

Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy

2020-2021 High School Course Catalog

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Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy
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BANNING LEWIS PREPARATORY ACADEMY CURRICULUM GUIDE

This curriculum guide has been developed to assist you in planning for a successful high school experience. The guide contains the requirements that you must meet in order to graduate from Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy. It also includes a course map, brief descriptions of the courses, weighted grading, and eligibility at Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy.

Study the graduation requirements and course descriptions carefully with your parents before planning your courses. Your counselor and teachers will assist you with your decisions. Your choice of courses should be based upon graduation requirements, post-high school plans, teacher recommendations, interests and abilities, and past achievements. It is important to note that some of the courses listed in this guide may not be offered due to insufficient student registration in that course.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Vision – We are champions of tradition and innovative education.

Mission - The mission of BLPA is to create a safe, positive environment that fosters intellectual curiosity and a thirst for discovery where students and staff succeed through exceptional programs.

DISTRICT 49 MISSION STATEMENT

By learning, working, and leading, we will prepare students, in a safe and caring environment, to be successful, competent and productive citizens in a global society.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Coursework requirements for graduation are based on the number of units of credit earned in grades 9 through 12. A unit of .5 credit is typically the credit received for a one semester course. A minimum of 25 units of credit shall be required for graduation from high school. Specific requirements may be waived with the approval of the principal. Appeals will be directed to the BLPA Board of Directors.

Requirement Areas	Credits	Notes
English	4.0	Must include courses that contain both literature and composition.
Science	3.0	Must include two lab sciences.
Mathematics	3.0	Must include Algebra 1 and Geometry, unless completed in middle school.
Social Sciences	3.0	Must include 1 credit U.S. history and .5 credit American Government
World Language	2.0	Must include a second year of a language.
Fine Arts	1.0	May include any combination of fine arts
Physical Education/Health	1.5	Must include one semester of a team sport and one semester of health.
Freshman Success Senior Capstone	1.0	Mentorship beginning Junior year
Academic Core Electives	3.0	Any additional course work in English, Science, Mathematics, Social Sciences, or World Language.
Unrestricted Electives	4.0	Any credits earned above the requirements in any area.
Total	25.0	

COLORADO HIGHER EDUCATION ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

These credits represent minimum requirements at four-year public institutions and not for the state's community colleges, which are open admissions. More information can be attained from your counselor.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY

Students who are interested in competing in college athletics at the Division I or II level should complete an NCAA Eligibility form as soon as their sophomore year or before the end of their junior year. This form is to be completed on-line at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Once registered with the Eligibility Center, students will need to request their transcript to be sent. Only specific BLPA courses are approved for NCAA Clearinghouse calculations.

Please go to http://fs.ncaa.org/Docs/eligibility_center/Quick_Reference_Sheet.pdf for eligibility guidelines

	Division I	Division II
English Core	4 years	3 years
Mathematics Core (Algebra I or higher)	3 years	2 years
Science (One year of lab science)	2 years	2 years
Extra years of English, Mathematics, or Science	1 year	3 years
Social Science	2 years	2 years
Extra core course (from any category above, foreign language, non-doctrinal religion or philosophy)	4 years	4 years
Total	16 core courses	16 core courses

STUDENT CLASSIFICATION

Students are classified based on the number of years they have spent in school. Thus, all students in their first year of high school are classified as freshmen; all students in their second year are classified as sophomores; and all students in their third year are classified as juniors. Students will be classified as seniors even though they may have less than 21 credits. The following chart shows the number of credits a student should earn each year in order to stay on track to graduate within four years.

CREDITS EARNED	CLASSIFICATION
7	FRESHMEN
14	SOPHOMORE
21	JUNIOR
25+	SENIOR

WEIGHTED GRADES

By School Board policy, courses approved for weighted grade status will receive 1 extra grade point per credit for that course based on a 5-point scale. This extra point will be calculated with all other course grades, which are calculated on a 4-point scale. All Advanced Placement (AP) courses will receive weighted grade status. Class rank and all other honors will be based on a weighted grade point average. Credits transferred school will not be weighted, except for Advanced Placement courses. When a student submits a petition for consideration, the principal may grant weighted grade status to a transfer course which carries a similar title or description as a “weighted” course, if it reasonably meets the BLPA definition of a weighted course and was weighted at the previous school.

STUDENT TRANSCRIPTS

Students should recognize the importance of their school records for financial aid and admission to college. A student’s record is the accumulation of efforts from ninth grade through the twelfth grade. Successful completion of middle school Algebra 1 or Geometry will allow a student to continue on to higher level math courses at the high school level BUT WILL NOT count toward the 3 math credits required for BLPA graduation and WILL NOT be reflected on the high school transcript. Grade point average and class rank are figured on courses taken in ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades. A student’s record includes the grade point average, courses completed, and standardized test results. A request for an official transcript can be made through a student’s counselor. There is a minimum processing time of 3 business days for transcript requests.

SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY

Developing student responsibility is a goal that helps guide educational decision-making. Since students have the opportunity to choose most of their classes and build their schedules, it is expected that they will give careful consideration to this process and be responsible for the decisions they make. SCHEDULE CHANGES COULD AFFECT YOUR ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY.

Schedule Change Procedures

1. Schedule changes may be requested in the first 10 days of the semester.
2. All requests for a schedule change must be completed using the schedule change request form, and the form must be turned in to the counseling office during the schedule change window. Schedule changes will be completed in order of priority (educational misplacement or to complete a schedule) followed by the order forms are received.
3. Changes are based on the following reasons only: failed prerequisite for a course or being educationally misplaced. Convenience changes will not be made. Examples include requests for teacher change or being in a class with friends.
4. Schedule changes are subject to class availability. Since some changes require the shifting of other classes, it may not be possible to grant the request due to conflicts and/or class sizes.
5. Students will follow the schedule they were given until notified by their counselor that a change was made. Failure to follow this procedure will result in the student being counted absent in the scheduled classes.
6. Schedules for all classes not labeled AP may be changed up to the 10th day of the semester. After the 10th day of the semester, students who withdraw from a course will receive a W/F (withdraw/fail) for a semester grade in the course they are dropping, unless they have been educationally misplaced or have some

extenuating circumstances, e.g., hospitalization, or long-term illness, etc. For AP classes that W/F deadline will be 19 days into the semester rather than 10. The W/F will be calculated into the total grade point average (G.P.A.) according to school policy.

ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY

Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy sets high expectations for all students in the classroom. Eligibility is checked at the end of each semester and once a week (Friday) throughout each semester. All athletes representing Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy must satisfy all eligibility requirements set by CCAL for middle school student-athletes and CHSAA for high school student-athletes. Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy has selected Plan B from the eligibility plan options outlined in 1710(c) of the CHSAA By-Laws:

“During the period of participation, the student must be enrolled in courses which offer, in aggregate, a minimum of 2.5 Carnegie units of credit per semester and must pass a minimum of the equivalent of 2.5 Carnegie units of credit.” Note that 2.5 Carnegie units of credit typically translates to five semester courses at BLPA.

Note that 2.5 Carnegie units of credit typically translates to five semester courses at BLPA. Additionally, with all eligibility plan options (including Plan B) students are required to meet the requirements of the plan in the preceding semester. See 1710(d) of the CHSAA By-Laws for details.

Additionally, Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy has a no “F” policy on the weekly eligibility checks regardless of the number of equivalent Carnegie units of credit in which a student-athlete is enrolled. If a student-athlete (middle school or high school) is found ineligible on a weekly eligibility check, they will be withheld from competition the following week (beginning on the following Sunday and running through the next Saturday).

Additionally, if a high school student-athlete is determined to be ineligible on an end of semester eligibility check, then they will be withheld from competition for the duration described in 1710(d) of the CHSAA By-Laws.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

The Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act (CEPA) (CRS 22-35-101 et seq.) makes it possible for eligible students in grades 9 through 12 who are under the age of 21 and officially registered with Banning Lewis Academy to simultaneously enroll in their local high schools and in qualified institutions of higher learning. Interested students must meet eligibility and application criteria as identified by the statute and further defined by the district and must involve their counselor in the process from the outset. The student must demonstrate college readiness by meeting minimum scores on the Accuplacer, SAT or ACT, maintaining a 2.5 high school GPA, no Ds or Fs, and satisfying any prerequisites as defined by the institution of higher learning. The student should begin the application process with their counselor well in advance of deadlines. Counselors and principals must approve the concurrent enrollment application. Students must submit their application to the Director of Programs, Rob Wilkinson by February 1st to qualify for the fall semester and September 6th for the spring semester. For an approved applicant, the district shall pay, directly to the institution of higher learning, the prevailing community college rate per on-campus credit hour whether the student attends a 2 year or 4-year college. The student shall pay to the institution of higher learning any tuition in excess of the community college rate plus fees, additional costs, books, and transportation, etc. The student and their parent/guardian must sign a Promise to Repay Contract as part of the application process. The contract outlines tuition repayment conditions for CE grades of W, F, INC. Nonrefunded tuition will be added to the

student's outstanding fees at his/her high school. International exchange students are ineligible for the tuition payment by the district. College courses taken under the Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act program will count for two semesters of high school credit, grades earned will be weighted and appear on the high school transcript.

AP PROGRAM

Students considering one or more AP classes should be sure that they have met the prerequisites for the AP class in question and complete any applicable summer assignments. To ensure that students have ample time to attempt the rigorous curriculum found in AP classes, without having to worry about W/F penalties, AP students may request level changes for AP drops/level changes until the 19th school day of the semester. After that, only students with extenuating circumstances, e.g. hospitalization, or long-term illness, etc., will be able to change an AP class without the W/F being applied to their transcript and GPA. Please see your counselor with any questions about AP enrollments. The Advanced Placement Program (AP) gives students an opportunity to participate in college-level curricula, and to take college level exams while still in high school. AP courses give access to in-depth and accelerated learning at the college level. They differ from non-AP classes with respect to the kind of textbook, the range and depth of topics covered, and the amount of time and effort required of the student. Thirty-six courses are offered worldwide by nearly 14,000 high schools. BLPA AP students are strongly encouraged to take the College Board's AP Examination on a national test day in May. Depending on the scores they earn, students may be granted college credit, advanced placement in a college class, or both. More information about the Advanced Placement courses and the College Board program can be found at <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Controller.jspf>. All AP examinations contain both multiple-choice and free response (essay) questions. Most of the examinations will take approximately three hours, and they must be taken on the day determined by College Board. Every examination receives an overall grade on a 5-point scale: 5 = Extremely Well Qualified; 4 = Well Qualified; 3 = Qualified; 2 = Possibly Qualified; and 1 = No recommendation. In keeping with BLPA policy concerning weighted grade courses, any student who does not take the AP exam will be given an appropriate alternative assessment determined by the teacher to be equal in rigor and challenge. Students wishing to enroll in AP courses at BLPA are those who intend to take the AP exams in May. Information about exam registration and payment is available from your counselor.

CREDIT RECOVERY

Students who have attempted and failed a semester in courses required to fulfill graduation requirements may be approved to earn credit through the Credit Recovery program. Administrative guidelines establish the process for earning credit through this program. On the student's transcript, "CR" will be listed by the course name to indicate the course was completed through Credit Recovery. Students who repeat the course will be issued the grade earned in the repeated course. NCAA clearinghouse requirements may not be fulfilled through all credit recovery programs.

COLLEGE ADMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

	Most Selective	Highly Selective	Selective Enrollment	Traditional Enrollment
	Harvard, Stanford, MIT, Georgetown	CO School of Mines, USAFA, CC, BYU, USC, UCLA, Boston College, Notre Dame, Pepperdine	CSU, DU, CU Boulder, ASU, University of Kansas, University of Utah, Syracuse University, UCCS, UNC	Adams State, Western State, Art Institute of Colorado, Mesa State
Level of Coursework	Most Rigorous Available (AP, Concurrent)	Most Rigorous Recommended	Most Rigorous Recommended	AP or advanced course or two in best subjects
English	4 years with an emphasis on writing and literature	4 years with an emphasis on writing and literature	4 years with an emphasis on writing and literature	4 years with an emphasis on writing and literature
Mathematics	4 years preferably including Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus	4 years preferably including Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus	4 years preferably including Algebra I&II/Trig, or Pre-Calculus	3-4 years at Algebra I or higher
Science	4 years minimum	4 years	3 years minimum	3 years minimum
Social Sciences	4 years including U.S. History	4 years including U.S. History	3 years including U.S. History	3 years including U.S. History
World Language	4 years of the same language	3-4 years of the same language	2-3 years of the same language	2 years required or recommended
Arts	At least 1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year
Electives	Computer science, 2 nd world language or additional core courses	As many academics as possible	1 year of additional academic electives	1 year of additional academic electives
Average Test Scores Recommended	ACT over 33 SAT over 1400	ACT over 29 SAT over 1200	ACT over 24 SAT over 1000	ACT over 19 SAT over 800
Other	<p>Additional requirements could include, but are not limited to, a personal essay, recommendations, interview, audition, portfolio, and additional academic requirements. Admissions personnel will also take into consideration the rigor of your curriculum, letters of recommendation, extra-curricular activities and community service.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please refer to individual college websites for specifics, including deadlines.</p>			

High School Course Planner

List below the courses you have taken (or plan to take) each year.

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
English BLPA: 4 credits College Admissions: _____				
Science BLPA: 3 credits College Admissions: _____				
Mathematics BLPA: 3 credits College Admissions: _____				
Social Sciences BLPA: 3 credits College Admissions: _____				
World Language BLPA: 2 credits College Admissions: _____				
Fine Arts BLPA: 1 credit College Admissions: _____				
Physical Education/Health BLPA: 1.5 credits College Admissions: _____				
Senior Capstone BLPA: .5 credit College Admissions: _____				
Academic Core Electives BLPA: 3 credits College Admissions: _____				
Unrestricted Electives BLPA: 4 credits College Admissions: _____				

Art

Overview of Courses

Courses taken in Art count towards the **Fine Arts** credit requirement.

Art I- Foundations

Grade: 9-12

.5 Credit

Art III- Drawing

Grade: 9-12

.5 Credit

Art III- Multimedia

Grade: 10-12

.5 Credit

AP Art Studio: 2-D

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

AP Art Studio: Drawing

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

AP Art History

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

ART I-FOUNDATIONS

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective

Course Costs: Course Fee

Student to provide 24" x 36" portfolio case and sketch book

Description:

Art I is a one semester course that provides an introduction to art through a multimedia experience. Students will learn and apply the elements and principles of design to produce creative art projects that reflect their understanding of these concepts.

ART II-DRAWING

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Art 1- Foundations

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective

Course Costs: Course Fee

Student to provide 24" x 36" portfolio case and sketch book

Description:

Drawing is a one semester course that will emphasize the use of art elements and principles of design to develop skills and sensitivity in a variety of methods and techniques. Students will develop the fundamentals introduced in Art 1- Foundations. Skills are reinforced with attention to creative ideas and the process of problem solving. Emphasis is on landscape, still life, portraiture, figure drawing and abstraction. Attention will be given to developing a personal style. Students will be acquainted with multicultural and art historical themes as well as current technological applications.

ART III-Multimedia

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Art 1- Foundations and Art 2- Drawing

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective

Course Costs: Course Fee

Student to provide 24" x 36" portfolio case and sketch book

Description: Multimedia is an advance once semester course that develops advance work in painting, drawing, and various mixed media and may also include digital design. This course is designed to serve those with a genuine interest in the visual arts and is recommended for those considering electing additional art courses.

AP ART STUDIO: 2-D

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: 3 semesters of Art or Department and AP Facilitator approval required.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Fine Art or 1 Elective

Course Costs: Course fee and AP Exam/Portfolio fee

Student to provide 24" x 36" portfolio case and sketch book

Description: The AP Studio Art Program consists of three portfolio exams—2-D Design, 3-D Design, and Drawing—corresponding to the college foundation courses. The studio focus will be on continuing to develop a body of work in which a portfolio can be developed. Portfolios allow flexibility of coursework while guiding students to produce college-level quality, artistic investigation, and breadth of work. The 2-D Design portfolio addresses two-dimensional design issues and involves decision making about how to use the elements and principles of art in an integrative way. Students' portfolios demonstrate skills and ideas developed, refined, and applied throughout the course to produce visual compositions. Students may choose to submit any or all of the portfolios. Portfolios are evaluated based on standardized scoring descriptors aligned with skills and understanding developed in college foundation courses.

AP ART STUDIO: DRAWING

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: 3 semesters of Art or Department and AP Facilitator

Student to provide 24" x 36" portfolio case and sketch book

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Fine Arts or 1 Elective

Course Costs: Course fee and AP Exam/Portfolio fee

Description: The AP Studio Art Program consists of three portfolio exams—2-D Design, 3-D Design, and Drawing—corresponding to the college foundation courses. Portfolios allow flexibility of coursework while guiding students to produce college-level quality, artistic investigation, and breadth of work. The Drawing portfolio addresses issues such as line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, the illusion of depth, and mark-making. Students' portfolios demonstrate skills and ideas developed, refined, and applied throughout the course to produce visual compositions. Students may choose to submit any or all of the portfolios. Portfolios are evaluated based on standardized scoring descriptors aligned with skills and understanding developed in college foundation courses.

AP ART History

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: 3 semesters of Art or Department and AP Facilitator

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Fine Arts or 1 Elective

Course Costs: Course fee and AP Exam/Portfolio fee

Student to provide 24" x 36" portfolio case and sketch book

Description:

AP Art History is a two-semester class that will explore the history of Art through the ages. The AP Art History course welcomes students into the global art world to engage with its forms and content as they research, discuss, read, and write about art, artists, art making, and responses to and interpretations of art. Students learn and apply skills of visual, contextual, and comparative analysis to engage with a variety of art forms, developing an understanding of individual works and interconnections across history. Quizzes will be given periodically, and a notebook must be kept, as it will be graded at the end of each quarter.

Business Education

Overview of Courses

Marketing I

Grade 9-12

.5 Credit

Business I

Grade 9-12

.5 Credit

Business Law I

Grade 10-12

.5 Credit

Marketing II

Grade 10-12

.5 Credit

Business Finance I

Grade 10-12

.5 Credit

Business Economics

Grade 10-12

.5 Credit

OJT On Job Training

Grade 11-12

.5 Credit

BUSINESS I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to basic business fundamentals and the business pathway and plans of study. Topics include management, entrepreneurship, marketing, accounting, and communication.

MARKETING I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Intro to Business or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will help students gain an understanding of basic functions of business marketing in a free enterprise system. Students will learn about promotion, advertising, selling, career exploration, financing, and basic business operations. An overview of different types of marketing will be explored.

MARKETING II

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Marketing 1 or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: Students will build on concepts learned in Marketing 1, while expanding their knowledge through creation of marketing plans and project-based activities. The core functions of promotion, channel management and marketing information management will be covered.

BUSINESS LAW I

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Intro to Business or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the field of law and how it involves the business community. Students will learn about the court system, basic legal rights and responsibilities, and various areas specific to the business world. A variety of topics will be covered including contracts, purchasing, selling goods and services, consumer rights, business organizations and regulations, and insurance.

BUSINESS FINANCE I

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Intro to Business or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: Students will gain knowledge of business management, business law, accounting, and investment. This course will examine how businesses raise capital and sustain their organization, learn how to fiscally manage risks, and understand how to gain investors

BUSINESS ECONOMICS

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Business Law or Business Finance or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will give the students a greater understanding of economics ranging from the viewpoint of individual consumers or small business owner to the global economy. The course will study the law of supply and demand, forms of business, labor unions, government finances and influence on the economy, money and prices, inflation and deflation cycles. The course relates history and politics to the study of economics.

OJT- ON THE JOB TRAINING

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: 2 Business Courses or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: On-the-job training, also known as OJT, is a hands-on method of teaching the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed for employees to perform a specific job within the workplace. Employees learn in an environment where they will need to practice the knowledge and skills obtained during their training. On-the-job training uses the existing workplace tools, machines, documents, equipment, and knowledge to teach an employee how to effectively do their job.

Computer Technology

Overview of Courses

Computer Technology I

Grade 9-12

.5 Credit

Programming

Grade 9-12

.1 Credit

AP Computer Science

Grade 11-12

1 Credit

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course offers a broad but practical introduction to computer hardware, software, and networking concepts.

WEB DESIGN & PROGRAMMING

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1.0 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is a study of the technical aspects and artistic principles need to design and create an effective website, learning and creating sites with animations with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Department, and AP Facilitator approval required.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: Possible course fee. Students is responsible for the AP exam fee.

Description: AP Computer Science A is equivalent to a first-semester, college level course in computer science. The course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. The course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem solving and design using Java language. These techniques represent proven approaches for developing solutions that can scale up from small, simple problems to large, complex problems. The AP Computer Science A course curriculum is compatible with many CS1 courses in colleges and universities.

English

Overview of Courses

***FOUR YEARS OF ENGLISH REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.**

***English I**
Grade 9
1 Credit

+

English II
Grade 10
1 Credit

English III
Grade 11
1 Credit

+

English IV
Grade 12
1 Credit

AP Language and Comp.
Grade 11/12
1 Credit

OR

AP Literature and Comp.
Grade 11/12
1 Credit

ADDITIONAL ENGLISH COURSES

Basic Speech
Grade 9-12
.5 Credit

Debate
Grade 9-12
.5 Credit

***Honors English I Offered**

ENGLISH I

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts.

Description: This course emphasizes development of essential skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and vocabulary. This course emphasizes the principles of grammar and composition, the study and analysis of topics in literature, the development of vocabulary, and oral expression.

***HONORS ENGLISH I**

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts.

Description: Honors English I is a required course which has been designed to help students master skills in several key areas of communication, including reading, writing, and speaking. Our philosophy and approach to this course reflects our belief that these are all life skills--among those most vital to success in formal education and the wide world beyond the classroom. At the Honors level, students should expect an increase in rigor in course content and evaluation.

ENGLISH II

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English I or equivalent

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts.

Description: This course emphasizes the study of world literature and uses that study as a vehicle for refining vocabulary, grammar, writing, and oral communication skills. This course is a combined study of world literature and composition with an emphasis on research writing, vocabulary, and oral communication.

ENGLISH III

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: English II or equivalent

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts.

Description: This course is a combined study of American literature and composition with an emphasis on the writing process for various styles of writing. This course emphasizes refining vocabulary, grammar, and oral communication skills.

ENGLISH IV

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: English III or equivalent

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts.

Description: This course is a combined study of British literature and composition with an emphasis on the writing process for various styles of writing. This course emphasizes refining vocabulary, grammar, and oral communication.

AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 11/12

Prerequisite: English II or equivalent. Department and AP Facilitator approval required.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods. Summer reading is mandatory. Obtain the list prior to summer break.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 11/12

Prerequisite: English II or equivalent

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English

Course Costs: Students will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. It is suggested to take AP Literature and Composition after taking AP Language and Composition. Summer reading is mandatory. Obtain the list prior to summer break.

SPEECH & DEBATE**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 semester**Credit Type:** .5 English**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course focuses on the fundamentals of improving public speaking in formal and informal settings. Students focus on solo speaking opportunities and activities that address the organization, preparation, and delivery of a variety of speeches including informative and persuasive speeches.

CREATIVE WRITING**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 semester**Credit Type:** .5 English**Course Costs:** None

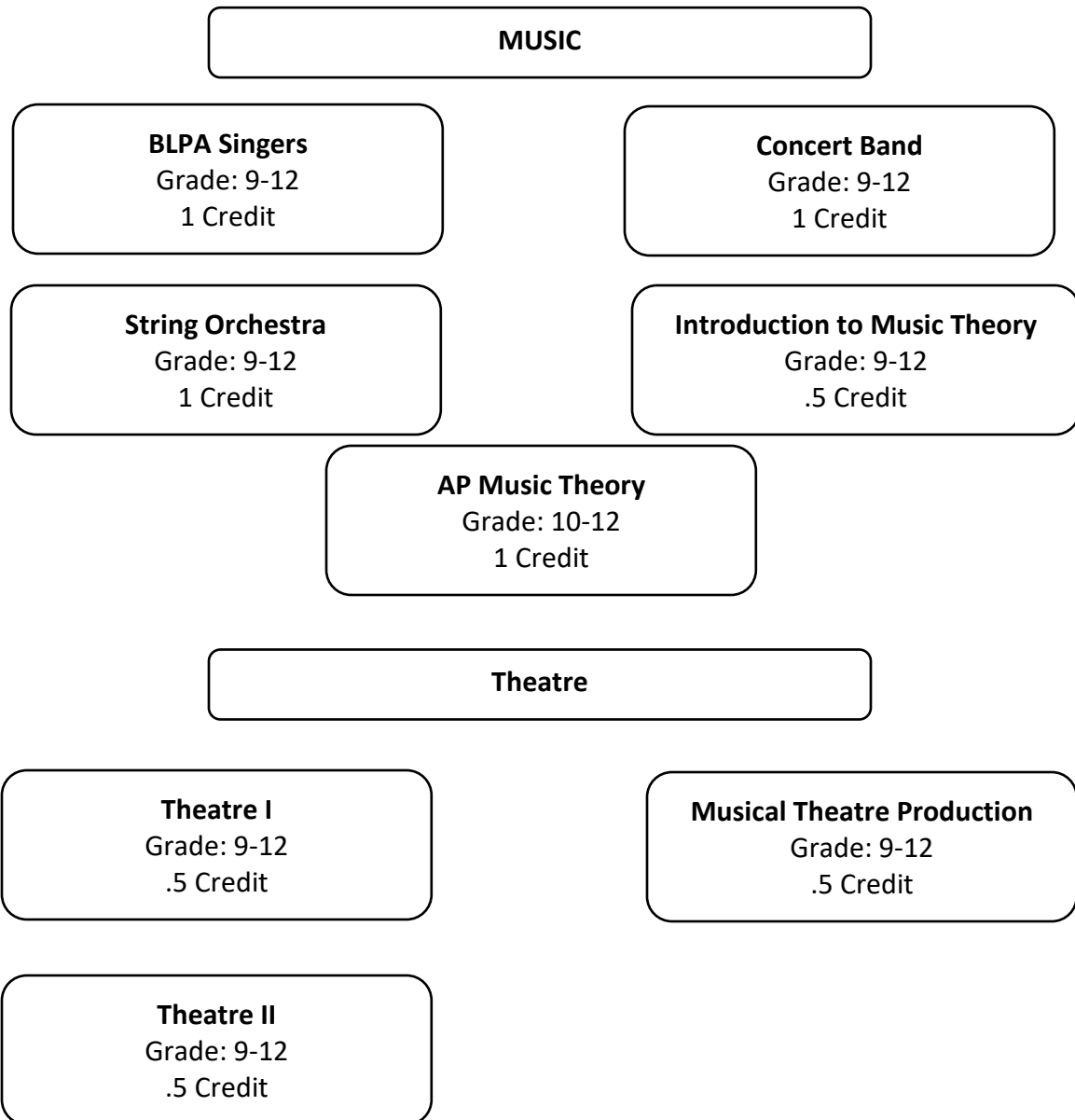
Description: This course will provide students with the opportunity to create and revise original works of fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will develop their writing vocabulary, creative writing skills, and revision skills. Students will provide feedback to other students and have the opportunity to revise their own work through writing workshops.

DEBATE**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 semester**Credit Type:** .5 English**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course studies and practices the theory, techniques, and application of various forms of persuasion and debate, including Public Forum, Lincoln-Douglas, legislative debate and/or policy debate. Students research, write debate cases, organize for, and participate in debates.

Fine Arts

Overview of Courses



BLPA SINGERS**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Fine Arts or 1 Elective**Course Costs:** None

Description: Students study proper vocal production and techniques, sight-reading, music theory, ensemble skills, musicianship, and music appreciation. Vocal repertoire will be selected from a variety of genres, musical time periods, composers, musical techniques, and languages. Students will prepare repertoire for a variety of performances.

CONCERT BAND**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Fine Arts or 1 Elective**Course Costs:** Purchase or rental of instrument

Description: Students study proper instrumental techniques, music theory, musicianship, and music appreciation. Band music will be selected from a variety of genres, musical time periods, composers, and styles. Students will prepare band repertoire for a variety of performances.

STRING ORCHESTRA**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Fine Arts or 1 Elective**Course Costs:** Purchase or rental of instrument

Description: The BLPA orchestra focuses on developing and expanding student knowledge of string techniques, performance repertoire, ensemble skills, musicianship, and music appreciation. Students will prepare band repertoire for a variety of performances.

INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC THEORY**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 semester**Credit Type:** .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course entails the study of fundamentals of the mechanics of music, including notation, scales, key signatures, music terminology, intervals, rhythm and meter, chord construction, and music reading. Students should have some piano background for this class.

AP MUSIC THEORY**Grade:** 10 -12**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Music Theory. Department and AP Facilitator approval required.**Length of Course:** 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Fine Arts or 1 Elective

Course Costs: Student will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: AP Music Theory corresponds to two semesters of a typical introductory college music theory course covering topics such as musicianship, theory, musical materials, and procedures. Students develop the ability to recognize, understand, and describe basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. Development of aural skills is a primary objective. Students understand basic concepts and terminology by listening to and performing a wide variety of music.

THEATRE I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: Students will learn the elements of acting, the rules of improv, principles of set design, and guidelines for playwrighting. Students will develop their acting skills through improv and scripted scenes. Students will read and analyze plays from various regions and periods and reflect on how to best act or design the scene.

THEATRE II

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: Students will learn the elements of acting, the rules of improv, principles of set design, and guidelines for playwrighting. Students will develop their acting skills through improv and scripted scenes. Students will read and analyze plays from various regions and periods and reflect on how to best act or design the scene

MUSICAL THEATRE PRODUCTION

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Audition and instructor approval

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Fine Arts or .5 Elective

Course Costs: Course Fee

Description: This course is designed to develop skills in various aspects of producing a musical. Students must be prepared to audition for placement in the course, as well as in the production. During the semester students will focus on improving musical theatre audition and performance techniques. Students are required to attend all rehearsals, tech rehearsals, and performances, including some outside of regular school hours.

Journalism

Overview of Courses

Journalism I

Grade 9-10

1 English Core Elective
Or Unrestricted Elective

Journalism II

Grade 9-12

1 Unrestricted Elective

JOURNALISM I- STALLION NEWS

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: English 1. Department and AP Facilitator approval required.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 English Core Elective or Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will explore interviewing techniques, news writing, feature news writing, editorial writing, and investigative reporting. This class is responsible for the production of the school's newspaper and newscast. Students can take this class for more than one year to gain experience and progress toward the top editorial positions.

JOURNALISM II- YEARBOOK

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Application/Instructor Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None.

Description: Students will record, forever, the memories of the school year. Over the course of the year, students will learn different aspects of the journalist's craft: digital photography, digital page layout, reporting, copywriting skills, interpersonal skills, photography, and advertising. This class is focused on producing the yearbook, this REQUIRES students to work outside of normal school hours to photograph events, interview subjects, and meet firm deadlines. Editors will be chosen to lead the class and work with the teacher to set deadlines, monitor work, and edit the final product. This will require extra hours outside of the normal class time to produce a yearbook that make all members of the BLPA community proud. Students can take this class for more than one year to gain experience and progress toward the top editorial positions.

Mathematics

Overview of Courses

***Algebra 1 and *Geometry are REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.**

***Algebra I**
Grade 9
1 Credit

***Geometry**
Grade 9- 10
1 Credit

Algebra II
Grade 10-11
1 Credit

OR

Consumer Math
Grade 11-12
1 Credit

ADDITIONAL MATHEMATICS COURSES

College Algebra
Grade 10-12
1 Credit

Pre-Calculus
Grade 10-12
1 Credit

AP Statistics
Grade 10-12
1 Credit

AP Calculus AB
Grade 10-12
1 Credit

AP Calculus BC
Grade 10-12
1 Credit

Calculus 3
Grade 11-12
1 Credit

ALGEBRA I

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: None

Description: This course covers linear, quadratic, and exponential functions. It includes systems of equations, exponential properties, and topics from geometry, statistics, and probability.

GEOMETRY

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: None

Description: This course covers concepts from classical Euclidian Geometry as well as Coordinate Geometry. Equation skills from Algebra 1 are extended into the context of shape relationships. The study of Trigonometry is introduced in the context of solving triangles.

ALGEBRA II

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: None

Description: This course covers arithmetic with polynomials, and extends the family of functions. There is a strong emphasis on modeling real world behavior with an appropriate function type and graphic representation. Complex numbers, sequences, series, probability, statistics, and trigonometry are also extended from Algebra 1.

CONSUMER MATH

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics and a personal finance curriculum

Course Costs: None

Description: Consumer Math is a course designated to reinforce and integrate basic computational skills with real-life skills needed to become a careful and competent consumer. Topics include purchasing goods and services, investing money, checking and savings accounts, taxes, and dealing with the everyday mathematics of today's society.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 or Department Approval

Length of Course: 1

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: None

Description: This course includes topics in algebra designed for students planning to attend college. Graphing calculators are used extensively.

PRE-CALCULUS

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: None

Description: This course includes the study of advanced mathematical concepts and methods; explore topics in functions, sequences, and series; explore trigonometric functions (with graphs and inverse functions), identities and equations, solutions of triangles, complex numbers; and other topics.

AP STATISTICS

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra II and Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: Student will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes; exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, statistical inference. *TI-83/84 graphing calculator is highly recommended for this course.* Students should expect to spend at least 2-3 hours per week on work outside of this class.

AP CALCULUS AB

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus and Department Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: Student will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: AP Calculus includes two courses, AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC, which were developed in collaboration with college faculty. The curriculum for AP Calculus AB is equivalent to that of a first-semester college calculus course, while AP Calculus BC is equivalent to too a first-semester college calculus course and the subsequent single-variable calculus course. Calculus BC is an extension of Calculus AB rather than an enhancement; common topics require a similar depth of understanding. Both courses are challenging and demanding, and each is designed to be taught over a full academic year. *TI-83/84 graphing calculator is highly recommended for this course.* Students should expect to spend at least 2-3 hours per week on work outside of this class.

AP CALCULUS BC

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus and Department Approval (Must be taken concurrently with AP Calculus AB)

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: Student will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: AP Calculus includes two courses, AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC, which were developed in collaboration with college faculty. The curriculum for AP Calculus AB is equivalent to that of a first-semester college calculus course, while AP Calculus BC is equivalent to too a first-semester college calculus course and the subsequent single-variable calculus course. Calculus BC is an extension of Calculus AB rather than an enhancement; common topics require a similar depth of understanding. Both courses are challenging and demanding, and each is designed to be taught over a full academic year. *TI-83/84 graphing calculator is highly recommended for this course.* Students should expect to spend at least 2-3 hours per week on work outside of this class.

CALCULUS 3

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: AP Calculus BC

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Mathematics

Course Costs: None

Description: Vectors in the plane and in 3-space, differential calculus in several variables, integration and its applications in several variables, vector fields and line, surface and volume integrals. Green's and Stokes' Theorems.

Physical Education

Overview of Courses

***1 semester of Health and 1 semester of Team Sports are
REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**

***Health**
Grade 9
.5 Credit

***Team Sports**
Grade 9-12
.5 Credit

ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSES

Fitness/Outdoor Education
Grade 9-12
.5 Credit

Weights and Conditioning
Grade 10-12
.5 Credit

Speed Training
Grade 11/12
.5 Credit

***HEALTH**

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: 1 Health

Course Costs: None

Description: This course explores the mental, physical, and social aspects of life, with emphasis on how each contributes to total and overall health and well-being. Each student will learn skills needed to live healthy productive lives as well as how to make positive choices about their future lifestyles, setting the framework for life-long wellness.

***TEAM SPORTS**

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: Physical Education

Course Costs: None

Description: This course has an emphasis on a variety of team and individual sports, students will learn the appropriate skills and rules for each sport for successful learning and play. Students will be required to participate in fitness assessments.

FITNESS/OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: Physical Education

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is a combined fitness and outdoor physical education class that promotes staying active outside of the school environment and encourages lifelong involvement. Students will learn how to stay active throughout their lifetime, how to correctly use equipment/facilities, general safety precautions, and the natural benefits of exercise. Students will be required to participate in fitness assessments.

SPEED TRAINING

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Instructor approval and 1 semester of Physical Education

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: Physical Education

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is designed to develop a student's aerobic and anaerobic conditioning, as well as muscular strength/endurance. Class time will include weight lifting, plyometrics, agility sets, and other exercises to increase each student's performance in those areas. Students may be required to participate in fitness assessments.

WEIGHTS AND CONDITIONING

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite: 1 semester of Physical Education

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: Physical Education

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will focus on activities/exercises that will enhance overall physical fitness. Students will learn and gain an appreciation for lifelong health and fitness through specific exercises and skills. Strength training, utilizing a weights program in combination with supplemental lifts and exercises, is the basis for this course. Other aerobic and anaerobic exercises, drills, and skills will be learned and utilized throughout the duration of the course. Students may be required to participate in fitness assessments.

Science

Overview of Courses

***Two lab science credits** are required for graduation.

***Biology**

Grade: 9

1 Credit

***Chemistry**

Grade: 10

1 Credit

***Physical Science**

Grade: 10-12

1 Credit

***Anatomy and Physiology**

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

OR

***Physics**

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

***AP Biology**

Grade 11-12

1 Credit

***AP Chemistry**

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

***AP Environmental Science**

Grade: 11-12

1 Credit

ADDITIONAL SCIENCE COURSES

Astronomy

Grade: 9-12

.5 Credit

Earth Science

Grade: 9-12

1 Credit

BIOLOGY**Grade:** 9**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Science**Course Costs:** None

Description: This is an introductory biology course that covers the topics: chemistry of life, cell structure and function, respiration and photosynthesis, cell division, genetics, human biology, and ecology. Students participate in frequent labs using microscopes and dissecting equipment to enhance reading and lectures.

CHEMISTRY**Grade:** 10**Prerequisite:** Algebra I**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Science**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course emphasizes fundamental concepts regarding the interactions of energy and matter. Rigorous problem solving and quantitative lab work are required. Topics covered include: chemical structure, states of matter, reactions, stoichiometry, acid/base, gaseous reactions, solutions, and thermodynamics.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE**Grade:** 10-12**Prerequisite:****Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Science**Course Costs:** None

Description: Physical Science is a full-year course that investigates the fundamentals of Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Earth Science. Math skills will be called upon as force, motion, and energy are investigated. The properties of matter, atomic structure, and chemical reactions allow the student to acquire an understanding of the world around them at a microscopic level. Electricity, magnetism, and waves will be discussed as the student learns how these are formed and the features that characterize them. The class also incorporates topics concerning the physical processes on earth, and the motions, characteristics, and forces in space.

PHYSICS**Grade:** 11-12**Prerequisite:** Algebra II**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Science**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course studies the interactions of energy and matter. Units of study include: forces, motion, waves, sound, optics, electricity, relativity, heat transfer and electrostatics. This course requires considerable use of mathematics and problem-solving skills.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Biology and instructor approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Science

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is designed for students with strong interest in advanced study of biology and biomedical topics. The structure, function, and interaction of the major human body systems covered during the year. Dissection of vertebrates reinforces the anatomy and provides a chance for the comparison of humans with other animals.

AP CHEMISTRY

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Chemistry, and AP Facilitator and instructor approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Science

Course Costs: Student will purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced course work in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Created by the AP Chemistry Development Committee, the course curriculum is compatible with many Chemistry courses in colleges and universities.

AP BIOLOGY

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and AP Facilitator and instructor approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Science

Course Costs: Student will purchase texts and pay for AP exam

Description: AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes—energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and AP Facilitator and instructor approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Science

Course Costs: Student will purchase texts and pay for AP exam

Description: AP Biology is an introductory college-level environmental science course. Students will explore and investigate the interrelationships of the natural world and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made. Students will engage in laboratory investigations and field work.

ASTRONOMY

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 Science

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is aimed at understanding Earth's place in space. This includes: the study of the sun and moon, the solar system, theories of solar system origin, space exploration, life cycles of stars, galaxies and constellations. This course also studies the structure, origin, and future of the universe.

EARTH SCIENCE

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Science

Course Costs: None

Description: This one-year course is designed to integrate scientific principles related to the Earth and its environment. Topics of this course include relationships between atmospheric processes and the water cycle, solar systems and the universe, and Earth's composition and structure. The connections between Earth's systems and everyday life are evaluated throughout this course.

Senior Capstone

Overview of Course

***REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.**

SENIOR CAPSTONE**Grade:** 11-12**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 0.5 Pass/Fail**Course Costs:** None

Description: The senior capstone provides senior students the opportunity to engage in an experience that prepares them for their future and aligns with college and career readiness and pathways exploration. Students will use the knowledge and skills they have acquired in their high school courses to present their research. The capstone consists of four project requirements: job shadowing, a research paper, visual aid, and a presentation. **It is required that all students complete a senior capstone for graduation from high school.**

- Capstone advising for rising seniors will begin the spring semester before the following school year.
- Students will be assigned a senior capstone advisor.
- Students may begin their shadowing hours the summer before their senior year, if their professional contact is approved by their advisor before the end of spring semester.

1. Job Shadowing

- Students will need to contact a professional in their selected career pathway and complete a job shadowing experience.
- Students must turn in the name and contact information of the professional they will be shadowing.
- Students must shadow a professional for a minimum of 20 hours. Contacts cannot be within the BLPA building or a family member (extenuating circumstances excluded).
- Students will have to witness and document the tasks completed in the selected field in the form/log provided.
- Students may reference their contacted professional on the research paper as a source for evidence.

2. The Research Paper

- Students will complete a 2-5 typed double-spaced pages using academic resources highlighting the degree or training required for the career, a career description, potential for field growth, promotion opportunities, the variety of career pathways available, and more.
- Must use proper citations and formatting.
- Focus on primary and secondary sources.
- Include a Works Cited Page with a minimum of 3 sources.

3. Visual Aid

- To enhance the presentation, students will include a visual aid to correspond with the topics covered in your research paper.
- This may be a Tri-fold poster, PowerPoint, brochure, tangible item personally created, or more.
- Advisors must approve all visual aid ideas before the presentation date.

4. The Presentation

- Following completion of the research paper, interview, job shadowing, and creation of a visual aid, students will need to present their findings in an evening presentation in the gym at BLPA.

- Audience will consist of school staff and community members. Student presentations will be assessed by staff members who will be assigned select student presentations to evaluate based on an evaluation rubric.
- Presentations should be between 6-8 minutes. This including time for a question and answer session as well as an explanation of the chosen visual aid.

Social Sciences

Overview of Courses

***American Government, *U.S. History (or *AP U.S. History), and a course containing personal finance curriculum are REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.**

World History and Geography

Grade 9

1 Social Sciences Credit

*American Government

Grade 10

.5 Credit

+

*Economics

Grade 10

.5 Credit

*U.S. History/Geography

Grade 11

1 Credit

OR

*AP U.S. History

Grade 11

1 Credit

ADDITIONAL SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Sociology

Grade 11-12

.5 Credit

Psychology

Grade 11-12

.5 Credit

American Perspectives

Grade 11-12

.5 Credit

Legal Studies

Grade 11-12

.5 Credit

AP U.S. Government and

Politics

Grade 11-12

* Honors American Government Offered

*Honors Economics Offered

WORLD HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY**Grade:** 9**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Social Studies**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course examines the major developments of world history from the Renaissance and Reformation to the modern era. Students will be expected to apply cause and effect reasoning to historical events with an emphasis on political, economic, social, and geographic forces that shape the modern world. There will be a focus on diversity and the complexity of events as students analyze the interconnected nature of the world.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT*Grade:** 10**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 semester**Credit Type:** .5 Social Studies (satisfies graduation requirement)**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course provides a basic understanding of the design and operation of federal, state, and local governments. Relationships between the citizen and the government are examined. Students will explore the significant role of the citizen in American democracy and their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

ECONOMICS*Grade:** 10**Prerequisite:** None**Length of Course:** 1 semester**Credit Type:** .5 Social Studies (satisfies graduation requirement)**Course Costs:** None

Description: This course provides a basic understanding of economic systems and the role of the government in the economy. Personal financial literacy will be the focus as students discuss aspects of managing money. This course will provide a foundational understanding for making informed financial decisions.

U.S. HISTORY*Grade:** 11**Prerequisite:** None.**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 Social Studies (satisfies graduation requirement)**Course Costs:** None

Description: U.S. History is a course that builds upon concepts developed in previous studies of U.S. History and emphasizes national development from the late nineteenth century into the twenty-first century. The course gives major emphasis to the interaction of key events, people, and political, economic, social, and cultural influences in national developments from the late nineteenth century through the present as they relate to life in the United States. Students develop historical thinking and research skills and use primary and secondary sources to explore topical issues and to understand the cause for changes in the nation over time.

***AP U.S. HISTORY**

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: Department and AP Facilitator approval required.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 Social Studies (satisfies graduation requirement)

Course Costs: Student will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

Description: AP U.S. History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university U.S. history course. In AP U.S. History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; making historical comparisons; utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time; and developing historical arguments. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society.

SOCIOLOGY

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Social Studies

Course Costs: None

Description: Sociology studies the basic components of a society. Topics that may be covered include culture, conformity and adaptation, family, cultural diversity and awareness, social movements, racial and ethnic relations, deviance, and social control.

PSYCHOLOGY

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Social Studies

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will introduce students to the foundational principles of psychology. Focusing on the scientific study of behavior including motivation, emotion, physiological psychology, stress and coping, research methods, consciousness, sensation, perception, learning, and memory.

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Department and AP Facilitator approval required.

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Social Studies

Course Costs: Student will be required to purchase texts and pay for the AP exam.

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

American Perspectives

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: U.s Government or AP U.S. Government

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Core/ Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will answer the essential questions: “How do new perspectives deepen my understanding of what makes American culture?” and “How does the inclusion of different cultures add value to our society?” This program will examine the melting pot that is American culture and explore how nothing is “uniquely American,” but rather an infusion of cultures from all over the world. This course places an emphasis on the processes of historical inquiry, data analysis, academic research strategies, document-based questioning, and project-based learning. Ideally, students in this class will be graded on a final, collective project: BLP’s multicultural day.

Legal Studies

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: U.s Government or AP U.S. Government

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Core/ Unrestricted Elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course is designed to explore the constitutional foundation and structure of the federal and state legal systems. The key concepts of this course include ethics in law, The Bill of Rights, individual rights, law enforcement, the judicial system, criminal law, civil law, and balancing rights with responsibility

World Language

Overview of Courses

A second year of a language is **REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**. Additional courses will be counted as unrestricted electives

Spanish I
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

Spanish II
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

Spanish III
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

Spanish IV
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

AP Spanish Language
Grade 11-12
1 Credit

OR

French I
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

French II
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

French III
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

OR

German I
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

German II
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

German III
Grade 9-12
1 Credit

SPANISH I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course focuses on introductory Spanish, covering language skills emphasized through basic reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Students are exposed to various cultural themes relevant to Spanish speaking countries. The teacher consistently uses Spanish in class and encourages students to speak in Spanish as much as possible.

SPANISH II

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course builds on Spanish I with richer expressions and exploration of past-tense verb usage, introduction of future tense for verbs and the introduction of moods such as the conditional and subjunctive. Students continue to learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries through readings and other lessons. The teacher consistently uses Spanish in class and encourages students to speak in Spanish as much as possible.

SPANISH III

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Spanish II

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course applies Spanish I-II skills and grammar knowledge for a deeper understanding of the language as well as the associated literature and cultures. Nearly all course activities are conducted in Spanish.

SPANISH IV

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Spanish III

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course focuses on complete expression of one's ideas, observations, and feelings in Spanish. This course continues the development of the four basic language skills: reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Students also study various Spanish-speaking cultures in depth, including the study of the art, music, history, literature, and geography. Continued emphasis is on oral proficiency along with grammar. All course

activities are conducted in Spanish. Students are expected to express themselves in a comprehensible manner in both written and spoken Spanish as well as to understand and respond to spoken and written Spanish.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Spanish IV

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: The AP Spanish Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

French I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None, Exploratory French in Middle School recommended.

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course focuses on introductory French, covering language skills emphasized through basic reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Students are exposed to various cultural themes relevant to the Francophone (French speaking) world. The teacher will use French in class and encourages students to speak in French as much as possible.

French 2

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: French I or Instructor Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course builds on the skills developed in French 1 with richer expressions and exploration of past/future tense verb usage, introduction of future tense for verbs and the introduction of moods. Students continue to learn about the Francophone world, through readings and other lessons. The teacher uses French in class and encourages students to speak in French as much as possible.

French 3

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: French 1, French 2, or Instructor Approval

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course applies French I-II skills and grammar knowledge for a deeper understanding of the language as well as the associated literature and cultures. Nearly all course activities are conducted in French. Francophone countries discussed will primarily be from the Indochine region (Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia), Africa, and Haiti.

GERMAN I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course focuses on introductory German, covering language skills emphasized through basic reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Students are exposed to various cultural themes relevant to Germany. The teacher consistently uses German in class and encourages students to speak in German as much as possible.

GERMAN II

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: German I

Length of Course: 1 year

Credit Type: 1 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: This course builds on German I with richer expressions and exploration of past-tense verb usage, introduction of future tense for verbs and the introduction of moods such as the conditional and subjunctive. Students continue to learn about the culture of Germany countries through readings and other lessons. The teacher consistently uses German in class and encourages students to speak in German as much as possible.

GERMAN III**Grade:** 9-12**Prerequisite:** German II**Length of Course:** 1 year**Credit Type:** 1 unrestricted elective**Course Costs:** None**Description:** This course applies German I-II skills and grammar knowledge for a deeper understanding of the language as well as the associated literature and cultures. Nearly all course activities are conducted in German.

Advanced Education

Online Courses

Overview of Course

**Concepts of Engineering &
Technology**
Grade 9-12
.5 Credit

**Theater, Cinema, & Film
Production**
Grade 9-12
.5 Credit

CONCEPTS OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: What if you could do the impossible? Engineers understand a lot of things, but the word impossible definitely isn't one of them. Through Concepts of Engineering and Technology, you'll learn how the momentum of science is continually propelling engineers in new directions towards a future full of insight and opportunity. This course explores the different branches of engineering and how problem-solving, sketching, collaboration, and experimentation can change the very fiber of our human lives. This ever-increasing knowledge can also lead to serious ethical dilemmas and the need to discuss where the boundaries of science lie (or even if there should be boundaries). By examining astounding engineering feats and complex ongoing issues, you, too, will begin to question whether the word impossible really exists. *NCAA clearinghouse approval pending.*

THEATER, CINEMA & FILM PRODUCTION

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credit Type: .5 unrestricted elective

Course Costs: None

Description: Lights! Camera! Action! Let's explore the enchanting world of live theater and its fascinating relationship to the silver screen. In Theater, Cinema, and Film Production, you'll learn the basics of lighting, sound, wardrobe, and camerawork while examining the magic that happens behind all the drama. Delve into the glamorous history of film and theater, and examine the tremendous influence these industries have had on society and culture over the years. During this unit, you'll discuss and analyze three classic American films—*Casablanca*, *Singin' in the Rain*, and *The Wizard of Oz*—to help you learn how to critique and appreciate some of the most famous dramas of all time. *NCAA clearinghouse approval pending.*

Student Leadership

Student Government

Grade 9-12

.5 Credit

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: American Government or equivalent

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Credit Type: .5 Social Studies

Course Costs: None

Description: This course will focus on the evolution of American political thought. Students will study the philosophic influences on the Founding Fathers and the documents created by them in order to understand current political thought and apply it to current issues