Great attention is given to clean execution and transitions of movements, sense of style, and musicality. In addition to developing rehearsal skills, they will gain valuable insight into the performance process and will broaden their perspective on the history of each variation, deepening their engagement with the role.

In Partnering, using contact improvisation and weight sharing exercises, students will develop an understanding of where to find support on a partner's body, how to make one's body easiest to support, and how to invite cooperation in a lift or other moment of shared weight.

At the discretion of the faculty, students may be invited to attend Pas de Deux classes as an alternative of some Pointe Technique/Variation classes. Due to the potential for physical injury, only the most appropriately conditioned females can participate in these classes.

Honors Men's Technique/Variation/Partnering/ Pas De Deux

Unit Credit: .45

Grade Levels: 10

Unit Credit: .45

Grade Level: 11

Unit Credit: 1.5

Grade Level: Ballet Program 12

Unit Credit: .25

Grade Level: Modern Program 12

In Men's Technique class, students acquire strength, speed, elevation, and the power necessary for batteries, tours, and specialized grand allegro jumps.

Ballet Variation classes provide an opportunity for students to learn a variety of classical and contemporary solo works. Great attention is given to clean execution and transitions of movements, sense of style, and musicality. In addition to developing rehearsal skills, they will gain valuable insight into the performance process and will broaden their perspective on the history of each variation, deepening their engagement with the role.

In Partnering, using contact improvisation and weight sharing exercises, students will develop an understanding of where to find support on a partner's body, how to make one's body easiest to support, and how to invite cooperation in a lift or other moment of shared weight.

Literally the "step of two," Pas de Deux classes are the culmination of a student's training. Pas de Deux training begins with simple promenades, floor work, and basic pirouettes. Eventually, and only when the partners have developed the strength and timing, they can partake in the aerial work such as overhead lifts, throws, and catches.

Due to the potential for physical injury, only the strongest males and the most appropriately conditioned females can participate in these classes.

Honors Modern Dance/Modern Fundamentals/ Contemporary Dance Techniques

Unit Credit: .5 **Grade Levels: 10-11**
Unit Credit: .75 **Grade Level: Ballet Program 12**
Unit Credit: 1 **Grade Level: Modern Program 12**

The Modern Dance/Modern Fundamentals/Contemporary Dance Technique class explores principles formulated by modern dance pioneers such as Jose Limon, Marta Graham, Lester Horton, and Merce Cunningham. The class introduces students to other styles of dance such as Jazz and Hip Hop, and to cultural-based dance forms such as African Dance. The class also addresses kinesthetic awareness, body alignment, centering and weight, quality of movement, dynamics, flow, and use of space. Incorporated into this class is also the study of contemporary music focusing on asymmetrical rhythms and phrasings.

Honors Repertoire

Unit Credit: .4 **Grade Level: 10**
Unit Credit: .45 **Grade Level: 11**
Unit Credit: .75 **Grade Levels: 12**

In Ballet Repertoire, students learn a diverse range of ballet styles from Classical to Romantic, Neoclassical, and Contemporary. In this class, students develop rehearsal skills and learn to adapt to a diverse range of choreography from already established to new, original works.

The Modern Repertoire students learn a diverse range of styles chosen from the modern or contemporary dance styles. In this class, students develop rehearsal skills and learn to adapt to a diverse range of original choreographic works.

Historical Dance and Character

Unit Credit: .25 **Grade Level: 10**

Historical Dances can be found in many classical ballets of the 16th through the 19th centuries. This course focuses on the study of such historical dances as the Allemande, Sarabanda, Romanesco, Minuet, Gavotte, and the Waltz.

Character dance is a stylized representation of traditional folk or National Dance, mostly from European countries, found in Classical Ballet. This course includes the study of Russian, Ukranian, Moldavian, Polish, Hungarian, Spanish, Oriental, and Gypsy dances.

Methodology

Unit Credit: .15 **Grade Levels: 10**

The Methodology course includes the study of terminology of Classical Ballet movements and their correct execution. Students will learn to choreograph class combinations using proper rhythm, meter, and phrasing.

Ballet Coaching/Stretch & Strength

Unit Credit: .15 **Grade Levels: 10**

This Ballet Coaching class helps students gain a greater and deeper understanding of the physicality and artistry involved in ballet technique class. Students work slowly and carefully on concepts such as aplomb/stance, body alignment, and correct skeletal and muscular application to acquire greater strength and flexibility.

Additionally, through careful and informed practice of cardiovascular conditioning and strength and stretch exercises,

students will enhance and supplement their overall fitness and help prevent dance-related injuries.

Improvisation/Composition

Unit Credit: .25 **Grade Level: 11**

Through various structured movement improvisation exercises, students will develop spontaneous movements and exploration skills and gain a broader, freer, and more natural sense of movement. Students will then use problem solving techniques to explore the various facets of dance making.

Career Preparation

Unit Credit: .25 **Grade Level: 11**

In Career Preparation, students will be introduced to methods of researching careers in dance. This will include colleges, schools, conservatories, companies, trainee programs, and summer intensives, as well as related financial aid and scholarship opportunities. We will examine various dance degrees and their practical uses, as well as a variety of dance-related career alternatives. Student reflection papers outlining their goals and aspirations will help define future paths of action. Additionally, students will examine the fundamentals of portfolio preparation and college application/registration.

Pilates

Unit Credit: .15 **Grade Level: 10**

This Pilates-based program emphasizes mat work and the use of small apparatus. Course work will include introduction to the foundational principles, alignment basics, breath work, muscular awareness, the mat work exercises themselves, and the practical application of those exercises.

Pilates and Anatomy for Dancers

Unit Credit: .2 **Grade Level: 11**

This Pilates and Anatomy class emphasizes mat work and the use of small apparatus. Course work will include a continuation from sophomore Pilates of the mat work exercises themselves at an advancing level and their practical application, as well as anatomical and movement analysis of the work. Additional emphasis is given to application of the work in dance and its benefit for injury prevention and care.

Coursework includes the exploration of the practical applications of anatomy in dance through area-specific strength and flexibility exercises, body awareness practice, and alignment/placement correction work. The course works in conjunction with Pilates, Grade Level 11.

Audition Preparation/Senior Showcase

Unit Credit: .25 **Grade Level: 12**

This class prepares students for successful auditions at both the college and the professional levels. Company audition and college application preparation is addressed through individual consultation, personal research, and through coaching of class work material as well as solo performance work.

Seniors will also prepare, with the supervision of the faculty, a studio performance showcasing the various dance-related fields such as dancer, choreographer, costumer, producer, presenter, dance writer, and dance videographer.

Dance History

Unit Credit: .2

Grade Level: 10

Dance History gives the student an overview of the historical and cultural influences that shaped Western Concert Dance. It will explore the development of ballet as well as forces that were influential in the development of modern dance in America.

Music for Dancers: A Dancer's Working Guide to Music

Unit Credit: .15

Grade Level: 11

Music for Dancers serves as an overview of music's essential elements, historical periods, composers, and compositions to offer the dance student a greater understanding of the art form and create a more well-rounded and balanced artist.

Music for Dancers is a year-long course designed to provide SCGSAH dancers a background in music fundamentals. Through lessons in theory, composition, history, and technology, students develop a more thorough understanding of music necessary for the working dancer. Music for Dancers is an interactive course allowing students hands-on experience playing and interpreting rhythm, melody, and harmony while reinforcing connections to previously studied dance curriculum. At the end of the fall term, students will draw upon their full range of skills to deliver a live presentation/performance.

Special Seminars

Unit Credit: Pass/Fail

Grade Level: 10-11

This course emphasizes a concentrated examination of diverse dance-related subject matter to broaden the student's experience and knowledge.

Sophomore: Nutrition, Health and Wellness, and Aspects of Production

Junior: Yoga, Stretch & Strength, Alexandre Technique, and Aspects of Production

Drama

Honors Acting 3A

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

This course begins developing a genuine understanding of the actor's craft, exploring techniques and theories essential to theatrical performance. Students are introduced to the Stanislavski system and exercises of Sanford Meisner, Uta Hagen, Robert Lewis and others. Actors learn to define and identify the components of technique through script analysis. Improvisational exercises emphasize ensemble, commitment, risk, imagination, and intuition. The work culminates in the rehearsal and performance of selected scenes.

Honors Voice and Speech 3A

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 11

This course is devoted to the following topic areas: physical alignment, breathing, vocal production, the anatomy and physiology of the human voice, articulation, an introduction to the International Phonetic Alphabet (Skinner System). In singing class, students begin with folk songs as a means to focus on pitch legato and personalization; music theory is introduced to form a greater context for the entire course of study.

Honors Special Topics 3A

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 11

This course offers experiences not wholly encompassed in traditional acting classes. In the first year, movement forms the primary focus, encouraging flexible, well-conditioned bodies that respond to the creative demands of acting. Topics are drawn from physical conditioning, dance, Pilates, yoga, stage combat, and mask. A separate unit in theatre history establishes a context for all Drama studies.

Honors Acting 3B

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 11

This course expands upon the foundations learned in Acting 3A classes. Actors are challenged to apply their knowledge of acting technique to improvisational situations and non-dramatic material. Text analysis may include playwriting and the investigation of plays from the American realist genre. Students progress toward integrating the analytical and intuitive components of acting through the rehearsal of selected scenes, which are presented in the spring scene showcase.

Honors Voice and Speech 3B

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 11

The second semester builds on the first to create a free, personal, and responsive vocal instrument while layering in work on dramatic and non-dramatic texts. The second half of the semester signals an introduction to classical language and Shakespearean sonnets. Singing class continues the study of fundamentals which students apply to the musical theatre genre.

Honors Special Topics 3B

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 11

This course continues the movement studies begun in the previous semester. As actors develop more responsive instruments, they begin to distinguish between habitual physical expression and more organic, dynamic, and stage worthy responses, while acquiring valuable professional skills. Topics are drawn from physical conditioning, yoga, Pilates, modern dance, tap, stage combat, theatre movement, Suzuki, and mask.

Honors Acting 4A

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

This course encompasses the process of rehearsing and performing a play or theatre project. In rehearsals, students apply physical, vocal, and interpretive skills as they transform themselves into dramatically viable characters. In technical rehearsals, actors learn to incorporate costumes, lighting, scenic elements, and props into their performances, and develop a more comprehensive understanding of the theatrical process. Work culminates in performance before a public audience, as actors synthesize elements of training and rehearsal.

Honors Voice and Speech 4A

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 12

The first semester of the second year applies voice and speech fundamentals to Shakespeare's text. Students learn tools necessary to speak Shakespeare and integrate aspects of acting and voice and speech. Singing studies include vocal

health and the building of repertoire for college and conservatory auditions.

Honors Special Topics 4A

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 12

In the third semester, the course transitions to audition preparation, readying student portfolios for college auditions and national competitions such as YoungArts. Additional topics may include movement studies, dramatic literature, professional aspects, and interdisciplinary projects.

Honors Acting 4B

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 12

This course explores advanced topics in acting. Students broaden their knowledge of the craft as they approach material and projects that make increased demands on their physical, vocal, technical, and imaginative resources. Topics are drawn from contemporary, modern, or classical drama, and may include Chekhov, the Greeks, and other assignments that challenge the actor to integrate all components of the training.

Honors Voice and Speech 4B

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 12

The final semester is devoted to application and synthesis. This takes the form of a language play or project, often from Shakespeare. This is presented at semester's end and effectively culminates the two-year training cycle. Singing studies are often folded into this performance and/or presented in additional demonstrations.

Honors Special Topics 4B

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Level: 12

The final semester of this course introduces the actor to possibilities and potentials which contribute to a successful, lifelong, self-directed pursuit of excellence. Representative topics include audition workshops, stage combat, dance, tai chi, yoga, Suzuki, playwriting, fundamentals of technical theatre, stage management, and original performance projects.

Music

All music students are required to take one year of Music Theory and one year of Music History. In each semester, they are also required to take Individual Applied Music which includes lessons, supporting seminars and master classes, and Ensemble Applied Music which includes large ensembles, chamber music, and Governor's School Choir. Three-year students are required to take Twentieth-Century Music and Music Technology in their third year.

AP/Honors Music Theory

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 10-11

This course is designed to create a foundation for comprehending the basics of written harmony including scales, intervals, harmony, rhythm, and musical analysis. There is also a component of aural skills included with material centering around singing using solfège and numbers, dictation, keyboard skills, and critical listening and analysis.

Honors Music History

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Levels: 11-12

This course is a survey that addresses music history and style in the Western tradition. The course explores the development of musical style placing composers and their music in an historical context. This course progresses chronologically from ancient Greece through the twentieth century. It includes weekly lectures with reading, listening, and writing assignments done outside of class.

Honors Twentieth-Century Music

Unit Credit: ½

Grade Levels: 10-12

This course explores developments in music theory and history as they relate to musical style in the modern era. The course examines twentieth-century compositional techniques and their origins in the late nineteenth century. It includes weekly lectures with reading, listening, analysis, and writing assignments to be done outside class. This course is required for third-year students and open to others by permission of instructor.

Honors Individual Applied Music

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 10-12

Individual Applied Music provides performance training on instruments and voice through a four-part course which includes individual lessons, seminars on literature and techniques for instrument families, master classes for each instrument family, and recital attendance at school-sponsored performances. These course components are combined into one grade for Individual Applied Music.

Lessons: All students receive a one-hour lesson per week on their instrument of specialization.

Master Classes: All music students participate in regular Master Classes in their area of study: piano, strings, brass, winds, percussion, and voice.

Recital Attendance: All music students are required to attend selected departmental performances each semester. The specific events are pre-determined by the department faculty.

Piano Seminar: Explores piano literature from Bach to the Twentieth Century through listening, discussion, and analysis. A second course component develops keyboard skills and technique through study of scales, arpeggios, score reading, transposition, keyboard harmony, and sight reading.

String Seminar: A course designed to explore technical and theoretical topics of interest to string players. Classes include lectures and research as well as demonstrations, performances, and analyses of technical issues.

Vocal Diction and Pedagogy Seminar: Introduces vocal students to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and its system of pronunciation. This system is applied to English, Italian, French, and German languages. The study of vocal technique is also a component of this course.

Wind, Brass, and Percussion Technique Seminars: These are skills-oriented courses designed for students in each area. Each seminar meets twice weekly to develop skills that include technique, articulation, intonation, and ensemble playing. For woodwind, brass, and percussion students.

Honors Ensemble Applied Music

Unit Credit: 2

Grade Levels: 10-12

Ensemble Applied Music provides training in ensemble performance through participation in large ensembles and chamber music. Students of orchestral instruments participate in Concertato String Orchestra or Wind Ensemble as large ensembles and also in chamber music for smaller combinations of instruments. Strings and Winds combine the last third of each semester for a Chamber Orchestra (Sinfonia) concert. Vocalists participate in Cantus Chamber Choir as a conducted ensemble and in Opera Workshop for experience in theatrical literature and performance. Pianists focus on chamber literature for their instrument. Additionally, all music students sing in the Governor's School Choir each semester they are enrolled. The ensembles that give credit for Ensemble Applied Music are:

- Governor's School Choir
- Chamber Choir (Cantus)
- Chamber Orchestra (Sinfonia)
- String Orchestra (Concertato)
- Wind Ensemble
- Chamber Music (Winds, Brass, Percussion, Strings, Harp)
- Opera Workshop
- Piano Ensemble

Music Technology

Unit Credit: ½ unit

Grade Levels: 12

Students will learn about the nature of sound and how it is transformed and modified in physical, electrical, and digital environments. The course will focus on individual and group projects including use of microphones, use of the iPad, working with DAWs, and use of Midi software, instruments, and sound libraries. This course is required for third-year students in their senior year and others by permission of instructor and department chair.

Electives in Music

Unit Credit: ¼ unit

Grade Levels: 11-12

Conducting (fall): This course introduces the fundamentals of conducting. The class focuses on basic conducting patterns, left hand independence, and simple rehearsal techniques. Class participants are expected to demonstrate skills, coordination, interpretation, and leadership.

Jazz Orchestra (fall and spring): Jazz Orchestra is an elective performing ensemble of flexible instrumentation open by audition to all music students. The Jazz Orchestra performs two concerts per year and represents the school in various off-campus events.

Piano Class (fall and spring): Piano Class is an elective keyboard class for students outside the piano area. The class is typically a beginning class for those students with little or no keyboard experience. Students must have completed one semester of music theory and have their private teacher's approval before taking the class.

Visual Arts

Semester I: Foundation Year

Honors Junior 2-D Design

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 11

This course is based in abstract problem-solving assignments that establish, define, and articulate the two-dimensional visual language essential to all visual arts disciplines. Elements, including line, shape, value, and texture, as well as principles such as balance, contrast, surface organization (focus, rhythm, etc.) will be explored as students develop strategies and processes in addressing design. Assorted wet and dry media and a variety of mark-making techniques will be utilized. This course works in conjunction with 3-D Design, Introduction to Graphic Design, Motion Design I, Observational Drawing, and Visual Language to create the core of the first Foundation semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Junior 3-D Design

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 11

Using materials such as wire, cardboard, clay, plaster, and wood, this course introduces the vocabulary and techniques of working three-dimensionally. Physical and tactile aspects of form and space will be investigated, and the concepts of linear and planar relationships, volume, mass, and scale will be explored with potential applications to sculpture, architecture, etc. This course works in conjunction with 2-D Design, Introduction to Graphic Design, Motion Design I, Observational Drawing, and Visual Language to create the core of the first Foundation semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Junior Observational Drawing

Unit Credit: .25, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 11

This drawing course will introduce the student to the tools necessary for strong compositional structure. Investigating line, perspective, and value, classes will integrate foundation elements covered in 2-D and 3-D Design with drawing projects executed from direct observation. Scale, proportion, and spatial relationships will also be explored. This course works in conjunction with 2-D Design, 3-D Design, Introduction to Graphic Design, Motion Design I, and Visual Language to create the core of the first Foundation semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Junior Introduction to Graphic Design

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 11

Graphic design as a form of visual communication will be introduced through topics including process, typography and

letterform, print and package design, and web and app design. Students will practice conceptual exploration, creative development, and presentation skills as they apply design principles through the use of the computer and industry-specific design software as tools for artistic execution, production, and professional presentation. A brief history of graphic design and influential designers of the 20th century will also be covered. This course works in conjunction with 2-D Design, 3-D Design, Motion Design I, Observational Drawing, and Visual Language to create the core of the first Foundation semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques and presentations, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Junior Motion Design I

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

This course is a simple introduction to the concept of sequence- and time-based imagery with a focus on motion as a design element. Classes will build familiarity with some of the foundations of traditional animation including onion-skinning, moving holds, and exposure sheets, while also providing an introduction to Dragonframe and additional software environments, systems, and digital practices. This course works in conjunction with 2-D Design, 3-D Design, Introduction to Graphic Design, Observational Drawing, and Visual Language to create the core of the first Foundation semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, action analyses, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Visual Language: Aesthetics and Theory

Non-Credit: Pass/Fail, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

This course extends the understanding of principles and elements of visual art while developing the use of formal artistic language in discussion and presentation. Classes will explore and analyze a variety of works through readings and assignments and will also provide for discussions and presentations on related art and art-historical topics. Students will apply the language and analytical techniques learned to their own work and prepare for formal presentation at semester review. This course works in conjunction with 2-D Design, 3-D Design, Introduction to Graphic Design, Motion Design I, and Observational Drawing to create the core of the first Foundation semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, participation in discussions and analyses, presentations, and graded assignments.

Semester II: Foundation Year

Honors Junior Painting and Color Theory

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

This course will introduce the student to the concepts, materials, and techniques of painting in acrylic with assignments directed toward a systematic study of color and its interactions while students learn strategies, systems, and sequences in

solving structured painting problems in a variety of formats. Thumbnail sketches and preliminary studies will be emphasized as part of the painting process as students complete perceptual assignments on subject matter including the still life, the landscape, and the cityscape.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the spring semester jury.

Honors Junior Sculpture

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

This course will investigate approaches to the sculptural process while developing a vocabulary for the articulation of sculptural elements. Basic techniques will be explored in an iterative process as students apply 3-D design principles to representational and abstracted projects executed in various media. The tradition of the figure will be used as a foundation for the understanding of form while reinforcing ideas shared with the Junior Life Drawing course.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the spring semester jury.

Honors Junior Motion Design II

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

The second semester of motion design applies the foundation and techniques of Motion Design I in creating believable and expressive movement. Timing/tempo and spacing will remain a continued focus in course content as students integrate fundamental 2-D and 3-D design concepts into temporally-focused and/or motion-based projects. Exercises may be accompanied by screenings, oral presentations, and/or written analyses of film or media.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, action analyses, graded assignments/portfolio, and the spring semester jury.

Honors 2-D Studio: Photography and Printmaking

Unit Credit: .5, two 9-week units **Grade Level: 11**

2-D Studio extends the skills and abstract thinking acquired in first-semester courses through studio intensives in the disciplines of photography and printmaking. Photography students will gain fluency with photographic materials and basic darkroom techniques; printmaking students will explore methods of relief printmaking and etching. Each studio unit will be nine weeks long. Intensive investigation in either area can be pursued in a subsequent senior elective.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the spring semester jury.

Honors 3-D Studio: Ceramics and Metals

Unit Credit: .5, two 9-week units **Grade Level: 11**

3-D Studio introduces the student to the areas of ceramics and metals, integrating the visual language acquired in first-semester design courses in individual material practices.

Ceramics will expose students to various forming, surfacing, and firing techniques; Metals will engage in the design, tools, and techniques of metalworking. Intensive investigation in either area can be pursued in a subsequent senior elective.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the spring semester jury.

Honors Junior Life Drawing

Non-Credit: Pass/Fail, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

This course builds upon Observational Drawing and focuses on the continued development of drawing skills through drawing from the model. Anatomy and proportional relationships will be emphasized as students continue work in dry and wet media in studies, sketches, and extended projects.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the spring semester jury.

Career Preparation

Non-Credit: Pass/Fail, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 11**

This course, through guest artists, media lectures, and guided sessions, introduces students to the methods and resources of researching career paths and higher educational opportunities. Relevant topics such as applications, financial aid, resumes and curricula vitae, and scholarship opportunities are also extensively addressed as students learn professional practices in digitally documenting their own work. The research and skills gained in Career Preparation will serve as the basis for continued development in Portfolio Preparation during the following semester.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, evaluation of quality and amount of research in careers and educational opportunities, appropriate documentation of work, and the preparation of a resume and work images.

Semester III: Senior Year

Note: *Visual Arts students considering a Senior Concentration in a specific studio discipline must have taken the prerequisite studio in the senior fall semester. For studio areas not specifically defined (film, industrial design, bookmaking, etc.), students should select an appropriate studio in preparation (i.e., photography and/or animation for film, sculpture and/or metals for industrial design, printmaking for bookmaking, etc.) Senior Concentration eligibility is determined by the Visual Arts Department Chair.*

Honors Senior Animation, Senior Painting, or Senior Sculpture

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 12**

Animation: Senior Animation provides the opportunity to explore a deeper understanding of weight, balance, anticipation, and follow-through by introducing hinged puppets and jointed figures. Using 2-D and 3-D assets, students will create simple narratives to communicate a concept. Emphasis will remain on moving elements while introducing additional

techniques such as color correction, keying, and compositing.

Painting: Senior Painting elaborates on the concepts and skills addressed in Junior Painting. The still life, the landscape, and the figure will serve as primary subject matter as students continue to expand their painting vocabulary in oil and other media. This course will also emphasize the study of work by contemporary and historical painters with attention to research and technique.

Sculpture: Senior Sculpture capitalizes on the techniques of Junior Sculpture with deeper investigation into sculptural issues of content, analysis, conceptual development, and the physical manifestation of the three-dimensional art object. Projects and course content will be related to both traditional and contemporary sculpture alongside greater exploration of its context, place, and relevance in contemporary culture.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Senior Life Drawing

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 12**

This advanced drawing course builds upon the junior year drawing courses with a continued emphasis on drawing from direct observation. Projects and assignments in wet, dry, and mixed media will continue to engage and examine the critical role of drawing in visual thinking as students visually explore spatial and conceptual relationships.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Senior 2-D Studio Elective (Fall)

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks **Grade Level: 12**

The 2-D Elective allows for more advanced study of one of the 2-D introductions offered in the junior year. One of the following three areas of study may be selected:

Graphic Design: The continued use of design principles and further development of design research, process, and presentation skills will be applied through a focus on identity design and branding. Greater familiarity with Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign will accompany the crafting of printed materials and brand expressions.

Printmaking: Intaglio and relief printmaking techniques will be revisited and expanded upon in this extension of Junior Printmaking Studio. Typesetting and the use of a Vandercook proofing press will also be covered.

Photography: Both the 35 mm camera and digital camera will be used as students are introduced to camera operation, film exposure, and black-and-white darkroom processes to further personal exploration in the medium. Photographic principles and history will also be covered.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Honors Senior 3-D Studio Elective (Fall)

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 12

Techniques and concepts encountered in 3-D Design and Studios will be elaborated upon and expanded. One of the following three areas of study may be selected:

Architecture: The process of developing, communicating, and applying 3-D design ideas for functional buildings/objects will be explored in this course. Visual and verbal presentation of architectural ideas in drawing, design, and 3-D prototype model projects will be supported by guest professional visits. This course is only available in the fall semester.

Ceramics: Further exploration in handbuilding, surface decoration, and firing methods will be accompanied by an introduction to the potter's wheel in Senior Ceramics. Additional techniques such as slip-casting and press-molding may be introduced as students expand their expressive and technical vocabulary in clay.

Metals: A variety of fabrication and casting techniques will be explored in jewelry and metalworking projects geared to formal language and personal expression.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the fall semester jury.

Portfolio Preparation & Themes of Contemporary Art

Non-Credit: Pass/Fail, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 12

Portfolio Preparation advances the skills and research established in Career Preparation with a focus on the artist portfolio and undergraduate application. Students will receive continued instruction in art preparation, formal self-presentation, and digital documentation with resulting images and materials providing a foundation for other future opportunities. Students will also be introduced to contemporary art themes through readings and discussion. College presentations and accompanying portfolio reviews will also occur as permitted by schedule.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance in class, National Portfolio Day, and related events; completion of readings and associated assignments/discussions; high-quality documentation of work; updated professional documents; college application or the equivalent thereof; and the fall semester jury.

Semester IV: Senior Year

Honors Senior Concentration

Unit Credit: 1, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 12

This course engages students in an advanced area of focused study with the creation of a personal body of conceptual work. Emphasis will be placed on the considered development of technical and aesthetic awareness in the work while supported by research, references, and writings accomplished in the Senior Research Methods for the Artist course. Faculty mentors assigned according to studio will inform both of these processes and provide guidance in the student-driven progression and execution of the work. Concentrations may be conducted in one of animation, architecture, art history, ceramics, drawing, film, graphic design, illustration, industrial/3-D design, metals/jewelry,

painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, or another faculty-approved area.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, individual and group critiques, periodic review of research and studio work, concentration proposals and presentation, and the final semester jury.

Honors Senior 2-D/3-D Studio Elective (Spring)

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 12

This course will present an opportunity of continued study in a two-dimensional or three-dimensional art form. Students may select one studio from ceramics, printmaking, graphic design, metals, or photography, with the exclusion of any studio electives already taken in the fall semester of senior year. (Refer to the descriptions above.)

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the final semester jury.

Honors Senior Drawing

Unit Credit: .5, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 12

Building upon the skills, concepts, and techniques from the previous semesters, this advanced drawing course continues development and refinement of observational drawing skills with an emphasis on the figure and topics relating to portraiture. Projects, class critiques, and group discussion will all encourage greater consideration of the experience of drawing and its critical role in visual thinking.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, graded assignments/portfolio, and the final semester jury.

Honors Senior Research Methods for the Artist

Non-Credit: Pass/Fail, 18 weeks

Grade Level: 12

Research Methods for the Artist supports the work of Senior Concentration through a semester-long course dedicated to research, writing, and revision. Students will be introduced to new research methods with the goal of greater exploration, awareness, and understanding of their selected area while also learning to present the results of this cumulative process in both discussion and formal written language. A paper complete with an annotated bibliography will be the result of the semester's work to be provided with the body of work accomplished in Senior Concentration.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance and periodic review of research progress and written materials.

Bronze Casting

Non-Credit, Optional: Pass/Fail, 18 wks Grade Level: 12

Bronze Casting provides students with an introduction to the processes of working with cast bronze. Techniques including basic wax working, spruing and venting, and ceramic shell investing will be covered through the creation of a relief tile and 3-D form. Students intending to take this course must submit a request to the instructor.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in studio work and discussion, group critiques, and graded assignments/portfolio.

Advanced Placement Art History

Unit Credit: 1, 36 weeks

Grade Level: 12

Open to non-art students with permission of instructor

This course is designed to provide students with the equivalent of a college introductory course to Art History. This course will focus on an overview of Global art, beginning with ancient civilizations up to today. The course will engage the art of western and non-western cultures focusing on the form, function, content, and context of 250 western and non-western artworks. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in discussion, written assignments, quizzes, essays, and exams.

Honors Art History

Unit Credit: 1, 36 weeks

Grade Level: 12

Open to non-art students with permission of instructor.

This course is designed to provide students with the equivalent of a college introductory course to Art History. This course will focus on an overview of Global art, beginning with ancient civilizations up to today. The course will engage the art of western and non-western cultures focusing on the form, function, content, and context of 250 western and non-western artworks.

Assessment and performance criteria will include attendance, student participation in discussion, written assignments, quizzes, essays, and exams.

Plan Your
2018-2019 School Year
