

LA PIETRA

Hawaii School for Girls



WE EDUCATE YOUNG WOMEN TO LEAD A LIFE OF ACHIEVEMENT.

ACADEMIC CATALOG

2018-2019

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HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SUBJECT	CREDITS	PAGE
English	4	3
Fine Arts Visual or Performing Arts	2	7
World Languages Three years of the same language	3	14
Mathematics	3	18
Physical Education	3	22
Science	3	24
Social Studies	3	27
Women’s and Gender Studies	1	31
Electives	2	
Technology		33
College & Career		35
TOTAL MINIMUM CREDITS	24	

2018–2019 REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

All information for registering for the 2018–2019 school year is included in this course catalog.

Follow the checklist below before meeting with the Academic Dean to register for the upcoming school year.

Note: Summer offerings and registration forms will be available in a separate file.

- ❑ **Step 1.** Read the entire course catalog and description for all departments and fill out registration form given at Co-curr. Choose your courses carefully. The classes offered during the year are based on your requests. Changing classes after registration will be extremely difficult..
- ❑ **Step 2.** Discuss your choices with your teachers. Teachers must sign off on advanced course options (Advanced and AP® level courses).
- ❑ **Step 3.** Discuss with your parents and have them sign the registration form.
- ❑ **Step 4.** Bring your signed registration form to Hui on January 26th (or Monday, 29th for 8th graders).
- ❑ **Step 5.** *8th–11th graders* will meet with Dr. Dolan to register for next year’s courses. Check your email, Dr. Dolan’s door and the daily bulletin to see when your appointment is scheduled. If you miss your appointment you will be rescheduled during make-up days at the end of the registration period.

Please, do not miss your appointment with your Academic Dean!

Due to scheduling conflicts and/or enrollment, courses may have limited openings or need to be canceled so you must choose alternatives. As a result, some course requests made in the Spring may be different than the actual courses you are enrolled in.

The actual student schedules for the 2018–2019 school year will be finalized during the summer.

Please contact Dr. Dolan with any questions: email: adolan@lapietra.edu

ENGLISH

The English Department's goal is to foster the development of lifelong learners who are confident and competent readers and writers.

English & Social Studies 6

Gr. 7 English

Gr. 8 English

American Literature

Intro to Literature 9

World Literature 10

Poetry Analysis

British Literature

Gender & Culture+

AP® English Literature*

Creative Writing 1

*Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold** is core course

ENGLISH AND SOCIAL STUDIES INTEGRATED 6

Grade Level: 6

The 6th Grade English and Social Studies course is an integrated yearlong class and is designed to accommodate a wide range of learning styles to ensure that every girl is individually challenged. The Social Studies component includes the study of early man, ancient civilizations, an introduction to the foundations of democracy, and the themes of geography. The reading curriculum is woven into the social studies and includes short stories, novels, ancient myths, poems, informative texts, and nonfiction. Writing is incorporated with book reviews, memoirs, research and rhetorical prompt essays. Students also have several opportunities to hone their public speaking skills through presentations, debates, and class discussions.

ENGLISH 7

Grade Level: 7

Students begin the year with mythology from Greece and various other cultures. This study focuses on numerous themes and patterns in mythology: creation, heroism, and life's challenges. Additional novels and plays are woven in with reading and writing workshops in which students make their own reading selections and are given numerous ways in which to respond creatively and analytically. A strong emphasis is placed on vocabulary and grammar skills throughout this course to strengthen students' ability to express themselves accurately and articulately in both written and oral assignments.

ENGLISH 8

Grade Level: 8

The essential question that guides 8th grade English is "Who am I?" Students read the graphic novel *Persepolis* to explore what life is like in Iran. Students perform scenes from *Romeo and Juliet* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* to transform our classroom into Verona and the Jim Crow South, respectively. Students read and respond to contemporary news articles to learn about the world. Students write personal narratives to explore the influences that shape their identity. They write

poems to help them find their literary voice. Students also develop the study and organizational skills they need to succeed in high school and beyond. This class helps students grow in their mastery of grammar and vocabulary.

INTRO TO LITERATURE 9

Grade Level: 9 **1 credit**

As an introduction to the high school English program, students explore short stories from around the world, plays from William Shakespeare to modern classics, twentieth-century novels, non-fiction writing, and poetry. This year course emphasizes thesis-based writing with both formal drafts and rewrites but also includes projects for creating poetry and more imaginative personal writing. Students are given the opportunity to expand their vocabulary and review grammatical principles.

WORLD LITERATURE 10

Grade Level: 10 **1 credit**

This course explores literature from across the globe and through the centuries to answer the essential question "Who am I in the world?" We read Homer's epic poem *The Odyssey* and select Greek tragedies. Students read Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* and Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Students work to develop as critical thinkers, observant readers, rigorous writers, and meticulous editors. They expand their knowledge of literary devices and practice using language to examine and discuss ideas. Students grow as independent, self-directed learners through projects and formal presentations. This class helps students grow in their mastery of grammar and vocabulary.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade Level: 11-12 **1 credit**

In this course, students explore the concept of "The American Dream," the guiding theme of the course. Through literature and nonfiction novels, poems, essays, personal narratives, speeches and stories drawn from Colonial times to present day, students discover how this dream has shaped and given voice to the multicultural country we live in. The literature ranges from novels such as *The Great Gatsby* to the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Langston Hughes, and the short stories of Zora Neale Hurston and Flannery O'Connor. Students focus on further developing critical thinking, close reading, and analytical writing skills. Students use both writing and formal presentations to sharpen and refine communication skills. They continue to expand their vocabulary, become familiar with more sophisticated grammatical structures, and incorporate both into their writing.

BRITISH LITERATURE

Grade Level: 11-12 **1 credit**

This course explores British literature from the Anglo-Saxon era to 20th century prose, poetry and drama, and places the literature in historical and philosophical contexts. Students practice close reading, paying attention to the varied literary methods used by British authors, while also engaging in expansive analysis of larger topics such as the heroic code, the tragic hero, the intrinsic value of nature, and human identity. Students share their insights on the literature

during class discussions, in thesis-based writings, and through more personal creative writings. Vocabulary and grammar lessons and activities are regularly scheduled into this program.

AP® ENGLISH LITERATURE*

Grade Level: 12 **1 credit**

Prerequisite: Requires teacher approval

In Advanced Placement English, students read, debate, and analyze literature across the genres of fiction, drama, and poetry as they further develop critical thinking abilities, college-level analytical vocabulary, and writing style. This course focuses on a wide spectrum of voice, characters, and issues. Greek and Shakespearean tragedy, nineteenth-century narrative, postmodern fiction, and poetry from the 15th through 21st centuries offer students the opportunity to explore concepts such as identity, power, class, culture, community and communication. Learning to recognize textual complexities and mastering sophisticated close rhetorical analysis of both prose and poetry complement the broader perspectives on the texts and prepare students for the A.P. exam in May.

CREATIVE WRITING 1

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

This course involves learning to read fiction and poetry from a *writer's* perspective rather than from a *reader's* perspective. In it, students practice many different kinds of literary techniques, including how to create strong imagery, develop interesting characters, write stimulating dialogue, and experiment with various poetic forms. The course emphasizes and encourages discussion and collaboration on each step of the writing process, including brainstorming, rough draft writing, peer review workshop, and revision. By the end of the term, students produce a portfolio of short fiction and poetry, and submit their best pieces to La Pietra's literary magazine, *Kaleo 'O Kamana'o*, for possible publication.

GENDER & CULTURE+

Grade Level: 11-12 **1/2 credit course**

This interdisciplinary elective course explores the role of gender, race, class, and sexuality through popular film, television, music, literature, and performance. Our case studies draw on various cultural productions from the U.S. and around the world, focusing on the early 1900s to the present. We address how culture-making can both express and inform gender, and how ideas about gender and sexuality shape cultural environments. The course examines representations of women and gender in film, literature, and music, as well as cultural productions by women writers and artists.

FINE ARTS

It is the goal of the Fine Arts Department to stimulate creativity, curiosity, personal growth, and joy through the teaching of drama, music, and visual arts. The curriculum addresses different learning styles through the use of a variety of techniques and media.

Art 6	Theater 6	Music 6
Middle School Art	Middle School Theater	Middle School Music
Intro to Visual Art	Intro to Theater	Intro to Voice
Fiber Arts	Acting Workshop 1	Select Choir*
Art History	Musical Theatre Performance	
Jewelry 1/2	Production Workshop	
Ceramics 1	Improvisation	
Ceramics 2/3	Speech & Public Speaking	
Modern Art Studio 2		
Photography 1		
Photography 2		
Digital Imaging & Photo Shop		

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART ELECTIVES

ART 6

Grade Level: 6

Art 6 is a class in which students have the opportunity to express themselves visually with an emphasis on narrative art. Students become familiar with basic art vocabulary as well as some core concepts of Hawaiian art such as "Mana," "No'eau," and the importance of Kumulipo. This course sets the tone for an appreciation for environment and Hawaiian art.

MUSIC 6

Grade Level: 6

6th grade music students devote the first term to learning school and holiday songs, and popular and Broadway standards for our Newcomers' Tea. This experience strengthens their stage presence and professionalism, teaches them to work as a group and helps them to conquer stage fright. Students learn the importance of listening to and matching pitch, and focusing on the conductor. They begin to understand the patience and dedication needed in order to present a polished performance and are introduced to basic music theory and various composers.

THEATER 6

Grade Level: 6

Theater 6 introduces students to theater terms and the elements of the theatrical process with emphasis on performance, observation, and focusing skills. Students build confidence and imagination as they practice the fundamentals of acting, individually and as an ensemble, through theater games and improvisation. The class rehearses and presents a group performance for an invited audience.

MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER**Grade Level: 7-8**

Middle School Theater students explore elements of the theatrical process by building imagination, confidence, poise, and ensemble skills. They also learn the basic language used in theater and write scenes that they perform. Students can expect to have fun while learning voice, movement, observation, focusing, and characterization techniques. Units of curriculum include: theater games, improvisation, solo performances, and group performances.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART**Grade Level: 7-8**

Middle School Art classes introduce students to basic visual art skills with an emphasis on understanding and applying the elements of art and the principles of design. Students work in a variety of media and techniques including drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, and sculpture in addition to learning visual art vocabulary and how to critique a work of art. Projects rotate from year to year to provide an enriching hands-on learning experience for middle school students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC**Grade Level: 7-8**

Students in Middle School Music class study basic music theory, including note and rest values and dynamics. Through study, students learn to differentiate the periods of music and become acquainted with the lives of various composers and orchestral instruments in addition to learning the history of Musical theater and American Popular Music. Making a serious effort to learn these musical aspects will help students grow in their understanding of music and its importance in a well-rounded life. This course will create the Middle School Choir, allowing students to learn to sing in a choral setting as opposed to being a soloist. Within the choir setting, students will practice blend, harmony, enunciation, and breath support and become familiar with different genres of choral works. Depending on the term, the Middle School Choir will perform in either the holiday or spring concert.

INTRODUCTORY ART COURSES

(Two of three are required in Freshman year)

INTRO TO VISUAL ART

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Introduction to Visual Art is a survey course that builds a foundation for further concentration in the studio art courses. Students express their creativity with hands on studio projects from various artistic disciplines such as: photography, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, and painting. The course addresses themes and principles in design, elements of art, representational and non-representational art. Concepts within Aesthetics, art theory, and art history are discussed and applied in class work as well as through critiques.

Prerequisite for all visual art electives.

INTRO TO VOICE

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Intro to Voice class students learn to sing using healthy vocal technique for the young adult voice. This is a performance class and students are expected to sing with others and alone for the instructor and the class. There are many classes taught in a master class fashion, where the student receives instruction while the class listens and observes. The vocal literature studies are comprised of traditional folk songs, musical theater songs, jazz standards, operetta excerpts, and classical art songs. Music notation, diction, choral technique, and sight-singing are studied and practiced.

Prerequisite for all music electives.

INTRO TO THEATER

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Introduction to Theater encourages students to continue to build confidence and poise while exploring and building fundamental skills within the theatrical process. This includes practice in voice, movement, observation, focusing, and characterization techniques. Students also increase their knowledge of theater terminology and write scenes that they perform. The course included individual and collaborative projects, theater games, improvisation, solo performances, and group performances.

Prerequisite for all theater electives.

VISUAL ART ELECTIVES

DIGITAL IMAGING & PHOTOSHOP

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

This is an introduction to the basics of digital imaging using the Adobe Photoshop program. Students learn about copyright issues, scanning, digital cameras, making selections, compositing and using filters for special effects. Projects include photo repairs, portrait retouching, and simple collages. Limit of 10 students per class.

ART HISTORY

Grade Level: 11, 12 **1/2 credit course**

This course fulfills a requirement for the Fine Arts track; a final exam is scheduled for this course.

Art History provides students with the opportunity to explore the history of western art from antiquity to the present. Students examine how history influenced the art and how art illustrated the history. Students also critique artwork and write about aesthetics and values of the time. Images of women artists, women's role in the art society, and women as patrons of the arts are also woven into the discussion. Studio projects and a field trip to the Honolulu Museum of Arts to view antiquities allow learning to occur outside of this lecture-based class.

CERAMICS 1

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course offers students basic knowledge and skills with regard to clay, glazes, and the firing technique. Beginning with hand building, coil, pinch, and slab techniques and culminating with the use of the wheel in techniques such as wedging, centering, lifting, and trimming, students experience various approaches to working with clay. Students also learn about making glazes, recycling clay, and loading and unloading of the kiln. In addition to direct work with clay, learning in this course also occurs through various readings, guest artist visits, gallery and museum visits, and critiques. Limit of 12 students per class. Please note that additional study hall or other time may be required should a student not complete their work in class.

CERAMICS 2/3

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Prerequisite: Ceramics 1 or 2.

This course extends the Ceramics 1 experience for students who wish to refine and enhance their skills with various approaches to working with clay. Students work closely with the instructor in a studio experience. Learning in this course also includes various readings, guest artist visits, gallery and museum visits, and critiques. Limit of 12 students per class. Please note that additional study hall or other time may be required should a student not complete their work in class.

FIBER ARTS

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

In this course, students learn about different types of fibers and forms of textiles while covering various traditional techniques and non-traditional approaches used in the field today. Topics covering Folk Art, the textile revolution, natural vs. synthetic fibers, shibori, warp, and weft are covered in this curriculum. Students learn how Feminist Art and Installation Art have changed the shape of contemporary fiber art and create a variety of art projects utilizing their new skills and understanding. Limit of 12 students per class.

JEWELRY 1 & 2

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course in Jewelry covers not only the art of jewelry making but also a historical look at the adornment of early civilization. Students begin by building skills in wire working, measuring, linking, and making jump rings. Techniques such as sawing, etching, cold connecting, soldering, and polished are addressed; problem solving skills and personal expression by students are also emphasized. Learning in this course is enhanced through participation in various readings, guest artist visits, gallery and museum visits, and critiques. Limit of 10 students per class.

MODERN ART STUDIO 1 & 2

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit course**

Modern Art Studio is an advanced art elective, in which students create and explore mix-media art and painting. They learn about the Modern Art Movements, such as Analytical and Synthetic Cubism, the Avant Garde, Abstract Expressionism, and how those movements affect visual culture today. Students develop a global perspective of art and learn to articulate an understanding of diverse historical and cultural effects of art on society. Students use non-traditional art materials, simple hand tools to take apart e-waste and transform materials into a mixed media assemblage. The course emphasizes experimentation, action painting and exposes students to DADA, challenging “the status quo.” During the term students have at least one research paper and three well-developed art pieces.

PHOTOGRAPHY 1

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Photography 1 is an introduction to black and white photography with an emphasis on artistic results. Students learn about the history of photography and basic camera and darkroom techniques, as well as composition, lighting, and portraiture. Projects include photograms, quality of light, casual and studio portraits, and traditional hand coloring. Portfolio lectures with visiting photographers, field trips to photography exhibits, and hands-on experience in a professional studio provide inspiration and practical application. Limit of 10 students per class.

PHOTOGRAPHY 2

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Prerequisite: Photo 1

Photography 2 students expand their camera and darkroom skills as well as explore other creative techniques such as constructing and using a pinhole camera, self-portraiture, photo weaving, time exposures, photo collage, and digital hand coloring with an introduction to Adobe Photoshop. Students also research contemporary trends online. Guest artists provide inspiration by sharing their own portfolios.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

MUSICAL THEATER PERFORMANCE

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

In Musical Theater Performance, students learn to “act the song.” Vocal technique and interpretation, stylistic issues of voice quality, phrasing, and diction are addressed. Songs are selected from classic and contemporary Broadway shows that stretch the imagination and challenge the mind and body, resulting in artistic growth and newfound confidence. Master classes are taught by professional directors, choreographers, and accompanists. Basic vocal skills of pitch matching are a must and musical theater experience is a plus. Students also learn lyric analysis and character connection possibly leading to a final performance on the stage at Diamond Head Theater. Limit: 12 students/class.

SELECT CHOIR*

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit class**

Prerequisite: Teacher approval, audition

Select Choir members grow as individuals while contributing their talents to La Pietra’s premiere performance group. Students learn vocal technique and become stronger choral singers with improved blend, enunciation, breath control and stage presence. Opportunities for solo singing are readily available. Repertoire includes challenging choral arrangements from various genres of music and is frequently sung in other languages. Major performances include the holiday and spring concerts as well as a minimum of three community shows. Most importantly, students learn in a supportive environment in which singing and performing are pleasurable experiences. Students must be enrolled in class to participate in the Select Choir. This is now a two-term class.

HIGH SCHOOL THEATER ELECTIVES

ACTING WORKSHOP 1

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Acting Workshop is a project-based acting course that builds upon students’ performance skills learned in Introduction to Theater. Students improve their voice, movement, observation, focusing and performance skills while gaining confidence and poise. Students can expect to practice improvisation and character development, eventually participating in solo and group performances. Students learn to make a professional first impression at auditions and how to engage and win over audiences using techniques such as sensory imagination and emotional recall. This course culminates in a staged performance.

PRODUCTION WORKSHOP

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course focuses on the process of creating a theatrical production from start to finish. Students study each element involved in producing a theatrical work, from choosing and analyzing a script to closing and striking a show. Students are expected to be actively involved in the spring drama production.

SPEECH AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course uses studies of communications as the basis for students to improve their public speaking skills and gain proficiency in their abilities to find their own voices, speak with confidence, and communicate effectively with an audience. Students give a demonstration, deliver a persuasive presentation, present an extemporaneous speech, lead a small group meeting, sit for a mock job or college interview, and perform an oral interpretation. Over the course of the term, students improve their command of rhetorical techniques, practice how to design effective visual aids, and rehearse how to think and speak on their feet every day.

IMPROVISATION

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Improvisation is a project-based acting course that builds upon students' on the spot performance skills learned in Introduction to Theater. Students will be introduced to the tenets of improvisation through the use of drills, exercises and games. Students will eventually participate in group performances.

WORLD LANGUAGE

As people become increasingly connected with others across the globe, it is the World Language Department's goal to educate our students to become global citizens who can communicate with people of other cultures and countries.

Introduction to Languages

Chinese 1	Spanish 1	French 1
Chinese 2	Spanish 2	French 2
Chinese 3	Spanish 3	French 3
Chinese 4*	Spanish 4*	French 4*
Chinese 5*	Spanish 5*	French 5*

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGES

Grade Level: 7

Required course

In this introductory course, students learn basic vocabulary such as greetings, colors, numbers as well as simple grammatical patterns. Students are also introduced to the culture of their chosen languages. The purpose of this course is to encourage the students to build confidence and enjoy the learning of a new language. Through projects and other hands-on activities, students acquire basic knowledge of a new language. This course runs over two terms with students gaining exposure to all three languages offered: Spanish, French, and Chinese. At the conclusion of this course, students select the language they wish to focus upon beginning with Level 1 at the 8th grade.

CHINESE PROGRAM

CHINESE 1

Grade Level: 8-12 **1 credit**

This is a beginning Chinese course designed for students with little or no prior knowledge of the Chinese language. Students learn Mandarin Chinese, which is the national standard language of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan). Students first learn "Pinyin", the Chinese phonetic system that helps students establish a solid foundation for further learning. Students also learn the language's four tones, Chinese characters (both simplified & traditional), grammar, and sentence patterns. Further study of Chinese history and culture are included as it relates to each lesson. This course also covers computer skills to study Chinese.

CHINESE 2

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit**

Prerequisite: Chinese 1

This course is a continuation of Chinese I and reviews the fundamentals of Chinese I. Through Chinese II, more characters, grammar, and sentences patterns are introduced, allowing students to read, write, listen and speak with greater confidence. The course covers additional aspects about Chinese culture and history in the supplemental materials.

CHINESE 3

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit**

Prerequisite: Chinese 1 & 2

This course is designed to continue building students' daily communication skills with more vocabulary, expressions, sentence patterns and grammar. Students are challenged to read and write using Chinese characters. Listening and speaking skills are also sharpened in this course.

*CHINESE 4

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit**

Prerequisite: B- or better in Chinese 3, teacher approval

This course is designed to reinforce Chinese 2 and 3 content and skills to expand the students' vocabulary, usage of expressions, and sentence patterns. Students read, write, and speak in Chinese. There are also opportunities to communicate and correspond with native speakers.

*CHINESE 5

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: B- or better in Chinese 4, teacher approval

At this stage, students develop advanced skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking Chinese. This course provides opportunities for students to acquire better speaking skills by emphasizing natural, colloquial usage with opportunities to practice and explore the language as well as to develop intercultural understanding. They are able to read authentic materials such as newspapers, short stories and magazines. Tasks for writing include letters, creative writings, and essays. Through the development of receptive, productive and interactive skills, students build skills to respond and interact appropriately in a defined range of everyday situations. Chinese 5 students have the option and are encouraged to take AP Chinese exam.

CHINESE CULTURE: MODERNITY IN AN ANCIENT COUNTRY

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: none, no Chinese experience needed

This course provides an overview of Chinese culture; it is designed for both students with a particular interest in China, and for those with little prior knowledge of the country who want to increase their global awareness. Topics covered in this class include: geography and political divisions, history, philosophy, religions, traditional values, cuisine, medicine, art, language, economics, current events, and contemporary society. Students develop a rich understanding of Chinese culture as well as a heightened awareness of the power of language. No prior exposure to Mandarin is required as the course is conducted in English.

FRENCH PROGRAM

FRENCH 1

Grade Level: 8-12 **1 credit course**

In this introductory course, students learn topics such as seasons/weather, telling time, personal hygiene, food descriptions, and different relationships among other topics. Students also learn present and past tense, verb conjugations and adjectives. Much of the learning in this course is assessed authentically with students being able to ask and answer questions both orally and in written form, to read stories and articles in the French language, and to retell an event.

FRENCH 2

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: French 1

French 2 is an interactive class in which students continue practicing their speaking, listening, and writing skills. In addition, students are exposed to more complex grammatical patterns allowing them to read, write, listen and speak with greater confidence in conversations concerning everyday activities and news events. By the end of this class, students narrate events and express themselves in different tenses using a broader vocabulary.

FRENCH 3

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: French 1 & 2

This class reinforces the skills learned in Level 2. At this point, students are exposed in more depth to culture through music, theater, short stories, and projects. New grammatical skills at this level include the subjunctive and conditional mood. Vocabulary becomes more challenging and includes topics such as health/illness, traveling, environment, and technology. By the conclusion of this course, students are able to interpret oral and written information through creative and critical thinking skills and engage in conversation with an advanced level of recall and vocabulary.

*FRENCH 4

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: B- or better in French 3, teacher approval

In Level 4, students read different genres of literature and review them orally and in writing learning about subjects such as French history from the Middle Ages to the present and French art, literature, and music. Students are required to give presentations and research the literature and movie clips presented in class. Previously learned grammar is reinforced through the writing of both subjective and objective essays.

*FRENCH 5

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: B- or better in French 4, teacher approval

Students at this level of language study focus on acquiring more difficult vocabulary related to ideology, economics, and politics in order to engage in more complex levels of conversation and written communication. In addition, students also understand more refined grammatical

points of the language. Experiences in this course tend to be advanced in nature such as reading and analyzing films, literature, short stories, and newspaper articles. By the conclusion of French 5, students generally test well on College Placement Exams allowing them to enter advanced levels of this language at the college level.

SPANISH PROGRAM

SPANISH 1

Grade Level: 8-12 **1 credit course**

As a beginning level course, students learn fundamentals of the language such as the alphabet, numbers, the date, telling time, colors and basic conversations. Students also learn more sophisticated grammar such as the present and past tenses, verb conjugations and adjective agreement. A study of geography and culture of the Spanish-speaking world is included.

SPANISH 2

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

As an intermediate level course, Spanish 2 reviews the fundamentals of Spanish 1 and provides exposure to more complex linguistic patterns allowing students to read, write, listen and speak with greater confidence. New grammatical skills include the subjunctive mood and various types of verbs. By the end of this course, students are able to express themselves using a broader vocabulary.

SPANISH 3

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 & Spanish 2

Spanish 3 reinforces the skills learned in levels 1 and 2. In addition, there is a focus on more advanced topics that reflect the nuances of the language. Vocabulary also becomes more challenging as students hone their grammatical abilities. By the end of this course, students are comfortable with written and spoken Spanish.

*SPANISH 4

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: B- or better in Spanish 3 and teacher approval

As an advanced course, Spanish 4 reviews fundamentals of the language and covers more sophisticated topics such as global citizenship. Culture is further studied through authentic texts and student presentations in Spanish.

*SPANISH 5

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: B- or better in Spanish 4 and teacher approval

In Spanish 5, key grammatical concepts are reviewed and students deepen their understanding of the language through literature, film, and current event analysis. By the conclusion of Spanish 5, students generally test well on the Advanced Placement Spanish exam, allowing them to enter advanced levels of this language in college.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department develops students to become competent and confident women with a strong number sense, logic, and problem solving skills.

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

Math 6	Geometry	Pre-Calculus
Math 7	Algebra II	AP [®] Calculus*
Pre-Algebra	Algebra II/Trig*	Personal Finance
Algebra 1	Trigonometry	Statistical Reasoning

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

MATH 6

Grade Level: 6

Throughout the Math 6 course, students learn how to think critically about math concepts, practice math skills, and learn how to effectively share ideas orally and in written work. Students begin each unit by predicting and exploring engaging math problems. Technology is used extensively to engage students in learning and understanding math concepts in this course. Students also create e- portfolios to summarize and highlight math concepts learned and develop online math tutorials to share with the community. Major focus areas are number theory, concepts and computation with fractions and decimals, percentage concepts, two-dimensional geometry, and data collection and display in preparation for PreAlgebra.

MATH 7

Grade Level: 7

In this course we explore mathematical concepts that are foundational for success in Algebra. Students work on engaging problems both individually and in groups, learning how to effectively verbalize math concepts during group discussions. Technology, such as the graphing calculator, Geometry Sketchpad, and the Internet, are used to help students explore math concepts. Topics covered include creating and interpreting graphs and tables, using variables and expressions, proportional reasoning, working with integers, probability, statistics, two- and three-dimensional measurement, decimals, fractions, and percents.

PRE-ALGEBRA

Grade Level: 7-8

This course is designed to help students bridge from PreAlgebra 1 to Algebra. Using a problem-centered approach, students master and apply computational and problem-solving skills. Students explore algebraic concepts such as linear relationships, direct and inverse variation, and linear systems and inequalities. Units on three-dimensional geometry and the Pythagorean Theorem prepare students for their future course in geometry. Students are encouraged to verbalize their understanding through class discussion, writing assignments, and group work.

ALGEBRA 1

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra 1 and department approval or Pre-Algebra 2

The first course in our sequence of college preparatory courses, Algebra 1 is a rigorous study of algebraic topics including linear and quadratic equations, proportional reasoning and variation, systems of equations and inequalities, and rational and irrational numbers. In addition, students learn about the relationship between algebraic functions and their graphs and are introduced to exponential functions and basic operations with polynomials.

Extensive problem solving and data exploration are integrated throughout the course. Students learn through direct instruction, working in groups, participating in discussions, and using graphing calculators. All students entering this course must have a strong command of arithmetic skills involving fractions, decimals, and positive and negative numbers, and experience with the use of variables.

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Students develop an awareness and appreciation of geometry through visualization, analysis, and deductive and inductive reasoning. Through a variety of activities with angles, polygons, circles, parallel and intersecting lines, and solid figures, students learn the necessary skills and concepts to apply their knowledge to the real world. Special attention is given to hands-on and cooperative learning in an effort to develop the students' ability to reason, test conjectures, solve problems, and communicate geometric understanding.

ALGEBRA 2

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry

Algebra 2 provides a review and extension of the concepts taught in Algebra 1. Topics covered include linear equations, inequalities, coordinates, graphs, general functions and their inverses, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and conic sections. Students use technology such as graphing calculators and online resources to explore math concepts more fully. Situations are analyzed verbally, numerically, graphically, and symbolically while applying mathematical skills to making meaningful connections to life experiences.

TRIGONOMETRY

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry

This course is a complete study of trigonometry with an emphasis on both conceptual understanding and real world applications. Students review their understanding of angles and triangles including solving right triangles. Next, students learn the definition and applications of sine, cosine, and tangent functions. In addition, students learn to solve oblique triangles using the law of sines and the law of cosines. After exploring radian measurement, students explore the graphs of basic trigonometric functions. The course also includes a study of

trigonometric identities and inverse trigonometric functions. Students in Algebra 2 are encouraged to take this course to assist with SAT readiness and opportunity to advance in math to Pre-Calculus.

ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY*

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry and department approval

In Algebra 2 with Trigonometry, students develop an understanding for the purpose for trigonometry and learn to use both algebraic equations and trigonometry to solve real- world problems. Concepts developed in the course include irrational and complex numbers, conics, and analytic geometry with extensive use of the graphing calculator. Topics also include exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, triangle trigonometry, trigonometric functions and their graphs, and trigonometric identities, matrices, probability, and statistics.

PRE-CALCULUS

Grade Level: 11-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

This course serves as a bridge from advanced algebra to calculus. Students are introduced to the need to move beyond standard algebraic problem solving for certain concepts and how many real- world problems use vector and polar coordinates. Students learn how to draw vectors, graph polar equations, deal with complex numbers, solve advanced exponential and logarithmic functions, analyze sequences and series, and use combinatorics in common situations. Graphing calculators are used for every topic, and students present problems as a group nearly every day. At the end of the course, students have a thorough understanding of all the concepts necessary before starting the calculus sequence of classes at the next level of study.

AP[®] CALCULUS*

Grade Level: 11-12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus and departmental approval

This course is a comprehensive introduction to calculus. It includes a thorough study of limits and differentiation and the fundamentals of integration. Students learn to find the equation of a tangent line, analyze motion, solve related rates problems, determine the area under a curve, and compute the volumes of various shapes. Students work collaboratively and utilize their graphing calculators extensively. At the end of this course, students understand the connections between derivatives and integrals and the practical applications of calculus. Students must take the AP Calculus exam in May.

PERSONAL FINANCE (previously Financial Algebra)

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently)

By combining algebraic and graphical approaches with practical business and personal finance applications, this course shows students how algebraic thinking patterns are essential in finance and business. The course includes a strong review of basic algebra formulas with

variables, equations, function, systems of equations, graphs, and statistics. In addition, students use piecewise functions, regression limits, and exponential functions while learning about investments, credit, automobiles expenses, insurance, income tax, and household budgeting.

piece at the end of the term. No textbook is required, however dance shoes are an optional purchase for class (jazz or ballet slippers recommended).

SCIENCE

The Science Department endeavors to enhance each student's creative and critical thinking processes with a focus on inquiry, hypothesis, and experimentation.

Science 6	Chemistry	Life in the Universe
Science 7	Physics	Human Anatomy & Physiology
Science 8	AP® Biology*	Applied STEM
Biology	Astronomy	

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

SCIENCE 6

Grade Level: 6

Science 6 students learn about how scientists use scientific inquiry to explain our natural world. They use these concepts to explore the relationships between science, technology and society. In addition, students investigate planet Earth as a system of land, water, air and life forms. It is a continually changing planet that is a fascinating place to live.

SCIENCE 7

Grade Level: 7

The first term is an introduction to anatomy and physiology of the human body. Students learn about the various organ systems and their interaction as well as about homeostasis and maintaining body health. The second term is designed to give students a broader view of what makes up our planet. They investigate ever-changing planet Earth as a system of interactions between the living and non-living world. The class is designed to create an interest in the human body and planet Earth through application of scientific principles, inquiry through creative and critical thinking, and hands-on experience.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE/SCIENCE 8

Grade Level: 8

This class is an introductory middle school physical science course. Students gain basic instruction in conceptual physics and the ability to explain physical situations verbally, through writing, graphically, and with mathematics. Topics include describing motion, Newton's of matter and energy. The class is designed to create an interest in the physical world through application of scientific principles, inquiry through creative and critical thinking, and hands-on experience.

BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 9

1 credit course

Biology is a dynamic and ever-changing science. This course is designed to give students a taste of some of the diverse topics and an appreciation for the many ways biology impacts their own lives. Students study the diversity of life on Earth, evolution, cellular biology, energy

transformations (like photosynthesis and cellular respiration), basic principles of genetics and molecular genetics. Lab work is strongly emphasized with particular emphasis on the use and care of microscopes and the scientific method. (1 credit, grade 9)

CHEMISTRY

Grade Level: 10 **1 credit course**

This course is taught within the context of real- world applications. Within the units “Alchemy,” “Smells,” and “Toxins,” students learn about topics including the Periodic Table, electron configurations, molecular functions, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, and acid-based chemistry. Students spend time making observations and recognizing patterns, then discussing and refining their ideas within a scientific community. The development of critical thinking skills and understanding of the scientific process are heavily focused upon.

PHYSICS

Grade Level: 11, 12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Trigonometry

Physics is a rigorous capstone course of the sciences challenging students to perfect observation skills and develop experimental design techniques.

Students apply algebra and trigonometry to model the physical world, using lab probes to design experiments and use the data collected to derive important physical relationships. Critical thinking skills are required, challenged, and refined. Topics include velocity, acceleration, force, Newton’s Laws, projectile motion, momentum, rotational kinematics, waves, optics, electricity, and magnetism.

AP® BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11, 12 **1 credit course**

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry and department approval required.

As outlined by the College Board, this course focuses on four big ideas: 1) The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. 2) Biological systems utilize energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis. 3) Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes. 4) Biological systems interact, and these interactions possess complex properties. There is a strong emphasis on student- directed, inquiry labs like animal behavior, enzyme activity, rate of photosynthesis and bacterial transformation lab. Due to the challenging breadth, depth, and pacing of the course, students must have strong skills in reading, writing, time management, and problem solving. Students are expected to take the AP Biology exam in May.

ASTRONOMY

Grade Level: 11, 12 **1/2 credit course**

Astronomy is an introductory course in physical science pertaining to the study of everything about and beyond the Earth’s atmosphere. The study of planets, stars, exotic remnants, galactic structure, and cosmological outcomes are among the many topic that are covered. Basic physics principles are investigated to understand how things work on Earth, the nature of gravity, and how orbits work. These concepts are then expanded upon to explain how the planets formed, what makes them different, and possible future scenarios for Earth’s development as well as our Sun, stars, and the Milky Way. Throughout the course, discussions about the history and

future of space science are explored. Last, a broader view of the size and grandeur of the universe is presented with big questions posed, such as: How did the universe begin? What will be the fate of the universe? Are we alone?

HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11, 12 **1/2 credit course**

Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry

The structure and function of the human body is the foundation of this course. Students use microscopes to study the formation of tissues before focusing on the more complex systems like the muscular, nervous, endocrine, and immune systems. Homeostasis and regulation are emphasized. This course is highly recommended for students enrolling in AP Biology.

LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course intentionally asks big questions including: how did the Earth form? What major transitions changes on this planet enabled life to begin? Why and how did life on Earth diversify? The second line of inquiry asks questions about life beyond planet Earth, including: Where are we most likely to find life in the universe? What conditions are necessary for life to develop? Can we and should we spread organisms to exoplanets?

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL APPLIED STEM

Grade Level: 7-8, 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

The STEM Olympics elective is a class that provides students with the opportunity to participate in science investigations that incorporate and build on previous learning from a number of other core science classes. Class curriculum is organized around the National Science Olympiad competition events covering a broad range of science topics (Life, Personal, and Social Science, Earth and Space Science, Chemistry and Physics, Technology and Engineering, Inquiry and Nature of Science). Class time is spent advancing engineering skills through hands on building projects and developing in-depth knowledge of various science subjects. Science Olympiad team members are encouraged to enroll, however, all students would enjoy the challenge and students need not be members of the Science Olympiad team to enroll in the course.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies Department expects its students to become lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and responsible, informed global citizens.

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

Social Studies 6

World Geography

20th Century America

World Cultures

European History

United States History/AP United States History*

American Government

Human Relations

Psychology

Ethics: Medicine, Law and Media

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade: 7

Students in World Geography “travel” the world learning about the world’s peoples, places, cultures, history, governments and geological features of world regions. Basic geography terms and concepts as well as mapmaking skills and interpretation of graphs and charts are incorporated into the learning process along with current events and class debates. During this course, students produce two term projects resulting in class presentations: 1) Expedition to Edinburgh in which students plan and plot their trip through various points around the world, and 2) Create a Country project in which students create their own unique country from an landmass on the planet.

20TH CENTURY AMERICA

Grade: 8

This two-term class takes students on a historical journey from the New Industrial Revolution, World War 1, Roaring 1920’s through the Great Depression, the presidencies of Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt and World War II. During the second term, the course covers the Cold War, Baby Boom, the Civil Rights Movement, the space program, President Kennedy, the Vietnam War, and the makings of modern day America. Students develop critical thinking and reading comprehension skills, while drawing inferences and making historical connections. For each chapter covered, students work either individually or as part of a group, examining a variety of topics and the role history has played in shaping our nation today.

WORLD CULTURES

Grade Level: 9 **1 credit course**

This two-term course is an introduction to the history of the global world and to the anthropological study of diverse cultures. Emphasis is placed on the interaction among world cultures, the influence of geography, and the link between the past and the present. Ideas and concepts, which explore the relationship between the ancient and the modern world, are stressed, including the growth of art, philosophy, and religion. Through term projects, current events, and class debates, students hone their writing, researching and public speaking skills to become effective and critical historians and better global citizens.

EUROPEAN HISTORY

Grade Level: 10 **1 credit course**

European history begins with an investigation of the causes, significant figures, and effects of the Renaissance and progresses through to the events that resulted in the diverse region that is Europe today. Long-term effects of those events are discussed, with an emphasis on how they may be seen today in governments, customs, and modern-day Europe. Reading comprehension assessments require students to synthesize pertinent information from primary source materials, teacher presentations, as well as from the textbook. For each chapter covered, students either individually or as part of a group examine a variety of historical topics.

US HISTORY

Grade Level: 11 **1 credit course**

The United States History course emphasizes historical concepts that have shaped America. Students acquire historical knowledge of past historical events then analyze to create a deeper understanding of their relevance to modern day society. Assessments and classwork require students to synthesize pertinent information from various sources including primary source materials, teacher presentations, as well as from the textbook. For each chapter covered, students either individually or as part of a group examine a variety of historical topics helping students increase their cultural literacy.

AP[®] U.S. HISTORY*

Grade Level: 11 **1 credit course**

Prerequisites: Requires teacher approval.

Students taking this course are required to enroll in Introduction to Historical Methods.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program in U. S. History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to view critically the past, present, and future in American History. This course prepares students for advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by universities. This AP U. S. History course develops the skills necessary to arrive at historical conclusions through informed reasoning and by citing historical evidence.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 12 **1/2 credit course**

This one-term course provides an introduction to American politics. It centers on the fundamental role played by the institutions of American government including Congress, the Presidency, and the Judiciary in order to understand political dynamics in the United States.

Similarly, this course explores the origins and functions of our state and local government so that connections can be made between politics at the federal level and the political institutions of the state of Hawaii. Further consideration is given to the role of public opinion and participation as inputs to the institutions of American government, and the mediating role of organizations such as interest groups, the news media, and political parties. In addition to mastering basic facts about American government, theories of political science are used in examining broader questions of democratic government and comparisons to other political systems.

INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL METHODS

Grade Level: 11 **1/2 credit course**

In this course students acquire essential skills for the study of history through intensive analysis of primary sources and documents from various historical fields and time periods within United States History. Students explore fundamental components of historical thinking, including ideas about context and causation, and methods of historical analysis, conflicting interpretations, and complex understanding of historical developments. Lessons refine critical thinking and writing skills that are fundamental to historical academic study.

This course is required for students enrolling in AP United States History.

ETHICS: MEDICINE, LAW, AND MEDIA

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course enhances students' understanding of the medical, legal, and media worlds and the moral quagmires of each whether it be doctor-assisted suicide, invasion of privacy, manipulation by the press, or the defense of a mass killer. Through reading the ideas and philosophies of Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, Noam Chomsky, Niccolo Machiavelli, Albert Schweitzer and others, students learn both the historical and present day ins and outs of these three interesting fields. Medicine and law are covered in the first term; the American right to privacy and the media in the second. Critical thinking, analytical reading and writing, active discussion, and knowledge of current events are key elements of this class.

HUMAN RELATIONS

Grade Level: 11-12 **1/2 credit course**

In an open and honest space, students engage in a deep analysis of who they are as an individual, the Self, in relation to others and the larger society and culture. This course helps support students in how they build, nurture and maintain relationships with their families, friends, romantic love partners and members of their communities as to understand the various ways they may destroy and/or neglect these relationships. Topics explored are the Self, Emotion, Communication, Conflict Resolution, Dating & Love, Dating Violence, and The Human Body.

PSYCHOLOGY

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit course**

Students in Psychology learn to better understand themselves and their own development through learning about the human brain and how it changes from birth to old age as well as other topics such as twin studies, depression, multiple intelligences, psychosurgery, and gender differences. Subjects also covered include a variety of psychological disorders and the

work of prominent psychologists and psychiatrists from past and present. Two projects/presentations are required in this course: 1) researching the work and biography of an influential person in the field of psychology, and 2) researching and presenting a study of a psychological disorder. Laying the groundwork for university-level philosophy classes, students utilize critical thinking skills to write reflective essays, apply new learning to current events, and participate in discussions.

+IT'S A WOMAN'S WORLD

Grade Level: 9-10 **1/2 credit course**

This introductory course to our new program--Women's and Gender Studies-- explores how gender is a significant factor in shaping our identity, our perspectives, and our life experiences. Through an interdisciplinary approach, students examine the diversity of attitudes, events, and issues that continue to shape the lives of 21st century women. What forces and conditions inform our gender and role identification? What can we learn from women in other societies around the world? These are a few of the questions that drive student engagement and critical thinking in this class.

+PERSPECTIVES IN WOMEN'S HISTORY

Grade Level: 10-11 **1/2 credit course**

The second course in our Women's and Gender Studies program gives a historical perspective on women's experiences while also drawing on global and transnational perspectives. The course is an interdisciplinary approach to the history of women in the U.S. and abroad. In this class, we look at the significant cultural, socioeconomic, and political conditions that have shaped the lives of women while centralizing the dynamics of gender, race, and class. Students critically analyze how the stories of women's lives are told and how gender shapes the ways in which narratives are constructed, reproduced, and circulated throughout history. This course places particular emphasis on women's experiences from several different backgrounds, and social and geographic locations.

WOMEN's and GENDER STUDIES

The Women's and Gender Studies Department expects its students to to understand current and historical issues related to women and gender studies, and become active leaders in their community.

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core course*

+Perspectives in Women's History

+ Gender & Culture

+It's a Woman's World

+Women's Bodies, Women's Minds

+WOMEN'S BODIES, WOMEN'S MINDS (PE/HEALTH)

Grade Level: 9-10 **1/2 credit course**

Required course

This class equips students with knowledge and skills necessary for living a healthy life. Topics include nutrition and exercise, human anatomy of the reproductive system, mental health, substance use and abuse, and relationships. Through activities and group discussion, students develop positive communication skills, learn to manage stress, and learn how to advocate for themselves.

+IT'S A WOMAN'S WORLD (SOCIAL STUDIES)

Grade Level: 9-10 **1/2 credit course**

This introductory course to our new program--Women's and Gender Studies-- explores how gender is a significant factor in shaping our identity, our perspectives, and our life experiences. Through an interdisciplinary approach, students examine the diversity of attitudes, events, and issues that continue to shape the lives of 21st century women. What forces and conditions inform our gender and role identification? What can we learn from women in other societies around the world? These are a few of the questions that drive student engagement and critical thinking in this class.

+PERSPECTIVES IN WOMEN'S HISTORY (SOCIAL STUDIES)

Grade Level: 10-11 **1/2 credit course**

The second course in our Women's and Gender Studies program gives a historical perspective on women's experiences while also drawing on global and transnational perspectives. The course is an interdisciplinary approach to the history of women in the U.S. and abroad. In this class, we look at the significant cultural, socioeconomic, and political conditions that have shaped the lives of women while centralizing the dynamics of gender, race, and class. Students critically analyze how the stories of women's lives are told and how gender shapes the ways in which narratives are constructed, reproduced, and circulated throughout history. This course places particular emphasis on women's experiences from several different backgrounds, and social and geographic locations.

GENDER & CULTURE+ (ENGLISH)

Grade Level: 11-12 **1/2 credit course**

This interdisciplinary elective course explores the role of gender, race, class, and sexuality through popular film, television, music, literature, and performance. Our case studies draw on various cultural productions from the U.S. and around the world, focusing on the early 1900s to the present. We address how culture-making can both express and inform gender, and how ideas about gender and sexuality shape cultural environments. The course examines representations of women and gender in film, literature, and music, as well as cultural productions by women writers and artists.

TECHNOLOGY

La Pietra students use technology to communicate their ideas through a variety of media.

Success in Middle School 1 & 2

Design Thinking

Graphic Design

Yearbook

Middle School Applied STEM

High School Applied STEM

SUCCESS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL 1

Grade Level: 6 **Pass/Fail**

In this course, students learn keyboarding and computer skills, note taking, study strategies, oral presentation skills, vocabulary, learning preferences information, character education and other pertinent strategies and skills that contribute to a student's success in middle school. A variety of techniques and software is explored to organize ideas, concepts, and information using documents, charts, and presentation software. The course also includes an emphasis on ethics, etiquette, and safety. Success in Middle School supports content, skills, and strategies learned in the sixth grade core classes. Self-awareness, problem solving, planning and organizational skills, and leadership are also addressed through class projects and activities.

SUCCESS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL 2

Grade Level: 6 **Pass/Fail**

Success in Middle School 2 continues to prepare students for their upper school journey in their study strategies, character development, and research/success techniques in school. Students experience and choose topics of interest to research, learn goal setting and a variety of research methods, guidelines for use of online resources, technology, and other creative methods along with other activities that emphasize critical thinking, problem solving, peer collaboration, and presentation and self-evaluation. Success in Middle School 2 is taken in the 6th grade year upon successful completion of Success in Middle School 1.

DESIGN THINKING

Grade Level: 7,8

This course is designed to expose students to a wide range of digital applications to support creative problem solving and gain lifelong learning skills. Design Thinking continues the learning process, skills and strategies introduced in Success in Middle School 1 and 2 while introducing concepts like citizenship within a globalized context, storytelling within digital and traditional methods, as well as other study skills that will continue students' academic success. Students will understand the tools of various applications and how to use them to enhance their learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity. Students will utilize the tools available to design new products and processes.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

In this intermediate course, students focus on the elements of design. A variety of graphic products are created, using technology and traditional methods. At the conclusion of this course, students produce an individually themed graphic collection.

Limit: 10 students/class

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL APPLIED STEM

Grade Level: 7-8, 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

The STEM Olympics elective is a class that provides students with the opportunity to participate in science investigations that incorporate and build on previous learning from a number of other core science classes. Class curriculum is organized around the National Science Olympiad competition events covering a broad range of science topics (Life, Personal, and Social Science, Earth and Space Science, Chemistry and Physics, Technology and Engineering, Inquiry and Nature of Science). Class time is spent advancing engineering skills through hands on building projects and developing in-depth knowledge of various science subjects. Science Olympiad team members are encouraged to enroll, however, all students would enjoy the challenge and students need not be members of the Science Olympiad team to enroll in the course.

YEARBOOK

Grade Level: 9-12 **1/2 credit course**

This course uses the school's yearbook as the primary vehicle through which students gain an authentic introduction to the three main areas of journalism: reporting, photography, and graphic design. Through the process of meeting each term's deadline, students learn publishing terms, interviewing techniques, use of digital cameras, and maintenance of a photo archive, Photoshop fundamentals, editing skills, and time management. Students also learn the importance of creating an accurate historical document for the school's present community as well as its future archives. Students may sign up for one or two terms each school year.

COLLEGE and CAREER

In addition to rigorous academic preparation, La Pietra students gain valuable life skills through the Counseling Department courses.

Requires Departmental Approval/ + Part of required Women's & Gender Studies/ **Bold is core ore required course*

Junior Seminar
SAT/ACT Prep

Student Internship
Independent Project

JUNIOR SEMINAR

Grade Level: 11 **1/2 credit course** **Pass/Fail**

Junior Seminar is a required class for 11th graders, in term 1, focusing on college guidance and test preparation. Students prepare for the senior year college application process and for choosing colleges into which they are best suited for and interested in attending. Topics stem from information on the college selection experience through financial aid. Testing preparation is also included as well as visits from college admissions representatives.

COLLEGE SEMINAR/SENIOR SEMINAR

Grade Level: 11 & 12 **0 credit course** **Pass/Fail**

College or Senior Seminar is a class offered to Juniors who, due to scheduling conflicts, were not able to enroll in Junior Seminar. Seniors who were not enrolled in Junior Sem are also able to take this course, which will cover topics covered in Junior Seminar in a truncated and accelerated basis. Students will meet weekly and get individual time to meet with the college counselor about the college going process. See Dr. Dolan for more information.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit course**

This student internship opportunity is designed to provide on-site experiences in school-to-work skills, personal responsibility, and community relationships. Students may be enrolled for one term (1/2 credit) or its equivalent over the summer program offerings. Requirements for this class include a grade point average of 3.0 or greater, parent permission, faculty/administration recommendation, and approval from the Academic Dean. Students are assessed using input from Internship Supervisor, self-evaluation, journal and a final reflection paper, and participation and attendance. Credits during the school year are attached to the term in which they are earned; credits earned during the summer are attached to the upcoming fall term of the year the student will be entering. Letter grades are earned based on the following criteria and follow the grading scale in the Parent-Student Handbook.

ONLINE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit course**

La Pietra is proudly partnered with The Online School for Girls (OSG), an organization with elite membership from top schools for girls around the nation. This partnership offers students access to additional classes during the school year in various core subjects. As an

integrated element of our curriculum, these courses are considered La Pietra courses and are reflected in student GPAs and on transcripts. OSG tuition fees are included in the regular tuition when OSG courses are taken during the fall and spring terms of the academic school year. A \$150 administrative processing fee per class registration is required, and additional tuition fees are assessed for summer courses. To register for classes, students must contact the Academic Dean; registration is handled through the school. To see the 2018-2019 OSG Course Catalog [click here](#).

UPPER SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The following program will serve as a general guide for entering students:

GRADE 9:

1. INTRO TO LIT 9
2. ALGEBRA 1 OR GEOMETRY
3. WORLD CULTURES
4. BIOLOGY
5. WORLD LANGUAGE
6. IT'S A WOMAN'S WORLD
7. WOMEN'S BODIES, WOMEN'S MINDS (HEALTH)
8. INTRO TO VISUAL ARTS/MUSIC/THEATER
9. PE UPPER SCHOOL OR INTRO TO DANCE
10. ELECTIVES

GRADE 10:

1. WORLD LITERATURE
2. GEOMETRY OR ALGEBRA 2, TRIGONOMETRY
3. EUROPEAN HISTORY
4. CHEMISTRY
5. WORLD LANGUAGE
6. IT'S A WOMAN'S WORLD**/WOMEN'S BODIES, WOMEN'S MINDS (HEALTH)**
7. PERSPECTIVES IN WOMEN'S HISTORY
8. INTRO TO VISUAL ARTS/MUSIC/THEATER**
9. PE UPPER SCHOOL OR INTRO TO DANCE
10. ELECTIVES

GRADE 11:

1. AMERICAN LITERATURE OR BRITISH LITERATURE
2. ALGEBRA 2, TRIGONOMETRY OR MATH ELECTIVE
3. US HISTORY OR AP US HISTORY
4. PHYSICS, AP BIOLOGY OR SCIENCE ELECTIVE
5. WORLD LANGUAGE (OPTIONAL AFTER LEVEL 3)
6. JUNIOR SEMINAR
7. PE UPPER SCHOOL OR INTRO TO DANCE
8. ELECTIVES

GRADE 12:

1. AMERICAN OR BRITISH LIT; AP ENGLISH
2. MATH CORE OR ELECTIVE
3. AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
4. PHYSICS, AP BIOLOGY OR SCIENCE ELECTIVE
5. WORLD LANGUAGE (OPTIONAL AFTER LEVEL 3)
6. PE UPPER SCHOOL OR INTRO TO DANCE
7. ELECTIVES

**Should a student not take these courses in grade 9, these courses would be taken in grade 10.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The following program will serve as a general guide for entering students:

GRADE 6

1. ENGLISH AND SOCIAL STUDIES INTEGRATED 6
2. MATH 6
3. SCIENCE 6
4. ART 6
5. MUSIC 6
6. THEATER 6
7. PE 6
8. SUCCESS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL 1 SUCCESS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL 2

GRADE 7

1. ENGLISH 7
2. MATH 7
3. SCIENCE 7
4. WORLD GEOGRAPHY INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGES
5. MIDDLE SCHOOL ART
6. MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC
7. MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER
8. DESIGN THINKING
9. PE MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADE 8

1. ENGLISH 7
2. PRE-ALGEBRA OR ALGEBRA 1*
3. SCIENCE 8
4. 20TH CENTURY AMERICA
5. MIDDLE SCHOOL ART MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC, MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER
6. MIDDLE SCHOOL STEM
7. PE MIDDLE SCHOOL
8. WORLD LANGUAGE 1 (CHINESE, FRENCH, OR SPANISH)*

**Algebra 1 and World Language 1 are counted towards the cumulative GPA for a student's upper school academic career. Students are required to take a final exam for both Algebra 1 and World Language 1. See Student-Parent Handbook for more information.*