

# HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES



2010 – 2011

Central Jersey College Prep Charter School  
17 School House Rd.  
Somerset, NJ  
[www.njcollegeprep.org](http://www.njcollegeprep.org)

## **Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Central Jersey College Prep Charter School is to provide academic and social challenges and opportunities to students, instilling the skills and knowledge that they will need to succeed in their lives. The CJCPCS aims to forge a powerful partnership out of the student-teacher-parent triad. This partnership will provide and empower our youth with the support necessary to reach their highest potential - intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically— building on their inherent promise to aid in their preparation for college and career. The CJCPCS seeks to graduate men and women who think critically and creatively; have acquired strong skills in mathematics, science, language, technology, history, and the arts; and are committed to a lifetime of learning and civic involvement.

### **CJCP Student Pledge**

I PLEDGE TO DO MY BEST  
AND I DO RESPECT THE REST

AT CENTRAL JERSEY COLLEGE PREP  
WE DEMAND HARD WORK IN DEPTH

WE ARE TRUE, DETERMINED, AND RIGHT  
WE TRY WITH ALL OUR MIGHT

I AM HEADED TOWARDS COLLEGE  
THE RIGHT PLACE OF KNOWLEDGE

WE WILL MAINTAIN OUR AMBITION  
THAT BEING OUR LONGLASTING MISSION

CENTRAL JERSEY COLLEGE PREP  
WILL GET US THERE STEP BY STEP

Central Jersey College Prep does not discriminate against any member of its community on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities or handicap in educational programs or activities.

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## INTRODUCTION

Founded on 2006 the Central Jersey College Prep (CJCP) is a charter school that serves grades 7 through 12. The founders of the school consider a college education to be not solely a tool for getting a high-paying job but also, more significantly, to be a crucial phase in modern human life that equips the individual with skills, knowledge and values necessary to succeed in an increasingly complex global society. CJCP students will be accompanied by a rigorous and relevant academic program that will teach students the most efficient ways of finding information, critical and independent thinking, and problem-solving skills. This will involve interactive teaching and assignments that help the students improve their analytical and independent thinking skills, continuously challenging and encouraging the students to pursue a higher education, and keeping them abreast of current information and technology.

This catalog provides useful information to plan your high school education program. It contains information regarding high school graduation requirements, guidelines, and course descriptions. It is a complete guide to the possible course offerings at CJCP. Each department has described its specific course offerings, highlighting the chief components of each course. Final decisions regarding the actual offering of any particular course for the 2010-2011 school year will be dependent upon enrollment and budget constraints. Therefore, not all classes listed in this catalog are guaranteed to run every school year.

Planning a student's high school program of studies demands a cooperative effort between home and school. We cannot stress strongly enough the need for careful planning among the student, his or her parents, teachers and counselor in order for a program to be adapted to individual as well as state and local requirements. The program of studies that a student pursues in high school should reflect his or her aspirations, achievements, and aptitudes.

Our course offerings provide a wide variety of learning opportunities. As you examine the course selections in this booklet please bear in mind not only short-term needs but also long-term goals. Beyond state, district, college and career requirements, you are encouraged to select courses that will be academically stimulating and personally enriching. Above all, please plan a program, which challenges you appropriately, sets realistic goals, and enables you to take advantage of the diversified offerings available. Please consider the following criteria in selecting particular courses. Does the course:

- a. Meet the high school graduation requirements?
- b. Provide an outlet for interests in specific subject areas?
- c. Reflect a significant proficiency level?
- d. Provide a background for post high school plans leading to career options?
- e. Meet general college entrance requirements?
- f. Meet college entrance requirements specific to schools in which you are interested?

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order for a student to receive a high school diploma from CJCP, each student must:

- A. Pass the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA)
- B. Successfully complete a minimum of 130 credits. The course work must include the following course requirements:
  - Language Arts – at least 20 credits
  - Mathematics – at least 20 credits
  - Science – at least 15 credits
  - Social Studies – at least 20 credits (including two courses in US History)
  - Physical Education and Health – at least 20 credits
  - World Languages – at least 10 credits
  - Visual and Performing Arts – at least 5 credits
  - Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills – at least 5 credits
  - Additional Elective – at least 15 credits

Each full year course that meets routinely shall yield 5 credits. Semester courses that meet routinely shall yield 2.5 credits.

### **Visual and Performing Arts Courses**

|                      |                             |                    |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Art Careers          | Foundations of Art          | Music Appreciation |
| Commercial Art       | Graphic Novels & Cartooning | Music Theater      |
| Computer Graphics I  | Painting I                  | Music Theory       |
| Computer Graphics II | Painting II                 | Music Workshop     |
| Drawing I            | Photography I               | World Music        |
| Drawing II           | Photography II              | Drama              |
| Fashion Design       | Chorus                      |                    |

### **Career Education and Consumer, Family, and Life Skills Courses**

|                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Computer Applications            | Internet & Web Design              |
| Computers in Business            | Advanced Web Design                |
| Computer Graphics I              | Artificial Intelligence & Robotics |
| Computer Graphics II             | Engineering Technology             |
| Computer Programming             | Journalism                         |
| Computer Technology              | Art Careers                        |
| Digital Design                   | Broadcast Writing                  |
| Digital Media                    | Commercial Art                     |
| Digital Networks                 | Fashion Design                     |
| Graphics & Publishing with Adobe |                                    |

### **Grade Level Promotion Requirements**

To be promoted to the next grade level, a student must have completed a required number of credits during the school year.

9th grade to 10th grade: 30 credits

10th grade to 11th grade: 60 credits

11th grade to 12th grade: 90 credits

## GRADE POLICY

The following symbols are used to represent grades:

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| A+ = 98 – 100 | C+ = 77 – 79 |
| A = 93 – 97   | C = 73 – 76  |
| A- = 89 – 92  | C- = 70 – 72 |
| B+ = 87 – 88  | D+ = 67 – 69 |
| B = 83 – 86   | D = 65 – 66  |
| B- = 80 – 82  | F = 0 – 64   |

## GRADE POINT AVERAGE

A student's Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by multiplying the number of credits per course by the grade achieved in the course. The totals for each course are added and then divided by the number of credits taken to compute a student's grade point average. A weighted GPA is computed to provide information for scholarships and to determine valedictorian and salutatorian. Class rank information is available only upon request.

There are two levels of courses utilized for the purpose of calculating weighted grade point average. Weighted courses are Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors (H) courses. Unweighted courses are courses not designated AP or H. Advanced Placement courses are weighted 1.33. Honors courses are weighed 1.25.

Grading Chart

| Grade | Standard | AP   | H    |
|-------|----------|------|------|
| A+    | 4.03     | 5.36 | 5.04 |
| A     | 4.00     | 5.32 | 5.00 |
| A-    | 3.67     | 4.87 | 4.58 |
| B+    | 3.33     | 4.43 | 4.16 |
| B     | 3.00     | 3.99 | 3.75 |
| B-    | 2.67     | 3.55 | 3.34 |
| C+    | 2.33     | 3.1  | 2.91 |
| C     | 2.00     | 2.66 | 2.5  |
| C-    | 1.67     | 2.22 | 2.09 |
| D+    | 1.33     | 1.77 | 1.66 |
| D     | 1.00     | 1.33 | 1.25 |
| F     | 0.00     | 0.00 | 0.00 |

## **VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN**

Student with the highest overall GPA will be the valedictorian. The student with the second highest GPA will be the salutatorian. A transfer student must attend Central Jersey College Prep for his/her entire junior and senior years to be considered as valedictorian or salutatorian. Grades received in the program of study at his/her previous school will be included.

## **PRINCIPAL'S LIST & HONOR ROLL**

The principal's list and honor roll serve as a mark of excellence to recognize students who excel academically. The principal's list and honor roll are prepared at the end of each marking period. They are based on letter grades and include all subjects.

To qualify for Principal's List a student shall have all A's and not more than one B. To qualify for honor roll a student shall have all A's or B's and not more than one C.

## **SUMMER SCHOOL**

Course credits may be earned in any summer school offered by any New Jersey public school district and approved by the State Department of Education. The State of New Jersey mandates a minimum of 60 summer school class hours for the remediation of a full-year course already taken with unsatisfactory grade results. The minimum hours for less than full-year courses are prorated accordingly. Summer school grades are recorded on the student's transcript with the appropriate coding; they do not replace any grade already earned. Prior approval from the Chief Education Officer is required before registering for summer school. Final approval for any summer school experience where credit or course advancement will be sought requires the written permission of the Chief Education Officer. To earn credit a student must pass the summer school with a grade of C or better.

Credit may be earned in the summer for a maximum of two courses. If there are extenuating circumstances and a cogent case can be made by a parent/guardian in conference with the Guidance Counselor, a third course may be taken for credit only with the approval of the Chief Education Officer.

## **GRADE REPORTING**

Report cards will be issued four times a year, approximately one week after the close of each marking period. Progress reports will be issued at the midpoint of each marking period. Report cards and progress reports make note of commendations and recommendations. Specific suggestions are listed for the improvement of some poor academic habits. They will also include a current grade range of performance. A parent should email the teacher if he/she has a question regarding a specific progress report. Grades will always be accessible to parents through the Student Database System.

## **COURSE SCHEDULING PARAMETERS**

Each student will carry 8 classes per semester. Preference will be given to juniors and seniors when enrollment in any course is too large. The right is reserved by the CJCP to withdraw any course offering if there is an insufficient number of students enrolled in the course, a certified teacher is not available, or budgetary funds were not available. Student scores on state and district tests and previous course grades may affect course placement. Every student is required to be scheduled for a lunch. Please note a course request does not necessarily guarantee placement in that course. Students must meet course requirements and pre-requisites.

High school level courses completed upon completion of grade 8 and prior to grade 9 may be used to meet pre-requisites or advancement in a particular subject area. High school level courses taken prior to grade 9 will not be awarded credit and will not be listed on the high school transcript.

### Criteria for Changing Student Schedules

Students are expected to honor their commitments by attending and satisfactorily completing the courses for which they enroll. Schedule changes will not be made for reasons of convenience or because of teacher preference. Only changes that are educationally beneficial for the student will be considered.

Schedule changes will be considered only for the following reasons:

1. The correction of a clerical error in the schedule. Examples might include a missing course, a conflict between two or more courses, failure of a prerequisite course, or a serious imbalance in the course load assigned for each semester.
2. A recommendation from the Child Study Team.
3. A recommendation from a building administrator for disciplinary, attendance, or instructional reasons. [Schedules changed according to this criterion may result in a grade of WF (Withdraw Failing), which will negatively impact the student's permanent record.]
4. A teacher recommends a change based on the fact that the student is misplaced in a particular course or that a change in level would be beneficial to the student. Teacher recommendations for changes according to this criterion must be made prior to the end of the first quarter of all courses, i.e. by the first progress report for year long courses. This must be done with the approval of the Administration.

Schedule changes WILL NOT be considered for any of the following reasons:

1. Course content or standards differing from student expectation.
2. Dropping a course because it is not needed for graduation.
3. Inability of a student to relate well to a given teacher.
4. Preference for some other subject.
5. Dropping a course in order to lighten student's load.

**Important Note:** A level change can be made by the administration if a student has difficulty with the course work and it is deemed necessary, appropriate and in the best interest of the student. This change may be initiated at the recommendation of the I&RS Committee, the classroom teacher, or the administration.

## DROPPING OF COURSES

The dropping of a course is a serious matter and is generally discouraged; such an action should be done only after much thought and consultation takes place. The request to drop a course must be in writing by the parent or guardian unless the student is his/her own agent.

### Semester Courses

- Requests to drop a semester course will be considered through the first two weeks after the start of the first and/or third marking periods provided the student would still be scheduled for 8 classes, has the permission of the parent/guardian, and has consulted with his/her assigned counselor. The transcript will not show a grade or any indication of the course.

### Full-Year Courses

- Requests to drop a full-year course will be considered within the first three weeks provided the student would still be scheduled for 8 classes, has the permission of the parent/guardian, and has consulted with his/her counselor and the subject supervisor. The transcript will not show a grade or any indication of the course.

## ADDING OF COURSES

After dropping a course a student may request to add a course provided the student has parental approval and the course has space for an additional student.

### Semester Courses

- A student may enter a new course up to two weeks after the start of the semester.

### Full Year Course

- A student may enter a new full-year course up to three weeks after the start of the school year.

## **AP/HONORS PROGRAM**

Advanced Placement/Honor courses are designed to provide the challenge, rigor and creative opportunities for those students who have demonstrated academic success. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are college level courses for the most academically capable high school students. They are challenging, stimulating and more demanding in terms of time, effort, and depth of the curricular program. AP courses are the equivalent of college work. Some colleges and universities grant college credits for courses taken, based on scores achieved in national examinations. Honors level courses are for students who are self-motivated, and who are willing to devote the extra time and effort needed to meet the accelerated demands of this level.

Students who wish to make application to the program should study the following list of characteristics of the AP/Honors Program to ensure that there is a clear understanding of what is required in each of the program's courses:

- ✓ Students are expected to be able to read 20-30 pages of text as a one-night homework assignment.
- ✓ Students are expected to complete all assigned homework on time.
- ✓ Students are expected to manage independently multiple, concurrent, and long-term projects.
- ✓ Students are expected to write multiple drafts of papers, lab reports, and other assignments before submitting the document for final assessment.
- ✓ Students are expected to have the necessary skills for independently organizing collaborative group tasks.
- ✓ Students are expected to meet with the teacher individually after school for assistance and/or enrichment when appropriate.
- ✓ Students are expected to reason analytically, deductively, and inductively in order to synthesize and evaluate information and data.

### Honors and Advanced Placement Enrollment Criteria

Students need first earn a final grade of A- or better in an academic class. In addition to the final grade, initial course level placement will be based on standardized test results, teacher recommendation and demonstrated competency within the discipline. Recommendations will be based on established classroom participation, proven record of academic achievement, and a demonstrated willingness.

***The AP Exam is a required component of an AP course. Students who do not register for and take the test will not receive AP credits.***

## COLLEGE PLANNING

Admission to colleges and universities varies from easy to extremely competitive. The philosophies of education, specific course requirements, and other qualifications for acceptance vary among the nation's colleges and universities. All, however, recognize the desirability of a broad education with a strong foundation in the traditional, solid academic subjects.

Students should begin the planning process when selecting courses for the high school years. The college preparatory curriculum is a four-year course of study; therefore, families should design a four-year plan that is reviewed and revised annually. Students are evaluated for admission not only in terms of grades achieved, but also with respect to the strength of the academic program undertaken. Students are encouraged to take the strongest possible academic program available within his/her own personal limitations during all four years of high school.

### Academic Requirements for College Entrance

Minimum graduation requirements should not be confused with college admission requirements. A total of sixteen "Academic Units" taken from grades 9-12 are generally the minimum required for college entrance. An academic unit or college entrance unit is the equivalent of five credits in a single academic subject. A semester course of 2.5 credits equals one half college entrance unit. Acceptable units are determined by the college in question. Normally, "Academic Units" are considered to be full year courses in college preparatory Math, Science, English, Social Studies and World Language.

While each college prescribes the number and character of the academic units it will accept, the following are the usual requirements for entrance to four-year colleges:

English: 4 units

Social Studies: 3-5 units

College-prep math: 3-5 units

Foreign Language: 2-5 units (of the same language)

Science: 2-5 units (at least 2 lab sciences)

Students expecting to major in mathematics, science, or world languages are strongly urged to take four years of study in these areas. Because of the high "dropout rate" during the first year of college, the following advice is offered to all college-bound seniors: ***It is more important to complete your first year at college than to enjoy your senior year at high school. Thus, your 12th-grade program should be a rigorous academic experience.***

### College Entrance Examinations

The vast majority of colleges require that a student take one or more standardized tests for admission. The number depends on the college's policy. It is important to remember that test scores are just one part of the total applicant profile. At most institutions, test scores alone do not exclude a student from admission, nor do scores alone guarantee admission.

The two most common test programs are the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT I) and the American College Testing Program (ACT). Most students take the SAT. Consult with your counselor regarding the ACT. Also available is the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).

Colleges may also require or recommend SAT II tests. SAT II tests are one hour for each subject area. You may take one to three tests on any given test date.

It is the student's responsibility to register for all tests and to arrange for the results to be sent to the institution(s) of choice. It is recommended that a student register for the following tests:

Fall of 10th and 11th grade.....PSAT

Spring of 11th grade.....SAT I and/or ACT, SAT II (if required)

Fall of 12th grade .....SAT I and/or ACT, SAT II (if required)

### PSAT

This exam is given once a year in October. All college-bound sophomores and juniors should register to take this test. This is a practice SAT I exam to acclimate the students to the SAT and to provide predictive information for SAT performance. It is also used by the National Merit Corporation to identify highly qualified juniors for recognition. Students should use the PSAT scores to help them select one or more SAT preparation options such as challenging math and English courses, the College Study Skills elective, intensive afternoon/evening programs at the high schools, commercial programs, self-directed materials, among others.

### SAT

This is a three and one-half hour test, divided into three sections: Critical Reading, Writing and Mathematics. The scores range from 200-800 in each section. It is recommended that students take the exam two or three times, two of which should be in their junior year. Students planning to take the SAT for college entrance should enroll in advanced mathematics courses. Past experience has shown that students who are successful with the SAT are those who have prepared themselves with strong academic subjects. The SAT is usually taken during the late spring of the junior year by students planning to attend a four-year college or university. Students may retake the SAT during the fall semester of their senior year. Some colleges require students to take the SAT again in the senior year even if their previous SAT results were quite good.

### SAT II (Subject Tests)

Students applying to selective schools are required to take the SAT II subject area tests (usually three exams). These achievement tests are used by colleges for enrollment and placement in classes. Unlike the SAT I, which measures more general abilities, the SAT II measures the student's knowledge of a particular subject. Because of this, you should try to take an SAT II as soon as possible after you complete your last course in that subject. You cannot take both the SAT I and the SAT II on the same test date.

Each test is one hour long so students can take one, two or three at one administration. Each subject score ranges from 200-800. Students taking advanced coursework in math or science in their freshman or sophomore years may wish to take the related exam; ask your teacher or counselor for more information. Most students take the SAT II subject tests at the end of their junior year or beginning of their senior year. You should consult your counselor for the timing of the test.

**Note:** Students planning to attend county colleges are not required to take the SAT or the SAT subject tests. The SAT is not required for students planning to transfer from a county college to a four-year college. Additional information regarding testing programs is available through the Guidance Office.

### ACT

This test is an alternative to the SAT. It can be taken during a student's junior and/or senior years. The ACT is divided into four parts: Math, English, Science Reasoning, Reading, and an optional Writing section. It assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college level work.

The student will receive a composite score from 1-36. Students with a solid course background and good grades are encouraged to take the ACT test as an alternative to or in addition to the SAT.

*If a student requires extended test time, as stated on their IEP, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to complete the appropriate application and submit it to the College Board.*

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English language skills are the most essential part of a successful education and life experience. The CJCP English program is committed to provide a solid, basic, and traditional foundation in language arts. Students must read the literature that forms the knowledge base of a literate citizen.

The English curriculum focuses on the development of literacy, thinking, and analytical skills; language proficiency and communication through reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing. The English program uses a core list of imaginative, challenging literature selected to expand students' vocabulary and knowledge of the world, including a variety of experiences in the study of multi-cultural, historical, biographical, classical, and contemporary literature. It includes the study of literary genres, movements, trends, and schools of literary thought.

Creativity is encouraged through writing, oral interpretation, critical evaluation, group discussion, collaborative learning, and independent study. The use of up-to-date technology is incorporated. Classes offer college preparatory English in a cooperative learning atmosphere in preparation for PSAT and SAT exams.

### English Department Course Descriptions

#### **Literature 1**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Literature 1 utilizes classic and contemporary literature to establish a framework for enabling students to use language as a tool for exploring the world actively, communicating effectively and growing intellectually. It provides rigorous instruction in all aspects of language skills, including reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and thinking. It entails independent reading, literary analysis, grammar and vocabulary instruction, group projects, oral presentations, and research projects. Students explore a variety of literary genres, such as short stories, novels, biographies, drama, essays, and poetry. The course aims to help students appreciate a wide selection of readings that increase their understanding and appreciation of literature.

#### **Literature 1 Honors**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

The Literature 1 Honors course involves more reading and writing, literary analysis, close reading, and careful exploration of style and thought than Literature 1. Students should develop higher-level reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and thinking skills and write skillful and analytical essays throughout the year. Students are introduced to formal expository writing and an emphasis is

placed on the development of inferential thinking. Such literary genres as short stories, novels, biographies, drama, essays and poetry are explored. Language study also includes vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, usage, self and peer editing. The writing process is incorporated into each literary genre.

### **Writing Essentials**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This required 9th grade course will be taken in addition to regular 9th grade English course. The importance of writing in today's complex world was the essential reason in designing a course that will reinforce the development of writing skills. Central to the writing program will be the composing process in which students learn to prepare, write, and edit for a variety of audiences and purposes. Instruction in the support skills, grammar, usage, and mechanics, will be stressed within the editing phase of the composing process. Students will write in various rhetorical forms (persuasion, exposition, description, and narration) and in diverse formats (letters, essays, fiction, journals) in order to develop their voices as writers. To develop writing skills, students will practice such activities as self-evaluation, peer editing and teacher conferences.

### **Literature 2**

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 1

Literature 2 introduces students to representative works of American writers who reflect the enduring traditions and styles of American Literature. Students will analyze the development of the American national identity and evolution of American voice through a progression of literary styles. Students continue the study of vocabulary, grammar, mechanics and usage. The development of writing skills is a high priority. The essay and expository writing forms are studied and correlated with skills in organization and logic. This course will also provide preparation for the PSAT and SAT verbal sections.

### **Literature 2 Honors**

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 1 Honors/Teacher recommendation

Literature 2 Honors is a challenging course that introduces the student to representative works of American writers who reflect the enduring traditions and styles of American literature. Students continue the study of vocabulary, grammar, mechanics and usage. The development of writing skills is a high priority for students. The essay and expository writing forms are studied and correlated with skills in organization and logic. However, at the honors level, students will examine these areas in more depth.

### **Literature 3**

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 2

Students will study works of British literature from classic and contemporary traditions. The course will emphasize skill development in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening, as well as an appreciation of British culture and its influences on society today. The level and content of the class will challenge the analytical interpretations of literature, while encouraging students to take creative risks and offer original thought. Emphasis will be placed upon the link between form and content. Research writing and a demonstration of the process will be emphasized. Composition and vocabulary study will be ongoing and linked to reading and writing. An intensive program of expository writing will emphasize critical thinking. Grammar and usage will be reinforced contextually. Students will also focus on HSPA and SAT skills.

### **Literature 3 Honors**

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 2 Honors/Teacher recommendation

Literature 3 Honors applies the use of language as a tool for exploring the world actively, communicating effectively and growing intellectually through the study of British literature. Students in the honors program will be asked to read and write in a more independent fashion than in other English courses. As a result of an accelerated instructional pace, core literature will be enriched with advanced-level assignments.

### **Literature 4**

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 3

This world literature course is designed to help students develop reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing skills. Students will read a variety of genre and respond critically using all the language arts. By exploring materials, both contemporary and classical world literature, students will be challenged to achieve the highest degree of literacy as they prepare to understand and become part of the global society. The course will entail independent reading, literary analysis, grammar and vocabulary instruction, group projects, oral presentations, and research projects. Students will be encouraged to develop skills to ensure that they will be lifelong learners. A variety of readings, multiple writing assignments, and speaking/listening/viewing experiences will challenge students to think critically in preparation for further schooling and the communication realities of the workplace.

### **AP Literature and Composition**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 3/Teacher recommendation

The AP English Literature and Composition is designed to be a college level undergraduate course. This means that the intensity of the workload is consistently higher and requires more than any other English course offered thus far. This course ends with a culminating AP Literature Exam in May. Students taking this exam must achieve a score of 3 or above in order to gain credit for most colleges and universities.

### **AP Language and Composition**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Literature 3/Teacher recommendation

The goal of the AP English Language and Composition is to prepare students to enter college already conversant in writing and analysis skills commonly taught in representative freshman-level composition courses required by most colleges and universities. The course teaches students to be skilled readers and writers of diverse modes of composition by engaging them in careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative, communicative literature. This course ends with a culminating AP Literature Exam in May. Students taking this exam must achieve a score of 3 or above in order to gain credit for most colleges and universities.

### **Comprehension and Composition I**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed for students who need additional instruction and practice in reading and writing. Students are identified for this course based on test scores and prior performance. Literacy Support provides students with the opportunity to address their identified academic deficiencies. Students work on individual and group activities that include using computers for reading and writing, practicing test-taking strategies, writing timed and untimed essays, practicing for the HSPA, and practicing reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.

### **Comprehension and Composition II**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course provides additional instruction and practice in reading and writing. Students are identified for this course based on test scores and prior performance in the first semester course. Literacy Support provides students with the opportunity to address their identified academic deficiencies. Students work on individual and group activities that include using computers for reading and writing, practicing test-taking strategies, writing timed and untimed essays, practicing for the HSPA, and practicing reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills.

## **Journalism**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course is an introduction to both print and on line media. Students will analyze the impact of media on society and its influence on daily life. The course emphasizes the power of communication in writing and provides techniques and practice for writing news, features, reviews, editorials, columns, and sports articles. Students will learn the particular skills needed in journalistic writing, such as fact gathering, note taking, objective reporting, interviewing, editing, and proofreading. Students will also learn approaches to investigative reporting and will learn the code of ethics to which journalists adhere. This course provides an excellent opportunity to develop skills in observation and public relations, as well as skills in grammar and language usage. Students develop responsibility by producing a high school newspaper.

## **SAT Prep Math & English**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

In this year long course, students will develop the skills necessary to understand the purpose, philosophy, and format of the mathematics and verbal sections of the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Two marking periods of instruction will be directed by a Math teacher, the remaining two marking periods by an English teacher. The course will review the content areas that are measured on this standardized test and provide students with an opportunity to review and strengthen these areas. Test-taking strategies and techniques will also be discussed.

## **African-American Literature**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed to help students to develop their skills as critical readers by actively engaging with well written literary works. It provides an overview of the work of African American writers from Colonial times to the present. The African-American experience will be explored through a variety of voices, writing styles, and genres.

## **American Crime Fiction**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course offers students an opportunity to study the crime story in American literature. The historical roots of crime fiction will be examined through the genesis of the genre beginning with Edgar Allen Poe. Students will explore the development of crime fiction by 20th century writers such as Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler and continue exploring modern writers of the genre. Through examination and analysis of short stories, fiction, poetry, and various arts and media genres in the context of popular culture, the course will provide an opportunity to engage in social, political and moral climate of each detective's era of crime investigation. At the end of this course, students will have a better understanding of how a true crime story emphasizes the character conflict and the problems inherent in human behavior.

### **Broadcast Writing**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Broadcast Writing provides an opportunity for students to use and develop English skills in practical ways as they explore and participate in Television production. Activities included in the course are scriptwriting, critical analysis of advertisements and Television programs, as well as numerous production techniques. It is intended to offer students a chance to apply their knowledge of writing and media literacy skills.

### **Contemporary Literature**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed to help students to develop their skills as critical readers by actively engaging with well written literary works. The focus of this course is specifically on 21st century literary works. Through an examination of the various emerging voices and styles of the new millennium, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the diversity of our current society.

### **Creative Writing**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Creative Writing is an elective course that offers students opportunities to develop talents and techniques for composing stories, essays, poems, narratives, dramatic scripts, and personal observations. The course emphasizes the impact of projected audience on the writer's content, purpose, and style. Varied approaches to imaginative writing are explored in creative writing. Students are encouraged to improve their own skills in a variety of modes including prose, verse, and drama. Instruction will focus on using models to establish criteria for "good" writing. Students are required to practice the writing process, use word processors, work individually and independently, proofread and edit in small groups, confer with the teacher, and share writings in whole-class activities. A writing portfolio must be maintained by the student. Students selecting Creative Writing should be motivated to participate and demonstrate a genuine interest in composing.

### **Drama**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course offers students the opportunity to explore the drama and theatre through critical, technical, and performance viewpoints. Students will create and evaluate dramatic works, conceptualize and construct theatrical productions, and interpret and develop dramatic characters. Fundamental speaking and listening skills are incorporated with units of study. The basic traditional genres of expression – the play, monologues and poetic forms – will be practiced. A variety of readings, classical and contemporary, will be used in the study of theatrical art. Through a variety of exercises drama will encourage students to act, improvise, write, read, and listen. In addition, students will participate in audience critiques of their classmates' performances.

## **Great Novels**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed to help students to develop their skills as critical readers by actively engaging with well written contemporary literary novels. It aims to create a love of reading in students that may not otherwise been cultivated. Students will be applying history and biographical background to the work while reading novels. Reading modern literature expands reading genres and makes reading for fun relevant. Through novels this course will also study the human conditions and the philosophical implications of literature as art and communication. Some examples of the novels are: The Secret Life of Bees, The Chosen, Night, and To Kill a Mockingbird.

## **Public Speaking**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed to provide students with opportunities to develop their skills in speaking in front of an audience. Students will learn the strategies and techniques of effective speaking then practice their speaking skills in a variety of real life situations. These include, but are not limited to, interviews, acceptance speeches, presentations, impromptu situations, persuasive speeches, demonstration speeches, and oral interpretation. Through making in-class presentations, critiquing speeches and researching for assignments, students will acquire an understanding of what it takes to give an exciting and interesting speech. Critical thinking, listening skills and personal creativity will be emphasized. Students will gain experience that will benefit them in high school, college and the business world.

## **Women's Literature**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed to help students to develop their skills as critical readers by actively engaging with well written literary works. The focus of this course is on female authors and their contributions to the field of literature. An exploration of works from various time periods will examine the unique challenges faced by women as they asserted their literary voices.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

A strong foundation in mathematics is a prerequisite for success in our increasingly analytical world. The Mathematics Department provides a variety of course offerings to help prepare students for a future in an increasingly complex and technological society.

Since math skills are sequential, it is essential that prerequisite skills be mastered before more rigorous, abstract courses are taken. The prerequisites are firmly based on the proficiency a student demonstrates over the entire year of work in mathematics preceding each course. Student performance grades and teacher recommendation will be used to determine the best placement for a student.

Classes offer college preparatory mathematics in a cooperative learning atmosphere in preparation for PSAT and SAT exams. Students are expected to take a math course every year in order to be prepared for college education.

### Mathematics Department Course Descriptions

#### **Algebra I**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Algebra I is the first course in the college preparatory program in mathematics and provides students with a solid foundation in algebra. Algebra I explores the study of real number properties and classifications, polynomials and polynomial operations, solving equations and inequalities involving rational, linear, and quadratic expressions, graphs of these equations and inequalities, exponents, radicals, and an introduction to functions. Problem solving, reading, student discussion of strategies and use of technology will be applied throughout this course.

#### **Algebra I Honors**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will provide the student with in depth instruction at an accelerated pace. The student must have self motivation and the ability to comprehend reading materials. Topics include simplifying expressions, solving equations, graphing and writing equations of lines, operations on polynomials, exponents and radicals, factoring polynomials, and solving related word problems.

#### **Geometry**

Grade Level: 9, 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Geometry is a college-preparatory course designed to familiarize each student with plane and some aspects of solid Euclidean Geometry. The course includes a study of inductive and deductive reasoning, properties of segments, angles, perpendicular and parallel lines, triangles, quadrilaterals,

circles, transformations, similarity, congruence, perimeter and area of two-dimensional figures and volume of solids. Real-world problem solving is emphasized in the study of each topic. Proofs are incorporated throughout the course. In addition, the student is given the opportunity to develop powers of spatial visualization and learn to use precise and clear mathematical language. Algebra skills and concepts are integrated throughout the course.

### **Geometry Honors**

Grade Level: 9, 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors/Teacher recommendation

The honors section of geometry is offered to students who have exhibited high mathematical ability and mastery of Algebra I. This course extensively covers the topics studied in geometry. Additional topics include symbolic logic, the use of geometry software, formal proof and fractals. The honors section stresses analytical thought and problem solving.

### **Algebra II**

Grade Level: 10, 11

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry

Algebra II is the third course in the regular college preparatory program in mathematics. Algebra II extends the study begun in Algebra I and applies the knowledge gained in Geometry. Topics for instruction also include: analyzing equations and inequalities, graphing linear relations and solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, using matrices, polynomials and radical expressions, quadratic functions and inequalities, polynomial functions, rational expressions, inverse relations, fractional exponents, the complex number system, and exponential and logarithmic functions. Problem solving is applied throughout this course.

### **Algebra II Honors**

Grade Level: 10, 11

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors, Geometry Honors/Teacher recommendation

This course will provide the student with in-depth instruction at an accelerated pace. This course is a comprehensive study of advanced mathematical concepts. At the end of this course, the student will be able to solve linear, quadratic, as well as radical and rational equations. Students will also be able to factor and use matrices; use rational and irrational expressions; and work with exponential and logarithmic functions, imaginary and complex numbers, and analytic geometry.

### **Advanced Algebra & Trigonometry**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course incorporates the study of extended algebra topics with the study of trigonometry. Topics include function theory, circular functions and their graphs, trig identities, properties of

circular functions, inverse functions, conic sections, and the solution of triangles. These concepts are reinforced through math modeling of real world applications. Equation solving, problem solving and graphing are stressed throughout the course.

### **Topics in Math I**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed for those students who have been identified by scoring below the passing cutoff for the eleventh grade High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) in mathematics. Teacher recommendation and prior academic history are also factors that affect student placement. Students will have the opportunity to strengthen skills for HSPA. After the October administration of the HSPA students will begin SAT and College Entrance Exam preparation.

### **Topics in Math II**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is the second half of the coursework designed for those students who have been identified by scoring below the passing cutoff for the eleventh grade High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) in mathematics. Teacher recommendation and prior academic history are also factors that affect student placement. Students will continue to have the opportunity to strengthen skills for HSPA. After the March administration of the HSPA students will begin SAT and College Entrance Exam preparation.

### **Pre-Calculus**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This college preparatory course lays the groundwork for the study of calculus. This course involves a review of the properties of the real number system and some properties of the complex number system. Emphasis is on problem solving and the study of relations, functions (trigonometric, exponential, logarithmic, circular, linear, polynomial, rational), equation solving (trigonometric, polar, linear, and quadratic), inverse functions, identities, and graphing. Analytic trigonometry and additional topics in trigonometry are studied in depth. The studies of polar coordinates, sequences, series and probability are incorporated.

### **Calculus Honors**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

This course gives students the calculus background necessary for most college calculus courses. Calculus Honors begins with a review of pre-calculus concepts followed by an introduction to limit theory and continuity. The definition of derivative and definite integral are developed in detail. The process of differentiation and integration of algebraic, circular, exponential and logarithmic functions and their applications are studied in depth. Several techniques of integration are explored

including algebraic substitutions, partial fractions and integration of parts. In all units, the development is theoretical with ample applications of the key concepts and processes.

### **AP Calculus**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus is offered to students who wish to prepare for the College Board Advanced Placement Examination to seek college credit and/or advanced standing in mathematics. This course is primarily concerned with developing students' understanding of the concepts of calculus through graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal representations. The course covers all topics associated with Functions, Graphs, and Limits; Derivatives; and Integrals.

### **Integrated Math**

Grade Level: 9, 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course is required for students identified as at-risk in mathematics due to their level of math score and achievement in the 9th grade math course. Teachers will identify individual student's areas of weakness in mathematics and tailor a learning program that will build skill, strength, and self-confidence. Topics include: equations and inequalities involving rational, linear, and quadratic expressions, graphs of equations and inequalities, reasoning and measurement, modeling, and functions.

### **Business Math**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will present students with everyday events that require mathematical skills and strengthen their understanding in these skills. Topics included are algebra skills, geometry skills, budgeting money, maintaining bank accounts, opening and maintaining credit, understanding insurances, transportation concerns, finding and maintaining housing, budgeting for recreation, and travel planning.

### **SAT Prep Math & English**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

In this year long course, students will develop the skills necessary to understand the purpose, philosophy, and format of the mathematics and verbal sections of the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Two marking periods of instruction will be directed by a Math teacher, the remaining two marking periods by an English teacher. The course will review the content areas that are measured on this standardized test and provide students with an opportunity to review and strengthen these areas. Test-taking strategies and techniques will also be discussed.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

A comprehensive knowledge of science is required in order to be a responsible member of today's technical society. With this belief in mind, CJCP science education stresses quantitative reasoning as well as experimentation and observation. Students are encouraged to be curious about the natural world surrounding them and come to understand the importance of science in many different careers. The CJCP experience will be a good first step towards a career in science for some, but every student will learn through practice the "scientific method" – which is really a disciplined approach to discovery that applies to almost all walks of life.

### Science Department Course Descriptions

#### **Biology**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Biology is the science field that relates primarily to life processes and living things. The course focuses on basic life processes, including how cells obtain energy for life, how they assemble to form the tissues, organs and organ systems that make up living things and how those organisms interact with their environment. Topics studied include: biochemistry, cell biology, flow of energy through the biosphere, patterns of genetic inheritance, the structure and function of DNA, patterns of reproduction, principles of modern taxonomy, evolution and ecology. The nature of scientific inquiry is threaded throughout the course as students engage in problem solving, data analyzing, observing, inferring, summarizing and communicating. The course integrates career education, problem solving and decision-making skills through biology simulations and inquiry-based laboratory activities. Emphasis is on Laboratory work, written reports, and the use of technology to gather and analyze data. Some of the laboratories are designed to demonstrate or illustrate concepts, while others are inquiry-based and involve open-ended experiments.

#### **Chemistry**

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Chemistry introduces students to the science of chemistry, a study of matter, its composition and structure, and the changes it may undergo. Emphasis is placed on the experimental nature of this branch of science with consideration given to practical applications in the scientific world. A study of the structure of the atom and the periodic law leads to an understanding of the organization of the elements in the periodic table. This knowledge is used to develop concepts of ionic, covalent and metallic bonding among atoms as well as to write formulas for compounds and equations to represent chemical reactions. Students are introduced to the study of gas laws, solutions, acids, bases and salts and their attendant chemical reactions, dimensional analysis, mole concept, kinetics, equilibrium, electrochemistry and oxidation-reduction. Laboratory work and written reports and the use of technology to gather and analyze data are emphasized.

## **Physics**

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Physics is the study of matter and energy and their interactions. Emphasis is placed on the experimental nature of physics with consideration given to the commutation and practical applications in the scientific world. The course covers the topics of kinematics, dynamics, wave motion, and light. The course also introduces the student to electricity, electromagnetism, and modern physics concepts. Experimental methods, laboratory techniques, technology, and problem solving techniques are emphasized. Algebra and graphical analysis are mathematical tools used in this course. The study of physics is a prerequisite for all advanced study in science and is required in such fields as engineering, medicine and scientific research.

## **AP Biology**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 6

Length of Course: Full Year

The course is designed to provide students an opportunity to take a college level introductory biology course with the support of a high school environment. The course covers a broad spectrum of topics within the life sciences. The course provides opportunities for inquiry based learning and hands on exploration of major lab concepts, totaling approximately 25% of the class time. The lab experiences will include the 12 College Board recommended laboratories that emphasize experimental and quantitative explorations. All these labs will be student conducted. Throughout the year the following major themes of biology will be emphasized: 1) Science as a Process, 2) Evolution, 3) Energy Transfer, 4) Continuity and Change, 5) Relationship of Structure to Function, 6) Regulation, 7) Interdependence in Nature, and 8) Science, Technology, and Society.

## **AP Chemistry**

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits: 6

Length of Course: Full Year

AP Chemistry is a rigorous course meeting the same requirements found in a first year college chemistry course. Students will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course stresses the student's ability to think clearly and express his/her ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. This course differs qualitatively from the first year secondary course in chemistry with respect to the kind of textbook used, depth of topics covered, the emphasis on chemical calculations and the mathematical formulation of principles, and the kind of laboratory work done. Topics include: Atomic Theory and Structure, Periodicity, Chemical Bonding, Nuclear Chemistry, Gas Laws, Kinetic Molecular Theory, Solutions, Reactions, Equilibrium, Kinetics, Electrochemistry, Thermodynamics, and Organic Chemistry.

## **Artificial Intelligence and Robotics**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Physics / Teacher Recommendation

It is the goal of this course to study artificial intelligence as it applies to today's technology and to instill an understanding of knowledge acquisition, machine learning, artificial perception and action,

and intelligent automation. Through the use of computer programs in various languages including Visual Basic and Java, students will be responsible for the development of advanced computational and robotic systems, aiming at a partial emulation of human intelligence. Students will also study designing and building logic boards, and programming computer chips. There will be culminating projects including designing and building robots that can discover and remember a path through a maze, find the shortest path between multiple objects and play a game. This course is part of a four-year programming sequence. Students have the opportunity to prepare for the FIRST Robotics Team Competitions.

### **Engineering Technology**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisites: Physics/Teacher Recommendation

This applied Physics course will provide the opportunity for students to learn physics concepts in more depth and to apply the knowledge they have acquired to build various devices that perform specific functions. The students will work with robots and other machines and compete in various competitions such as “First Robotics Competition”, “Conqueror of the Hill,” and the “Physics Olympics.” This is a project oriented, conceptual course, as opposed to the problem solving, theoretical Physics courses.

### **Environmental Science**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course is a study of the Earth’s biological and chemical systems and how they interact to provide an inhabitable environment for the myriad living organisms on this planet. Major environmental concerns will be studied, researched, and analyzed throughout the year. Topics will include: environment, global ecology, population, land use, natural resources, energy, water environment, air pollution, pest control, industrial and domestic waste, agriculture, and societal factors. Laboratory work and the use of technology to gather and manipulate data will be implemented throughout the course. This course will prepare students for the fields of environmental sciences and environmental law, as well as to prepare them to be responsible citizens.

### **Forensic Science**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

This course will introduce students to forensic science. Forensic Science is the application of science to those criminal and civil laws that are enforced by agencies in the criminal justice system. Forensic science is multidisciplinary, encompassing concepts in many areas such as biology, chemistry, zoology, anatomy, genetics, physics, medicine, math, statistics, Earth science, sociology, psychology, communications, and law. Students will enhance their general science skills with an emphasis on deductive reasoning, critical thinking and problem solving. Students will apply scientific concepts in genetics, chemical analysis, the laws of force and motion, and environmental relationships. Laboratory procedures from biology, chemistry, physics and earth science are used to solve a variety

of hypothetical crimes. The course will encourage collaborative teamwork and precise communication. It will also help students become aware of the many different career opportunities in the fields of science.

### **Organic and Biochemistry**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

Students will build on the foundation they have developed the first year of Chemistry and develop an understanding of basic Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Analytical Chemistry. By carrying out synthesis and analysis of compounds (for example aspirin, polymers, etc.) students will gain an understanding of the principles of more advanced chemistry. This course provides a survey of major functional classes of compounds in organic and biochemistry. Topics include structure, properties, and reactions of the major organic and biological molecules and basic principles of metabolism carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, nucleic acids, enzymes and metabolism. This course will be especially helpful to those students planning to major in fields that rely on organic chemistry, biochemistry, and analytical chemistry (Pharmaceutics, Pre-Med, Nursing, Dentistry, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, etc.).

### **Astronomy**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisites: Physics

Students investigate the Earth's place in the universe by following the development of observations and ideas of the cosmos over past centuries leading to and including current thought. The course begins with study and observation of the moon then moves on to the solar system, stellar evolution, galaxies, and ends with the study of theories on how the universe has evolved (from the beginning to the end). The course will include observation and interpretation of objects such as planets, moons, comets, meteors, and other cosmic phenomena. Topics include the sun, moon, Earth, planets, comets, stars, galaxies, principles of mass, gravitation, motion, black holes and the relationship between science and technology.

### **Aerospace**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisites: Physics

Aerospace is a semester course that offers a description of man's quest to reach the stars, from air flight to space flight. This course will immerse students into the investigation of gravity, conservation principles and motion, fluid and solid mechanics, energy and vehicle design, navigation, communication technology and space politics. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through a variety of hands-on, scenario-based problems that promote critical thinking. The study of aerospace includes the interdisciplinary application of Algebra and Physics.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

The focus of the CJCP Social Studies Department is to prepare students to be responsible and productive citizens. Students will understand and apply civic, historical and geographical knowledge in order to become a citizen in a diverse world. They will apply information, concepts and perspectives from the history of our nation and the history and development of other nations. They will also understand the building blocks of representative government and will deliberate on public issues. Moreover, emphasis will be on understanding the evolution of early civilizations and the development of new ideas, institutions and systems of thought, recognizing that events in the past inform the present, and understanding the rich and varied achievements of diverse peoples.

In order to fulfill New Jersey State graduation requirements students will take a one-year required course in world history and a two one-year required course in United States history. Moreover, New Jersey history, Holocaust, civics and geography education are all infused into the curriculum.

### **Social Studies Department Course Descriptions**

#### **World History**

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

World History examines significant time periods of human development from the Age of Exploration to the present time. The course surveys the historical development of the commonalities and differences among world civilizations. Through the lens of the social sciences, this course encourages an understanding of the uniqueness and interdependence of world civilizations. It emphasizes analysis of primary source materials and evaluation of historical interpretations; it also aims to bring a historical perspective to bear on understanding the state of the world today. It focuses on the basic elements of all societies through the study of institutions of civilizations-family, religion, education, economics and government. It aims to develop fundamental social studies skills, including analysis of written primary sources, reading and lecture note-taking, essay writing, information collection and organization, debating, public speaking, critical thinking, and map/graph/table reading and interpretation.

#### **US History**

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course is the first of the two one-year course requirement in United States History. In this course students will develop skill in the social studies as they immerse themselves in the study of the American history. The first part of the course will focus on major pre-twentieth century themes: revolution, nationalism, slavery, westward migration, sectionalism, and industrialization. The second part will feature themes central to the twentieth century: immigration, urbanization, political and social reform, economic depression, and the emergence of the United States as a world power. Students will develop their ability to analyze the events of American history as they engage in

reading, writing, discussion, debate, and research about the topics and themes identified. Students will also be exposed to the history of the New Jersey.

### **History of US Government and Economics**

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course examines the origins and development of the principles of American Government and practices of the political and economic systems in the United States. Important historical events that have shaped the United States government's domestic, economic and foreign policies are emphasized. The relationship between the political and economic systems is highlighted. Topics examined include: the nature of government, national, state, and local government in the U.S., comparative government systems, political parties, interest groups, citizen participation, supply and demand, resource allocation and use, income distribution, business cycles, and the relationship between politics and the economy. This course ultimately aims to examine the rich historical and multicultural heritage of this nation, the expanded role of the government in domestic matters and its pivotal role in world affairs, and the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. Students will also study the role New Jersey played in the development of U. S. political and economic systems.

### **Global Studies**

Grade Level: 12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will examine many problems have transcended the boundaries of nations and have become global issues. Topics will include economic development, environmental concerns, energy alternatives, ethnic conflict, regional integration, global and national security, and human rights. Problem solving will be emphasized. Students engage in reading, writing, discussion, debate, and research about the topics and themes identified.

### **AP US Government and Politics**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course is intended for qualified students who wish to complete studies equivalent to a one-semester college introductory course. This course is designed to give students a critical perspective on politics and government, involving both the study of general concepts used to interpret American politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also will develop familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up the American political reality.

### **AP US History**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course offers the student a college level experience in an academic pursuit. Through an examination of historical resources and materials, students are required to analyze content information, weigh evidence, interpret cause and effect relationships, and make conclusions based

upon informed judgments. Students must have demonstrated superior proficiencies in language and social studies. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for the AP US History Exam.

### **AP World History**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

The purpose of the AP World History course is to develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. This course is equivalent to an introductory college course in world history. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for the AP World History Exam.

### **American Legal System**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will introduce students to the national and local laws and legal institutions that affect every aspect of the life. Students will study criminal, civil, tort, contract, consumer, juvenile, and constitutional law. The course will provide practical information, knowledge and problem solving skills needed to survive in our law-based society. It will help students understand their legal rights and responsibilities, and will provide experience with everyday legal problems and the ability to deal with such situations. Court decisions and case studies will be used to give students practical insight into the mechanics of the judicial process and the theory of the legal system. Active student involvement is the key to the course, and case studies, role-playing problems, mock trials, and other activities provide an assortment of materials and approaches that will appeal to a variety of students. Strong analytical skills and the motivation to be critical are necessary for the course.

### **Ancient Empires**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will focus on ancient empires from Sumeria to Rome. Students will study the Sumerian, Egyptian, Akkadian, Babylonian, Hittite, Greek, Carthaginian, Assyrian, Persian, and Roman Empire. Students will examine each empire's history, building achievements, art, literature, and culture.

### **Challenges of Democracy**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course focuses on an examination of the political, social and economic problems facing America's democracy today. In order to understand these challenges, students investigate current issues in society such as: affirmative action, welfare, the death penalty, immigration, free speech, campaign contributions, gun control, education, foreign aid, and human rights. Students will study state, national and international events and will choose many of the issues discussed. Students not

only analyze the effects of these issues on American democracy, but they also formulate and defend their own opinions through various course activities such as debates, discussions, and projects.

### **Economics**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will provide students with a thorough understanding of the principles and applications of microeconomics and macroeconomics. Microeconomics will include such topics as supply and demand, scarcity, cost, marginal analysis, and the stock market. Macroeconomics will deal with the money supply, government fiscal and monetary policy, aggregate analysis, the banking system, inflation, unemployment and taxes. Students will also be exposed to the practical applications of the economic theory with topics such as the business cycle, leading economic indicators, the stock and futures markets, government's role in the economy, the economic consequences of environmentalism.

### **Economic and Social Problems in American Society**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course takes an analytical approach to the study of public policy in the United States and the economic and social forces that shape them. Emphasis is foremost on economic analysis through a look at the allocation of resources in our society. In order to provide a more thorough understanding of public policy, related topics such as law, ethics, sociology, and politics are addressed. Additional topics include discrimination, economic growth, crime, health care, big business, and sports. Emphasis is on research and presentation, both in writing and orally. Projects will be presented in groups and individually.

### **Military History and Strategy**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will focus on studying military tactics and operations of the United States (from the American Revolution through Vietnam and the Mideast) and around the world. Students will seek answers to the following questions: How and why do wars start? What are the long and short-term social, political, economic and geographic effects? Can wars be avoided? Who really has been important in wars and why? Special emphasis is placed on films and simulation games as instructional tools. In addition students will also do reading and writing assignments.

### **Multicultural Studies**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course offers students an opportunity to investigate and learn the significant aspects of the history, culture, and contemporary experiences of a variety of racial and ethnic groups of people. Its primary purpose is to promote an appreciation of unity and diversity within the American society. The course begins with an overview of the history of immigration to the United States. Students will then discuss theories of prejudice and discrimination including stereotypes and racism. An emphasis

is placed on the universals of all cultures. Through investigative study, the student will be expected to analyze and interpret contributions to society by such diverse groups as Asians, Islanders, Native American, African Americans, Latinos, Middle Easterners, and others.

### **African American Studies**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course will trace African American history and culture from West African roots to 21st century developments. Students will study the contributions of African-Americans to American civilization in science, the arts, and humanities. Topics will include: West African Empires, the slave trade and slavery, fighting back: resistance to slavery, the great migration northward, ideological approaches to African American issues, the Harlem Renaissance, the Civil Rights movement and twenty-first century issues.

### **Psychology**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Psychology is a scientific study of mental and behavior processes, why human beings think and behave the way they do. Through the study of psychology students will improve their understanding of their own behavior, and the behavior of those around them. Some of the topics studied include the history, scope and goals of psychology, learning and memory, theories of personality, normal and abnormal behavior, human development (intellectual, social, emotional, personality), motivation, stress, adjustment and breakdown, and human relations. Students will examine many personal issues, such as emotions and personality, as well as major social issues, such as crime, prejudice, and mental illness. Students will also study many facets of psychology that are inherently interesting, such as the meaning of dreams, compulsive gambling, and hypnosis. Students will participate in discussions and experiments testing popular theories and applying these theories to real life experiences. All of this will provide an excellent foundation for those interested in future academic courses in psychology or sociology, and for those seeking a practical understanding of individual and group human behavior that will be useful in any career.

### **Sociology**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Sociology is a scientific study of the systems of society and people's interactions within the society. Topics covered include: culture, socialization, deviance, crime, social control, social structure, stratification, social change, race, ethnicity, minority groups, and family. Also, contemporary problems such as crime, population growth, cultural change and the media are studied from a sociological perspective. Class illustrations and demonstrations, group discussion, the use of literature, audio-visual materials, and simulation activities are employed to focus on a variety of social issues.

## **BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY/LIFE SKILLS**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **Computer Applications**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will give students an opportunity to survey applications of the computer in the areas of word processing, spreadsheets/graphics, database, telecommunications, e-mail, browsers, presentations, and desktop publishing. The assignments will be project based and help students to apply appropriate technologies to school or business problems. Emphasis will be on skill development in the integration of software applications and ethical issues pertaining to information systems and information technology careers. Students will be equipped with the skills necessary to evaluate, select, and use the appropriate piece of software for their particular needs. Students will also learn how to create, format, edit, and print a variety of multimedia applications. Critical thinking and communications skills will be reinforced throughout the course.

#### **Computers in Business**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

The purpose of the Computers in Business course is to provide instruction into the more advanced uses of Microsoft Office for our student's personal and business lives. Major educational goals are for students to develop a proficiency in the use of Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel and to integrate these programs into a variety of presentations that are designed to enhance public speaking skills. Students will use each of these programs to prepare a variety of business forms for use in the accounting or marketing fields.

#### **Computer Programming**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

The main objective of this course is for students to learn fundamental programming skills useful with most computer languages. Students will learn the techniques for proper math coding in order to program computers for problem solving. Topics include computer systems components, introduction to writing programs, using loops and logical operations and designing and writing programs in structured form using modular design. Students will apply communications and data analysis to the problem-solving and decision making processes in a variety of life situations. This course will foster the computer programming skills necessary for an effective transition into the workplace and/or postsecondary education. The career clusters of information technology, technology, computer engineering, audio/video technology and mathematics will be addressed.

## **Digital Media**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Any computer elective

This course is an in-depth study of emerging digital technologies. Topics include but are not limited to digital photography, scanning, advanced graphic techniques, digital video, non-linear video editing, sound recording and production, and 3-D drawing animation. An in-depth look at web design is also included.

## **Graphics & Publishing with Adobe**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course is a survey of computer based graphic design and publishing. Students will learn concepts necessary for visual communication and achieving effective compositions. Professional Graphic Design software will be explored, including Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe InDesign. The course will also provide students with practical experience in inputting word processing documents in order to produce a typeset-quality page. In addition, students will employ the elements of graphic design to produce multi-page documents, using the PageMaker software program and a Windows environment. The course will provide an opportunity for students to become proficient in designing a brochure/ pamphlet, creating a style sheet, and creating and using templates to produce a multi-page document.

## **Computer Technology**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is designed as an entry-level course in computer technology. Students will be given a broad-based education about computers including the history of computers, how they are designed, and "why and how" computers function. The PC platform will be explored. This fun, hands-on course will be a great starting point for students interested in how a computer works.

## **Digital Design**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Digital Design combines photography, computer-aided drawing, and the design process. Students will learn how to use digital cameras to take pictures and how to edit the photographs using Adobe Photoshop software. Processes such as cropping, resizing, brightening, and airbrushing will all be involved in editing the pictures. Through the use of Adobe Illustrator, students will learn how to use the computer to draw and how to use the program to design product packaging. They will be working with Illustrator features such as layering and advanced drawing tools. Equipment such as digital cameras and scanners will be utilized to enhance products. Students will also have the opportunity to work with scanners and import scanned images into computer programs.

## **Digital Networks**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Any computer elective

In this course, students address the basic concepts of physically and logically connecting multiple computing devices. Topic areas include bandwidth, access time, data rate, and error detection and correction.

## **Internet and Web Design**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course will provide students with a basic understanding of web design. Students will begin by learning how the Internet works and how web pages are uploaded onto the Internet. Students will also learn methods to check the validity and accuracy of sites. Students will be exposed to the various World Wide Web resources, FTP, gopher, newsgroups, and learn to use the more popular search engines. Students will use basic HTML, Microsoft Front Page, Macromedia Dreamweaver, and Photo Shop to design, edit, manage, and publish Web pages. Students will develop their skills as Web masters through project-based activities, which will include personal, educational and professional webs that also incorporate effective e-commerce strategies. In addition to these technical concerns, the class also focuses on communication, ethical issues, principles of design, and project organization and management.

## **Advanced Web Design**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Internet and Web Design/Teacher Approval

This course will build upon the web designing basics from the level one course. Students will be provided with a thorough understanding and use of Dreamweaver, Photo Shop, Java Script, CGI Scripts, and Flash applications, which are essential in the development of high-end, interactive Web sites. Emphasis will be on emerging Web technologies, hands-on scripting and electronic commerce. Students will be challenged to develop sites that demonstrate creative interface design, present visually compelling graphics, allow convenient navigation, and possess functional site organization. Throughout the semester, students will develop technical competence and knowledge in a real-life, practical environment that fosters the development of problem solving, decision-making, and creativity within the framework of electronic publishing.

## WORLD LANGUAGES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Chinese 1**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Chinese 1 is an introductory course in Mandarin. Emphasis in this course is on the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing Chinese. The course will include a focus on the basics of pronunciation and grammar; simple conversation; reading and writing Chinese characters; and the geography, customs and culture of China.

### **Chinese 2**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Chinese 1 or Teacher Recommendation

Chinese 2 emphasizes the improvement of oral expression and the development of vocabulary through activities integrating listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. This course continues to focus on communication skills, grammatical structures, and the study of Chinese culture and customs. Students will build up their vocabulary through the learning of Chinese characters. Special attention is given to the reading of these characters. Students are exposed to more of the original source materials so as to further develop reading and listening comprehension skills.

### **Chinese 3**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Chinese 2

Chinese 3 emphasizes and further advances the students' oral and written communicative abilities. Based on their prior knowledge in Chinese, students are guided to study the basic Chinese grammar in a systematic manner. Some simple social correspondence, as well as narrations and descriptions, are the goals for writing. Cultural awareness focuses on the interdependence of language, thought and culture.

### **Chinese 4**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Chinese 3

This course takes the student to the most advanced level of communicative competence in the spoken language with continued development of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. Conversational skills are refined with special emphasis on idiomatic expressions and sentence structures. Students read and discuss cultural features such as important figures, historical events, and major sites both in the People's Republic of China and in Taiwan. Open-ended answers and creative composition are incorporated into each unit of study.

## **Spanish 1**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Spanish 1 is a course in the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish as it is used throughout the Spanish-speaking world. Good pronunciation and building a functional vocabulary are stressed, working toward the goal of proficiency in the language. Elements of the course include commonly-used vocabulary words, the sound and spelling system, elementary grammatical structures, and the ability to speak the language in selected situations. The emphasis of the course is on real life communication. Culture and the use of technology are integrated into the program.

## **Spanish 2**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 or Teacher Recommendation

Spanish 2 will offer students the opportunity to develop the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing practical Spanish. Knowledge will be acquired through readings in Spanish, class discussions, homework, and taped and written exercises. An understanding and facility in using the language, an emphasis on the refinement of basic reading skills, additional vocabulary and more advanced grammatical structures, a continual development of writing skills, and a continued study of the important aspects of Hispanic life and culture are emphasized.

## **Spanish 3**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Spanish 2

Spanish 3 strengthens the facility with the language through the review of basic communication skills and the introduction of new material needed for communication. This level also provides a review and intensification of Spanish grammar with continued attention being given to active control of listening and speaking. Reading selections will help increase students' vocabulary and comprehension. Increased emphasis is placed on writing. Idioms become more important. Culture study is an integral part of the course.

## **Spanish 4**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Spanish 3

Spanish 4 is a course designed to further individual development of the essential communication skills. It stresses oral skills, composition, and grammar. A study of advanced grammatical structure will be a major component of the class. Literary selections will include short stories, excerpts of novels, and poetry from several Latin American and Spanish authors. Students will discuss reading selections and write about open ended topics as well as reports. Projects and other hands-on assessments are an integral part of the course. Proficiency in the language will be emphasized. Culture study is an integral part of the course.

### **Turkish 1**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Turkish 1 is a beginner level course in Turkish language. Emphasis in this course is on the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing Turkish. The course will include a focus on the basics of pronunciation and grammar; simple conversation; reading and writing in Turkish; and the geography, customs and culture of Turkey.

### **Turkish 2**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Turkish 1 or Teacher Recommendation

Turkish 2 is the intermediate level course that emphasizes the improvement of oral expression and the development of vocabulary through activities integrating listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Knowledge will be acquired through readings in Turkish, class discussions, homework, and taped and written exercises. This course continues to focus on communication skills, grammatical structures, and the study of Turkish culture and customs.

### **Turkish 3**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Turkish 2

Turkish 3 emphasizes and further advances the students' oral and written communicative abilities. This level also provides a review and intensification of Turkish grammar with continued attention being given to active control of listening and speaking. Some simple social correspondence, as well as narrations and descriptions, are the goals for writing. Culture study is an integral part of the course.

### **Turkish 4**

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Prerequisite: Turkish 3

Turkish 4 takes the student to the most advanced level of communicative competence in the spoken language with continued development of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. A study of advanced grammatical structure will be a major component of the class. Literary selections will include short stories, excerpts of novels, and poetry from several Turkish authors. Students will read and discuss cultural features such as important figures, historical events, and major sites. Open-ended answers and creative composition are incorporated into each unit of study.

# ART

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Art Careers**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course is designed for serious art students who intend to pursue either a career or further his/her education in the field of art. Study of career options in the visual arts field will be explored. Students will work towards mastery of various mediums and techniques including, but not limited to, graphite, charcoal, pen and ink, watercolor, acrylic, and oil painting, stretching a canvas, and matting artwork for presentation. In addition, students will be responsible for presenting and exhibiting their artwork in an independent art show, developing and refining their portfolios, visiting art museums and galleries, and keeping a sketchbook/journal. The critique process will also play a major role and will be practiced in the form of class discussions and written essays. Connections to art history will be made throughout the year and serve as inspiration for projects. Students will be expected to dedicate themselves to learning and creating art. The purpose of this class is to increase your artistic identity and awareness.

### **Commercial Art**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop artistic skills and understanding, which permit the creation of sophisticated and expressive graphic illustrations. Emphasis is given to artwork that is used by the print media such as illustration, advertising, packaging, and posters. Lettering and written copy is also incorporated. Students will discover the traditional and modern techniques of creating commercial art. Topics include: jewelry making, promotional design concepts, printmaking skills, brochures, business cards and stationery, computer generated design layouts, cartoon illustration, TV commercials, movie posters, CD and DVD covers, and logo designs. Students will also explore the potential for enhancing creative art concepts through experiences with computer imagery and desktop programs, such as Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Publisher.

### **Foundations of Art**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course has been designed to introduce students to the basic art concepts, skills, techniques, and materials. It will teach skills in drawing with pencil, charcoal and ink. Sculpture and clay building techniques will be taught. Students will receive a firm grounding in the elements of art as well as experience in drawing and painting for observation. Approaches to design, the use of light and composition will be emphasized. Watercolor and acrylic painting techniques, linoleum block printmaking and three-dimensional form will be explored. Production activities using a wide variety of media will focus on skill development, craftsmanship, and self-expression.

## **Computer Graphics I**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course is a survey of graphic design with computer-generated images. Students will learn concepts necessary for visual communication and achieving effective compositions. The unique capabilities of the computer to save, combine, alter, and distort images will be emphasized. Students will explore the cyber sides of drawing, watercolor, pastels, oils, and other traditional art materials as they discover the wonders of digital art.

## **Computer Graphics II**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Graphics I or Computer Art I

Students will develop more advanced skills in the use of the computer and graphic software to generate images. Students will work with more advanced compositions, design exploration and experimentation. They will use drawing and painting software as well as desktop publishing. A computer-generated portfolio will be produced that will include 2-D designs, advertisements and manipulated images. This course is predominantly production oriented. Students will be introduced to concepts of art history, art criticism, and aesthetics as they relate to their projects.

## **Drawing I**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Foundations of Art/Teacher Recommendation

In this course students will have the opportunity to explore two and three-dimensional aspects of drawing. Instruction and activities are designed to enable students to produce drawings with a high degree of accuracy. Different approaches to drawing, such as contour drawing and sketching, as well as other techniques and approaches, will be experienced. Media covered in this course will be pencil, charcoal, ink and graphite. The majority of work in this course is done from "life" or observation of real objects. Skill will also be developed in strong compositional skills with an understanding of proportion and perspective. Students address concepts of art history, art criticism, and aesthetics as they relate to those areas of art studied.

## **Drawing II**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Drawing I

Students will continue to explore various forms of drawing media and focus on perspective. Emphasis will be placed on the unique composition. Students will explore reflection, transparency, repetition and other advanced drawing problems as well as understanding the power of the unique viewpoint. Figure and caricature drawing will be emphasized in this course. Use of perspective, depth, and space will continue to be utilized. Students will begin to create their art portfolio. At this level, the student will be expected to produce a high quality body of work.

## **Fashion Design**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This is an introductory course that will allow students to explore their interests and talents in clothing construction. Students will learn how to create a proper fashion portfolio. Topics covered will include figure drawing, watercolor painting, accessory construction, famous designers and their trademarks. It is a hands-on learning environment that encourages peer planning and collaboration and creative thinking. By planning and constructing articles of clothing, the student is given an opportunity to develop personal skills in the selection of clothing to suit figure, coloring, personality, and budget.

## **Graphic Novels and Cartooning**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This is a drawing course for those students with an interest in creating original stories, characters, and graphic novels. Topics covered will include storytelling techniques, figure drawing, perspectives, tone and value, and cartooning styles. The history of cartooning in the print media and on film and video will be studied. Students will also explore graphic novel authors and their famous works.

## **Painting I**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Foundations of Art/Teacher Recommendation

This course will immerse students in the world of painting media: watercolor, pastel, oil pastel and acrylic. Students will paint from a model with a strong emphasis on light and shade. Original drawings will be the inspiration for subject matter. Instruction and activities are designed to enable students to produce paintings from observation, focusing on developing their drawing skills, mixing accurate colors, and application techniques. The majority of work in this course is done from “life” or observation of real objects. Skill will also be developed in strong compositional skills with an understanding of proportion and perspective. Students address concepts of art history, art criticism, and aesthetics as they relate to those areas of art studied.

## **Painting II**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Painting I

This course will continue to apply the skills learned in Painting I. This course will provide a strong background in color theory. Advanced skills in watercolor and acrylic painting will be taught. A strong emphasis will be on developing a painting based on individual student interest. This course will deal with American painting history from the turn of the century to contemporary times with a concentration on understanding the difference between realism and abstraction.

## **Photography I**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Photography 1 introduces students to the basic techniques of photography. Students will learn about the mechanics of equipment, camera controls and techniques, and photographic processing of film and prints by using a 35 mm camera. Basic darkroom procedures, print manipulation, digital imaging techniques, and “special effects” will be covered. Students will learn to control shutter speed and aperture to capture planned images. They will also discover and be inspired by world famous photographers throughout history.

## **Photography II**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisite: Photography I

Students will build on the techniques learned in Photography I. This course places emphasis on the acquisition of technical competence in the production of aesthetically pleasing photographs. Students will be given more freedom to choose their content. Independent problem solving will be emphasized. In addition to the traditional processing of 35 mm images, digital photography equipment and techniques will be introduced. Students will produce a photographic portfolio that demonstrates both artistic and photographic composition.

# MUSIC

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Chorus**

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Chorus provides the opportunity for students to develop their singing voices within the context of rehearsing and performing choral music. Students enrolled in this course should have a genuine interest in the vocal arts with a drive to perform and succeed. The principles of tonal production, pitch awareness, breath control, diction, phrasing, balance, blend, posture, interpretation, and basic music theory will be taught. Sight reading will be taught and developed. Students will sing choral repertoire drawn from a wide range of styles, time periods, cultures and genres. This is a performance course with a two required evening performances during the school year.

### **Music Theater**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course will explore the history of American musical theatre from colonial times through the present. Students will dissect all aspects of musical theater: vocal arrangements, script analysis, and choreography through reading, sharing, researching, viewing, and listening. Activities will include writing, singing, dancing and acting. A study of both local and Broadway Music Theater will accompany this course on site study.

### **Music Theory**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course explores the theoretical aspects of music; notation, harmony, style and composition. Areas covered include: analysis of rhythm and the measurement of time, notation of pitch through major/minor scales and keys, intervals, chords, transposition, modulation, and musical forms and styles. Also, emphasis is placed on the creative process through composition, transcription, and arranging and musical instruments. Time is spent on ear training through singing, rhythmic and melodic dictation and keyboard skills. All participants should expect to improve skills in reading, writing, and composing music. Music Theory is an essential class in the development of the serious musician.

### **World Music**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

This course explores various cultures, lifestyles, and the impact music has on its society. Instrumentation from these regions will be utilized by students to develop a program that is culturally accurate. Through PowerPoint projects, video segments, audio samples, and traditional dress, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of Asian, Caribbean, African, European, and American cultures and music.

### **Music Appreciation**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course offers the student, through a planned series of units, a well-rounded survey of major periods and styles of music from the earliest production of sound to rock. The importance of ensemble groups will be discussed including the more traditional vocal, woodwind, brass, string and percussion families and the latest innovations of the electronic age will be introduced.

### **Music Workshop**

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

This course presents an introduction into the basics of music. Included will be the study of the history of music, the development of good listening skills, an introduction to the basic theory of music and a look into the future via contemporary and electronic music. Class activities will include listening to recordings of ancient through contemporary music, an introduction to composition and concert attendance.