



2020 COURSE CATALOG

MISSION

Our mission is to provide our students with the tools, support and balance necessary for them to achieve the highest possible levels of success in education and life.

VISION

The Winter Sports School's vision is to be the leading college-preparatory school for dedicated student-athletes.

PURPOSE

ACADEMICS

We will prepare each student for a successful academic experience at the college or university of her/his choice. We will identify and work to cultivate each student's strengths and develop areas for growth.

ATHLETICS

We will provide a schedule and flexible support that allows each student to maximize the time spent in the pursuit of the mastery of her/his chosen extracurricular pursuits

LIFE

We will provide nurturing community that fosters self-awareness and empowers each student to perform at her/his highest individual capability. We will develop in our students the habits of mind, communication and collaborative skills to contribute to and excel in a global community

CORE VALUES

Underlying our vision, mission, and purpose is a shared commitment by all members of the Winter Sports School community to the following.

LEADERSHIP

We will seek to develop the skills that will position each of us to be leaders.

GROWTH

We model a growth mindset as individuals and work to instill an ongoing passion for learning in all members of our community

INTEGRITY

We do what we say we do in an honest and respectful manner.

TEAMWORK

We are here to help each other grow academically, athletically, socially, and personally.

TRUST

We are free to discuss and explore diverse ideas, encouraged to take risks and grow from mistakes.

TOLERANCE

We recognize and respect differences while encouraging and celebrating diversity in all its manifestations.

ADMINISTRATION & STAFF

Tess Miner-Farra, *Head of School*
Megan Altman, *Administrative Office Manager*
Derek Bunting, *Director of Curriculum & Instruction*
Stephanie Carter, *Online Learning Coordinator & 504 Coordinator*
Scott Hendrickson, *Student Services Coordinator*
Rebecca Turco, *Guidance Counselor*

TEACHING FACULTY

Maureen Bickner:	Math
Derek Bunting:	English
Alex Burlacu:	Math, Science
Mary Carlson:	Math
Eric Christiansen:	Art
Rosie Hanek:	Social Studies & Spanish
Scott Hendrickson:	Social Studies
Ally Jaycox Coffman:	Science
Alison Moore:	English, Social Studies
Joseph Rhodes:	Science
Molly Sugrue:	Social Studies
Rebecca Turco	Comprehensive Guidance
Lindsey Wellman	Art

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

The Winter Sports School is accredited by AdvancED. Academics at The Winter Sports School are rigorous. Our primary academic goal is to prepare students for college, along with instilling a driving curiosity and life-long love of learning.

While all courses are college preparatory, honors level work is available in English, Math, Science, Spanish, and Social Studies. In order to receive the honors designation, a student must complete research-based projects in addition to the college preparatory curriculum for that particular course. Honors coursework receives no extra weight in GPA calculation.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Each student must complete a minimum of 24 credits in four years, including a minimum of:

- 4 credits in English
- 3 credits in Math
- 3 credits in Science
- 3 credits in Social Studies, including:
 - 0.5 credit in Geography
 - 0.5 credit in World History
 - 1 credit in U.S. History II
 - 0.5 credit in U.S. Gov't & Citizenship
- 0.5 credit in General Financial Literacy

- 2 credits in Physical Education including 0.5 credit in Health
- 1.5 credits in Career and Technical Education (CTE), including 0.5 credit in an area to meet state Digital Studies proficiency requirement.
- 1.5 credits in Fine Arts
- 6 electives from Foreign Language and/or any of the above categories

In addition, each student must complete 40-hours of community service, and a minimum of 1,000 hours of athletic participation, verified by a sport club affiliated with a national (or international) governing body (NGB) of sport, and achieve a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0.

GRADE SCALE

The WSS grade scale corresponds to the following academic performance averages in a given class:

- 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 ...63-66
- D-...60-62
- F ... 59 or below

Pass/Fail grades (P/F) will be issued for PE credit and for some elective and make-up credits. A Pass (P) grade is not calculated as part of a student's Grade Point Average (GPA), while a Fail (F) grade is.

GRADE POINT CALCULATION

Grades issued in WSS classes correspond to the following Grade Point values on an unweighted basis:

- A = 4.0
- A- = 3.67
- B+ = 3.33
- B = 3.0
- B- = 2.67
- C+ = 2.33
- C = 2.0
- C- = 1.67
- D+ = 1.33
- D = 1.0
- D- = 0.67
- F = 0.0

WSS HONORS DIPLOMA

Beginning in the 2020 school year, students successfully completing a minimum of 10 honors-level credits in grades 9-12, and earning a cumulative GPA equal to or higher than 3.50 as of the conclusion of Summer Semester in 12th grade will earn a WSS Honors Diploma at Graduation. WSS Honors level courses, Calculus, Calculus 2, and any outside Advanced Placement, IB, Concurrent Enrollment, or college-level credits will be considered as qualifying credits to meet the 10 credit minimum for an Honors Diploma. Recipients will wear WSS Honor Cords and will be acknowledged at the WSS graduation each year.

TYPICAL PROGRAM OF STUDY

Grade 9

ENG: English 9

MA: Core Math 1

SCI: Biology

FL: Spanish 1

SS: Geography

CTE: Comprehensive Guidance &

0.5 Digital Studies CTE course

ART: General Art

PE: Participation Skills / PE: Lifetime Fitness

Grade 10

ENG: English 10

MA: Core Math 2

SCI: Environmental Science

FL: Spanish 2

SS: World History

PE: Health & Wellness / PE: Lifetime Activity
(individual sport)

ART: Painting 1

0.5 credit elective between CTE/Art, and English

Grade 11

ENG: English 11

MA: Core Math 3

SCI: Chemistry

FL: Spanish 3 or SS: Anthropology

SS: U.S. History

PE: Lifetime Activity (individual sport)

EL: Dramatic Literature (.5)

0.5 credit elective between Art, CTE, and English

Grade 12

ENG: English 12

MA: Pre-Calculus or Calculus

SCI: Physics

FL: Spanish 4, or ENG: Public Speaking/SS: Civics

SS: U.S. Government and Citizenship

SS: General Financial Literacy

PE: Lifetime Activity (individual sport)

1.0 credit elective between Art, CTE, and English

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Winter Sports School students start their academic year in April in order to complete the academic year in November. This innovative schedule provides an uncompromised academic experience while allowing the winter sports athlete to pursue the rigorous travel and training required to compete at the national and international level.

2020 Academic Calendar

SPRING SEMESTER

1st Quarter April 15 – May 15

2nd Quarter May 18 – June 25

Memorial Day May 25 (No School)

Summer Break June 26 – July 3

SUMMER SEMESTER

3rd Quarter July 6 – August 7

4th Quarter August 10 – September 4

September Break September 7 – 11

FALL SEMESTER

5th Quarter Sept. 14 – October 14

UEA Break October 15 – 16

6th Quarter October 19 – Nov. 20

GRADUATION November 20, 3pm

ONLINE COURSES

As a general rule, Winter Sports School students are enrolled in all required courses scheduled and available to them during the school year in the Winter Sports School's instructor-led curriculum.

Online courses may be utilized to pursue desired study outside of The Winter Sports School curriculum (such as foreign languages other than Spanish, certain electives, etc.), to earn credits in advance of the school year for purposes of adding needed flexibility to the student's daily schedule (for anticipated increased training or travel demands), or to recover missing or failed credits (as advised by WSS Administration).

Students must have intended approved in writing by WSS Administration in advance. Online courses must be taken through the State Online Education Program, private accredited online programs, or non-accredited institutions with prior approval from WSS administration. Earned online credit(s) will be reflected on a student's WSS transcript once an official certificate of completion is received by The Winter Sports School Office from the institution issuing the credit(s). *Please refer to WSS Acceptance and Reciprocity of Credits Policy for more details.*

2020 COURSE OFFERINGS

(subject to change)

ART

Listed below are the Art courses offered this year. Not every course is offered every year. 1.5 Art credits are required for high school graduation in Utah. *Art Faculty: Eric Christiansen, Lindsey Wellman*

General Art

0.5 Credit

This course is an introduction to basic two and three-dimensional elements of art and design. Units covered will include drawing with one and two-point perspective, drawing objects with shading, hand built ceramics and linoleum-cut relief printmaking.

Digital Photography

0.5 Credit (qualifies as Art or CTE credit)

An introduction to basics of digital photography including camera use, image capture, digital editing, and display, students will learn how to adjust automatic and manual settings on a DSLR camera, apply various types of framing and composition, and use Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop Elements to enhance and manipulate photographs. Students will complete individual and collaborative projects with both commercial and artistic applications. In addition to creating technically sound work participants will successfully use photography to visually communicate specific messages, brands, and themes. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with physically altering photographs as well as incorporating unique sculptural elements into the final display. During the course of the semester students will be expected to actively participate in presentations, class critiques, self-assessment, and taking photographs at off-campus sites outside of class time. Please note: *Access to the use of a Digital SLR camera is required for enrollment in this course*

Printmaking

0.5 Credit

Students will learn printmaking techniques with an emphasis on linoleum and wood cut block prints. Drawing will be integrated into class and students will print black and white with multi color print as a final project.

Painting 1

0.5 Credit

This introductory course covers the basics of painting using acrylic, tempera, and watercolor paint. Students will learn basic design and color theory and will draw and/or paint on a daily basis, and will experiment with different techniques and styles.

Exposure to art history will be integrated into the studio setting.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses are designed to provide a background in practical, career-oriented topics. 1.5 CTE credits are required for high school graduation in Utah. *CTE Faculty: Rebecca Turco, Scott Hendrickson, Molly Sugrue, Stephanie Carter.*

Comprehensive Guidance

0.5 Credit

This course is designed to provide give our 9th grade students a foundation in the required tools, habits, and practices to ensure success in The Winter Sports School curriculum, in transitioning to their eventual selected college, and beyond. The course will cover effective work habits, time management skills, and skill surveys.

Exploring Computer Science

0.5 Credit | Canyons Virtual High School - Online

Exploring Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Exploring Computer Science is to develop in students the computational thinking practices or algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as interface design, limits of computers and societal and ethical issues.

Digital Business Applications

0.5 Credit | Canyons Virtual High School - Online

The business world is progressively more reliant on digital technologies. The Digital Business Applications course is designed to prepare students with the knowledge and skills to be an asset to the collaborative, global, and innovative business world of today and tomorrow. Concepts include the overall digital experience, digital communications, digital media and the exploration of career choices. This course also provides practical experience in professionalism using various forms of presentation skills, including speaking, podcasting and digital portfolio relating to the globalization of business.

ENGLISH

The English curriculum seeks to develop students' ability to think critically and creatively and to express themselves with confidence and clarity in speech and writing. The English program is a continuum of coursework in which reading and writing skills are developed as a student progresses from grade to grade. *English Faculty: Derek Bunting, Alison Moore*

English 9

1.0 Credit

In the summer and fall semesters, English 9 students will build off the themes of their spring World Geography class, which focuses on the "why of where" and how people are influenced and shaped by their environment. Through the literature, students will consider how people's motivations, attitudes, and behavior are impacted by environmental forces and the extent to which people are in control of their own lives. Through this process of close examination, students will hopefully gain a better appreciation and understanding of others as well as themselves. The major works that students will read include the following: *The Book Thief*, *Lord of the Flies*, *The House on Mango Street*, *American Born Chinese*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Of Mice and Men*. In addition to the above titles, Honors students will independently read either *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* or *Ellen Foster* in the summer semester, and either *I Am Malala* or *Night* in the fall semester.

English 10

1.0 Credit

This sophomore course includes both traditional and contemporary works from a variety of areas outside of the United States (such as Canada, Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East) to broaden students' understanding and experience of the world and the human experience. Our study includes a variety of genres including prose, poetry, drama, and film as students study not only the literature from distant lands but also history and culture. The course is developed around Utah's adopted common core expectations, as well as college preparedness standards such as the SAT, ACT, AP Seminar, and preparation to take the AP Language and Composition test. Each unit focuses on one cultural fictional reading, complemented by study of additional sources (such as poetry, short stories, articles, and videos) to deepen the educational experience. Works include a wide array of authors, such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez (Colombia), Dai Sijie (China), Mahmoud Darwish (Palestinian Territories), Banana Yoshimoto (Japan), Yehuda Amichai (Israel), Marjane Satrapi (Iran), and Athol Fugard (South Africa), and others. Assigned works are expected to

be read and annotated in a capacity that students can demonstrate comprehension through test, discussion, essay, and project. *Honors credit may be pursued by completing additional reading and AP Language and Composition style assignments throughout the year. Such assignments also double as preparation for taking the AP Language and Composition test in May, which is encouraged but not required.*

English 11

1.0 Credit

This year-long course is developed around Utah's adopted common core expectations, as well as college preparedness standards for SAT, ACT, and AP Literature and Composition for high school juniors. Students will read a variety of texts about America, and while much of what we read will be from American authors, we will at times use voices outside the United States to gain a better perspective of "What does it mean to be American?" Each unit will focus on one novel, but study of additional sources (poetry, short story, articles, videos) will complement the primary work. A culminating project, essay, and/or test will end each unit asking students to demonstrate their understanding of the unit learning outcomes. This American Literature course provides college preparatory experience in communication skills for juniors and is a study of the major literary topics and themes across the history of the United States. Students will focus on the major literary forms, analyze literary themes and universals, and research and compose several papers, speeches, and presentations reflecting on our (individual students and America as a whole) literary journey. Emphasis is placed on written and oral analysis of genres and trends in American literature from the seventeenth century to the present. Research skills are further developed through a required research paper. *Honors students will complete additional reading and AP Literature and Composition style assignments throughout the year. Such assignments also double as preparation for taking the AP Language and Composition test in May, which is encouraged but not required.*

English 12

1.0 Credit

In the summer and fall semesters, English 12 students will build off the themes of their spring U.S. Government and Citizenship class, which focuses on instilling the qualities necessary to foster engaged and responsible participation in public life. In order to consider more deeply what it means to be a good citizen, students will read literature that reflects the core values of WSS: integrity, trust, tolerance,

leadership, growth, and teamwork. As students prepare for graduation, they will explore what it means to be a mature individual, ready to embrace the duties and responsibilities that come with citizenship in one's local community and in our democratic republic. The major works that students will read include the following: *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Beloved*, *Slaughterhouse-Five*, *The Awakening*, and *King Lear*. In addition to the above titles, Honors students will independently read either *As I Lay Dying* or *When the Emperor Was Divine* in the summer semester, and either *The Namesake* or *Brave New World* in the fall semester.

Film & Literature Studies

0.5 Credit

This semester long course focuses on both literary and filmmaking techniques of movies adapted from literature. The course furthers the understanding of how stories- both visual and literary- have similar and also unique qualities. This course will use a variety of carefully chosen films and corresponding literature as a medium for understanding the relationship between film, literature, and storytelling. A variety of class activities will focus using critical thinking and analysis skills. Students will study the language of film and will focus on artistic techniques, such as the use of lighting, camera angles, music and sound, and editing, in order to better evaluate a film's success. Students will then compare this to literary terms (such as conflict and character development) used in a similar fashion to create a successful story.

Creative Writing

0.5 Credit

This semester long Creative Writing 1 course acts as an introduction to creative writing and publishing. Students will plan, write, peer review, revise, and "publish" pieces in a number of genres including but not limited to: personal essays, short stories, poetry, and plays. This course focuses on different processes for creating, using "mentor" texts as inspiration and models, and learning from providing and listening to feedback. Part of this important process includes practicing how to engage in a supportive creative community that encourages individuals to pursue their curiosity, and to take risks artistically. Another focus is how to use these creative strategies to benefit essays and writing in other courses. Creative Writing 2 is a continuation of Creative Writing 1, focusing on one developing a longer text of one genre (a novel, a book of poetry, a collection of short stories, etc). The second focus of this course is on the process of publishing one's own and classmates' work.

Dramatic Literature

0.5 Credit

Playwright Oscar Wilde said that "the theater is the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being." With Wilde's assessment as a foundation, students in Dramatic Literature will consider what some of the greatest plays in history tell us about the complexity of the human experience and how our conception of what it means to be human has evolved over time. Students will focus on a specific theme in each play with the ultimate goal being a better understanding of who they are, the kind of lives they want to lead, and the type of world in which they would like to live. The major works that students will read include the following: *Oedipus Rex*, *Macbeth*, *A Doll's House*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *Master Harold . . . and the boys*.

Public Speaking

0.5 Credit

In this course, students are introduced to public speaking as an important component of their academic, work, and social lives. We study public speaking occasions and develop skills as fair and critical listeners, or consumers, of spoken information and persuasion. Students study types of speeches (informative, persuasive, dramatic, and special occasion etc), read and listen to models of speeches, and prepare and present their own speeches to diverse audiences. Students learn to choose speaking topics and adapt them for specific audiences, to research and support their ideas, and to benefit from listener feedback. They study how to incorporate well-designed visual and multimedia aids in presentations and how to maintain a credible presence in the digital world. Students also learn about the ethics of public speaking and about techniques for managing communication anxiety. This semester-long course is developed around Utah Core expectations, as well as college preparedness standards and reflects AP Language and Composition's rhetorical study of speeches. Each unit will focus on reading at least one example speech, vocabulary specific to the speech genre, textbook chapter reading, writing and delivery of a speech. At the conclusion of each unit there will be a culminating project, essay, and/or test in which students must demonstrate their understanding of the unit learning outcomes.

WSS Yearbook

Prerequisite: Teacher permission

0.5 Credit | Pass/Fail

Join the Yearbook team and gain experience in desktop publishing techniques while preserving

memories of the school year for all. The yearbook team will meet throughout the year during lunch and after-school meetings as scheduled. The yearbook will be published and delivered to paying students in November prior to graduation.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

WSS offers 4 levels of instructor-led classes in Spanish. Students wishing to study a different language, or needing to take a lower level of Spanish instruction than is typical for grade level, may opt into independent online instruction during class time. Students who qualify for a higher level than is typical for grade level may opt into independent online instruction or may study with peers but be given higher level assignments with an emphasis on building conversational skills. Advanced students may also earn partial credit as a teacher's assistant in the classroom during breakout sessions, etc. *Spanish Faculty: Rosie Hanek*

Spanish 1

1.0 Credit

This course will lay the foundation of vocabulary and grammar. Students will become familiar with the four language skills of speaking, reading, writing and oral comprehension. Hispanic culture will be interwoven into the curriculum.

Spanish 2

1.0 Credit

This course will increase the students' vocabulary, conversational and grammatical skills. They will engage in more extensive conversations. Students will increase their exposure to Hispanic cultures.

Spanish 3

1.0 Credit

Students will increase their ability to use and understand intermediate Spanish in a variety of spoken and written contexts. They will use a more sophisticated language structure while broadening their vocabulary and include more varied expressions. Students will continue to learn about Hispanic society and life.

Spanish 4

1.0 Credit

This course takes place entirely in the target language and seeks to prepare students for college level courses and eventual fluency. The course content focuses on examining authentic materials (texts and films) as well as furthering the development of conversational and presentational skills in more complex Spanish.

MATH

Math Faculty: Alex Burlacu, Maureen Bickner, Mary Carlson

Students are required to have a graphing calculator for use in all WSS math courses A TI-84 is recommended.

Integrated Core Math 1

1.0 Credit

Credit This course covers a survey of concepts in Algebra and Plane Geometry, designed to prepare students for Math 2 and create an understanding of how to apply mathematics. Topics covered include looking for patterns in sequences and mathematical relationships, exploring linear and exponential functions, solving systems of equations and inequalities, graphing functions, describing 1 variable and 2 variable statistical distributions, and analyzing geometric functions through constructions, transformations, and congruence.

Integrated Core Math 2

1.0 Credit

This course continues the study of Algebra, Geometry, and Probability/Statistics and is designed to prepare students for Math 3. Geometry topics covered include the investigation of line and angle relationships, the use of deductive reasoning to prove triangle congruence and similarity, the study of right triangle trigonometry, and finding area/volume of shapes including circles. The Algebra topics covered include the study of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and circles. The Probability topics include computing simple probabilities and investigating independence of events and conditional probability.

Integrated Core Math 3

1.0 Credit

This course continues the study of Algebra, Geometry, and Probability/Statistics with a greater emphasis on algebraic functions. and is designed to prepare students for either Pre-Calculus or Calculus. This course covers advanced algebraic concepts, including polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and exponential functions. All of these functions will be explored through algebraic, numerical and graphical techniques. Patterns will be explored and analyzed to create appropriate mathematic models for real world applications, and various techniques (algebraic as well as graphical) will be explored to solve these real world problems. In the area of Probability and Statistics, interpreting data in normal distributions will be investigated.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Core Math 3

1.0 Credit

This course presents a much deeper exploration of polynomial, radical, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and applications.

Calculus

Prerequisite: Core Math 3 & teacher invitation

1.0 Credit

This course is the study of mathematics of the continuum. Both the theory of elementary functions and real world applications of mathematics will be studied. Students will learn differential and integral calculus plus their applications. Integration techniques and L'Hopital's Rule are also covered.

Calculus 2 Honors

Prerequisite: Calculus 1 & teacher invitation

1.0 Credit

This course is designed to be the equivalent to both first and second semester college calculus courses. In Calculus 2 Honors, students will apply the content and skills learned in Calculus I to parametrically defined curves, polar curves, and vector-valued functions; develop additional integration techniques and applications; and introduce the topics of sequences and series to build power series as approximations to transcendental functions. Students have the option of taking the AP Calculus BC exam after completing the course and when it is offered in May.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

The P.E./Health program promotes lifelong fitness, commitment to a healthy lifestyle, and sportsmanship. Credit in Fitness for Life, Participation Skills, and various winter athletic disciplines is granted by virtue of documented participation hours. Hours must be certified by a coach/athletic director affiliated with a National or International Governing Body for sport. 1000 hours overall are required to receive a WSS diploma. 150 hours are required in a given year to receive WSS transcript credit in P.E.

Health & Wellness

0.5 Credit

This is a comprehensive health course, covering topics of mental and emotional health, nutrition and physical activity, social health and relationships, sexual health, personal health and disease, substances and abuse, and injury prevention and

safety. Due to the sensitive nature of some of the topics discussed in this course, we invite parents and legal guardians to review the course content and discuss with the student their values in relation to the content. Likewise, we invite students to discuss with a parent or legal guardian any questions or concerns they have about these topics.

SCIENCE

All science courses emphasize inquiry-based exploration and the scientific method within lab setting. *Science Faculty: Alex Burlacu, Joseph Rhodes, Ally Jaycox Coffman*

Biology

1.0 Credit

This course covers the origin of life, plant and animal life cycles, genetics and the major systems of higher order animals. The course's format emphasizes the assimilation of individual facts into a broader understanding of life. Daily labs will acquaint students with basic laboratory equipment and conduct. Students will keep a laboratory journal of methods and data interpretation throughout the course.

Chemistry

1.0 Credit

This course provides students with a fundamental understanding of the chemical relationship between all forms of matter. It examines the chemical structure, conservation, and kinetics of matter, as well as quantification methods. Experimentation is conducted using a computer-based laboratory. This setting allows students the opportunity to prepare for experiments just as they would in a non-virtual reality laboratory, right down to choosing the correct apparatus for the job.

Physics

Prerequisite: Core Math 3

1.0 Credit

This is an introductory course of the science that deals with how the world around us actually works. Students will delve heavily into the mathematics and concepts of linear and non-linear movement, atomic makeup of matter, and heat. Students will need daily access to a TI-84 calculator (or the equivalent).

Science Lab

Non credited. Integrated in all science courses and conducted on a periodic basis, labs are designed to provide practical, "hands on" demonstrations of scientific concepts, and to provide a sampling of theories and disciplines.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies Faculty: Rosie Hanek, Scott Hendrickson, Alison Moore, Molly Sugrue

Anthropology

1.0 Credit

An in-depth survey of the four most prominent categories of the discipline: cultural, linguistic, physical (forensic) anthropology, and archeology, Anthropology students will examine the cultural, physical, and social aspects of civilization. This course incorporates authentic learning experiences including an archeological and a forensic simulation, and the skills of artifact recovery, interpretation, and preservation are carried over into the cultural as well as forensic units and help to inform modern legal application. By the end of the course, students will have obtained greater knowledge and fuller respect for the diverse cultures of the world in the past, present, and future, and a deeper understanding of what it means to be human. Students' skill sets will be enriched to include formulating scientifically-sound hypotheses and educated opinions, primary source research and analysis, and real-world application of anthropological knowledge, all of which deepen our critical thinking.

Civic Engagement

0.5 Credit

The mission of the Civic Engagement course is to engage students in meaningful consideration of social justice and civic duty through connection to local volunteer service organizations and class discussion anchored in both classic and contemporary works of philosophy and current events. The course will focus on examining issues of social justice and includes a requirement of 15 hours of community service during the semester. Our aim is that by blending service work and classroom study we may create rich and meaningful discussion and help students make relevant, personal connections between academia and real world experience.

Geography

0.5 Credit

An introduction to world geography focusing on the study of human geography, this course will introduce students to a systematic study of patterns and processes that shape mankind's understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students will learn to use spatial concepts when analyzing humans' organization of space, landscapes, and the environmental consequences of their decisions from the local to global level. They will look for patterns across the cultural landscape, trying to identify

trends, and anticipate future phenomena using the scientific methods, research, and tools of geographers. At its core, Human Geography teaches students how to interpret maps, select the correct maps to obtain information, interpret sets of data, and analyze geographic models to effectively evaluate the world we live in. *Honors credit may be earned by completing honors assignments that reflect AP Human Geography style work. Taking and passing the AP Human Geography test in May is not a requirement, but is encouraged.*

Philosophy & Ethics

0.5 Credit

An introduction to moral philosophy and applied ethics, this course is rooted in examining local and global current events in light of our study of major schools of thought in ethics, ranging from Ancient Greece to the Civil Rights Movement. The class will be driven by teacher-led introductions to each philosopher or school of philosophy, in-class readings of original texts, and student-selected current events.

U.S. Government and Citizenship

0.5 Credit

The goal of this course is to provide a survey of U.S. History from the Vietnam War to the present day, and to foster informed, responsible participation in public life. Knowing how to be a good citizen is essential to the preservation and improvement of United States democracy. Upon completion of this course the student will understand the major ideas, protections, privileges, structures, and economic systems that affect the life of a citizen in the United States political system. This course is designed for seniors, given their proximity to voting age.

U.S. History II

1.0 Credit

This course surveys United States history from the Civil War through the Vietnam War. Understanding US history is essential to sustain of our democratic society. This course will help students make connections between their world and the rich heritage of United States history. The course is designed as a survey of the second "half" of American history with an emphasis on post-Reconstruction America, but includes some review of the earlier periods.

World History

0.5 Credit

The study of World History emphasizes the increasing interrelationships over time of the world's peoples. These interrelationships have developed in two major arenas. First, the relationships have

developed among major regions of the world: East Asia, South Asia, Southwest Asia (Middle East), Africa, Europe, North America and Latin America. Second, they have developed within all aspects of human activity: political, economic, social, philosophical and religious, scientific and technological, and artistic. Students will explore these interrelationships while strengthening their critical skills and their ability to assess world history from different points of view.

WSS Student Government

0.5 Credit

Students will gain valuable skills in civics and leadership while pursuing meaningful improvements at WSS, engaging in community service, and raising money and awareness for worthwhile causes.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

General Financial Literacy

0.5 Credit

Students will learn essential financial management strategies through course readings, video scenarios, and practical application activities. Standard topics include budgeting and financial services, consumer choices, financial and career planning, credit, income and taxes, savings and investments, insurance and retirement, and fraud & identity protection.