

Vanderbilt Area School

Course Catalog



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ELEMENTARY6	MIDDLE SCHOOL21
English Language Arts6	English Language Arts21
Kindergarten.....6	Mathematics21
1st Grade.....6	Science22
2nd Grade.....7	Social Studies22
3rd Grade.....7	Electives23
4th Grade.....7	Art.....23
5th Grade.....8	Physical Education.....23
6th Grade.....8	Creative Writing.....23
Mathematics9	STEM.....24
Kindergarten.....9	Intervention.....24
1st Grade.....9	Music.....25
2nd Grade.....10	Character and Leadership.....25
3rd Grade.....10	HIGH SCHOOL25
4th Grade.....11	English Language Arts25
5th Grade.....11	9th Grade.....25
6th Grade.....12	10th Grade.....26
Science12	American Literature.....26
Kindergarten.....12	British Literature.....27
1st Grade.....13	Creative Writing.....28
2nd Grade.....13	Journalism.....28
3rd Grade.....14	Novels Seminar.....28
4th Grade.....14	Mathematics29
5th Grade.....15	Algebra I.....29
6th Grade.....15	Geometry.....29
Social Studies16	Algebra II.....30
Kindergarten.....16	Personal Finance.....30
1st Grade.....16	Science31
2nd Grade.....16	Earth Science.....31
3rd Grade.....17	Biology.....31
4th Grade.....17	Physical Science.....31
5th Grade.....18	Chemistry.....32
6th Grade.....18	STEM.....32
Elementary Specials19	Forestry.....33
Art.....19	Outdoor Education.....33
Physical Education.....19	Environmental Science.....34
Technology.....20	
Math Games.....20	
Music.....20	
Library.....21	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Social Studies	34
U.S. History.....	34
World History.....	35
Economics.....	35
Civics.....	35
Law.....	36
History Through Film.....	36
Current Events.....	36
The Arts	37
Introduction to Art.....	37
Advanced Art.....	37
Yearbook.....	38
Wood Shop.....	38
Theory of Creativity.....	38
Additional Electives	39
Health.....	39
Fitness.....	40
Intervention.....	40
Career Exploration.....	40
Computer Basics.....	41
Computer Science.....	41
Critical Thinking.....	42
Speech.....	42
Mythology.....	42
Sociology.....	43
Music.....	43
Character and Leadership.....	43
Foreign Language	44
Dual Enrollment	44
Credit Recovery	44

Elementary: Kindergarten - 6th Grade

Core Classes	Specials
English Language Arts Mathematics Science Social Studies	Art Physical Education Technology Math Games Music

Middle School: 7th - 8th Grade

Core Classes	Elective Classes
English Language Arts Mathematics Science Social Studies	Art Physical Education Creative Writing STEM Intervention Music

High School: 9th - 12th Grade

English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
ELA 9 ELA 10 American Literature British Literature Creative Writing Journalism Novels Seminar	Algebra I Geometry Algebra II Personal Finance	Earth Science Biology Physical Science Chemistry STEM Forestry Outdoor Education Environmental Science
Social Studies	The Arts	Additional Electives
U.S. History World History Economics Civics Law History through Film Current Events	Introduction to Art Advanced Art Yearbook Wood Shop Theory of Creativity	Health Fitness Intervention Career Exploration Computer Basics Speech Mythology Sociology Music <i>Students who participate in Varsity Sports may count credit towards their required PE credit.</i>
Foreign Language	Dual Enrollment	Credit Recovery
Online through Michigan Virtual or Edgenuity	Kirtland Community College	Online through Michigan Virtual or Edgenuity

A class schedule will be designed each year depending on the needs of students and teaching staff certifications. This is a working list of what classes may or may not be available each school year.

Students are eligible to take any course listed in the Kirtland Community College, Edgenuity or Michigan Virtual course catalog.

All classes follow the Michigan State Standards.

ELEMENTARY

Elementary English Language Arts

Kindergarten ELA:

This class is designed to introduce young learners to the foundations of the English language, with a focus on reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Through a variety of engaging activities and exercises, students will develop their language skills and build a strong foundation for future learning.

In this class, students will learn to recognize and write the letters of the alphabet, and to form basic words and sentences. They will also explore the sounds of the English language and practice phonics skills through games and activities. Students will be encouraged to read aloud and independently, and will be introduced to a range of age-appropriate texts, including storybooks, poems, and informational texts.

Throughout the class, students will also develop their listening and speaking skills by participating in class discussions and presentations. They will practice asking and answering questions, expressing opinions, and sharing ideas. In addition, we will focus on building vocabulary and developing comprehension skills, as well as fostering a love of language and literature.

By the end of the year, students will have a solid foundation in English language arts and will be well-prepared to continue their language learning journey.

First Grade ELA:

In this class, students will focus on building a strong foundation in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Throughout the year, they will learn phonemic awareness, phonics, and fluency through engaging activities such as read-alouds, interactive games, and small group instruction. Students will also develop comprehension skills through listening and responding to stories, identifying main ideas, making connections, and asking questions.

In writing, students will learn to express their thoughts and ideas through drawing, labeling, and writing simple sentences. They will focus on proper letter formation and basic punctuation. Students will also engage in collaborative writing activities to foster teamwork and communication skills.

In addition, students will work on developing strong speaking and listening skills. Students will practice taking turns in conversation, listening actively, and participating in

group discussions. They will also be introduced to new vocabulary words each week to help them expand their language skills and express themselves more effectively.

By the end of the year, students will have a solid foundation in English Language Arts, which will prepare them for future academic success.

Second Grade ELA:

In this class, students will continue to develop their reading and writing skills as they explore various genres of literature. Students will focus on developing reading fluency, comprehension, and critical thinking skills through a variety of activities such as reading aloud, shared reading, independent reading, and responding to literature through writing and discussion.

Students will also learn about sentence structure, punctuation, and basic grammar rules to improve their writing skills. Through interactive activities, games, and projects, students will be able to express themselves clearly and confidently in both oral and written communication.

By the end of the year, students will have a solid foundation in English Language Arts, which will prepare them for future academic success.

Third Grade ELA:

This class is designed to help students develop a strong foundation in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Throughout the year, students will be exposed to a variety of texts, including fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, and will learn how to analyze and interpret them.

Students will also develop their writing skills by learning how to organize their thoughts, write clear sentences and paragraphs, and revise and edit their work.

In addition, students will work on their speaking and listening skills by participating in class discussions, group projects, and presentations. By the end of the year, students will have a solid understanding of English Language Arts and will be well-prepared for future academic and personal success.

Fourth Grade ELA:

In this class, students will develop and strengthen their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Throughout the year, students will engage in a variety of activities and projects that will challenge and enhance their comprehension, critical thinking, and communication abilities.

The reading component of the class will focus on improving fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension skills through the use of both fiction and nonfiction texts. Students will

learn how to analyze and evaluate literature, identify themes and main ideas, and make connections between different texts. Additionally, students will have opportunities to participate in literature circles and book clubs, where they can share their thoughts and opinions about what they have read with their peers.

The writing component of the class will focus on developing students' skills in various genres of writing, including narrative, informative, and persuasive writing. Students will learn how to brainstorm ideas, organize their writing, and revise and edit their work. They will also have opportunities to publish their writing through various projects, such as creating a class book or producing a podcast.

The speaking and listening component of the class will focus on developing students' oral communication skills. Students will learn how to ask and answer questions, engage in group discussions, and deliver presentations. Additionally, they will learn how to actively listen and respond to others' ideas and opinions.

By the end of the year, students will have a solid foundation in English Language Arts, which will prepare them for future academic success.

Fifth Grade ELA:

This class will focus on developing reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Students will explore a variety of literature genres, such as fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Students will learn how to identify and analyze the main idea, plot, characters, and setting of a story. Students will also work on developing vocabulary, comprehension, and inference skills through reading passages and discussions with peers.

Additionally, students will practice different writing styles, including narrative, expository, and persuasive writing. Students will learn how to organize our ideas and write clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs. Students will also focus on grammar, punctuation, and spelling to enhance writing skills.

In this class, students will also work on developing speaking and listening skills through class discussions and presentations. Students will learn how to express ideas clearly and respectfully and listen actively to peers' perspectives.

Finally, students will focus on building our research skills by learning how to find and evaluate credible sources, take notes, and organize information into a research project.

By the end of the year, students will have a solid foundation in English Language Arts, which will prepare them for future academic success.

Sixth Grade ELA:

In this class, students will continue to build upon their reading and writing skills. The class will focus on the development of literacy skills in areas such as comprehension, critical thinking, and analysis of various genres of literature, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will also work on developing their writing skills through various types of writing, such as personal narratives, persuasive essays, and research papers.

In addition to reading and writing, the course will cover other language skills such as vocabulary development, grammar, and syntax. Students will learn new vocabulary words, and explore the nuances of the English language, including idiomatic expressions, figurative language, and literary devices. Grammar and syntax will be covered through the analysis of literature and direct instruction, helping students to develop their own writing style and voice.

This course will also focus on building students' speaking and listening skills. Students will practice effective communication through discussions, debates, and oral presentations. They will learn to listen critically and to respond to others' ideas thoughtfully and respectfully.

By the end of the year, students will be prepared for success in middle school and beyond.

Elementary Mathematics

Kindergarten Math:

In this class, students will focus on developing the foundational skills that will help to build a strong understanding of math concepts. Students will use a variety of hands-on activities and games designed to keep students engaged and excited about learning.

This class will cover a range of topics such as counting, number recognition, basic addition and subtraction, geometry, and measurement. Students will also work on developing critical thinking and problem solving skills through activities that encourage students to use math skills in real-life situations.

This class' approach to math is centered around creating a positive and supportive learning environment where every child feels valued and encouraged to take risks and make mistakes.

By the end of the year, students will have gained a solid foundation in math that will set them up for continued success in their academic journey.

First Grade Math:

In this class, students will be exploring fundamental mathematical concepts that will lay a strong foundation for future mathematical development.

Through fun and engaging activities, this class will introduce and practice basic arithmetic skills such as addition, subtraction, counting, and number recognition. Students will also learn how to identify and compare basic shapes and sizes, as well as begin to understand the concept of measurement through simple units like inches and centimeters.

As students progress through this class, they will also delve into patterns and sequencing, exploring the relationships between numbers and shapes. Students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they learn to solve basic word problems and puzzles.

Students will use a variety of methods such as visual aids, manipulatives, and technology to keep them engaged and excited about learning math. By the end of this course, students will have a strong foundation in the fundamentals of mathematics that will set them up for success in future math courses.

Second Grade Math:

In this class, students will continue to build a strong foundation in basic mathematical concepts. The course will cover a range of topics, including addition and subtraction within 20, place value, measurement, geometry, and data analysis. Students will learn to solve simple word problems and work with different types of graphs, charts, and tables.

Throughout the course, students will engage in a variety of activities to develop their problem-solving skills and build fluency with basic math facts. Students will use manipulatives and visual aids to help them understand abstract concepts and build a deeper understanding of mathematical principles.

The class will also focus on developing critical thinking skills, as students learn to analyze problems, apply mathematical strategies, and communicate their reasoning. Students will work collaboratively on group projects and engage in hands-on activities to reinforce their understanding of key concepts.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in basic mathematical concepts and be well-prepared for the challenges of third grade math.

Third Grade Math:

In this course, students will build on their previous knowledge of addition, subtraction, and basic multiplication and division to further develop their understanding of mathematical concepts. Throughout the year, students will explore number sense and place value, measurement, fractions, geometry, and problem-solving strategies.

The curriculum emphasizes hands-on, interactive learning, with plenty of opportunities for students to engage in group work, discussions, and real-world problem-solving scenarios. The use of a variety of tools and materials, including manipulatives, visual aids, and technology, will help students make connections between abstract concepts and the world around them.

By the end of the year, students will be able to fluently add and subtract within 1,000, understand the relationships between multiplication and division, measure length, weight, and volume using standard units, and identify and classify geometric shapes. Students will also develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills that can be applied to a wide range of mathematical and real-world situations.

Fourth Grade Math:

In this class, we will be exploring the exciting world of numbers, operations, and problem-solving. Over the course of the year, we will be building upon the foundational math skills learned in previous years and delving into more complex concepts.

Students will review addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, and then move on to fractions, decimals, and percentages. Students will also work on developing problem-solving skills, learning how to identify mathematical patterns, and applying knowledge to real-world situations.

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities to work individually, in small groups, and as a whole class using a variety of teaching techniques, including hands-on activities, games, and technology, to keep the learning fun and engaging.

By the end of the year, students will have a strong understanding of mathematical concepts and skills that will help them to succeed in future math classes and beyond.

Fifth Grade Math:

In this course, students will build upon the foundational math concepts learned in previous years and dive deeper into the world of numbers and operations. Students will explore topics such as place value, fractions, decimals, and percentages, and develop an understanding of how these concepts relate to one another.

Throughout the course, students will engage in problem-solving activities that challenge them to think critically and apply their knowledge in real-world situations. They will also learn how to use math tools such as calculators, rulers, and protractors to enhance their problem-solving skills.

In addition to traditional classroom instruction, students will have the opportunity to work collaboratively with their peers and participate in hands-on activities to deepen their understanding of math concepts. By the end of this course, students will have

developed strong foundational math skills that will prepare them for success in future math courses and beyond.

Sixth Grade Math:

This 6th grade math course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts, including arithmetic operations, algebraic expressions, geometry, and statistics. Students will learn to solve mathematical problems using various strategies and tools, including mental calculations, paper and pencil methods, and calculators.

Throughout the course, students will build upon their knowledge of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents, and develop a deeper understanding of how these concepts relate to one another. They will also learn to represent and analyze data using graphs and charts, and use probability and statistics to make predictions and draw conclusions.

In addition to mastering core mathematical skills, this course will emphasize critical thinking, problem-solving, and real-world applications. Students will be challenged to think creatively and apply their knowledge to solve complex, real-world problems. They will also have opportunities to work collaboratively and develop their communication skills through group projects and class discussions.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in mathematical concepts and skills that will prepare them for success in future math classes and in everyday life. They will also have developed important problem-solving and critical thinking skills that will serve them well in all areas of their academic and professional lives.

Elementary Science

Kindergarten Science:

In this course, students will be introduced to the wonders of science through hands-on activities, exploration, and observation. The aim is to encourage children to develop their natural curiosity and sense of wonder about the world around them.

Throughout the course, we will explore various scientific topics, such as plants, animals, the weather, and the five senses. This course will also touch on basic scientific concepts, such as observation, prediction, and classification. Through engaging and interactive activities, such as experiments, games, and crafts, students will learn to make hypotheses, test theories, and draw conclusions.

This course will encourage teamwork and collaboration, as well as respect for others and their ideas. By the end of the course, students will have a basic understanding of

scientific inquiry and be excited to continue learning about the natural world around them.

First Grade Science:

In this class, students will explore the fascinating world of science through hands-on activities, experiments, and observations. Students will learn about the three main branches of science: biology, chemistry, and physics.

In biology, students will explore the world of living things, including the different parts of plants, how they grow and reproduce, and how they contribute to our environment. Students will also investigate the characteristics of animals, including their habitats, diets, and life cycles.

In chemistry, students will explore the properties of matter and how they interact with each other. Students will conduct simple experiments to learn about the states of matter, such as solids, liquids, and gasses; along with learning about the different properties of materials, such as color, texture, and flexibility.

In physics, students will explore the world of energy and motion. Students will learn about different types of energy, including light, sound, and heat. Students will also investigate how objects move and how forces, such as gravity and friction, affect their motion.

Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they make observations, ask questions, and draw conclusions. Students will also emphasize the importance of safety and proper handling of materials. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in science and be ready to explore more advanced concepts in the years to come.

Second Grade Science:

In this course, students will explore the world around them through hands-on experiments, observations, and discussions. Students will learn about: physical science, life science, and earth science.

In physical science, students will explore the properties of matter and learn about the different states of matter. There will also be focus on forces, such as gravity and magnetism, and how they affect the world around us.

In life science, students will study living things and their habitats. Students will learn about the life cycles of plants and animals, as well as the basic needs of all living things. In addition, students will also explore the different types of ecosystems and how they support life.

In earth science, students will learn about the different parts of the earth, including the layers of the earth, rocks and minerals, and the water cycle. Students will also learn about weather patterns and natural disasters, such as hurricanes and earthquakes.

Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to use scientific inquiry and critical thinking skills, as they make observations and conduct experiments. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper understanding and appreciation for the world around them, and the scientific process used to explore it.

Third Grade Science:

In this class, students will explore the natural world around them through hands-on activities and experiments. This course will cover a wide range of topics, including the water cycle, different types of rocks, the life cycles of plants and animals, and properties of matter.

Through interactive lessons and experiments, students will learn about the three states of matter, the properties of solids, liquids, and gasses, and how materials can change from one state to another. They will also investigate the properties of rocks and minerals, and learn how they are formed through geological processes.

In addition, students will study the life cycles of plants and animals, from seed to mature plant, and from egg to adult animal. They will learn about the different stages of growth and development, and how environmental factors can impact these processes.

Throughout the course, students will develop their scientific inquiry skills, including observing, questioning, predicting, and experimenting. They will also learn how to record and analyze data, and draw conclusions based on their observations and findings.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in basic scientific concepts and processes, as well as an appreciation for the wonder and complexity of the natural world.

Fourth Grade Science:

In this course, students will explore a wide range of scientific concepts and principles that will help to develop a deeper understanding of the world around us. Topics for this course include the properties of matter, energy and its forms, Earth's natural resources, ecosystems and food chains, and the water cycle.

Through hands-on experiments, group activities, and discussions, students will learn how to observe, ask questions, and think critically about the world of science. Students will also have the opportunity to develop scientific skills, such as measuring and recording data, creating models, and conducting experiments.

By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper knowledge of the natural world and the role that science plays in our everyday lives.

Fifth Grade Science:

In this course, students will explore general science through hands-on experiments, exciting activities, and engaging discussions. A wide range of topics will be covered, including the study of matter, energy, motion, the environment, and living organisms.

Throughout the year, students will investigate the properties of different types of matter, learn about the states of matter, and explore the behavior of matter under different conditions. Students will also examine the various forms of energy, including kinetic and potential energy, as well as the conversion of energy from one form to another.

In addition, students will explore the principles of motion and force, including the laws of motion and the effects of gravity. Students will also delve into the natural world, including ecosystems, environmental conservation, and the roles that different living organisms play in the world around us.

Through laboratory experiments, scientific research, and group projects, students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as learn to apply scientific methods to real-world situations. By the end of this course, students will have a strong foundation in science and a deep appreciation for the amazing world we live in.

Sixth Grade Science:

In this course, students will dive deeper into life science. This course will cover a range of topics including the scientific method, the properties of matter, the structure of the Earth, the basics of energy and motion, and the different types of living organisms.

Through hands-on experiments, group discussions, and individual research projects, students will learn how to make observations, collect data, and draw conclusions based on evidence. Students will also develop critical thinking skills through exploration of the relationship between science and society, and the ethical considerations that arise in scientific research.

Students will participate in a collaborative learning environment, as well as using technology, online resources, and interactive simulations to enhance understanding of scientific concepts.

By the end of the course, students will have a deeper appreciation for the scientific method and the role of science in our everyday lives. Students will also be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to approach scientific problems with curiosity, creativity, and a spirit of inquiry.

Elementary Social Studies

Kindergarten Social Studies:

In this class, young learners will embark on a journey of discovery, exploring the world around them and gaining an understanding of their place in it. Through engaging activities, stories, and discussions, students will learn about themselves, their families, and their communities. They will learn about different cultures, traditions, and celebrations, as well as the importance of respect, kindness, and empathy. Students will develop an awareness of basic geography, learning about maps, landmarks, and the different regions of their country. They will also learn about the role of different community helpers, such as police officers, firefighters, and teachers, and how they contribute to making our communities safe and thriving.

Overall, this class will help students develop a sense of curiosity about the world around them and lay a foundation for future social studies learning.

First Grade Social Studies:

In this class, students will explore the world around them and learn about the communities they live in. Through interactive and engaging lessons, students will develop an understanding of what it means to be a good citizen and how to contribute positively to their community. They will learn about different cultures, traditions, and celebrations, and how to respect and appreciate diversity. Students will also gain an awareness of basic geography, including maps, directions, and landmarks.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in social studies and will be equipped with the tools and knowledge they need to be responsible and active members of their community.

Second Grade Social Studies:

In this class, students will explore the world around them and gain a deeper understanding of their place in it. Students will start by learning about different cultures and traditions around the world, including holidays, customs, and food. They will then move on to study different types of communities, such as urban, suburban, and rural areas, and how people live and work in each of them.

Throughout the course, there will also be focus on developing important social and emotional skills, such as empathy, communication, and teamwork. Various activities and

projects will help students understand and appreciate diverse perspectives and learn how to work effectively with others.

By the end of the course, students will have a better understanding of the world around them, their place in it, and how they can make a positive impact on their community.

Third Grade Social Studies:

In this class, students will explore the world around them and how different people, places, and cultures have shaped our society. Throughout the year, students will delve into various topics such as geography, history, government, economics, and culture.

In our geography unit, students will learn about maps, globes, and other tools that help us understand the world we live in. They will explore the continents, oceans, and countries, and learn about the different climates and landforms that make each region unique.

During our history unit, students will study important events and figures from the past that have shaped our present. They will learn about American history, including the founding of our country and the important people who helped shape it. Students will also be introduced to ancient civilizations, such as Egypt, Greece, and Rome.

In the government unit, students will learn about different levels of government, from local to national. They will explore the roles and responsibilities of government officials and how they work together to make decisions that impact our lives.

During the economics unit, students will learn about money, trade, and supply and demand. We will explore how people buy and sell goods and services and how businesses operate in our communities.

Finally, in the culture unit, students will learn about the customs, beliefs, and traditions of different cultures around the world. They will explore how people celebrate holidays and traditions, and how these practices have changed over time.

Throughout the course, students will engage in class discussions, group activities, and projects that will help them to understand and appreciate the world around us. By the end of the year, students will have a deeper understanding of the world we live in and the diverse people and cultures that make it so special.

Fourth Grade Social Studies:

In this class, students will explore the world around them and will learn about history, geography, economics, and government, and how they all relate to our daily lives.

Throughout the year, students will dive into different time periods and cultures, from ancient civilizations to modern-day societies. They will study famous figures and their contributions to our world, including important leaders, inventors, and activists. Students will also explore different regions of the world and learn about their unique geography, climate, and cultural traditions.

In addition, students will discuss the importance of economics and how money impacts our lives. They will explore concepts such as supply and demand, trade, and money management, as well as the different levels of government, including local, state, and federal, and how they work together to make decisions that affect our communities.

Throughout this class, a variety of learning techniques will be used, including reading, writing, and interactive activities. Students will work on developing critical thinking skills, as well as effective communication and collaboration skills.

By the end of the year, students will have a deep understanding of social studies and how it relates to their lives, as well as an appreciation for the diverse cultures and perspectives that make up our world.

Fifth Grade Social Studies:

In this class, students will explore the world around them through the lens of history, geography, economics, and civics. They will begin by examining the foundations of our country, including the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the three branches of government. From there, they will dive into different cultures and societies around the world, learning about the diversity of human experiences.

Geography will be a major focus of the class, as students learn about the physical and cultural characteristics of regions across the globe. They will study maps, charts, and graphs to understand the distribution of natural resources and how people have adapted to their environments over time.

Throughout the class, students will also develop an understanding of basic economic concepts, such as supply and demand, scarcity, and opportunity cost. They will learn about different economic systems and how they impact people's lives.

Finally, students will explore the responsibilities of citizenship and the importance of civic engagement. They will learn about the rights and responsibilities of individuals in a democratic society and examine ways in which people can participate in the political process.

By the end of the class, students will have gained a deeper understanding of the world around them and the role they can play in shaping its future. They will have developed critical thinking and analytical skills that will serve them well in their future academic and personal pursuits.

Sixth Grade Social Studies:

In this class, students will explore the world through the lens of culture, geography, history, and government. Through a variety of engaging activities, readings, discussions, and projects, students will develop a deeper understanding of different societies and their unique customs, beliefs, and values.

Students will learn how geography affects the way people live, work, and interact with each other, as well as how historical events have shaped the world we live in today. Additionally, students will examine the structures of various types of governments, both past and present, and explore the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.

By the end of this course, students will have a stronger appreciation for the diversity and complexity of the world around them, as well as the skills and knowledge necessary to be informed and engaged global citizens.

Elementary Specials

Art:

In this class, students will explore the exciting world of art through a variety of 2D and 3D mediums. The primary focus will be on developing creativity, fine motor skills, and self-expression through artistic expression. Fundamental concepts such as the Elements of Art, color theory and composition while also incorporating elements of art history to inspire and inform creations will be covered in class.

Students will have the opportunity to experiment with different materials and techniques, allowing them to discover their own unique style and preferences. They will be encouraged to think outside the box and approach their projects with an open mind, fostering a sense of creative freedom and confidence.

Throughout the year, student artwork will be showcased in the classroom and hallway to celebrate their achievements. By the end of the class, students will have a greater understanding and appreciation for the arts, as well as the ability to express themselves creatively through their own artwork.

Physical Education:

This class aims to provide students with a fun and engaging introduction to the world of physical activity. Throughout the year, students will develop their motor skills, learn about proper technique and form, and explore a variety of different sports and activities.

The class will begin with a focus on basic movements such as running, jumping, and throwing, with an emphasis on proper form and technique. Students will then progress to more complex movements, including team sports such as soccer, basketball, and volleyball, as well as individual activities like yoga and dance.

In addition to physical activity, the class will also focus on developing important life skills such as teamwork, sportsmanship, and communication. Students will have the opportunity to work in groups and learn to support and encourage one another throughout their physical endeavors.

Students will be assessed based on their participation and effort in class, as well as their ability to demonstrate the skills and techniques learned in class. By the end of the year, students will have a strong foundation in physical activity and a greater appreciation for the role it plays in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Technology:

In this class, students will learn the basic skills and concepts necessary to use and navigate technology effectively. The class will cover a range of topics including computer hardware and software, internet safety and etiquette, digital citizenship, coding basics, and productivity tools like word processors and presentation software.

Students will gain hands-on experience through interactive activities, games, and projects designed to reinforce their understanding of key concepts. By the end of the year, students will have a solid foundation in technology skills that will serve them well in future academic and professional pursuits.

Additionally, they will develop critical thinking skills necessary for problem-solving and the ability to adapt to technological changes. Overall, this class aims to help students become confident and responsible users of technology.

Math Games:

This class is designed to help young learners develop a strong foundation in math through play. Students will engage in a variety of games and activities that focus on key math concepts such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Through fun and interactive games, students will improve their math skills while developing critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.

The class will include a range of games, including board games, card games, and digital games. Students will work in small groups, competing against each other and collaborating to solve math problems. They will also have the opportunity to create their own games, applying what they have learned in the class. By the end of the year, students will have gained a deeper understanding of math and improved their confidence in their ability to solve math problems.

Music:

In this class, students will explore the world of music through a variety of interactive and engaging activities. Throughout the class, students will learn the fundamentals of music, including basic music theory, note reading, rhythm, and pitch. They will also be

introduced to a range of musical genres, including classical, jazz, pop, and world music.

Students will participate in singing, playing instruments, and dancing, allowing them to develop their musical skills and express themselves creatively. Throughout the class, students will also learn about the history and cultural significance of music, providing them with a well-rounded understanding of the role of music in society. By the end of this year, students will have a solid foundation in music and be well-prepared for further musical exploration.

Library:

Library is an engaging and interactive course designed to ignite a passion for reading and learning. In this class students will embark on exciting literary journeys, exploring a wide range of genres from fairy tales to mysteries and non-fiction. Through storytelling, group discussions, and creative activities, students will develop their reading comprehension and critical thinking skills while building a lifelong love of books. The course also emphasizes the importance of library skills, such as navigating the catalog system, selecting age-appropriate books, and understanding the role of libraries in their communities. With a focus on fun and discovery, Library encourages students to explore new worlds, express their imaginations, and become confident, enthusiastic readers.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School English Language Arts

Students will explore the intricacies of the English language through various forms of literature, including poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. The course will focus on developing students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students will learn how to analyze and interpret texts, identify literary devices, and recognize the author's purpose.

Throughout the course, students will also emphasize the importance of effective communication. Students will have the opportunity to practice and improve their speaking and listening skills through class discussions and presentations. In addition, they will work on developing strong writing skills by learning how to write different types of essays, including persuasive and informative essays.

This class is designed to challenge students to think critically, engage in meaningful discussions, and express their thoughts and ideas in a clear and concise manner. The goal is to equip students with the skills they need to be successful in high school and beyond. By the end of the year, students will have a deeper understanding of the English language and its impact on the world around them.

Middle School Mathematics

This course is designed to help students develop a strong foundation in mathematics that will prepare them for success in high school and beyond. The curriculum will cover a range of topics, including arithmetic operations, algebraic expressions, geometry, statistics, and probability. Students will have the opportunity to build their problem-solving and critical thinking skills through a variety of activities, including real-world applications and group work.

The course will be taught in a supportive and engaging environment that encourages active participation and fosters a growth mindset. By the end of the year, students will have a solid understanding of mathematical concepts and be able to confidently apply them to real-life situations.

Middle School Science

In this course, students will explore the fascinating world of science and its impact on our daily lives. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics, including earth science, physical science, and life science. Students will begin by examining the fundamental principles of science, such as the scientific method and the nature of matter and energy.

Throughout the course, students will conduct experiments and investigations to gain a better understanding of the concepts covered. They will also learn how to think critically and problem-solve, skills that will be invaluable in all areas of life. In the physical science portion of the class, students will delve into topics such as motion, force, and energy, while in the life science portion, they will study the characteristics of living things and the ecosystems.

Finally, in the earth science section, students will explore the earth and its natural processes, such as plate tectonics, weather, and climate. They will also discuss the impact of human activity on the environment and the ways society can work to protect it. By the end of the year, students will have a deep understanding of the natural world around them and the tools to make informed decisions as citizens of the world.

Middle School Social Studies

In this course, students will explore human societies, past and present. Throughout the course, students will investigate the ways in which people have organized themselves into groups, developed cultures, and interacted with one another over time. Students will learn about the major events, figures, and movements that have shaped the world as we know it today, from ancient civilizations like Egypt, Greece, and Rome to the global challenges of the 21st century.

A range of topics will be covered, including world geography, government and politics, economics, culture, and social issues. In addition to learning about different cultures and societies, students will develop critical thinking skills by analyzing primary sources, engaging in discussions and debates, and conducting research. Students will also work

to build empathy and understanding for people from different backgrounds, while promoting civic engagement and responsible global citizenship.

By the end of the year, students will have gained a deeper understanding of human history and culture, and will have developed skills that will serve them well in future academic pursuits and beyond.

Middle School Electives

Art:

Art is designed to introduce students to a variety of artistic mediums and techniques while encouraging creativity and self-expression. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to explore drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and mixed media projects. They will learn about color theory, composition, and various styles of art.

In addition to technical skills, the course will also emphasize the importance of critical thinking and self-reflection in the creative process. Students will be encouraged to develop their own unique artistic styles and to experiment with new ideas and materials. The class will also incorporate art history lessons to provide context and inspiration for students' own work.

The class will be taught through a combination of teacher-led demonstrations, group discussions, and independent studio time. Students will be expected to participate in class critiques and to provide constructive feedback to their peers. By the end of the year, students will have a portfolio of their own original artwork and a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role of art in society.

Physical Education:

In physical education students will engage in a variety of physical activities designed to promote health, fitness, and teamwork. Through individual and group exercises, students will build strength, endurance, flexibility, and coordination while learning important skills such as sportsmanship, leadership, and communication. The class will focus on developing a strong foundation in fundamental movements such as running, jumping, and throwing, which will be incorporated into various sports and fitness activities such as basketball, soccer, volleyball, and circuit training.

Students will also learn about the benefits of regular exercise and healthy eating habits, and will have opportunities to set personal fitness goals and track their progress throughout the course. By the end of the semester, students will have gained a greater appreciation for physical activity and the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Creative Writing:

In this course, students will explore the exciting world of writing and storytelling. Through a variety of activities, exercises, and writing prompts, students will learn how to

craft compelling narratives, develop dynamic characters, and create vivid settings. They will experiment with different genres such as fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction, and will learn how to use literary devices such as imagery, metaphor, and dialogue to enhance their writing. Along the way, they will receive feedback from their peers and from the teacher, and will have the opportunity to revise and refine their work.

By the end of the year, students will have a portfolio of original writing that showcases their creativity and mastery of the craft. This class is perfect for students who want to develop their writing skills in a supportive and fun environment.

STEM:

This course is designed to introduce students to the exciting world of science, technology, engineering, and math. Through hands-on activities, projects, and experiments, students will develop their critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills while exploring various STEM concepts.

Throughout the course, students will delve into topics such as coding, robotics, electricity, mechanics, and more. They will learn to use various tools and equipment. Students will also have the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world scenarios, such as designing and building a bridge or programming a robot to navigate a maze.

In addition to technical skills, this course will also emphasize the importance of communication and collaboration in STEM fields. Students will work in teams to complete projects, present their findings, and share ideas. They will also have the chance to interact with guest speakers, participate in field trips, and engage in other extracurricular activities related to STEM.

By the end of the year, students will have a deeper understanding of STEM concepts and their applications in various industries. They will have developed a set of skills and knowledge that will prepare them for high school and beyond.

Intervention:

Intervention is designed to support students who need extra academic assistance in order to meet grade-level expectations. Throughout the course, students will receive individualized attention and targeted instruction in the areas where they need the most help. The curriculum will cover a range of subjects, including math, reading, and writing, and will focus on building foundational skills that are essential for success in all academic areas. Students will also learn effective study habits, organizational skills, and time-management strategies to help them stay on track and meet their goals. Through small-group work and one-on-one instruction, students will receive the support they need to gain confidence and develop the skills they need to succeed in middle school and beyond.

Music:

Middle school music class offers students an exciting opportunity to dive into the world of music, exploring its many facets with enthusiasm and creativity. In this course, students will gain a foundational understanding of key musical concepts such as rhythm, melody, harmony, and dynamics, while delving into various genres and styles, from classical to contemporary. They will have the chance to develop their performance skills through group singing and playing a range of instruments. Creativity takes center stage as students compose their own simple melodies and rhythms, experimenting with sound both individually and collaboratively. Additionally, students will hone their listening and analytical skills by discussing the emotional and cultural impact of different pieces of music, connecting these insights to their own experiences.

Character & Leadership:

Character and Leadership is a transformative high school course designed to equip students with essential skills for personal growth and effective leadership. This course delves into the core principles of character development, emphasizing integrity, empathy, and responsibility. Students will engage in self-reflection and interactive exercises to identify their values, strengths, and areas for improvement. Through discussions and case studies, they will explore various leadership styles and strategies, learning how to inspire and motivate others while making ethical decisions. By the end of the course, students will have developed a robust understanding of how to lead with authenticity and make a positive impact both within their communities and beyond. Character and Leadership Development prepares students not just for future careers, but for life, fostering resilience, confidence, and a commitment to personal and collective excellence.

HIGH SCHOOL

High School English Language Arts

9th Grade ELA:

Students will develop and refine their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills through a variety of literary genres and writing formats. The course aims to prepare students for the demands of high school and beyond by focusing on building a strong foundation in language arts.

The curriculum will be centered on analyzing literature, including novels, poetry, and drama. Through reading and discussion of various works, students will learn how to identify literary elements such as plot, character, theme, and symbolism, and use those elements to analyze and interpret texts. Additionally, students will explore how the cultural and historical contexts in which the works were written impact their meanings.

The course will also emphasize the development of writing skills. Students will learn how to write in a variety of formats, including persuasive essays, analytical essays, and personal narratives. They will learn how to organize their thoughts, develop strong arguments, and use evidence effectively to support their ideas. Through peer editing and revising, students will learn how to give and receive feedback to improve their writing.

Throughout the course, students will be expected to participate in class discussions and group activities. They will also be expected to complete reading assignments, written assignments, and assessments, which may include quizzes, tests, and essays. By the end of the course, students should be able to read and analyze literary works independently, write coherently and persuasively, and think critically about the world around them.

Overall, the ninth grade English course will provide a solid foundation for students to succeed in future language arts courses and in their academic and professional lives.

10th Grade ELA:

In 10th grade English Language Arts, students will continue to build on the skills developed in 9th grade. The course is designed to deepen students' understanding of language and literature through the study of various genres of literature, including novels, plays, and poems. The course aims to develop students' reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Students will engage in close reading of literature and will analyze how authors use literary techniques to convey meaning. They will also learn how to interpret and analyze literary elements such as characterization, plot, theme, and symbolism. In addition, students will practice writing different types of essays, including literary analysis, argumentative, and narrative essays.

Throughout the course, students will also explore nonfiction texts, including essays, speeches, and historical documents. They will analyze the rhetorical strategies used in these texts and learn how to write effective arguments.

Finally, students will engage in independent reading and research projects, where they will have the opportunity to explore topics of interest to them and develop their research and writing skills. By the end of the course, students will have developed a deeper understanding of language and literature, as well as a strong foundation in critical thinking, reading, and writing skills.

11th Grade ELA (American Literature):

The 11th grade English Language Arts course is designed to build on the skills and knowledge acquired in previous years, with a focus on developing critical thinking and analytical skills in reading, writing, and language use. Throughout the course, students

will read a variety of literary texts, including fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, and engage in close reading and analysis to deepen their understanding of the texts.

In addition to reading and analysis, students will also work on developing their writing skills, with an emphasis on argumentative and persuasive writing. They will learn how to write a well-supported argument, using evidence from the texts they read, and how to effectively communicate their ideas to different audiences. Students will also learn how to revise and edit their writing to improve clarity, coherence, and effectiveness.

Throughout the course, students will also work on developing their language use skills, including vocabulary acquisition, grammar, and syntax. They will learn how to use language effectively in different contexts, including formal and informal writing, and how to adapt their language use to different audiences and purposes.

Overall, the 11th grade English Language Arts course is designed to help students become more effective readers, writers, and communicators, with a focus on developing critical thinking and analytical skills that will be essential for success in college and beyond.

12th Grade ELA (British Literature):

Students will explore the rich literary tradition of Britain from the Middle Ages to the present day. Through reading and analysis of works from various genres, including poetry, drama, and prose, students will develop a deep understanding of the social, cultural, and historical contexts that have shaped British literature.

The course will begin with an examination of medieval literature, including Beowulf and the Arthurian legends, before moving on to the Renaissance and the works of William Shakespeare, such as Macbeth and Hamlet. Students will then explore the Enlightenment and Romantic periods, reading works by writers such as William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and Jane Austen.

The course will then focus on the Victorian era, with readings from Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, and Oscar Wilde, among others. In the modern era, students will examine the works of modernist writers like Virginia Woolf and T.S. Eliot, as well as postcolonial writers such as Salman Rushdie and Chinua Achebe.

Throughout the course, students will analyze the themes, techniques, and styles of each author and work studied, as well as the historical and cultural context in which they were written. Students will develop their critical reading and analytical skills through writing essays, participating in discussions, and presenting on selected works.

By the end of the course, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of British literature and its evolution over time, as well as a broader understanding of the role of literature in shaping and reflecting cultural values and societal norms.

Creative Writing:

This course is designed to develop and enhance the skills of creative writing. Students will be exposed to various forms of creative writing, including poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. The course will focus on the craft of writing, including language use, voice, point of view, character development, and plot construction. Through readings, discussions, and writing exercises, students will learn how to create compelling narratives and express themselves with clarity and precision.

The course will begin with an exploration of different forms of creative writing, including poetry, short fiction, and creative nonfiction. Students will read and analyze a variety of works by established authors in each genre, discussing the elements that make these works successful. Through in-class writing exercises and homework assignments, students will practice applying these elements to their own writing.

As the course progresses, students will focus on developing their individual writing styles and voices. They will work on refining their writing through revision and critique, giving and receiving feedback from peers in workshop settings. Students will also learn how to effectively edit and revise their own work, developing a critical eye for the revision process.

Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to experiment with different forms of writing and to work on longer creative projects. They will develop their own writing portfolios, including polished pieces of writing and works in progress. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper understanding of the craft of creative writing and will have developed a range of skills that will serve them in their future writing endeavors.

Journalism:

In journalism students will learn the fundamental skills necessary to become a successful journalist. Through a variety of projects and assignments, students will develop their writing and research abilities, hone their interviewing and reporting techniques, and gain experience with multimedia journalism. The course will cover topics such as news writing, feature writing, editorial writing, and investigative reporting, as well as ethics and legal considerations in journalism. Students will have the opportunity to work on both individual and group projects, and will be encouraged to explore a wide range of topics of interest to them. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in journalism and be prepared to pursue further studies in this exciting field.

Novels Seminar:

In novels seminar students will explore a wide variety of literary works, from classic to contemporary, that have shaped the literary landscape of our world. Students will learn how to analyze and interpret novels, gaining an understanding of the elements of fiction,

including plot, character, setting, theme, and literary devices. They will also learn how to identify and analyze the social, cultural, and historical contexts of each novel.

Throughout the course, students will read novels from different genres, such as mystery, romance, science fiction, and historical fiction, and will learn how each genre uses specific techniques to convey its themes and messages. They will also learn how to compare and contrast different novels, analyzing the similarities and differences in themes, characters, and style.

The course will encourage critical thinking and discussion through class debates and individual essays, allowing students to develop their own unique interpretations of each novel. In addition, students will learn how to write literary analyses that demonstrate their understanding of the novels and the literary elements they contain.

By the end of the course, students will have a deeper appreciation for the art of storytelling and the power of literature to shape our understanding of the world. They will be able to apply the skills and knowledge gained from this course to their future academic and personal pursuits.

High School Mathematics

Algebra I:

Algebra I is an introductory high school math course that builds a foundation for advanced mathematics. This course focuses on the fundamental concepts of algebra, including linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, functions, and graphs. Students will learn how to solve equations and graph functions, which will enable them to analyze and interpret data.

Additionally, the course emphasizes problem-solving skills and critical thinking by presenting real-world applications of algebraic concepts. Students will use algebra to solve problems related to finance, physics, and other fields. By the end of the year, students will be able to use algebraic reasoning to solve complex problems and develop mathematical models to describe and predict real-world phenomena. Overall, Algebra I provides students with a strong mathematical foundation that will prepare them for future courses and career paths in STEM fields.

Geometry:

Geometry is a foundational course that explores the properties and relationships of shapes and spaces. In this course, students will learn about points, lines, angles, polygons, circles, and three-dimensional figures. They will study the properties of these objects and the relationships between them, such as congruence, similarity, and symmetry. Students will also learn how to use algebraic techniques to solve geometric problems and how to use logic and reasoning to prove geometric theorems.

Additionally, they will be introduced to geometric constructions, which involve creating geometric figures using only a straightedge and compass.

Through a combination of classroom instruction, problem-solving activities, and hands-on projects, students will develop their spatial reasoning skills and deepen their understanding of the mathematical principles that underpin geometry. By the end of the year, students will have a strong foundation in geometry that will serve them well in their future studies of mathematics and science.

Algebra II:

Algebra II is an advanced high school mathematics course that builds upon the foundational concepts learned in Algebra I. In this course, students will explore a wide range of mathematical topics, including functions, equations, inequalities, systems of equations, matrices, and polynomials. They will learn how to graph and analyze different types of functions, including linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Additionally, students will solve and graph inequalities and systems of equations, both algebraically and graphically.

Throughout the course, students will also delve into the complex world of matrices and learn how to perform operations on them. They will use matrices to solve systems of equations and explore real-world applications of matrices in fields such as computer graphics and economics. Furthermore, students will develop their understanding of polynomials, including factoring and solving polynomial equations.

To succeed in this course, students must have a strong understanding of algebraic fundamentals, including solving equations, simplifying expressions, and graphing. They will also need to have a firm grasp of the properties of real numbers and be comfortable working with functions and their properties. Through rigorous coursework, homework assignments, and assessments, students will develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in higher-level mathematics courses and beyond.

Personal Finance:

In personal finance students will learn essential skills for managing their finances throughout their lives. The course will cover topics such as budgeting, saving, investing, and managing debt. Students will gain an understanding of financial systems, including banking, credit, and insurance. They will learn how to create a budget and set financial goals, as well as how to manage their money effectively to achieve those goals.

Throughout the course, students will explore various financial products and services and learn how to evaluate them. They will also learn about the importance of credit scores, credit reports, and credit history, and how to maintain a good credit standing. The course will provide students with a foundation for understanding the stock market, mutual funds, and other investment opportunities.

Additionally, the course will explore the impact of economic factors on personal finance, such as inflation, interest rates, and taxes. Students will learn about the importance of financial planning, including retirement planning, and will be introduced to different types of insurance, including health, life, and disability insurance.

Throughout the course, students will engage in hands-on activities, including budgeting simulations, investment simulations, and credit score calculations. They will also explore case studies and real-life scenarios to help them understand how to apply personal finance concepts in practical situations. By the end of the course, students will have gained valuable skills and knowledge to help them make informed financial decisions and achieve financial independence.

High School Science

Earth Science:

Earth science is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the Earth and its natural processes. Students will learn about the structure and composition of the Earth, including its atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere. Through hands-on activities, students will explore topics such as plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, weather and climate, erosion, and natural resources. In addition, students will learn about human impact on the environment and how to address environmental issues. Through the use of scientific inquiry, data analysis, and critical thinking, students will develop their scientific literacy and gain a deeper appreciation for the complex systems that shape our planet. This course will provide a strong foundation for future study in geology, environmental science, and related fields.

Biology:

Biology provides students with a comprehensive understanding of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. Through the exploration of biological concepts, students will gain a deeper understanding of the diversity of life, genetics, cellular biology, evolution, ecology, and human anatomy and physiology. Students will learn about the scientific method and how it is used to study biology. Hands-on activities, including laboratory experiments, will allow students to develop their scientific inquiry, data analysis, and critical thinking skills. Students will also examine current biological issues and explore how advancements in biotechnology and medicine impact society. This course will prepare students for advanced study in biology, as well as related fields such as medicine, genetics, and ecology. Additionally, students will develop a greater appreciation for the natural world and the interdependence of living organisms.

Physical Science:

This class is designed to introduce high school students to the fundamental concepts and principles of the natural world around them. Through this course, students will learn about the basic laws of motion, energy, and matter that govern the behavior of physical

systems. They will also explore topics such as waves, sound, light, and electricity, and how they relate to our everyday lives.

Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on experiments and activities that will help them better understand the concepts they are learning. They will learn how to use scientific tools and techniques to collect and analyze data, and will work collaboratively with their peers to design experiments and solve real-world problems.

By the end of the course, students will have gained a solid understanding of the fundamental principles of physical science, and will have developed the critical thinking and problem-solving skills necessary to succeed in college and beyond. Whether they choose to pursue a career in science or simply want to better understand the world around them, this course will provide a strong foundation for their future studies and endeavors.

Chemistry:

In chemistry students will explore the fundamental principles and concepts of chemistry, including atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Through lectures, laboratory experiments, and interactive activities, students will gain a deep understanding of how matter and energy interact at the molecular level.

In the laboratory, students will learn how to safely handle and analyze chemicals, use scientific equipment, and perform experiments to test hypotheses and discover new knowledge. They will also develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills by analyzing data, interpreting results, and presenting their findings.

Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to make connections between the principles of chemistry and the world around them, including the impact of chemistry on society and the environment. They will also learn about careers in chemistry and related fields, and how they can pursue further education and training in these areas. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in chemistry and be well-prepared for further study in science and related fields.

STEM:

Students will explore the exciting and rapidly-evolving fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Throughout the semester, students will engage in hands-on projects, experiments, and problem-solving activities that will help them develop critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills.

Students will have the opportunity to explore a range of topics, including coding, robotics, renewable energy, biotechnology, and more. They will learn how to apply the

scientific method to real-world problems and use mathematics to model and analyze data. In addition, they will be introduced to the basics of engineering design, learning how to brainstorm, prototype, and test their own innovative solutions to problems.

The class will be taught by experienced STEM educators who will guide students through a variety of learning experiences, including lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and independent research projects. Students will also have access to cutting-edge technologies and equipment, including 3D printers, microcontrollers, and sensors.

At the end of the semester, students will have gained a solid understanding of the fundamental principles of STEM and will have developed skills that will serve them well in future academic and professional endeavors. They will also have a strong foundation for further study in STEM fields, including college-level coursework and career pathways.

Forestry:

Forestry is designed to introduce students to the principles of forestry and the management of forest ecosystems. Students will learn about the importance of forests as natural resources, and the many benefits they provide, including clean air and water, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. The course will cover the basic principles of forest ecology, including the structure and function of forest ecosystems, and the interactions between biotic and abiotic factors.

Students will also learn about forest management practices, including silviculture, the science of growing and managing forests, and the different methods used to harvest timber sustainably. Students will gain an understanding of the economic, social, and environmental factors that influence forest management decisions.

In addition, the course will cover the role of forests in mitigating climate change and the impacts of climate change on forest ecosystems. Students will learn about current issues in forestry, such as invasive species, forest fragmentation, and the impacts of wildfire.

Field trips and hands-on activities will be an integral part of the course, giving students the opportunity to apply what they have learned in a real-world setting. Students will also have the opportunity to develop skills in data collection, analysis, and interpretation through field studies and laboratory exercises. By the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of forestry and its role in sustaining natural resources and ecosystem services.

Outdoor Education:

Outdoor education is designed for high school students who are interested in exploring the natural world and developing their outdoor skills. Throughout the course, students

will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of outdoor activities, such as hiking, camping, and kayaking, while learning about the environment and the importance of conservation. In addition to these outdoor activities, students will also participate in classroom discussions and lectures to learn about topics such as ecology, geology, and outdoor safety. This course will emphasize hands-on learning and allow students to develop practical skills, such as fire-building, map reading, and first aid. Through this course, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the natural world and develop a sense of stewardship for the environment.

Environmental Science:

Environmental science class will explore the natural world and human impact on it. Throughout the course, students will gain a deeper understanding of environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and resource depletion, as well as the scientific principles that underpin them. Through various activities and projects, students will also learn about different ecosystems, biodiversity, and the interrelationships between living organisms and their environment.

This class will not only focus on the problems facing the environment but also on potential solutions. Students will study sustainable development, renewable energy, and green technologies, and learn how they can contribute to a more sustainable future. They will also examine the role of public policy, environmental regulations, and international cooperation in addressing environmental challenges.

Throughout the course, students will develop scientific inquiry and critical thinking skills through hands-on labs, data analysis, and research projects. They will also practice communication and collaboration skills as they work together to investigate environmental issues and develop solutions. By the end of the class, students will have a comprehensive understanding of the scientific principles underlying environmental science, and the knowledge and skills necessary to become environmentally responsible citizens.

High School Social Studies

US History:

U.S. history is designed to provide students with a comprehensive overview of American history from the colonial period to the present day. Through engaging lectures, discussions, and interactive activities, students will develop a deep understanding of the political, economic, social, and cultural forces that have shaped the United States over time. Topics covered will include the American Revolution, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, westward expansion and manifest destiny, the Civil War and Reconstruction, industrialization and urbanization, the Progressive Era, World War I and II, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, and contemporary issues. Students will also explore the diverse perspectives and experiences of various groups throughout American history, including women, Native Americans, African Americans, and

immigrants. Through this course, students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills as they evaluate primary and secondary sources, formulate historical arguments, and participate in debates about key issues in American history.

World History:

World history aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the major political, social, economic, and cultural developments that have shaped human civilization from the emergence of early human societies to the present day. Students will examine the key events, figures, and ideas that have shaped world history, including the rise and fall of empires, the spread of religions, the impact of technological advancements, and the evolution of political systems. Through the study of primary and secondary sources, students will develop critical thinking skills and learn to analyze historical events from multiple perspectives. Additionally, the class will emphasize the connections between different regions and cultures, and students will explore how global interactions have influenced the course of history. By the end of this course, students will have a deep understanding of the complexities of world history and be able to identify the continuities and changes that have shaped our world today.

Economics:

In economics students will learn the fundamental principles of economics, including microeconomics and macroeconomics. Throughout the course, students will explore various economic concepts such as supply and demand, market equilibrium, elasticity, inflation, and monetary policy. The class will also cover topics such as economic systems, government regulation, international trade, and globalization. Students will have the opportunity to analyze real-world economic scenarios and develop critical thinking skills as they consider the impact of economic decisions on individuals and society. Additionally, students will learn how to interpret economic data and apply economic theories to current events. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in economics and be equipped to apply their knowledge to their daily lives and future career paths.

Civics:

Civics is designed to introduce students to the fundamental principles and practices of democratic government. Students will explore the foundations of democracy and the workings of the U.S. political system, including the three branches of government, the role of political parties, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. They will learn how to analyze and evaluate government policies and actions, and develop critical thinking skills to engage with complex issues facing our society today. In addition to classroom discussions and lectures, students will participate in simulations and role-playing activities to gain a hands-on understanding of the workings of government. By the end of the course, students will have a deep understanding of the importance of civic engagement and how they can participate in the democratic process to effect positive

change in their communities and beyond.

Law:

Law is designed to provide students with an understanding of the legal system in the United States. Throughout the course, students will explore the fundamental principles of law, such as due process, equal protection, and the separation of powers. They will also examine the structure and functions of the judicial system, including the Supreme Court, and the role of the Constitution in shaping American law. Additionally, students will gain an understanding of criminal and civil law, and the legal procedures involved in these cases. Through case studies and interactive simulations, students will learn how to analyze legal issues and apply their knowledge to real-life situations. This course is ideal for students interested in pursuing careers in law, politics, or government, or for those who simply want to gain a better understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities as citizens.

History through Film:

History through film will explore major historical events and themes through the lens of popular films. Through the analysis of selected films, students will gain an understanding of how filmmakers interpret and portray historical events and their impact on society. This course will cover a broad range of historical topics including but not limited to: World War I and II, the Civil Rights Movement, the Cold War, and the Vietnam War.

Students will engage in critical analysis of films and develop their ability to think critically and objectively about the interpretation of historical events. This will include discussion and written assignments on the accuracy of historical events portrayed in film and the influence of filmmakers' biases and perspectives.

Students will also have the opportunity to analyze the use of historical context, visuals, music, and themes in film, and explore how these elements shape the viewer's understanding of historical events.

Overall, this course aims to develop students' critical thinking skills, historical knowledge, and cultural awareness through the medium of film. By the end of the course, students will have a deeper understanding of historical events and their relevance to modern-day society, as well as the power of film as a tool for historical interpretation and storytelling.

Current Events:

In current events class, students will have the opportunity to explore and analyze the latest news and events from around the world. Through a variety of engaging activities and discussions, students will develop critical thinking skills, as well as gain a deeper understanding of current events and their impact on society. The course will cover a

range of topics, including politics, economics, social issues, and environmental concerns, with an emphasis on global perspectives. Students will also learn how to evaluate sources, distinguish between facts and opinions, and develop their own informed opinions on current events. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in current events and will be able to participate in informed discussions about the world around them. This class is an excellent opportunity for students to become well-informed citizens and to develop the skills necessary to navigate the complex issues facing our world today.

High School Arts

Introduction to Art:

In this course, students will have the opportunity to explore their creativity and learn about various forms of art. This course will provide a foundation for students to develop their artistic skills and expand their knowledge of art history and theory. Students will be introduced to a variety of mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and mixed media. They will learn fundamental techniques and principles of composition, color theory, and perspective. The course will also incorporate the study of different art movements and styles. Throughout the class, students will participate in hands-on projects, critiques, and group discussions to enhance their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. This class aims to cultivate a deeper appreciation for art and encourage students to express themselves through their artwork.

Advanced Art:

In this course, students will have the opportunity to develop their artistic skills and explore a wide range of mediums and techniques. Building upon their previous art experience, students will be challenged to think more critically and conceptually about their artwork. They will be encouraged to take risks and experiment with new styles and materials.

Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to work on both independent and collaborative projects. They will be expected to complete a series of assignments that focus on a variety of themes. In addition, they will be introduced to art history and contemporary art movements, which will provide context for their own artwork.

Students will be encouraged to develop their own artistic voice and express their ideas through their artwork. They will be given constructive feedback and critiques, which will help them refine their skills and ideas. By the end of the course, students will have a strong portfolio of artwork that showcases their growth and artistic ability.

Overall, Advanced Art is a challenging and rewarding course for students who are passionate about art and willing to take risks. It is designed for students who want to take their art skills to the next level and prepare for future art-related pursuits, whether it be in college or beyond.

Yearbook:

Yearbook is designed to provide students with an immersive experience in the art of documenting school memories. Students will learn how to capture moments and emotions, and how to arrange them in an aesthetically pleasing way to create a keepsake that will be treasured for years to come. In this course, students will work together as a team to produce the yearbook, which involves taking photos, writing copy, designing layouts, and editing content. Students will learn technical skills such as using a camera and editing software, as well as the importance of time management, teamwork, and effective communication. Additionally, they will learn about the ethical considerations of photojournalism and the importance of respecting privacy and diversity in their work. By the end of the course, students will have a deeper understanding of the role of journalism in their community and the impact their yearbook can have on their school's culture.

Wood Shop:

Wood shop is designed to introduce students to the fundamental skills and techniques necessary for woodworking. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to work with a variety of materials and tools, including hand and power tools, to create projects that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

The curriculum is structured to provide a balance between technical skills, such as measuring and cutting, and creative expression, allowing students to apply their own unique ideas and styles to their projects. Safety is emphasized throughout the course, with instruction on the proper use and maintenance of tools and machinery.

In addition to hands-on projects, the class also covers foundational concepts such as wood properties, joinery techniques, and finishing methods. Students will learn how to read and interpret plans, and will have the opportunity to design and build their own projects, applying the skills and knowledge they have acquired.

By the end of the course, students will have gained a solid understanding of woodworking fundamentals, and will have developed the skills and confidence to pursue more advanced projects on their own. They will also have an appreciation for the craftsmanship and artistry that goes into woodworking, and may even discover a passion for this rewarding and fulfilling hobby or career.

Theory of Creativity:

Theory of creativity will explore the many facets of creativity and its importance in various aspects of life. Through a combination of readings, discussions, and hands-on exercises, students will develop an understanding of what creativity is, how it works, and how it can be cultivated.

The course will begin by examining the history of creativity and its evolution throughout human civilization, from the earliest cave paintings to the modern digital age. Students will explore the various definitions of creativity and the many ways it manifests in different fields, such as art, music, literature, and science.

Throughout the course, students will engage in various creative exercises, such as brainstorming sessions, improvisation exercises, and group projects, to develop their own creative thinking skills. They will learn how to overcome creative blocks and develop strategies for generating new ideas.

In addition, the class will examine the psychology of creativity, exploring the role of personality traits, cognitive processes, and environmental factors in fostering creative thinking. Students will learn how to create a supportive environment for their own creativity and how to collaborate with others to generate innovative solutions to complex problems.

Finally, the course will explore the practical applications of creativity in various fields, such as business, technology, and social activism. Students will learn how to apply their creative thinking skills to real-world problems and make a positive impact on their communities.

Overall, this high school theory of creativity class is designed to help students develop a deep appreciation for the importance of creativity in their lives and in the world around them. It will provide them with the tools and skills they need to become more creative thinkers and problem solvers, and to make a positive impact on the world.

High School Additional Electives

Health:

Health will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of health and wellness. The course will cover a range of topics including physical, mental, and emotional health, as well as nutrition, exercise, and disease prevention. Students will learn about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle through regular physical activity, balanced diets, and positive relationships. They will also gain an understanding of the dangers associated with substance abuse, and the impact of mental health issues such as anxiety and depression.

Throughout the course, students will be engaged in interactive discussions, group activities, and self-reflection exercises. They will also have the opportunity to conduct independent research projects on topics of their choice related to health and wellness. The course will also cover practical skills such as basic first aid, CPR, and other emergency response techniques.

By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in health literacy, and will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their own

health and well-being. They will also be able to identify and address health issues in their communities, and advocate for positive change in their own lives and the lives of others. Overall, this class will prepare students to lead healthy, fulfilling lives and make meaningful contributions to society.

Fitness:

Fitness is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the importance of physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle. The course covers a variety of topics including exercise, nutrition, and stress management. Students will learn about the benefits of cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility training, as well as the proper techniques for each. The class also emphasizes the importance of proper nutrition and provides students with the tools necessary to create a healthy and balanced diet. Additionally, students will explore various stress management techniques, such as meditation and mindfulness, to help maintain mental wellness. The course is designed to be both educational and fun, with a focus on hands-on learning and physical activity. Students will have the opportunity to participate in group exercises, games, and sports, as well as track their progress and set personal fitness goals. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deeper understanding of the benefits of physical fitness and the tools necessary to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle.

Intervention:

Intervention is designed to provide additional support and guidance to high school students who may be struggling with academic or behavioral challenges. The course will focus on helping students identify and address their specific areas of difficulty, whether it be in a particular subject, study habits, or social-emotional skills. The curriculum will include a variety of strategies and tools to help students build their academic and personal competencies, such as goal-setting, time management, organization, communication, and problem-solving. Students will work closely with their instructor to set goals, track progress, and develop individualized plans for success. Additionally, the course will provide a safe and supportive environment for students to explore and develop their strengths, interests, and passions, and to build positive relationships with their peers and teachers. By the end of the course, students will have gained the skills and confidence they need to overcome obstacles, achieve their potential, and thrive in their high school and future endeavors.

Career Exploration:

Career exploration is designed to help students discover their passion, explore various career options, and plan their future career path. Through a combination of interactive classroom sessions and hands-on activities, students will gain insight into different career fields, identify their strengths and interests, and learn how to research and pursue various career opportunities.

The course will begin by introducing students to various career fields, such as

healthcare, technology, business, education, and more. Students will learn about the job requirements, salary ranges, and growth potential of each field. They will also explore the different types of careers within each field, such as entry-level positions, management roles, and specialized positions.

Next, students will assess their own strengths, interests, and values to identify potential career paths that align with their personal goals. They will also learn how to research career options, including job postings, industry reports, and networking opportunities.

Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to engage with professionals from various industries through guest speaker events, site visits, and informational interviews. They will learn about different career paths and gain valuable insights into what it takes to succeed in their chosen field.

By the end of the course, students will have a better understanding of their strengths and interests, a clearer vision of their career goals, and the skills and knowledge needed to pursue their desired career path. They will also have a solid foundation in career exploration and planning, which they can build upon as they continue their educational and professional journey.

Computer Basics:

High school computer basics is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of computer science and technology. Students will learn about the history of computers, the basic components of a computer system, and how to use popular software applications, such as Microsoft Word and Excel. They will also gain hands-on experience with computer hardware, including input/output devices and storage media. Additionally, students will learn about computer networks, including the internet, and how to navigate and use online resources safely and effectively. Throughout the course, students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they explore real-world scenarios and apply their knowledge to solve common computer-related issues. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in computer science and technology that they can build upon in future coursework and careers.

Computer Science:

This course provides Michigan high school students with a comprehensive introduction to the principles of computer science and computational thinking. Students will learn the foundations of programming, algorithms, and data representation through hands-on projects using modern programming languages such as Python or JavaScript. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving, creativity, and collaboration as students design and develop interactive programs and explore real-world applications of technology in fields such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and data science. The course also highlights ethical and social implications of computing in today's digital world. This class fulfills the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirement for a computer science credit and

prepares students for advanced study in AP Computer Science or related STEM pathways.

Critical Thinking in the Age of Misinformation:

This course empowers Michigan high school students to become discerning consumers and creators of information in a world saturated with digital media. Through the study of logic, rhetoric, media literacy, and cognitive bias, students will learn to evaluate sources, identify misinformation and disinformation, and analyze how social media algorithms and persuasive techniques shape public opinion. Using real-world case studies and interactive projects, students will practice fact-checking, evidence-based reasoning, and respectful dialogue across differing viewpoints. The course emphasizes civic responsibility, ethical communication, and informed decision-making, preparing students to navigate complex information environments with confidence and integrity in both academic and everyday contexts.

Speech:

High school speech is designed to equip students with the skills and confidence necessary to become effective communicators. Throughout the course, students will develop their abilities in public speaking, debate, and critical thinking. They will learn how to craft and deliver powerful speeches that engage and persuade their audience. The course will also cover important topics such as effective research, argumentation, and the use of rhetorical devices to enhance the impact of their speeches. Additionally, students will practice active listening and constructive feedback to improve their communication skills. By the end of the course, students will have gained valuable experience in oral communication and will have developed the ability to articulate their thoughts and ideas with clarity and confidence.

Mythology:

High school mythology class will explore the fascinating world of ancient mythologies from various cultures around the world. Through a combination of reading, research, and analysis, students will develop an understanding of the myths and legends that have shaped cultures and societies throughout history. The course will cover a range of topics, including creation stories, hero tales, and the gods and goddesses of different mythologies. Students will learn how to analyze and interpret myths, explore the connections between myth and culture, and understand how mythology continues to impact modern society. This course will provide students with a deeper understanding of the human experience and a greater appreciation for the power of storytelling.

Sociology:

High school sociology explores the fundamental concepts and theories of sociology and their applications in contemporary society. Students will examine how individuals interact with society and how society shapes individuals. The course will cover various topics such as social stratification, race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, deviance, and globalization.

Students will analyze social structures, institutions, and their impact on society as a whole. Through class discussions, research projects, and readings, students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills to understand the complexities of human behavior and social interactions.

In addition, students will examine different research methods and techniques used by sociologists to study social phenomena. They will learn to identify and analyze social patterns, interpret data, and draw conclusions based on evidence. The course will emphasize the importance of ethical considerations in sociological research and the role of sociology in promoting social justice and equality.

By the end of the year, students will have a deeper understanding of the social world around them and the factors that shape it. They will be equipped with the tools to think critically and engage in informed discussions about social issues and to contribute to a more just and equitable society.

Music:

Middle school music class offers students an exciting opportunity to dive into the world of music, exploring its many facets with enthusiasm and creativity. In this course, students will gain a foundational understanding of key musical concepts such as rhythm, melody, harmony, and dynamics, while delving into various genres and styles, from classical to contemporary. They will have the chance to develop their performance skills through group singing and playing a range of instruments. Creativity takes center stage as students compose their own simple melodies and rhythms, experimenting with sound both individually and collaboratively. Additionally, students will hone their listening and analytical skills by discussing the emotional and cultural impact of different pieces of music, connecting these insights to their own experiences.

Character & Leadership:

Character and Leadership is a transformative high school course designed to equip students with essential skills for personal growth and effective leadership. This course delves into the core principles of character development, emphasizing integrity, empathy, and responsibility. Students will engage in self-reflection and interactive exercises to identify their values, strengths, and areas for improvement. Through discussions and case studies, they will explore various leadership styles and strategies,

learning how to inspire and motivate others while making ethical decisions. By the end of the course, students will have developed a robust understanding of how to lead with authenticity and make a positive impact both within their communities and beyond. Character and Leadership Development prepares students not just for future careers, but for life, fostering resilience, confidence, and a commitment to personal and collective excellence.

High School Foreign Language

High school foreign language is designed to introduce students to a new language and culture. Through interactive and engaging lessons, students will learn the fundamentals of the language including grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and sentence structure. The course will also incorporate cultural aspects of the language, including customs, traditions, and practices, to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the language and its people. Students will practice their language skills through a variety of activities, such as role-playing, group discussions, and writing assignments. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the target language at a basic level and have a deeper appreciation for the language and culture. This course provides a foundation for further language study and a valuable skill for future personal and professional endeavors.

High School Dual Enrollment

Students are eligible to take any course listed in the Kirtland Community College, Edgenuity, Graduation Alliance or Michigan Virtual course catalog.

Credit Recovery

Students may take credit recovery courses through Edgenuity, Michigan Virtual or Graduation Alliance platforms. All credit recovery must be approved by VAS student services and the principal prior to credit recovery enrollment.