

San Tan Charter School

2019-2020

Course Description Catalog



PEOPLE + PROCESS + POSSIBILITIES

3232 S. Power Road • Gilbert, AZ 85234
Office 480-222-0811 • Fax 480-809-6467
www.SanTanCharterSchool.com

San Tan Charter School

Course Description Catalog

Corporate Board

Dr. Kristofer Sippel, President
Ms. Rita Sippel, School Board Vice-President
Mr. Mike Endready, Corporate Board Secretary
Mr. Sam Tomlin, Corporate Board Treasurer
Mr. Terry Fong, Corporate Board Member
Father Tom Enneking, Corporate Board Member

School Board

Dr. Kristofer Sippel, Board President
Ms. Rita Sippel, School Board Vice-President
Ms. Barbara Wahlman, Corporate Board Secretary
Ms. Carol Page, Staff Representative
Ms. Kristen Walker, Parent Representative
Ms. Sarah Laramie, Teacher Representative

Administration

Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent – Dr. Kristofer Sippel – ksippel@santancs.com
Assistant Superintendent – Ms. Rita Sippel – rsippel@santancs.com
Secondary School Principal – Ms. Marlene Armstrong – marmstrong@santancs.com
Secondary School Assistant Principal – Mr. Brandon Tauscher – btauscher@santancs.com
Guidance Counselor – Ms. Brooke Taylor – btaylor@santancs.com
Student Achievement Coordinator – Ms. Michelle Tischer – mtischer@santancs.com
Registrar – Ms. Christine Gray – cgray@santancs.com



Dear Roadrunners:

If you ask any student what makes San Tan Charter School special, their first response would be the community. As a community we work together to develop students academically, physically and emotionally. In just a short time San Tan has grown and developed into a college preparatory school that offers a rigorous program that includes Advanced Placement, Honors and dual enrollment classes.

San Tan Charter School recognizes the importance of academic excellence while staying true to our belief of developing the entire student through youth programs, sports and the thrill of competition. We have an excellent athletic program and are building a top-notch art and theater program.

At San Tan Charter School, academic excellence is more than just achieving good grades. It is about maximizing a student's intellectual development through a strong course of study, and vast opportunities to participate in Honors and other enrichment programs. It is about instilling self-confidence, encouraging hard work and providing opportunities for leadership by offering challenging electives and stimulating clubs. At San Tan Charter School, academic excellence is our trademark. We believe that an intimate, small-school environment best allows you to develop as an individual student and preparing you for great success during your college years.

Beyond the classroom, opportunities abound for you to develop your talents and step outside your comfort zone. We are building a long-standing tradition to prepare well-rounded students in mind, body and soul. From athletics, to community service, to fine arts programs and clubs, San Tan provides a safe, supportive environment to develop your passions and leadership skills.

San Tan's focus on preparing students for the next level is reflected not only in our teaching styles and methods, but also in our *One to One* technology policy, which mirrors the computer use found at most colleges.

Step out of your comfort zone and try new things! Play football and act in a play? Sure! Tinker with robotics and sing in the choir? Why not!

We are all Roadrunners!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marlene K. Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ms. Marlene K. Armstrong, M.Ed.
Principal, Power Campus
San Tan Charter School

Table of Contents

Guidance & Counseling

- Services..... 7
- ECAP..... 7
- Parent Portal..... 8
- Courses Offered 8

Graduation Requirements and University Standards

- Requirements Chart 8
- End of Course Assessments 9
- Preparation for University 10
- Career & Technical Education/Fine Arts Requirement 10

Policies/Procedures

- Class Standing & Graduation Requirements 8
- Credits 9
 - Credit Minimums 9
 - Middle School Students in High School Courses 11
 - Repeating Courses 11
 - Correspondence Courses 11
 - Online Courses 11
 - Independent Study 11
 - Student Aide 11
 - Internships 11
 - Course Sequencing & Credits 11
 - College Courses for High School Credit 11
 - Testing out for Credit Process 12
 - Transfer Credit & Evaluation of Transcripts 12
 - Late Enrollment 12
 - Drop/Add Courses 12
 - School Attendance 12

Scheduling Procedures

- Registration Process 13
- Schedule Changes 13

Progress Reporting

- Report Cards 14
- Grading 14
- Progress Reports 14
- Grade Point Average 14
- Honor Roll 14
- NJHS/NHS 15

Extracurricular Eligibility

- Canyon Athletic Association Eligibility 15
- Student Athletes 15
- Academic Integrity 16

Course Descriptions

- Career & Technology 21
- English 17
- Fine Arts 24
- Foreign Languages 25
- Mathematics 17
- Physical Education 26
- Science 18
- Social Studies 18

San Tan Charter School

MISSION

San Tan Charter School, as a school community, works collaboratively to ensure each student has an academic and social environment designed for their individual success; fostering creativity, critical thinking, and inspiring happiness while honoring each person's humanity.

VISION

The San Tan Charter School Family honors and invests in the community by leaving a legacy through individualized and interactive learning experiences.

Values

As a member of the San Tan Charter School Community, iLEAD with integrity, Love, and Empathy. I hold myself Accountable and am Dedicated to serving others by demonstrating these values in my words and actions.

I NTEGRITY

Speaking the truth and presenting oneself genuinely with a focus on the whole person through self-discipline and determination.

L OVE

Valuing close relationships with others by thoughtfully demonstrating kindness, patience and a deep respect for the diversity, feelings and opinions of others.

E MPATHY

Imagining what it is like to be another person, in their situation, seeking understanding prior to acting.

A CCOUNTABILITY

The acknowledgment and acceptance of responsibility for one's decisions and actions along with the results.

D EDICATION

Deeply committed to our community with a strong loyalty to our shared goals.

Annual Public Notification of Nondiscrimination San Tan Charter School does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations.

San Tan Charter School's Career and Technical Education department does not discriminate in enrollment or access to any of the available programs. The lack of English language skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in the district's activities and programs. San Tan Charter School also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. This notice is provided as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be forwarded to the designated compliance coordinator at 3232 S. Power Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85234, or at the phone number 480-222-0811.

This course description catalog is a comprehensive list of courses available at San Tan Charter School. Course offerings are based upon available facilities, highly qualified staff, and adequate student enrollment.

Guidance & Counseling

Services

San Tan High School Guidance and Counseling Department provides services with an emphasis on academic advisement. The counseling department helps students plan for a successful post-secondary education path and career pathway planning. Services provided by this department include:

- Eighth grade and new to San Tan orientation programs.
- Annual individualized conferences for each ninth through twelfth grade students to help develop an ECAP (Education and Career Action Plan).
- Information on careers, college/university entrance, financial aid, and service related programs.
- Individual counselor assistance.

ECAP

The Education and Career Action Plan shall at minimum allow students to enter, track an updated the following information:

1. Academic Goals that include identifying and planning the courses necessary to achieve the high school graduation requirements and their postsecondary education and career options. Counselors, students and parents will analyze assessment results to determine progress and identify needs for intervention and advisement; document academic, service related opportunities, and work related documentation.
2. Postsecondary Education Goals that include identifying progress toward meeting admission requirements, completing application forms and creating financial assistant plans.
3. Extracurricular activity goals that include documenting participation in clubs, organizations, athletics, fine arts, community service, recreational activities, volunteer activities, leadership opportunities and other related activities.

Encore is an important period that will assist with ECAP requirements, graduation requirements and is a designated time for fulfilling these requirements in addition to character lessons, study skills, and career explorations.

Parent Portal

San Tan Secondary School subscribes to a virtual parent/teacher/student communication web portal called Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Parent Portal is a safe and easy way for educators, parents and students to monitor grades, tardies, attendance and any fees. Using Parent Portal is helpful for parents to be up to date in real time as to how their student is doing in their classes.

Courses Offered

San Tan Charter School prides itself on offering a multitude of course offerings from which our students can choose. We offer a multitude of electives for students to take in order to explore and gain experience that are in preparation for their post-secondary plans.

Graduation Requirements and In State Admission Standards

The chart below shows the course requirements for a high school diploma from San Tan Charter School in addition to what is recommended for university admission. The courses below represent the typical plan of study for high school students at San Tan Charter School. University bound students must carefully examine the specific requirements of the university of their choice. This information can be found on the university admissions website. It is recommended that parents, students and the counselor work as a team to help the student choose their classes.

Subject	San Tan Charter School Graduation Requirements	In-State University/College Requirements
English	4 credits	4 credits
Math	4 credits *	4 credits through pre-calculus
Science	3 credits	3 Lab Science credits
Social Studies	3 credits**	2 credits
Foreign Language	0 credit	2 credits
Physical Education	1 credit	0 credit
CTE/Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit
Electives	6 credits	0 credit
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED	22 credits	16 credits
	* Algebra I or higher **Beginning with the 2017 cohort, students must pass the American Civics Act Exam to graduate	SAT or ACT exam may be required. Contact the college or university of your choice for specific entrance requirements, including GPA, rank or test scores.

Students are required to earn no less than 22 credits in the following subject areas:

- English (4 credits) – This requirement will be met by completing one credit each of English I, English II, English III, and English IV. College level English courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved by the Curriculum and Instruction Assistant Principal PRIOR to enrolling in the course.
- Math (4 credits) – This requirement will be met by earning four credits in math, Algebra I or higher. College level math courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved by the Curriculum and Instruction Assistant Principal PRIOR to enrolling in the course.
- Science (3 credits) – This requirement will be met by earning three credits in science. College level Science courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved by the Curriculum and Instruction Assistant Principal PRIOR to enrolling in the course.
- Social Studies (3 credits) – This requirement will be met by completing one credit of World History/Geography, one credit of American/Arizona History, one-half credit of Economics, and one-half credit of American/Arizona Government. College level Social Studies courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved by the Curriculum and Instruction Assistant Principal PRIOR to enrolling in the course.
- Physical Education (1 credit) – This requirement will be met by successfully completing one credit of Physical Education.
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) or Fine Arts (1 credit) – This requirement will be met by completing one credit in either CTE or Fine Arts.
- Electives (6 credits) – This requirement will be met by successfully completing any six credits of elective course offerings.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION – NCAA Please check with your counselor for information regarding NCAA academic requirements or visit www.eligibilitycenter.com.

End of Course Assessments

Each high school course has a final exam at the end of each semester. This exam is a part of the final grade. Students who do not attempt the final exam will be given an incomplete and will not receive credit for the course. It is the student’s responsibility to work with staff to take the final exam within in a timely manner. After four-weeks, the incomplete will be changed to an ‘F’/0. Beginning with the 2017 graduating cohort, all students must take and pass the American Civics Act Exam in order to graduate.



4 Year General Studies Sample

Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
English Science Math Physical Education Elective/Fine Arts-CTE Modern Language Elective	English Science Math Social Studies Elective/Fine Arts-CTE Modern Language Elective	English Science Math Social Studies Elective/Fine Arts-CTE Elective Elective	English Math Social Studies Elective Elective Elective Elective

University Preparation

Being ready to enter a university directly after high school takes dedication to your academic career and purposeful planning. The highly rigorous college preparatory program at San Tan Charter School better prepares each student to be successful at a university. Each student and their parents should carefully examine the specific requirements and recommendations found on University websites. Approved college courses that are taken during high school may be counted toward meeting university requirements.

Most universities recommend a well-rounded high school experience. This includes electives of their choice that include the arts, rigorous programs of work, and leadership experiences in addition to community service.

Career & Technology Education/Fine Art Requirements

One credit in either a fine art or CTE course is required for graduation from San Tan Charter School.

Academic Support

Students scoring below grade level on standardized assessments may be required to enroll in a course to improve math and reading proficiency and comprehension. This course will count as an elective credit.

Policies & Procedures

Class Standing & Graduation Requirements

Class standing and specific graduation requirements are determined by the graduation year, and will not change after enrollment in the freshman year. If a student does not meet the minimum requirements for graduation in their cohort, they will need to meet the minimum requirements for the following year's graduation requirements.

Credits

A student earns one-half credit per period, per semester.

- **Credit Minimum**

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must take a minimum of 3 credits per semester. Any less than 3 credits, must have the Curriculum & Instruction Assistant Principal's written approval. Seniors must take a minimum of 2 credits per semester. Any student who drops below 2 credits per semester may be dropped from school.

Middle School Students in High School Courses

Credit and grades may be included in the high school transcript for core classes. Course selection and placement is dependent upon student readiness, past performance and must be approved by the Principal. The approval for high school credit must be determined and approved prior to the start of the course.

Repeating Courses

Courses that are designed to only be taken once may be retaken for a higher grade, but will not increase the credit obtained. Transcripts for students repeating courses will reflect the original and repeated course grade. The higher grade will be used in computing the GPA and class ranking.

Correspondence Courses

Credit for graduation may be earned through correspondence courses from an accredited institution. No more than four credits may be earned toward graduation. Students must receive permission from the Principal in writing prior to enrolling for correspondence courses.

Online Courses

San Tan Charter School accepts credits taken online through accredited online programs. Students must receive permission from the Principal in writing prior to enrolling in an online course.

Student Aide

A student aide assignment is available to students with the administrator permission. The grade will be pass/fail. Students may only enroll in ½ credit of student aide courses per semester

Internships

Internships are a valuable experience for students. These are not student aide positions. These are higher level opportunities to experience real-world work experience opportunities while on campus. These opportunities will have specific completion requirements and will be graded traditionally.

Course Sequencing and Credits

Students are expected to follow the course sequencing as outlined. Any exception to this must be approved by the counselor and teacher.

College Courses for High School Credit

Concurrent and Dual Enrollment are available through the Maricopa County Community College district. For more information regarding taking college courses while in high school, contact the school counselor.

Students may be granted high school credit for course work they complete in community college and universities. The following will apply:

- The institution where the course is taught must be accredited. The hours of the course must correspond with the amount of time that would normally be spent in the equivalent high school course.

Testing Out for Credit Process

The guidelines below are for a student requesting to test out of a course for credit. This process is intended for courses required for graduation.

- Student must complete the **Test Out for Credit** form, and makes an appointment with the counselor. This must be completed prior to the 10th academic day of the semester.

- The counselor, teacher and/or a representative from the administrative team will meet with the student and establish the testing criteria and dates. The testing may include, but is not limited to mid and final exams, oral reports, interviews, written reports, etc.
- The appropriate teacher will administer the examination(s) and evaluate the student's performance.
- A student may not use Testing Out to replace a grade for a previously taken class.
- The teacher administering the examination(s) will report the results to the registrar in writing. Credit will be based upon the student scoring at or above 75% on this exam. Students using the Testing Out option will only get a Pass, they will not receive a letter grade. **NCAA does not accept a testing out option for core classwork. Other universities may not either. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to check if this option works for their post-secondary plans.**

Transfer Credit/Evaluation of Transcripts

Transferring students will be evaluated by the Principal and credits will be entered into the school database by the registrar.

Late Enrollment

A student who enrolls after the 20th day will need to meet with the Principal in order to review progress made in their previous school. It will be at the discretion of administration as to how the classes will transfer in. Every attempt will be made to ensure a smooth transition of classes in order to record the credits earned appropriately.

Dropping/Adding Courses

A student may drop a class and enroll in another class through the 10th day of class. After this time, the student will receive an 'F' on the transcript. This grade will be included in the GPA, class rank and will affect extra-curricular activity eligibility. Students who wish to appeal this ruling will need to meet with the Administrative team to determine if there is a legitimate educational plan and true need for dropping this course.

School Attendance

School attendance is important and in order to receive the best education, students need to be on time and at school unless they have an illness or emergency. Regular attendance also has a cumulative effect on establishing life-long positive traits -- responsibility, determination, respect for rules of society -- that are all critical for developing career readiness skills, success in college and adult life.

- All students are required to attend school for 180 instructional days per school year.
- All tardies are considered unexcused without a doctor's note.
- Four unexcused tardies in a class equals an absence.
- Academic penalties will not be imposed for excused absences.
- Whenever a student needs to be out for more than **five** days, each teacher will provide work for the student to work on to lessen the impact of a student missing instruction in class.
- Students who miss **ten** days (excused or unexcused) of class in a semester will be put on an attendance contract that may lead to the student losing credit for the course.
- Excused absences can include:
 - Personal illness
 - Medical, dental, or mental health appointment
 - Serious illness in the student's immediate family
 - A death in the student's immediate family or of a relative

- Religious holiday
- Emergency conditions such as fire, flood, or storm
- Unique family circumstances warranting absence and coordinated with school administration
- College visits that cannot be scheduled on non-school days

Scheduling Procedures

Registration Process

Students will use an online registration program. The Course Catalog is available online on the San Tan Charter School Secondary School Website. A paper copy is also available in the guidance department.

All courses listed in the catalog are subject to availability based on enrollment and qualified instructors. Courses with insufficient enrollment are cancelled, and students are given an alternate course selection. Scheduling conflicts are also resolved through alternate course selections.

Parents and students are encouraged to work together on the registration process since critical decisions are made during this time.

Schedule Changes

When dropping/adding courses, specific procedures must be followed as outlined by the school's guidance department and will be accommodated on an as-needed and space available basis.

1. Student-initiated schedule changes are handled prior to the beginning of the school year.
2. Students may ask for a schedule change the first 10 days of academic school days of each semester.
3. Valid reasons for schedule changes are:
 - a. **Errors in scheduling**
 - b. **Changes needed to meet graduation requirements**
 - c. **Not meeting pre-requisite needs**
 - d. **Changes required due to health (Doctor's letter necessary)**
 - e. **Successful completion of accepted course during the summer**
 - f. **Inappropriate placement as determined by teacher/counselor consultation**
4. Students may appeal a denial for schedule change to the school administration. The decision of the school administration will be final.
5. Students may not add new classes to their schedule after the 10th day of semester.
6. Students will receive an 'F' for classes dropped after the 10th day of the semester.
7. Level changes may be made at any time when recommended by the teacher and approved by administration.
8. Administration changes to balance classes or correct student misplacement will be made as soon as possible.

Progress Reporting

Report Cards

Official report cards are available two times a year. Only semester grades are entered on the official transcript. Report cards are available online through the Infinite Campus portal.

Grading

Students attending San Tan Charter School will be assessed using the following grading scales. Students must abide by the Academic Misconduct and Cheating policy as outlined in the student handbook.

Grading Scale	GPA	Weighted GPA
90-100 A	A=4.0	A=5.0
80-89 B	B=3.0	B=4.0
70-79 C	C=2.0/P=2.0	C=3.0
60-69 D	D=1.0	D=1.0
0-59 F	F=No Credit	F=No Credit

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Numerical averages are used to calculate the grade point average

Unweighted (Student has not taken Honors, Dual Enrollment or AP classes)

A=4 points B=3 points C=2 points D=1 point F=0 points

Weighted (Student has taken Honors, Dual Enrollment or AP classes)

A=5 points B=4 points C=3 points D=1 points F=0 points

The grade point average (GPA) is determined by the sum of the numerical equivalent for the grade divided by the total number of classes. Weighted GPA is used for determining class rank which may be used for admission to most colleges, universities and for scholarships. The weighted GPA is also used to determine valedictorian and salutatorian.

Honor Roll

Students who qualify for honor roll must:

1. Be enrolled in four courses.
2. Earned a GPA of 3.5 or better
3. Earn a grade of 'B' or higher in all courses

NJHS/NHS

San Tan Charter Students who qualify for NJHS/NHS are encouraged to participate in this program. Students must have 3.75 GPA and no 'C's in any core classes and must go through a rigorous application process. Students must attend all meetings and complete 20 hours of community service, including one school sponsored event.

Extracurricular Eligibility _____

Canyon Athletic Association

- A student is charged an activity fee for each activity or sport as established in the Governing Board policy. Limits will be established for families with more than one student participating.
- Students participating in athletics and other interscholastic competitive activities must be enrolled in five classes during the semester of competitions. (Seniors only require four.)
- Students participating in athletics must have completed, and have on file, a parent permission form, a current physical examination form, school insurance or a waiver, emergency information card, 'statement of understanding' for substance abuse and must have attended a parent informational night.

- Students participating in athletics must pay the fee per sport prior to the first day of competition, or they will be deemed ineligible until the fees or arrangements to pay the fees have been met. If a family misses the due date for the payment arrangements, the student will be considered ineligible.
- Eligibility for extra-curricular activities are determined on weekly grades and final grades for the prior quarter. Beginning the fourth week of the semester, eligibility is run. Students with an 'F' in any course will be considered ineligible for one week. Eligibility weeks run from Wednesday through Tuesday. When a student is ineligible for the week that student will not travel with the team nor be released early from class for home games.

Student Athletes

NCAA Initial Academic Eligibility Clearinghouse for Prospective Student Athletes Interested in Division I & II Colleges and Universities

Students who are considering the possibility of participating in college or university athletics must be cleared by the NCAA Eligibility Center prior to graduation with their class. Students should contact their counselor for assistance with the process during the sophomore athletic season. Students and parents are encouraged to visit the NCAA website at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Information for college bound student athletes will be found under the Academic & Athletics Eligibility and Recruiting Sections.

Students who plan to enter a Division I or II college or university and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletic scholarship during the first year must have:

- Completed these 16 core courses
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
 - 2 years of physical/natural science (one of which is a lab science)
 - 1 year of additional English, mathematics or science
 - 2 years of social studies
 - 4 years of additional core courses (from any area listed above, or a foreign language, non-doctrinal religion or philosophy.) Students should meet with their counselor about guidelines for non-traditional courses
- Earned a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches their core-course GPA and test score sliding scale found on the NCAA website (for example, a 2.4 GPA average needs to score a minimum of 860 on the SAT); and earned a minimum required GPA average in their core courses

To determine which high school courses meet the NCAA Clearinghouse requirements a student should go to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and

- Click on Prospective Student-Athletes
- Click on List of Approved Courses

Academic Integrity

The definitions of behaviors that are considered to be violations of the school's Academic Integrity Policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ***Cheating on Tests or Assignments:*** Any selling, digital imaging, photocopying, sharing, or using unauthorized assistance while taking a test, quiz, or other individually graded assignment without the express permission from the teacher is considered cheating. This includes looking on another student's paper, sharing answers, copying another student's assignment/paper, allowing someone to copy your paper, or using unauthorized notes or an electronic device while testing.

- **Fabrication:** Any falsification and/or invention of data, citation, or another authority in an academic exercise, such as laboratory data.
- **Unauthorized Collaboration:** Copying work or collaborating on assignments that was assigned to be done independently. Unauthorized collaboration includes any intentional attempt to copy or share an assignment, a paper, and/or test information with another person or the act of giving information, materials, answers, or an unfair advantage to another person.
- **Plagiarism:** Any representation of another's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism includes the misuse of published material, electronic material, and/or the work of other students. The original writer who shares his/her paper for another to copy, without the permission of the teacher, is engaged in plagiarism. Recycling or re-using papers, projects, and/or assignments without authorization in multiple classes is also considered plagiarism.
- **Alteration or Theft of Material:** Any unauthorized alteration or theft of student, teacher, library, school data/information and/or electronic materials.
- **Collusion:** Collusion occurs when any student knowingly or intentionally helps another student perform an act of academic dishonesty. Collusion is an act of academic dishonesty and will be disciplined in the same manner as the act itself.

Cheating and plagiarism are forms of academic misconduct and are both dishonest choices that students can avoid. Ignorance about what constitutes cheating is not a defense. If you are uncertain if something you are doing is considered academically dishonest, you should ask your teacher.

JR. HIGH SCHOOL CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 7

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Students are taught strategies to effectively read both fiction and nonfiction and respond through varied writing activities.

Junior High Language Arts Lab

Through this intervention course, students who need foundational skills to be prepared for the next level of Language Arts will be given the opportunity to receive interventions in reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills. This course is in addition to the student's grade level Language Arts Class.

Language Arts 7 - ScholarsPrep

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Students enrolled in this course must be ready to more deeply connect writing and reading. Advanced writing skills and reading strategies will be emphasized through the use of a higher level curriculum, including formal writing workshops and independent reading of multiple literary genres. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

Language Arts 8

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Through a Pre-AP curriculum, all students are taught strategies to effectively read both fiction and nonfiction and respond through varied writing activities.

Language Arts 7 - ScholarsPrep

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Students enrolled in this course must be ready to more deeply connect writing and reading. Advanced writing skills and reading strategies will be emphasized through the use of a higher level curriculum, including formal writing workshops and independent reading of multiple literary genres. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

MATHEMATICS

Math Course II

Students will cover the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 7th grade mathematics. The five domains are Ratio and Proportional Relationships, the Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

Jr. High Math Lab

Through this intervention course, students who need foundational skills to be prepared for the next level of mathematics will be given the opportunity to receive interventions math. This course is in addition to the student's grade level math class.

Math Course II Honors

Students will cover the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 7th grade mathematics more in depth than in Math Course II. The five domains are Ratio and Proportional Relationships, the Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. This mathematics course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take higher level math classes in high school.

Math Course III

This course covers the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 8th grade. The domains are Number Systems, Equations and Expressions, Functions, Geometry and Statistics and Probability. This course will prepare students for Algebra I.

Math Course III Honors

This course covers the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 8th grade. The domains are Number Systems, Equations and Expressions, Functions, Geometry and Statistics and Probability. This mathematics course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take higher level math classes in high school.

SCIENCE

Science 7

This course is designed to teach a selection of Earth and Life Science topics. Students will use inquiry as a discovery method in order to describe the properties and composition of the Earth's structure, explain the Earth's geological processes, and analyze the interactions of living organisms within ecosystems. Scientific persona and events of historical significance will be integrated to support the curriculum and help students make relevant connections to their lives.

Science 7 ScholarsPrep

Students will learn the general spectrum of biology. It includes laboratory procedures and investigations. An average of one day per week will be devoted to lab work. Students may be expected to complete one or more projects per quarter. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

Science 8

This course is designed to teach students basic fundamentals of chemistry, physics, and biology. Chemistry will begin with the study of the atom. Physics will focus upon motion and Newton's laws, the genetic component of biology and the structural and behavioral aspects of adaptations. This inquiry-based course will teach hands-on laboratory skills and methods as a means to learning the content curriculum. This course will reflect on the nature and history of science as well as looking into the impact science has on modern society.

Science 7 ScholarsPrep

Students will use experiments to introduce the principles of chemistry. These experiments will introduce the principles of chemistry. Students will be required to keep a lab notebook and may be required to do several projects as part of the class. A minimum of one day per week will be devoted to laboratory studies. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 7

This course focuses on American history during the period from the Civil War through the Great Depression. Study skills, note taking, critical thinking, presentation, communication and writing skills are developed in this course.

Social Studies 7 ScholarsPrep

Students will study the development of mankind through such topics as geography, early civilizations, Middle Ages, the Reformation and the modern world with an emphasis on Western Civilization. Discussions will include the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

Social Studies 8

This course focuses on American history during the period from the World War II through present-day. Study skills, note taking, critical thinking, presentation, communication and writing skills are developed in this course.

Social Studies 8 ScholarsPrep

Students will, with appropriate textbook and supplemental readings in the form of documents and essays, provide both chronological and thematic coverage of American History. Emphasis is placed on political history, foreign affairs, and economic and social development, including literary and cultural history. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

HIGH SCHOOL CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

English I

This course will integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based approach. All students are taught strategies to effectively read both fiction and nonfiction and respond through varied writing activities.

English I Honors

This course will integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based approach. Advanced writing skills and reading strategies will be emphasized through the use of higher level curriculum, including formal writing workshops and independent reading of multiple literary genres. **Honors students are expected to complete a summer reading project. Required summer reading lists are available** *****

English II

This course will emphasize narrative, expository, and functional writing. In addition, students are introduced to the persuasive essay. Students will be expected to complete assignments in speaking/listening and viewing/presenting.

English II Honors

This course will develop the essay and language skills required for entry into advanced placement programs in English. World literature will be used as the basis for the reading and writing activities. Composition skills will be emphasized. **Honors students are expected to complete a summer reading project. Required summer reading lists are available *******

English III

This course will emphasize poetry, short and long fiction, nonfiction and dramas from American Literature. In writing, students will master essay structure in narrative, expository, persuasive, research, and functional writing. Students will be expected to complete assignments in speaking/listening and viewing/presenting.

English IV

Students will focus on the critical analysis and evaluation of literature including fiction, nonfiction, drama and poetry. In writing, students will master creative, persuasive, narrative, expository and functional writing models and study corresponding vocabulary. Students will complete a research project. Students will be expected to complete assignments in speaking/listening and viewing/presenting.

English – Language and Composition AP/Dual Enrollment

The course is designed to help students become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and to become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course is designed to prepare students to successfully complete the Advanced Placement Exam in May. **Honors students are expected to complete a summer reading project. Required summer reading lists are available *******

English -- Literature & Composition AP

This course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students can deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students should consider a work’s structure, style, and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Because of the mature reading level, students who are interested in this course may wish to review the reading list. This course is designed to prepare students to successfully complete the Advanced Placement Exam in May. **Honors students are expected to complete a summer reading project. Required summer reading lists are available *******

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

Students will focus on a study of sets of real numbers, solution of first and second-degree equations, graphing on the coordinate plane, applications of algebra to data analysis and probability, patterns and functions and their applications, measurement and discrete mathematics, and basic mathematical structures.

Algebra I Honors

This course will extend algebraic and geometric concepts and apply these to an in-depth study of polynomial, radical, rational, exponential with real exponents, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, as well as piecewise defined functions. Students will continue to develop fluency in writing, comparing, solving (including complex solutions), and interpreting problems represented by the above function families as well as explore the effects of transformations on their graphs. Students will examine data on two quantitative variables to choose functions and make conclusions in context of the data. **This Honors course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take higher level math scores**

Algebra II

Students will study solution techniques for polynomial equations, properties of functions, logarithms and exponents, coordinate geometry, complex numbers, elementary conic sections, matrices, arithmetic and geometric sequences, and an introduction of trigonometry and its applications. Technology will play a part in this course, especially the use of hand-held graphing calculators.

Geometry

Students will study formal geometric proofs, polygons, circles, coordinate geometry, solution of right triangle trigonometry problems, Euclidean transformations, and mathematical structure and logic.

Pre-Calculus

Students will study topics such as angle measure, relations and graphs of trigonometric functions, coordinate and polar trigonometry, reduction formulae, fundamental triangle solutions and solutions of trigonometric equations, complex numbers, DeMoivre's theorem, real number line, the plane functions, conics, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, polar and parametric functions, sequences and series, limits and rates of change. Technology will play a large part in this course, especially the use of hand-held graphing calculators. This college preparatory math course is designed for students who seek to meet admission requirements for state universities.

SOCIAL STUDIES

American Government & Politics

Students will have an understanding of our constitutional principles as it relates to executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. Students study such topics as political parties, law, citizens' liberties and responsibilities, federalism, media, and foreign affairs.

American History

Students will, with appropriate textbook and supplemental readings in the form of documents and essays, provide both chronological and thematic coverage of American History. Emphasis is placed on political history, foreign affairs, and economic and social development, including literary and cultural history.

Economics

Students will cover the economic conditions and policies that affect our daily lives. Issues such as inflation, recession, unemployment, the national debt, and personal economic decisions are discussed. The course provides an opportunity to compare other economic systems and how changes affect the global economy (i.e., trade).

World History/Geography

Students will study the development of mankind through such topics as geography, early civilizations, Middle Ages, the Reformation and the modern world with an emphasis on Western Civilization. Discussions will include the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

SCIENCE

Biology I

Students will learn the general spectrum of biology. It includes laboratory procedures and investigations. An average of one day per week will be devoted to lab work. Students may be expected to complete one or more projects per quarter.

Chemistry

Students will use experiments to introduce the principles of chemistry. These experiments will introduce the principles of chemistry. Students will be required to keep a lab notebook and may be required to do several projects as part of the class. A minimum of one day per week will be devoted to laboratory studies.

Earth Science

This course will be a study of the earth and its environment and the earth as an object in space. Major topics include: astronomy, geology, weather, and map reading. Students will be expected to write term papers and perform applied mathematical problems related to earth science.

Physics

Students will focus on the physical nature of our world. The class involves frequent labs with appropriate reports. Topics may include mechanics, electricity and magnetism, wave propagation, energy and modern physics. Research projects may be required.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Course content, pace, and academic rigor is college level as adopted by the College Board program and is geared to enable students to pass the AP test. These courses provide credit toward high school graduation and students earn an additional grade point according to the weighted grade process. Check with prospective colleges regarding their AP credit policies. AP Testing fees apply.

Contact the Guidance Center for criteria and applications.

OFFERINGS:

- AP American History
- AP Biology

- AP Calculus
- AP Chemistry
- AP English Language
- AP English Literature
- AP U.S. History
- AP World History

DUAL CREDIT OR CONCURRENT CREDIT COLLEGE CLASSES

Dual credit or concurrent credit classes are classes that are offered by Chandler Gilbert Community College on the Power Campus, online and at the CGCC campuses. These are college level classes that receive both college and high school credit. Students enrolled in these classes must meet both the expectations of the high school and the community college including any prerequisites and/or testing. These courses provide credit toward high school graduation and students earn an additional grade point according to the weighted grade process. Please see the community college and/or our guidance office for additional details. Course fees and college tuition apply.

ELECTIVE COURSES

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Academic Decathlon

There are many wonderful academic competitions out there. You can prove you're the best writer, or the best physicist, or the best speller. Academic Decathlon isn't about any of that, though. It's not about demonstrating how good a student you already are. It's about daring to push your limits, to master college-level material and to practice skills, like public speaking, that might be wholly new to you. It's about the people you'll meet along the way—the coaches who will mentor you, the competitors who will challenge you, and the teammates who will become your lifelong friends. As Decathletes, you'll learn an exciting new theme each year, themes like Russia, World War I, and New Alternatives in Energy: Ingenuity and Innovation. You'll explore seven subjects connected to that theme, from art and science to math and economics. You'll learn to move an audience not just with facts and rhetoric, but with confidence. And you'll never do any of this alone. You'll be working with a team—a team composed of students with a wide range of grades but a single shared goal. **There will be homework, after school participation and travel obligations for students that take this course.**

ACT/SAT Prep

The SAT/ACT preparation course is designed to familiarize you with the structure and style of these two tests, build key vocabulary frequently found on the SAT, and practice questions using authentic SAT and ACT test items. Students will also receive valuable test-taking strategies and knowledge-building strategies to help improve their score. When students complete the course, they should be able to:

- Organize thoughts for a timed essay
- Interpret selected reading passages
- Use diverse vocabulary
- Determine the necessary skill needed for a question

In addition this course is designed to:

- Determine the student's strengths and weaknesses
- Drill with practice quizzes
- Review techniques that will help one identify question types and apply appropriate strategies for success
- Monitor your progress and chart your improvements
- Build the real confidence to tackle the verbal and writing sections of the SAT.

Preference for enrollment will be given to Juniors and Seniors. This class is only available to High School Students.

JROTC/Military Science

The Military Science (JROTC) program prepares students for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities and privileges as Americans. The mission of JROTC is to motivate young people to be better citizens. The program promotes graduation from high school, and provides instructional opportunities which benefit the student, community and nation.

Wearing the military uniform once a week is a requirement to participate in JROTC. While in uniform, cadets must meet the minimum appearance standards listed in the appropriate regulation, including haircut standards.

Mathematics for Mathematicians

In this course, students will discover what mathematicians see in mathematics; clearly, since mathematicians do it for fun, they see something in it that most people don't. These mathematical wonders have typically been hidden deep in courses that only math majors take... until now! This course will teach students to love mathematics, and to treat it like the art form that it is. Mathematics is full of beauty and elegance for those who look in the right places, and this course shows students where to look! **Requirements:** An open, inquisitive mind. A solid understanding of basic algebra (Algebra I, or a good performance in Math III).

Model UN

The purpose of the San Tan Charter Model United Nations course is to increase student knowledge about international issues, policy making and the activities of the United Nations. Students will also gain valuable skills in public speaking, research and writing, negotiation and powers of persuasion, leadership, organization, and interpersonal communication. Students will gain these skills through course assignments, class activities and, most importantly, by playing the role of United Nations delegates. Students may have the opportunity to represent STCS as a MUN delegate at Model UN conferences. The Model United Nations (MUN) course is a unique class because it is a blend of student-managed club and academic course. Students are the primary decision-makers and leaders for the organization. By choosing to participate in this challenging but rewarding class, students will gain valuable knowledge and skills, and join a committed and highly motivated group of students.

Odyssey of the Mind

In this course, students learn how to think divergently by answering open-ended problems in a team setting. Embedded in the process are the skills necessary for student readiness for careers and colleges such as creativity, innovation, problem-solving, critical thinking, global awareness, interpersonal and collaborative skills, self-direction and adaptability. **There will be after school and travel obligations for students that take this course.**

Natural Talent Development

This course is an opportunity where students are able to use their natural talents to 'create'. Writers may write, designers may design, engineers may build, mathematicians may calculate, Philosophers may ponder, Artisans may craft, etc. The expectation is for this elective is to let loose and allow student creativity and create something new. Students will be expected to brainstorm, plan, goal set, and execute with the guidance of a teacher to help along the way.

Speech & Debate

This course will prepare students for college forensics/speech and debate competitions. Students will learn speech writing, argumentation, philosophy, research and delivery skills as well as literary analysis, interpretation and current events. Students will participate in at least two tournaments per semester.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Business & Marketing

This course provides students with the framework for future marketing courses and allows the students to discover how a business works and how it impacts lives on a daily basis. • Obtain the framework for future marketing courses. • Learn the fundamentals of marketing, planning, pricing, promoting, selling, and distributing products and services. Marketing adds value to products. • Learn how marketing affects our economy and standard of living. • Explore target marketing, market segmentation, marketing mix and customer profiles. • Develop marketing and business plans, identify economies, and the business cycle. • Understand the basics of our free enterprise system; personal property, competition, risk and profit. • Demonstrate communication skills through technology, social media, role plays, workshops and competition. **Marketing education and the career and technical organization, DECA (an association of marketing students), are co-curricular and membership is required. Students will have afterschool and travel obligations in this course.**

Career Explorations

This course will concentrate on career exploration and post high school planning in the areas of education, training, and employment. Students will participate in various career and personal interest assessments and explore career options for the future. By the end of the course, students will learn how to analyze their personal skills and strengths as they relate to current and future jobs, explore different careers through interviews and observations, and discover what it means to be successful at work.

Coding

In this course, young students enter the world of computer science by learning how to create animations, computer games, and interactive projects. The course will show students how to make and import objects, create audio recordings, and use them to develop interactive projects. At the end of the course, students create their own phone app.

Computer Technology

This class will be an introduction into the world of computer technology. Through Windows Office Suite 2010, the students will explore relevant and emerging technologies, the role of computers in society, discussion of social and ethical issues related to personal computer. Students will explore careers related to the Information Technology field. This includes computer repair, web design and development, software development and video game development.

Computer Technology - Advanced

This course will address the use of technology that most individuals will encounter in their life. This course will explore emerging technology and its uses. It will help students become proficient with today's technology and model skills that will help them be better 21st century learners and citizens. Topics will include blogging, digital learning portfolio, Google applications, wikis, voice threads, podcasting, videos, vodcasting, Really Simple Syndication (RSS), web design, personal learning networks, and digital citizenship.

Culinary Arts

Find out if the Culinary Arts industry is for you in this hands-on class where foundation standards are stressed. You will obtain your food handlers, CPR, and First Aide cards preparing you for industry standards. Learn knife skills, how to work in a commercial kitchen, ways food leavens, plus in-depth nutritional concepts. This course will focus on math skills in measuring metric verses standard, scale operations, baker's percentages, determining food costs, knife sharpening angles, graphing with fats and oils, and change counting.

Culinary Arts II & III

Students will study Hot and Cold Foods (fish/beef/pork/poultry) as well as sauce and stock preparation. This course will focus on math skills in measuring, menu pricing, ratios with stocks, edible portioning, percentages with meat fabrication. Students will gain skills in Breakfast Foods and Garde Manger* (*cheese, eggs/sandwiches/salads/dressings/hor d'oeuvres). Students will obtain knowledge and practical culinary skills in Baking and Pastry (cakes/breads/pastries).

Family & Consumer Science

This course provides a foundation for managing individual, family, career, and community roles and responsibilities. Students apply problem solving and leadership skills as they explore areas such as personal goal achievement, responsibilities within the family, accountability for personal safety and health. Students learn skills related to financial management, clothing maintenance, food preparation, positive relationships with others, and self-assessment as related to career exploration. Mathematics, science, English, social sciences, fine arts, and technology are integrated throughout the course.

Forensics

This class is an elective, inquiry-oriented science class that will focus on criminal forensics. Through a sequence of lab-based activities, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the role of science in solving crimes. These activities will include fingerprinting, ink chromatography, and an introduction to DNA analysis

Introduction to Engineering

Introduction to Engineering that is appropriate for students who are interested in design and engineering. The major focus of the IED course is to expose students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. IED gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based (APPB) learning. Used in combination with a teaming approach, APPB-learning challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities and understanding of the design process. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education. (Pre Requisite: STEM)

Introduction to Entrepreneurship

In this course you will learn the basics needed to plan and launch your own business. Do you have what it takes to start a new business? Do you have an idea for a business but need the tools to get started? This course will provide you with the core skills you need to become successful. In this course you will study the characteristics of successful entrepreneurs. You will also learn about self-employment and basic economic concepts related to small businesses, such as competition and production. This course will also walk you through the steps of setting up a business, including developing a business plan, a mission and a vision, attracting investors, and marketing your company.

Introduction to Video Game Design

This course provides an introduction to concepts of the technological and creative aspects of video game design in an easy-to-follow format. In the end, you will demonstrate learning by constructing an original game build. **Future Business Leaders of America career and technical organization, FBLA are co-curricular and membership is required. Students will have afterschool and travel obligations in this course.**

Life Connections

This activity-based class is the beginning step in preparing students for adult life in culinary arts, child development, education and many other workplace opportunities. Students will gain skills in leadership, job seeking, decision making, nutrition, parenting, money management, and safety/sanitation in the work-place. Students will learn how to budget, plan and run a household. Students will continue learning career explorations, what is necessary to apply for college, and apply for scholarships. Students will learn to write a resume and cover letter.

Photography

Students in Photography will develop and expand their skills in producing both artistic and commercial photographs using digital DSLR cameras and equipment. Photography meets the credit requirements for Career and Technical Education (CTE), Fine Art, and elective graduation requirements. Students learn to take artistic digital photos following rules of composition, light, exposure, elements of art and principles of design which also enhances their ability to produce quality commercial work. Adapting and updating student's skill set to the ever changing software and hardware technology is a constant goal of all the photography courses.

Robotics

In this class students will use robotics to explore the fundamentals of engineering and electronics. The course will consist of lectures including principles of engineering, physics, electronics, mechanics, and computer programming. Laboratory experiments will require students to build simple robots to demonstrate these principles. While building the robots, students will learn the function of basic electronic components such as resistors, capacitors, and transistors. The design process will be emphasized as the robots are tested and their designs are modified.

Sports Broadcasting

This course will be a study of the principles of writing news and information for Radio, TV, Podcasts, and Livestreaming. Basics of television news and broadcast style will be discussed and practiced. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of television studio production. Production and direction of multi-camera studio television programs, as well as, field packages and multi-camera field direction will be covered. This course provides a bridge between production and engineering. It emphasizes the importance of understanding technical processes as they apply to creative decisions. Students will learn how video cameras make pictures, how light and lighting instruments affect aesthetics, how edit systems function, how audio signals are created and how to plan and design facilities. Students gain practical experience in media news gathering, working as part of a team to produce news reports and complete newscasts. Students at the end of the class will be able to demonstrate accurate, fair and factual oral and written communication skills in reporting, revising, covering and editing of relevant news stories acceptable by professional journalism standards, conduct effective research, interviews and evaluation of news and demonstrate knowledge of fundamental concepts and theories in the presentation of news. Students will also create a digital portfolio to display all their work.

Show Choir

Show Choir is a mixed ensemble that combines the movement of dance and singing. Through this course, students will develop greater musicianship, proper use of breath support, phrasing, interpretation, postures, stage presence, and the other important musical disciplines. In this class students will study and perform vocal music in the Jazz, Pop, and Swing styles. Students will learn the art of movement and dance as well as the enhancement of the vocal rendition of various works. Show Choir is appropriate for all abilities and is a fantastic way to step into the art of music! **Special concert attire may be worn. Students are required to participate in performances and it is a part of their grade.**

STEM

This course challenges students of all levels to develop higher order problem solving skills by stimulating creativity in a hands-on learning environment. Academic subject disciplines such as applied physics, algebra and geometry powerfully come alive as students design, build and test modern structure and vehicle prototypes. Students acquire 21st Century Skills through project based learning. (This class is only for students who have not previously taken a STEM class at the middle school level.)

Yearbook/Graphic Design

If you love to take pictures and are interested in learning how to write like a journalist, then this class is for you. Learn more about layout design, photo angles, backgrounds, foregrounds, cropping and action shots. This class will address advanced techniques of retouching and printing of photos in addition to exploring various aesthetic domains such as portraiture, landscape, architecture and documentary photography.

FINE ARTS

Art & Design I

This course is an introduction to art with the basic elements and principles of design. Students will learn drawing techniques emphasizing line, positive/negative space, perspective, value, texture, lettering, and portrait proportions. Students will also explore studies in color and advanced drawing and painting techniques.

Art - Advanced

This course is an advanced level art class with advanced elements and principles of design. Students will hone the skills they have learned in Art & Design II and finish the class with a portfolio of art work. Pre-Requisite: Art & Design I

Band

Band provides opportunities for the skilled band student to play a wide range of musical forms and styles. Emphasis is placed on improving individual reading and performance skills. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. A minimum of a half an hour a day of homework practice is required for this course. Students are required to participate in performances and it is a part of their grade.

Pep Band

This fun and performance-based course provides students with a variety of pep band experiences. Though this band is not officially a "Marching Band", members will participate in at least two parades a season and basic marching techniques will be taught to aid in these performances. This ensemble

performs at football games, pep rallies, parades and other community events scheduled at the discretion of the director. Extracurricular commitment is a necessity. Traditional and non-traditional band instruments are used in this course (i.e. flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, marching percussion instruments and front ensemble).

Show Choir

Show Choir is a mixed ensemble that combines the movement of dance and singing. Through this course, students will develop greater musicianship, proper use of breath support, phrasing, interpretation, postures, stage presence, and the other important musical disciplines. In this class students will study and perform vocal music in the Jazz, Pop, and Swing styles. Students will learn the art of movement and dance as well as the enhancement of the vocal rendition of various works. Show Choir is appropriate for all abilities and is a fantastic way to step into the art of music!

Strings

This course will be a group performance group oriented with emphasis on string instruments. Special concert attire may be worn. A minimum of a half an hour a day of homework practice is required for this course. Students are required to participate in performances and it is a part of their grade.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I

Introduces students to the basic vocabulary of the language and components of the culture of the countries in which the Spanish is spoken. Prepares students to begin to read, write, speak and understand the language.

Spanish II

This course is an in-depth study of Spanish, requiring the student to think in the language. The class will help students to become more fluent in the language while continuing to learn about the culture. Grammar and conversation will be emphasized.

Sign Language I

This American Sign Language course will introduce basic sign vocabulary with an emphasis on developing fluency in expressive and receptive signing and finger spelling.

Sign Language II

This course will be an in-depth study of American Sign requiring the student to think in the language.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Advanced Weight Training

This course provides students with a variety of different lifetime activities to improve their overall fitness and health. Students will focus on muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular, and flexibility. Coaches will work with athletes for their specific sports in order to engage in activities that help meet their personal goals. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Boys/Girls Weight Training

Athletic Physical Education

This physical education class is for those students who play a competitive sport. Athletes may enroll in this course with the permission of the head coach of a school sport, or by permission from the school's athletic director.

Beginning Dance

This introductory course will include an introduction to various dance techniques and styles. Students will experience and understand technique/skill, knowledge, history and improvisation of multiple dance styles. Students will participate in performances during the school year that are a part of their grade. Students will use dance to enhance their overall physical fitness

Boys Weight Training

This course provides students with a variety of different lifetime activities to improve their overall fitness and health. Students will focus on muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular, and flexibility. Coaches will work with athletes for their specific sports in order to engage in activities that help meet their personal goals.

Girls Weight Training

This course provides students with a variety of different lifetime activities to improve their overall fitness and health. Students will focus on muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular, and flexibility. Coaches will work with athletes for their specific sports in order to engage in activities that help meet their personal goals.

Health & Wellness

This course provides students with an overview of good nutrition principles that are necessary for physical and mental wellness as well as a long, healthy life. The class will include discussions of digestion, basic nutrients, weight management, sports and fitness, and life-span nutrition. The Health and Fitness class is a lifetime wellness course that emphasizes an understanding of today's food and eating trends and gives students the capacity to intelligently evaluate all available sources of nutrition information and make informed decisions. Unit topics include a course introduction, wellness and food choices, digestion and major nutrients, and body size and healthy lifestyle management in addition to physical activity. This course will also include creating a physical fitness and healthy lifestyle plan that students will implement and follow with parental and school staff support.

Physical Education

This class will incorporate some of the many ways to stay active and healthy. Team sports such as baseball, football, soccer, volleyball, badminton, and more are incorporated. Strength training, flexibility, and cardiovascular improvement are also emphasized. Quarterly Fitness Assessments will be administered to show the yearly progress.

Strength & Conditioning

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Course includes both lecture and activity sessions. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime.

PEER LEADERSHIP / STUDENT GOVERNMENT

This course will provide training to students to be sensitive listeners and to use communication skills to encourage positive problem solving and behavior. Peer counselors will act as role models, peer tutors, big brothers and sisters to elementary and junior high students, as well as encourage and monitor students with attendance problems. This course will also emphasize leadership skills. A major part of the course will be performing the duties of Student Council. This course provides opportunities to study, practice and develop group and individual leadership and organizational skills. These skills include decision-making skills, problem-solving techniques, communication skills, leadership roles, human relation skills and understanding the need for civic responsibility. Students enrolled in the course will apply these skills in dealing with peers, school administration and the community. Students will demonstrate a hands-on, active learning approach to leadership.

The topics studied are:

1. The Structure of Leadership
2. Organization and Managerial Skills
3. Responsible Citizenship
4. Goal Setting
5. Group Process
6. Communication
7. Evaluation