

Austin Prep

**Upper School
Academic Catalog
2019-2020**

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Purpose of the Academic Catalog

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of Austin Prep's academic offerings to assist students in selecting their courses for the 2019-20 academic year. This catalog outlines graduation requirements, defines levels, and serves to assist students selecting their courses. Due to the fast-paced nature of education, changes to this document may and will occur, and the Department of Academic Affairs may override any info listed in this catalog.

Mission Statement of Austin Preparatory School
To inspire hearts to unite, minds to inquire, and hands to serve.

Academic Philosophy

An Austin Prep education is rooted in the three charisms of the Augustinian Order: *Veritas*, *Unitas*, and *Caritas*. Austin's curriculum is rooted in these values as follows:

Veritas (Truth): Courses focus on building curiosity in our students. We focus on creating students who are lifelong learners, via deep academic explorations.

Unitas (Unity): Courses focus on building global citizens with a strong moral compass and a firm understanding of our interconnected world. Students are taught to collaborate effectively with others, and for their work to have real-world implications which extend beyond the classroom.

Caritas (Charity): Courses focus on building student skills and proficiencies with tools and technologies. Students are then expected to use their skills to make the world a better place.

Academic Levels in the Upper School

College Prep (CP): Courses designed to push students to develop an understanding of the content and skills necessary to be successful in college and beyond.

Honors (H): Courses designed to push students to develop a deeper, nuanced understanding of the content and skills necessary to be successful in college and beyond.

Advanced Placement (AP): Freshman college courses for students who have demonstrated the academic skill to enroll while still in high school. These courses are offered in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) of Princeton, NJ for the Advanced Placement Program.

In this catalog, when a College Placement and Honors version of a course are both listed, the Honors course includes more rigorous coursework and expectations, and deeper discussions. While prerequisites are listed, students are placed in an academic level by the Department and the Academic Office. Students interested in changing levels should begin with a conversation with their teacher.

Grade Point Averages

Beginning with the Class of 2021, Austin no longer uses weighted GPA. Unweighted GPA is calculated by adding the points earned for semester grades and dividing the sum by the number of grades. Grade points are based on the grade earned in a particular course for the semester according to this scale:

Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors (Classes of 2021-2023): Unweighted GPA

A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D+	1.3
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.7	D-	0.7
C+	2.3	F	0

Seniors (Class of 2020): Weighted GPA

College Prep (CP):	A = 4.0
Honors (H):	+0.5 per credit (A = 4.5)
Advanced Placement (AP):	+1.0 per credit (A = 5.0)

Weighted GPA awards grade points according to the above scale.

Honors and Distinction

Upper School GPA is calculated once a year during the summer. Valedictorian and Salutatorian are determined by student GPAs at the end of seven semesters. Students must start at Austin in ninth grade to be eligible. Austin does not use class rank. Honor rolls are based on quarterly grades. "Distinction" awards students with all grades of A– and above. "Honors" awards students with all grades of B- and above. The minimum passing grade of "D" must be earned in each course to advance to the next year or to graduate. Failures in June must be made up during the summer in order to be re-admitted to Austin the following academic year.

Grading

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	60-66
B-	80-82	D-	Effort Grade
C+	77-79	F	Below 60

Course Selection Process

Every student is expected to carry a minimum number of courses each year. Freshmen and sophomores must carry seven credits, juniors six credits, and seniors five credits. Course selection is an interactive process between Austin Prep and the students. The school functions to support students and assist them in making judicious academic decisions. The school reserves the right to make a final decision regarding a student's course of study. Once a student has been rostered for courses, changes require a completed Add/Drop form from the Academic Office. Changes are not guaranteed.

Juniors and seniors may take no more than 3 Advanced Placement courses per year. Exceptions to this policy will be made on an individual basis, and require a conference with the student's advisor and a formal written request to the Academic Office. Sophomores need to make a formal request to take more than two AP courses. Students who are not approved for an AP course by the department may only pursue electing the course via a formal written appeal.

Prerequisites for International Students to take AP Courses

Students must attain a TOEFL score of 90 to take any AP class. Seniors should achieve the required TOEFL score for their prospective college (commonly 100) prior to the beginning of their senior year.

College Application

Application to college is the responsibility of the individual student. Students should consult with college catalogs to determine the standardized tests necessary for admittance into a college and a student's desired program. Students are urged to begin the college search and application process early with the assistance of the College Counseling Department.

Graduation Requirements

A full-year course provides 1 credit, and a semester-long course provides 0.5 credits, unless noted otherwise. Students must complete a one-semester College Test Prep course in addition to the following department credit requirements.

English	4	Science	3
Theology	4	Language	3
History	3	Art and Design	1.5
Mathematics	3	Electives	3
		Freshman Seminar	0.5
	TOTAL	25 CREDITS	

Department of Theology Overview

Required Credits: 4

General Progression:

Freshman: Scripture (and Freshman Seminar)

Sophomore: Church History and Sacraments

Junior: Morality and Catholic Social Teaching

Senior: Christian Leadership and Service

Dual Courses: Science and Religion, Literature and Religion

Department Philosophy

Theology is an academic discipline committed to engaging with Catholic doctrine. Inspired by the Augustinian charisms of Veritas, Unitas, and Caritas, our aim is to transform both heart and mind. In our seeking of truth and wisdom, students engage in an exchange of ideas using multiple learning styles. Through dynamic, interactive classroom lessons and personal and communal experiences, students develop the skills necessary to examine their lives in conversation with the Inner Teacher. We invite and encourage all of our students to learn about Roman Catholic Theology while sharing their own beliefs.

The Theology Department, in combination with our Chaplain and Campus Ministry Program, enriches each student's spiritual life through understanding and participating in the Mass, attending retreats, and completing service projects. We prepare students for leadership in both the sacred and secular communities. The Theology Department calls the students to journey in the footsteps of St. Augustine and to become genuine witnesses of the Gospel message.

Theology Department Offerings

Course <i>Prerequisites</i>	Year/Semester	Level
Freshman Seminar	Semester (Pass/Fail)	Freshman
Introduction to Scripture	Year	Freshman CP/H
Church History and the Sacraments	Year	Sophomore CP/H
Catholic Morality and Social Teaching	Year	Junior CP/H
Christian Leadership and Service	Year	Senior CP/H
Literature and Religion <i>Application required.</i>	Year	Senior CP/H
Science and Religion <i>Application required.</i>	Year	Senior CP/H

Department of Theology – Full Course Descriptions

Freshman Seminar

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 0.5 (Pass/Fail)

As human beings created in the image and likeness of God, how we live our life matters. In this course, we take a holistic approach to living well by exploring social, physical, academic, spiritual, and emotional aspects of our lives. Students learn how to care for their body, mind, and spirit so they may succeed and thrive at Austin Prep and beyond.

Introduction to Scripture – CP

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to give students a general understanding and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Students learn about the Hebrew Scriptures during the first semester focusing on creation, God's relationship with his people, and the Law. The semester culminates with a study of the prophets and their call to us in today's society. In the second semester, students learn about the Christian Scriptures. Students gain an understanding of Jesus Christ through engagement with the four evangelists. The course finishes with an emphasis on the call to continue Jesus' work in the Church today. Students examine the meaning of the stories in accordance with Church teachings. Students enrich their understanding of the Scriptures through the lenses of historical criticism, literary criticism, and redaction criticism. Special attention is given to the application of these sacred texts to the students' own faith journeys and to the issues and concerns of the contemporary world.

Introduction to Scripture – H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to give students an in-depth knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures. Students in this course enter with a basic knowledge of Scripture stories and themes. Students learn about the Hebrew Scriptures during the first semester focusing on creation, God's relationship with his people, and the Law. The semester culminates with a study of the prophets and their call to us in today's society. In the second semester, students learn about the Christian Scriptures. Students gain an understanding of Jesus Christ through engagement with the four evangelists. The course finishes with an emphasis on the call to continue Jesus' work in the Church today. Students examine the meaning of the stories in accordance with Church teachings. Students enrich their understanding of the Scriptures through the lenses of historical criticism, literary criticism, and redaction criticism. Special attention is given to the application of these sacred texts to the students' own faith journeys and to the issues and

concerns of the contemporary world. Honors students will do extensive writing and complete outside projects and reading throughout the year.

Church History and the Sacraments – CP

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to pick up from the conclusion of the Scripture course taken the previous year. Students have studied the teachings of Jesus Christ and the commissioning of his Apostles. Now, they will examine the Church's journey over the ages to live out the call of Christ. The course surveys the major periods in Church History: early, medieval/Reformation, and modern. The course gives the student an appreciation of the complex social, cultural, and institutional development of Christianity. Students will become familiar with the figures, movements and events that shaped the historical Church. Throughout the year students look for ways in which the events of the past have shaped the Church of today. Imbedded in this study of the Church is the study of the Sacraments: the meaning of sacrament; the sacraments of initiation; the sacraments of healing, and the sacraments at the service of communion. This course provides background and understanding of the first-hand experience students have when they participate in school liturgies and prayer services.

Church History and the Sacraments – H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to pick up from the conclusion of the Scripture course taken the previous year. Students have studied the teachings of Jesus Christ and the commissioning of his Apostles. Now, they will examine the Church's journey over the ages to live out the call of Christ. The course surveys the major periods in Church History: early, medieval/Reformation, and modern. The course gives the student an appreciation of the complex social, cultural, and institutional development of Christianity. Students will become familiar with the figures, movements and events that shaped the historical Church. Throughout the year, students look for ways in which the events of the past have shaped the Church of today. Imbedded in this study of the Church is the study of the Sacraments: the meaning of sacrament; the sacraments of initiation; the sacraments of healing, and the sacraments at the service of communion. This course provides background and understanding of the first-hand experience students have when they participate in school liturgies and prayer services. Honors students will do extensive writing and complete outside projects and reading throughout the year.

Catholic Morality and Social Teaching – CP/H

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 1.0

This course examines what it means to live a Catholic moral life. It studies the shape of moral decision-making. The concept of conscience and its development are explored. The influences of family, society, and culture are then examined in light of Scripture and Catholic Moral Teaching. The concepts of sin and virtue are studied and applied as the threads woven through the study of the specific moral issues, which surface in the personal, cultural, and institutional webs of human interaction. The connection between concepts and lived experience is thus examined through class work, readings, discussion, film, and reflection. The efforts of faithful followers of Jesus to live out the teachings of the Gospels through the ages, has given way to a body of knowledge in the Church called “Catholic Social Teaching.” This literature includes Encyclical letters of Popes and Pastoral Letters of Bishops. It offers teaching about justice in the workplace, in institutions, in the family, and in the global community. In the course of the study of this important area of Church teaching, students are challenged to stretch their awareness and deepen their consciousness as regards the struggles for justice and peace taking place in the world today. They are asked to test their own views and possible prejudices, as well as those prevalent in society, so as to begin to understand the meaning and the depth of compassion of Jesus. The course also examines the compassionate response of men and women past and present who minister the works of mercy and the works of justice in the world in the name of Christ and the Church. The Works of Mercy and The Works of Justice are offered as antidotes to injustice and as realistic courses of action as well as opportunities for service.

Note: Honors students will be required to complete additional outside reading assignments, quizzes, and tests. They will be expected to show initiative in their insightfulness, participation in class discussion, and an overall higher quality of work.

Christian Leadership and Service – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

Grade Level: 12

This course empowers students as effective servant leaders, exploring the responsibilities entailed in the ecclesial and global community. In the first semester, students will reflect on practical application of Christian values, identifying areas of passion in service and exploring ways to actively benefit communities. In the second semester, students complete service tasks, checking in with their instructor and cohort to reflect on their service experience.

Literature and Religion – CP/H

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 2.0 (Theology: 1.0 Credits, English: 1.0 Credits)

Application to course required.

In this year long course we will consider the works of important modern writers who approached their art from their grounding in the Christian tradition. The course will combine an exploration of the content of their work from the standpoint of the Catholic faith (i.e., the implications of the writing of these authors for understanding the faith as a lived reality in our

present day) along with an intensive critique of their work from a literary standpoint. Some authors whose work we will read may include Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Evelyn Waugh, G.K. Chesterton, Graham Greene, J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Flannery O'Connor, and Walker Percy.

Science and Religion – CP/H

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 2.0 (Theology: 1.0 Credits, Science: 1.0 Credits)

Application to course required.

The objective of the course is for students to make sense of the complex relationship between religion and science and to position themselves within this relationship. At times, science and religion appear to be in conflict, and at times, in consensus. For example, there are different religious responses to scientific ideas about evolution and global climate change. The course will begin by examining science and religion as ways of knowing. It will then proceed through a series of units introducing a controversy, examining the science that led to the controversy, and looking at diverse religious responses to that controversy. For example, a unit on the vaccination controversy would introduce the controversy, examine the science of immunology, and present religious objections and affirmations for the practice of vaccination.

Department of English Overview

Required Credits: 4

General Progression:

Freshman: Foundational writing and reading skills [Full year]

Sophomore: Discussion and speeches [Semester]

Junior/Senior: Literary analysis, critical theories, civic engagement [Semester Electives]

Advanced Placement: Language and Composition, Literature and Composition

Studio Course: Writing Theory and Practice

Department Philosophy

The English department is committed to building skilled communicators. Students learn fundamental reading and writing skills in their freshman year, focusing on descriptive, expository, and discussion-based narratives. Students build on this foundation by emphasizing oral communication in their sophomore year, through Socratic Seminar discussions and delivery of persuasive arguments. In student's junior and senior years, students select electives in content areas of interest focusing on critical literary analysis and real-world application. Students complete critical reviews, research syntheses, narratives, memoirs, editorials, and personal narratives. An emphasis is made on publication of works, including attention to the crafting of college essays in the spring of junior year.

Full-year Advanced Placement options can be selected junior and senior year, in lieu of the semester-long electives. A "Writing Theory and Practice" studio course provides an opportunity for seasoned writers to help less experienced Austin students.

English Department Offerings

Course <i>Prerequisites</i>	Year/Semester	Level
Dystopia and Disasters	Year	Freshman CP/H
Coming of Age	Year	Freshman CP/H
Discussion and Debate	Semester	Sophomore CP/H
Speeches	Semester	Sophomore CP/H
The American Experience	Year <i>Dual Credit: English and History</i>	Sophomore CP/H
Passing in Literature	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Shakespeare in Film	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Novel Writing	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Popular Literature	Semester	Junior+ CP
Creative Writing	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Adolescent Psychology in Literature	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Women in Literature	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
English Language and Composition	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
English Language and Composition <i>English Dept. Application Required</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
English Literature and Composition <i>English Dept. Application Required</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
Literature and Religion <i>Application required.</i>	Year <i>Dual Credit: English and Theology</i>	Senior CP/H
Writing Theory and Practice	Semester	Senior H

Department of English – Full Course Descriptions

Dystopia and Disasters – CP/H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

In this introduction to academic reading and writing students will practice different modes of writing by drafting narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive pieces in response to John Steinbeck's classic *Of Mice and Men*. In the second term students will learn the foundational skills of literary analysis through close reading of dystopian literature including *Animal Farm*, *Hunger Games*, and *Fahrenheit 451*. Students at the honors level will be expected to publish an original piece of writing in the school's literary magazine and will be responsible for an additional novel each semester.

Coming of Age – CP/H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

In this introduction to academic reading and writing students will practice different modes of writing by drafting narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive pieces in response to John Steinbeck's classic *Of Mice and Men*. In the second term students will learn the foundational skills of literary analysis through close reading of coming of age stories including *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Students at the honors level will be expected to publish an original piece of writing in the school's literary magazine and will be responsible for an additional novel each semester.

Discussion and Debate – CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 0.5

In this seminar format course, students will learn techniques for academic discussion such as respectfully agreeing and disagreeing with other viewpoints, seamlessly including textual evidence in a spoken argument, and asking thought-provoking questions that move the discussion forward. Students will focus on themes in American literature including such works as *The Great Gatsby*, *Catcher in the Rye*, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. Students will be graded heavily on their participation, as that is a major aspect of the course.

Speeches –CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 0.5

A study of tragedy through the ages provides a backdrop for analysis of rhetorical technique and speech-making. Beginning with Sophocles' *Antigone*, King Creon's "Ship of State" speech sets the stage for the disaster that his excessive pride will bring. Centuries later Shakespeare in

The Tragedy of Julius Caesar tells the tale of Caesar's assassination and reveals through the memorable speeches of Brutus and Marc Antony once again how "Pride cometh before the fall." And in modern America, Arthur Miller in *All My Sons* shows us how a common man like Joe Keller reveals in his speeches the tragic misunderstanding of citizenship in a democracy. Finish by comparing these great speeches to the words of Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King. It is in understanding rhetoric that you too may leave the world a gift of a memorable line to live by.

The American Experience – CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 2.0 (English: 1.0 Credits, History: 1.0 Credits)

Application to course required. Course will be scheduled in two consecutive blocks. The course satisfies the sophomore English requirement (Speeches and Discussions) and the sophomore History requirement (American History).

This co-taught course in the English and History Departments explores the relationship between literature and history in America. Students will explore the themes of civil rights and protest, conformity and oppression and war, fear and escapism while reading short stories, poetry and novels that illustrate these themes.

Passing in Literature – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

In this course, students will read about an all too common phenomena in literature and in life: passing. This is the concept of a minority "passing" as white in society in order to increase their social status and possibilities of success. Students will discuss what makes someone who they are and how "passing" can affect one's identity and relationships especially when they are hiding who they truly are. Texts read will include *Passing* and *Puddin'head Wilson*.

Shakespeare in Film – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

In this course, students will read important scenes from multiple Shakespeare plays and watch different adaptations of these scenes, comparing the choices made by different directors. Students will conduct research about Shakespeare's time period and the time in which each adaptation was produced to see how this affected a director's choices. During the semester, students will read one play in its entirety and produce their own modern adaptation of that play. Texts read will include *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *Othello*, and *Macbeth*.

Novel Writing – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

Everyone has a story to tell. Students will participate in the National Novel Writing Project, writing their own novel over the course of the semester. Students will choose novels to read that will inspire and inform their own writing.

Popular Literature – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

This is a class for everyone who *thinks* they do not like to read, or likes to read, but doesn't know which books to try. This entirely choice-based course centers around the idea that reading is fundamentally enjoyable, but most of us haven't found what it is that we like to read. The workshop model of the class uses class time to read, have continuous conferences, learn overarching ideas and elements of all literature, and work in book groups. Students work on reading and writing skills by taking ownership of literature.

Creative Writing – CP/H**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

Creative Writing is a course in reading and writing literature. Students will learn the elements of fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction and drama, and humor, will read models of each mode and will write each in appropriate formats. Students will share work with classmates and will critique and revise. The class will also include analysis and critical thinking. Honors coursework requires publication in the literary magazine or online.

Adolescent Psychology in Literature – CP/H**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

In this class, Young Adult Literature will be paired with developmental psychology in order to conduct a study of identity formation as one moves through childhood, young adulthood, and into adulthood. The texts used will show the influence of peers, parental figures, culture, mental health, and trauma as one matures.

Women in Literature – CP/H**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

This course looks at how women are portrayed in literature, and which stereotypes classical literature enforces. However, it will also focus on telling *another* story, and finding complexities in these classic stories. For example, students will compare *Jane Eyre* with *Wide Sargasso Sea* and look at contemporary novels for complex views of women.

English Language and Composition – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

Language and Composition will prepare students for the writing and critical thinking skills required for success in college and life. As such, we will deeply investigate a range of texts and practice a range of reading strategies (annotation, graphic organizers, etc.) to better decipher their meanings and develop personal opinions in response to texts. This class will also help students discover their own voices in writing, learning to write for different audiences on many different topics. We will focus on writing narrative, persuasive, argument and synthesis essays.

English Language and Composition – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Application to English Department required.

This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Test as well as for the writing and critical thinking skills required for success in college and life. As such, we will deeply investigate a range of texts using rhetorical strategies to decipher their overt and nuanced meanings. This class will also help students discover their own voices in writing, learning to apply rhetorical strategies to write for different audiences on many different topics. Students will respond to material writing persuasive, argument, and synthesis essays as well as less formal writing of narratives, editorials, and blogs. This course will focus on and culminate with students taking the Advanced Placement test for Language and Composition.

English Literature and Composition – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Application to English Department required.

The readings in this course will cover a sampling of literary masterpieces from antiquity to contemporary times. All literary genres will be explored. Students will be asked to focus on analysis of these works as a preparation for the Advanced Placement Examination in May which students in this course are required to take.

Writing Theory and Practice – H

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 0.5

Participants in this apprentice course will meet weekly to learn the latest pedagogy in the teaching of writing. In addition to this weekly session, they will also serve as peer writing tutors, preparing them for work in a college writing center or for future coursework in education. Participants will be expected to gather and reflect on feedback from peers, teachers and students regarding their effectiveness in the role of writing tutor.

Department of History

Required Credits:3

General Progression:

Freshman: Foundations of History (Full year elective)

Sophomore: American History (Semester electives or AP course)

Junior/Senior: Modern World History (Semester electives or AP course)

Electives: Economics, Government, Psychology, Sociology, The World Today

Department Philosophy

The History Department focuses on guiding students along a journey through the past via an engaging, hands-on experience. Students focus on the historical disciplinary practices of argument development and analyzing historical evidence. They use these practices by applying the four historical reasoning skills: causation, recognition of patterns of continuity and change over time, comparison of historical developments, and contextualization.

Students start with the Foundations of History, studying the key events that have shaped human history. In spring of freshman year, students move into the twentieth century and select an emphasis on either Europe or the World. Sophomore year, students select two American History electives, keying in on a specific American theme. Alternatively, qualified students may take Advanced Placement US History in this year instead. Junior and senior year, students must take one more credit of modern history, selecting from additional semester-long electives. Additional elective options in the department include the study of social sciences, economics, and government.

Students who complete the course of study become politicians, economists, journalists, broadcasters, historians, explorers, and informed citizens of the world.

History Department Offerings

Course <i>Prerequisites</i>	Year/Semester	Level
Foundations of History/ 20 th Century Europe	Year	Freshman CP/H
Foundations of History/ 20 th Century World	Year	Freshman CP/H
The Civil War Era	Semester	Sophomore CP/H
The American West	Semester	Sophomore CP/H
Women in American History	Semester	Sophomore CP/H
Cold War Era America	Semester	Sophomore CP/H
The American Experience <i>Application required.</i>	Year <i>Dual Credit: English and History</i>	Sophomore CP/H
United States History <i>Freshman History H: Above B</i>	Year	Sophomore AP
Stories of Africa	Semester	Junior CP/H
Nationalism and Identity in Latin America	Semester	Junior CP/H
Demystifying the Middle East	Semester	Junior CP/H
The Giants of Asia	Semester	Junior CP/H
World History <i>AP Course: Above B- H Course: Above B</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
European History <i>US History H: Above B US History AP: Above B-</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
The World Today	Year	Senior CP/H
American Government	Year	Junior+ CP/H
American Government <i>H Course: Above B AP Course: Above B-</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
Principles of Economics	Year	Junior+ CP/H
Microeconomics <i>H Precalculus: Above C H Algebra 2: Above B</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
Psychology	Year	Junior+ CP/H
Psychology <i>H Course: Above B AP Course: Above B-</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
Sociology	Year	Junior+ CP/H

Department of History – Full Course Descriptions

Foundations of History / Twentieth Century Europe – CP/H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

The course provides freshmen with the initial skills needed to succeed in the study of history—critical thinking, analytical reading, thesis writing and conceptual vocabulary. The course focuses on introducing students to these historical reasoning skills through a survey of key events throughout world history. In the second semester, the course then places an emphasis on key events in Modern Europe.

Foundations of History / Twentieth Century World – CP/H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

The course provides freshmen with the initial skills needed to succeed in the study of history—critical thinking, analytical reading, thesis writing and conceptual vocabulary. The course focuses on introducing students to these historical reasoning skills through a survey of key events throughout world history. In the second semester, the course then places an emphasis on key events in the modern World.

The Civil War Era – CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 0.5

This course covers the essential question of what caused the civil war during the 1840s and 1850s. In addition to the study of the military strategy and victory of the Union, the course discusses how the Civil War contributed to the formation of modern American beliefs about the role of government, national unity and race relations in the years following the conflict.

The American West – CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 0.5

This course will explore the history of the trans-Mississippi West from the 16th century to the present. Included will be the numerous historical issues associated with the region, including cultural contact and conflict, economic development, visions and meanings of the West, human interaction with nature and the environment, relationship between western states and the federal government, tourism, the growth of the sunbelt cities, and the shifting nature of race, class, gender, and power in the region.

Women in American History – CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 0.5

This course surveys the history of American women from 1880 to the present. Topics covered include the women's club movements of the 1890s, turn-of-the-century debates about sexuality, women's labor militancy in the 1910s, activism and reaction in the 1920s, women's experience of the Great Depression, women and World War II, the Civil Rights movement, the Women's Liberation Movement of the 1960s and 1970s, the 1980s backlash, and gender anxiety in the post-9/11 era.

Cold War Era America – CP/H**Grade Level: 10****Credits: 0.5**

The Cold War Era American history course will cover the time period between 1945-1990. The course will be broken down into two overarching areas and topics, one focusing on the domestic developments of the US, the other on the unfolding of the Cold War itself. The domestic units will focus on the boom of the 1950s, the Civil Rights Movement, the counterculture of the 1960s and 1970s, and the Economic Recession of the 1980s. The Cold War Unit will center on the Korean War, Cuban Missile Crisis, Space Race, Vietnam War, and End of the Cold War/Emergence as the sole superpower.

The American Experience – CP/H**Grade Level: 10****Credits: 2.0 (English: 1.0 Credits, History: 1.0 Credits)**

Application to course required. Course will be scheduled in two consecutive blocks. The course satisfies the sophomore English requirement (Speeches and Discussions) and the sophomore History requirement (American History).

This co-taught course in the English and History Departments explores the relationship between literature and history in America. Students will explore the themes of civil rights and protest, conformity and oppression and war, fear and escapism while reading short stories, poetry and novels that illustrate these themes. Students taking this course satisfy their sophomore year American history requirement.

United States History – AP**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: Approval of both the current history teacher and the Department Chair. A grade of B+ or higher in an honors freshman history course. Additionally, reading scores on the most recent standardized testing must exceed 80%. If no testing is available, entrance to the course is not allowed.

This course is designed to present college level studies in American History. Students will be expected to produce work with college level writing and research skills, as well as demonstrate the ability to interpret historical documents and to recall knowledge of historical events and

concepts. Emphasis will be on political institutions, social and economic changes, diplomacy and international relations, and cultural developments across the periods from Colonial times to the present. Students must take the Advanced Placement examination in United States History in May to receive credit for the course.

Stories of Africa – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This semester-long course will focus on the regional history of Africa including its precolonial history. Students will study the spread of Christianity and Islam alongside traditional African religions, Africa's role as a hub of trade and the impact of European colonization in the region. Through case-studies, students will learn about decolonization and the struggles of modern African political systems.

Nationalism and Identity in Latin America – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This semester-long course will focus on Central and South America beginning with pre-Columbian civilizations and the impact of Spanish and Portuguese colonization. Students will study the Latin American Revolutions of the 19th Century and the subsequent conflicts over identity and stability throughout the region.

Demystifying the Middle East – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This semester-long course will focus on the Middle East region beginning with the Islamic empires of the Middle Ages and the impact of their collapse after World War I. Students will examine the rise of national identities and their connection to religious faith. The course will conclude with the study of the tension in the region and its role in global economics and politics.

The Giants of Asia – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This semester-long course will examine the histories of China and Japan in the modern era. Students will study the dynastic transitions and modernizations of both nations as well as their contentious relationship throughout history. Students will also examine the role of smaller Asian nations in the region as they relate to the stability of East Asia.

World History – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12**Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: B+ or higher in previous year's honors history course. B- or higher in previous year's Advanced Placement history course.

Students with demonstrated excellence in history and a proven interest in the subject may choose this course which offers motivated students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the processes that have, over time, resulted in the knitting of the world into a tightly integrated whole. Students will review the events of the past millennium in a truly balanced coverage with equal presentations in Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe. High levels of scholarship and demonstrated excellence in reading will be the criteria for admission into this course. This course is available as a senior history elective.

European History – AP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: B+ or higher in previous year's honors history course. B- or higher in previous year's Advanced Placement history course.

The chronology of this course runs from the age of the high Renaissance to the 21st Century. Students are expected to bring to the course a level of skills sufficient to ensure success, including research, writing, and interpreting historical documents. The course will center on Political and Diplomatic History, with additional readings in both Social/Economic History, and Intellectual/Cultural History. Completion of the Advanced Placement Examination in May is a requirement to earn credit for the course.

The World Today – CP/H**Grade Level: 12****Credits: 1.0**

This is a current events driven course that will focus around contemporary changes in the last decade. Units will include a survey of global affairs resulting from the end of the Cold War in six major world regions, the search for international security, the global economy, and the new realities of an uncertain future. The honors level course will require writing and presentation skills and critical analysis of decision making around the world.

American Government – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

This course is devoted to the origins, institutions, structures, and functions of our Constitutional Government and its political systems. Emphasis will be placed on current political issues as they are presented and worked through Congress, the Executive and Judicial

branches, and as they affect our State and Local systems. Supplementary readings and research are expected as a course requirement.

American Government – H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires a familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U. S. political reality. Beginning with the U.S. Constitution, students will be expected to undertake and present both individual and group research projects. Supplementary readings and research are expected as a course requirement.

American Government – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: B+ or higher in previous year's honors history course. B or higher in previous year's Advanced Placement history course.

The course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The course will involve both general concepts and in depth analysis of specific policies and programs. Beginning with the U.S. Constitution, students will advance to general political behaviors, political parties, interest groups, and the media; the workings of institutions of the national government; public policy; and civil rights. Students will be required to complete the Advanced Placement Examination in United States Government and Politics to earn course credit. Supplementary readings and research are expected as course requirements. Students in this course are required to take the AP U.S. Government Exam in May.

Microeconomics – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: C+ or higher in Precalculus – H. B+ or higher in Algebra 2 – H.

This is a full year of study of introductory economic analysis, focusing on the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers. The emphasis is on the product markets and includes the mathematical basis of decision making leading to both efficiency and equity. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Introductory Microeconomics in May so that they may obtain college credit for the course.

Psychology – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Students will be introduced to the discipline of psychology by emphasizing the scientific nature of human development and behavior. Study topics will include the physiological nature of the human body as well as human development, intelligence, personality, learning theory, and the different theoretical approaches that underlie explanations of perceived reality.

Psychology – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: B+ or higher in previous year's honors history course. B or higher in previous year's Advanced Placement history course.

Guided by the suggested syllabus from the Advanced Placement Program, students will prepare for an intensive course based on the college syllabus for the Introduction to Psychology course. Requiring a more in depth research oriented method, students are exposed to psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with multiple sub fields within the discipline. Completion of the Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology is required for course credit.

Sociology – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

This course is an introduction to the behavioral sciences through the study of the forms, functions, and structures of human groups. The second semester will be a study of contemporary social problems and methods of solution proposed by behavioral scientists. Course material will include significant research in legal and political issues and judicial process. Honors students also complete two directed research projects, one each semester.

Principles of Economics - CP/H

Grade level: 12

Credits: 1.0

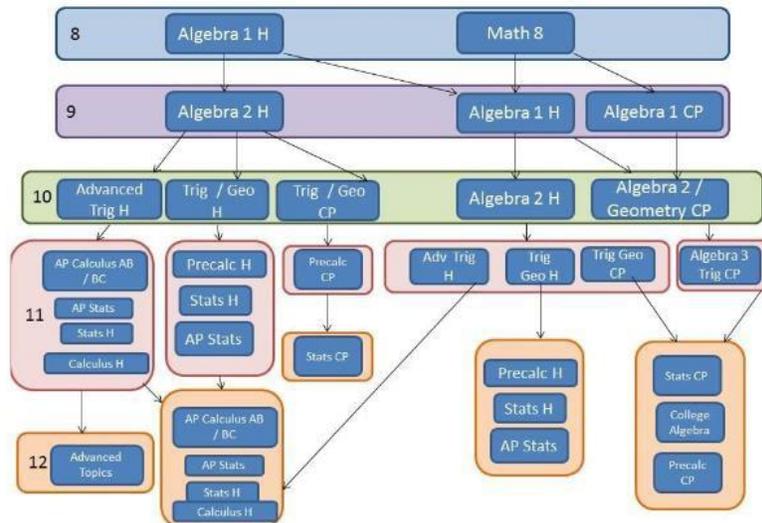
The course provides an introduction to the economy at large including supply and demand, trade, market structures, and labor markets. Other course topics include banking, types of investments, the business cycle, taxes, and fiscal policy. Students will learn how to do taxes, how mortgages work, and what to expect when they graduate from college.

Department of Mathematics

Required Credits: 3 (though 4 is highly recommended)

Note: Students applying for admission to the Massachusetts State University and College system are required to have four years of mathematics, including a mathematics course their senior year.

General Progression:



Department Philosophy

The Mathematics Department offers a variety of math courses to provide challenging and attainable goals for all of our students. We believe that all students can find joy in the study of mathematics and learn the skills necessary for complex problem-solving. In the tradition of St. Augustine, we are dedicated to the pursuit of wisdom in diligent study and freedom of thought. We are inspired to assist our students with organization, digital competence, higher order thinking, and written justification of their work. Our goal is to graduate students who are engaged in logical reasoning and thought processes so that they can be informed, productive members of society.

The Mathematics Department is committed to the use of technology in math education. Therefore, the Department requires that each student, starting with Algebra 1, have a graphing calculator. The lowest recommended model is the Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus. In today's world, the student must be able to master tools used to help the student succeed. This calculator will allow the Department to introduce the students to programming, modeling, matrices, dynamic geometry, and function graphs. In addition, all courses in the math department have online homework, providing the students with step-by-step instruction, textbook access, and instantaneous feedback. Completion of the Algebra curriculum (1 and 2) and a Trigonometry course are required for graduation.

Mathematics Department Offerings

Course <i>Prerequisites</i>	Year/Semester	Level
Algebra 1	Year	Freshman CP
Algebra 1	Year	Freshman H
Algebra 1 (Science)	Year	Freshman H
Algebra 2/Geometry <i>Algebra 1 CP/H</i>	Year	Sophomore CP
Algebra 2 <i>Algebra 1 H (Above B, placement test)</i>	Year	Sophomore H
Algebra 3/Trigonometry <i>Algebra 2/Geometry CP</i>	Year	Junior+ CP
Trigonometry and Geometry <i>Algebra 2 H</i>	Year	Sophomore+ CP
Trigonometry and Geometry <i>Algebra 2 H (Above B-)</i>	Year	Sophomore+ H
Advanced Trigonometry <i>Algebra 2 H (Above A-)</i>	Year	Sophomore+ H
Precalculus <i>Trig and Geo CP, or Algebra 2 H</i>	Year	Junior+ CP
Precalculus <i>Trig and Geometry (Above B-)</i>	Year	Junior+ H
Calculus <i>Precalculus CP</i>	Year	Junior+, CP
Calculus <i>Precalculus H (Above C+)</i>	Year	Junior+ H
Calculus AB <i>Precalculus H or Advanced Trig H</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
Calculus BC <i>Precalculus H (Above A-) or Advanced Trigonometry H (Above A-)</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
Statistics <i>Algebra 3/Trig or Trig and Geom. CP</i>	Year	Senior CP
Statistics <i>Trig and Geometry H (Above B-)</i>	Year	Junior+ H
Statistics <i>Algebra 2 H (Above B), enrollment in English H</i>	Year	Junior+ AP
College Algebra <i>Algebra 3/Trig or Trig and Geometry CP</i>	Year	Junior+ CP
Computer Science <i>Algebra 2</i>	Year	Sophomore+ AP
Advanced Mathematics Topics <i>Calc BC and Statistics AP (Above A-)</i>	Year	Senior Ind. Study

Department of Mathematics – Full Course Descriptions

Algebra 1 – CP

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

This college preparatory course stresses the development of the algebra skills. Students work both individually and collaboratively in order to strengthen their problem solving skills. Emphasis is placed upon development of proficiency through drill and reinforcement. Topics included are basic logic, signed numbers, polynomials, linear equations and functions, systems of equations, and an introduction to exponents and exponential functions.

Algebra 1 – H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

Honors Algebra I is designed for hardworking mature students who excel at and enjoy mathematics. Honors Algebra I is an intensive study of algebra; the course covers more challenging material, has more homework, and moves at a more rigorous pace than Algebra I CP. Emphasis is placed on theory as well as on practical application and an introduction to more advanced topics in algebra. Topics included are solving multistep equations and inequalities, linear equations, exponential functions, polynomials, and quadratic functions.

Algebra 1 (Science) - H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

For Algebra beginners who want to pursue a rigorous course of study in mathematics by making connections between physics and mathematics through investigation and experimentation. The course will cover the same topics as the Algebra 1 Honors class but using a project-based learning approach investigating kinematics, momentum, and other physics concepts that relate to the mathematical concepts covered in a first year Algebra course.

Algebra 2/Geometry – CP

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 CP/H

This college preparatory course is for students who have completed an Algebra 1 curriculum that did not include an extensive study of quadratic equations. The course is designed to continue development of the mathematics concepts from Algebra 1 CP. Topics include the study of quadratics, equations and inequalities, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, polynomials, and radical expressions. Geometry concepts such as angles, construction, and parallel and perpendicular lines are also included in the course of study.

Algebra 2 – H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: B or above in Algebra 1 – H.

This advanced course is for students who have completed a challenging Algebra 1 Honors curriculum that included quadratic equations. The course is designed to be rigorous and moves at a fast pace. Students should be able to solve multistep linear and quadratic equations quickly and correctly. Additionally, students are expected to be able to “think outside the box” and solve problems that have not been explicitly taught. The course of study includes systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, polynomials, radical expressions, linear quadratic, exponential, logarithmic and polynomial functions.

Algebra 3/Trigonometry - CP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Algebra 2/Geometry – CP

This course is the logical extension of the Algebra II/Geometry course. This course reviews and extends the basic topics of algebra including a review of Algebra II. It includes the algebra of systems of equations, matrices, quadratic equations, radical and rational functions, and exponential and logarithmic equations. This course also includes the basic introduction of trigonometry including, right triangle trigonometry, law of sines, law of cosines, unit circle, and trigonometric identities.

Trigonometry and Geometry - CP

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 – H.

This course is for students who have previously studied mathematics at the honors level (Algebra 2 Honors) and are interested in a slower paced course that does not include proofs. The course will include topics such as perimeter, circumference, area, congruency, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, right triangle trigonometry, and law of sines and cosines.

Advanced Trigonometry – H

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: A or above in Algebra 2 – H.

This challenging course is for students who have a love of mathematics and are interested in the continued study of advanced mathematics. Students must have completed a rigorous Algebra 2 Honors curriculum that included extensive study in quadratics, exponentials, logarithms, and radical and rational functions. Students will be expected to justify their mathematical solutions

through writing proofs and showing detailed problem solving work. This course will have extensive homework and classwork requirements, and students will be expected to complete work on their own. The expectation is for the student to move on to the Calculus level upon completion of this course. The course of study includes geometry topics and trigonometry topics with additional pre-calculus topics.

Precalculus – CP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Trigonometry and Geometry – CP, or Algebra 2 – H

This course in pre-calculus mathematics is an in depth exploration of the theory of functions. Exponential and logarithmic functions are dealt with in detail, and advanced trigonometric polynomials, inequalities, conic sections, sequences, and series are introduced.

Precalculus – H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: B or above in Trigonometry and Geometry – H.

This course is an in-depth exploration of the theory of functions. Students will continue to work on their writing in mathematics with justifications and extensive problem solving work. Emphasis is placed on students being able to work individually and collaboratively in solving detailed word problems. Exponential and logarithmic functions are dealt with in detail, along with the continued study of advanced trigonometry, polar coordinates and complex numbers, polynomials, inequalities, conic sections, and sequences and series.

Calculus – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

CP Prerequisites: Precalculus – CP

H Prerequisites: B- or above in Precalculus H

This course will address the development of the limit, derivative, and integral theories of Calculus. The pace of the course is slower than the Advanced Placement courses. Students will spend more time on each topic and the emphasis will be on applications that are drawn from the social, managerial, and life sciences. Students will be given the opportunity to work on projects in their preferred area of study.

Calculus AB – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: B+ or above in Precalculus – H or Advanced Trigonometry – H.

This course will focus on the development of the limit, derivative, and integral theories of Calculus. Students enrolling in the course must be proficient in all Algebra 2 and Trigonometry skills. This course requires the student to work at a fast and accurate pace. The course of study is theoretical and cumulative. The student must be able to learn all of the Calculus skills and apply their knowledge with written justification. Taking the C.E.E.B. Advanced Placement Examination in May is a requirement of the course.

Calculus BC – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: A or above in Precalculus – H or Advanced Trigonometry – H.

This course is for the exceptional mathematics student who is interested in the theoretical study of advanced mathematics. The student is expected to be proficient in all Algebra 2 and Trigonometry skills. This course is designed to cover the second half of a first year college student's Calculus course. The course covers all the material in Calculus AB and additional topics such as series and sequences, polar coordinates and parametric equations, and an introduction to vector calculus. The student is required to take the C.E.E.B. Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Students may opt to participate in a dual enrollment program at St. Anselm College to take this course for college credit.

Statistics – CP

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Algebra 3/Trigonometry - CP or Trigonometry and Geometry - CP

This is a project based introductory course in descriptive and inferential statistics. Methods of descriptive statistics include frequency distributions, common measures of central tendency and variability, elementary concepts of probability, and certain probability distributions. Projects and computer lab components are incorporated. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required.

Statistics – H

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: B or above in Trigonometry and Geometry – H.

This is a project based introductory course in descriptive and inferential statistics. Students interested in social sciences are encouraged to take this course. Methods of descriptive statistics include frequency distribution and common measures of central tendency. Students take part in real world statistics gathering projects throughout the year and may present their findings to a wide audience.

Statistics –AP

Grade Level: 11, 12**Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: B+ or above in Algebra 2 – H, enrollment in English – H.

The topics for AP Statistics will follow the guidelines established by the College Board. The students will explore data, and that data will be collected according to a well-developed plan. Probability will be used for anticipating what the distribution of data should look like under a given model, and statistical inference will guide the selection of appropriate models. Taking the C.E.E.B. Advanced Placement Examination in May is a requirement of the course.

College Algebra – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: Algebra 3/Trigonometry – CP or Trigonometry and Geometry – CP

This course will transition the students from high school to the college mathematics curriculum. Topics include, but are not limited to, problem solving and critical thinking, mathematical systems, introduction to trigonometry, statistics, probability, finance, and exponential growth. There will be a term paper due each semester.

Computer Science – AP**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: Algebra 2

This course emphasizes object-oriented programming methodology with a concentration on problem solving and algorithm development, and is meant to be the equivalent of a first semester college level course in computer science. It includes the study of data structures, design, and abstraction. In addition to regular programming, the students will have the opportunity to program robots. No prior programming experience is necessary. There is a significant amount of work outside the classroom for this course. The student must be prepared to have the time to complete the assignment programming activities. The C.E.E.B. Advanced Placement Examination in May is a requirement of the course.

Advanced Mathematics Topics – Independent Study**Grade Level: 12****Credits: 1.0**

Prerequisites: A or above in Calculus BC – AP and Statistics – AP

Students who have completed all AP level courses at Austin Preparatory school can take this advanced level mathematics course. This course is for highly motivated students who love mathematics and intend to study mathematics beyond Calculus in college. This course of study will include the introduction of several different topics such as linear algebra, discrete

mathematics, and multivariable calculus. The course will culminate in a quarter long individual project of the student's choice.

Department of Science

Required Credits: 3

General Progression:

Freshman: Biology

Sophomore: Chemistry

Junior/Senior: Elective options in Biological, Physical, and Integrated Sciences

Department Philosophy

Teachers in the Science Department ignite a passion for topics in science, technology, engineering, and math through a strong academic framework emphasizing lifelong learning. Students are challenged to acquire a strong scientific knowledge base, develop higher order thinking skills, cultivate an interest in the sciences, and incorporate and apply technology.

Interactive, lab-based, group activities built around STEM concepts are the norm. In the first two years, studies in Biology and Chemistry provide a strong core knowledge base, as well as a platform for critical and analytical thinking, problem-solving, collaborative learning, creativity, globalization, and effective experimental design. Service to others in the spirit of Jesus Christ remains at the foundation of the science teaching philosophy.

Following completion of these core subjects, a minimum of one further science elective is required for graduation. Electives are presented to prepare students for success in higher education and in their adult lives as civic-minded individuals, open to lifelong learning.

Elective Selection Guidelines, Co-requisites, Pre-requisites

- Only students who have successfully completed two honors level science courses may select:
 - A year-long Honors level science elective with a minimum co-requisite of Precalculus CP.
 - An AP level science elective with a minimum co-requisite of Precalculus CP, minimum science grades in the B+ range (including semester exams), AND approval of the Science Department.
- All other science electives are open to all students within their grade level.

Science Department Offerings

NOTE: Prerequisites listed on previous page.

Course	Year/Semester	Level
Biology	Year	Freshman CP/H
Chemistry	Year	Sophomore CP/H
Anatomy and Physiology	Year	Junior+ CP/H
Environmental Science	Year	Junior+ AP
Biology	Year	Junior+ AP
Chemistry	Year	Junior+ AP
Physics	Year	Junior+ H/AP
Physics	Year	Senior CP
Forensic Science	Year	Senior CP
Science and Religion	Year <i>Dual Credit: Science and Theology</i>	Senior CP/H
Astronomy 1	Semester	Junior+ CP/H (Blended)
Astronomy 2	<i>Semester</i>	Junior+ H
Biotechnology	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Environmental Science (ECE) Energy, Conservation & Ecology	Semester	Junior+ CP/H (Blended)
Environmental Science (PUP) Pollution, Urbanization	Semester	Junior+ CP/H (Blended)
Marine Science	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Medical Microbiology	Semester	Junior+ CP
Meteorology	Semester	Junior+ CP
Oceanography	Semester	Junior+ CP/H
Robotics	Semester	Junior+ CP

Department of Science – Full Course Descriptions

Biology – CP/H

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the biological sciences. Major topics to be covered include: biochemistry, cellular biology, genetics, evolution, viruses, and organismal biology. Students will participate in laboratory experiments and activities (including dissections, lecture, and oral presentations).

Biology – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

This is a college level course designed to challenge students. AP Biology aims to provide the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. Sitting for the AP Biology Examination is a requirement of the course. Further, it is advised, but not mandated, that the student have completed or be enrolled in Physics and/or Anatomy and Physiology. On completion of this course, students are strongly advised to take the SAT subject test in Biology.

Chemistry – CP/H

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: To be considered for Honors Chemistry, a student must be enrolled in an honors math course. In addition, a B- or above in Biology– H is required. Students with an A- or above in Biology– CP are eligible for consideration.

This course is an introduction to the modern approach to the study of chemistry. The course is lab and lecture-oriented. Topics covered include: atomic and molecular structure, chemical reactions, acids and bases, energy, equilibria, and characteristics of elements and compounds.

Chemistry – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to investigate the composition properties and interactivity of matter from theoretical, analytical, and practical aspects building upon the honors program of study and following the guidelines stipulated by the AP College Board. Sitting for the AP Chemistry Examination is a requirement of the course. On completion of this course, students are strongly advised to take the SAT subject test in Chemistry.

Physics – CP

Grade Level: 12**Credits: 1.0**

This course is an elective for Grade 12 which studies the fundamental laws that determine the workings of the universe. The format includes lecture, problem solving, and inquiry based lab experiments. A conceptual understanding of the subject will be emphasized although the mathematical relationships will be used. The topics covered include motion, forces, gravity, energy, momentum and simple harmonic motion.

Physics – H**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

This course is an elective for grades 11 and/or 12 designed for students who intend to go into engineering or physical sciences in college. Classical Physics topics such as kinematics, forces, work, power, energy, momentum, and simple harmonic motion are studied. There is an emphasis on the underlying principles, in-depth mathematical relationships, and problem-solving as well as laboratory experimentation.

Physics – AP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

This course is the equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics following the guidelines stipulated by the College Board. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum), work, energy and power, mechanical waves and sound, and it will also introduce electric circuits. The ability to conceptualize easily is a strong advantage for the student electing this course. Sitting for the AP Physics 1 Examination is a requirement of the course.

Anatomy and Physiology – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

This hands-on science course will cover the same topics as Anatomy and Physiology, honors, with less depth. This course will focus on practical topics in health, sports medicine, and the effects of pollution on the body. Laboratory work, including a comprehensive dissection of the fetal pig, is mandatory.

Anatomy and Physiology – H**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 1.0**

This course is designed as a bridge between High School level biology courses and courses to be taken by students majoring in the life sciences in college. The course will include: a

comprehensive investigation of cellular organization; an introduction to biochemistry; a detailed dissection of the cat, mink, or rabbit and other mammalian structures; and in-depth study of the human, highlighting the structure, function, and integration of all organ systems.

Environmental Science – AP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 1.0

AP Environmental Science is a college level course that takes a scientific approach to rigorously examine the interactions between organisms and their environment. Students will study the flow of energy; the cycling of matter; earth and atmospheric dynamics; terrestrial, freshwater, and marine environments; natural resources; the chemistry of pollutants and their effect on organisms; environmental quality; and the political, economic, and ethical implications that develop as a result of the human population growth and influence on the biosphere. Students are expected to be highly motivated and have well developed independent study skills. This course has both a strong laboratory and field element. Students must take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Forensic Science and Bioethics – CP

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 1.0

Forensic Science and Bioethics is a high level CP course. It will explore the various aspects and skills involved in forensic science such as physical evidence, forensic toxicology, serology, DNA, trace evidence, fingerprints, and blood evidence. This course will also present students with many current ethical issues in the field of biotechnology, which will be analyzed and debated. This course has a very strong laboratory element and will draw heavily on concepts learned in chemistry and biology.

Science and Religion – CP/H

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 2.0 (Theology: 1.0 Credits, Science: 1.0 Credits)

The objective of the course is for students to make sense of the complex relationship between religion and science and to position themselves within this relationship. At times, science and religion appear to be in conflict, and at times, in consensus. For example, there are different religious responses to scientific ideas about evolution and global climate change. The course will begin by examining science and religion as ways of knowing. It will then proceed through a series of units introducing a controversy, examining the science that led to the controversy and looking at diverse religious responses to that controversy. For example, a unit on the vaccination controversy would introduce the controversy, examine the science of immunology, and present religious objections and affirmations for the practice of vaccination.

Astronomy I: An Introduction – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This class provides an introduction into astronomy. The class will begin with a basic introduction to the tools and science of astronomy. Subsequent content will include our space program, the origins of the solar system, planetology and our place in space. Honors students will have a research project in addition to the subject matter.

Astronomy 2: Advanced Topics - H

Grade level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This class will build upon the content of Astronomy I and so continue onto more complex topics including star life cycles, Einstein's relativity, quantum mechanics and the Big Bang. Students are thus required to complete astronomy I as a prerequisite. CP students are eligible if they have completed Astronomy 1 with a B+ or better and have the instructor's recommendation.

Biotechnology – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This is a semester class that will focus on DNA and proteins and how they can be manipulated in a laboratory setting. Topics included will be cloning, stem cells, GMO's and health care. There will also be a lab component and interpretation of current peer-reviewed papers. This is an excellent class for students who are interested in a bioengineering, biotechnology, or medical career.

Environmental Science (ECE): Energy, Conservation & Ecology – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

Environmental Science (ECE) is a semester class that examines energy flow and production, the interactions between organisms and their environment, and species and habitat protection. Major topics include renewable and fossil fuel energy sources, food webs, biogeochemical cycles, and habitat & endangered species management.

Environmental Science (PUP): Pollution, Urbanization & Population – CP/H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

Environmental Science (PUP) is a semester class that covers the influence of a growing human population on air, water, and soil quality. Major topics include climate change, ozone destruction, ocean acidification, marine pollution, waste disposal, and pesticide use.

Marine Science –CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

This course studies organisms in the ocean starting with simple sponges and ending with complex sea mammals. Students will investigate these phyla: Porifera, Cnidaria, Arthropoda, Mollusca and Echinodermata plus marine worms and Chordata. Dissections will include invertebrates, ocean perch, and dogfish shark. The external and internal anatomies of these will be examined and compared. The course includes a field trip to the New England Aquarium.

Marine Science - H**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

The same topics are presented as in the CP offering, but with much greater emphasis on detail. Further and more complex laboratory work, including dissections, will be presented at this level. Honors students will use www.ITIS.gov for classification. Research projects will be set to a higher standard. Students will attend a field trip to the New England Aquarium to study ocean biodiversity.

Medical Microbiology – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

This is a semester class discussing the role of bacteria, their role in disease, and how the human body fights infection. Topics to be discussed include bacterial genetics, viral genetics, and important bacteria in human disease. The human immune system and response will also be studied along with issues concerning bacterial resistance and vaccines. There will also be a lab component. This is an excellent course for students looking to pursue a career in the medical sciences.

Meteorology – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

Weather is one of the most common topics of discussion and it affects all aspects of our lives. In this semester course, students will be studying atmospheric structure, circulation, weather phenomena, climate change, weather modeling, and forecasting.

Oceanography – CP**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credits: 0.5**

Students will study marine factors and how they affect ocean organisms. Sea-floor geography, ocean currents, waves and tides will be explored. Salinity, depth, and temperature, will be investigated and how they affect deep sea fish in various ocean zones. The effect of humans on the change to water quality, temperature and salinity will be studied, together with the introduction of invasive species and growth of microorganisms. This course includes a field trip to the Intertidal zone.

Oceanography – H

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This course covers similar topics as presented in the CP offering, but with more emphasis on detail. More challenging math concepts and complex laboratory skills will be presented at this level. Independent student research projects will be set to a higher standard. Students will attend a field trip to study the intertidal zone and invasive species.

Robotics – CP

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 0.5

This course is a basic introductory course into the fundamentals of programming and robotics. Students will integrate science, technology, engineering, and math concepts while promoting creative problem solving, communication, and teamwork culminating with an end of semester project.

Department of World Languages

Required Credits: 3 (in one language, all in the Upper School)

General Progression:

Eighth graders and Upper School students elect one world language and must complete three years of that language while in the Upper School. Four years are recommended for college, who view two years of Upper School language study as the equivalent of one year of college study. A four year study completes the elementary and intermediate college curriculum. At many colleges, an Advanced Placement course will satisfy the college's language requirement.

Students from homes where a language other than English is spoken must elect a different world language to fulfill their graduation requirement. The home language may be taken in later years as an elective.

Entering eighth graders, freshmen, or transfer students may take a Placement Examination to enter Austin with advanced status, typically second year, in that world language. Students who wish to select a second world language must commit to four years of the first language or three years of the first language and two years of the second language.

Department Philosophy

The Department of World Languages focuses on developing student proficiency in both the language and culture of other people. Students typically study one language and its culture in depth to develop language, cultural, and global awareness to help them pursue future education and professional interest.

Introductory courses begin with a communications approach, stressing listening and speaking skills. Upper years present more grammar and an increasing emphasis upon reading and writing skills.

Most beginning language courses employ an iPad approach to enable self-learning at home by the students in preparation for class. Classes use a variety of audiovisual materials to supplement the text and introduce the cultural and historic context of the people studied. Maps, charts, displays, libraries, and audio and video recordings are an integral part of each language curriculum. Students learn to work collaboratively, develop respect for others, and appreciate different points of view and ideas.

World Languages Department Offerings

NOTE: Year level depends on prior experience within the language. Permission of instructor is necessary for Honors and Advanced Placement courses.

Course	Year/Semester	Level
Latin 1	Year	CP/H
Latin 2	Year	CP/H
Latin 3	Year	CP/H
Latin 4	Year	CP/H
Latin 5	Year	AP
French 1	Year	CP/H
French 2	Year	CP/H
French 3	Year	CP/H
French 4	Year	CP/H
French Language and Culture	Year	AP
Spanish 1	Year	CP/H
Spanish 2	Year	CP/H
Spanish 3	Year	CP/H
Spanish 4	Year	CP/H
Spanish 5 Conversation and Composition	Year	CP
Spanish Language and Culture	Year	AP
Mandarin 1	Year	CP/H
Mandarin 2	Year	CP/H
Mandarin 3	Year	CP/H
Mandarin 4	Year	CP/H

Department of World Languages – Full Course Descriptions Note:

Language level placement is dependent on years of experience with the language.

Latin 1 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This is a modern introductory course in reading Classical Latin elected by new eighth and ninth graders. The course stresses consolidation of English language skills, development of the student's ability to read Latin stories of particular interest, and experience with the history and civilization of Ancient Rome. All language skills are taught through a continuous narrative beginning in Pompeii and moving to Roman Egypt, Britain and finally Rome. The Latin program at Austin leads to a selection of literature and Advanced Placement courses. No previous world language experience is presumed.

Latin 2 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This course is a continuation of Latin 1 and includes units on Theatre and Roman Comedy, the Roman Army, and the military strategy of ancient armies. Development of English vocabulary and ancient history continue to be stressed. Students continue to master Latin grammar and refine their skills in reading and translation. Students learn to work in groups and make oral presentations.

Latin 3 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This course completes Latin grammar and syntax, as well as the narrative begun in Latin 1. The student moves into texts of original Latin. In addition, students get first-hand experience in our heritage from Ancient Greece and Rome. Topics include Ancient Architecture and Engineering, Roman Imperial History of the Late Empire, and the Rise of Christianity. English vocabulary development and the study of ancient history continue.

Latin 4 – CP

Credits: 1.0

This is a course in which students read the stories of Perseus, Hercules, and Jason of the Argonauts in Latin. In addition, students read in English selections from Greek and Roman, Norse, and Celtic mythology. This course focuses on heroes in mythology and in modern culture.

Latin 4 – H

Credits: 1.0

This is an elective seminar that completes a student's ideal preparation for college admission. The student reads original Latin works of Latin literature with a central theme. The first theme is the love poetry of Catullus combined with English poetry and contemporary rock lyrics. Second is Cicero together with Roman Rhetoric and Modern Oratory. Third we will focus on the poetry of Ovid and its use as a basis for Western Art. Lastly, we will read selections from Roman Prose. In addition, writing and presentation skills needed for a variety of college courses are consistently developed.

Latin 5 – AP

Credits: 1.0

This is the Advanced Placement course in Latin, taught as a seminar with an emphasis on student performance and participation. Currently the AP Latin course consists of a semester of Caesar's Gallic Wars and a semester study of Rome's greatest epic, Virgil's Aeneid. Students will develop college level skills in literary analysis and criticism, as well as presentation and composition. All AP Latin students at Austin must take the subject test in Latin (SAT II) in December of that year. Students taking this course are also required to take the AP Latin exam in May.

French 1 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This is a communication based introduction to the French language, spoken globally in more than 43 countries around the world. With emphasis on the speaking and listening skills, students are engaged in developing pronunciation and comprehension skills from the start with the use of an interactive digital text, providing ample audio and video practice for use both in and out of the classroom. Numerous supplemental language learning websites energize the class and motivate students to appreciate the beauty of French and promote a positive class atmosphere. Confidence is fostered through paired classroom conversational activities, role-playing, and basic paragraph writing in collaboration with peers. Various facets of French culture are explored, including food, art, music, and the celebration of customs in Francophone nations on major holidays. Historical connections are referenced with France and the United States, and with our nearby French-speaking neighbor, Canada. Learning of the close linguistic connection between French and English provides a continuing extra bonus in vocabulary building. The course presumes no previous French or World Language experience.

French 2 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This is an intermediate French course continuing the skills development of the first year using an interactive online and mobile edition of the text, and leading to advanced work in French.

French 3 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This course uses the video series French in Action to continue to build more advanced communication skills and exposure to the French civilization.

French 4 – CP/H**Credits: 1.0**

This course is a continuation of the video series French in Action, with additional aural/oral practice including frequent student exposés. Further study of contemporary French society is explored through Internet sites, newspaper and magazine articles, news broadcasts, and movies.

French Language and Culture – AP**Credits: 1.0**

This is the Advanced Placement course in French Language and Culture which is officially described as a course to develop “French language proficiency through the exploration of a variety of interdisciplinary themes that tie closely to French culture. In this course, you will use authentic French materials and sources to develop your language skills in multiple modes of communication, including two-way interactions in writing and speaking, interpretation of audio, audiovisual, and print materials, and oral and written presentation of information and ideas.” The class is conducted primarily in French and prepares the student for the Advanced Placement examination.

Spanish 1 – CP/H**Credits: 1.0**

Students will develop an understanding of the Spanish language at a beginner’s pace with an emphasis on effective communication skills in speaking, reading, writing and listening. Students explore the language including the formal and informal forms of address through a variety of dialogue exercises. Students access a robust digital text that allows access to program-related audio, video, websites, and supplementary practice. Teacher guided instructional game-based learning platforms or interactive classroom activities are often used in the classroom. The students explore cultural topics with special attention given to the celebration of holidays such as Day of the Dead and Christmas. Students also learn about the Spanish conquistadores, and the Maya, Aztec and Incan civilizations. This course presumes and is designed for students with no previous experience in the language.

Spanish 2 – CP/H**Credits: 1.0**

This is an intermediate course in Spanish that continues to develop the skills that will lead to advanced Spanish studies. Students continue with a digital text series that allows access to program-related audio, video, websites, and supplementary practice. Students continue to

explore cultural topics including the arts (painting, singing, dancing, and theater) and cultural celebrations such as La Quinceañera and El Día de los Reyes Magos.

Spanish 3 – CP

Credits: 1.0

This course will continue previous study of Spanish and develop communication skills in the target language for a variety of purposes and diverse audiences. Students will also further explore the culture of the Spanish speaking world including the arts, religious pilgrimages, and myths and legends originating with the indigenous people of South America. The course continues use of online texts and supplementary materials and is project based. Students will use the language in real life settings.

Spanish 3 – H

Credits: 1.0

This course will continue previous study of Spanish and develop students' listening and speaking skills along with the study of the Spanish grammatical structure which will help students develop their writing and reading skills. Students will also further explore the culture of the Spanish speaking world including the arts, religious pilgrimages, and myths and legends originating with the indigenous people of South America. The course continues use of online texts and supplementary materials and is project based. Students will use the language in real life settings. Please note that this is an advanced and accelerated course which is open to students who have performed at a high level in previous Spanish courses.

Spanish 4 – CP

Credits: 1.0

This course completes the sequence of college elementary and intermediate level Spanish. The goals include development of a student's aural comprehension of slower-paced spoken Spanish, as well as limited normal-paced Spanish. The course will focus on developing a well-rounded understanding of the culture and history of the Spanish speaking world as well as oral expression, reading comprehension, and simple narrative skills. This is a largely project based class.

Spanish 4 – H

Credits: 1.0

This course continues the study of the language after Spanish 3 H and moves at an accelerated pace. During the course students will review major topics addressed during the first three years of Spanish and build on that foundation toward a more in depth study of vocabulary, grammar, and culture. The course will develop all language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening, as well as deepen the students' understanding of the Spanish speaking cultures. Much of the class is conducted in Spanish.

Spanish Language and Culture – AP

Credits: 1.0

This is the Advanced Placement course in Spanish Language and Culture which is described by the College Board as a course to develop “Spanish language proficiency through the exploration of a variety of interdisciplinary themes that tie closely to Spanish Culture. In this course students will use authentic Spanish materials and sources to develop language skills in multiple modes of communication, including two-way interactions in both writing and speaking, interpretation of audio, audiovisual, and print materials, and oral and written presentation of information and ideas.” Students taking this course are required to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture exam in May. The classes are conducted primarily in Spanish.

Spanish 5 Conversation and Composition – CP

Credits: 1.0

This is an elective course for students who have completed Spanish 4–CP/H and who do not wish to pursue the Advanced Placement course. Students will concentrate on developing oral/aural communication skills by preparing a variety of presentations on contemporary topics. Students will also deepen their communication skills through mini conversations, dialogs and skits. The class will be conducted mostly in Spanish.

Mandarin 1 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This is an accelerated introductory course in the modern Mandarin (Chinese) language, with an emphasis on speaking and listening skills, and early development of reading and writing abilities. The class strives for the following goals: mastery of the Chinese phonetic system (pinyin), understanding of essential vocabulary (simplified), literacy involving beginning level sentence structures and the construction of commonly used Chinese grammar, familiarity with aspects of Chinese culture and history. Interactive iPad apps, classroom gameplay, and storytelling practice are designed and used to develop and reinforce learning. In addition to language work, the course will serve as an introduction to the culture of the Mandarin speaking world. This course assumes no previous or little Mandarin language experience.

Mandarin 2 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This class is a continuation of Mandarin 1, with an emphasis on speaking and listening along with further development of reading and writing abilities. The class strives for the following goals: further understanding of essential vocabulary, literacy involving sentence structures and the constructions of more complex Chinese grammar, familiarity with aspects of Chinese culture and history. Interactive iPad practice, classroom gameplay, and story reading/telling are designed

and used to develop and reinforce learning. The course will further introduce Chinese culture and history. The course assumes one year or previous experience in the Mandarin language.

Mandarin 3 – CP/H

Credits: 1.0

This class is a continuation of Mandarin 2, with an emphasis on reading and writing along while further developing of speaking and listening skills. The class strives for the follow goals: deepened understanding of extended vocabulary, deepened literacy of sentence structures and complex Chinese grammatical structure, developed understanding of Chinese culture and history. The course continues to utilize technology as a tool to practice language skills.

Mandarin 4 – CP/H

Credits 1.0

This course continues the study of Chinese 3 H with a focus on developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as exploring Chinese literature and current affairs as additional cultural content.

Department of Art and Design

Required Credits: 1.5

General Progression:

Freshman/Sophomore: Three semester-long electives

Junior/Senior: Additional electives, studio courses, independent study (detailed on following page)

Department Philosophy

The Art and Design Department creates a space for students to discover and pursue their passions. The department's motto is "to instruct and to inspire," focusing on providing students key foundational knowledge and skills in the arts, and to develop students interested in pursuing their talents in Austin and beyond. Via project-based instruction, teachers excite students across a variety of fields.

The department offers courses in Visual Arts, Drama, Dance, Music, Technology, and beyond. No courses are mandatory—students instead pursue their passions both across and within disciplines. A student may take a selection of three courses in different fields to discover an area of interest, or instead focus on a specific passion with a progression of courses in a single field. After sophomore year, students have the opportunity to take courses they missed while fulfilling their requirements, to take advanced versions of intro courses, or to work with teachers to develop advanced curricula catered to their field of interest. When students have exhausted a field's curriculum, they are invited and encouraged to speak with their teachers about exploring additional options of study.

Students passionate about Art and Design can complement their academic coursework with extracurricular activities. Most disciplines include performances and productions that integrate with classes. The department focuses on providing students with skills that will be helpful in life, regardless of field.

Art and Design Department Offerings

NOTE: All courses are mixed-grade. Students interested in pursuing specific fields can acquire an Independent Study application from the Academic Office, and fill it out with an instructor.

Course <i>Prerequisites</i>	Year/Semester
Studio Art	Semester
Illustration	Semester
Advanced Studio Art <i>Studio Art</i>	Semester
Graphic Design	Semester
Programming: Python	Semester
Programming: Java	Semester
Computer Science – AP <i>Algebra 2</i>	Year
Filmmaking	Semester
Filmmaking 2 <i>Filmmaking 1</i>	Semester
Screenwriting	Semester
Yearbook	Year
Music Fundamentals	Semester
Austin Beginner Band	Semester
Austin Band	Semester
Keyboard	Semester
Guitar	Semester
Vocal Repertoire <i>Instructor Permission</i>	Semester
Music Theory <i>Music Fundamentals</i>	Semester
Public Speaking	Semester
Drama Acting	Semester
Chorus	Year
Dance	Semester

Experiential Learning in Technology	Semester
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Department of Art and Design – Full Course Descriptions

Note: All Art and Design courses are available to all year levels.

Studio Art

Credits: 0.5

No previous experience is required for this class. This course offers students opportunities for self-expression, innovative thinking, and the development of confidence and pleasure in the creative process. Students will build basic skills in visualization and observation from nature, design, and painting. The focus will be on the elements of drawing such as: line, value, shape, texture, and space. Students will also learn the fundamental techniques in application of medium including watercolor and acrylic. The emphasis will be on the study of color, composition, form, and light.

Advanced Studio Art

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisite: Studio Art

This course is for students who wish to continue learning self-expression through a variety of artistic styles. The course develops technical skills around a personal theme or concept, experimenting with principles of design to effectively communicate their visual ideas.

Illustration

Credits: 0.5

This course is offered to students who enjoy drawing their own characters. Students learn figure drawing and how to create emotions in their characters to make their overall illustrations more dynamic. Lessons cover book, editorial, and advertising illustration, with a focus on process and researching the chosen subject.

Graphic Design

Credits: 0.5

Students learn Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Photoshop through interactive tutorials. Projects could include business card design, invitation design, magazine cover design, digital compositing, and more.

Programming: Python

Credits: 0.5

This course provides students with a hands-on investigation of the programming language Python. Students will develop understanding of the syntax, program design, and programming algorithms through communication, representation, reasoning, making connections, and

problem solving. Topics include functions, loops, strings, arrays, and various searching and sorting techniques. Programming projects will be analyzed, interpreted, evaluated, and logically coded to reinforce the understanding of the topics explored.

Programming: Java

Credits: 0.5

This course provides students with a hands-on investigation of the object-oriented programming language, Java. Students will develop understanding of the syntax, program design, and programming algorithms through communication, representation, reasoning, making connections, and problem solving. Topics include functions, loops, strings, arrays, and various searching and sorting techniques. Programming projects will be analyzed, interpreted, evaluated, and logically coded in Java to reinforce the understanding of the topics explored.

Computer Science – AP

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: Algebra 2

This course emphasizes object-oriented programming methodology with a concentration on problem solving and algorithm development, and is meant to be the equivalent of a first semester college level course in computer science. It includes the study of data structures, design, and abstraction. In addition to regular programming, the students will have the opportunity to program robots. No prior programming experience is necessary. There is a significant amount of work outside the classroom for this course. The student must be prepared to have the time to complete the assignment programming activities. The C.E.E.B. Advanced Placement Examination in May is a requirement of the course.

Filmmaking 1

Credits: 0.5

Requires approval of instructor.

This project-based class teaches students the art of filmmaking. Course skills include scriptwriting, storyboarding, cinematography, directing, audio mixing, editing, post-production, and digital publishing. Students use Austin Prep's professional-standard audiovisual equipment, including cameras and Adobe Creative Cloud software (Photoshop, Lightroom, InDesign, Premiere, AfterEffects). Prospective projects include photography, music videos, news reports, and short films across different genres and styles.

Filmmaking 2

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisites: Filmmaking 1 or equivalent. Requires approval of instructor.

Filmmaking II provides students the opportunity to explore fields of filmmaking, video journalism, and digital storytelling at a more advanced level. Students apply their skills in

projects of larger scope, learning expert techniques in cinematography, editing and scripting. Students develop an understanding of style, pacing, advanced audio mixing, color correction and aspect ratios, and design works that make use of effective transitions, movement, titles and mood. The course functions in a studio environment, producing works and programming that extend beyond the classroom.

Screenwriting

Credits: 0.5

Students learn storytelling through the writing of scripts for videos and/or theatre. Students learn elements of character and plot development, then apply these skills through video projects and performances.

Yearbook

Credits: 0.5 or 1.0

Students produce and design the 2019 Austin Prep yearbook, *Omega*. In this studio course, students will produce *Omega*, the Austin Preparatory School yearbook. The class will establish objectives in producing a memory book, a historical book, and a public relations tool. To produce the yearbook, students will develop skills in graphic composition and layout, typography, caption and story writing, photography and editing, multimedia journalism, and design. Additionally, students will promote the yearbook, and develop an introductory understanding of sales, advertising and marketing tactics. Ethical and legal considerations will be addressed.

Music Fundamentals

Credits: 0.5

No previous musical experience is required for this course. This is an entry level course with the focus on the fundamental concepts of tonal music. Major topics will include: reading musical notation in all clefs, analyzing and performing rhythms, meter, major and minor scales and modes, intervals, triads and seventh note chords, and diatonic major and minor chords. Within a larger historical context, students will be introduced to choral and instrumental ensembles, including wind, string and percussion instruments. The course will also explore basic composition techniques used to produce melodies and harmonies for different combinations of instruments and voices.

Music Theory

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisites: Music Fundamentals

Previous music experience is encouraged for students in this class. This course is aimed at musicians, instrumentalists, singers, composers, and anyone who is curious about how music is “put together”. This course will cover the core foundational components of tonal music

theory. Topics will include: pitch notation, rhythm and meter, major and minor scales, intervals, triads and seventh chords, diatonic major/minor chords, voice leading and part writing, diatonic harmonic progressions, and cadences. Students will analyze musical examples, build ear training skill through sight-singing, sight-read and take down rhythm and melodic dictation, and compose their own pieces to demonstrate knowledge of class topics.

Austin Beginner Band

Credits: 0.5

This is a performance-based elective for students who are interested in performing and improving their instrumental skills in a smaller ensemble setting (i.e. sectional lessons). The full band is comprised of (but not limited to) standard instrumentation: woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, keyboard, rhythm guitar, and bass guitar. The full band rehearses twice weekly after-school. The band performs throughout the school year at various events such as: Lessons & Carols, Community Meetings, Pep Rallies, a Spring Concert, and more. This course is designed for beginners with no previous instrument experience.

Austin Band

Credits: 0.5

This is a performance-based elective for students who are interested in performing and improving their instrumental skills in a smaller ensemble setting (i.e. sectional lessons). The full band is comprised of (but not limited to) standard instrumentation: woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano, keyboard, rhythm guitar, and bass guitar. The full band rehearses twice weekly after-school. The band performs throughout the school year at various events such as: Lessons & Carols, Community Meetings, Pep Rallies, a Spring Concert, and more. This course is designed for musicians who have experience playing an instrument, inside or outside of Austin.

Vocal Repertoire

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisites: Requires approval of instructor.

This is a performance-based course for experienced singers who wish to perfect their individual vocal technique. The focus will be an overview of classical and modern vocal solo repertoire of the past three centuries, including the music of Broadway, film, and modern pop/rock. Each week students will be assigned or select a piece from a different decade or musical style to learn and perform for their peers. Activities will include lyric and score analysis, diction lessons, the writing of constructive critiques, research of composers and the pieces being performed, weekly vocal coaching, and in-class peer performances. Students will become more professional and effective communicators of a wide variety of music when singing on stage or at an audition.

Keyboard Workshop

Credits: 0.5

This is a non-performance based semester elective for students interested in learning basic keyboard/piano skills. Students learn proper fingering patterns, the basis of note-reading in treble and bass clefs, and how to read and decode basic rhythmic patterns, all while learning traditional as well as popular song stylings. Students also explore areas of music theory and composition and their relationship to their work. Students, if they desire, have the opportunity to participate in the Austin Band program.

Guitar Workshop**Credits: 0.5**

This is a non-performance based semester elective for students interested in learning how to play the guitar. From beginner to advanced, students develop guitar skills in a variety of styles and techniques. Topics include standard/alternative, note/chordal reading, tablature, chord diagrams, and identification of notes on the fingerboard. Students learn how to accompany themselves on traditional as well as popular music styles and much more. Students must provide their own guitar (acoustic or electric) for this elective. Students, if they desire, have the opportunity to participate in the Austin Band program.

Public Speaking**Credits: 0.5**

In life, no matter your choice of occupation, at some point you will be asked to deliver a presentation. Mastery of the skills used in public speaking will greatly enhance your chances of being understood. An effective presentation includes good content, organization, delivery, audience, and analysis. You will learn techniques for mastering nerves, vocal control, diction, and projection. Remove verbal filler and impress at your college interviews, job interviews, and even first dates!

Drama: Acting**Credits: 0.5**

Students train in exercises to develop concentration, imagination and life observation, and improvisations to encourage physical freedom through study of scenes from classic and modern American and British theater. Students will learn how to pick a monologue, proper techniques for auditions, how to write a theatrical resume, and techniques for cold readings at auditions. Students will perform a variety of monologues and short scenes, and those looking to go on in acting will develop a portfolio for auditions.

Chorus**Credits: 0.5**

This is an elective course and no previous vocal experience is necessary. This course is ideal for singers, instrumentalists, or others who wish to increase their musical knowledge. Students

will learn proper breath support, vocal technique, and how to warm up their voices and sing in harmony. Chorus enhances and enriches all Masses and Prayer Services with a wide variety of contemporary and traditional sacred music. Chorus also performs many non-religious pieces in performances. Solo opportunities are available and the music covers a wide variety of styles – from classical to the 21st century. All performances and additional rehearsals are considered part of the course. All voice types and levels of experience are welcome.

Dance

Credits: 0.5

This course is designed to introduce students to dance, choreography, and performance. . Special focus will be placed on the language of dance, the elements of movement and pantomime, the practice of rehearsal and development, and the art of improvisation. All students will be required to create and perform in two three-minute pieces, including the selection of music, costumes, set design, lighting, and props. Students may enter the course at any experience level—the course is structured to allow for students to learn at their own pace.

Experiential Learning in Technology

Credits: 0.5

Students serve as First-Tier Tech Support for the APS TechTeam, with a small number of students managing the Technology Suite each block. Students develop a hands-on learning experience of tech support, managing information systems, and customer service. When not maintaining the Mobile MakerSpace or troubleshooting reported issues, students will work on a passion project of their choosing.

Leadership through Design Innovation

Credits: 0.5

Leadership through Design Innovation is a course offered to students who have been approved by the APS techTEAM and have completed Experiential Learning in Technology or the requisite project-hours in the Maker-Space. Students in this course will be tasked with taking four (4) “making” projects found in other courses currently offered at Austin Prep and elevating each project along the SAMR Design Model using the tools and equipment found in the Maker-Space. Students will be required to maintain a highly polished public blog about the process and their explorations of innovation, entrepreneurship, 3D design/printing, engineering, technology, and making.