

OAK GROVE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR 2017-2018

ART

Introduction to Ceramics

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

An introductory ceramic course that will provide students with insight into the history and application of ceramics as a functional and expressive medium. The course will be divided into hand building and wheel throwing. The students will be split into two sections. One half will start with wheel throwing and the other with hand building, at the quarter the sections will switch.

Photography

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Students will become skilled at the technical aspect to taking photos with a digital camera. They will demonstrate an understanding of editing photos. They will become educated in the basics of photographic history and contemporary practice. Students will begin to see the world around them and represent it! 100% project based course.

Painting

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Students will put into practice the many techniques of painting. Students will utilize the mediums of oil, watercolor and acrylic as well as mixed mediums. Lessons will be derived from painters through the ages. Students will refine their skills through working in sketchbooks. Lessons will be graded on: Creativity & Originality, Composition & Design, Technique, Effort & Craftsmanship, Knowledge of Procedure, and Teamwork. 100% project based course.

Art

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

An introduction to various mediums and art movements. Units include drawing, painting and 3D work. Mediums will include pen and ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, clay and other forms of 3D building materials.

BUSINESS/CAREER & TECHNICAL

Business Technology Procedures

Grade Level: 9

Required, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Students will learn advanced skills in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint 2013 and Office 365. Lessons will also be completed on Microsoft Outlook and Publisher for communication and business practicality

Accounting 1

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

This course will cover the concepts and procedures of maintaining financial records and journals for various businesses (sole proprietorship, partnership, and corporation), analyze transactions that affect a business, and prepare financial statements and reports. Students will learn accounting terminology and be able to draw conclusions by critiquing accounting data. Simulations and accounting computer applications will prepare students for college-level business courses.

Financial Literacy

Grade Level: 10-12

Required, semester, ½ credit (choose this or Independent Living)

Prerequisite: None

Students will learn how to manage their money and learn about current financial management trends and issues. Items such as credit card debt, automobile loans, apartment and housing leases, checking accounts, savings accounts, insurance, investments, taxes and different areas of investments will be covered. Students will also create a resume and research job exploration.

Business Fundamentals

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

To provide students with an understanding of the economic environment in which we all live. An introductory study of business, how business meets consumer needs and wants, economic principles, desirable business practices, and awareness of career opportunities in the field of business.

Entrepreneurship

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

The Entrepreneurship course is designed to introduce students to what is needed to start and manage a simple business. Students will be able to plan market strategies, manage the finances of the business, understand what it takes to develop and grow the business, in addition to many other aspects of developing a business venture. They will also develop an understanding of what it means to be an entrepreneur and how they can use their unique skills and talents to start a small business of their own. Students will also be given hands on experience in the business world with hours completed in The Grove and Grover Grounds with topics that include customer relations, advertising and marketing, inventory management and day to day operations of a business.

Cooperative Work Experience

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Cooperative Work Experience provides students with the opportunity to use their regularly scheduled, supervised employment as a source of academic educational credit. The employment must be preceded by, or concurrent with, classroom instruction related to the work experience and consistent with the student's occupational goals. There shall be a training agreement among all partners to the work experience (school, employer, student, and parents/guardians) outlining the expectations of each party. The instructor shall also develop a specific training plan with the employer for each student placed. The training plan shall include provisions for assessment of student progress and for on-site visits by the instructor during the student's placement. A reflective essay will summarize the experience.

*Oak Grove offers limited unpaid employment on campus in both the Oak Grove School Store and the high school main office. Students interested in either of these positions should note store or office on their sign-up sheet.

Cooperative Work Experience – Junior Educators of Tomorrow (JETS)

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit per semester

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students interested in teaching as a career. Five periods per week are spent in a classroom observing, working with children, and assisting the classroom teacher by correcting papers, making bulletin boards, locating materials, and performing other classroom duties. In addition to that, the student meets with an advisor to set up completion of other assignments for the course.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES**Christian Living (Christian Studies 9)**

Grade Level: 9

Required, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

What place do Jesus Christ's "First Century Values" have in a 21st Century World? Christian Lifestyle is designed to explore Christ's timeless gospel values, and learn ways to apply those values to how we live our lives and how we relate to our community.

Luke/Acts

Grade Level: 10-12

Required/Elective, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the Christian Studies requirement

Prerequisite: None

The gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts are filled with stories of witness from John the Baptist to Stephen and from the Roman Centurion to Paul. In Luke and Acts, we read dozens of stories about people who experienced Jesus and were changed by that experience. In Luke/Acts we will explore the life-changing encounters with our Savior that collectively led to the greatest movement in the history of the world.

Living Waters

Grade Level: 10-12

Required/Elective, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the Christian Studies requirement

Prerequisite: None

“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’” John 7:38. The focus of this class is to unveil God’s unconditional love for us and discover the impact it has on us as individuals and on the world around us.

Seekers

Grade Level: 10-12

Required/Elective, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the Christian Studies requirement

Prerequisite: None

This course will explore the basic principles of Christianity. We will explore various questions such as “Who is Jesus?” “Why did Jesus have to die?” “Why and how do we read the Bible?” “Why and how do I pray?” “How do we tell others?” This course is designed for students who may be approaching Christianity for the first time as well as students who are looking to find an anchor for what they already know to be true about the Christian faith. We will also explore writings from seekers turned Christian and how these people have approached their questions of faith.

Letters from a Rebel

Grade Level: 10-12

Required/Elective, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the Christian Studies requirement

Prerequisite: None

Explore the letters written by the Apostle Paul who, in his early years rebelled against Christians but later became one of the most influential leaders of the early church. Paul was a rebel who spoke radical truth to the churches throughout the known world and his letters continue to influence and shape the church as we know it today.

A Heart of Wisdom

Grade Level: 10-12

Required/Elective, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the Christian Studies requirement

Prerequisite: None

This course will focus on the books of the Bible that we call “Wisdom Literature” in which we are given insight into our lives in light of God’s revelation to God’s people. We will explore how we are to understand life and how we ought to live in God’s world. Our learning will focus on an investigation of our individual existence in an immeasurable universe and the dilemma of the individual who must assume ultimate responsibility for acts of free will and choices of right/wrong and good/bad.

Servant Leadership

Grade Level: 10-12

Required/Elective, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the Christian Studies requirement

Prerequisite: None

21st Century Leadership is a course based on the foundation that anyone can be a leader. In this course, students will learn to unlock the leader from within. Through self-inventory, values clarification, and the discovery of personal strengths, students will begin to identify those vocational sparks within themselves. Students will learn group process and peer-mentoring skills that will allow them to learn the art of constructive collaboration with the goal of making a difference in their community. An emphasis on gospel-based servant-leadership will serve as a guiding model for our group process and community service.

ENGLISH**English 9**

Grade Level: 9

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Middle School English

This course includes basic types of literature, grammar, oral and written composition, listening and speech skills and application.

English 10 Grade Level: 10
Required, full year, 1 credit
Prerequisite: 9th grade English
This course includes composition and vocabulary skills, as well as wide review of the following literary genres: short story, essay, biography, autobiography, poetry, novel, and drama.

English 11 Grade Level: 11
Required, full year, 1 credit
Prerequisite: 10th grade English
This course continues instruction in oral and written composition; reference/research papers and techniques; and ideals and ideas expressed in American literature from the Puritan Period to the 20th Century.

English 12 Grade Level: 12
Required, full year, 1 credit
Prerequisite: English 11
Students read and analyze British and world literature from the following genres: short story, essay, novel and drama. Students are required to write several analytical papers and projects.

ENGL 110 Grade Level: 12
Required, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the senior English requirement
Dual Credit: 3 VCSU Credits
Prerequisite: English 11
A course which introduces students to college-level reading, writing, rhetoric, and critical thinking skills.

ENGL 220 Grade Level: 12
Required, semester, ½ credit this course will fulfill the senior English requirement
Dual Credit: 3 VCSU Credits
Prerequisite: English 11
A course which introduces students to college-level reading and discussion of representative examples from poetry, drama, and fiction using common literary terminology.

English Humanities Grade Level: 9-12
Elective, semester, ½ credit
Prerequisite: None
Offered alternating years: 2017-2018
Students will study the history, literature, art, and culture of an area of Norway. Students are required to take the course if they plan to travel the following summer. However, students are not required to travel if they take the course.

Novels Grade Level: 10-12
Elective, semester, ½ credit
Prerequisite: None
Offered alternating years: 2017-2018
This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of classic novels written by great authors and more recent novels by popular modern day authors. The novels will be discussed and analyzed on their own merits, but the students will also explore the novels in relation to their own life experiences. The course is appropriate for students who enjoy reading and discussing literature.

Speech Grade Level: 10-12
Elective, semester, ½ credit
Prerequisite: None
Offered alternating years: 2017-2018
This course is designed to help students learn the art of writing and delivering effective speeches for a variety of purposes. Students will gain confidence in their public speaking ability by analyzing great speakers and great speeches in history and by refining their own speaking skills.

FAMILY and CONSUMER SCIENCE

Textiles I

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

An introductory course studying the basics of natural and chemical makeup of textile structures, including examinations of fibers, fabrics, dyes, and finishes. Project design and construction, care and maintenance techniques, basic sewing and terminology, equipment for hand and/or machine sewing, as well as reading and using patterns are some other topics that will be studied in depth. The majority of classroom time, students will be hands-on with project based learning. Some fabric and sewing equipment is provided by the teacher, but the student can purchase their own if they so choose.

Independent Living

Grade Level: 10-12

Required, semester, ½ credit (Choose this or Financial Lit)

Prerequisite: None

“Everything you need to know once you leave your mama’s house.” This course includes problem solving and decision making practice in areas such as careers, finance, food and nutrition, clothing, marriage and family, and housing. The student will do several individualized projects for real world applications and to practice living on your own.

Housing & Interior Design

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

This project-based course enables students to explore their creativity in the field of architecture and interior design. The student will learn how to identify architectural styles, choose floor plans and furnishings and coordinate interiors using color and design principles. Other topics include furniture arrangement basics, floor plan evaluations, area planning, and careers.

Cultures & Cuisine

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

This course will explore cultures in various parts of the world in relation to ethnic foods, food supply, preparation methods and traditions. We discover why we eat what we eat and who we are through a cross-cultural study via food production, preparation, and consumption. This class lets you try a variety of food from all over the world!

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

Grade Level: 8-9

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or placement test

This course includes number theory, graphs, positive and negative numbers, mathematical sentences, polynomials, linear equations and inequalities with one and two variables, systems of equations, functions.

Algebra II

Grade Level: 9 or 11-12

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Topics in this course may include the number system, polynomials, algebraic functions, exponents and radicals, sets and equations, simultaneous equations and matrices, inequalities, functions and relationships, plus an extension of topics.

Geometry

Grade Level: 10

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course includes an investigation of the properties of points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, circles, spheres and polygons. Other topics include coordinate geometry, inductive and deductive reasoning, and areas and volumes of solids.

Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II

Topics to include trigonometry, vectors, and polar coordinates, linear relations and functions, equation theory, matrices, sequences and series, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, conics, and pre-calculus topics such as limits, derivatives and integrals.

AP Calculus

Grade Level: 12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: One year of pre-calculus

This course includes an intensive review of the topics from algebra, trigonometry, and analytic geometry that are necessary for success in calculus. Topics include limits, derivatives, and definite and indefinite integrals. Applications of these topics are included.

Probability and Statistics

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Offered alternating years: 2018-2019

Probability and Statistics introduces the study of likely events and the analysis, interpretation, and presentation of quantitative data. Course topics will include basic probability and statistics: discrete probability theory, odds and probabilities, probability trees, populations and samples, frequency tables, measures of central tendency, normal distribution, measures of variability and presentation of data (including graphs).

Principles of Engineering

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

PLTW (Project Lead the Way) problem-based STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) course using math, science, and engineering for hands-on projects. Students work independently and in teams to solve problems using the engineering design process. Engineering notebooks and 3-D modeling software will be utilized. Class is designed to be very hands-on, and will involve introductory computer programming and robotics.

MUSIC**Symphonic Band**

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: At least two years prior experience playing an instrument. (Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis with evaluation from the band director)

This course includes the fundamentals of musicianship, small group and full band performance. Class activities include playing music written for band from a wide range of musical eras, sight reading, terminology study, scales and exercises, and listening to recorded performances. Various public performances will occur during the school year. Composition projects will occur as time allows. Enrollment in band is possible for those with experience with electric bass, string orchestra instruments, piano, or drum set.

Instrumental, Private Study

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Individualized study with a particular instrument. Times may vary depending on student/teacher schedule. The student will focus on music specifically written for their instrument. Private study is designed for both students who desire more in depth study on their chosen instrument, experienced players looking to add an instrument to their repertoire, or students with no instrumental background who would like to learn an instrument.

Chapel Choir

Grade Level: 9-10

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Some vocal ability and a willingness to work and be challenged

This course provides for the study of vocal music through group performance. Opportunities for solos are offered but not required. There is an emphasis on breathing, good vocal technique, sight reading, and learning solfege syllables. We sing a broad range of literature with some foreign language and a cappella.

Concert Choir

Grade Level: 11-12*

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Placement is by audition only, Chapel Choir or other choral experience preferred. Must display good vocal ability, understanding of musicianship, positive attitude, and willingness to work and be challenged.

This course provides for the advanced study of vocal music through group performance. Opportunities for solos are offered but not required. There is an emphasis on tuning, blending, dynamics, phrasing, and critical listening skills including awareness of the overtone series. We sing primarily a cappella literature, some foreign languages, and strive to perform difficult literature. *Exceptional singers may be chosen as a Freshman or Sophomore.

Chapel Music

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

This class is designed to help students discover their musical gifts in the following manners: developing listening skills with ear training; learning what music is made of through the study of music theory; learning how to play instruments like guitar, drums, and piano; working on praise songs and leading chapel services once a week during the school year; and learning how to compose music and write it down for others to enjoy. Previous music experience is not required to succeed in this class.

AP Music Theory

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Ability to read and write musical notation; basic performance skills in singing or with an instrument.

Offered alternating years: 2018-2019

The goal of the AP Music Theory course is to help the student pass the AP test by developing the student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard and presented in a score. The achievement of this goal may best be approached by initially addressing fundamental aural, analytical, and compositional skills using both listening and written exercises. Building on this foundation, the course will progress to include more creative tasks, such as the harmonization of a melody by selecting appropriate chords, composing a musical bass line to provide two-voice counterpoint, or the realization of a figured-bass reduction.

Voice, Private Study

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, 1/8 credit

Prerequisite: None

Private lessons in voice. Additional fee.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION and HEALTH**General Physical Education**

Grade Level: 9-12

Required, two semesters, 1/2 credit each

May be taken in grade 9 or 10

This course includes a combination of activities selected from individual sports, team sports, and fitness activities. Skills will be learned and practiced, as well as strategy and tactical components of each sport and activity. Other skills such as teamwork, positive attitude, and fair play will also be practiced and expected. FitnessGram testing is part of the Oak Grove physical education program.

Weight Training

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: None (This course may fulfill one semester PE requirement)

The goal of this course is to introduce and motivate students to set goals in the weight room, and show how to achieve them. Each student will be evaluated during the first week of class. After testing, students will be shown the areas they can improve, and the instructor will assist them on how to set goals to achieve them. Throughout the semester, students will be evaluated on how they are improving. Each student will leave the course with a basic understanding of the safety, value, and benefits of a proper weight training program.

PE 2

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None (This course may fulfill one semester PE requirement)

This course will focus on sports and activities that can be enjoyed throughout life. The goal of this course is for students to find a variety of activities they enjoy, and will continue to play recreationally after high school, for life-long fitness. May include traveling off campus.

Health

Grade Level: 11

Required, 1 semester, ½ credit

Required for graduation

The goal of this course is for students to understand how to maintain a high level of health and wellness throughout their lives. This includes discussion of health related fitness components such as muscular strength and endurance, cardiorespiratory endurance, flexibility and body composition. Other topics covered include nutrition, body image, drug and alcohol education, sexual education, stress management, and mental and emotional health.

SCIENCE**Physical Science**

Grade Level: 9

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is a combination of introductory physics and chemistry. The course includes the study of motion, energy, states of matter, and chemical composition. The course includes laboratory procedures.

Biology

Grade Level: 10

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Biology is the study of life and the interactions between living organisms. During this course you will learn the different methods scientists use to find answers for questions they have about the concepts of life and life processes. Throughout the year, we will explore many different topics including genetics, cells, ecology, evolution, human impact, and the diversity of life.

BIOL 150

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Dual Credit: 4 VCSU Credits

Prerequisite: Biology

The first semester will earn credit for BIOL 150, focusing on cell biology, genetics, and form and function of body systems.

BIOL 151

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Dual Credit: 4 VCSU Credits

Prerequisite: Biology

The second semester will earn credit for BIOL 151, focusing on evolution, ecology, and the diversity of life. This is a lab based course and will also involve hands-on research through the River Watch program.

Chemistry

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Physical Science, Algebra II

This course is a study of the composition of substances, their properties, and their interactions.

AP Chemistry

Grade Level 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Chemistry

The Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry course will focus on six big ideas and seven science practices throughout. The big ideas include structure of matter, bonding and intermolecular forces, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and chemical equilibrium. The science practices include drawing, explaining, and interpreting representations, using mathematical and logical routines appropriately, asking and refining science questions, designing and implementing data collection strategies, analyzing and evaluating data, making predictions and justifying claims with evidence, connecting chemistry concepts across big ideas.

Anatomy and Physiology

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Biology

Anatomy and Physiology is an in-depth look at the human body systems and the relationship between form (anatomy) and function (physiology). Each chapter will include Latin and Greek roots, clinical connections (such as common disorders of each system), and multiple laboratory activities. The course will include required dissections of sheep eyes, deer hearts, and a visit to see a human cadaver.

Physics

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Physical Science, Geometry, Algebra II

This lab-based course will study numerous physics topics using basic algebra and trigonometry. Topics may include mechanics, fluids, waves, optics, thermodynamics, and electricity and magnetism. The math used is basic algebra and trigonometry and will be taught or reinforced for the students as necessary.

Medical Interventions

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Biology

This Project Lead the Way course allows students to investigate the variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease as they follow the lives of a fictitious family. Through each scenario the students will be exposed to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) in a project-based, problem-based curriculum that includes interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, among others. Students will also investigate multiple careers within the medical field. Students will be completing many advanced lab techniques including PCR, gel electrophoresis, protein purification, microarray, and others.

SOCIAL SCIENCES**Civics**

Grade Level: 9

Required (9th grade). Semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is a study of U.S. government and how it plays out as a democracy. It includes the study of the history of the Constitution, all branches and levels of government, rights and responsibilities of citizens, political parties, legislative process, and the election process.

World History

Grade Level: 10

Required, full year 1 credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is a historical overview from ancient times through 1918. It includes the rise of western civilization, ancient Greece, the Roman Empire, life in the middle ages, the Renaissance, the French Revolution, transition to modern times, imperialism, and World War I.

United States History

Grade Level: 11

Required, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Civics

This course is a study of the history of the United States from the Civil War to the present.

POD 1 Economics

Grade Level: 12

Required, semester ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is an analysis of American capitalism and other world economies. It includes pricing, business organizations, labor, competition, taxation, personal finances, world trade, monetary and fiscal policy.

POD 2 Close-Up/Government

Grade Level: 12

Required, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students interested in federal government, domestic and world policy issues and current events. Students will analyze issues and learn the importance of responsibilities as a U. S. citizen. Class culminates with a field trip to Washington, D. C. Additional fees for the trip are required. (Student are not required to take the trip.)

North Dakota Studies

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

North Dakota Studies will allow students to become more familiar with their home state. Lifestyle, employment opportunities, ethnic heritages, historical events, geographic descriptions, geologic elements, sociological phenomena, current events, and political insights common to North Dakota will be studied.

AP Psychology

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: None

The course covers history and approaches; research methods; biological bases of behavior; sensation and perception; states of consciousness; learning; cognition; motivation and emotion; developmental psychology; personality; testing and individual difference; abnormal psychology; treatment of psychological disorders; and social psychology.

Sociology

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2018-2019

This course introduces students to the study of human behavior within society by providing an overview of sociology topics such as social institutions and behavioral norms, socialization and social changes, and the relationships among individuals and groups in society. Put simply, we will study how people behave and interact in group settings, and reasoning's behind the actions that people may take within different groups. In sociology, we will also look at modern issues such as poverty, welfare, crime and punishment, social classes, and other contemporary issues that many people deal with on a day to day basis both in the United States and the world.

Political Science

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

The course approaches the study of politics from a theoretical perspective, including an examination of what the role of government is, the nature of political behavior, political power, and political action. In this semester long course we will analyze, describe, and predict the many political systems, behaviors, and cultures to help you gain a more informed and knowledgeable understanding of how politics work within American society. This class will give you an awareness of the rules and strategies that are used within our political landscape.

International Relations

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Offered alternating years: 2017-2018

This course provides students with an introduction to the relationships that exist among different nations and how our world interacts. We will look at many topics including an examination of the modern nation; the foreign policies of nations; the dynamics of nationalism, ideology, and culture; and the role that international organizations play in our world today. The course may also emphasize contemporary events that we see happening within, and shaping, our daily lives. These contemporary issues could include but are not limited to; oil, terrorism, environmental issues and resources, and religious tension.

Latin American Studies

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Offered alternating years: 2018-2019

Latin American Studies is an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Latin America. This will include a broad exploration of the history, culture & language, geography, literature, art, politics and economics of South America, Central America, the Caribbean, and the areas of the United States heavily influenced by Spanish and Latino culture.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Language courses introduce students to the target language and to the process of another language system. Equally important is the introduction to and the appreciation for another culture. The language is approached through the cultural, historical, geographical, literary, and daily life aspect of the people.

Spanish I

Grade Level: 9-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: None

This course lays a foundation for proficiency in the four language skills: understanding, speaking, reading, and writing. Communication and language proficiency are stressed throughout all three levels.

Spanish II

Grade Level: 10-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish I

This course builds on the foundation of the introductory course, with more complex tasks in the four language skills. There is increased emphasis on cultural awareness.

Spanish III

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish II

The emphasis continues on progressive levels of competency in the four language skills. Literature and consideration of cultural patterns provide the basis for advanced study. Special attention is given to preparation for the transition to college level courses.

SPAN 201

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Dual Credit: 3 VCSU Credits

Prerequisite: Spanish II and Semester 1 of Spanish III

A continuation of Spanish I, II, and III with further development of reading skills to increase vocabulary. Students will increase vocabulary knowledge as well as verbal skills.

Spanish IV

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, full year, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish III

Spanish IV is a full year course with a high emphasis on production skills. Grammatical concepts from Spanish I-III will be applied with a focus on using them while speaking. A wide variety of activities are introduced in order to help students use language in numerous situations while furthering their cultural knowledge. New vocabulary will be taught and old vocabulary will be reviewed.

SPAN 202

Grade Level: 11-12

Elective, semester, ½ credit

Dual Credit: 3 VCSU Credits

Prerequisite: Spanish III and Semester 1 of Spanish IV

A continuation of Spanish I, II, III and IV with further development of cultural understanding through selected readings. A high emphasis is placed on speaking skills at this level.