



≡ HIGH SCHOOL ≡

VACAVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

2022-2023

STUDENT COURSE CATALOG

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FALCONS ARE:

FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS OF
CHRIST

ACHIEVERS OF ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE

LIFELONG LEARNERS

CRITICAL THINKERS

OUTSTANDING

COMMUNICATORS

NURTURING, GODLY

LEADERS.

SERVANTS



ABOUT VCS

OUR MISSION at VACAVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

VCS exists to provide, in partnership with home and church, a distinctive Christ-centered education in a nurturing environment, which equips young people to excel in life and in service to Jesus Christ.

ACCREDITATION and COLLEGE BOARD MEMBERSHIP

VCHS maintains dual accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). The Accreditation process reviews a school's condition as it relates to philosophy and to the structure and organization of the school, including admissions, school governance, finances, personnel, instructional programs, resources, student services, guidance services, health, safety, food services, school facilities, etc. Having dual accreditation is particularly important for our high school students as they are applying to universities, both public and private, and many top-notch universities require graduation from an accredited high school. VCS is a member of the College Board (a national honor) and is also a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) and Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

OUR CAMPUS

We enjoy a gorgeous, 20-acre campus in Vacaville, California. Our facilities include a beautiful, state-of-the-art high school, including well-equipped classrooms with SmartBoards, three science labs with college-level equipment, a 24-unit computer lab, a HD Radio/TV station, a multi-purpose facility, a band rehearsal room with three practice studios, and a fully staffed kitchen and hot-lunch program. Our athletic facilities include a modern sports stadium with both football & soccer fields, baseball

& softball fields, a full-court basketball gymnasium, a second basketball court, a weight room, and large locker rooms.

EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS

VCHS offers a complete, excellent range of academics designed to prepare students to excel in high school and college. We are authorized to offer eighteen AP Classes—a fabulous opportunity for our students! VCHS's graduation requirements exceed the minimum required A-G courses for the University of California schools. Every student takes Mathematics, English, Science, History, PE, and Bible, in addition to a World Language, Fine Arts, Practical Arts, and elective courses. Each teacher offers tutoring times throughout the week to assist students or answer questions. For parents, we have an online program, PowerSchool, that enables them to check assignments, grades, and attendance online to help monitor their student's course work and progress.

Digital Learning at VCHS

VCHS employs a Learning Management System (LMS) called Schoology. Once logged into Schoology, using their PowerSchool credentials, students will find a home page which serves as a hub for all information, links, and paperwork associated with each class.

Every student will need a tablet or laptop. Minimum requirements include: minimum of 128gb storage; devices that can install applications and programs (Chromebooks are not a viable option since they do not allow installation of apps and programs); able to use a digital pen or stylus, camera; keyboard (highly recommended).

iPads, Android, EVOO or Samsung tablets, Lenovo Thinkpads, laptops – these are all acceptable devices.

College Preparation/ Readiness

We have a program in place to help all high school students prepare for the college and career of their choice. We offer college preparatory classes to Advanced Placement (AP) classes, first-class facilities, a college/career counselor, and a College Resource Center. For the last five years, we have graduated 99% of the graduating senior class.

Roughly 83% enter four year universities and 17% enter community colleges or the military. VCHS students are annually accepted at all University of California (UC) campuses in addition to many other prestigious universities.

Below is a list of colleges often selected by our students.

UCLA
UC Berkeley
UC Davis
UC San Diego
UC Irvine
UC Merced
UC Santa Cruz
UC Riverside
UC Santa Barbara
Cal-Poly

CSU Sacramento (Sac State)
United States Air Force Academy
University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California (USC)
University of Washington
Pepperdine University
University of Arizona
Boise State University
Baylor University
Biola University

Johns Hopkins University
New York University (NYU)
Grand Canyon University
Boston University
Embry–Riddle University
University of San Francisco
University of Nevada, Reno
University of Wisconsin
Dominican University
Saint Mary's College

STATISTICS FOR THE GRADUATED CLASS OF 2019 (last one before Covid restrictions on testing)

- Average SAT Score: 1496 (top 10%)
- Average SAT Score: 1442 (top 25%)
- Average SAT score: 1331 (top 50%)
-
- 93% four-year universities
- 17% two-year colleges



In Solano County SATs



Elementary test scores in the USA



College merit scholarships awarded annually



AP courses



College acceptance

COLLEGE PREPARATION SERVICES OFFERED

- College Counselor: Mr. Andrew Wilson
- College Resource Center (HS Room 202)
- College Information Nights
- One-on-one annual appointments with our counselor for students and their parents
- Naviance Accounts
- College Application Boot Camp afternoons
- Online submission of transcripts and most paperwork to universities
- AP Classes and AP Testing
- PSAT given annually to all 8th–11th graders / ASVAB offered for seniors
- College Representatives come to our campus

FINE ARTS, PRACTICAL ARTS, and ELECTIVES

We offer a wide variety of Fine Arts, Practical Arts, and electives to enhance the curriculum and give students a chance to broaden their education and discover their God-given talents and abilities. A description of each course can be located in this Course Description Guide.

SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS

We integrate Biblical truths into every subject area we teach. Daily Bible classes, weekly Chapels, and clubs with Biblical themes supplement the Christian growth experience. We are blessed to have a HS Chapel Leadership team lead us in worship during Chapels, and Youth Pastors from local churches often come and bring a message. Setting the spiritual tone for the school year is a Spiritual Retreat (see below for details) that all students attend as an integral part of our Bible curriculum. At the retreat, our students experience opportunities to dedicate their lives to the Lord Jesus and are encouraged to follow Him in all aspects of their lives. In the spring, we have a Spiritual Emphasis Week to carry the theme of retreat throughout the year.

ANNUAL FALL SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Alliance Redwoods Christian Conference Grounds, Occidental, CA

All HS Students are required to attend. Retreat is a part of the HS Bible curriculum.

Our annual Fall Spiritual Retreat is one of the highlights of each school year. Students have opportunities to bond as a class, meet new friends, explore God's creation evident in this majestic redwood area, participate in challenges, attend daily Chapel, and be challenged to grow in their Christian walk. The HS Student Council coordinates class competitions, campfire activities, and games. The HS Chapel Leadership students lead Praise and Worship for all Chapel sessions.

Students are lodged in cabins with adult counselors (mostly teachers). All meals are provided for the students in the dining hall. There are a gym, sports complex, and pool.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Athletics

VCHS has established an extensive, award-winning athletic program with a wide variety of High School teams. Come see our Trophy Case!

- Men's & Women's Cross Country
- Women's Volleyball (JV & Varsity)
- Varsity Football
- Cheerleading
- Men's & Women's Varsity Soccer
- Men's & Women's Varsity Basketball
- Women's Varsity Softball
- Golf (Co-ed / Practices off-campus)
- Men's Varsity Baseball
- Men's Volleyball (JV & Varsity)
- Varsity Track (Co-ed)
- Varsity Swimming (Co-ed / Practices off-campus)

Clubs and Organizations

- Student Government
- National Honor Society
- Men of God (MOG)
- California Scholarship Federation
- Interact / Student Ambassadors
- Mu Alpha Theta
- S Club (Soroptimists)
- Environmental Club
- Missions Club
- Theater/Movie Club
- Spanish Club
- Book Readers' Club
- Thrive (Ladies' Discipleship)
- Science Club
- Anime Club

Annual Activities

- Fall Spiritual Retreat
- Homecoming Floats/Parade & Dance
- Winter Formal / Prom
- Spring Dance (Sadie Hawkins)
- Senior Trip
- Junior/Senior Banquet & Dance
- Spirit Weeks and Pep Rallies
- Senior Grad Night
- Senior Honors Night
- Senior Sunrise
- Graduation

SCHEDULING INFORMATION

Every HS Student is enrolled in seven courses.
(Seniors who are not international students may take as few as five, but more are recommended.)

- English is required all four years.
- Bible is required all four years.
- Freshmen take PE.

The Vacaville Christian High School (VCHS) Course Catalog, scheduling worksheets for each grade level, and a Master Schedule of Courses are made available to all enrolled students and their parents. Students and their parents will fill out the scheduling worksheet for their grade level and submit it digitally in the spring. Course Requests are accepted, by grade level, in the order received for the new school year. A tentative schedule is made during Course Request time, but student schedules will not be finalized until mid-August, as sometimes it is necessary to make changes in order to balance schedules and accommodate the needs of our teachers and students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

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PROGRESSION OF COURSES

Subject	Freshmen (9th)	Sophomores (10th)	Juniors (11th)	Seniors (12th)
Social Sciences (3 years required)		World Civilizations & Cultures OR AP European History	U.S. History OR AP U.S. History	U.S. Government & Politics AND Economics (each is 1 semester) OR AP US Gov/Politics AND AP Microeconomics (1 semester each)
English (4 years required)	English 9 OR English 9 Advanced	English 10 OR English 10 Advanced (Pre-AP)	English 11 OR AP English Language & Composition	English 12 (ERWC) OR AP English Literature & Composition
Mathematics (3 years required; more recommended)	Algebra 1 (usually taken in 8th grade) OR Geometry (usually taken in 9th grade)	Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus (pre-AP) AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics
Science (2 years required; more recommended)	Biology	Chemistry OR Physics	Physics OR Chemistry Anatomy & Physiology OR AP Chemistry, AP Biology, AP Physics 1, 2, C (Prerequisites exist for this group of classes)	AP Biology OR AP Chemistry OR AP Physics 1, 2, or C Anatomy & Physiology Bio-Medical Sciences
World Languages (2 years required; 3 recommended)	Spanish 1 ASL 1	Spanish 2 ASL 2	Spanish 3 ASL 3 (possible future class)	AP Spanish Language and Culture and then AP Spanish Literature and Culture
Bible (4 years required)	Bible 9/10 LOGIC (required either 9th or 10th) OR Bible 9/10 OLD TESTAMENT OR Bible 9/10 FOUNDATIONS		Bible 11/12 ESSENTIALS OR Bible 11/12 NEW TESTAMENT OR BIBLE 11/12 ETHICS	
Visual / Performing Arts (1 year required)	Choose from: Art 1, Art 2, Drawing & Painting, AP Studio Art (prerequisites exist) Choir Drama Instrumental Music Studies / Honors Instrumental Music Studies			
Practical Arts (1 year required)	Choose from: Intro to Computer Science, Computer Applications, Digital Photography, Journalism, Yearbook Production, Life Skills, Wood Shop, Radio Broadcasting			

VCHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

These graduation requirements are specifically designed to meet and exceed the requirements for a University of California or California State University school. It is our desire to prepare our students to be competitive and ready to attend the four-year university of their choice.

- **English** – 4 years / 40 credits
- **Social Science** – 3 years / 30 credits
- **Mathematics** – 3 years / 30 credits
- **Lab Science** – 2 years / 20 credits
- **World Language** – 2 years / 20 credits
- **Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)** – 1 year / 10 credits
- **Practical Arts** – 1 year / 10 credits
- **Physical Education** – 1 year/ 10 credits
- **Bible** – 4 years / 40 credits INCLUDING Bible 9/10 Logic which is required for graduation
- **Electives** – 4 classes / 40 credits (Classes that are taken in excess of the minimum requirements listed above for any area except PE can count toward completion of the elective requirement.)

Total Credits Required = 250

17 Currently Authorized AP Classes

- **English:** AP English Language and Composition (11th grade) AP English Literature and Composition (12th grade)
- **Mathematics:** AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and AP Statistics
- **Science:** AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 1, and AP Physics 2
- **Social Sciences:** AP European History, AP US History, AP US Government and Politics, AP Microeconomics, and AP Psychology
- **Art:** AP Studio Art 2D and AP Studio Art Drawing
- **World Languages:** AP Spanish Language

AP Classes offered will vary from year to year based on staffing and numbers of students enrolled.

UC/CSU AND GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

Meeting the A-G Requirements

VCHS's graduation requirements are specifically designed to meet or exceed requirements for admission to a UC/CSU school. Our goal is that all graduates are prepared to attend a four-year university.

Freshman UC/CSU Admissions Requirements for High School Students:

If you will be applying to a UC or CSU school, you will need to meet three minimum requirements:

1.) Complete 15 college-preparatory ("a-g") courses, with at least 11 finished by the end of your junior year. At a minimum you must take:

- a. **History/Social Science** – 2 years
- b. **English** – 4 years
- c. **Mathematics** – 3 years
- d. **Laboratory Science** – 2 years
- e. **Language other than English** – 2 years
- f. **Visual and Performing Arts** – 1 year
- g. **College-preparatory elective**
(chosen from the subjects listed above or another course approved by the university)

2.) Earn a GPA of 3.0 or better (3.4 if you're a nonresident) in those courses, with no grade lower than a C.

SAT Subject Tests:

The UC schools will not require SAT Subject Tests for admission, but you may submit scores on these if you want to show your mastery of a particular subject. Some campuses may recommend certain Subject Tests for some competitive majors.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN OUTLINE (THREE SCENARIOS)

9th Grade – 7 classes		
<i>Goal of:</i> HS Diploma or Community College or Vocational School	<i>Goal of:</i> CA State University or Similar, 4-year State University	<i>Goal of:</i> University of CA or Similar, Highly Competitive Major & University
English 9	English 9 or English 9 Adv.	English 9 Adv.
Algebra 1 or Geometry	Algebra 1 or Geometry	Geometry
Biology	Biology	Biology
World Language or Elective	World Language	World Language
Bible 9	Bible 9	Bible 9
PE	PE	PE
Visual & Perf. Art (VPA) or Practical Art class or Elective	Visual & Perf. Art (VPA) or Practical Art class or Elective	Visual & Perf. Art (VPA) or Practical Art class or Elective

The scenarios on this page and the next ones are some of many possibilities and are not intended to be hard and fast formats. Students will find areas of interest and want to progress through every possible area of that interest, and we encourage that. Keys to success as a freshmen are organization and good study habits. Students are expected to use their planners. Tutoring is available with every teacher. Students should plan to attend tutoring.

10th Grade – 7 classes		
<i>Goal of:</i> HS Diploma or Community College or Vocational School	<i>Goal of:</i> CA State University or Similar, 4-year State University	<i>Goal of:</i> University of CA or Similar, Highly Competitive Major & University
English 10	English 10 or English 10 Adv.	English 10 Adv.
Geometry	Geometry or Algebra 2	Algebra 2
Science Elective	Physics or Chemistry*	Physics or Chemistry* or AP Physics 1
World Language	World Language	World Language
Bible 10	Bible 10	Bible 10
World Civilizations	World Civilizations or AP European History	AP European History
Elective , Visual & Performing Art (VPA or Practical Art Elective (PA)	Elective, VPA, PA or Elective	Elective, VPA, PA or Elective

AP European History is an opportunity for students to take an AP class as early as their sophomore year. It is a college-level class that meets the requirement of World Civilizations. Tenth grade is a great time to begin college visits and planning for college. We have a College Resource Center and administrators to assist with this exciting time.

*Successful completion of both Biology and Chemistry is required prior to taking AP Biology or AP Chemistry. Strong math students may take AP Physics 1 without taking Physics first. Read the Course Catalog description of this course for more clarification.

11th Grade – 7 classes

<i>Goal of:</i> HS Diploma or Community College or Vocational School	<i>Goal of:</i> CA State University or Similar, 4-year State University	<i>Goal of:</i> University of CA or Similar, Highly Competitive Major & University
English 11	English 11 or AP English Language and Composition	AP English Language and Composition
Algebra 2	Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, or AP Statistics	Pre-Calculus, Statistics, AP Statistics, or AP Calculus (if Pre-Calculus already taken)
US History	US History or AP US History	US History or AP US History
Bible 11	Bible 11	Bible 11
Anatomy & Physiology or AP Environmental Science	Physics, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology, AP Biology, Bio-Medical Sciences, AP Physics, or AP Chemistry*	Physics, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology, Bio-Medical Sciences, AP Biology, AP Physics- or AP Chemistry
World Language	World Language/AP Spanish Lang.	World Language/AP Spanish Lang.
Elective, VPA or Practical Arts	Elective, VPA or Practical Arts	Elective, VPA or Practical Arts

Just because a student can take an AP class does not necessarily mean it is wise to do so. Taking more than three AP classes can be incredibly challenging as a junior. AP classes are college-level classes, and they require extra time outside of class.

Junior year is an intense year as students are preparing themselves for the college application process that begins senior year. In the spring of their junior year, we recommend that all students take both the SAT and the ACT at least once. It is very helpful if students have taken both tests twice by September of their senior year. Consider taking the SAT and the ACT in the February/March timeframe and then again in the May/June or Sep/October timeframe. It is important to have a minimum of one set of scores prior to the beginning of the college application process in the fall of the senior year.

Students' interests and the areas they anticipate studying in college will largely affect what higher-level or elective classes they choose to pursue. Some universities also have classes they suggest in order to make students more competitive or prepared. Some highly competitive universities allow or require submission of SAT Subject Area tests in addition to the SAT or ACT exams.

See next page for 12th grade scenario.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN OUTLINE (THREE SCENARIOS)

12th Grade – 5 to 7 classes (6 or more recommended)		
<i>Goal of:</i> HS Diploma or Community College or Vocational School	<i>Goal of:</i> CA State University or Similar, 4-year State University	<i>Goal of:</i> University of CA or Similar, Highly Competitive Major & University
ERWC (English 12) US Government & Economics Bible 12 Elective / Potentially another science class Elective / Potentially another math class Elective: VPA or Practical Arts or TA	ERWC (English 12) or AP English Literature and Composition US Government & Economics Bible 12 Consider Anatomy & Physiology, Bio-Medical Sciences, AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics, or AP Chemistry* Pre-Calculus, AP Statistics, AP Calculus Elective / World Language Elective: VPA or Practical Arts or TA	ERWC (English 12) or AP English Literature and Composition AP US Government, AP Microeconomics, or US Government & Economics Bible 12 Consider AP Biology, AP Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, Bio-Medical Sciences or Anatomy & Physiology AP Calculus AB or BC, AP Statistics, or Statistics by Application Elective / World Language Elective: VPA or Practical Arts or TA

Just because a student can take an AP class does not necessarily mean it is wise to do so. Taking more than three AP classes can be incredibly challenging as a junior. AP classes are college-level classes, and they require extra time outside of class.

The fall is a busy time for seniors with college and scholarship applications. We recommend retaking SAT or ACT tests early on in the fall, especially if students haven't already taken both tests twice or if they desire to try to raise their scores. FAFSA and Cal-Grant applications are due NLT March 1, 2015, perhaps sooner. Check the FAFSA and Cal-Grant websites for special circumstances that may apply.

Seniors should schedule an appointment with our College Counselor in the August/September timeframe to prepare for the college application process. The CSU application portal is open October 1 to November 30 (typical dates), and the UC application portal is open November 1 to 30 (typical dates). Other universities have their own dates, and students should consult those websites.



COURSE SELECTION

The purpose of this catalog is to provide descriptions for the many core and elective courses offered by Vacaville Christian High School. Each listing includes a basic description and, in some cases, prerequisite and/or special application requirements. The course request process begins in late April to early May, based on grade level. We begin with the incoming senior class, then with the incoming junior class, and so on. Course requests are accepted in the order that a student reenrolls/enrolls for the new school year. Core classes and graduation requirement needs take priority in the scheduling process.

Course Descriptions — Core Subjects

DEPARTMENT OF BIBLE

It is our desire, through Bible classes, weekly Chapel, the fall retreat, Spiritual Emphasis Week, and day-to-day interactions, to encourage students to draw closer to the Lord Jesus Christ and to develop their personal relationship with Him.

Bring Your Own Bible (BYOB): Each student is required to bring his or her own Bible to school. Students will need to have a hard copy Bible (not digital), in a Bible cover to protect it, in class each day, in Chapel each week, and at the retreat. The Bible must be an NIV translation for continuity purposes within the classroom. We recommend Bible covers like those available at Christian bookstores.

In all of our Bible courses, students are encouraged to develop the discipline of regular communication with God and studying the Bible on their own in

order to know God and to live to His glory. They will acquire Bible study skills that will give them the ability to answer questions and learn Bible principles on their own.

Service Hours

All VCHS students are required to perform 20 service hours as a requirement for each Bible class. We encourage students to serve in their church and/or attend a mission trip through their church. Service hours can also be earned by performing community service. Many students volunteer their time at The Leaven, Mission Solano, The Opportunity House, NorthBay Medical Center, Emeritus Senior Center, or the Vacaville Food Bank.

Students are to ensure they have their parents' permission to serve at whichever organization they select.

A minimum of ten hours is required each semester. The High School Service Hours form is available from all Bible teachers and in the High School office. There is a writing requirement on the Service Hours form. We highly encourage students to look for opportunities to serve at their church or on a mission trip.

Service Hours completion (including the written portion) counts as 15% of the Bible class grade each semester.

Bible 9/10: Logic // Not UC Approved // 1 year. REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION

This course gives students an opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in the area of logic, so that they might be able to heed the call of the Scriptures to "love the Lord your God with all your mind..." and be "prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you." Students will learn a systemic structure of reasoning by way of a rigorous instruction in logic. In this, the students' minds will be trained to respect truth and be at home in a Christian worldview.

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV translation. *Traditional Logic* by Martin Cothran. Memoria Press. The instructor will check out to each student a copy of the necessary textbooks and workbooks.

Bible 9/10 // Old Testament // Not UC Approved // 1 year

This course establishes a foundational overview of the Old Testament by connecting the pieces of the Old Testament into one gripping story that tells the truth about ourselves, our faith and about this broken world, which leads to the redemption offered in Jesus Christ. In their study of the Old Testament, students will explore and understand some of the basic themes of the Biblical narrative. Students will also develop essential Bible study skills and use them in engaging ways throughout the year, as well as understand practical applications of faith as it pertains to current culture. As a result of this study, it is our goal that the students will be confident that the Bible is truly the Word of God and that their faith is real. Another result of this course is that students will become confident in sharing their faith.

In all of our Bible courses, students will develop the discipline of regularly communicating with God and studying the Bible on their own in order to know God and to live to His glory. Students will acquire Bible study skills which will give them the ability to answer questions and learn Bible principles on their own. Since VCHS represents students from a variety of church backgrounds, we are careful to encourage students to investigate what their church teaches on some topics that are not foundational to our salvation.

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV version. Students to bring their own hard copy of the Bible to class.

Bible 9/10 // Biblical Foundations // Not UC Approved // 1 year

Bible Foundations explains the biblical basis for a Christian worldview. Students will understand and apply the life changing truths that will give them a better understanding of God's purposes for their lives. This course will be a foundation of personal growth and stability. Colossians 2:7 says, "Plant your roots in Christ and let Him be the foundation for your life." The book of Proverbs says, "Homes are built on the foundation of wisdom and understanding." The foundations of faith are the foundations for a godly fulfilled life. Bible Foundations will help students build their lives on a solid foundation of faith. The course explores basic Christian doctrines including salvation, good and evil, the afterlife in addition to a survey of the Old and New Testaments.

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV version. Students to bring their own hard copy of the Bible to class.

Bible 11/12 New Testament // Not UC Approved // 1 year

On this exciting venture, students will discover our LORD as a Holy God who desires a personal relationship with them as Lord and Savior. We will examine the life of Jesus to see His brilliance, to know His compassion, to thrill at His courage and power, to weep over His death, and to rejoice in His resurrection. Students will learn about the customs, geography, and dates of Jesus's time. They will be "put" in Israel with Jesus during the years A.D. 29–32, explore the seasons of the year, the times of day, and even the weather to help relive those exciting days when Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, walked the earth and ministered to the people in Israel.

To many people Christ is merely a historical fact rather than a living, personal reality. We know that Christ lived, and we know much about what He did; however, even we as Christians seldom experience His presence as we should. One purpose of The Life of Christ from the Gospels is to

make Jesus Christ real to our students. Our hope for our students is that they will not only know Jesus more, but also love Him more.

This course also includes a study of the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as well as a study of the book of Acts, where we examine the beginning and growth of the early church. Throughout this course, students will study the deity and humanity of Christ, the way of salvation, proofs of the resurrection, and archaeological reasons to understand the historicity of Scripture.

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV version. Students to bring their own hard copy of the Bible to class.
Additional Works: *Evidence that Demands a Verdict* by Josh McDowell and NavPress study books, one for each book of the Bible studied.

Bible 11/12 Essentials of the Christian Faith // Not UC Approved // 1 year

This course is a study of the nature and character of God. It is based on the premise that the more we know and understand God through a careful study of His Word, the greater will be our personal challenge to maintain a right relationship with Him. More than simply a body of information, the course translates knowledge into personal application as students discover an attribute of God applies in daily life.

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV version. Students to bring their own hard copy of the Bible to class.
Additional Works: *Let God be GOD: A Study of the Attributes of God*, Revised Edition, by Mark Eckel. ACSI/Purposeful Design, 2011.

Bible 11/12 // Bible Ethics // Not UC Approved // 1 year

In order to prepare our students for life after graduation, Bible Ethics includes an in-depth study of Romans, along with an overview and more intense study of selected chapters from the Pauline and General Epistles and Revelation. Students will apply their study to everyday life and answer questions about the reliability of our faith, using Scripture and historical sources, as well as study

tools such as Grudem’s Systematic Theology and key Bible-centered websites.

Seniors will compare essential Biblical teaching to the teaching of other faiths for the purpose of comparison to biblical Christianity. They will study and understand “apologetics” as a way of “defending their faith.” They will also compare Biblical teaching to various other modern worldviews and/or philosophies. Bible Ethics will also include addressing from a Christian perspective ethical issues that are confronting the world today, such as sexual immorality, homosexuality, divorce, abortion, racism, etc. It is our goal that, as a result of this course, our students will be confident that the Bible is truly the Word of God, that their faith is real, and that they will continue grow in their confidence to live out their faith as they move on through life.

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV version. Students to bring their own hard copy of the Bible to class.
Additional Works: *Multiply* by Francis Chan and Mark Beuving, *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem, *If You Want to Walk on Water, You’ve Got to Get out of the Boat* by John Ortberg.

Chapel Leadership // Not UC Approved // 1 year

Students chosen for this course are responsible for leading worship (instrumentals, vocals, and technical aspects) for our weekly HS chapel. This is a yearlong elective limited to 15–20 students. Students should have some experience or have taken instrumental lessons in their area of interest. Responsibilities for leading weekly worship for chapel include song selection, set up and tear down of equipment, sound board technology, PowerPoint presentations, instrumental and vocal practice, door greeting, prayer time, and Scripture reading. Additionally, students are expected to lead worship for Grandparents’ Day, Pastor Appreciation Day, National Day of Prayer, Spiritual Emphasis Week, Retreat, Baccalaureate, and A Night of Worship. They will also lead a small group session during Spiritual Emphasis Week. In preparation for Chapel each Tuesday, these students arrive at 6:45 a.m. to set up and prepare sound equipment and multi-media equipment. Students in this class are expected to have a good work ethic, maintain excellent Christian character and good grades,

show integrity, and be willing to go “above and beyond” in their efforts. Students may be asked to step down if their actions are not consistent with Christian character or their grades no longer allow for the extra time required for this course.

Counts for Bible Credit: Special Application & Audition Required

Primary Text: The Bible, NIV version. Students to bring their own hard copy of the Bible to class.

Additional Works: *Worship Matters: Leading Others to Encounter the Greatness of God* by Bob Kauflin, *Positive Action for Christ’s The Inner Man: A Study in Christian Character Development and Leadership* by Frank Hamrick, and *The Story* by Randy Frazee and Kevin & Sherry Harney.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE/HISTORY

World Civilizations // UC Approved (History/Social Science, Category “A”) // 1 year

This course examines major themes throughout the history of the world, with an emphasis on modern history. Themes are presented through the Christian world view. Topics include, but are not limited to: Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, The Rise of Democratic Ideas, Medieval Europe, Byzantium, Muslim Civilizations, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, Nationalism, Imperialism, World War I & the Russian Revolution, Totalitarianism, World War II, the Cold War, and the World Post-1945. Students develop skills in analytical reading and writing, art appreciation, and interpreting primary and secondary sources. Final or project due each semester.

Prerequisite: Sophomore standing.

Text: *Modern World History* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2018).

AP European History (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (History/

Social Science, Category “A”) // 1 year

This yearlong course entails a study of European history from 1450 to the present, covering the following topics: the Late Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation and Religious Wars, the Age of Exploration, Absolutism, the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, the French Revolution and Napoleonic Era, the Industrial Revolution, Nationalism, Imperialism, World War I and the Russian Revolution, the Rise of Totalitarianism, World War II, the Holocaust, the Cold War, and post-Cold War eras. In covering the above topics, the course aims to address the following themes or constructs throughout the year: the interaction of Europe and the world, poverty and prosperity, objective knowledge and subjective visions, states and other institutions of power, and individuals and society.

In addition, the class provides students with practice analyzing and interpreting data and other information relevant to European affairs, reading primary and secondary source documents, and writing analytical, interpretive free-response questions and document-based questions on a frequent basis. Final required. Students take the AP European History test in May.

Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or higher. Must have earned an 85% or higher in second semester English 9 or Adv. English 9.

Text: John P. McKay et al., *A History of Western Society Since 1300*, for AP, 9th ed. (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2008).

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is encouraged for all students taking the class.

United States History // UC Approved // 1 year

This course provides students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with issues and developments in United States history. The class explores the major events that have shaped US history, along with the role of Christian values in its development. The course content covers material from the Age of Discovery to the present and examines documents essential to the founding of our country and those significant to various important times in our nation’s history.

Students learn to recognize cause and effect relationships in history, track economic and cultural developments of the American people, identify major historical turning points, and develop historical interpretations. A final exam is required each semester.

Prerequisite: Junior standing.

Text: Emma Jones Lapinsky-Werner et al., *United States History*, 2013 Survey Edition (Prentice Hall: 2011).

AP US History // UC Approved (History/Social Science, Category "A") // 1 year

This class is equivalent to a full year of college-level introductory US History and covers content from the Age of Discovery to the present; it examines documents essential to the founding of our country and those significant to various important times in our nation's history.

This class is equivalent to a full year of college-level introductory US History and covers content from the Age of Discovery to the present; it examines documents essential to the founding of our country and those significant to various important times in our nation's history.

This course equips students with the necessary knowledge to take and pass the Advanced Placement exam in May. The workload and teacher expectations reflect that of a college class. The class provides students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with issues and developments in United States history. The course focuses on major AP themes of Identity; Work, Exchange, and Technology; Ideas, Beliefs, and Culture; America in the World; Environment and Geography; Politics and Power; and Peopling. It also explores the major events that have shaped our history, along with the role of Christian values in its development. A final exam is required each semester.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Must have earned 85% or higher in English 10 or Adv. English 10.

Text: David A. Kennedy, Elizabeth Cohen, and Thomas Bailey, *The American Pageant: A History of the American People*, AP Edition (Wadsworth Publishing, 2011).

AND AMSCO *United States History - Advanced*

Placement Edition by John J. Newman and John M. Schmalbach, published by Perfection Learning. We suggest students buy this handbook new or used from a former AP USH student.

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is encouraged for all students taking the class.

US Government and Politics // UC Approved (History/Social Science, Category "A") // 1 semester

The American system of government is very dynamic. Though the basic structure and foundation remain the same, many other characteristics change. The goal of this course is for students to be able to describe, analyze, and explain the American system of government. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of world and national events through discussion and writing on a weekly basis, using current events in newspapers, magazines, and news media. This is a semester-long class taken in conjunction with Economics. A final exam is required at the end of the semester.

Prerequisites: Senior standing. Must be enrolled in Economics for the other semester.

Text: William McClenaghan, *Magruder's American Government*, California Edition (Needham: Prentice Hall, 2006).

Economics // UC Approved (History/Social Science, Category "A") // 1 semester

This semester-long course, taught in conjunction with US Government and Politics, covers the following topics: basic economic concepts, consumerism, budgeting, and saving and investing. The class surveys microeconomic theory, including supply and demand, business organization, market structures, marketing and labor unions, as well as macroeconomic theory, such as measuring a nation's wealth, the Fed, and monetary and fiscal policies. Students in this course gain rudimentary experience in stock investing, creating marketing commercials, paying income taxes, finding and accessorizing a place to live when going to college, and buying homes and

cars. A final exam is required at the end of the semester.

Prerequisites: Senior standing. Must be enrolled in Government for the other semester.

Text: Roger LeRoy Miller, *Economics: Today and Tomorrow* (New York: Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2008).

AP US Government and Politics// UC Approved History/Social Science, Category “A” // 1 semester

This semester-long course, taught in conjunction with AP® Microeconomics, examines the political institutions of the United States. The course outlines the following topics: constitutional underpinnings of United States government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups and mass media, institutions of national government, public policy, civil rights, and civil liberties. In addition, the class provides students with practice analyzing and interpreting data and other information relevant to US government and politics, reading primary and secondary source documents and contemporary news sources, and writing analytical and interpretive free-response questions on a frequent basis. Final required.

Prerequisites: Senior standing. Must be enrolled in AP Microeconomics for the other semester. Must have earned a B or higher in English 11 or a B– or higher in AP English Literature.

Texts: George E. Edwards, *Government in America: People, Politics, and Policy* (Boston: Pearson, 2014). Peter Woll, *American Government: Readings and Cases*, 16th ed. (New York: Harper Collins, 2005).

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is encouraged for all students taking the class.

AP Microeconomics // UC Approved (History/Social Science, Category “A”) // 1 semester

This semester-long course, taught in conjunction in AP® US Government and Politics, examines the following topics: basic economic concepts, the nature and function of product markets, supply

and demand, elasticity, consumer choice, firm production costs and revenues, pricing, perfect competition, imperfect competition, factor markets, the history of economic thought, trade and absolute & comparative advantage, and the role of government. In addition, the class will provide students with practice analyzing and interpreting data, graphing, reading contemporary news sources, and answering free-response questions on a frequent basis.

Prerequisites: Senior standing. Must be enrolled in AP Government and Politics for the other semester. Must have earned a B or higher in English 11 or a B– or higher in AP English Literature.

Texts: Margaret and David Anderson, adap. by Paul Krugman, *Krugman’s Microeconomics for AP* (New York: Worth Publishers 2011). Charles Wheelan, *Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science*; Norton 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

English Department iPad Apps

These apps will be used nearly every day in English class. Be sure each of these is kept updated: Merriam-Webster Dictionary, iBooks, DocAS, Google Drive, Google Docs, Google Slides.

Novels and outside reading will be available on iBooks or distributed to students in class to be returned at the end of the unit. Students who wish to buy the novels and full-length works are encouraged to do so, but it is not required.

English 9 // Intro to Literature and Composition: UC Approved (English, Category “B”) // 1 year

This yearlong course gives students instruction and practice in the analytical writing and reading skills needed to succeed in college. In a workshop setting, students will practice personal, descriptive, narrative, expository, and persuasive writing. Peer review and editing practice will sharpen each student’s editing skills. Review of sentence and paragraph structures, with an eye toward selecting the most effective choices in varying situations, will be a part of learning to read and

write rhetorically. A module from the California State University's Expository Reading and Writing Class will connect one of the literature units with nonfiction articles to analyze and write about. Two foundational classics of Western literature, *The Odyssey* and *Romeo and Juliet*, will be studied in depth, and *Farewell to Manzanar* will be studied as an excellent example of contemporary personal narrative non-fiction. Several opportunities to do research and make presentations to the class are also included in this class. Students will participate in collaborative discussions about novels, writing techniques, and peer review techniques. Vocabulary development and practice in PSAT- and SAT-type questions are important aspects of this class.

Prerequisites: Freshman status and successful completion of 8th grade English, including the Writing component.

Texts: Glencoe, *Writer's Choice Grammar and Composition*, Grade 9 (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2008). Ellen Kuhl Repetto and Jane E. Aaron, **Additional Works:** *The Odyssey* by Homer, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, and *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston.

English 9 Advanced // Advanced Intro to Literature and Composition: UC Approved (English, Category "B") // 1 year

This yearlong course offers a more challenging and fast-paced English class for students who desire to take AP English classes later in high school. In a workshop setting, students practice personal, descriptive, narrative, expository, and persuasive writing. Students work with advanced grammar topics such as subordination and syntactical voice, using these skills to make their writing more effective. A module from the California State University's Expository Reading and Writing Class will connect one of the literature units with nonfiction articles to analyze and write about. A more literary and analytical approach will be taken to *Farewell to Manzanar*, *The Odyssey*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, and students will also read and study *Great Expectations* to increase their literary repertoire in preparation for future AP English classes. Vocabulary development and critical reading skills practice will help students do well on

the PSAT, preparing them for strong performance on the SAT during their junior year.

Prerequisites: Freshman status with successful completion of 8th grade English, including the Writing component, with a grade of 85% or above.

Text: Glencoe, *Writer's Choice Grammar and Composition*, Grade 9 (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2008). Ellen Kuhl Repetto and Jane E. Aaron,

Additional Works: *The Odyssey* by Homer, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston and additional novel of student choice.

Please note: Grade is not weighted.

REQUIRED SUMMER WORK: Read a novel from the list provided and submit assignments as required on or before first day of school.

English 10 // Composition and Literature: UC Approved (English, Category "B") // 1 year

This year-long course gives students more instruction and practice in writing and reading at a college-preparatory level. Writing-workshop assignments will focus on communicating clearly in personal essays, identifying and citing reliable sources during research, using descriptive and narrative writing to enhance expository and persuasive writing, and constructing a strong, logical argument. Vocabulary work and more explicit practice on PSAT/SAT-type questions are also significant aspects of this course's work. Analytical reading skills are practiced and developed through the study of full-length works as well as two themed units from the California State University's Expository Reading and Writing Course. Formal speaking presentations provide practice in public speaking, building confidence and poise for that important skill.

Text: Glencoe, *Writer's Choice Grammar and Composition*, Grade 10 (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2004). Ellen Kuhl Repetto and Jane E. Aaron, *Common Threads: Core Readings by Method and Theme* (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2013).

Additional Works: *Antigone* by Sophocles, *Night* by Elie Wiesel, additional novel of student choice.

English 10 Advanced // Pre-AP Composition and Literature: UC Approved (English, Category “B”)// 1 year

This yearlong course offers a more rigorous and challenging English class designed to prepare students for AP English Literature and AP English Language courses during their junior and senior years. In a workshop setting, students will practice analytical and literary writing, focusing on the selection and effective presentation of evidence to build an argument. ITimed in-class writing assignments following literature units provide practice in that essential AP exam skill. Vocabulary development and critical reading skills practice will help students do well on the PSAT, preparing them for strong performance on the SAT during their junior year.

Prerequisite: Completion of English 9 or English 9 Advanced with a grade of 85% or above.

Text: Glencoe, *Writer’s Choice Grammar and Composition*, Grade 10 (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2004). Ellen Kuhl Repetto and Jane E. Aaron, *Common Threads: Core Readings by Method and Theme* (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2013).

Additional Works: *Antigone* by Sophocles, *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand, and *Night* by Elie Wiesel. Additional novel of student choice. **Please note:** Grade is not weighted.

REQUIRED SUMMER WORK: Read a novel from the list provided and submit assignments as required on or before first day of school.

English 11 // Survey of British and American Literature// UC Approved (English, Category “B”)// 1 year

TThis yearlong course is a thematic survey of influential selections from both British and American literature. These essays, poems, short stories, plays, and excerpts from full-length works provide a general idea of the evolving literary trends and themes across the centuries from the perspective of both American and British cultures. Research projects each semester will provide practice in locating and using credible sources and avoiding plagiarism through proper citation. Vocabulary and critical reading strategies will be presented and practiced, with the purpose of strengthening students’ PSAT and SAT scores.

Prerequisites: Junior status. Successful completion of English 10 or English 10 Advanced.

Texts: Glencoe Literature, *American Literature: The Reader’s Choice*, (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2002). Glencoe Literature, *British Literature: The Reader’s Choice*, (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2002).

AP English Language and Composition // UC Approved (English, Category “B” // 1 year

In accordance with the College Board’s AP English Language and Composition overview, this course engages students in becoming both skilled readers and writers of prose in a variety of rhetorical contexts. Reading is intense as students will work through a variety of nonfiction, including essays, books, visual arguments, articles, and historical documents. Writing is likewise intense and deep, with both out-of-class writing and in-class, AP-style timed writing. The focus of class reading and writing will cover a range of purposes, such as argument, visual rhetoric, humor, and speech. Our objective is that students do well on the AP exam in May and so may gain college English credit for this high school course. A deeper objective, however, is that students will take the analytical skills they have developed from this class into every college class they take and into their lives outside of the classroom as well. It is a college-level course and requires additional work, effort, and dedication to excellence.

Prerequisites: Junior standing. Completion of English or Advanced English 10 with a grade of 87% or higher.

Text: Andrea A. Lunsford and John J. Ruszkiewicz, *Everything’s an Argument* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2009), *The Language of Composition*, 3rd edition (Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2019)

Fee: Charge for AP exam (about \$95). All students are encouraged to take the AP exam.

REQUIRED SUMMER WORK: Reading and writing assignments related to a nonfiction text and supplementary material will be due on or before the first day of class.

English 12 // Rhetoric in Reading and Writing - ERWC // UC Approved (English, Category "B") // 1 year

This year-long course is designed to develop rhetorical analysis in reading and writing, using expository texts. With modules from the California State University–designed Expository Reading and Writing course, this class presents strategies and practice in reading texts with a rhetorical approach. Recently published articles on topics of interest will be read, analyzed, and discussed, and students will form their own conclusions about each article’s value. Students will compose arguments related to the topic, using the articles as sources and bringing in additional sources if they choose. Adherence to MLA citation and formatting protocols will be expected. A “Creed Project,” which calls on students to examine their own beliefs and values and to articulate a personal creed, is a significant part of this course. *Into the Wild* and selections from *Mere Christianity* are studied as a part of this course, as well as *1984* and *Fast Food Nation*. Anchor papers (selected significant, multi-day writing projects) will be composed and filed in the students’ permanent records as evidence of their mastery of college-preparatory thinking and writing.

Prerequisites: Senior status. Successful completion of English 11 or AP English Literature and Composition.

Additional Works: *Expository Reading and Writing Course*, 2nd Edition, *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer, *1984* by George Orwell, *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis, and *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser

AP English Literature and Composition (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (English, Category "B") // 1 year

This year-long course fulfills the course requirements set up by the College Board for their Advanced Placement program. A rigorous, fast-paced, in-depth, analytical study of fiction, poetry, and drama challenges students to stretch their critical and abstract thinking skills. An appreciation of the author’s work in creating literature is key to success on the AP English Literature exam, so a focus on each author’s purpose and literary

techniques is developed and strengthened throughout the year. Strong, clear, and effective writing skills are assumed; writing under time pressure is practiced to prepare students for the three essays that must be written during the AP exam. Released former AP exam prompts for poetry and prose are used for practice, and past Multiple Choice questions are also examined and practiced for good results on that part of the exam.

Prerequisites: Senior status. Must have earned a 85% or higher in English 11 or AP English Language.

Text: Thomas R. Arp and Greg Johnson, *Perrine’s Literature: Structure, Sound & Sense*, 10th ed. (Cengage Learning, 2008).

Additional Works: *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, and student-selected novels.

Fee: Charge for AP exam (about \$95). All students are encouraged to take the AP exam.

REQUIRED SUMMER WORK: Reading and writing assignments related to a novel and supplementary material will be due on or before the first day of class.

English as a Second Language- First Year Experience (ESL-FYE) // Not UC Approved // 1 year

English as a Second Language - First Year Experience (ESL-FYE) is a required, elective course, for International students who are in their first year at VCS. In some cases, this course may be required for more than one year. The goal of this course is to teach concepts that will help our first-year International students to acclimate to an American education system by providing additional training in reading comprehension, critical thinking, study skills, academic writing concepts, grammar, and analysis of literature. Additionally, geography, familiarity with school events, holidays, customs, culture and Christianity are integrated throughout the year enabling students to integrate into the school and home community comfortably. Students are highly encouraged to attend school functions, church, and community functions and be involved in school athletics and extra-curricular activities and clubs.

Prerequisites: None. Required course for

international students who are in their first year at VCS.

REQUIRED SUMMER WORK: New International students are required to take the 3-week Language Immersion Program that begins in mid-July.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

All courses in the Mathematics department have important math placement criteria associated. A student must complete both semesters of the class with a grade of C- (70%) or better in order to proceed to the next math course (end-of-semester grade). Students receiving a D+ (69%) or below (as their end-of-semester grade) must remediate the grade before proceeding to the next course. Students who take the HS Algebra 1 class in 8th grade receive HS credit, and their grades count toward their HS GPA.

Algebra 1 // UC Approved (Mathematics, Category "C") // 1 year

Algebra 1 is designed to establish a strong foundation for further learning by developing a broad base of mathematical concepts necessary for higher mathematics and by building problem-solving and reasoning skills. This course covers solving equations with one and two variables, polynomials, rational expressions, simplifying radicals, quadratic equations, exponential functions, sequences and series, and simple statistics and probability. This course assists students in developing skills and processes to be applied using a variety of techniques to successfully solve problems in diverse settings. Problem situations may result in all types of linear equations with one variable; quadratic functions with integral coefficients and roots; and absolute value and exponential functions. Problem situations resulting in systems of equations are also presented. Alternative solution methods are given equal value within the strategies used for problem solving. Elementary probability theory is used to determine the probability of events, including independent, dependent, and mutually exclusive events. (We teach one section of Algebra 1 at the HS, but this class is most typically taken by our 8th graders.)

Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Algebra with a grade of C- or higher.

Text: James E. Schultz et al., *Algebra 1* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2004).

Geometry // UC Approved // 1 year

Geometry is intended to be the second course in mathematics for high school students and is typically taken by freshmen. Within this course, students make conjectures about geometric situations and prove in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, that their conclusions follow logically from their hypotheses. This course employs an integrated approach to the study of geometric relationships. Integrating synthetic, transformational, and coordinate approaches to geometry, students will justify geometric relationships and properties of geometric figures. Congruence and similarity of triangles will be established using appropriate theorems. Transformations, including rotations, reflections, translations, and glide reflections and coordinate geometry will be used to establish and verify geometric relationships. A major emphasis of this course is to allow students to investigate geometric situations. Properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles will receive particular attention. Students will use the traditional tools of compass and straightedge, as well as dynamic geometry software that models these tools more efficiently and accurately, to assist in these investigations. Geometry leads students to an understanding that reasoning and proofs are fundamental aspects of mathematics and set it apart from the other sciences.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 with a grade of C- or higher.

Text: Holt, *Geometry* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2004).

Supplies Required: Protractor, Ruler, Compass, and Scientific Calculator

Algebra 2 // UC Approved (Mathematics, Category "C") // 1 year

Algebra 2 is the capstone course of the three units of credit required both for completion of the UC and CSU's A-G requirements for math and for graduation from VCHS. This course is a

continuation and extension of the two courses that precede it. While developing the algebraic techniques that will be required of students who continue their study of mathematics, this course also continues to develop alternative solution strategies and algorithms. Within this course, the number system is extended to include imaginary and complex numbers. The families of functions studied include polynomial, absolute value, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Problem situations involving direct and indirect variation will be solved. Problems resulting in systems of equations will be solved graphically and algebraically. Algebraic techniques will be developed to facilitate rewriting mathematical expressions into multiple equivalent forms. Associated correlation coefficients will be determined using technology tools and interpreted as a measure of strength of the relationship. Arithmetic and geometric sequences will be expressed in multiple forms, and arithmetic and geometric series will be evaluated. In the probability and statistics unit, various methods will be used to determine probabilities of events, and measures of central tendency and variation will be calculated for sample data.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 & Geometry with a grade of C– or higher.

Text: Holt, *Algebra 2* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2007).

iPad App: Graphing Calculator HD

Supplies Required: Handheld Scientific Calculator, Graph Paper, and Ruler

Pre-Calculus // UC Approved // 1 year

Pre-Calculus is an extension of Algebra 2 with an emphasis in trigonometry, limits, and introductory calculus topics. All major areas covered in Algebra 2 are reinforced at a greater depth, with additional applications aided by the use of calculators and computers. The course encompasses all those topics necessary to be successful in a college calculus course. Students will study real numbers; polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and graphs; and analytic trigonometry in order to prepare for AP Calculus. To obtain mastery, students will also learn to analyze real-world problems by using mathematical models.

Major Components include:

- Problem Solving
- The Complex Number System
- Equations and Inequalities
- Functions
- Sequences and Series
- Limits

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a grade of C– or higher.

Text: Larson & Hostetler, *Pre-Calculus*, 7th Edition (Houghton Mifflin Company, 2007).

iPad App: Graphing Calculator HD (This is in addition to the graphing calculator listed below.)

Supplies Required: Graphing calculator – TI-89 Titanium

AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Mathematics, Category “C”) // UC Approved // 1 year each

AP courses in calculus consist of a full high school academic year of work and are comparable to calculus courses in colleges and universities. It is expected that students who take an AP course in calculus will seek college credit, college placement, or both, from institutions of higher learning. Most of the year is devoted to the topics in differential and integral calculus. Success in AP Calculus is closely tied to the preparation students have had in courses leading up to their AP courses. Students should have demonstrated mastery of material from courses that are the equivalent of four full years of high school mathematics before attempting calculus. These courses should include the study of algebra, geometry, coordinate geometry, and trigonometry, with the fourth year of study including advanced topics in algebra, trigonometry, analytic geometry, and elementary functions. The AP Calculus Development Committee recommends that calculus should be taught as a college-level course. With a solid foundation in courses taken before AP, students will be prepared to handle the rigor of a course at this level.

Goals:

- Students should be able to work with functions represented in a variety of ways: graphical, numerical, analytical, or verbal. They should understand the connections among these representations.

- Students should understand the meaning of the derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation and should be able to use derivatives to solve a variety of problems.
- Students should understand the meaning of the definite integral, both as a limit of Riemann sums and as the net accumulation of change, and should be able to use integrals to solve a variety of problems.
- Students should understand the relationship between the derivative and the definite integral as expressed in both parts of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.
- Students should be able to communicate mathematics and explain solutions to problems both verbally and in written sentences.
- Students should be able to model a written description of a physical situation with a function, a differential equation, or an integral.
- Students should be able to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions.
- Students should be able to determine the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement.
- Students should develop an appreciation of calculus as a coherent body of knowledge and as a human accomplishment.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing. Completion of Pre-Calculus with a grade of C– or higher. (Students must take AP Calculus AB prior to enrolling in AP Calculus BC.)

Text: Jon Rogawski, *Single Variable Calculus: Early Transcendentals* (New York: W.H. Freeman, 2008).

Supplies Required: Graphing Calculator – TI-89 Titanium

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for students taking the class.

AP Statistics (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Mathematics, Category “C”) // 1 year UC Approved // 1 year

Every semester about 236,000 college and university students enroll in an introductory statistics course offered by a mathematics or statistics department, and many more enroll in such a course offered by other departments. The purpose of the AP course in Statistics is to

prepare students to successfully complete the AP Statistics exam, which satisfies this lower-division statistics requirement for college majors. Science, engineering, and mathematics majors usually go on to take an upper-division, calculus-based course in statistics. Students will learn statistics according to four broad conceptual themes.

1. Exploring Data: describing patterns and departures from patterns.
2. Sampling and Experimentation: planning and conducting a study.
3. Anticipating Patterns: exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation.
4. Statistical Inference: estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a grade of B or higher or Completion of Statistics by Applications with a C- or higher.

Text: Daren S. Starnes, Dan Yates, and David S. Moore, *The Practice of Statistics*, 4th ed. (New York: W. H. Freeman, 2011).

Supplies Required: Graphing Calculator – TI 84 (TI 83 and 89 are acceptable alternatives)

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$90). The AP Test is recommended for students taking the class.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

We are a STEM-focused high school (STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). We have excellent math and science departments, with three Advanced Placement (AP) math courses and five AP science classes. We desire to prepare our students for the biotech programs offered at both UC Davis and Solano Community College and to help our students be marketable to our local biotech firms like Genentech and Novartis.

Biology // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category “D”) // 1 year

High School Biology is a course that covers a general spectrum of biology. Topics of study include principles of biology, cell biology, genetics, creation versus evolution, invertebrates, vertebrates, botany, ecology, marine biology, and human physiology. Exploratory and dissection labs are conducted on a regular basis in relationship

to the chapter topics. STEM is used to engage students in labs that bring science into real-world concerns. Students will practice the steps of the Scientific Method, focusing on qualitative and quantitative data.

Text: George B. Johnson and Peter H. Raven, *Biology* (Holt: 2006.)

Supplies Required: Students must purchase a special pair of safety goggles that they will use throughout their HS career; these goggles will be given to them prior to graduation so they can take them on to college. The cost of these goggles is approximately \$19 and will be billed to students' accounts. Some projects will require purchase of supplies by students and families.

Chemistry // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

Chemistry, at its simplest, is the study of matter. What is everything made of? What is a chemical reaction, and what causes reactions to happen? "What is a fire, and why does it, what's the word, burn?" How is any of this useful? Understanding the forces at work in the miniature has profound implications for research and progress in the full-sized world. In Chemistry, students will learn about the atoms and molecules that make up everything and then use this foundation to understand the reasons why chemicals can react with each other. Furthermore, students will have in-class laboratory projects throughout the year to observe in action the principles they have studied.

Prerequisite: Highly recommend Algebra 2 completed or concurrent.

Text: Rinehart and Winston Holt, *Modern Chemistry* (Holt, 2009).

General Physics // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

Physics is a very practical branch of science that focuses on movement, force, and energy. Students will first learn about mechanics and Newton's Laws to understand how even the most commonplace actions are governed by ordered laws of motion.

Other topics of study include gravity, sound, light, and electricity and how these things can exert forces or transmit energy. Throughout the year, in-class learning will be supplemented with at-home projects. Home projects will likely include things such as egg-drop parachutes and balsa-wood bridges.

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in or successful completion of Geometry.

Text: Raymond A. Serway and Jerry S. Faughn, *Physics* (Holt McDougal, 2011).

Supplies Required: Some projects will require purchasing of supplies.

AP Biology (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

AP Biology is a class designed for students who have completed Biology and Chemistry with grades of B or better and who are contemplating a major in a science-related field or planning to attend a four-year college. Students may earn college credit for this course by passing the AP Biology exam given in May. Class is conducted at the college level, and students are expected to work accordingly and independently. Class topics include genetics, cellular biology, biotechnology, and biodiversity, animal form and function, human anatomy and function, and vertebrates and invertebrates. A minimum of twelve AP-approved labs are conducted throughout the year.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing. Must have completed both Biology and Chemistry with a B or above.

Text: Neil A. Campbell et al., *Biology*, 15th ed. (Pearson, 2008).

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

AP Chemistry (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

AP Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during

the first year of college. For some students, this course enables them to undertake, in their first year, second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or to register in courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. Students in this course will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course will contribute to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. The college course in general chemistry differs qualitatively from the usual first secondary school course in chemistry with respect to the kind of textbook used, the topics covered, the emphasis on chemical calculations and the mathematical formulation of principles, and the kind of laboratory work done by students.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing. Must have completed both Biology and Chemistry with a B or above.

Text: Steven S. Zumdahl and Susan A. Zumdahl, *Chemistry*, 8th ed. (Cengage Learning, 2008).

Supplies Required: AP lab book & AP Barron's Chemistry test preparation, purchased by September.

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

AP Physics 1 (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

AP Physics 1 is an introductory, college-level Physics course providing students with a comprehensive foundation to support future advanced course work in the sciences. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills, as defined by the AP Science practices. Through the framework, students are guided to make connections across domains through a broader way of thinking about the physical world.

AP Physics 1 covers the following topics:

- Kinematics
- Dynamics: Newton's Laws
- Circular motion and universal law of gravitation
- Simple harmonic motion
- Impulse, linear momentum, and conservation

of linear momentum: collisions

- Work, energy, and conservation of energy
- Rotational motion: torque, rotational kinematics and energy, rotational dynamics, and
- conservation of angular momentum
- Electrostatics: electric charge with electric force
- DC circuits: resistors only
- Mechanical waves and sound

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing. Must have completed Geometry with a B or above and be currently enrolled in Algebra 2 or higher math. (Physics is not a prerequisite but may be helpful.)

Text: *College Physics: Explore and Apply* (2nd Edition - AP Edition), Pearson 2018

Supplies Required: AP lab book & Barron's AP Physics test preparation, purchased by September.

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

AP Physics 2 (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

AP Physics 2 is an introductory, college-level physics course that gives students a solid understanding of complex physics topics to provide a foundation for further physics coursework. Students will use inquiry-based learning to design and execute experiments and develop critical thinking skills.

AP Physics 2 explores topics such as:

- Fluid statics and dynamics
- Thermodynamics with kinetic theory
- PV diagrams and probability
- Electrostatics
- Electrical circuits with capacitors
- Magnetic fields
- Electromagnetism
- Physical and geometric optics
- Quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing. Must have completed Physics or AP Physics 1 with at least a B and have completed Algebra 2 or higher math. Enrollment in Pre-Calculus or higher is recommended.

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

AP Environmental Science // UC-Approval Pending // 1 year

AP Environmental Science is an equivalent course to Introductory Environmental Science in college. Students will cultivate their understanding of the interrelationships of the natural world through inquiry-based lab investigations and field work as they explore concepts like the four Big Ideas; energy transfer, interactions between earth systems, interactions between different species and the environment, and sustainability.

Prerequisites: General Biology, General Chemistry, Algebra II (can be concurrent)

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

AP Physics C: Mechanics // Future Course // 1 year

The Physics C: Mechanics course is a year long class equivalent to a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course. It is especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in physical science or engineering. The course explores topics such as kinematics; Newton's laws of motion; work, energy and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; circular motion and rotation; and oscillations and gravitation. Introductory differential and integral calculus is used throughout the course.

Laboratory Requirement: AP Physics C: Mechanics includes a hands-on laboratory component comparable to a semester-long introductory college level physics laboratory. Students will spend a minimum of 20 percent of instructional time engaged in hands-on laboratory work. Students ask questions, make observations and predictions, design experiments, analyze data, and construct arguments in a collaborative setting, where they direct and monitor their progress. Each student must complete a detailed and legible lab notebook.

Prerequisite: Students should have taken or be concurrently taking calculus.

Text: Halliday, Resnick & Walker: Fundamentals of Physics, Extended 11th edition (Wiley & Sons, 2019).

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

Anatomy and Physiology // UC Approved (Laboratory Science, Category "D") // 1 year

Human Anatomy and Physiology is an elective course within the Science department that covers the fundamentals of how the human body is designed and functions. Students gain information from discussions, lectures, and activities that enforce the importance of maintaining their own health and a balance of physical exercise. Demonstrations, current events, research, and laboratory activities are employed to enhance students' understanding of the human body. Emphasis is placed on the detailed study of the human body's structure, function within eleven major organ systems. Students will learn how each system works independently and how each system plays a role collectively in homeostasis of the human body.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing
Completion of Biology and Chemistry with a B or above.

Text: David Shier, Jackie Butler, and Ricki Lewis, *Hole's Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology* (McGraw-Hill, 2000).

Fee: A laboratory manual for the textbook is also required, and there is a co-pay of \$45 for it, as the manual itself is over \$90 and needs to be written in by the student, so it becomes his/hers.

Bio-Medical Sciences // UC Approved (College-Preparatory Elective, Category "G") // 1 Year

The health care industry is the largest and fastest growing profession in the United States. This course builds on the basic human biology focusing on the preparation of students for college degrees and/or health care careers to promote health wellness through the diagnosis and treatment of disease. The course intent is to enable students to learn healthcare knowledge in a variety of specialties through research, writing, mathematics, history and lab science.

Programs of Study:

Course content and assessments will be based on the California State Standards (Health and CTE)

- Medical Terminology
- Biotechnology
- Medical History
- Research and Development
- Health Informatics
- Medical Mathematics (Biostatistics)
- Public Health (Epidemiology)
- Safety and Ergometry
- Leadership
- Health Care Career
- CPR / First Aid / AED Certification
- Genetics
- Medical Microbiology
- Immunology
- Molecular and Cellular Biology

Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing. Successful completion of high school biology. Strongly recommend completion of high school Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology.

NOTE: This course does not meet the UC/CSU Category "D" requirements, because it does not include labs, but instead the UC/CSU Category "G" requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES

Important note for all World Language classes: Students desiring to advance to the next level in the world language program must complete the second semester of their current world language course with a least a C- (70%) grade. For students desiring to take Spanish 3, or the Advanced Placement (AP®) courses, completion of the previous course with a minimum of a B- (80%) is required.

Students who take the HS Spanish 1 class in 8th grade receive HS credit, and their grades count toward their HS GPA.

The HS Graduation requirement for World Languages is two full years of a World language. The CSU/UC requirement is a minimum of two full years of the same language, but they recommend three full years.

Spanish 1 // UC Approved (Language Other Than English, Category "E") // 1 year

¿Quieres aprender Español? Do you want to learn Spanish? This course is an introduction to the Spanish language. Students will learn introductory Spanish grammar skills, verb conjugation, vocabulary, and proper pronunciation. Other aspects of the class include learning about the rich and diverse cultures of Spanish-speaking countries through the study of cultural art, history, and region-specific customs. Students will study vocabulary, spelling, accent placement, and pronunciation of Spanish words in order to communicate verbally, with the goal of carrying on a Spanish conversation. Students will be writing complete sentences and a full paragraph by the end of the school year. This class requires extra study and homework time in order to master the material. A benchmark for this course is for students to be writing complete Spanish sentences by the end of the year, using the new verb conjugation and vocabulary learned.

Prerequisites: None. *Attending workshop is highly recommended.

Text: *¡ Así se Dice !* Level One. Digital textbook
iPad Apps: *¡ Así se Dice !* app; ConjuVerb, Spanish/English Dictionary (Ascendo), Jot! Whiteboard, Flashcard(let), and AudioNote Lite.

Required Supplies: Spanish/English Dictionary

Spanish 2 // UC Approved (Language Other Than English, Category "E") // 1 year

¡¡Me encanta Español! I love Spanish! This course allows students to apply the grammar, vocabulary, and spelling learned in Spanish 1 through cultural assignments, writing assignments, and oral presentations. In addition, students will be required to do daily homework assignments in order to keep up with the fast-paced, advanced curriculum. Spanish 2 is a challenging year of learning extensive vocabulary and a broad range of grammar concepts, which include verb tenses for preterit, imperfect, conditional, future, progressive, and stem-changing verbs; pronouns and pronoun placement; and formal and informal commands. The reward is great as students grow in their confidence and begin to understand and practice the Spanish language both in writing and speech, while learning in depth

about the unique cultures of Spanish-speaking countries.

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 with a 2nd semester grade of C– or better. *Attending workshop is highly recommended.

Text: *¡ Así se Dice !* Level Two Digital textbook

iPad Apps: *¡ Así se Dice !* app; ConjuVerb, Spanish/English Dictionary (Ascendo), Jot! Whiteboard, Flashcard(let), and AudioNote Lite.

Required Supplies: Spanish/English Dictionary

Spanish 3 Pre-AP Course // UC Approved (Language Other Than English, Category “E”) // 1 year

This course is taught 80% in Spanish, with the goal of building oral and comprehension fluency in students. This is an advanced course with rigorous studies in vocabulary, spelling, grammar, and written and oral communication. Students will practice their speaking skills and be expected to comprehend the target language and be able to respond in it. Students will also demonstrate correct use of advanced grammatical conventions with punctuation, accents, sentence structure, and vocabulary using CDs, music, videos, magazines, and articles. Students are expected to practice their speaking and listening outside the classroom through collaborative activities and peer response. Students are assessed through lesson quizzes, exams, conversational dialogues, Scripture memorization, presentations, and oral assessments. This class requires extra study time, and homework is due at the time it is assigned. Students will work on advanced cultural themes and toward a writing proficiency of 200 words by the end of the year.

Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish 1 with a C– or better and completion of both semesters of Spanish 2 with a B- or better. *Attending tutoring is highly recommended.

Text: *¡ Así se Dice !* Level Three Digital textbook

iPad Apps: *¡ Así se Dice !* app; ConjuVerb, Spanish/English Dictionary (Ascendo), Jot! Whiteboard, Flashcard(let), and AudioNote Lite.

Spanish IV AP Spanish Language and Culture (Advanced Placement) // UC Approved (Language Other Than English, Category “E”) // 1 year

This course challenges students with rigorous content that is taught entirely in Spanish. Students are expected to comprehend and communicate in only Spanish. Students will review the advanced grammar and vocabulary from Spanish 3 while learning new and interesting themes. Students are immersed in the Spanish language through speaking activities, reading longer narrative texts, essay writing, and presenting. Students will go in depth in learning the specific skills necessary to be successful on the AP exam in May. Students will interpret printed and audio texts, write a persuasive essay, compare and contrast in written and oral form, participate in simulated conversations, and prepare and present an oral presentation on a cultural topic. Students who wish to develop proficiency and integrate their language skills using authentic materials and sources will find this class innovative and useful. Students who enroll in this class should be proficient in the basics of the Spanish language and grammar and be comfortable expressing themselves in written and verbal forms in the target language.

Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish 1 with a 2nd semester grade of C– or better and completion of Spanish 2 and Spanish 3 (both semesters of each) with a B– or better.

*Spanish AP Language & Culture should be taken before Spanish AP Literature & Culture.

Texts: José M. Díaz, María Nadel, and Stephen J. Collins, *Abriendo Paso: Gramática* (Prentice Hall, 2007). José M. Díaz, María Nadel, and Stephen J. Collins, *Abriendo Paso: Lectura* (Prentice Hall, 2007).

Workbook: Dennis Lavoie, *5 Steps to a 5: AP Spanish Language & Culture*, (McGraw-Hill, 2019) – purchased by student.

iPad Apps: Conjuverb, Spanish/English Dictionary, Flashcard(let), Jot! Whiteboard, and La Biblia Reina Valera (Free Version)

Fee: Charge for AP exam (roughly \$95). The AP exam is recommended for all students taking the class.

American Sign Language I: (UC Approved - Language Other Than English, Category E) // 1 year

Students will develop the ability to communicate in

ASL about various topics including the classroom, school, family, introductions, hobbies, likes and dislikes. The course will follow guidelines presented in National Standards for World Language Education and the World Language Framework for California Schools. In this course, students will develop awareness of how people learn languages. Because the best way to learn a new language is by hearing (with the eyes) and using it, the majority of instruction will be conducted in ASL. Therefore, speaking English is strongly discouraged during a signed lesson. Spoken English will be used when discussions around Deaf culture and community are presented.

American Sign Language II: (UC Approved - Language Other Than English, Category E) // 1 year

American Sign Language 2 is a continuation of the skills acquired in American Sign Language 1. Students will begin exploring more abstract concepts within the language and culture. They will have additional vocabulary units, gain a deeper understanding of linguistics, and be introduced to critical themes found throughout Deaf history and present-day Deaf life. Students will be in “voice off” mode for the majority of the school year to ensure mastery of the language.

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS: VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS (VPA)

Art 1 // UC Approved (Visual & Performing Arts, category "F") // 1 year

Art 1 is a foundational course designed to develop students’ skills in drawing, painting, and sculpture. Students will explore various mediums for their projects, study diverse artists and their styles, and engage in critiques of their work, learning to make aesthetic judgments. Originality is greatly encouraged. The Elements of Art and the Principles of Design comprise the focus of the learning throughout the year. Students do

weekly work in a drawing journal that must be purchased prior to or during the first week of class. The year covers drawing, shape and shading, clay, critiquing, perspective, color and masks, and a mirror-etch project. Strict care of classroom tools and supplies is enforced. Optional student and county art shows are potential additional opportunities. Standards are based on state course expectations. Art 1 is a prerequisite for Art 2, Drawing and Painting, and AP Studio Art.

Prerequisites: None

Texts: Joseph A. Gatto, Albert W. Porter, and Jack Selleck, *Exploring Visual Design: The Elements and Principles* (Davis, 1999). *Scholastic Art Magazine*.

Supplies Required: Drawing Journal for assigned writing and drawing studies. It should have blank pages. (Walmart or Michael’s price range: \$7–20, spiral or bound. Size: about 9x12. Please do not purchase a journal smaller than 8x10.)

Art 2 // UC Approved // 1 year

Art 2 is a course designed to follow Art 1 and further develop students’ skills in designing, drawing, and painting. Students will develop their thinking and reasoning strategies for making aesthetic choices. Students will creatively and knowledgeably apply the Elements and Principles of Design to their artwork. As in Art 1, students will explore different mediums for their projects and study various artists and their styles. Together we engage in critiques of artwork, learning to make comparisons and aesthetic judgments. Students are required to keep a journal during the year, primarily used for recording ideas, working out rough drafts for projects, and writing notes and reflections. Students have the opportunity to enter city and/or county art shows. Mediums include graphite, charcoal and conte, scratchboard, colored pencil, acrylic paint, collage, pastel, watercolor. Projects include the Contour Figure, Trading Cards, Celebrity Portrait, Persuasion Poster, the Psychedelic painting, and Music to my Soul.

Prerequisite: Art 1

Texts: Mary Stewart, *Launching the Imagination* (McGraw-Hill, 2011). *Scholastic Art Magazine*.

Supplies Required: Drawing Journal for assigned writing and drawing studies. It should have blank pages. (Walmart or Michael’s price range: \$7–20, spiral or bound. Size: about 9x12.

Please do not purchase a journal smaller than 8x10.)

AP Studio Art // UC Approved (Visual & Performing Arts, category "F") // 1 year

AP Studio Art encompasses both AP Studio Art 2D and AP Studio Art Drawing. Students in this class can choose to focus on either of these course requirements. AP Studio Art is a college-level course designed to express the student's "voice" in his/her artwork. This is the year the student's work really evolves into mastery. Students will be engaged in ideation, advanced composition and technique, and critiques. Students will produce artwork for a portfolio consisting of 24 artistic works. Students will produce 12 "Breadth" pieces that explore proficiency in medium and subject matter. Students will also produce 12 "Concentration" pieces that develop and explore a central idea. These will be photographed digitally and uploaded to the College Board site the first week of May. In addition, 5 pieces (selected from the 24 or additional works) are sent that same week to the AP Central in a portfolio. Students will continue to keep a drawing journal. Preparation and some work for this course begins the summer prior to the class. Students can receive college credit by scoring a 3 or better.

Prerequisites: Art 1 and either Art 2 or Painting
Texts: Mary Stewart, *Launching the Imagination* (McGraw-Hill, 2011). Paul Zelanski and Mary Pat Fisher, *The Art of Seeing* (Pearson, 2010). *Scholastic Art Magazine*.

Supplies Required: Drawing Journal for assigned writing and drawing studies. It should have blank pages. (Walmart or Michael's price range: \$7–20, spiral or bound. Size: about 9x12. Please do not purchase a journal smaller than 8x10.)

Fees: There is a fee of \$89+/- to purchase and send the portfolio. This is a required part of this course. In addition, expect to purchase additional canvases, illustration boards, and/or any special brushes, pencils, or ink the student may want to use. A fair budget would be \$50–100.

Choir // UC Approved (Visual & Performing Arts, category "F") // 1 year

High School Choir is open to all high school students. Choir focuses on proper singing technique, breath control, ear training, site reading, music theory, and singing harmony. We showcase what we learn in class through various performances throughout the year. Choir performs at school concerts, music festivals, and other school-related functions. Students must maintain a level of proficiency and involvement in order to be a contributing member. Graded Choir events (required for all members) include the Winter Concert, Spring Concert, Musicale, and Graduation.

Supplies: Choir students have clothing requirements that must be purchased for performances.

Fees: The Choir travels and competes. There are costs associated with travel, hotels, and food that the students pay.

Drama // UC Approved (Visual & Performing Arts, category "F") // 1 year

This class provides an opportunity for students, from beginners to the more experienced, to learn the fundamentals of drama and participate in a wide variety of acting scenarios within the classroom. Each school year, the students prepare and perform a production for HS Chapel as a part of their production grade. It is our hope to expand this to a production to be shared with the community, school, local churches, families, and/or friends.

Prerequisites: None

Supplies: Costumes, etc. for productions as needed.

Beginning/Intermediate Instrumental Music Studies // 1 year

(Conservatory level - Beginning to Level V)

A project based study in beginning and intermediate music for students with limited or no experience on a musical instrument. Instruments covered at this level: flute; clarinet; oboe; saxophone; French horn; trombone; low brass; and percussion.

Students learn basic theory and technique and perform in live concerts. Students may use this course to help prepare for membership in the VCS Radio Symphony and Jazz Ensemble.

Instrumental Music Studies // UC Approved (Visual & Performing Arts, category “F”) // 1 year
Conservatory Level VI to X)

This is a comprehensive project-based instrumental music course provided by the VCS Radio Conservatory. The program includes performance and study with the VCS Radio Symphony, VCS Radio Jazz Ensemble and VCS Radio Broadcasting Network. Projects include both individual and group study in instrumental technique, theory and film scoring. Live concert and studio production is often performed in a multimedia setting. Students in this course have gained international recognition for live orchestral film music performances and historic score restorations.

HS Instrumental Music Studies is part of a 4-year course of study for an honors graduate certificate in instrumental music studies at Vacaville Christian High School.

Approval of the VCS Radio Conservatory is required. Contact vcsradioconservatory.org

Instrumental Music Studies (Honors) //UC Approved (Visual & Performing Arts, category “F”) // 1 year Conservatory Level VIII to X

This is an advanced comprehensive project-based instrumental music course provided by the VCS Radio Conservatory – includes performance and study with the VCS Radio Symphony; VCS Radio Jazz Ensemble and VCS Radio Broadcasting Network. Projects include both individual and group study in advanced instrumental technique, with an emphasis on composition, orchestration, and historic score restoration. Both live and studio production is often performed in a multimedia setting. Students have gained international recognition for live film music performances and historic musical score restorations.

HS Honors Instrumental Music Studies is part of

a 4-year course of study for an honors graduate certificate in instrumental music studies at Vacaville Christian High School.

Approval of the VCS Radio Conservatory is required. Contact www.vcsradioconservatory.org

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE 9 // 1 year

Physical activity is an enjoyable and essential part of our lives. Physical Education provides a young adult with the knowledge, skills, and direction to begin the journey to a healthy and productive life. PE enhances the student’s personal fitness and sports skills through exposure to a wide variety of sports and fitness activities. Character traits are emphasized through participation in sports requiring teamwork, sportsmanship, honesty, determination, and good Christian conduct. Emphasis is placed on an individualized analysis of health and fitness, including physical fitness training (shuttle run, mile run, push-ups, sit-ups, and flexibility testing), weekly endurance training, a dynamic flexibility program, ultimate frisbee, flag football, dodgeball, gator ball, basketball, weight lifting, soccer, softball, volleyball, and kickball. Students will also have a weekly health class on Tuesdays.

Students dress out for PE in the locker rooms and wear PE uniforms, athletic shoes, and socks. Students will need to bring a combination lock for their PE locker, deodorant, a comb/brush, and a towel (if they desire to use the showers). PE uniforms must be taken home at least once a week and returned clean.

Students are encouraged to do their best and to constantly improve in all physical activities. Dressing out for class completely and in a timely manner, as well as participation in warm-up exercises are graded components of this class.

VCS PE uniforms are required. Students must have, at a minimum, the VCS PE shirt and shorts, socks, and athletic shoes. Students may choose to also purchase the VCS PE sweats to wear for PE class.

Strength and Conditioning // Not UC Approved // 1 year

The world of sports performance and injury prevention is changing drastically. Athletes are bigger, stronger, faster, and leaner than ever before. Strength is one of the most important components for athletic performance. Traditional strength and conditioning programs primarily focus on absolute or maximum strength gains in isolated muscles. Functional athletic activities, however, are multi-planar and require acceleration, deceleration, and dynamic stabilization.

Integrated Sports performance weight training will utilize multiple modalities (free weights, dumbbells, cables, machines, TRX, tubing, medicine balls, etc.) incorporating flexibility, core, balance, plyometric, speed, agility, quickness, integrated resistance training, and sports-specific conditioning to efficiently and effectively prepare athletes for optimal performance and injury prevention. This class will introduce the fundamental skills of OPT (optimum performance training) for personal fitness.

Class objectives:

- The student will improve their muscle strength and endurance through weight training exercises.
- The student will gain knowledge of equipment and safety procedures with free weights and machine weights.
- The student will recognize the benefits of regular physical activity.
- The student will gain knowledge of developing a weight-training program and training principles.

This class is an elective course. Students will be dressing out each day, and VCS PE uniforms are required. Students must have, as a minimum, the VCS PE shirt and shorts, socks, and athletic shoes. Students may choose to also purchase the VCS PE sweats to wear for PE class.

Prerequisites: Completion of PE 9, be an active member of a VCS Athletic team in good standing, and sophomore class standing or above.

DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL ARTS

Most Practical Arts classes are not eligible for UC Approval because computer and computer-related courses are not one of the A-G categories/requirements. Please also see our UC-Approved Category G classes, listed after this department's classes.

Introduction to Computer Science // NOT UC Approved // 1 year

This course offers students the opportunity to gain an understanding of computer use and computer applications beyond everyday use and to a level that will provide a foundation for understanding computer use and programming in a vocational setting. Students will gain a solid foundation in the use of Microsoft Office products and will learn the basics of computer science principles and programming. This course provides students the foundation of skills they will need for web design, blogging, performing simulations, problem solving, and graphics.

Topics will include:

- Computer Science Basics
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft Excel
- JavaScript
- HTML

Prerequisites: None

Required Supplies: USB flash drive

Computer Applications // NOT UC Approved // 1 year

Course Description Needed!!

Digital Photography // NOT UC Approved // 1 year

Students in this course learn fundamental photographic skills, including digital capture, manipulation, and output. Students also learn the

basics of Photoshop. These digital skills for the making of photographs are taught within the context of aesthetics of photography.

Required Supplies: Students must have their own digital cameras with adjustable exposure and focus for the processing and enhancement of digital photographs. Students will also need a thumb drive.

Yearbook Production // NOT UC Approved // 1 year

Yearbook Production students create the hardbound yearbook of VCHS. Student Editors plan and design a thematically-unified, appealing full-color hardbound yearbook which is purchased by most families at our school. The legacy of our award-winning yearbook continues because our creative and dedicated Yearbook Production students give their work on the yearbook their committed attention. Assuring that the entire student body and staff are represented well in the yearbook is a primary consideration, so Yearbook Production students take care to include a variety of students on every spread. Hundreds of photographs appear in the yearbook, so a good photographic “eye” is an important skill to be developed in Yearbook Production class.

Yearbook Production students will be introduced to publishing-industry standard software from Adobe’s Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, and PhotoShop). Students will be trained on and then able to use the Journalism Team’s cameras for photoshoots and learn how to transfer images from phones and other sources for use in our student publications.

Students will work in the Computer Lab during classtime, but time outside of class is also a part of creating outstanding student publications.

Resource texts: Scholastic Journalism, The Radical Write, Inside Reporting, VCHS Flight Staff Manual

Pre-requisites: None

Journalism// UC Approved (Category "G" College-Prep Elective) //1 year

Journalism students create the student

news magazine, the VCHS Talon, and the Web Talon, online at www.vchstalon.com. They select and are assigned stories to report on and write, student editors edit the stories, and then the team designs the pages that will present our stories in an attractive, easy-to-read way. Stories and photo essays for the web will also be selected, reported on, written, and posted. Creativity and hard work are needed in equal measure to continue the legacy of the award-winning VCHS Talon.

Journalism students will be introduced to publishing-industry standard software from Adobe’s Creative Suite (InDesign, Illustrator, and PhotoShop) for our Print Talon, and they’ll become familiar with WordPress as our Web Talon platform.

Students will be trained on and then able to use the Journalism Team’s cameras for photoshoots and learn how to transfer images from phones and other sources for use in our student publications.

Students will work in the Computer Lab during class time, but time outside of class is also a part of creating outstanding student publications.

Resource texts: Scholastic Journalism, The Radical Write, Inside Reporting, VCHS Talon Staff Manual

Pre-requisites: None

Radio/Media Broadcasting // NOT UC Approved // 1 year

Students run a real radio network, including talk, sports, music, and drama production, and produce news broadcasts. Students also get experience in commercial and PSA production, voice acting, basic technical operations, and promotion. Productions are broadcast on VCS Radio 100.9 FM and www.vcsr.com, as well as on actual commercial radio stations. Some weekend and evening time for special event coverage will be required on occasion. As an example, students in this class occasionally travel to away games and events to broadcast live for the school’s radio station.

Prerequisites: None

Supplies/Fees: None

Music Education and Instrument Maintenance // NOT UC Approved / Practical Art // 1 year

This course prepares students for pursuing a profession as a musical instrument technician and/or multi-instrument general music educator. The course is open only to juniors and seniors by application and has limited enrollment, as it is largely workshop-based. After completing a preparatory summer assignment and undergoing an introductory training during the first weeks of school, students have the opportunity to work as mentors to elementary students as they apply music education techniques. Students learn the basics of instrument cleaning, maintenance, and repair, and have the opportunity to begin study of a secondary instrument as they widen their knowledge of musical instruments beyond their primary instrument family.

Corequisite: current membership in at least one VCS Radio Conservatory ensemble (VCS Radio Symphony, VCS Radio Jazz, small ensemble, choir)

Prerequisite/Special Requirements:
 Passing score on music theory diagnostic test OR completion of Master Theory Book 6 OR current enrollment in / completion of AP Music Theory Enrollment subject to approval by Conservatory Director and EL Principal

Life Skills // NOT UC Approved // 1 year

Life skills is a four-part class that will help students navigate life as young adults.

Quarter 1: Relationship skills – Students will explore and build interpersonal skills to effectively communicate with family, peers, and potential employers during this digitally influenced age. Verbal and non-verbal skills will be demonstrated through behavioral analysis of various interactions.

Quarter 2: Cooking and culture – Students will explore, discuss, and do their own personal best to prepare food using different styles of cooking. Students are encouraged to share how to prepare meals from their heritage. Parent, grandparent, or host-family participation is encouraged but not required. Tasty homework assignments are a strong possibility.

Quarter 3: Money management – Students will

explore and discuss banking and personal information safety, how to navigate debt pitfalls, various strategies for investing, how taxes work and where the money goes, and entrepreneurship.

Quarter 4: Handy Skills – Students will be given hands-on opportunities to discover how things work and how you can fix or replace things in the world. Basic electrical safety, plumbing, painting, carpentry, city permit process, car maintenance, and clothing repair or restyling are planned topics.

Prerequisite: Sophomore, junior, or senior standing.

Woodshop 1 // NOT UC-Approved // 1 year

This year-long course introduces students to woodworking fundamentals as they pertain to safety, small projects, and furniture making. Instruction will cover safe use, care, and storage of hand tools. There are classroom assignments, 11 required projects, and a written take-home final exam where students will reflect on what they have learned throughout the course. Projects include: toolbox, shooting board, cutting board, soup spoon with rest, coasters with holder, dovetail caddy, wooden Christmas trees, soap dish, whistle, dovetail box, and an adirondack chair. Students will be required to provide their own hand tools. These include: finishing hand saw, coping saw, block plane, screwdrivers, clamps, sandpaper, dust masks, tape measure, drill bits, pencils, chisels, and a hand rasp.

Tools cost approximately \$215 if purchased new. Tool list is available from Mr. Kosiewicz. Project material cost is roughly \$300 per student.

Office Aide / Teacher's Aide // Not UC Approved // 1 year

This is an opportunity for seniors to get some experience helping a teacher or working in the office. This class counts for credit only (with successful completion); the grade is not counted in the GPA. Students may take only one period of Teacher's Aide or Office Aide.

Prerequisite: Senior standing.

UC-Approved ELECTIVES

Intro to Psychology // UC Approved (College-Prep Elective, Category "G") // 1 year

The goal of this course is to provide the student with an introduction to and basic understanding of the study of psychology. By the end of the year, students will have an understanding of the historic development of psychology as a discipline, its methods of research, an orientation to the role of counseling, various Christian contributions to the public field of psychology, and the topics and terms of psychology's major subfields. Units of study begin from the parts of the brain and nervous system, and extend to child development, gender, how humans learn, personality, and psychological disorders.

Speech & Communications // UC Approved (College-Preparatory Elective Category "G") // 1 year

Speech & Communications is an elective designed to educate students in thinking clearly and critically as they learn to express ideas and research in different speaking formats. Students will demonstrate increased competence in preparing, delivering, and evaluating different speaking formats responsibly and ethically in a culturally diverse society. Throughout this course, students will practice and study speech communication fundamentals, including: interpersonal skills; critical listening; small group problem-solving; information-gathering; preparation and delivery of a variety of informal presentations. Although emphasis will be placed on performance and skills in preparing and presenting a public speech, students will also explore less formal topic areas.

The course includes the study of the use of the body and voice, the speaker-listener relationship, and preparation and delivery of the spoken word. Additionally, students will develop oratorical skills, keys to interviewing, critical thinking skills, leadership skills, and advanced research skills, as well as improving the way they think and behave

in social settings. The ability to read, write, and speak clearly in preparation for college-level work is important to students' success in this course. We will complete the following assignments:

Prerequisites: Sophomore Standing

Text: *Speech*. McGraw-Hill, 2005

This class does not take the place of a regular English course. It is an elective course only.

Bio-Medical Sciences, which is listed under the Science Department (page 30).

Journalism, which is listed under the Practic Arts (page 37).

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