

# High School

# Course Catalog

Version 1.3 – July 2019



Dear High School Parents:

The purpose of this course catalog is to assist Nakornpayap International School students, with the guidance of parents, in making subject choices for High School. Included in this guide is a brief description of the courses available per grade, an outline of the placement criteria and prerequisites for each course, and graduation requirements.

At NIS, students must successfully complete specific courses to be eligible to graduate; all graduation requirements must be met. It is a government requirement that all Native Thai students take Thai Language & Culture courses for each year of High School; non-Thai native students must take two years. College-level Advanced Placement (AP) courses are also offered in a number of different subject areas. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these challenging academic opportunities.

At NIS we aim to promote passionate, life-long learners who strive for academic excellence through a well-balanced and relevant curriculum. As the leading international school in Chiang Mai, our High School program will see doors open to universities worldwide. A NIS High School Diploma is a credential which will allow your child to pursue their dreams at colleges and universities anywhere they wish. NIS opens a world of possibilities by providing the rigorous education, inclusive cultural experiences, and global competencies required to **learn and lead, today and in the future.**

Please study this catalog carefully. All students will complete their subject choices in consultation with an appointed Academic Advisor. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the contacts below for more information.

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## **COURSE PLACEMENT CRITERIA**

In order to ensure success, there are specific criteria to place students in classes. These include:

📅 **Placement Tests** - Teachers will provide a subject-based placement test to evaluate the academic suitability of student level of competence for that class.

📅 **Standardized test scores** ('Measure of Academic Performance' – MAP)  
- Students sit the MAP test in Reading, Language Usage, and Mathematics in the fall and summer of each academic year. They are required to meet minimum pre-requisite scores in order to be considered for academic placement in higher level courses.

📅 **Teacher recommendations** - Teacher recommendations will also be considered when applying for a place in higher level courses of study.

📅 **Course prerequisites** - Higher level courses require certain course prerequisites to be eligible for study.

📅 **Student grades** - Some higher level courses require minimum grades in previous courses in order to be considered for a place.

### **Schedule Change Requests**

Schedule change requests must be made within **the first two weeks** of the academic year. Please see page 24-25 of the *Student Parent Handbook* for the details of our *Schedule Change Policy*.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

The NIS High School Program (Grades 9–12) is College Preparatory in nature, offering a variety of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. The graduation requirements and the elective courses offered ensure eligibility for universities and colleges around the world. All courses have equal graduation credit (1 credit per semester).

<b>Grade 9 (credits)</b>	<b>Grade 10 (credits)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– English Language Arts 9 (2)</li> <li>– Modern History (2)</li> <li>– Physical Science 1 (2)</li> <li>– Algebra 1 (2)</li> <li>– Thai Language &amp; Culture (2)</li> <li>– Music (1)</li> <li>– Art (1)</li> <li>– Health &amp; Physical Fitness (1)</li> <li>– Computer Science &amp; Digital Literacy (1)</li> <li>– Spanish/ Chinese/ Japanese 1 (2)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Total possible credits: 16</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– English Language Arts 10 (2)</li> <li>– World Cultures/ Contemporary History &amp; MUN (2)</li> <li>– Biology (2)</li> <li>– Geometry (2)</li> <li>– Four additional elective courses (8)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Total possible credits: 16</b></p>
<b>Grade 11 (credits)</b>	<b>Grade 12 (credits)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– English Language Arts 11/ AP English Language &amp; Composition (2)</li> <li>– Seven additional elective courses (14)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Total possible credits: 16</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– English Language Arts 12/ AP English Language &amp; Composition (2)</li> <li>– Seven additional elective courses (14)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Total possible credits: 16</b></p>

**Total Credits Required for Graduation: 56**

In addition to the required courses above, students must fulfil the following elective and Thai Language course requirements:

### **Elective Course Requirements:**

1. Two courses in the Social Science OR Economics pathway (4 credits)
2. Grade 9 Music and Art (2 credits) OR one course in the Fine Arts pathway (2 credits)
3. Grade 9 Health & Physical Fitness OR one course in the Physical Education pathway (2 credits)
4. Grade 9 Computer Science & Digital Literacy OR one course in the Computer Science pathway (2 credits)

### **Thai Language Course Requirements:**

1. Native Thai students must have four academic years of Thai language courses.
2. Non-native Thai students must have at least two academic years of Thai language courses.

### **Community Service:**

Community Service is a graduation requirement at NIS and will be recorded on the graduation transcript. Between grades 9-12, students are required to complete 60 hours of Community Service. 20 hours must be arranged with organizations outside of the school. The remaining 40 hours can be obtained via in-school opportunities, such as Summer School volunteering, peer tutoring, coaching, and Student Council volunteering

### **Grade Point Average (GPA):**

The High School uses the traditional 4.00 scale grading system. Credits are awarded for each course of study at the end of each semester. All numeric percentage grades are converted to a letter grade. Letter grades are then converted to grade points. Upon graduation, the Grade Point Average (GPA) will be recorded on the Official Student Transcript for each semester of study. A student's final High School Cumulative Grade Point Average is then also presented as an average of all semester GPAs.

GPA is calculated based on the following Course Grade Weighting tables:

<b>Regular Course Grade Weighting</b>			
<b>Percentage Grade</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point</b>	<b>Standards Description</b>
95%-100%	A+	4.00	Far Exceeding
90%-94%	A	4.00	Exceeding
85%-89%	B+	3.00	Above
80-84%	B	3.00	Meeting
75-79%	C+	2.00	Approaching
70-74%	C	2.00	Developing
60-69%	D	1.00	Below
59% and below	F	0.00	Failing

<b>Advanced Placement (AP) Course Grade Weighting</b>			
<b>Percentage Grade</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point</b>	<b>Standards Description</b>
95%-100%	A+	5.00	Far Exceeding
90%-94%	A	5.00	Exceeding
85%-89%	B+	4.00	Above
80-84%	B	4.00	Meeting
75-79%	C+	3.00	Approaching
70-74%	C	3.00	Developing
60-69%	D	1.00	Below
59% and below	F	0.00	Failing

#### **Other Codes:**

P: Passing (no credit)

I: Incomplete

WF: Withdraw Fail (no credit adjustment)

### **Computation of Grade Point Average (GPA)**

A student's grade point average is determined by the following formula:

<b><i>Sum of GPA points X Credits Earned/ divided by the sum of Registered Credits.</i></b>
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## **High School 4-Year Plan – Course Selection Policy**

- Consider graduation requirements and college acceptance requirements when planning your graduation pathway.
- Always refer to your college and career goals when making your decisions.
- Your elective choices are subject to teacher recommendations, prior grades, test scores, and any necessary entrance examinations.
- Course availability is subject to student enrolment number; courses with an insufficient number of students will not be offered.
- Schedule change requests must be made within **the first two weeks of the academic year**. Applications made after this deadline will result in a *Withdraw Fail* being placed on a student's High School Transcript.
- Advanced Placement Courses are **yearlong** classes; students registered **must** remain in the class for the duration of the academic year. Taking the AP exam for registered AP courses is **mandatory**.
- All courses of study are for the duration of an academic year unless a change is recommended by a teacher, or a student has passed a previously failed graduation requirement.

**\*\* Students must select either English Language Arts or AP English Language & Composition in both grades 11 and 12. \*\***

## Elective Course Availability

Block	Grade 9			
B1	Japanese 1	Chinese 1	Spanish 1	Dance 1

Block	Grade 10					
A1	Algebra 2 (CP/H)	Media Studies	Creative Writing	Psychology (H) - [Test-in]		
A2	Japanese 2	Chinese 2	Spanish 2	Thai	Consumer Mathematics	Weight Training & Fitness
A3	Senior Band	Web Design	Team Sports	Dance 2		
B1	Japanese 1	Chinese 1	Spanish 1	Thai	Ethics	Dance 1
						High School Art

Block	Grade 11						
A1	English Language Arts	Algebra 2 (CP/H)	Media Studies	Creative Writing	Language Elective 3	Psychology (H)	
A2	Language Elective 2	Thai	Weight Training & Fitness	Consumer Mathematics	Business Fundamentals		
A3	Advanced Biology	AP Psychology (Test-in)	Web Design	Senior Band	Team Sports	Dance 2	
A4	Sociology	Design & Technology 1 (Section 1)	AP Seminar	Electronics			
A5	English Language Arts	Physics	Power Office	Design & Technology 1 (Section 2)			
A6	Economics	Advanced Art	Statistics	AP World History	Calculus		
B1	Chemistry	Business	AP Environmental Studies	Thai	Ethics	Advanced Team Sports	Dance 1
B2	AP English Language & Composition	AP Computer Science	Accounting	Advanced Weight Training & Fitness	Pre-Calculus	Design & Technology 2	High School Art

Block	Grade 12							
A1	Algebra 2 (CP/H)	Psychology (H)	AP Physics	Media Studies	Language Elective 3	Creative Writing		
A2	Language Elective 2	Thai	AP Research	Weight Training & Fitness	Business Fundamentals	Consumer Mathematics		
A3	Advanced Biology	Senior Band	Web Design	AP Psychology	Dance 2	AP Statistics	Team Sports	
A4	English Language Arts	Sociology	AP Chemistry	Design & Technology 1 (Section 1)	AP Seminar	Electronics		
A5	AP Biology	Design & Technology 1 (Section 2)	AP Economics	Power Office	Physics			
A6	English Language Arts	Economics	AP Studio Art	Statistics	AP World History	Calculus		
B1	AP Calculus	Chemistry	Business	AP Environmental Studies	Thai	Ethics	Advanced Team Sports	Dance 1
B2	AP English Language & Composition	AP Computer Science	Pre-Calculus	Accounting	Language Elective 4	Advanced Weight Training & Fitness	Design & Technology 2	High School Art

## High School 4-Year Plan – Course Selection Form

### Directions for Students:

This form is used to discuss elective courses options with your parents. You will also have a conference with an assigned Academic Advisor to finalize your elective course choices. Be sure to indicate your **upcoming** grade level and academic year below, and place your elective choices in the appropriate grade level section.

### Personal Details:

<b>Student:</b> _____  <b>Upcoming Grade Level (Academic Year):</b> _____ ( _____ )
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### Elective Choices:

Grade 9	
B1	

Grade 10	
A1	
A2	
A3	
B1	

Grade 11	
A1	
A2	
A3	
A4	
A5	
A6	
B1	
B2	

Grade 12	
A1	
A2	
A3	
A4	
A5	
A6	
B1	
B2	

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### Signatures:

*I have read and understood the 'Course Selection Policy' and agree to register for the courses on this document.*

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*I have discussed course selection with my child and agree with their choices on this document.*

**Parent:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



# **HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

The following pages contain the descriptions and prerequisites for all of the High School courses. They are organized by department.

## English Language Arts Department

Pathways	G9	G10	G11	G12
College Prep	ELA 9 (CP)	ELA 10 (CP)	ELA 11	ELA 12
Honors	ELA 9 (H)	ELA 10 (H)	AP English Language & Composition	

### **ELA 9 College Prep (CP)**

Grade Level:	9
Prerequisite:	8 <sup>th</sup> grade English with recommended grade of "B/C" both semesters
MAP Score (Reading):	210 – 220
Writing Focus:	Narratives (Reflective and Essays)

This rigorous course teaches NIS students to improve their vocabulary, reading, writing, listening, speaking, and research skills. This course challenges NIS students to engage in cooperative learning activities which challenge them to solve real-life problems and to develop their own critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will help them become independent thinkers and learners. Our students are exposed to a variety of literary genres such as poetry, short stories, novels, and plays; as well newspaper and magazine articles and other non-fictional texts. NIS students also learn to use the writing process as they write and revise their own paragraphs and craft at least two multi-paragraph essays per semester. They will also learn how to write and craft their own personal narratives. Reading and writing homework is assigned each week, and individual presentations and cooperative learning group projects are required each semester. All 9<sup>th</sup> Grade College Preparation classes are aligned to the United States Common Core Standards and Benchmarks.

### **ELA 9 Honors (H)**

Grade Level:	9
Prerequisite:	8 <sup>th</sup> grade English with a grade of "A" both semesters
MAP Score (Reading):	220+
Writing focus:	Narrative (Reflective and Essays)

This rigorous course helps NIS students refine their higher level critical thinking skills. This course challenges NIS Honors students to engage in cooperative learning activities which challenge them to solve real-life problems and to develop their own critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will help them become independent thinkers and life-long learners. Our students are exposed to a variety of higher level literary genres such as poetry, short stories, novels, and plays; as well newspaper and magazine articles and other non-fictional texts. They will also learn how to write and craft their own personal narratives and even craft group and individual short stories. Outside reading is required each week. Students learn to use the writing process as they write four essays per semester. Reading and writing homework is assigned on a daily basis, and individual presentations and group cooperative learning projects

are required each semester. All 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors classes are aligned to the United States Common Core Standards and Benchmarks.

### **ELA 10 College Prep (CP)**

*Grade Level:* 10  
*Prerequisite:* Recommended 9<sup>th</sup> grade English with a grade of "B/C" both semesters  
*MAP Score (Reading):* 215 – 225  
*Writing focus:* Informational

This rigorous course helps students master their critical thinking skills as they study literature from diverse cultures and time periods. This course challenges NIS students to engage in individual and cooperative learning activities which challenge them to solve real-life problems and to develop their own critical thinking and problem-solving skills. These thought-provoking texts and learning strategies help NIS students to become independent thinkers and learners as they creatively challenge the texts they read. This course utilizes the multi-ethnicity of NIS classrooms as a stimulus for lessons that provide opportunities for multicultural sharing and understanding. This allows our students to view ideas in a multi-cultural context that will help them develop an expanded global view and become more aware and productive global citizens. Students use the writing process to write three to four multi-paragraph essays per semester. Outside reading is required each semester. All lessons and activities are aligned to the United States Common Core 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Standards and Benchmarks.

### **ELA 10 Honors (H)**

*Grade Level:* 10  
*Prerequisite:* Recommended LA Honors (Grade 9) with grade of A or B  
*MAP Score (Reading):* 225+  
*Writing focus:* Informational/explanatory/process

This rigorous course helps students master their critical thinking skills as they study literature from diverse cultures and time periods. This course challenges NIS students to engage in individual and cooperative learning activities which challenge them to solve real-life problems and to develop their own critical thinking and problem-solving skills. These thought-provoking texts and learning strategies help NIS Honors class students to become independent thinkers and learners as they creative challenge the texts they read. This course utilizes the multi-ethnic nature of NIS classrooms as a stimulus for lessons that provide opportunities for multicultural sharing and understanding. This allows our students to view ideas in a multi-cultural context that will help them develop an expanded global view and become more award and productive global citizens. Students use the writing process to write three to four multi-paragraph essays per semester. Book clubs require extensive outside reading, and group projects are assigned each quarter. Reading and writing homework is assigned on a daily basis. Outside reading is required each semester. The ultimate goal of these classes is to assist students to adequately progress toward ELA AP classes and future academic success. All lessons and activities are aligned to the United States Common Core 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Standards and Benchmarks.

## **ELA 11 College Prep (CP) A Study of American Literature**

Grade Level:	11
Prerequisite:	10 <sup>th</sup> grade English required, recommended score of "C" or better
MAP Score (Reading):	220 – 230
Writing Focus:	Argumentative

By the end of grade 11, students will read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, in the grades 11-CCR text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range. This includes demonstrating knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century foundational works of American literature.<sup>1</sup> Complexity for this course can be measured by the following texts: "Because I Could Not Stop for Death" by Emily Dickinson (1890), *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (1925), *Common Sense* by Thomas Paine (1776), *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau (1854), and "Politics and the English Language" by George Orwell. Students are expected to read outside of class to complete novels and short stories outlined in the individual instructor's syllabus, which will be revised from time to time. In addition to reading seminal works of American literature, students will write for a variety of purposes, with a focus on argumentative writing in their Junior year.

## **ELA 12 College Prep (CP) A Study of British & World Literature**

Grade Level:	12
Prerequisite:	11 <sup>th</sup> grade English required, recommended score of "C" or better
MAP Score (Reading):	230+
Writing focus:	Synthesis/Rhetorical Analysis

By the end of grade 12, students will read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of the grade 12 CCR text complexity band independently and proficiently. This includes analysing interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), and evaluating how each version interprets the source text.<sup>2</sup> Complexity for this course can be measured by the following texts: Heaney's translation of "Beowulf" (1000), "Dulce et Decorum Est" by Wilfred Owen (1920), *The Canterbury Tale* by Geoffrey Chaucer (1387), "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare (1606), and *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift (1726). Students are expected to read outside of class to complete novels and short stories outlined in the individual instructor's syllabus, which will be revised from time to time. In addition to reading foundation works of British and world literature, students will write for a variety of purposes, with a focus on synthesis of information in their Senior year.

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<sup>1</sup> Aligned to Common Core CCR Standards for Reading, including complexity bands for fiction and non-fiction selections. <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy>

<sup>2</sup> Aligned to Common Core College and Career Readiness Standards. <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/11-12/>

➤ **Elective Courses**

**Advanced Placement (AP) English Language & Composition**

*Grade Level:* 11/12

*Prerequisite:* 10/11<sup>th</sup> grade English with a grade of "A" both semesters

*MAP Score (Reading):* 230+

*Writing focus:* Preparation for the AP writing exam

This rigorous course is designed to parallel a first year college composition and critical thinking class. With a score of three or above on the AP exam, it is possible to waive the undergraduate university English/ Composition course and/or receive units. The purpose of this course is to help students focus on "rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts and the development and revision of well-reasoned, evidence-centred analytic and argumentative writing." (College Board, AP English Course Description, 2014, p. 7). The course is organized according to the requirements and guidelines of the current AP English Course Description, and, therefore, students are expected to read critically, think analytically, and communicate clearly both in writing and speech. There is abundant reading and writing requirements that must be met outside of classroom hours. Be prepared for a college-level classroom experience and work load. Syllabus available upon request.

**Creative Writing**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Prerequisite:* None

*MAP Score (Reading):* 220+

This course is designed to guide students in creative writing through experience in three genres: short story, poetry, and creative non-fiction. The course includes analysis of literary models (professional writings in each genre), individual and class criticism of work in a workshop mode, and lecture on and discussion of literary techniques in each genre.

## Mathematics Department

Pathways	G9	G10	G11	G12
Foundation	Algebra Support	Geometry Support		
College Prep	Algebra 1 College Prep	Geometry College Prep	Pre-Calculus, Statistics	Calculus, Statistics
		Algebra 2 College Prep		
Honors	Algebra 1 Honors	Geometry Honors	Statistics	AP Statistics
		Algebra 2 Honors	Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus

### Guide for Students

The mathematics department at NIS offers foundational courses in high school algebra and geometry as well as advanced classes in pre-calculus, calculus and statistics. Two Advanced Placement (AP) classes are offered: AP Calculus AB and AP Statistics.

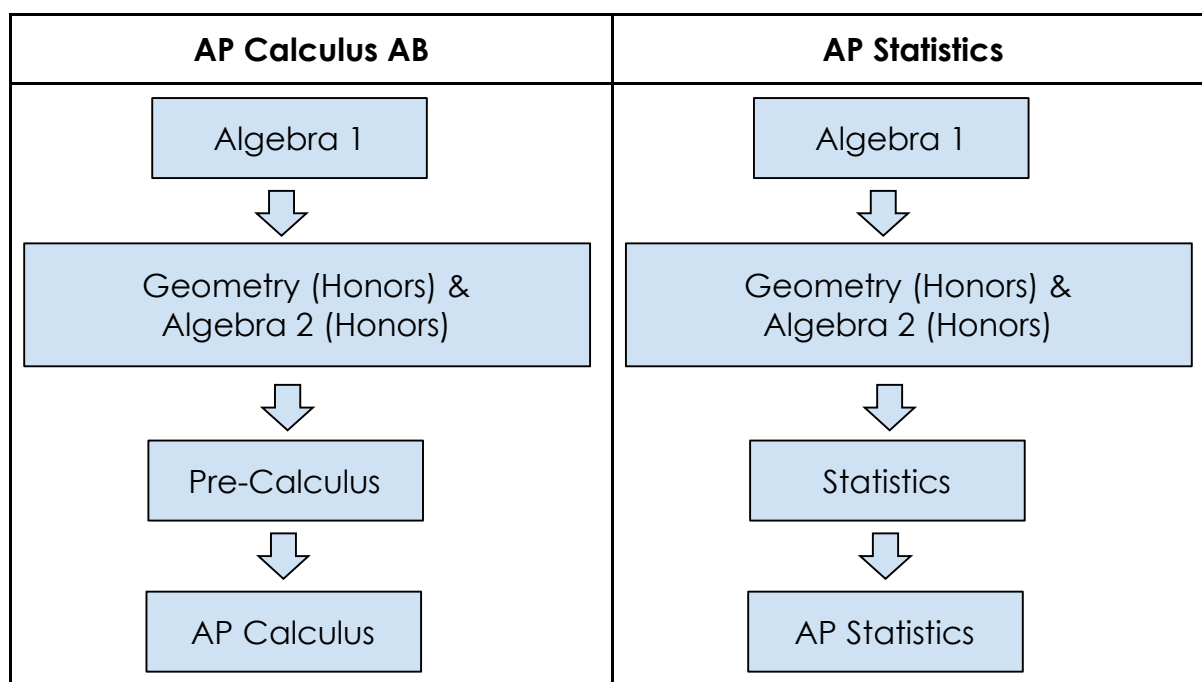
In order to graduate, high school students must obtain four credits of high-school mathematics: Algebra 1 (two semesters) and Geometry (two semesters). Depending on ability, motivation and future academic goals, students must choose one of three different pathways for these courses: Foundations, College Preparatory or Honors.

While not a required course for graduation, Algebra 2 is a prerequisite for all further mathematics classes at NIS and is offered at both the College Preparatory and Honors level.

After Algebra 2, advanced mathematics classes at NIS are differentiated into two fundamental subject areas: Calculus and Statistics. Students considering college study in mathematics, engineering, natural science or economics would benefit most from pursuing the Calculus sequence of Pre-Calculus followed by either Calculus or AP Calculus AB. On the other hand, students considering college study in social sciences (psychology, sociology, history, linguistics, etc.) or liberal arts would benefit most from taking Statistics and AP Statistics. This is not to suggest that students must choose between these subject areas as many of our students successfully take both sequences simultaneously. Introductory classes in Calculus and Statistics are required credits for many undergraduate degrees and an early exposure to these subjects in High School builds an excellent foundation for future study.

## AP Course Sequences

Students interested in taking AP Calculus AB or AP Statistics should adhere to the following course sequences:



### SAT I - General Test

For the mathematics portion of the SAT, the College Board seeks to assess the extent to which:

Students have fluency with, understanding of, and the ability to apply the mathematical concepts, skills, and practices that are most strongly prerequisite and central to their ability to progress through a range of college courses, career training, and career opportunities.

While most of the mathematics content found on the SAT general test is covered by the end of Algebra 2, in order to achieve a thorough familiarity and skill with the material, students are encouraged to take Pre-Calculus and Statistics.

### SAT II - Subject Tests: Mathematics Level 1 and Level 2

Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2 at the College Preparatory or Honors level are considered adequate preparation for taking the SAT Mathematics Level 1 test.

For the SAT Mathematics Level 2 test, students should take at least Pre-Calculus in addition to Geometry, Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 at the College Preparatory or Honors level.

# High School Mathematics Course Descriptions

## Required Courses

### ➤ Algebra 1

#### **Algebra 1 Support**

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite:

Through the investigation of meaningful problems individually or in cooperative groups, while using appropriate technology, students will strengthen their foundations of mathematics. Students will prepare for success in future mathematics courses by building content knowledge to meet standards in number and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and data analysis and probability. The processes of problem solving, reasoning, communication, connections, and representation are interwoven throughout the content standards.

#### **Algebra 1 College Prep**

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite:

Algebra 1 CP is intended to build a foundation for all higher math classes. This course will review algebraic expressions, integers, and mathematical properties that will lead into working with variables and linear equations. There will be an in-depth study of graphing, polynomials, quadratic equations, data analysis and system of equations through direct class instruction, group work, homework, student projects and technology.

#### **Algebra 1 Honors**

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite:

MAP Score (Mathematics): 230+

The Algebra I Honors course is designed to provide highly motivated students, who have had some previous algebra experience, at an accelerated pace in a cooperative learning environment. The course aims to develop the students' critical thinking and algebraic problem solving skills and it will enable students to pursue further mathematical courses in the honors stream. In terms of content, the honors course covers the same topics as the college prep stream, at a greater depth in order to better prepare students to follow the higher level mathematics courses.



➤ **Geometry**

**Geometry Support**

Grade Level: 10  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1

The aim of Geometry Support course is to equip the students with the basic concepts of geometry through a hands on, investigative approach. Throughout the course, the students' spatial reasoning and problem-solving skills applied to geometric principles will be developed. The course content is aligned to the Common Core State Standards for mathematics and the problem solving skill set developed will assist with the student's future education, career, and has many real life applications.

**Geometry College Prep**

Grade Level: 10  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Geometry is designed to help students develop their spatial reasoning and problem-solving skills. Students are introduced to new geometric concepts through an investigative approach, and guided to make conjectures and discoveries. Analytical description of the topics follows a hands-on practical inquiry approach. Inductive and deductive reasoning are stressed throughout the course. The topics covered are aligned to the Common Core State Standards initiative for mathematics with the goals to help prepare students for college education, career, and real life applications.

**Geometry Honors**

Grade Level: 10  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors, or a grade of "A" in Algebra 1 College Prep  
MAP Score (Mathematics): 240+

A good understanding of geometric concepts is important to many fields of mathematics and sciences. The Geometry Hon course emphasizes developing skills needed to solve both applied and abstract problems. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for more advanced courses, such as pre-calculus, calculus and physics that require analysis and reasoning. The Geometry Honors curriculum goes further in depth, and some of the topics covered are beyond the scope of those recommended in the Common Core State Standards for Math. Students are expected to be motivated learners, eager to conduct research and investigate certain topics in non-Euclidean geometries.

➤ **Elective Courses**

**Algebra 2 College Prep**

Grade Level: 10  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 College Prep or Honors  
MAP Score: 230+

Algebra 2 builds on the material from Algebra 1 to provide students with a thorough course in High-school algebra including the real and complex numbers, reasoning with expressions and equations, elements of analytic geometry and general abstract and operational thinking.

**Algebra 2 Honors**

Grade Level: 10  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors, or an 'A' in Algebra 1  
Map Score: 240+

Algebra 2 Honors includes all of the topics from the College Prep class along with added material on linear algebra, polynomials, complex numbers and sequences and series. More than just additional topics, though, the honors course requires a more dedicated and thorough approach to understanding. Students are expected to be self-motivated and eager to attempt challenging problems.

**Pre-Calculus**

Grade Level: 11 or 12  
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Geometry (College Prep or Honors). At least a 'B' in College prep or a 'C' in Honors classes.  
MAP Score: 240+

Pre-Calculus is the conceptual bridge between algebra and geometry and calculus. The core theme of Pre-Calculus is the concept of a function. Students will learn abstract properties of functions and will gain a detailed understanding of the so-called elementary functions: polynomials, rational functions, exponentials and logarithms, trigonometric and hyperbolic functions. This course is required for both Calculus and AP Calculus.

**Statistics**

Grade Level: 11 or 12  
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (College Prep or Honors). At least a 'B' in College prep or a 'C' in Honors classes.  
MAP Score: 240+

Statistics is the science of collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will explore patterns in data, understand the principles of sampling and experimentation, use probability and simulation to anticipate patterns, and make statistical inferences. This course is required for AP Statistics.

## **Calculus**

*Grade Level:* 12  
*Prerequisite:* Pre-Calculus with at least a 'C' grade.  
*MAP Score:* 240+

Calculus is the quantitative study of change. Its main topics are the limiting process, derivatives and rates of change, and integration and the accumulation from change. Students will be expected to understand and communicate mathematical ideas graphically, numerically, algebraically and verbally. Problem solving, critical reasoning, and precise mathematical writing are the key components of this course.

## **Consumer Mathematics**

*Grade Level:* 10-12  
*Prerequisite:* None

Consumer Math classes are designed to fulfil a general math credit for high school students. The focus is on applying math skills to real world situations. Students learn about math by applying the principles being taught in real life. Students will build on and expand the personal finance lessons.

## ➤ **AP Courses**

### **AP Calculus AB**

*Grade Level:* 12  
*Prerequisite:* Pre-Calculus with at least a 'B' grade.  
*MAP Score:* 250+

AP Calculus AB is designed to help students develop a conceptual understanding of college-level calculus content, as well as proficiency in the skills and practices needed for mathematical reasoning and problem solving. After completing the course, students should be able to apply critical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving skills in a variety of contexts; use calculus terminology and notations appropriately; and clearly communicate their findings using mathematical evidence and justifications.

### **AP Statistics**

*Grade Level:* 12  
*Prerequisite:* Statistics with at least a 'C' grade.  
*MAP Score:* 240+

Statistics is the science of collecting, analysing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

1. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns
2. Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study
3. Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation
4. Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Students who successfully complete the course and exam may receive credit, advanced placement, or both for a one-semester introductory college statistics course.

## Science Department

Pathways	G9	G10	G11	G12
Physics	Physical Science	Physics	AP Physics	
Chemistry	Physical Science	Chemistry	AP Chemistry	
Biology		Biology	Advanced Biology	AP Biology

### **Physical Science**

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: None

Physical science is the study of matter and energy. Physical science is a mandatory course and provides students with the foundations of both chemistry and physics. Physical science 1 specifically covers the topics of elements and matter, forces and motion, energy and chemical reactions. The course provides student with the conceptual understanding of theoretical aspects of the above mentioned topics and introduces the notion of scientific inquiry as a method for investigating unknown phenomena in order to acquire new knowledge.

### **Physics 1 College Prep (CP)**

Grade Level: 10/11/12

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of "B" in Geometry

Physics is considered the fundamental science, a study of the laws of nature – energy, matter, and their interrelationships – and dealing with objects from the smallest sub-atomic particles to the very largest in the universe. In this course, a conceptual oriented approach will be utilized for better understanding of general laws of physics, and special emphasis is placed on applications and using practical examples from everyday experience. Relevant mathematics leading to the establishment of these laws is introduced to assist with developing analytical skills of students.

### **AP Physics 1**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: *Physics with a minimum grade of "B"*

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based college level physics course. A challenging course, it meets the requirements of the College Board AP Physics 1 curriculum. The course content covers a first year college level physics class and successful students can receive a semester of college credit. Lab experiments designed to facilitate student understanding of concepts and principles are important component of the course (25% in terms of class time and final grade). Students will be required to develop their own lab experiments to test a hypothesis, measure certain properties, or prove a principle. Lab skills are directly tested on the AP Physics 1 exam and the lab experiments will provide valuable experience in real-world scientific investigations.

### **AP Environmental Science**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: *Environmental Studies (B grade or above)*

AP Environmental Science is designed to satisfy the requirements of the College Board AP Environmental Science curriculum. The course content covers a first year college level environmental science class and successful students can receive a semester of college credit. As an interdisciplinary course, a variety of topics from diverse disciplines are explored. The unifying themes of the topics are: Science is a process, energy conversions underlie all ecological processes, the Earth itself is one interconnected system, humans alter natural systems, environmental problems have a cultural and social context, and human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems.

### **Chemistry**

Grade: 11

Prerequisites: *Physical science 1 (C grade or above)*

Chemistry is the science of change. Before delving into the processes of change, known as chemical reactions, a firm understanding of what makes up matter needs to be covered. Therefore, the majority of advanced chemistry focuses on the atoms' outermost electrons, and how they are arranged, and the likelihood of their rearrangement. This along with a basic knowledge of how matter interacts will provide a solid framework in order to clearly understand the science of change.

### **AP Chemistry**

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: *Chemistry (B grade or above)*

The goal of AP Chemistry is to provide the student a foundation of knowledge on which to rationalize, summarize and predict the structure and properties of materials that make up chemistry. This class is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. This course is divided into 5 main topics covering all aspects of the AP Exam, namely the structure of Matter, chemical bonding, the states of matter, physical chemistry and chemical reactions.

**Biology**

Grade: 10

Pre-requisite: None

This course introduces the principles and concepts of biology. Emphasis is on basic biological chemistry, cell structure and function, metabolism and energy transformation, genetics, evolution, classification, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate understanding of life at the molecular and cellular levels. Laboratory exercises reinforce lecture topics and include microscope techniques.

**Advanced Biology (Pre-AP Biology)**

Grade: 11-12

Pre-requisite: *Biology (C grade or above)*

This course is a continuation of Biology and the preparation of AP Biology. Emphasis is placed on organisms, biodiversity, plant and animal systems, ecology, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate comprehension of life at the organismal and ecological levels. Laboratory exercises include microscope observations and dissections to reinforce topics discussed in lecture.

**AP Biology**

Grade: 11-12

Pre-requisite: *Advanced Biology (B grade or above)*

This laboratory-based course focuses on the process of scientific investigation through the study of living things and the world in which we live. AP biology is a college level introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. Students who pass the class and AP exam with satisfactory marks, are permitted to take upper level biology classes or classes for which advanced biology is a prerequisite.

## **Social Science Department**

### **Modern History College Prep (CP)**

*Grade Level:* 9

*Prerequisite:* *Recommended: 8th Grade History with a grade of B or C for both semesters*

*MAP Score (Reading):* 210 – 220

This course will cover historical events, figures, themes, and movements between from the 15th century to early 20th century. Lessons are designed to help students refine their higher level critical thinking skills as they study historical sources. Students will be required to do outside research and present their findings for the class. Students will develop skills articulate central ideas or information from primary and secondary sources. Reading and writing homework is assigned on a daily basis, and individual presentations and group projects are required each semester.

### **Modern History Honors (H)**

*Grade Level:* 9

*Prerequisite:* *Recommended: 8th Grade History with a grade of A or B for both semesters*

*MAP Score (Reading):* 220+

This course will cover historical events, figures, themes, and movements between from the 15th century to early 20th century. Lessons are designed to help students refine their higher level critical thinking skills as they study historical sources. Students will be required to do outside research and present their findings for the class. Students will develop skills articulate central ideas or information from primary and secondary sources. Reading and writing homework is assigned on a daily basis, and individual presentations and group projects are required each semester.

### **Contemporary History (CP)**

*Grade Level:* 10

*Prerequisite:* *Recommended: 9th Grade History with a grade of B or C both semesters*

*MAP Score (Reading):* 220 – 230

This course will cover historical events, figures, themes, and movements between from the 20th and 21st centuries. Lessons are designed to help students refine their higher level critical thinking skills as they study historical sources. Students will be required to do outside research and present their findings for the class. Students will develop skills articulate central ideas or information from primary and secondary sources. Reading and writing homework is assigned on a daily basis, and individual presentations and group projects are required each semester.

### **Contemporary History & Model UN Honors**

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: Recommended: 9th Grade History with grade of A or B.

MAP Score (Reading): 230+

This course will cover historical events, figures, themes, and movements between from the 20th and 21st centuries. Lessons are designed to help students refine their higher level critical thinking skills as they study historical sources. Students will be required to do outside research and present their findings for the class. Students will develop skills articulate central ideas or information from primary and secondary sources. Reading and writing homework is assigned on a daily basis, and individual presentations and group projects are required each semester. Participation in Model United Nation Conferences will be required in this course.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) World History**

Grade Level: 11/12

Prerequisites: Completion of Modern History and World Cultures courses with an A or B for both semesters. A letter of recommendation from the Modern History or World Cultures teacher.

MAP Score (Reading): 230+

Advanced Placement World History is designed to be the equivalent of a two semester introductory college or university world history course. In AP World History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in four historical periods from approximately 1200 C.E. 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 comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP World History Exam.



## **Economics Pathway**

### **Accounting College Prep**

Grade Level: 11,12

Prerequisite: None

The goals of the accounting class are to help the beginning student master the basic concepts of accounting, as well as the dynamics of the accounting cycle and the various accounting reports. Students will learn to think like an accountant and be able to apply accounting concepts to real-world situations. Specifically, students will be exposed to the accounting procedures for a service business organized as a proprietorship and a merchandising business organized as a corporation.

### **Business College Prep**

Grade Level: 11,12

Prerequisite: None

The goals of the business class are to help the beginning student master the principles essential for understanding today's global and fast-paced business environment and to provide students with a personal finance foundation for their future. The first half of the course focuses on business trends, ownership structures, and marketing. The second half of the course will focus on accounting and financial information, financial management, personal finance, and investing financial resources.

### **Economics College Prep**

Grade Level: 11,12

Prerequisite: None

The goal of the economics class is to help students understand and make sense of the global economy, with a focus on both micro- and macro-economic perspectives and policy alternatives. Students will be exposed to different economic systems and theories, as well as the history of economic thought. By the end of the course, students will be able to reason accurately and objectively regarding economic issues.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Microeconomics**

Grade Level: 11/12

Prerequisite: A grade of "B" or above in both semesters of the Economics Class

MAP Score (Reading): 230+

For grade 12 students who haven't taken Economics, a minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. The AP Microeconomics course will prepare students to take the AP Microeconomics exam. Students are expected to master the principles essential for understanding the economizing problem, specific economic issues, and the policy alternatives. Students will also be able to understand and apply the economic perspective and reason accurately and objectively about economic matters.

## **Psychology Pathway**

### **Psychology Honors (H)**

*Grade level:* 11

*Prerequisites:* Completion and qualification of 75% on Honors Psychology Placement test/ MAP Score (Reading) 230+

*Course Length:* Yearlong course

This course will provide students with an introductory level of understanding regarding the following topics: brief history of psychology, research methods, life span development, biological aspects (such as brain, nervous system, sense and perception), different schools of psychology (psychoanalytic, behavioristic, humanistic), memory, personality, and psychological disorders. This course will explore the terminology and concepts of this discipline and provide a better understanding of self and others. This course will use a combination of lectures, group work, video clips, and games in order to get a better understanding of what psychology is. Through textbook readings, projects, and directed activities that emphasize critical thinking and applications, students explore psychology as the science of behavior and of mental processes.

### **Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology**

*Grade level:* 12

*Prerequisites:* Completion and qualification of grades "B" or better of high school Psychology/Honors Psychology/ MAP Score (Reading) 230+

*Course Length:* Yearlong course

This year-long Advanced Placement Psychology course will prepare students to take the AP Psychology exam in May. This is a college level exam in which 100 multiple-choice questions and two Free Response Questions (FRQs) will determine the students' content knowledge of Psychology. The course content will "introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice." Through textbook readings, projects, and directed activities that emphasize critical thinking and applications, students explore psychology as the science of behavior and of mental processes. This course has been reviewed and approved by the College Board to use the "AP" designation.

## **Other Social Science Electives**

### **Sociology**

*Grade Level:* 11-12

*Prerequisite:* No previous courses required for this class. However, a general curiosity of how people interact in groups would be recommended.

Sociology is an elective course that studies human society and social behavior. Positive human relationships are an essential part of a civilized society and how we interact with each other is important so that we can find answers to questions and solve problems in our world. "Sociology teaches us to look at life in a scientific, systematic way." The way that we view the world comes from what we learn in our everyday activities. "The values, beliefs, lifestyles of those around us, as well as historic events help to mold us into unique individuals who have varied outlooks on social reality." This course deals with the social atmosphere that helps to make us who we are and how we behave. Sociology will cover topics such as culture, violence, deviance, social control, socialization and personality, group behavior, social class, and social institutions.

### **Ethics**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Prerequisite:* While there is no specific prerequisite, a successful completion of *Modern History and World Cultures* would be highly recommended.

This course of Ethics is a three tiered approach to study of moral principles that govern a person's behavior or the conducting of an activity. We will be examining how History, Religion, and Government have played a vital role in the shaping of Ethics over the millennia. This course is usually filled with exciting and vibrant discussion as students have the chance to share point of view on various topics. This course will present to students, in a readily understandable way, the ethical ideas that have emerged over the centuries as a result of the never-ending human quest to balance individual freedom with group responsibility. It enhances a traditional study of world history by providing the students with a strategy to help confront these timeless ethical issues.

## AP Capstone Diploma



The AP Capstone program is composed of:

1. AP Seminar: AP Seminar provides sustained practice of investigating issues from multiple perspectives and cultivates student writing abilities so they can craft, communicate, and defend evidence-based arguments. Students are empowered to collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision and are assessed through a team project and presentation, an individual written essay and presentation, and a written exam.
2. AP Research: In AP Research, students develop the skills and discipline necessary to conduct independent research to produce and defend a scholarly academic thesis. This second course in the AP Capstone experience allows students to explore deeply an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest and through this inquiry, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long mentored, research-based investigation. The course culminates in an academic thesis paper of approximately 5,000 words and a presentation, performance, or exhibition with an oral defence.
3. Four or more AP courses and exams of the student's own choosing.

**AP Seminar**

Grade Level: 11/12

Prerequisite: Recommended 10th Grade English/Science/World Cultures classes with a grade of "A/B" both semesters;

MAP Score (Reading): 210 – 220

Students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. AP Seminar is a yearlong course. Students are assessed with two through-course performance tasks and one end-of-course exam. All three assessments are summative and used to calculate a final AP score (using the 1-5 scale) for AP Seminar.

**AP Research**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Recommended 10th Grade or 11th grade English/Science/World Cultures classes with a grade of "A/B" both semesters; AND AP Seminar with a grade of "A/B" both semesters.

MAP Score (Reading): 210 – 220

Students cultivate the skills and discipline necessary to conduct independent research in order to produce and defend a scholarly academic thesis. AP Research is year-long course. Students are assessed with one through-course performance task consisting of two distinct components. Both components will be included in the calculation of a final AP score (using the 1-5 scale). There is no end-of-course exam for AP Research.

## **Fine Arts Department**

### ➤ **Music**

#### **Grade 9 Band**

*Prerequisite: Director Approval*

Instrumental band is designed for musicians at various levels of ability who desire to perform appropriate band literature. Emphasis is placed on interpretations of style, phrasing, articulation, and dynamics with concentration on technique and music theory. Performances are required. Students may be required to rent a musical instrument from the school or purchase their own.

#### **Senior Band**

*Grade Level: 10 -12*

*Prerequisite: Director Approval*

This course is open to those students who already possess a higher level of skill. Focus is on improving technical proficiency and sight-reading skills. Additionally, students are expected to have a high level of interpretative skills in style, phrasing, articulation, and dynamics. Regular performance assessments take place over the span of the semester. Finally, students will also study units in music history, music appreciation and composition.

### ➤ **Art**

#### **Grade 9 Art**

*Prerequisite: Completion of Grade 8 Art*

This course is open to teach students composition through the elements (line, color, shape/form, texture, and value) and principles of design. (Balance/emphasis/contrast, repetition, proportion/scale). To explain new concepts and the uses of tools and materials. Techniques and processes used in sculpture: clay, papier-mâché, collage, fibers, found objects etc. To improve basic artistic skills: Observational drawing techniques (figure, portrait, still-life, landscape, perspective etc.) Painting techniques (watercolor, acrylic, pastel etc.) To build self-confidence by showing students they are unique and that their ideas have merit. To introduce students to art history and appreciation. To offer open-ended projects that personal interpretations.

#### **High School Art**

*Grade Level: 10-12*

*Prerequisite: Completion of Grade 9 Art*

This course is a continuation of grade 9 ART in regards to drawing and painting; allowing students the fullest opportunity to explore the range of possibilities in art. This course stresses the development of craftsmanship and strategies for personal exploration. Principles of color, form and pictorial space and their relationship to materials and techniques will be basic to all class projects.

**Advanced Art (Pre-AP)**

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: *Teacher's approval. Completion of Grade 10 Art. All students must agree to take AP Art the following academic year.*

The advanced art program with 2 portfolios (courses) in drawing and 2D design. Each portfolio has its own focus and requirements. Advanced student's need for Breadth 12 art works of experience in the formal, technical and expressive means of the artist.

**Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: *Completion of Advanced Art with a grade of "B" or above*

The AP student's will create 12 concentrations on a particular visual interest or problem and 5 quality works. Students will submit 29 pieces to the AP board as part of their examination.

## **World Languages Department**

### **Japanese 1**

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

This rigorous course teaches students to know and understand basic grammar, vocabulary and 2 types of letters –Hiragana and Katakana- and to acquire the ability to speak, read and write Japanese to a basic level for everyday life. They build the knowledge as they complete work sheet in each lesson including reading, writing and learning Japanese culture and history. Creating New Year's card is also required as annual project.

### **Japanese 2**

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: Japanese 1

Systematic study of Japanese using the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. This rigorous course helps students improve to a level sufficient for basic everyday life learning with basic verbs and adjectives. They build the solid knowledge as they complete work sheet in each lesson. Challenging homework, frequent writing assignments, and extensive readings. Creating New Year's card is also required as annual project.

### **Japanese 3**

Grade Level: 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Japanese 1 and 2

This rigorous course helps students improve their vocabulary, reading, writing, listening, speaking Japanese with learning basic Kanji to a level sufficient for everyday life using with Te form of verbs, Nai form of verbs and Dictionary form of verbs. They build the solid knowledge as they complete work sheet in each lesson, challenging homework, frequent writing assignments, and extensive readings. Individual project is required each semester including writing essay about their future and daily life.



## **Japanese 4**

Grade Level: 11,12

Prerequisite: Japanese 1, Japanese 2 and Japanese 3

This rigorous course helps students improve their vocabulary, reading, writing, listening and speaking Japanese including learning Kanji. Enhance the student's capacity to communicate using with conversational form of verbs such as Ta form and Plain style of verbs as advanced level. They build the solid knowledge as they complete work sheet in each lesson, challenging homework, frequent writing assignments, and extensive readings. Individual project is required each semester including writing essay and creating conversation using Plain style.

## **Spanish 1**

Grade Level: 9 & 10

Prerequisites: None

An introduction to the Spanish language focusing on basic conversation, present tense verb conjugations and useful vocabulary. The course book that is used (VOCES) is grounded in the AP curriculum requirements to lead the students who pursue Spanish in advanced levels to be able to take the exam if they are willing. Each unit corresponds with a country of study allowing students to dig deeper into the history, culture, religion, food and dance of Spanish speaking countries around the world. Lesson are taught mainly in Spanish, encouraging the students to start being aware of the target language. Every activity is designed for the students to grow in their language skills.

## **Spanish 2**

Grade Level: 10 & 11

Prerequisites: Spanish 1 or Equivalent

This course is designed to move beyond introductory Spanish and give students the skills to conjugate verbs in preterit, imperfect and other grammatical structures. The course book that is used (VOCES) is grounded in the AP curriculum requirements to lead the students who pursue Spanish in advanced levels to be able to take the exam if they are willing. Emphasis is given to conversational skills and the use of new verbs in context. Like Spanish 1, each unit in Spanish 2 is accompanied by a Spanish speaking country for further understanding. Lessons are taught 80% in Spanish and students are constantly demanded to use the language as much as possible.

### **Spanish 3**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Prerequisites:* Spanish 1 or equivalent and Spanish 2

Spanish 3 course leads the students to keep learning in detail more complex grammatical structures, idioms and expressions, study different social and cultural context about Spanish speaking countries and pushes them to communicate in the target language using different skills. The course book that is used (VOCES) is grounded in the AP curriculum requirements to lead the students who pursue Spanish in advanced levels to be able to take the exam if they are willing. Lessons are taught 80% to 100% in Spanish and students are constantly demanded to use the language as much as possible.

### **Spanish 4**

*Grade Level:* 12

*Prerequisites:* Spanish 1 or equivalent, Spanish 2, and Spanish 3

Spanish 4 is an advanced course that seeks to give the students the opportunity to learn new linguistic and grammatical content but also to go over complex structures they already learned in the past courses. These review units are within new contexts where the vocabulary, idioms and phrases are rooted in more specific fields to walk the students with something they already know to new areas of learning and discussion. In this course the new grammatical and cultural knowledge will take the students to a new level of comprehension and awareness of the language. The course book that is used (VOCES) is grounded in the AP curriculum requirements to lead the students who pursue Spanish in advanced levels to be able to take the exam if they are willing. Lessons are taught 95% to 100% in Spanish and students are constantly demanded to use the language as much as possible.

### **Chinese 1**

*Grade Level:* 9 & 10

*Prerequisites:* None

Focusing on the first Chinese course, students are expected to be able to understand basic introduction words, phrase, sentences, songs, stories, and dialogs in the surrounding environments, as well as the differences between Chinese and English. Students will also develop and be exposed to complex words, phrases, and long sentences related to other courses while being able to translate them. Moreover, they can improve their skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing while they are studying in the class. However, this course emphasizes the use of Chinese for pragmatic communication. Furthermore, to learn Chinese profoundly, it is not only the study of how to read and write Chinese, but students will be introduced to Chinese culture, traditions, and festivals. Thus, this course provides the opportunity to learn Chinese culture, traditions, and festivals by doing some activities, such as, Chinese movie, Chinese chess, and Chinese New Year's Day. Grade is depended on supporting documentation, quizzes, and class participation.

## **Chinese 2**

*Grade Level:* 10 & 11

*Prerequisites:* Chinese 1 or Equivalent

In this course students will be able to focus on listening, speaking, and writing especially for communication in everyday life. Along with communication, students will learn more advanced orders, request, phrases, and gestures. Students will be exposed to Chinese dialogs and short sentences. In addition, students will learn Chinese culture through activities such as Chinese movie, Chinese chess, and Chinese New Year. The most important after the students' graduate course is they can learn Chinese by self-interest of each student. Grade is depended on supporting documentation, quizzes, and class participation.

## **Chinese 3**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Prerequisites:* Chinese 1 or equivalent and Chinese 2

The focus of the Chinese course is to build an understanding of complicated words, phrases, sentences, songs, stories, complex orders, dialogues, and sentence patterns in context, as well as an appreciation of the differences between Chinese and English. Students will develop a strong skill that will allow them to use Chinese language correctly in the form of requests and opinion. Students also learn to translate language and content ideas from other subjects into Chinese. The course encompasses all key language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing with an overall emphasis on the use of Chinese for pragmatic communication. Grade is depended on supporting documentation, quizzes, and class participation.

## **Chinese 4**

*Grade Level:* 12

*Prerequisite:* Chinese 1, Chinese 2 and Chinese 3

Students who take this course are expected to be able to understand, comprehend, translate, and read complicated orders, requests, gestures, phrases and sentences along with understanding advanced level dialogs from the surrounding environments, songs, and stories. Communication skills will be enhanced by focusing on creating short sentences, as well as creating a biography by using gestures, pictures, words, and phrases and to allow students to reasonably express their opinion or idea about their daily routines at home and school. Students will be able to recognize Chinese cultures, traditions, and festivals and understand the differences between Chinese and English in terms of accent, words, phrases, and sentence structures. This course will also encourage students to participate in Chinese language and cultural activities held by school. Grade is depended on supporting documentation, quizzes, and class participation.

## Physical Education Department

Pathways	G9	G10	G11	G12
<b>Foundations College Honors</b>	Health & Physical Fitness	Weight Training & Fitness 1 (prerequisite for ADV Weight Training & Fitness)	Weight Training & Fitness 1	Weight Training & Fitness 1
			Team Sports 1	Team Sports 1
		Team Sports 1 (prerequisite for ADV Team Sports)	ADV Team Sports	ADV Team Sports
			ADV Weight Training & Fitness	ADV Weight Training & Fitness

### Guide for Students

The Physical Education Department at NIS offers foundational courses in High School Health, Physical Fitness, Team Sports, and Weight Training.

In order to graduate, high school students must obtain one credit from the physical education courses offered. Health & Physical Fitness is available in the 9th grade – it is strongly recommended that all grade 9 students take this class. Depending on ability, motivation, and future academic goals, students may pursue physical education electives during their 11th and 12th grade years. Electives include Weight Training & Fitness 1 (prerequisite to ADV Weight Training & Fitness), Team Sports (prerequisite to ADV Team Sports), ADV Weight Training & Fitness, and ADV Team Sports.

### High-school Physical Education Course Descriptions

#### **Health & Physical Fitness**

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: N/A

This course serves as a mandatory requirement for all 9th grade students at NIS. Health and Physical Fitness is designed to promote overall health and wellness through a variety of physical activities, classroom lessons and discussions, and health-related assignments. Subjects covered in Health and Physical Fitness include social health, mental health, emotional health, physical health, sexual education, environmental health, spiritual health, drugs/alcohol, growth and development, peer pressure, gender, contraception, STI's, interpersonal and intrapersonal relationships, society and health, cardiovascular exercise, muscular endurance and strength training, and flexibility.

## **Team Sports**

*Grade:* 10-12  
*Prerequisite:* Health & Physical Fitness

This course serves as an introduction to team sports and a prerequisite for ADV Team Sports. Team Sports 1 is designed to promote overall health and wellness through variety of team/group activities, sports, and games. Subjects covered in Team Sports 1 include basketball, football/futsal, American football, baseball/softball, floor hockey, kickball, handball, volleyball, capture the flag, badminton, team building, communication, teamwork, roles and responsibilities, and adaptability.

## **Weight Training & Fitness 1**

*Grade:* 10-12  
*Prerequisite:* Health & Physical Fitness

This course serves as an introduction to weight training and fitness and a prerequisite for ADV Weight Training & Fitness. Weight Training & Fitness 1 is designed to promote overall health and wellness through a variety of aerobic, anaerobic, balance, flexibility, and strength activities and lessons. Subjects covered in Weight Training & Fitness 1 include cardiovascular exercises, powerlifting, bodybuilding, body weight exercises, interval training, yoga, plyometric, and stability training

## **ADV Team Sports**

*Grade:* 11-12  
*Prerequisite:* Health & Physical Fitness & Team Sports 1 (or 1+ season of Varsity Sports Experience)

This course serves as an advanced educational option for more experienced and motivated NIS students and student-athletes. ADV Team Sports is designed to promote overall health and wellness through variety of advanced team/group activities, sports, and games. Subjects covered in Team Sports 1 include basketball, football/futsal, American football, baseball/softball, floor hockey, kickball, handball, volleyball, capture the flag, badminton, team building, communication, teamwork, roles and responsibilities, and adaptability.

## **ADV Weight Training & Fitness**

*Grade:* 10-12  
*Prerequisite:* Health & Physical Fitness & Weight Training 1 (or 1+ season of Varsity Sports Experience)

This course serves as an advanced educational option for more experienced and motivated NIS students and student-athletes. Weight Training & Fitness 1 is designed to promote overall health and wellness through a variety of advanced aerobic, anaerobic, balance, flexibility, and strength activities and lessons. Subjects covered in ADV Weight Training & Fitness include cardiovascular exercises, powerlifting, bodybuilding, body weight exercises, interval training, yoga, plyometric, and stability training.

## **Electives Department**

### ➤ **Computer Science & Digital Literacy**

#### **Computer Science College Prep (CP)**

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: Recommended 8th grade English with a grade of "B/C" both semesters

Students have the opportunity to use more specialized technology tools that enhance their learning. These include a wide variety of content-specific tools. In addition, students should have the opportunity to learn how to write code in a commonly used programming language. Students should have developed an appreciation for the capabilities and capacities of technology, as well as an understanding of how these tools can be used for lifelong learning. In addition, students should be knowledgeable about the role technology plays in various fields of work, enabling them to better plan for their careers in the 21st century.

Students should be able to use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate and communicate information. To use digital technologies, communication/networking tools and social networks appropriately to access, manage, integrate, evaluate and create information to successfully function in a knowledge economy and apply a fundamental understanding of the ethical/legal issues surrounding the access and use of information technologies.

#### **Power Office College Prep (CP)**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Grade 9 CS&DL Recommended 10th grade English with a grade of "B/C" both semesters

The aim of the course is to make the students become productive in Excel (and Google sheets) and MS database and by extension MS Office. Microsoft Excel is one of the most widely used programs for organizing information and data using spreadsheets. We use Excel and Google sheets to analyze data, create reports, prepare charts & presentations, do calculations and meaningfully comprehend data. Whereas MS Database, is strictly a database; the general idea behind a database that a database is designed to act as an "intelligent" \* electronic filing cabinet that allows you to easily and quickly use the data-sort it, create reports, merge the data with other documents

#### **Web Design College Prep (CP)**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Grade 9 CS&DL Recommended 10th grade English with a grade of "B/C" both semesters

The Web Design & Development curriculum is an introduction to the design, creation, and maintenance of web pages and websites. Students learn how to critically evaluate website quality, learn how to create and maintain quality web pages, learn about web design standards and why they're important, and learn to create and manipulate images. The course progresses from introductory work on web design to a culminating project in which students design and develop their own commercial

quality websites using the skills they have gained on the course. The course also teaches students 21st century collaboration and planning skills.

### **Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Prerequisite:* Grade 9 CS&DL, Recommended 10th grade English with a grade of "B/C" both semesters + interview with teacher

AP Computer Science Principles(CSP)curriculum is a full year, rigorous, entry level course that introduces high school students to the foundations of modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing.

Computing affects almost all aspects of modern life and all students deserve a computing education that prepares them to pursue the wide array of intellectual and career opportunities that computing has made possible. This course is not a tour of current events and technologies. Rather, this course seeks to provide students with a "future proof" foundation in computing principles so that they are adequately prepared with both the knowledge and skills to live and meaningfully participate in our increasingly digital society, economy, and culture.

#### ➤ **Other Electives**

### **Design and Technology 1**

*Grade Level:* 11-12

*Prerequisite:* Motivated and curious students willing to work in a challenging and collaborative environment.

This unique course offers an alternative approach to education in the classroom. This is a one-year introductory course in which students will have the opportunity to learn new lifetime skills in the area of Woodworking, Metal Works, MMA welding, and Pottery. Students will be required to design, revise and complete various projects throughout the year. There will be some complicated projects that require the additional use of geometry, chemistry, and physics. The first semester students will be required to learn basic carpentry skills using both hand tools and electric machinery. Second semester students will learn how to manipulate, shape, and weld metal. Finally, the course will end with a unit on the Japanese art of Raku pottery.

### **Design and Technology 2**

*Grade Level:* 11-12

*Prerequisite:* Successful completion of Design and Technology 1 (or equivalent)

This course is a continuation of Design and Technology 1. Students who enroll in this course will learn how to refine their skills learned in the first course. They will still be working with both metal and wood. They will be designing and creating projects that are both complicated and challenging in scope. The first semester will focus on woodworking where there will be an emphasis on more advanced joinery techniques. The second semester students will learn how to TIG weld and use the plasma cutter for metal design and fabrication. Then end of the year will also get their chance to try their skills in the reviving discipline of Blacksmithing.

**Electronics**

*Grade Level:* 11-12

*Pre-requisites:* Physical science 1, Grade C or above

This is an introductory course into the practical aspects of electronics. During the course, students will learn the theory behind electronic components, and design, build and test simple circuits, such as alarms for the home, bicycles and personal alarms; timers for and electronic dice, etc. In the second semester you will learn about microprocessors with the aim to design, build, program and test a project of your choice using the Arduino microprocessor.

**Media Studies**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Pre-requisites:* None

Students will learn the history, development, and impact of mass media and communications, including print, photography, film, radio, television, and digital media. The course focuses on communication theories, media systems, structure and ethics, media psychology and the relationship between the media and society. Furthermore, with the knowledge they gain from each unit, students will create their own media for display around the school and the school website. Through working individually and in groups, students will develop their critical thinking skills, analytical thinking skills, creativity, and team work.

**Dance 1**

*Grade Level:* 9-12

*Pre-requisites:* None

Students will learn technique, musicality, strength, body position, and teamwork while dancing to all their favorite music. This is a performance based course where students are required to perform at all High School concerts, Winter Carnival, International Day, Prem Dance Festival, and other events. Throughout this class, students will develop their creativity in movement, athleticism, performance skills, confidence and self-esteem. Students have significant input on the selection of performance pieces and projects.

**Dance 2**

*Grade Level:* 10-12

*Pre-requisites:* Dance 1 (students who want to join but have not taken Dance 1 must test into Dance 2)

Students will continue building on technique, musicality, strength, body position learned in Dance 1. Students will have the opportunity to choose the direction and design of their performance pieces. Each student will lead and manage the choreography and implementation of various performance units throughout the year. Students are required to perform at all High School concerts, Winter Carnival, International Day, Prem Dance Festival, and other events. Throughout this class, students will continue to develop their creativity in movement, athleticism, performance skills, confidence and self-esteem.