

Beacon Academy of Nevada



Course Catalog

2011-2012

Advanced Placement Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition	2	English	For a year, participate in an AP upscale dining experience in the AP Literature and Composition course. Students act as food critics of exquisite literary cuisine. Menu items include reading, analyzing, writing, rewriting, and discussing creations by the master chefs, renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this dining experience equips students with recipes for success in college, in a career and the AP exam.
Advanced Placement Biology	2	Science	This challenging course is designed to provide a college-level experience and prepare students for the AP exam in early May. Over two semesters, the students are engaged in a wide variety of activities, with substantial emphasis on interpreting and collecting data in virtual labs, writing analytical essays and mastering Biology concepts and connections. The key themes of the AP Biology course are: the scientific processes, the affects of science on technology and society, the chemistry and make up of living organisms, genetics, diversity, and evolution. Throughout this course you will be expected to answer questions, reflect on issues and complete lab activities. The primary emphasis is to develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms and technical details. The course will successfully prepare you for the AP Exam in May.
Advanced Placement U.S. History	2	Social Studies	Over two 18 week semesters, the students are engaged in a wide variety of activities, with substantial emphasis on interpreting documents, writing analytical essays, and mastering factual content. Woven into the chronology of the course are the key themes of American History. Issues of American identity, diversity, religion and culture are examined. Economic transformations, the development of politic institutions and reform movements are evaluated. War, slavery, and demographic changes are assessed. Globalization and environmental issues are analyzed. These themes appear consistently in the course as the student journeys through broader course topics such as colonial and antebellum life, civil war and reconstruction, the gilded age and on to modern America.
Advanced Placement U.S. Government	1	Social Studies	"Lights, Camera, Action" ...Prepare to study the intricacies of the American Political Culture. The script is written and the actors participate daily in the drama of American politics. You will be "on location" to delve into primary source documents. You will go behind the scenes with stars such as the President, Congress people, and Supreme Court Justices. You will research the roles of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. Finally, you will witness the large- scale production of policy building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration.
Advanced Placement Art History	2	Elective	This course is designed to provide college-level instruction in art history and prepare students for the AP exam in early May. This course is divided into two 18 week semesters during which the students will examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present and from a variety of cultures. Students will learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience.

*The Advanced Placement courses are college level classes. Recommended minimum grade level to take Advanced Placement courses is 11th grade. If a qualifying score is received on the spring exam, participating colleges may offer credit or waive requirement for equivalent courses.

*Students must take the Advanced Placement Exam during second semester in order to receive Advanced Placement credit. There is a fee for the exam. Students who do not take the Advanced Placement Exam will be awarded Honors level credit.

**Students must register to take the Advanced Placement Exam no later than March 1st of their second semester. For more information about Advanced Placement classes please go to:
<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>

English Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
English 1 & Honors	2	English	What can you see? Somebody (your teacher) really wants to know. This is one course in which what you see and what you say really matters. No two people experience books, plays, or community events in exactly the same way, and no two people describe their experiences with the same words. How clearly can you see what is happening before you? How compellingly can you describe what you saw to others? In this course, you will find out. Great books, short stories, poems and plays convey messages and feelings that make them great. In this course, you will learn how to look for the message. You will learn how to trust your feelings about that message. And you will learn how to express clearly and convincingly what you think. The purpose of this course is to give you the tools to see and hear with real understanding, and to communicate with real conviction.
English 2 & Honors	2	English	Join us in English II to see how the human experience – real life, your life – is the foundation of the best stories, plays, poems, films, and articles. In each unit of the course, we explore a specific aspect of the human experience such as Laughter, Obstacles, Betrayal, Fear, and Transformation. Through the study of literature, nonfiction, and life, we will explore what it means to be human, what it means to be fulfilled, triumphant, empowered, and transformed. As in life, you have many choices in your English II course. You get to choose the order in which you complete the units. You also choose some of the works that you read, and you have countless choices when it comes to demonstrating what you have learned. Whether you are reading a poem or a novel, writing a story or an analysis, or studying a Shakespearean tragedy or a modern suspense film, you will be exploring what it means to be human, a subject on which you are already an
English 3 & Honors	2	English	“Extra, extra, read all about it!” It’s all right here in black and white, in the pages of The Virtual Times newspaper. Published at key periods in our American history, The Virtual Times takes us right into the action. The writing is clear and concise. The stories and opinions give us perspective. The sports and entertainment sections give us the color and flavor of the times. In English III, the writing and insights of authors throughout our history are collected in the fast-paced pages of The Virtual Times. You’ll gain an appreciation of American literature and the ways it reflects the times in which it was written. You’ll discover how people thought and lived and wrote about their experiences. You’ll also be asked to observe, investigate and report on stories of today. The goal is to be thorough, accurate and compelling in your writing. Perhaps in times to come, people will want to read what you thought and wrote.
English 4 & Honors	2	English	Come explore the world of big ideas in English IV, where you are able to choose which path you will travel first as you explore highly-engaging, thematic units. Each path will guide you through a series of literary pieces that allow you to analyze the political, social, economic, and cultural messages of its time as well as its relevance to the world you live in today. Each path revolves around a central theme. The works in the course span a period of over 1000 years and have been written by authors who share common ideas, but employ a variety of literary genres to express their views. Whether it is the dramatic ending of a play, or the colorful images in a verse of poetry, the words of these authors will leave you with a new understanding of the world around you. As you travel down each path, you will create authentic work pieces that will engage you in higher-level learning and provide you with a greater understanding of literature and its connection to the world.
Journalism	2	English Elective	Understanding the role of the free press in America helps us to be better informed and more able to analyze media. In this course, you will explore the history of journalism in the United States from its inception in the colonies and its key role in the first amendment, all the way up to present day issues regarding “right to know” and the changing landscape of journalistic media in the 21st century. You will acquire the skills and information needed to actively participate in the consumption, analysis, and creation of news media and will have the opportunity to investigate the constantly evolving career opportunities within the field of journalism. As you work through each module, you will utilize Web 2.0 tools to respond to current news and shifts in journalism, create original projects, and reflect upon the changing face of news. Authentic assessments, interactive examples, and self-checks will deepen your understanding of the topics covered and prepare you for work or further study in the field of journalism.

English Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Beginning Composition	1	English Elective	Beginning Composition, designed as an eighth- or ninth-grade English course, teaches students to use the writing process by exploring and writing in a number of genres. The content is presented through six "Roadstops," where students explore different types of writing-short stories, speeches, some forms of non-Western writing, field reports, essays, and research writing. A variety of short activities prepares students for longer writing projects, and throughout the course, students interact with the teacher and participate in peer review
Reading Comprehension	1	English Elective	In this course, students read from a wide variety of materials to improve their literacy skills and gain an appreciation of a variety of literary genres. They develop a personal plan for increasing word knowledge and for gaining and using effective reading strategies to improve comprehension and learning.
Gothic Literature: Monster Stories	1	English Elective	From vampires to ghosts, these frightening stories have influenced fiction writers since the 18th century. This course will focus on the major themes found in Gothic literature and demonstrate how the core writing drivers produce, for the reader, a thrilling psychological environment. Terror versus horror, the influence of the supernatural, and descriptions of the difference between good and evil are just a few of the themes presented. By the time students have completed this course, they will have gained an understanding of and an appreciation for the complex nature of dark fiction.
Reading For College Success	1	English Elective	How will reading impact your future? How does reading shape the world around us? This course will help you answer that question and prepare you for college and career success. Reading is a vital skill in the information age where we are constantly bombarded with a stream of information. Being able to determine and comprehend the main idea in this constant flow is imperative to success in both the academic world, and in the world of work. Discerning fact from opinion and bias from objectivity will empower you to make better life and work decisions and effective note taking and summarizing will help you achieve your goals in higher education and in the career of your choosing. This course will provide you with the necessary tools to be an active member of a 21st century world where success in reading often equates with success in life.

Math Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Pre-Algebra 1A	1	Math	Pre-algebra 1A is the first semester of a two-semester course designed to teach students fundamental mathematics concepts necessary for studying algebra. Students develop an understanding of integers, expressions, operations, and scientific notation by applying them in practical situations. Students will also learn to solve equations and inequalities, simplify expressions with fractions, and develop an understanding of exponents. The course makes extensive use of interactive multimedia components that combine text, audio, and video, and "Exploring Careers" module provide students with information about math-related careers.
Pre-Algebra 1B	1	Math	Pre-algebra 1B is a continuation of Pre-algebra 1A. This course provides an opportunity for students to learn additional fundamental mathematics concepts using an interactive, problem-based approach. Students develop an understanding of ratios, proportions, and percents; the Cartesian coordinate system, applying algebra to right triangles, and the Pythagorean theorem. Students will also learn about measurement, area, volume, and develop an understanding of statistics, data analysis and probability. Students can interact with their teacher and classmates through topic-driven discussion groups, and by completing application activities, they learn the practical value of the concepts presented in the course.
Algebra 1 & Honors	2	Math	Algebra I is the foundation! The skills you'll acquire in this course contain the basic knowledge you'll need for all your high school math courses. Relax! This stuff is important, but everyone can do it. Everyone can have a good time solving the hundreds of real-world problems that are answered with algebra. Each module in this course is presented in a step-by-step way right on your computer screen. You won't have to stare at the board from the back of a classroom. There are even hands-on labs to make the numbers, graphs and equations more real. It's all tied to real-world applications like sports, travel, business and health. This course is designed to give you the skills and strategies for solving all kinds of mathematical problems. It will also give you the confidence that you can handle everything that high school math has in store for you.
Geometry & Honors	2	Math	One day in 2580 B.C., a very serious architect stood on a dusty desert with a set of plans. His plans called for creating a structure 480 feet, with a square base and triangular sides, using stone blocks weighing two tons each. The Pharaoh wanted the job done right. The better our architect understood geometry, the better were his chances for staying alive. Geometry is everywhere, not just in pyramids. Engineers use geometry to bank highways and build bridges. Artists use geometry to create perspective in their paintings, and mapmakers help travelers find things using the points located on a geometric grid. Throughout this course, we'll take you on a mathematical highway illuminated by spatial relationships, reasoning, connections, and problem solving. This course is all about points, lines and planes. Just as importantly, this course is about acquiring a basic tool for understanding and manipulating the real world around you.
Algebra 2	2	Math	Prepare yourself to explore the exciting world of Algebra Two! This course will allow you to learn while having fun. Interactive examples help guide your journey through customized feedback and praise. Concepts are applied to everyday occurrences such as earthquakes, stadium seating, and purchasing movie tickets. Opportunities are provided for you to work with your peers on specific lessons. Through the use of technology, you will investigate the effects of an equation on its graph. Starting with a review of basic algebra, travel through systems of equations, factoring, radical and quadratic equations in the first segment. In the second segment, you will venture into the realms of polynomial functions, rational equations, exponential and logarithmic relations, landing at sequences and series. Honors students fly one step further by learning about conic sections and will even build a solar cooker! Very impressive! Your instructor will be your guide along this journey and will provide you with timely advice. Algebra II is an advanced course using hands-on activities, applications, group interactions, and the latest technology. Upon completion, you will have the algebra needed for college admission, and be on a fast track to career success!
Pre-Calculus	2	Math	Students, as mathematic analysts, will investigate how advanced mathematics concepts can solve problems encountered in operating national parks. The purpose of this course is to study functions and develop skills necessary for the study of calculus. The pre-calculus course includes analytical geometry and trigonometry

Math Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications	2	Math	Have you ever wondered what to do with money besides spend it? Where should you keep it? What should you spend it on? Have no fear! This course will walk you through the information needed to make the best decision with what you have. Segment one will cover how to save your money, spend it wisely, and deal with debt. You may not be wondering a whole lot about mortgages, investing, or retirement just yet, but the information you learn in segment two will serve as a great jumping off point for your future financial decisions. Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications is an advanced course incorporating real world applications, collaboration, and calculations using technology. Upon completion, you will know the formulas used to determine your account balance, monthly payments, total costs, and more! This knowledge will propel you into the future with a good foundation on how to handle your finances.
Business and Consumer Math	1	Math	In Business and Consumer Math, students are introduced to such everyday life skills as balancing a checkbook, calculating net pay, budgeting expenses, making cost comparisons, buying and renting a home, and finding the cost of operating a motor vehicle. This course aims to guide students in building a strong foundation that will enable good decisions concerning money and finance.
Essential Math 1A and 1B	2	Math	The first semester of Essential Math includes three modules. Students gain a foundational understanding of fractions, decimals, percents, and integers in the first module. The second module focuses on statistics, data analysis, and probability. The third module presents algebra and functions. The final two modules of Essential Math are completed in 1B. Students learn the basics of measurement and geometry with a focus on conversion and solving geometric problems and how geometry relates to everyday life, and the final module expands students' algebra skills.
Liberal Arts Math	2	Math	The total weight of two beluga whales and three orca whales is 36,000 pounds. As you'll see in this course, if given one additional fact, you can determine the weight of each whale. To answer this weighty question, we'll give you all the math tools you'll need. The setting for this course is an amusement park with animals, rides, and games. Your job will be to apply what you learn to dozens of real-world scenarios. Equations, geometric relationships, and statistical probabilities can sometimes be dull, but not in this class! Your park guide (teacher) will take you on a grand tour of problems and puzzles that show how things work and how mathematics provides valuable tools for everyday living. Come reinforce your existing algebra and geometry skills to learn solid skills with the algebraic and geometric concepts you'll need for further study of mathematics. We have an admission ticket with your name on it.
Math Skills Review	1	Math Elective	In this course, students review basic mathematical concepts as they visit the six major areas of the Calculation Carnival. Students refresh their knowledge of problem-solving strategies and the application of basic mathematical concepts in real-world situations. This course is specifically designed for students who need a refresher course in mathematics before entering algebra or another math-related course.

Science Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Earth Science	2	Science	This introductory Earth Science course incorporates the body of knowledge and facts accumulated from people's observations of the Earth around and the skies above them. This observed information of the earth has evolved over centuries into the branch of science known as earth science. Earth science has several different branches of study: the solid earth; the earth's waters; the earth's atmosphere; and the universe beyond earth. Using careful observations and experimentation, students will learn to effectively analyze and evaluate the earth's natural phenomena and their causes, as well as its relationship in the universe by focusing on the four major areas of study.
Earth Space Science & Honors	2	Science	Why did early explorers risk their lives to reach the North Pole? Why does our earth look so beautiful when seen from space? What is really down at the bottom of the ocean? Discovering new things about our earth has been the dream of scientists and explorers for centuries. Today, it is your turn to continue that journey of discovery. Earth/Space Science is a laboratory course focusing on the study of space, and the geologic and atmospheric forces that shape our world. Through experimentation and investigation, students will explore the earth cycles including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere and the carbon cycle. Student will learn about scientific inquiry, geologic time, space exploration, the solar system and the universe. Students will use web 2.0 tools, interactive experiences, higher order thinking, collaborative projects, and real world application through labs and a variety of assessments. Upon completion of the course, students will have a clear understanding of the dynamic forces at work in the world around them, becoming better caretakers of our planet, Earth.
Environmental Science	2	Science	The goal of Environmental Science is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and to identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and human-made. Students will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing problems. Laboratories support student content mastery in both hands-on and virtual experiences.
Physical Science	2	Science	This course is designed as an interactive, 21st century course focusing on basic physics and chemistry. Topics include forces and motion, energy through waves, electricity and magnetism, the matter around us, chemical bonding and reactions. This course is designed to serve as a foundation for the study of the physical sciences. The utilization of scientific inquiry, web 2.0 tools, interactive experiences, higher order thinking, collaborative projects, real world application through labs and a variety of assessments all aid the student in ultimately demonstrating a vast understanding of the importance of the physical and chemical properties of the world around them; enabling them to apply these properties to their everyday lives.
Biology & Honors	2	Science	The Biology course is an in depth look at the fundamental characteristics of living organisms. It is designed to promote scientific inquiry and discovery. The students will be introduced to the structure, function, diversity, and evolution of living matter. This is a course with real relevance. It encourages curiosity and provides opportunity for students to work on hands on lab activities and develop relationships through collaboratively learning. Engaging in the study of biological science broadens the picture of the world around us.
Chemistry	2	Science	This course is designed as an interactive, 21st century course focusing on Chemistry. Topics include the composition, properties, and changes associated with matter and their applications. This course is designed to serve as a foundation for the study of Chemistry. The utilization of scientific inquiry, web 2.0 tools, interactive experiences, higher order thinking, collaborative projects, real world application through labs and a variety of assessments all aid the student in ultimately demonstrating a vast understanding of the importance of Chemistry in the world around them; enabling them to apply these properties to their everyday lives.

Science Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Physics	2	Science	We stand on the shoulders of giants. Whether by observation, experimentation or brilliant insight, the progress of physics through the centuries has been advanced by scientific geniuses who wanted to know how things work. You'll find out for yourself when you take this course and visit "Physics World." In each "Physics World" module, you'll discover the contributions of geniuses like Galileo, Newton and Einstein. In their work, you'll learn the concepts, theories and laws that govern the interaction of matter, energy and forces. From tiny atoms to galaxies with millions of stars, the universal laws of physics are there for you to observe and apply. Using laboratory activities, videos, software, and websites, you'll follow in the footsteps of some of the world's greatest thinkers. This is a serious course that will make you think. It will also make you appreciate the beauty and importance of the science that governs our lives.
Forensic Science I: Secrets of the Dead	1	Science Elective	Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.
Forensic Science II: More Secrets of the Dead	1	Science Elective	Although the crime scene represents the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing that takes place within this setting. We will examine some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined.
Great Minds in Science	1	Science Elective	Is there life on other planets? What extremes can the human body endure? Can we solve the problem of global warming? Today, scientists, explorers, and writers are working to answer all of these questions. Like Edison, Einstein, Curie, and Newton, the scientists of today are asking questions and working on problems that may revolutionize our lives and world. This course focuses on 10 of today's greatest scientific minds. Each unit takes an in-depth look at one of these individuals, and shows how their ideas may help to shape tomorrow's world.
Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals	1	Science Elective	As animals play an increasingly important role in our lives, scientists have sought to learn more about their health and well-being. Taking a look at the pets that live in our homes, on our farms, and in zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, this course will examine some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Toxins, parasites, and infectious diseases impact not only the animals around us, but at times...we humans as well! Through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues is studied and applied.

Social Studies Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
World History & Honors	2	Social Studies	Whether they lived 3,000 years ago or 100 years ago, people are always making history. It does not matter if they lived in medieval Europe or ancient Egypt, the people who came before us are responsible for nearly all that we have today. In this course, you will have the job of “curator” of the Windows of the World Museum. You will be learning about the many wings of the museum and will have the opportunity to speak with your Director about the exhibits. World History gives students the opportunity to visit the past, connect with the present, and look to the future. Join others in the exploration of ancient and modern civilizations, their impact, and their contributions to today's global society. The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand their connections to the development of civilizations by examining the past to prepare for their future as participating members of a global community. Students will use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities to solve problems in academic, civic, social, and employment settings.
World History I: The Dawn of Civilization	1	Social Studies	Why would a man devote years to studying the letters of a long-dead king? Why would a woman spend thousands of hours digging in the mud and ruins of an ancient city? History tells the stories of those who have gone before us...where they traveled, how they lived, their belief systems, and their hopes and dreams. By studying the past, we find out that as one historian has said, “We (truly) are who we have been.”
World History II: Wars & Revolutions	1	Social Studies	War. Economic depression. Genocide. Ethnic cleansing. Human history is filled with devastating tragedies. What causes these horrors? How do they begin? Most important, how can we use what we have learned about these tragedies of the past to ensure that they don't happen again?
American History & Honors	2	Social Studies	American history is full of big questions that grab our attention. In this course, you will look at some of the most profound questions that thoughtful Americans still debate. You will research many important events throughout the history of America. In the process, you will witness the development of America from its first settlers to today's superpower status. Questions about slavery, regulation of business, religious freedom, and how to maintain a stable world order have always been part of the American experiment. Most of the time, the answers are not so simple, but we want to know what you think. To develop your personal beliefs, you will use verified sources, including original documents and the writings of people contemporary with the events. Equally important, this course will challenge you to apply your knowledge and perspective of history to interpret the events of today. The questions raised by history are endlessly fascinating. We look forward to your participation in the debate.
American Government & Honors	1	Social Studies	Responsible citizenship means more than just paying taxes. It means understanding the principles and practices of government. It also means defining your beliefs as to what good government is. In this course, you will take on the role of a Washington D.C. intern and spend time working throughout the nation's capital with all three branches of the government- and beyond. As you progress through the internship you will gain a greater understanding on the history of the country's beginnings, and knowledge of how government functions at the local, state and national levels. The purpose of this course is to help you become an informed and active citizen. In part, the Declaration of Independence asserts that, “Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed.” Make yours an informed consent.
Economics (second half of Government Requirement)	1	Social Studies	Economic decisions affect us every day of our lives. Understanding economics means thinking about how scarcity, or limited resources, requires us to make choices and evaluate one option against others. In this course, you will recognize examples of economics in your daily life. You will see how the economic choices of larger groups, like businesses and governments, affect you and others. As you progress through the course, you will recognize that the costs and benefits of choices connect individuals and groups around the world. The purpose of this course is to help you become a smart consumer who understands the flow of an economy between individuals, businesses, governments, and the rest of the world.

Social Studies Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Global Studies	1	Social Studies Elective	With more than six billion people in the world today, there are a lot of stories to write about. Researching and writing these stories will be your assignment as a new reporter for the Global News Network. In this course, all the stories are big stories. Human rights, the environment, global security, and international economic systems are all part of your beat. The stories also have real human interest because they deal with peoples' customs, cultures, and how they interact. Your job will be to research the facts, and present them with clarity and context. Your job will also involve identifying real global problems, and then suggesting well-developed solutions. This is a course that makes you think. The stories are current and compelling. They need to be told, and the right person to tell them is you.
Personal Psychology I: The Road to Self-Discovery	1	Social Studies Elective	Self-knowledge is the key to self-improvement! More than 800,000 high school students take psychology classes each year. Among the different reasons, there is usually the common theme of self discovery! Sample topics include the study of infancy, childhood, adolescence, perception and states of consciousness. Amazing online psychology experiments dealing with our own personal behavior are featured within this course
Personal Psychology II: Living in a Complex World	1	Social Studies Elective	Enrich the quality of your life by learning to understand the actions of others! Topics include the study of memory, intelligence, emotion, health, stress and personality. This courses features exciting online psychology experiments involving the world around us.
Psychology	1	Social Studies Elective	What do you feel? How do you behave? What are your thoughts? Feelings, actions and thoughts are closely related and in this Psychology course, you will see how! Do you wonder things like why you learn the way you do, how you forget, and what makes you remember? Are you curious about mental disorders and what traditional and non-traditional therapy is all about? If experiments and role plays and dream interpretations sound interesting, then this is the class for you! In this course you will learn more about yourself and others including how to break a habit and how to cope with stress. The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the subfields within psychology.
Social Problems I: A World in Crisis	1	Social Studies Elective	Students will become aware of the challenges faced by social groups, as well as learn about the complex relationship among societies, governments and the individual. Each unit is focused on a particular area of concern, often within a global context. Possible solutions at both the structural level as well as that of the individual will be examined. Students will not only learn more about how social problems affect them personally, but begin to develop the skills necessary to help make a difference in their own lives and communities, not to mention globally.
Social Problems II: Crisis, Conflicts & Challenges	1	Social Studies Elective	The Social Problems II course continues to examine timely social issues affecting individuals and societies around the globe. Students learn about the overall structure of the social problem as well as how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments and the individual.
Sociology I: The Study of Human Relationships	1	Social Studies Elective	The world is becoming more complex. How do your beliefs, values and behavior affect the people around you and the world in which we live? Students will examine social problems in our increasingly connected world, and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.
Sociology II: Your Social Life	1	Social Studies Elective	Sociology is the study of people, social life and society. By developing a "sociological imagination" students will be able to examine how society itself shapes human action and beliefs...and how in turn these factors re-shape society itself! Fascinating online videos journeys will not only inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own.

Social Studies Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Criminology: Inside the Criminal Mind	1	Social Studies Elective	<p>In today's world, crime and deviant behavior rank at or near the top of many people's concerns. In this course, we will study the field of Criminology – the study of crime. We will look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals, but also their misdeeds. Why do some individuals commit crimes why others do not? What aspects in our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Why are different punishments given for the same crime? What factors...from arrest to punishment...help shape the criminal case process?</p>
Law & Order: Introduction to Legal Studies	1	Social Studies Elective	<p>Every society has laws that its citizens must follow. From traffic laws to regulations on how the government operates, laws help provide society with order and structure. Our lives are guided and regulated by our society's legal expectations. Consumer laws help protect us from faulty goods; criminal laws help to protect society from individuals who harm others; and family law handles the arrangements and issues that arise in areas like divorce and child custody. This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society. By understanding the workings of our court system, as well as how laws are actually carried out, we become more informed and responsible citizens in our communities and of our nation.</p>
World Religions: Exploring Diversity	1	Social Studies Elective	<p>Throughout the ages, religions from around the world have shaped the political, social, and cultural aspects of societies. This course focuses on the major religions that have played a role in human history, including Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, and Taosim. Students will trace the major developments in these religions and explore their relationships with social institutions and culture. The course will also discuss some of the similarities and differences among the major religions and examine the connections and influences they have.</p>

PE/Health Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Physical Education I	2	PE	This course focuses on the fundamental components and principles of fitness. The course examines safety guidelines, proper technique, and exercise principles such as the FITT. Students will assess their current level of fitness in relation to the five components of physical fitness: flexibility, cardiovascular health, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and body composition. Students will also learn strategies to help them begin, design, and maintain an exercise program to keep them fit for life.
PE (Personal Fitness) II part 1	1	PE	By taking this course you will feel the difference, both physically and mentally. You will start by assessing your current physical condition. You will keep a workout log to measure your progress. In addition, you will have a great personal trainer (your teacher) who will help you set realistic goals and reach your personal health-related objectives. As you travel through the virtual town of Wellville, you will learn about exercise, conditioning, diet and nutrition, and managing stress. You and your trainer will develop a fitness program tailored to your individual needs. As you make progress, you will feel your energy level increase. By the end of the course, you will have developed the kind of healthy habits that will last a lifetime. The best way to live a healthy life is to prevent health problems before they occur. This course will help you do that. And the best time to start is right now.
PE (Fitness Lifestyle) II part 2	1	PE	Club Web invites you to a "vacation of a lifetime." During your stay, you will learn healthy habits of body and mind that will lead to a healthier lifestyle. You will measure your beginning fitness level and nutrition knowledge, and will create an individual plan for achieving your individual goals. Club Web combines the expertise of a professional fitness staff with natural surroundings perfect for fun and relaxation. Among the numerous activities available to you as our guest are golf, tennis, racquetball, biking, the health and fitness center, and the walking and jogging trail. You will leave Club Web having improved your flexibility, enhanced your cardiovascular fitness, and increased your strength and endurance. The goal of this course is to help you experience the benefits of exercise, good diet and proper weight. We are quite sure that your "vacation of a lifetime" will last a lifetime.
Health	2	Health	We "HOPE" that by the end of this course you will have experienced first-hand the many benefits of regular physical activity, proper nutrition, and sound decision making! As you get started in this course you will assess your current physical condition and define personal goals. You will apply fitness training principles to your workouts to enhance your improvement in health-related and skill-related areas of fitness. You will maintain a workout log to track your physical activity each week and assess your progress towards meeting your goals. Additional course topics will challenge you to be an educated consumer, manage stress, choose nutritious foods, make healthy lifestyle choices, be an effective member of a team, and influence others in your community in a positive way. Projects you complete will challenge you to seek solutions for issues facing teens in today's culture. The healthy choices you make today will impact you for a lifetime. We "HOPE" you will come join us!

Computer Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Computer Fundamentals	1	Computer	In this introductory course students learn how to use Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint to create, analyze, edit, share and publish information for a variety of audiences and purposes. Through step-by-step tutorials and a project-based approach to learning, students become familiar with the key concepts and basic skills of today's information technology sector.
Computer Programming 1	2	Computer Elective	How can you control the most powerful tool ever invented if you cannot speak its language? Computer Programming 1 is a two semester course which enables students to learn two modern programming languages, Python and Java. The course teaches programming using real-world, practical examples. You will learn Python by controlling the motion and sensory capabilities of a robot. You will learn Java by manipulating graphics, images, and audio. Programming is easier than you think and perhaps best of all, you get to show what you know by choosing projects that are of interest to you. Major colleges and universities are now using this approach to teach introductory computer programming, so you will learn the skills necessary to tackle advanced work.
Introduction to C++ Programming	1	Computer Elective	Programmers start here. In this course, you'll learn key programming concepts and then apply them using Microsoft® Visual C++® 2008 Express Edition, the free version of Microsoft's Visual Studio® toolkit. Complete a series of increasingly complex projects while you learn C++, which is still one of the most versatile and powerful programming languages around. Learn the building blocks of programming: functions, loops, arrays, variables, and classes. At the end of the course, you will have a portfolio of compiled executables
Computer Aided Design	1	Computer Elective	Computer-aided design systems are used by designers and manufacturers in virtually every industry. In this course, you'll master the basics of CAD software: creating points, lines, other geometric forms, isometric drawings, and 3D models. Learn how to translate initial concepts into functional designs and 3D walkthroughs. Explore career options for CAD designers in this hands-on introductory level course.
3D Art I - Modeling	1	Computer Elective	This course will introduce you to 3D modeling tools and concepts. Using Blender, the popular open-source 3D modeling package, you will learn the basics of creating shapes, adding textures and lighting, and rendering. By the end of the course, you will have produced a series of increasingly sophisticated projects for your 3D portfolio. This course is suitable for students with no prior experience in 3D design or digital media authoring tools.
3D Art II - Animation	1	Computer Elective	In this advanced course, you'll build on the skills you developed in 3D Art I to learn 3D animation techniques. Using Blender, the world's most powerful open-source 3D modeling tool, you'll master the basics of animation— rigging, bones and movement— while learning how to apply traditional animation techniques to your 3D models.
Audio Engineering	1	Computer Elective	In this introductory course, you'll learn about the physics of sound and the history of recording technologies. Next, you'll learn about the four stages of professional music recording projects: recording, editing, mixing, and mastering. Using Audacity, an open-source recording and mixing program, you'll practice the techniques used by sound engineers to produce multi-track recordings. Through a series of engaging hands-on projects, you'll learn the fundamental concepts of audio engineering.

Computer Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Digital Photography I: Creative Images with Impact!	1	Computer Elective	In the digital photography course, students will learn creative photographic skills and processes. Students will build a portfolio of work and explore the fields of photography and graphic arts.
Digital Photography II: Discovering Your Creative Potential	1	Computer Elective	In today's world, photographs are all around us, including in advertisements, on websites, and hung on our walls as art. Many of the images that we see have been created by professional photographers. In this course, we will examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession, and examine some of the areas that professional photographers may choose to specialize in, such as wedding photography and product photography. We will also learn more about some of the most respected professional photographers in history and we will learn how to critique photographs in order to better understand what creates an eye catching photograph.
Digital Arts I	1	Computer Elective	In this exploratory course, you'll learn the elements of design, as well as foundational concepts of visual communication. While surveying a variety of media and art, you'll use Inkscape, a popular digital art program, to put into practice what you've learned. Discover career opportunities in the design, production, display, and presentation of digital artwork. Respond to the artwork of others, and learn how to combine artistic elements to create finished pieces that effectively communicate your ideas.
Digital Arts II	1	Computer Elective	A review of Digital Arts I will be conducted along with assessing the necessary software compenents needed on your computer. From here an in-depth journey through repetition and pattern, contrast, variety, movement and rhythm, proportion, balance, emphasis and dominance, and harmony and unity will be covered.
Digital Video Production	1	Computer Elective	In this exploratory course, you'll the necessary steps to create a movie. Everything from learning the necessary vocabulary, pre-production, filming, editing, and special effects.
Flash Animation	1	Computer Elective	This introductory course teaches all the animation essentials. You'll learn cell animation, timelines, movies, sound—the works—using Adobe® Flash®, the preferred design tool of industry pros worldwide. Learn how to draw and animate movies, and then publish them to the web. Create your own original art, or choose from the art asset libraries included for each project. At the end of this course, you'll have a portfolio of completed Flash animations.
Game Design	1	Computer Elective	This course is for anyone who loves gaming and wants to design games. You'll learn how to use popular game design software to create engaging, interactive games in a variety of genres. In addition, you'll get a solid foundation in the basic concepts of game development. By the end of this course, you will have a variety of polished games for your game development portfolio.
Green Design and Technology	1	Computer Elective	This course will examine the impact of human activities on sustainability while exploring the basic principles and technologies that support sustainable design. Learn about the potential for emerging energy technologies like water, wind, and solar power. Find out how today's businesses are adapting to the increased demand for sustainable products and services. By the end of this course, you will have a comprehensive understanding of this fast-growing field.

Computer Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Online Game Design	1	Computer Elective	If you like playing Flash games online and want to find out how to design them, this course is for you. You'll learn how to develop a variety of games for the web using Adobe® Flash®, the world's most popular authoring tool for online games. You'll learn some basic programming concepts as you use ActionScript®, the native scripting language of Flash, to develop cool games, then publish them online to share with your friends. By the end of this course, you will have a collection of fully-functioning multi-level online games.
Web Design 1	2	Computer Elective	The World Wide Web is not just for spectators. It's for people who can create effective, eye-catching websites of their own. It's for people like you who take this course and design web pages that get attention. In this course, you'll become a Web Design Intern for a virtual company called Education Designs. You'll learn what goes on under the hood including: Internet basics, HTML, and the file structure of a well-organized web site. You'll learn how to create visually interesting web pages with clear text, complimentary colors, visual assets, and appealing designs. You'll also learn how to navigate the Internet to fill your website with useful and well-researched information. Your web pages will have to be good because they may appear as information sources for other online courses. The Internet can be a powerful way to reach anyone, anywhere - as long as you have the right skills and a little imagination.
Web Design 2	2	Computer Elective	A well-designed skyscraper is an impressive sight. A well-designed website is also an impressive site of another kind - the kind that reveals the advanced skills of a expert designer. This course takes you through the entire construction process from planning, to creating the structure, to adding the final special touches. In this course, you will learn how to create a storyboard or blueprint for your website. You will learn about website navigation, style sheets, graphic creation, digital image optimization, security, and server hosting. You will also learn how to work in teams, with specific tasks assigned to individual team members. You will use Adobe CS4 products for website creation and management. The purpose of this course is to equip you to be a master architect, contractor, and manager of a valuable property. Property that communicates a message in an impressive way.
Computing For College Careers	2	Computer Elective	"What can you do for us?" You're applying for a job, and you really need a good answer to that question. After completing this course, you will have a complete package of marketable skills that will make you a highly attractive job candidate. Can you use business-related computer software? Can you communicate effectively with your boss and coworkers? Can you look and sound like a valuable asset to your employer? Do you know what you are really good at? Being able to answer "yes!" to these and many other questions is the essential foundation for your career. The purpose of this course is to guide you in building your career foundation. You will learn how to turn your computer into an effective tool for communication. You will learn how to create positive working relationships. And you will acquire the kinds of essential business skills needed for any successful career. Productive employees need both technology and people skills. Find both here in Computing for College and Careers.

Elective Courses

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Anthropology I: Uncovering Human Mysteries	1	Electives	The aim of anthropology is to use a broad approach to gain an understanding of our past, present and future, and in addition address the problems humans face in biological, social and cultural life. This course will explore the evolution, similarity and diversity of humankind through time. It will look at how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the anthropological world are just one of the powerful learning tools utilized in this course.
Anthropology II: More Human Mysteries Uncovered	1	Electives	Anthropology has helped us better understand cultures around the world and through different time period. This course continues the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world. We will examine some of the ways that cultures have understood and gave meaning to different stages of life and death. The course will also examine the creation of art within cultures and examine how cultures evolve and change over time. Finally, we will apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today.
Archeology: Detectives of the Past	1	Electives	George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." The field of archeology helps us to better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped to shape our modern world. This course focuses on this techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students will learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artefacts are located and preserved. Finally, students will learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.
Art History	2	Electives	This course is divided into two 18 week semesters during which the students will examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present and from a variety of cultures. Students will learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience.
Business Communications	1	Electives	In Business Communications, students explore the process of communication as it relates to the business world and discover how people communicate in today's business environment. The course's 3-D animations take the concept of a virtual office a bit further by conceptualizing the business communications of the future.
Business Ssystems Technology	1	Electives	TBD
Business and Personal Protocol	1	Electives	Business and Personal Protocol presents valuable information and guidelines necessary for students to function in today's global and multiethnic environment. This course teaches students skills in cultural awareness, positive self-concept, leadership, and communication, which are essential to maintaining successful business and personal relationships.
Career Planning	1	Electives	Career Planning helps students learn about themselves and how that knowledge contributes to career success. In this course, students use various career resources to investigate careers and discover how goal setting and decision making are integral to career planning.
Critical Thinking and Study Skills	1	Electives	Critical thinking and study skills are the tools needed to enhance your performance in almost any venture. Take a trip with us, and we'll give you the most current road map for developing learning strategies, problem-solving, critical-thinking and test-taking skills to lead you to winning performance on assessments. You'll do the work, but we'll give you the shortest and most efficient route to travel. You already have most of the knowledge. All of your years in school have filled your travel bags with the items you'll need on this trip. Now it's time to become a savvy traveler and an expert problem solver. In this course, you'll practice thinking strategies, learn test-taking strategies, time management and organization skills, build verbal competence, and sharpen your mathematics reasoning. You'll become familiar with the terrain as you acquire essential learning strategies. There is no better way to develop critical thinking skills than by knowing what lies ahead. With this course you can check your itinerary, make your plans, and be ready for a successful trip.

Elective Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Driver Education	1	Electives	Students will study the Highway Transportation System, road signs, rules of the road, accident avoidance, and making good choices behind the wheel. Students will begin to develop the skills necessary to become safe, responsible Florida drivers. Students will view many road simulations throughout the course designed to help increase their knowledge of real world driving.
Introduction to Entrepreneurship I	1	Electives	In this introductory business course, you'll learn what it takes to be an entrepreneur while mastering the basics of planning and launching your own successful business. Whether you want to start your own money-making business or create a non-profit to help others, this course will help you develop the core skills you'll need to be successful. Learn how to come up with new business ideas, how to attract investors, and how to market your business and manage expenses. Get inspired by stories from teen entrepreneurs who have turned their ideas into reality, and then plan and execute your own business!
Introduction to Entrepreneurship II	1	Electives	After mastering the skills from Intro to Entrepreneurship I this course will focus on the necessary steps you need to know in the areas of sales, pricing, personal finance, credit, funding, and risk, accounting, taxes and laws, workplace skills and the importance of understanding culture, globalization and technology and how it will impact your small business.
Introduction to Marketing I	1	Electives	Find out what it takes to market a product or service in today's fast-paced business environment. In this two-semester introductory course, you'll learn the fundamentals of marketing using real-world business examples. You'll learn about buyer behavior, marketing research principles, demand analysis, distribution, financing, pricing, and product management. By the end of this series, you will have developed your own comprehensive marketing plan for a new business.
Introduction to Marketing II	1	Electives	In part II of marketing you will focus on selling and pricing, customers, inventory and safety, workplace skills, career development, using the internet, word processing, presentations, and working with data and events. These important topics will help you become successful in the marketing career field.
Life Management Skills	1	Electives	This course is all about you and the important decisions you make. It's also about having the correct information before making those decisions. We'll deal with real issues like nutrition, substance abuse, coping with stress, and sexual abstinence. Good health is both mental and physical. Making good decisions starts with knowing the facts, understanding the consequences, and having the confidence to choose well. A series of signposts will take you through the course providing information, direction, and a little encouragement. We'll also offer some important tools for communicating your feelings and opinions. We'll even talk about being a savvy consumer in a world of advertising, credit cards, and focus on earth friendly practices that will help the environment. This is a course comes with a long-term payoff. The good decisions you make now will set a positive direction you can follow for a lifetime.
Music Appreciation - The Enjoyment of Listening	1	Electives	Music is part of everyday lives and reflects the spirit of our human condition. To know and understand music, we distinguish and identify cultures on local and global levels. This course will provide students with an aesthetic and historical perspective of music, covering a variety of styles and developments from the Middle Ages through the Twentieth First Century. Students will acquire basic knowledge and listening skills, making future music experiences more informed and satisfying.
Philosophy: The Big Picture	1	Electives	This course will take you on an exciting adventure that covers more than 2,500 years of history! Along the way, you'll run into some very strange characters. For example, you'll read about a man who hung out on street corners, barefoot and dirty, pestering everyone he met with questions. You'll learn about another eccentric who climbed inside a stove to think about whether he existed. Despite their odd behavior, these and other philosophers of the Western world are among the most brilliant and influential thinkers of all time. As you learn about these great thinkers, you'll come to see how and where many of the most fundamental ideas of Western Civilization originated. You'll also get a chance to ask yourself some of the same questions these great thinkers pondered. By the time you've "closed the book" on this course, you will better understand yourself and the world around you...from atoms to outer space...and everything in between.

Elective Courses (Continued)

Course Name	Semesters	Subject Area	Course Description
Real World Parenting	1	Electives	The process of parenting is more than just having a child and making sure they eat, sleep and get to school on time. Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps a parent can take to create the best environment and life for their child. Parenting roles and responsibilities; nurturing and protective environments for children; positive parenting strategies and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.
SAT Preparation	1	Electives	Higher scores are the name of the game, and on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) the higher the better. Take a trip with us, and we'll give you the most current road map for getting there. You'll do the work, but we'll give you the shortest and most efficient route to travel. You already have most of the knowledge. All of your years in school have filled your travel bags with the items you'll need on this trip. Now it's time to become a savvy traveler and an expert test taker. In this course, you'll practice thinking strategies, build verbal competence, and sharpen your mathematics reasoning. You'll become familiar with the terrain as you acquire essential test-taking strategies. There is no better way to develop test-taking confidence than by knowing what lies ahead. With this course you can check your itinerary, make your plans, and be ready for a successful trip.
Spanish 1	2	Electives	Bienvenidos! Welcome! You are about to go on a trip to Spain, Cuba, Colombia and Argentina. As you explore each of these countries, one of our student bloggers will be there to help you learn about each place and its unique characteristics. As you travel to each country, you will learn how to speak Spanish in many practical and useful ways. You will learn how to greet people, introduce yourself, speak about your home, family, school, and community. As you learn basic vocabulary and grammar skills, you will expand upon your knowledge and learn to speak about more complex topics such as shopping, weather, sports, entertainment and leisure activities. New words and phrases will be introduced with pictures, audio clips and examples. You will learn basic Spanish grammar to help you build your fluency and understand the structure of the Spanish language. There will be many opportunities to practice what you learn through interactive practice activities in the form of games, written practice, listening and speaking exercises. You will also explore the cultures of Spain, Cuba, Colombia and Argentina by learning about geography, foods, celebrations, and traditions from each place. Our student bloggers guide you through these countries and help you to appreciate and learn about their diversity.
Spanish 2	2	Electives	Are you ready for some more adventure? In Spanish II, you'll travel through Central America and the Caribbean spending time in museums, traffic jams, and even in the hospital. But don't worry, there's a plane waiting to take you back home at the end of your journey. In this course, you'll broaden your Spanish vocabulary and your knowledge of grammar. You'll meet people from many different countries and cultures. While waiting for your plane ride home, you'll also meet some Spanish-speaking people from different parts of the United States. The purpose of this course is to strengthen your Spanish listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. You'll also experience the beauty and expressiveness of a language that is shared by different people and cultures throughout the world.
Spanish 3 Honors	2	Electives	Here we go on another adventure! In Spanish 3, you will meet and accompany four teens of Hispanic backgrounds as they learn about and travel to several Spanish speaking countries. In this course, you will have many opportunities to use the Spanish you already know as well as opportunities to expand your vocabulary, your knowledge of grammar and your experiences with Spanish speaking countries. The purpose of this course is to provide you with many experiences where you can use your Spanish. Completely immersed in Spanish, you will speak, listen, read, write, and collaborate with other students in this course. You will also gain knowledge and perspectives about Spanish speaking countries and from Spanish speaking people.