

# GJHS ACADEMY AND ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade courses for 2023-2024 School year

### GEICO ACADEMY OF ADVANCED BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

This academy's program completion will see students graduating with business, finance and technology skills that directly relate to personal, employment and college success. Students can earn a variety of professional industry certifications and may qualify for college course credits.

**Digital Information Technology:** The foundation for all business and technology programs, DIT students will learn word processing, internet basics, spreadsheets and presentation applications using software that meets industry standards. Students will have the opportunity to earn professional level certification in CIW Social Media Strategist. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Business Entrepreneurship Principles Honors:** This course is designed to provide an introduction to basic principles of entrepreneurship, including the role of the entrepreneur, entrepreneurship as a career, ethics in business, and the principles of marketing, financing, and managing a business. This course also covers personal finance, teaching students how to manage personal finances, the realities of student loans and debt, consumerism, and the foundations of financial success. Students will have the opportunity to earn professional level certification in Intuit Entrepreneurship and Small Business. Students must know computer basics and business programs. Prerequisite: Digital Information Technology (DIT)

**Accounting Applications 1 Honors:** This course introduces students to the double-entry accounting method and industry-standard accounting applications used to record transactions, prepare financial statements, analyze income, expenses, assets, liabilities, and equity. Students will learn to work with spreadsheet and accounting applications, including Microsoft Excel and Intuit QuickBooks. Students will have the opportunity to earn a professional level certification in Intuit QuickBooks and Microsoft Excel. Students must know computer basics and business programs. Prerequisite: Digital Information Technology (DIT)

**Personal Financial Literacy Honors:** Students will learn life skills related to cost/benefits of economic decisions including investing and planning for retirement; understanding loans and borrowing money; understanding the costs and benefits of insurance; rights and responsibilities of renting or buying a home. Students will engage in several real-world, hands-on scenarios to enhance their engagement and understanding. Prerequisite: Must be a junior or senior

**On-the-Job-Training (OJT):** This course is designed to provide students additional opportunities to gain relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in business in an on-the-job setting. Prerequisite: Current Employment

## **JROTC**

The GJHS JROTC Eagle Battalion prepares students for entry into any leadership program. The JROTC leadership includes citizenship, management, finance, technical and production skills. Two credits in JROTC (1 & 2) waive the HOPE and Practical/Performing Arts credits for graduation.

**Leadership Education Training:** These courses that provide instruction in the rights, responsibilities, privileges, and freedoms that underlie good citizenship. Other subject areas include techniques of communication; physical fitness, health, and appearance; United States and military history; military style drill and ceremonies; basic first aid; substance abuse; and goal setting.

## **ACADEMY OF DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY**

The Academy of Design & Technology is a four-year information technology career and professional academy, offering industry certification and specific career pathways. Course tracks include Digital Design and Digital Video Production. The academy prepares students for careers in the high growth, high salary fields of Digital Assistant Designers and/or Digital Video Production Operators. Students can earn dual enrollment credits with Polk State College and participate in paid internships during their junior and senior year. Available certifications: Adobe Certified Associate – Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, After Effects, Dreamweaver, Premiere Pro; Intuit- Entrepreneurship and Small Business

**Digital Design:** The content includes, but is not limited to, enhanced practical experiences in computer-generated art and text, graphic design, graphic production, digital design skills, preparation of digital layouts and illustrations, scanning, and the development of specialized multimedia presentations. Course offerings – Digital Design 1, Digital Design 2 Honors, Digital Design 3 Honors, Digital Design 4 Honors (Practical/Performing Art)

**Digital Imaging Fundamentals, Web Development Fundamentals, Intro to Digital Media, Page Design and Layout - Dual Enrollment:** These college level courses are offered through Polk State College within the Digital Design Academy. Must meet Polk State College dual enrollment eligibility

**Digital Video:** This program teaches student the skills needed to produce high quality videos using the same skills as professionals in the journalism, film, and television industry. Topics include pre-production, production and postproduction of a variety of genres in the journalism, film, and television industries, introduction to industry related careers, research and writing skills used by industry professionals, and hands on experience with current videography equipment and computer programs. Course offering – Digital Video Tech Honors 1-4 (Practical/Performing Art)

## **ACADEMY OF LEGAL STUDIES**

This academy provides students career and college opportunities in the field of law. Students can earn 2 industry certifications and dual enrollment credits with Polk State College.

**Legal Office Technology Honors:** Students will learn legal terminology, perform specialized legal office procedures, prepare legal documents, maintain and utilize a legal reference library, use legal and ethical procedures in the legal office, use specialized legal software, and perform records management functions specific to the legal field. Students will learn the basics of legal research and writing, including sources of law and legal citations. Students are introduced to trial preparation through mock trials in the first level. Mock trials will become more complex in level 2. Students will develop complete cases from start to finish in level 3. Certification available: NALS – The Accredited Legal Professional

**Legal Aspects of Business Honors:** This course is designed to introduce the legal aspects of business. Topics include business law concepts, forms of business ownership, insurance awareness, governmental regulations, management functions, human resources management issues, and career development. The use of computers is an integral part of this program. Certification available: NALS – The Accredited Legal Professional

**BUL2241 Business Law:** This introductory course examines the legal framework that surrounds everyday personal and business activities. The course includes a survey of the federal and state court systems, contracts, agency and employer/employee relationships, real property, and personal property and bailment. Must meet Polk State College dual enrollment eligibility

**BUL2131 Commercial Law:** The course provides an in-depth introduction to contract law and the *Uniform Commercial Code*. The curriculum emphasizes contract law, agency law, e-commerce law, international law, and other legal topics of importance to commerce. Must meet Polk State College dual enrollment eligibility

**Criminal Law, Constitutional Law - Dual Enrollment:** These college level courses are offered through Polk State College within the Law Academy. Must meet Polk State College dual enrollment eligibility

## **ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING**

This academy provides relevant and comprehensive training in the field of Engineering and Manufacturing. Students may earn industry certifications.

**Engineering Honors (1-3):** This course helps students understand the field of engineering/engineering technology and prepares them for postsecondary engineering programs by developing a more in-depth mastery of the associated mathematics, science, and technology knowledge and skills. The course also includes essential concepts of technology and design, as well as concerns about the social and political implications of technological change. Available certifications: Inventor Certified User, Certified Solidworks Associate, Fusion 360 (Practical/Performing Art)

**Advanced Tech Apps:** The final course in the Engineering Academy course progression

**Robotics Honors:** This course provides students with a foundation in content and skills associated with robotics and automation, including artificial intelligence, electronics, physics, and principles of engineering. Certifications available: Inventor Certified User (Practical/Performing Art)

### **ACADEMY OF CYBERSECURITY**

The Academy of Cybersecurity will provide insight into and preparation for the high-demand fields of cybersecurity and networking. Students will learn from industry professionals who will bring current, real-world practice into the classroom. Several industry certifications will be offered throughout the program and internship opportunities and dual enrollment coursework will be available to students in their junior and senior years.

**IT Fundamentals:** Introductory course in the Cybersecurity program. The content includes, but is not limited to, foundational knowledge and skills in computer and network security. Industry certifications are available.

### **ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCE**

This academy is designed to prepare students for post-secondary education in Veterinary Sciences, as well as direct entry into a related veterinary career. Other courses available within the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources field prepare students for further education and careers in this high demand industry. Students can earn industry certification in AEST Animal Science certification, AEST Agri technology certification, and Veterinary Assisting certification, FVMA, among several others.

**Vet Assisting Honors:** This 4 year program is designed to develop competencies in areas such as the history of the animal industry, careers, breed identification, animal care, basic first aid, tools and equipment, functions of systems, animal digestive systems, animal control, animal overpopulation, animal related laws, welfare and rights, research, record keeping, and disease and parasites. The 4<sup>th</sup> year concludes with an internship at a veterinary clinic. Students can earn their Veterinary Assisting Certification.

**Vet/Ag Direct Study:** A senior-level course. Students are placed into internship/on-site training programs with local veterinary clinics. Teacher approval required.

**Agriscience Foundations:** This preliminary course gives students a basic understanding of the uses of facilities, land, water, and labor in production of plants, and animal breeding, livestock, harvesting, disease control, record keeping, machinery operation and maintenance. This is the prerequisite course for all other Agriscience courses.

**Animal Science:** These courses are designed to develop competencies in the areas of safety, animal behavior, welfare, digestive systems, breeding, marketing, preventive medicine, and disease control, analyzing records, and employability skills.

**Technical Ag Operations:** These courses are designed to develop competencies in the areas of safety; selection and use of tools; planning and building projects and construction of agricultural structures, including the use of electrical circuits, plumbing, concrete and masonry; and employability skills.

**Horticulture:** This course is designed to develop competencies in the areas of career opportunities; global importance of agriculture; plant classification; propagation; growing media; nutritional needs; fertilization; irrigation; pest identification; pest control, pruning; plant installation; transplanting; safe hand-tool use; and employability skills. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Agriculture OJT:** This course is designed to provide students additional opportunities to gain relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in the Agriculture industry. Prerequisite: Current Employment

## **ACADEMY OF CULINARY ARTS**

This academy introduces students to a set of skills that combine both cooking techniques and business skills. Students learn what it takes to begin a career in this field and will learn about the many career paths that are possible in this industry. Students may take industry certification exams.

**Culinary Arts 1:** Course integrates introduction to safety, leadership, employability skills, mathematics, and food science information, as well as hands-on labs. Certification offered: Safestaff

**Culinary Arts 2:** Is the second of a sequential pathway that focuses on a wide variety of topics. These might include appetizers, garnishes, soups, salads, cake decorating, pastry crusts, and meal planning. Industry safety and sanitation standards are stressed with all food labs. Certification offered: Safestaff (Practical/Performing Art, teacher approval required)

**Culinary Arts 3:** Students learn all about food, including food culture, food history, food safety, and current food trends. They also learn about the food service industry and are given the opportunity to be a part of the catering team. Certification offered: NRFSP (Practical/Performing Art, teacher approval required)

**Culinary Arts 4:** Practical experience is gained through the application of skills in food preparation, menu planning, serving meals, customer relations, nutrition, and sanitation. Students will learn in a well-equipped, modern kitchen and will prepare food for school functions and events. This course includes classroom instruction and practical lab work in a commercial kitchen. Certification offered: Servsafe (Practical/Performing Art, Teacher approval required)

## **MEDICAL ACADEMY**

This academy provides necessary skills and certifications for employment or continued education in the health care industry. Students can complete clinical experiences within the industry.

**Medical Skills:** This introductory level course offers students insight into health careers and develops basic medical skills. Students will begin developing competencies in various areas such as consumer health management, employability skills, basic first aid and CPR skills, stress management, disease transmission, communication skills, grief issues and legal and ethical issues.

**Health Science Anatomy & Physiology Honors:** This course is designed to give students an introduction to the human body as it relates to wellness and disease. Students will explore each of the body systems

through a variety of learning experiences, including lectures, labs, case studies and real-world presentations from health care workers in field. This class will serve as the foundation for all other Medical Academy classes.

**Health Science Foundations Honors:** This course focuses on a variety of topics that include: legal and ethical principles as it relates to health care, cultural diversity, vital signs, nutrition, CPR and first-aid, body mechanics and medical math just to name a few. Successful completion required to progress into the next levels of medical courses. Prerequisite: Health Science Anatomy & Physiology

**Electrocardiography Technician (EKG):** This level 3 full year course prepares students to sit for the national certification exam to become a certified Electrocardiography Technician. The course focuses a cardiac anatomy, electrophysiology, and the interpretation of 5 classes of rhythms. Students also learn to correctly acquire an EKG and the role of the technician in a multitude of clinical settings. Prerequisite: Health Science Anatomy & Physiology & Health Science Foundations

**Emergency Medical Responder:** This level 3 course includes didactic lectures, practical skills, and mock scenarios using real life equipment. After successfully passing the course students will have the opportunity to sit for the industry certification exam, they will also have certificates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency including IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, students will be Basic Life Support certified through The American Heart Association and will obtain a certificate of training for Stop the Bleed. Prerequisite: Health Science Anatomy & Physiology & Health Science Foundations

**Basic Healthcare/Phlebotomy Honors:** This one-year course prepares students to sit for the Certified Phlebotomy Technician national certification exam. The course involves hands on learning as students become proficient in capillary sampling and venipuncture. Course is dual enrolled with Travis. Grades 11 & 12 (teacher approval required)

### **Leadership**

Associated with Student Council, the Leadership course engages students in organizing events on campus, including dances, rallies, spirit days, community service projects. Students are tasked with representing GJHS students at large and ensuring that decisions made represent all interests.

### **TA/Executive Internship**

Students assigned to a TA placement will work in an office or under the direction of a supervising teacher. Students will perform duties as assigned, under the direction of a supervising teacher. Students assigned to offices will assist in answering phones, greeting visitors, conducting student tours, etc. Students must be in good academic and attendance standing.

### **PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

This program provides options to explore the arts and expand creative talents. Technical proficiency and competency-based learning contribute to the experiences.

**2-D Studio Art 1:** This entry level visual arts course is for the beginning art student. It includes the hands-on study of design at a beginner level and explores a variety of media and artists.

(Practical/Performing Art)

**2D Studio Art 2:** This course is for experienced artists who have completed 2-D Studio Art 1.

(Practical/Performing Art)

**3-D Studio Art 1:** This first level year long course includes exploration of various sculpting materials, such as paper sculpture, found objects, and ceramic pottery. Students will develop skills in conceptualizing 3-D forms, manipulating materials, and expressing their own creativity in the variety of mediums and themes. No previous experience required. (Practical/Performing Art)

**3-D Studio Art 2:** This course is for experienced artists who have completed 3-D Art 1.

(Practical/Performing Art)

**Creative Photography:** This first level year-long course leads students through the technical, creative, and personal storytelling aspects of photography. Students will learn studio lighting tips and innovative shooting skills, techniques using your own phone cameras, and fine arts elements used within photography. The course will also cover the history and practical uses of vintage film photography and darkroom techniques. No previous experience required. (Practical/Performing Art)

**AP Art 2D, AP Art 3D, AP Art/Drawing:** The AP Art and Design program consists of three different courses and AP Portfolio Exams—AP 2-D Art and Design, AP 3-D Art and Design, and AP Drawing—corresponding to college and university foundations courses. Students create a portfolio of work to demonstrate inquiry through art and design and development of materials, processes, and ideas over the course of a year. Portfolios include works of art and design, process documentation, and written information about the work presented. In May, students submit portfolios for evaluation based on specific criteria, which include skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas and sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision, guided by questions.

(Practical/Performing Art, teacher approval required)

**Beginning Band I:** This course provides students with no prior instrument experience the opportunity to develop fundamental skills in instrument techniques and musical literacy. Students will have the opportunity to learn flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, and percussion. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Band III-IV:** This course provides students with band/wind instrument experience focusing on advanced playing techniques and high-end literature. Content will include advanced development in tone production, band performance techniques, musical literacy, and marching fundamentals. The course requires mandatory after-school rehearsals & performances ranging from marching at football games to spring concerts and assessments. Students will have numerous opportunities to be involved in leadership roles, as well as countless performance-based events. Course is by audition only and placement is at the director's discretion. Honors Band - levels 5 & 6 (Practical/Performing Art)

**Jazz Band:** This course provides students with jazz fundamentals as well as jazz history in varying jazz styles. The course requires some after-school rehearsals and performances throughout the school year. Course is by audition only, must be taken with a band course, and placement is at the director's discretion. Honors Jazz Band – level 4 (Practical/Performing Art)

**Eurhythmics:** This course is by audition only and is a flag-oriented “guard” class with some dance. The students involved are directly part of the band/marching ensemble. It is designed to develop movement to music incorporating dance, flag, saber, rifle, and props. After-school rehearsals and performances are required. Participants will be involved with marching at football games, parades, as well as separate events including the Winter Guard ensembles. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Orchestra I:** This course provides students with musical ensemble experience on orchestral instruments. Content will include the development of fundamental skills in tone production, orchestral performance techniques, musical literacy, and music appreciation. The course requires after-school rehearsals and performances. No audition is required. No experience necessary. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Orchestra 2-6:** This course provides students with musical ensemble experience on orchestral instruments. Content will include the development of fundamental skills in tone production, orchestral performance techniques, musical literacy, and music appreciation. The course requires after-school rehearsals and performances and requires an audition. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Chorus I:** An entry level ensemble open to any student who wishes to learn to sing in a choral setting or for any student with limited choral experience. No audition is required. This chorus will perform in the Winter and Spring Concerts and focuses on contemporary/pop literature. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Chorus III-VI:** Men’s and Women’s Chorus is a TTBB men’s ensemble and Women’s Chorus is an SSAA women’s ensemble. The choir is intermediate levels with Chorus experience. This choir will perform in the Winter and Spring Concerts and focuses on contemporary/pop literature as well as choral literature for the male/female voice. Audition required. Honors Chorus – levels 5 & 6 (Practical/Performing Art)

**Vocal Ensemble:** Chamber Choir is an SATB mixed elite ensemble. Placement in this choir is based on audition. As a top performing choir, Chamber will participate in FVA District Music Performance and, if it qualifies, State Choral Music Performance Assessments as well as concerts and engagements throughout the year. (Practical/Performing Art)

**Music Theory I:** A beginning music theory course that covers the basic elements of music rhythms, meter notation, key signatures, scales, intervals, triads, and cadence types as well as some popular music forms. The fundamentals covered apply to a broad range of styles: classical music from about 1600 to 1900, some jazz, and popular music.

**AP Music Theory:** The AP Music Theory course covers introductory college music theory topics such as musicianship, theory, and musical materials and procedures. Musicianship skills, including dictation and listening skills, sight singing, and harmony, are an important part of the course. Through the course, students develop the ability to recognize, understand, and describe basic materials and processes of tonal music that are heard or presented in a score. Development of aural (listening) skills is a primary objective. Performance is also part of the curriculum through the practice of sight-singing. Students learn basic concepts and terminology by listening to and performing a wide variety of music. Notational skills, speed, and fluency with basic materials are emphasized.

**Theatre:** This course is designed for students with little or no theatre experience. Classwork focuses on the exploration of theatre literature, performance, historical and cultural connections, and technical requirements. Students will be introduced to acting and character development, as well as a variety of forms of music, dance, visual arts. (Practical/Performing Art)



## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**HOPE:** This course's content includes knowledge of the importance of physical fitness, assessment of health-related components of fitness, application of biomechanical and physiological principles to improve and maintain overall good health. Students also explore stress management, sound nutritional practices, improving fitness levels and other wellness issues.

**Team Sports, Recreational Activities, Individual/Dual Sports I, Volleyball:** It includes knowledge of application of skills, techniques, strategies, rules, and safety practices necessary to participate in flag football, volleyball, basketball, speedball, and flicker ball. In addition, the maintenance and/or improvement of personal fitness are stressed.

**Weight Training:** The importance of muscular strength/endurance, assessment of muscular strength/endurance, knowledge of health problems associated with inadequate levels of muscular strength/endurance, knowledge of skeletal muscles, and application of biomechanical principles are covered in It.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

**Spanish 1:** Spanish I introduces students to the Spanish language through a variety of real-life topics. The focus for this course is to develop basic communication skills and cross-cultural understanding.

**Spanish 2 Honors:** Spanish II reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by students in Spanish I, by further exploring the intricacies of the language as the focus shifts more to presentational speaking and writing.

**Spanish 3 Honors:** Spanish III is a course that uses all concepts in Spanish I and II to develop higher levels of proficiency. Students will be expected to speak in Spanish, read short stories, deliver oral presentations, and develop short essays about a variety of topics.

**Spanish 4 Honors:** This course concentrates on more advanced language structures and idiomatic expressions, with emphasis on conversational skills. Vocabulary is expanded. Students read from a variety of sources including Spanish literature.

**AP Spanish:** The AP Spanish Language and Culture course emphasizes communication by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions). Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum B average in Spanish 3 or 4 and teacher approval.

**Chinese 1:** To enable students to begin to acquire proficiency in Chinese through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of

listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and on acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered, and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course.

**Chinese 2:** Chinese II reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by students in Chinese I. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness.

**Chinese 3 Honors:** Chinese 3 provides mastery and expansion of skills acquired by the students in Chinese 2. Specific content includes, but is not limited to, expansions of vocabulary and conversational skills through discussions of selected readings. Contemporary vocabulary stresses activities that are important to the everyday life of the target language-speaking people.

## **ACADEMIC ELECTIVES**

**Creative Writing 1/2:** This course develops the writing and language skills students need for individual expression in literary forms. Emphasis is placed on writing short stories, creating poetry, journaling, reflecting on life events, analyzing songs and movies, creating portfolios.

**Creative Writing 3 & 4 Honors:** These courses polish and refine the writing and language skills students need for individual expression in literary forms. Emphasis is placed upon writing advanced short stories, creating poetry, journaling, reflecting on life events, analyzing patterns and trends in songs and movies, and creating sophisticated portfolios. Students enter writing contests and craft artwork and books for target audiences. Must have an appreciation of writing and work well independently.

**Psychology:** Students acquire an understanding of and an appreciation for human behavior, behavior interaction and the progressive development of individuals. The content includes major theories and orientations of psychology, psychological methodology, memory and cognition, human growth and development, personality, abnormal behavior, psychological therapies, stress/coping strategies, and mental health.

**Sociology:** Students acquire an understanding of group interaction and its impact on individuals to have a greater awareness of the beliefs, values, and behavior patterns of others. In an increasingly interdependent world, students need to recognize how group behavior affects both the individual and society.

**Law Studies:** This elective course focuses on the legislative branch of government. Students draft their own bills and then debate using parliamentary procedure. Students learn public speaking skills and discuss current events in an interactive and engaging class.

**AP European History:** In this course, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from approximately 1450 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction of Europe and the world, economic and commercial development, cultural and intellectual development, states and other institutions of power, social organization and

development, national and European identity, and technological and scientific innovations. (teacher approval required)

**AP Psychology:** The focus of the Advanced Placement course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with the major sub-fields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. (teacher approval required)

**AP Art History:** The AP Art History course will concentrate on historical movements, social issues, and technological advances alongside visual analysis; in essence, how a culture impacts and shapes art and how art impacts and shapes a culture. The crux of the curriculum will be art of the Mediterranean world and the European tradition, but class time will be allocated for cultures of South and Southeast Asia, West and Central Asia, Indigenous America, Africa, and the Pacific Islands. It should be noted that the course will delve into the religious and societal aspects of each culture to fully recognize and appreciate the contexts in which the art is made. (Practical/Performing Art, teacher approval required)

**AP Capstone Seminar:** AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. (teacher approval required)

**AP Capstone Research:** AP Research is the second year of the AP Capstone progression. Students are required to take AP Seminar before enrolling in AP Research. Students will conduct their own research and write a 5,000-word thesis and present a 20-minute presentation as the culmination of their year-long work. Upon successful completion of both Seminar and Research, students will be awarded the AP Capstone Diploma. (teacher approval required)

**AP Statistics:** The AP Statistics course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes evident in the content, skills, and assessment in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, probability and simulation, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding. (teacher approval required)

**AP Calculus AB and BC:** AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC focus on students' understanding of calculus concepts and provide experience with methods and applications. Through the use of big ideas of calculus (e.g., modeling change, approximation and limits, and analysis of functions), each course becomes a cohesive whole, rather than a collection of unrelated topics. Both courses require students to use definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions. Prerequisites: PreCalculus (teacher approval required)

**AP Environmental Science:** The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships

within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. Prerequisites: Must be concurrently scheduled into Biology or have completed Biology.

**AP Chemistry:** The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore content such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Prerequisites: High School Chemistry and Algebra 2 (teacher approval required)

**AP Biology:** AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes, energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. Prerequisites: High School Chemistry and Biology (teacher approval required)

## **EDUCATION SUPPORT**

**Intensive Reading:** Required course when students score a level 1 or 2 on the FSA English Language Arts assessment which indicates a student is reading below grade level. Instruction is individualized based on diagnostic data and focuses on reading skills needed for the FSA English Language Assessment along with the SAT and ACT.

**Peer Counseling:** The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop executive functioning skills, including time management, study skills, conflict resolution. It is typically for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**ESOL Development Language:** The purpose of this course is to enable high school students who are native speakers of languages other than English to accelerate the development of communication and literacy skills that will promote English proficiency. This course will strengthen English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills so that students are able to successfully comprehend high school grade-level text independently, as well as communicate for social and instructional purposes within the school setting. Instruction will emphasize reading comprehension, writing fluency, and academic vocabulary through various levels of complexity.

***Courses requiring teacher approval – teacher approval will be confirmed after course registration is completed. If a student selects a course that is not approved by the teacher, the next elective choice will be applied.***