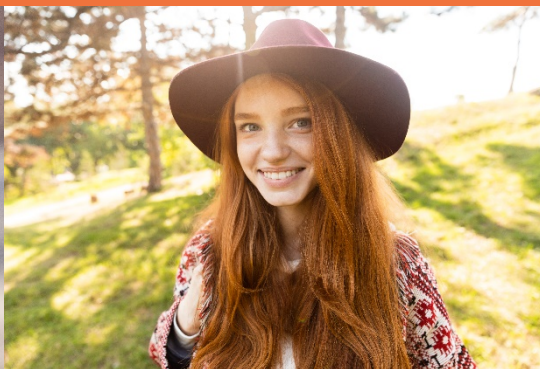




# Apex Learning Virtual School

## Full-Time Academy High School Course Catalog 2020-21



1215 Fourth Avenue Suite 1500  
Seattle, WA 98161

[www.apexlearningvs.com](http://www.apexlearningvs.com)

Phone: 1-855-550-2547

[alvs@apexlearning.com](mailto:alvs@apexlearning.com)

# Welcome from Our Head of School

At Apex Learning® Virtual School, we offer our students a new way to prepare for college, work, and life.

The foundation of our educational program is built on virtual expectations for academic rigor both in our online curriculum and in student interactions with experienced teachers. We've designed our online courses to fully engage students in their learning and school community.

Very important to us is building the important skills and personal qualities that today's students need for success. As we teach and mentor, we always have in mind the goal to develop:

- Confident and responsible scholars
- Independent thinkers
- Creative problem solvers
- Effective communicators and collaborators
- Resilient and adaptive people
- Media literate citizens

Our expert faculty, counselors, and administrators look forward to helping students achieve academically and personally.

We are here to support each student every step of the way.

Sincerely,



**Erica Carlson**

Director of School

Apex Learning Virtual School

# About Our School

## An exceptional, individualized college preparatory education

ALVS offers the academic excellence of the finest private schools combined with all the learning advantages of innovative online education—interacting one-to-one with virtually experienced teachers, collaborating with other engaged students, and enjoying the flexibility of schedule and pace.

## Academic excellence

Our accredited private school provides a challenging 9th- to 12th- grade curriculum, including a wide range of Advanced Placement (AP)\* courses.

## Expert teachers

ALVS teachers have an average of 20 years of teaching experience and share their passion for their subject with each student.

## Respect for each student's originality

Teachers and counselors forge strong relationships with students, fostering each student's unique academic and personal development.

## Engaging, contemporary online learning

Individualized multimedia courses, schedules, and pacing maximize student learning potential and online discussions, clubs, and activities deepen student engagement and provide a sense of belonging to a school community. To learn more, visit [www.apexlearningvs.com](http://www.apexlearningvs.com).

## Accreditation

ALVS is accredited as a full-time virtual school by Cognia (formerly AdvancEd). Accreditation by this respected organization is independent validation that we deliver on our high academic standards and maintain a commitment to continuous improvement.

Our courses are approved by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), and our Advanced Placement (AP)\* courses are approved by the College Board.



Advanced Placement® Courses



Accredited School  
Grades 6-12



Trusted Online  
Course Provider



Official Education  
Partner since 2013

# Diploma Requirements

## Personalized Path to Graduation

Students attending ALVS work with experienced guidance counselors to chart a personalized path of courses and schedules to meet their individual academic goals.

To accommodate a wide diversity of student needs, we offer multiple learning tracks. Students can choose from two educational pathways: General or College Prep. To earn a diploma, students must complete a total of 20-22 credits.

Students in 12th grade are required to complete their entire senior year (full-time at a minimum of 6 credits) with ALVS to earn a diploma. Counselors will closely monitor each student's progress to ensure graduation requirements are met.

Credit Requirements		
Subject	General Diploma	College Prep Diploma
English	4	4
Math	3	4
Science	3	3
Social Studies	3	3
World Language	2	2
Career & Technical Education	1	1
Electives	4	4
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>

# Grading Scale

## Course Grading Scale

Final grades are calculated as a percentage: Points earned on divided by Points possible for all activities in the course.

Final grade percentages are converted to a letter grade according to the ALVS grading scale.

ALVS Grading Scale	
Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	0-59

# Courses

Confidently meet the requirements for credit-bearing courses for both original credit and credit recovery with standards-based digital curriculum.

English		
	Core	Honors
English 6	✓	
English 7	✓	
English 8	✓	
English 9	✓	✓
English 10	✓	✓
English 11	✓	✓
English 12	✓	✓
Creative Writing *	✓	
Media Literacy *	✓	
Reading Skills and Strategies *	✓	
Writing Skills and Strategies *	✓	

Science		
	Core	Honors
Science 6	✓	
Science 7	✓	
Science 8	✓	
MS Physical Science	✓	
MS Life Science	✓	
MS Earth and Space Science	✓	
Earth Science <b>U</b>	✓	
Environmental Science	✓	
Physical Science <b>U</b>	✓	
Biology	✓	✓
Chemistry	✓	✓
Physics	✓	✓
The Living Earth	✓	
Chemistry in the Earth System	✓	
Physics of the Universe	✓	

Additional Electives		
College and Career Preparation I *		
College and Career Preparation II *		
Art Appreciation *		
Music Appreciation		
Physical Education *		
Health *		

Math		
	Core	Honors
Math 6	✓	
Math 7	✓	
Math 8	✓	
Algebra I	✓	✓
Geometry	✓	✓
Algebra II <b>U</b>	✓	✓
Mathematics I	✓	
Mathematics II	✓	
Mathematics III	✓	
Precalculus	✓	✓
Introductory Algebra	✓	
Financial Literacy *	✓	
Mathematics of Personal Finance	✓	
Probability and Statistics	✓	
Liberal Arts Mathematics 1	✓	
Liberal Arts Mathematics 2	✓	

Social Studies		
	Core	Honors
MS Contemporary World	✓	
MS World History	✓	
MS U.S. History	✓	
MS Civics	✓	
Geography and World Cultures *	✓	✓
World History	✓	✓
World History to the Renaissance	✓	
Modern World History	✓	
U.S. History	✓	✓
U.S. History to the Civil War * <b>U</b>	✓	
U.S. History since the Civil War <b>U</b>	✓	
U.S. Government and Politics *	✓	✓
Economics * <b>U</b>	✓	
Multicultural Studies *	✓	
Sociology *	✓	
Psychology*	✓	

CTE–Career and Technical Education		
Accounting I		
Accounting II		
Business Applications *		
Computer Applications *		
Human Resources Principles		
Information Technology Applications *		
Introduction to Business and Technology		
Legal Environment of Business		
Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance		
Principles of Health Science		
Principles of Information Technology		

World Languages		
Spanish I		
Spanish II		
Spanish III		
French I		
French II		
Mandarin Chinese I		
Mandarin Chinese II		
German I		
German II		
Latin I		
Latin II		
MS Spanish 1		
MS Spanish 2		
MS French 1		
MS French 2		
MS Mandarin Chinese 1		
MS Mandarin Chinese 2		
MS Latin 1		
MS Latin 2		
MS German 1		
MS German 2		

Advanced Placement (AP®)		
AP Calculus AB		
AP English Language and Composition		
AP English Literature and Composition		
AP Environmental Science		
AP French Language		
AP Macroeconomics		
AP Microeconomics		
AP Psychology		
AP Spanish Language		
AP Statistics		
AP U.S. Government and Politics		
AP U.S. History		
AP Biology		
AP Chemistry		

**U** Updated  
\* One semester

## Required Courses (4 credits)

### English 9

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[English 9 Core Syllabus](#)

[English 9 Honors Syllabus](#)

The English 9 course is an overview of exemplar selections of literature in fiction and nonfiction genres. Students read short stories, poems, a full-length novel, and a full-length Shakespeare play, analyzing the use of elements of literature in developing character, plot, and theme.

### English 10

**Prerequisite:** English I

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[English 10 Core Syllabus](#)

[English 10 Honors Syllabus](#)

The focus of the English 10 course is the writing process. Three writing applications guide the curriculum: persuasive, expository, and narrative writing. Each lesson culminates in a written assignment that lets students demonstrate their developing skill in one of these applications.

### English 11

**Prerequisite:** English II

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[English 11 Core Syllabus](#)

[English 11 Honors Syllabus](#)

In the English 11 course, students examine the belief systems, events, and literature that have shaped the United States. In this course, students analyze a wide range of literature, both fiction and nonfiction. They build writing skills by composing analytical essays, persuasive essays, personal narratives, and research papers. In order to develop speaking and listening skills, students participate in discussions and prepare speeches. Overall, students gain an understanding of the way American literature represents the array of voices contributing to our multicultural identity.

### English 12

**Prerequisite:** English II

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[English 12 Core Syllabus](#)

[English 12 Honors Syllabus](#)

The English 12 course asks students to closely analyze world literature and consider how we humans define and interact with the unknown, the monstrous, and the heroic. In the epic poems *The Odyssey*, *Beowulf*, and *The Inferno*, in Shakespeare's *Tempest*, in the satire of Swift, and in the rhetoric of World War II, students examine how the ideas of "heroic" and "monstrous" have been defined across cultures and time periods and how the treatment of the "other" can make monsters or heroes of us all.

## Elective Courses

### Creative Writing

**Prerequisite:** English I

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Creative Writing Syllabus](#)

Creative Writing is an English elective course that focuses on the exploration of short fiction and poetry, culminating in a written portfolio that includes one revised short story and three to five polished poems. Students draft, revise, and polish fiction and poetry through writing exercises, developing familiarity with literary terms and facility with the writing process as they study elements of creative writing.

### Media Literacy

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Media Literacy Syllabus](#)

Media Literacy teaches students how to build the critical thinking, writing, and reading skills required in a media-rich and increasingly techno-centric world. In a world saturated with media messages, digital environments, and social networking, concepts of literacy must expand to include all forms of media. Today's students need to be able to read, comprehend, analyze, and respond to non-traditional media with the same skill level they engage with traditional print sources.

### Reading Skills and Strategies

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Reading Skills and Strategies Syllabus](#)

Reading Skills and Strategies is a course designed to help the struggling reader develop mastery in the areas of reading comprehension, vocabulary building, study skills, and media literacy, which are the course's primary content strands. Using these strands, the course guides the student through the skills necessary to be successful in the academic world and beyond.

### Writing Skills and Strategies

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Writing Skills and Strategies Syllabus](#)

Writing Skills and Strategies develops key language arts skills necessary for high school graduation and success on high stakes exams through a semester of interactive instruction and guided practice in composition fundamentals.

# Mathematics

## Required Courses (3-4 credits)

### Algebra I

**Prerequisite:** Introductory or Pre-Algebra

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Algebra I Core Syllabus](#)

[Algebra I Honors Syllabus](#)

Algebra I builds students' command of linear, quadratic, and exponential relationships. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

### Algebra II

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Algebra II Core Syllabus](#)

[Algebra II Honors Syllabus](#)

Algebra II introduces students to advanced functions, with a focus on developing a strong conceptual grasp of the expressions that define those functions. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

### Geometry

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I or equivalent

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Geometry Core Syllabus](#)

[Geometry Honors Syllabus](#)

Geometry builds upon students' command of geometric relationships and formulating mathematical arguments. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

## Elective Courses

### Mathematics of Personal Finance

**Prerequisites:** Algebra I and Geometry or their equivalents

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Mathematics of Personal Finance Syllabus](#)

Mathematics of Personal Finance focuses on real-world financial literacy, personal finance, and business subjects. Students apply what they learned in Algebra I and Geometry to topics including personal income, taxes, checking and savings accounts, credit, loans and payments, car leasing and purchasing, home mortgages, stocks, insurance, and retirement planning.

### Precalculus

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of two years of Algebra and one year of Geometry

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Precalculus Core Syllabus](#)

[Precalculus Honors Syllabus](#)

Precalculus is a course that combines reviews of algebra, geometry, and functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The course focuses on the mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses.

### Probability and Statistics

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Probability and Statistics Syllabus](#)

Probability and Statistics provides a curriculum focused on understanding key data analysis and probabilistic concepts, calculations, and relevance to real-world applications. Students are challenged to work toward mastery of computational skills, apply calculators and other technology in data analysis, deepen their understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and extend their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications.

### Financial Literacy

**Prerequisite:** Introductory Algebra or Equivalent

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Financial Literacy Syllabus](#)

Financial Literacy helps students recognize and develop vital skills that connect life and career goals with personalized strategies and milestone-based action plans. Students explore concepts and work toward a mastery of personal finance skills, deepening their understanding of key ideas and extending their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications.



## Elective Courses

### Introductory Algebra

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Introductory Algebra Syllabus](#)

Introductory Algebra provides a curriculum focused on foundational concepts that prepare students for success in Algebra I. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice"-based exploration of basic concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications.

### Liberal Arts Mathematics I

**Prerequisite:** Introductory Algebra

**Length:** Two Semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Liberal Arts Mathematics I Syllabus](#)

Liberal Arts Mathematics I addresses the need for an elective course that focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Mathematics I starts with a review of problem-solving skills before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, and statistical concepts. Throughout the course, students hone their computational skills and extend their knowledge through problem solving and real-world applications.

### Liberal Arts Mathematics II

**Prerequisite:** Liberal Arts Mathematics I

**Length:** Two Semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Liberal Arts Mathematics 2 Syllabus](#)

Liberal Arts Mathematics 2 addresses the need for a course that meets graduation requirements and focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Mathematics 2 starts with a review of algebraic concepts before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, statistical and probability concepts. Throughout the course, students hone their computational skills and extend their knowledge through problem solving and real-world applications.

### Mathematics I

**Prerequisite:** Introductory or Pre-Algebra

**Length:** Two Semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Mathematics I Syllabus](#)

Mathematics I builds students' command of geometric knowledge and linear and exponential relationships. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

### Mathematics II

**Prerequisite:** Mathematics I

**Length:** Two Semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Mathematics II Syllabus](#)

Mathematics II extends students' geometric knowledge and introduces them to quadratic expressions, equations, and functions, exploring the relationship between these and their linear and exponential counterparts. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

### Mathematics III

**Prerequisite:** Mathematics I & II

**Length:** Two Semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Mathematics III Syllabus](#)

Mathematics III incorporates advanced functions, trigonometry, and probability and statistics as students synthesize their prior knowledge and solve increasingly challenging problems. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

## Required Courses (3 credits)

### Physical Science

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Physical Science Syllabus](#)

Physical Science offers a focused curriculum designed around the understanding of foundational physical science concepts, including the nature of matter, energy, and forces, as well as the application of scientific and engineering practices.

### Biology

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Biology Core Syllabus](#)

[Biology Honors Syllabus](#)

Biology focuses on the mastery of basic biological concepts and models. Students build scientific inquiry skills and explore connections between living things and their environment.

### Chemistry

**Prerequisites:** A physical science course and one year of Algebra

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Chemistry Core Syllabus](#)

[Chemistry Honors Syllabus](#)

Chemistry offers a curriculum that emphasizes students' understanding of fundamental chemistry concepts while helping them acquire tools to be conversant in a society highly influenced by science and technology.

## Elective Courses

### Earth Science

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Earth Science Core Syllabus](#)

[Earth Science Honors Syllabus](#)

Earth Science offers a focused curriculum that explores Earth's composition, structure, processes, and history; its atmosphere, freshwater, and oceans; and its environment in space. Course topics include an exploration of the major cycles that affect every aspect of life.

### The Living Earth

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[The Living Earth Syllabus](#)

The Living Earth integrates biology with Earth and space science. Throughout the course, students apply fundamental biological concepts to better understand how living systems and Earth's systems are interrelated and interdependent.

## Elective Courses

### Environmental Science

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Environmental Science Syllabus](#)

Environmental Science explores the biological, physical, and sociological principles related to the environment in which organisms live on Earth, the biosphere. Course topics include natural systems on Earth, biogeochemical cycles, the nature of matter and energy, the flow of matter and energy through living systems, populations, communities, ecosystems, ecological pyramids, renewable and non-renewable natural resources, land use, biodiversity, pollution, conservation, sustainability, and human impacts on the environment.

### Physics

**Prerequisite:** One year of Algebra (two years recommended)

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Physics Core Syllabus](#)

[Physics Honors Syllabus](#)

Physics offers a curriculum that emphasizes students' understanding of fundamental physics concepts while helping them acquire tools to be conversant in a society highly influenced by science and technology.

### Chemistry in the Earth System

**Prerequisite:** Middle school/junior high Physical Science, and one year of Algebra

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Chemistry in the Earth System Syllabus](#)

Chemistry in the Earth System integrates chemistry with biology and Earth science. Throughout the course, students apply fundamental chemistry concepts to better understand how matter and energy interact in the natural and designed world, how human activities impact Earth's systems, and how science can be used to develop new technologies and engineering solutions.

### Physics of the Universe

**Prerequisite:** One year of Algebra (two years recommended)

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Physics of the Universe Syllabus](#)

Physics of the Universe integrates physics with Earth and space science. Throughout the course, students apply fundamental physics concepts to better understand the impact of human activities on Earth's systems and how forces, energy, and matter interact throughout the universe.

## Required Courses (3 credits)

### World History

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[World History Core Syllabus](#)

[World History Honors Syllabus](#)

In World History, students learn to see the world today as a product of a process that began thousands of years ago when humans became a speaking, travelling, and trading species. Through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, case studies, and research, students investigate the continuity and change of human culture, governments, economic systems, and social structures.

### U.S. History

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[US History Core Syllabus](#)

[US History Honors Syllabus](#)

U.S. History traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the present. Students learn about the Native American, European, and African people who lived in America before it became the United States. They examine the beliefs and philosophies that informed the American Revolution and the subsequent formation of the government and political system.

### U.S. Government and Politics

**Prerequisite:** U.S. History is recommended, but not required

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[U.S. Government and Politics Core Syllabus](#)

[U.S. Government and Politics Honors Syllabus](#)

In U.S. Government and Politics, students examine the history, principles, and function of the political system established by the U.S. Constitution. Starting with a basic introduction to the role of government in society and the philosophies at the heart of American democracy, this course provides students with the knowledge needed to be informed and empowered participants in the U.S. political system.

### Economics

**Prerequisite:** U.S. Government and Politics is recommended, but not required

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Economics Syllabus](#)

Economics is designed to fall in the fourth year of social studies instruction. Students establish mastery of key economic principles through a scaffolded series of analytic written assignments and lesson tests. They also apply basic mathematics to economic concepts.

## Elective Courses

### Geography and World Cultures

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Geography and World Cultures Core Syllabus](#)

[Geography and World Cultures Honors Syllabus](#)

Geography and World Cultures offers a tightly focused and scaffolded curriculum that enables students to explore how geographic features, human relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts have developed and influenced life in countries around the world. Students are given rigorous instruction on how to read and create maps, charts, and graphs.

### Multicultural Studies

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Multicultural Studies Syllabus](#)

Multicultural Studies is a one-semester elective history and sociology course that examines the United States as a multicultural nation. The course emphasizes the perspectives of minority groups while allowing students from all backgrounds to better understand and appreciate how race, culture and ethnicity, and identity contribute to their experiences.

### Psychology

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Psychology Syllabus](#)

Psychology provides a solid overview of the field's major domains: methods, biopsychology, cognitive and developmental psychology, and variations in individual and group behavior.

### Sociology

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Sociology Syllabus](#)

Sociology examines why people think and behave as they do in relationships, groups, institutions, and societies. Major course topics include individual and group identity, social structures and institutions, social change, social stratification, social dynamics in recent and current events, the effects of social change on individuals, and the research methods used by social scientists.

## Elective Courses

### World History to the Renaissance

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[World History to the Renaissance Core Syllabus](#)

[World History to the Renaissance Honors Syllabus](#)

World History to the Renaissance traces the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to the Renaissance. The course covers major themes in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economic systems, major religions and belief systems, science and technology, and the arts.

### Modern World History from 1450

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Modern World History from 1450 Syllabus](#)

In Modern World History from 1450, students study the major turning points that shaped the modern world including the expansion of Islamic and Asian empires, transoceanic exploration, the Atlantic slave trade, the Enlightenment, industrialization, imperialism, nationalism, political revolutions, the world wars, the Cold War, decolonization, and globalization. By presenting content from multiple perspectives and through diverse primary and secondary source materials, this course not only provides students with a solid foundation in the history of the modern era, but it also prepares students to be active and informed citizens of the world.

### Modern World History from 1600

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Modern World History Since 1600 Syllabus](#)

In Modern World History from 1600, students study the major turning points that shaped the modern world including the Enlightenment, industrialization, imperialism, nationalism, political revolutions, the world wars, the Cold War, decolonization, and globalization. By presenting content from multiple perspectives and through diverse primary and secondary source materials, this course provides students with a solid foundation in the history of the modern era and prepares students to be active and informed citizens of the world.

### U.S. History to the Civil War

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[U.S. History to the Civil War Syllabus](#)

This course traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the end of the American Civil War. It emphasizes the colonial period and the creation of a new nation and examines the beliefs and philosophies that informed the American Revolution and the subsequent formation of the government and political system.

### U.S. History since the Civil War

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[U.S. History Since the Civil War Core Syllabus](#)

[U.S. History Since the Civil War Honors Syllabus](#)

This course traces the nation's history from the end of the Civil War to the present. It describes the emergence of the United States as an industrial nation, highlighting social policy as well as its role in modern world affairs.

## Required Courses (choose 2 credits)

### Spanish I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[Spanish I Syllabus](#)

Spanish I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as home life, occupations, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises.

### Spanish II

**Prerequisites:** Spanish I or the equivalent

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[Spanish II Syllabus](#)

Building on Spanish I concepts, Spanish II students learn to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives - both in formal and informal situations. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises.

### Spanish III

**Prerequisites:** Spanish I and II (or equivalent)

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[Spanish III Syllabus](#)

In Spanish III, students build upon the skills and knowledge they acquired in Spanish I and II. The course presents new vocabulary and grammatical concepts in context while providing students with ample opportunities to review and expand upon the material they have learned previously.

### French I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[French I Syllabus](#)

French I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as sports, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises.

### French II

**Prerequisite:** French I or equivalent

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[French II Syllabus](#)

French II teaches students to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives - both in formal and informal address. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises.

### German I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[German I Syllabus](#)

Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, interactive cultural presentations and task-based activities to reinforce vocabulary and grammar.

### German II

**Prerequisite:** German I or equivalent

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[German II Syllabus](#)

Students continue their study of German by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts in this course that is conducted almost entirely in German by the second semester. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also are able to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing.

### Latin I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[Latin I Syllabus](#)

Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin.

### Latin II

**Prerequisite:** Latin I or equivalent

**Length:** Two semesters     **Credits:** 1.0

[Latin II Syllabus](#)

Students continue with their study of Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, prepare students for a deeper study of Latin.

# World Languages

## Required Courses (choose 2 credits)

### Mandarin Chinese I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Mandarin Chinese I Syllabus](#)

Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, interactive cultural presentations and task-based activities to reinforce vocabulary and grammar.

### Mandarin Chinese II

**Prerequisite:** Mandarin Chinese I or equivalent

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Mandarin Chinese II Syllabus](#)

Students continue their study of Mandarin Chinese by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also are able to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing.

# Electives & Career and Technical Education

## Required Courses (choose 5 credits)

### Art Appreciation

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[Art Appreciation Syllabus](#)

Art Appreciation is a survey of the history of Western visual arts, with a primary focus on painting. Students begin with an introduction to the basic principles of painting and learn how to critique and compare works of art. Students then explore prehistoric and early Greek and Roman art before they move on to the Middle Ages. Emphasis is placed on the Renaissance and the principles and masters that emerged in Italy and northern Europe. Students continue their art tour with the United States during the 20th century, a time of great innovation as abstract art took center stage.

### Music Appreciation

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters      **Credits:** 0.5

[Music Appreciation Syllabus](#)

Music Appreciation introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music, from the most primitive surviving examples through the classical to the most contemporary in the world at large. The course is offered in a two-semester format. The first semester covers primitive musical forms and classical music. The second semester presents the rich modern traditions, including American jazz, gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop.

### Physical Education

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[Physical Education Syllabus](#)

Physical Education combines the best of online instruction with actual student participation in weekly cardiovascular, aerobic, and muscle toning activities. The course promotes a keen understanding of the value of physical fitness and aims to motivate students to participate in physical activities throughout their lives.

### Health

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[Health Syllabus](#)

Health is a valuable, skills-based health education course designed for general education in grades 9 through 12. Health helps students develop knowledge, attitudes, and essential skills in a variety of health-related subjects, including mental and emotional health, social health, nutrition, physical fitness, substance use and abuse, disease prevention and treatment, and injury prevention and safety.

### College and Career Preparation I

**Prerequisites:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[College and Career Preparation I Syllabus](#)

In College and Career Preparation I, students obtain a deeper understanding of what it means to be ready for college. Students are informed about the importance of high school performance in college admissions and how to prepare for college testing. They know the types of schools and degrees they may choose to pursue after high school and gain wide exposure to the financial resources available that make college attainable.

### College and Career Preparation II

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[College and Career Preparation II Syllabus](#)

College and Career Preparation II builds on the lessons and skills in College and Career Preparation I. The course provides a step-by-step guide to choosing a college. It walks students through the process of filling out an application, including opportunities to practice, and takes an in-depth look at the various college-admission tests and assessments, as well financial aid options.

### Business Applications

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[Business Applications Syllabus](#)

Business Applications prepares students to succeed in the workplace. Students begin by establishing an awareness of the roles essential to an organization's success, and then work to develop an understanding of professional communications and leadership skills. In doing so, students gain proficiency with word processing, email, and presentation management software.

### Computer Applications

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester      **Credits:** 0.5

[Computer Applications Syllabus](#)

Computer Applications provides an introduction to software applications that prepares students to succeed in the workplace and beyond. Students will develop an understanding of professional communications and leadership skills while gaining proficiency with word processing, email, and presentation management software. Students will also be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study web publishing and design, spreadsheets and database software.

# Electives & Career and Technical Education

## Required Courses (choose 5 credits)

### Accounting I

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Accounting I Syllabus](#)

Accounting I examines how to make decisions about planning, organizing, and allocating resources using accounting procedures. Throughout the course, students focus on double-entry accounting; methods and principles of recording business transactions; the preparation of various documents used in recording revenues, expenses, assets, and liabilities; and the prep of financial statements.

### Accounting II

**Prerequisite:** Accounting I

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Accounting II Syllabus](#)

Accounting II builds on the foundation acquired in Accounting I, allowing students to extend their skills and knowledge in the subject. The course focuses on various managerial, financial, and operational accounting activities that require the formulation, interpretation, and communication of financial information for use in management decision making. Students will use equations, graphical representations, accounting tools, spreadsheet software, and accounting systems in real-world situations to maintain, monitor, and plan the use of financial resources.

### Introduction to Business and Technology

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Introduction to Business and Technology Syllabus](#)

Introduction to Business and Technology provides the foundational knowledge and skills students need for careers in business and technology. Throughout the course, students gain a knowledge of business principles and communication skills, an understanding of the impact of financial and marketing decisions, and proficiency in the technologies required by business.

### Information Technology Applications

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Information Technology Applications Syllabus](#)

Information Technology Applications prepares students to work in the field of Information Technology. Students will be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study of computer hardware, operating systems, networking, the Internet, web publishing, spreadsheets and database software. Through a series of hand-on activities, students will learn what to expect in the field of Information Technology and begin exploring career options in the field.

### Human Resource Principles

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Human Resource Principles Syllabus](#)

Human Resources Principles examines the main functions of human resources management, including planning, recruitment, selection, training, development, compensation, and evaluation. In so doing, the course provides students with the tools to hire, manage, and fire employees.

### Legal Environment of Business

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Legal Environment of Business Syllabus](#)

Legal Environment of Business examines the role of the law on all aspects of business ownership and management. Throughout the course, students focus on legal ethics, court procedures, torts, contracts, consumer law, property law, employment law, environmental law, and international law.

### Principles of Information Technology

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[Principles of Information Technology Syllabus](#)

Principles of Information Technology prepares students to succeed in the workplace. Students learn about the roles essential to an organization's success. Students gain proficiency with word processing, email, and presentations.

### Principles of Health Science

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Principles of Health Science Syllabus](#)

Principles of Health Science provides knowledge and skills students need for careers in health care. Students explore the services, structure, and professions of the health care system and get guidance on choosing a specific career path in health services, including career paths in emergency medicine, nutrition, and alternative medicine.

### Principles of Business, Marketing, & Finance

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[Principles of Business, Marketing, & Finance Syllabus](#)

Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance provides the knowledge and skills students need for careers in business and marketing. Students begin exploring roles and functions that business and marketing play in a global society, develop an understanding of the marketplace, as well as understanding product placement and promotion.



## English

### AP® English Language and Composition

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP English Language and Composition Syllabus](#)

In AP English Language and Composition, students investigate rhetoric and its impact on culture through analysis of notable fiction and nonfiction texts, from pamphlets to speeches to personal essays. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in communications, creative writing, journalism, literature, and composition.

### AP® English Literature and Composition

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP English Literature and Composition Syllabus](#)

AP English Literature and Composition immerses students in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students will read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and class discussions to assess and improve their skills and knowledge. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices.

## Math

### AP® Calculus AB

**Prerequisites:** Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Calculus AB Syllabus](#)

In AP Calculus AB, students learn to understand change geometrically and visually (by studying graphs of curves), analytically (by studying and working with mathematical formulas), numerically (by seeing patterns in sets of numbers), and verbally. Instead of simply getting the right answer, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions and to apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models.

### AP® Statistics

**Prerequisites:** Algebra II or Math Analysis

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Statistics Syllabus](#)

Advanced Placement Statistics gives students hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting real-world data. They will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real

research examples taken from daily life.

## Science

### AP® Biology

**Prerequisites:** Biology

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Biology Syllabus](#)

AP Biology builds students' understanding of biology on both the micro and macro scales. After studying cell biology, students move on to understand how evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. Students will examine how living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information and how organisms utilize free energy.

### AP® Chemistry

**Prerequisites:** Chemistry

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Chemistry Syllabus](#)

AP Chemistry builds students' understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying chemical reactions and electrochemistry, students move on to understand how the chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and arrangements of the molecules and the forces between those molecules. Students will examine the laws of thermodynamics, molecular collisions, and the reorganization of matter in order to understand how changes in matter take place. Finally, students will explore chemical equilibria, including acid-base equilibria.

### AP® Psychology

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Psychology Syllabus](#)

AP Psychology provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. Students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal human reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection.

### AP® Environmental Science

**Prerequisite:** Two years of high school laboratory science (one year of life science and one year of physical science), and one year of algebra

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Environmental Science Syllabus](#)

AP\* Environmental Science provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The course draws upon various disciplines, including geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography in order to explore a variety of environmental topics.



## Social Studies

### AP® Macroeconomics

**Prerequisites:** Algebra II (or Math Analysis)

Length: One semester    Credits: 0.5

[AP Macroeconomics Syllabus](#)

AP Macroeconomics students learn why and how the world economy can change from month to month, how to identify trends in our economy, and how to use those trends to develop performance measures and predictors of economic growth or decline. They'll also examine how individuals, institutions, and influences affect people, and how those factors can impact everyone's life through employment rates, government spending, inflation, taxes, and production.

### AP® Microeconomics

**Prerequisites:** Algebra I

**Length:** One semester    **Credits:** 0.5

[AP Microeconomics Syllabus](#)

Advanced Placement Microeconomics studies the behavior of individuals and businesses as they exchange goods and services in the marketplace. Microeconomics studies the economic way of thinking, understanding the nature and function of markets, the role of scarcity and competition, the influence of factors such as interest rates on business decisions, and the role of government in promoting a healthy economy.

### AP® U.S. Government and Politics

**Prerequisites:** U.S. History

Length: One semester    Credits: 0.5

[AP U.S. Government and Politics Syllabus](#)

AP U.S. Government and Politics studies the operations and structure of the U.S. government and the behavior of the electorate and politicians. Students will gain the analytic perspective necessary to critically evaluate political data, hypotheses, concepts, opinions, and processes.

### AP® U.S. History

Prerequisite: None

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP U.S. History Syllabus](#)

In AP U.S. History, students investigate the development of American economics, politics, and culture through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, research, and writing. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law.

## World Languages

### AP® Spanish Language

**Prerequisites:** 3–4 years of Spanish or equivalent native fluency

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP Spanish Language Syllabus](#)

AP Spanish Language and Culture students practice perfecting their Spanish speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. They study vocabulary, grammar, and cultural aspects of the language, and then apply what they learn in extensive written and spoken exercises. The course addresses the broad themes of Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics.

### AP® French Language

**Prerequisites:** 3–4 years of French or equivalent native fluency

**Length:** Two semesters    **Credits:** 1.0

[AP French Language Syllabus](#)

Our online AP French Language course is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical and communicative skills. The AP French Language course prepares them for the AP French exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century.

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