

LA PIETRA

Hawaii School for Girls



WE EDUCATE YOUNG WOMEN TO LEAD A LIFE OF ACHIEVEMENT

ACADEMIC COURSE CATALOG

2019–2020

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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	17
Mathematics	3	22
Physical Education	2	22
Women's and Gender Studies	1.5	39
Electives Technology & Learning	2	41
College & Career		43
TOTAL MINIMUM CREDITS	24	

2019–2020 REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

All information for registering for the 2019–2020 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 program courses and registration process will be available by February 2019. Summer course offerings will be available for middle and upper school students.

- ❑ **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 and availability. Requests to change classes after the registration period are usually not able to be fulfilled.
- ❑ **Step 2.** Discuss your choices with your teachers. Teachers must sign off on advanced course options (AP® level courses) and select upper level classes as noted in course description.
- ❑ **Step 3.** Discuss with your parents and have them sign the registration form.
- ❑ **Step 4.** Bring your signed registration form to Hui on Friday, January 25, 2019.
- ❑ **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 prerequisites, scheduling conflicts and/or limited enrollment, not all courses are available to all students each term. Although every effort is made to schedule students' first choice classes, all student schedules inevitably must rely on alternative choices.

The actual student schedules for the 2019–2020 school year will be finalized during the summer.

Please email Dr. Dolan with any questions at 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.

Middle School	Upper School	
English 6 English 7 English 8	Intro to Literature 9 World Literature 10 American Literature British Literature	AP® English Literature* Gender & Culture Page to Stage College Composition

Bold is core course

ENGLISH 6

Grade Level: 6

Sixth grade English is designed to promote creative and analytical skills in reading, writing, speaking, and the study of the English language. Close reading strategies and the metacognitive process are applied to promote independent self-monitoring and evaluation. Throughout the course students will gain experience and proficiency with writing narrative, persuasive, creative, descriptive, and expository texts.

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 life during the Iranian Revolution. Students perform scenes from *Romeo and Juliet* and to transform our classroom into Verona. We examine *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Denby Fawcett’s *Secrets of Diamond Head* to learn about neighbors and our neighborhood. Students respond to contemporary news articles to expand their views 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. In this class, students continue to grow in their mastery of grammar and vocabulary.

INTRO TO LITERATURE 9

Grade Level: 9 **1 credit, core course**

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, core course**

This core 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. In this class, students continue to grow in their mastery of grammar and vocabulary.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

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

In this core 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, core course**

This core 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 **1.5 credits (3 terms)**

**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 AP® exam in May.

GENDER & CULTURE+

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

+Part of required Women's & Gender Studies

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. *Part of required Women's & Gender Studies.*

PAGE TO STAGE* NEW

Grade Level: 9-12 **1 credit (*Theater & English Credits)**

In this two term, interdisciplinary course students will write, revise, and workshop original scenes and one act plays. We will read and analyze different kinds of plays and attend theater productions around the island. As students are writing and revising, we will begin to set roles and organize rehearsal processes. Our goal is for the class to work as an ensemble, with the playwrights, directors, and actors collaborating to create an original performance project to culminate by the end of the term.

COLLEGE COMPOSITION NEW

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

Become a more sophisticated writer! English Composition is a non-literature based composition class designed to develop students' abilities to think, organize and express their ideas clearly and effectively. This course incorporates reading, research and critical thinking. Emphasis is placed on the various forms of expository writing such as process, description, narration, comparison analysis, rhetorical analysis, persuasion and argumentation. Numerous in-class writing activities are required in addition to extended essays written outside of class. This course will prepare students for APUSH, AP Literature, SAT and ACT writing, and college composition. *This course is highly recommended to seniors by the college counselor.*

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.

Middle School	Upper School	
Art 6 Music 6 Theatre 6 Middle School Theatre Middle School Art Middle School Music	Intro to Visual Art Intro to Voice Intro to Theatre Digital Imaging & Photoshop Art History Ceramics 1 Ceramics 2 / 3 Fiber Arts Graphic Design Jewelry 1 & 2	Modern Art Studio 1 & 2 Photography 1 Photography 2 Yearbook Music Theater Performance Select Choir* Acting Workshop 1 Production Workshop Speech and Public Speaking Improvisation Page to Stage *

Bold is core course

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART ELECTIVES

ART 6

Grade Level: 6 **Pass/Fail**

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 **Pass/Fail**

Our new students learn school songs, musical theatre/pop standards and music for our Holiday and Spring Concerts. In class, they perform scenes/songs from such musicals as *Annie*, *Cinderella*, and *The Sound of Music*. Other classes observe us and give audience feedback.

Students will also become familiar with the music and background of Beethoven, Mozart and Gershwin. These experiences increase their musical knowledge, strengthen their stage presence and professionalism, teach them to work as a group and help them to conquer stage fright. They learn the importance of listening to and matching pitch, and focusing on their conductor. They begin to understand the patience, cooperation and dedication needed in order to present a polished performance.

THEATER 6

Grade Level: 6 **Pass/Fail**

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. Students learn to differentiate the periods of music and become acquainted with the lives of various composers and the sounds of 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 and appreciation 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. 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.

UPPER SCHOOL ART ELECTIVES

INTRODUCTORY ART COURSES

(Two of three are required in 9th grade)

INTRO TO VISUAL ART

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

Intro 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, core 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 varying genres, including traditional folk music, musical theater, jazz standards and contemporary 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, core course**

Intro 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**

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**

This course fulfills a requirement for the Fine Arts track.

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**

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**

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**

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.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

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

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 of 10 students per class.

JEWELRY 1 & 2

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

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**

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 and 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 and simple hand tools to take apart e-waste and transform materials into a mixed media assemblage. The course emphasizes experimentation and 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**

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**

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 coloring with an introduction to Adobe Photoshop. Students also research contemporary trends online. Guest artists provide inspiration by sharing their own portfolios.

YEARBOOK

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

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, 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.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

MUSICAL THEATER PERFORMANCE

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

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 augmented by guest 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 per class.

SELECT CHOIR*

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

**Prerequisite: Teacher approval, audition*

Select Choir is La Pietra’s premiere performance ensemble. Singers in grades 9-12 audition and are selected on the basis of musicianship, personality, personal integrity and maturity. There are opportunities for solo features. Though we have sung on the mainland and in Europe, performances are usually within the Honolulu community, and Spring and Holiday concerts take place at school. Students memorize 10-14 choral arrangements in each season. Tests consist of singing alone and in groups. While participation in all concerts and performances is mandatory, excused absences are considered on an individual basis. Participation in auxiliary choir rehearsals is often necessary. These are scheduled as needed and at the best times for all participants.

THEATER ELECTIVES

ACTING WORKSHOP 1

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

Acting Workshop is a project-based acting course that builds upon students' performance skills learned in Intro 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**

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**

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**

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.

PAGE TO STAGE* NEW

Grade Level: 9-12 1 credit (*Theater & English Credits)

In this two term, interdisciplinary course students will write, revise, and workshop original scenes and one act plays. We will read and analyze different kinds of plays and attend theater productions around the island. As students are writing and revising, we will begin to set roles and organize rehearsal processes. Our goal is for the class to work as an ensemble, with the playwrights, directors, and actors collaborating to create an original performance project to culminate by the end of the term.

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.

Middle School	Upper School		
Introduction to Languages	Chinese 1 Chinese 2 Chinese 3 Chinese 4* Chinese 5* Chinese Culture: Modernity in an Ancient Country	French 1 French 2 French 3 French 4* French 5*	Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 3 Spanish 4* Spanish 5*

Bold is core course

INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGES

Grade Level: 7

In this introductory course, students learn basic vocabulary such as greetings, colors and numbers as well as simple grammatical patterns. Students are also introduced to the cultures 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 in the 8th grade.

CHINESE PROGRAM

CHINESE 1

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

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, core course**

Prerequisite: Chinese 1

This course is a continuation of Chinese 1 and reviews the fundamentals of Chinese 2. Through Chinese 2, 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, core course**

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**

**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**

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, core 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, core 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, core course**

Prerequisite: French 1 & 2

This class reinforces the skills learned in Level 2. At this point, students are exposed in greater 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**

**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**

**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, core 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, core 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, core 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**

**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**

**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, logical reasoning skills, and problem solving skills.

Middle School	Upper School	
Math 6 Math 7 Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 Trigonometry Algebra 2/Trigonometry	Pre-Calculus AP [®] Calculus* Personal Finance Statistical Reasoning

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 interactive portfolios to summarize and highlight math concepts learned. 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 Pre-Algebra.

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 and manipulatives 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: 8

This course is designed to help students bridge from Math 7 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: 8-9 **1 credit, core course**

**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra 1 and department approval or Math 7*

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: 9-10 **1 credit, core course**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Students develop an awareness and appreciation of two and three-dimensional geometry through visualization, analysis, and deductive and inductive reasoning. Through a variety of activities with angles, polygons, circles, parallel and intersecting lines, congruent triangles, similar figures, 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: 10–11 **1 credit, core 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, recursive formulas, inequalities, transformations, general functions and their inverses, quadratic functions, 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: 10–12 **1/2 credit**

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 how to solve 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 and how they apply to the real world, including tidal patterns and temperature. 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: 10–12 **1 credit**

**Prerequisite: B or Better in both terms of Algebra 1, 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, trigonometric functions and their graphs, trigonometric identities, matrices, probability and statistics.

PRE-CALCULUS

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

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Trigonometry

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 or 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. 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 **1.5 credits (3 terms)**

**Prerequisite: B or better in both terms of 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

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

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 mathematical patterns are essential in finance and business. The course includes a strong review of basic algebra formulas with variables, equations, functions, graphs, and statistics. In addition, students use regression analysis and exponential growth while learning about investments, credit, income taxes, and household budgeting.

STATISTICAL REASONING

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

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently)

This course introduces students to the science of collecting, analyzing, and summarizing data. Students discover the many applications of statistics in various fields from psychology to biology and see how to avoid being misled by improperly used statistics. Students learn statistical terminology, various sampling techniques, why correlation does not imply causation, and simple linear regression. At the end of this course, each student will present their own statistical study using a mix of numerical and visual statistical techniques.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The goal of the Physical Education Department is to expose students to a variety of traditional and non-traditional sport and physical activities in individual, small group, and team settings.

Middle School	Upper School
PE 6 PE Middle School	PE Upper School Intro to Dance (level 1 & 2) Intermediate Dance (level 3 & 4)

PE 6

Grade Level: 6

Pass/Fail

Physical Education 6 introduces students to a variety of traditional and non-traditional team and individual sports and physical activities. Students experience a wide range of skills, activities, and lead-up games in various environments. Assessment for this course is based on seven components of physical fitness and student consistency in effort to improve each: cardiovascular and muscular endurance, speed, agility, power, strength, and flexibility.

PE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade Level: 7-8

The Physical Education Middle school class will introduce students to a variety of traditional and non-traditional team and individual sports, fitness activities, and games. The students learn about strategies, history, rules, safety, and good sportsmanship relative to each activity in a variety of environments. The gymnasium, outdoor court, swimming pool, great lawn area, and Kapiolani Park will be utilized during the term. Over the course of the term, students will gain self-awareness, competence, and confidence while developing their skills and fitness. Our hope that this wide range of experiences will encourage students to select, get involved in, and enjoy a variety of activities in our after school athletic program or physical activities and sports outside of school.

PE UPPER SCHOOL

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

The emphasis of the Physical Education Upper School class is to experience and participate in a variety of traditional and non-traditional team and individual sports, activities, and skills. The students will continue to learn strategies, history, rules, safety, and good sportsmanship relative to each sport or activity being covered. A variety of environments will be utilized to teach each unit. It is our hope that the wide range of experiences will encourage students to select, get involved in, and enjoy a variety of activities after school and outside of school. This knowledge should encourage students to select activities that are best suited for their skills, strengths, needs, and liking. In addition, students will gain more competence and confidence as they learn and participate in the lead-up drills/activities, fitness training, and competitive scrimmage games with their classmates.

INTRO TO DANCE (Level 1 & 2)

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

Introduction to Dance offers the basics of ballet, jazz, and hip hop along with the fundamentals of body awareness, technique development and choreography. Students learn about the roots of dance and how it has developed while physically working to execute techniques found in various dance genres. We use classical and current music to fuel our creativity in class, and students have an opportunity to self choreograph and perform an original 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).

INTERMEDIATE DANCE (Level 3 & 4) **NEW**

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

Prerequisite : *Dance 1 & 2*

Dance 3/4 builds upon the skills, techniques, and terminology gained in Dance 1/2 and Introduction to Dance. Dancers will begin learning to refine their skills along with building upon this foundation and applying more advanced concepts and elements to their class performance. Dancers will explore the styles of lyrical, musical theater, hip hop and salsa / social dance. They will also create a portfolio of work demonstrating their ability to conceptualize and create a dance from lighting to make-up, music and costume selection. 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.

Middle School	Upper School	
Science 6 Science 7 Science 8 Middle School Applied STEM	Physics Chemistry Biology Advanced Physics AP® Biology*	Astronomy Marine Biology Environmental Health High School Applied STEM AP® Environmental Science*

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

Science 7 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 course 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.

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 Laws 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.

MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLIED STEM

Grade Level: 7-8

The 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.

PHYSICS 9

Grade Level: 9-12

1 credit, core course

(or students whom have not previously met a physics course requirement)

Physics is designed as a fundamental science course and the foundation for chemistry, biology, and advanced science classes. The course will use conceptual models and basic mathematical and algebraic application to describe physical relationships. Topics include describing motion, forces and Newton's Laws, energy and its conservation, basic thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, and electromagnetic waves. Energy and the environment will be explored as a special topic.

CHEMISTRY

Grade Level: 10

1 credit, core 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.

BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11

1 credit, core 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.

ADVANCED PHYSICS **NEW**

Grade Level: 11, 12

1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Trigonometry

Honors Physics is a rigorous capstone course of the sciences challenging students to perfect observation skills and develop experimental design techniques. It is designed for students interested in expanding their physical science knowledge and/or who are interested in pursuing a STEM pathway after high school. Students apply algebra and trigonometry to model the physical world through observation and experimentation, using data collected to derive important physical relationships. Critical thinking skills are required, challenged, and refined. Topics include kinematics, Newton’s Laws and gravity, projectile motion, momentum, rotational kinematics, energy and its conservation, waves, light and optics, electricity, and magnetism. Special topics will also be explored per student discretion and interest.

AP[®] BIOLOGY*

Grade Level: 11-12 **1.5 credits (3 terms)**

**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**

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?

MARINE BIOLOGY **NEW**

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

In this course students will learn about the diversity of organisms that encompass the marine environment, which include: microbial, algal, and animal life forms. They will examine how these organisms interact with abiotic (salinity, nutrients, currents and tides) and biotic factors (competition, predation, and symbiosis). Other topics include: geological processes behind the formation of marine ecosystems, primary and secondary production, rocky intertidal biodiversity, estuaries, subtidal communities, coral reefs, pelagic and deep-sea communities, impacts of humans on the ocean, and conservation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH **NEW**

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

In this course students will gain an understanding of how individuals and communities interact with the environment. The focus will be on how humans have affected the health of the environment with chemicals and toxins. It will also include how pathogens, chemicals, and toxins affect human and environmental health. Topics include: identifying contaminants, pathogens and toxins (metals, organics, and pharmaceuticals) and its effect on environmental health; protecting the environment through waste and water management; discussing food safety and antibiotic resistance; comparing disease prevalence in developing and developed countries; and identifying key chemical contributors to the global amphibian decline.

HIGH SCHOOL APPLIED STEM

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

The 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.

AP[®] ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE **NEW**

Grade Level: 11-12 **1.5 credit (3 terms)**

**Prerequisite: Physics, Chemistry and department approval required.*

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Yet there are several major unifying constructs, or themes, that cut across the many topics included in the study of environmental science. In May students will take the AP Environmental Science exam.

SOCIAL STUDIES

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

Middle School	Upper School	
Social Studies 6 World Geography 20th Century America	World Cultures European History US History AP® U.S. History American Government	Ethics: Medicine, Law and Media Human Relations Psychology Global Issues Intro to Women’s & Gender Studies+ Perspectives in Women’s History+

Bold is core course

SOCIAL STUDIES 6

Grade Level: 7

Students in sixth grade social studies explore major ancient civilizations and how geography influences a civilization's life and culture. Through art and project based learning, students will create ancient Egyptian maps with sheet cake and icing, replicate a Mesopotamian city-state with MineCraft, and create a mock court applying Hammurabi’s Code.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade Level: 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 a country project in which students create their own unique country from an landmass on the planet.

20TH CENTURY AMERICA

Grade Level: 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, core 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, core 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.

U.S. HISTORY

Grade Level: 11 **1 credit, core 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 **1.5 credits (3 terms)**

**Prerequisites: Requires teacher approval.*

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, core 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.

ETHICS: MEDICINE, LAW, AND MEDIA

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

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. 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**

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 Sex.

PSYCHOLOGY

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

Students cover the history of Psychology as a science, perception, sex, gender and sexuality, and personality theories to better understand themselves and their own development. 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. Projects/ presentations required in this course: 1) researching the work and biography of an influential person in the field of psychology, and 2) researching and presenting examples of defense mechanisms. Students utilize critical thinking skills to write reflective essays, apply new learning to current events, and participate in discussions.

GLOBAL ISSUES

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

Global Issues is a one semester elective course examining how the contemporary global system is being dramatically transformed as the processes of globalization transpire across political, economic, cultural, environmental, and military arenas. From human rights and terrorism to global inequality and environmental issues, the course focuses on global affairs that transcend and are transforming states and international relations.

INTRO TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES+

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

+Part of required Women's & Gender Studies

This introductory course to La Pietra's Women's and Gender Studies program 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**

+Part of required Women's & Gender Studies

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 guides its students to to understand current and historical issues related to women and gender studies and become active leaders in their community.

Upper School
Women's Bodies, Women's Minds Intro to Women's and Gender Studies Perspectives in Women's History Gender & Culture Ways of Leading: Igniting Positive Change in the Community

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

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

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.

INTRO TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (SOCIAL STUDIES)

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

Required course

This introductory course to La Pietra's Women's and Gender Studies program 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**

Required 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**

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.

WAYS OF LEADING: IGNITING POSITIVE CHANGE IN THE COMMUNITY NEW

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

This course, the final class in the Women's and Gender Studies program, will allow students to pursue an independent study in partnership with a community organization or business. Students will partner with an organization or business three days per week and meet in a seminar twice per week. The seminar will include topics such as women in the workplace, leadership and partnership, community impact, teamwork, and finding your way in the world. The focus of this course will be to develop individual student leaders in the areas of responsible citizenship, communication, goal setting, group processes, as well as social justice, business, organizational and managerial skills. Students in this course will present their experiences and knowledge learned to the La Pietra community at the end of the term. These hands-on experiences and reflection seminars will enable them to become highly successful in college, in their chosen career, and in future community involvement. **Prerequisites:** Students must have their own transportation to and from the job site. Students must understand that this is a time commitment and therefore schedules need to be considered prior to registering. They also must be on-track to complete all other required courses at La Pietra.

TECHNOLOGY AND LEARNING SKILLS

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

Middle School	Upper School
Success in Middle School 1 Success in Middle School 2 Middle School Applied STEM	Design Thinking Upper 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. Students experience and choose topics of interest to research, learn goal setting, and understand 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. They also learn 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

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.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL APPLIED STEM

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

This 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.

COLLEGE AND CAREER

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

Upper School
Junior Seminar Student Internship* Independent Project One Schoolhouse (Online)

JUNIOR SEMINAR

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

Junior Seminar is a required class for 11th graders, focusing on academic wayfinding, college guidance and post-secondary goal setting. 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. This class will also host on-campus visits from college admissions representatives as scheduling permits.

STUDENT INTERNSHIP*

Grade Level: 10-12 **1/2 credit** **Pass/Fail**

**Requires Departmental Approval*

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.

INDEPENDENT PROJECT

Grade Level: 11

Juniors embark on a self proposed Independent Project during their Junior Year. With the help of an out of school and in-school advisor, students will complete 40 hours on a project of their choosing, culminating in a schoolwide presentation of learning in the Spring of their Junior year.

ONE SCHOOLHOUSE- ONLINE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS*

Grade Level: 10-12 1 credit

**Requires Departmental Approval*

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 view the 2019-2020 OSG Course Catalog [click here](#) or visit <https://www.oneschoolhouse.org>.

Prerequisite: Completion of OSG Contract and approval by Academic Dean

- **Regular Course:** Approval by Academic Dean required
- **A.P. Courses:** Minimum 3.3 GPA and approval by Academic Dean and department teacher
- **NEW in 2019-2020:** All students enrolling in a One Schoolhouse course must complete a Learning Contract and submit payment of \$150 before May 1, 2019. See Dr. Dolan for a copy of the Learning Contract.

AP® & ONE SCHOOLHOUSE EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)® COURSES

Students enrolled in AP® courses through The Online School for Girls or on campus are required to take the AP® exams in May. Should a student miss an AP® exam, they will be charged for the amount of testing fee not refunded by the College Board and must make payment during the school year the expense is incurred. AP® exams are generally scheduled during the first two weeks of May.

ONE SCHOOLHOUSE ONLINE COURSES

In order to enroll in an Online School for Girls (OSG) Course for the 2019-2020 school year, all students must receive approval from the Academic Dean and submit a non-refundable payment of \$150 in full to be enrolled. Any students who wish to take an online AP® Course must have earned at least a 3.3 GPA at the time of enrollment, received approval from the department teacher and the Academic Dean. Additionally, students must complete the One Schoolhouse Academic Contract available from Dr. Dolan.

UPPER SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The following program will serve as a general guide for students entering 9th grade in 2019–2020.

GRADE 9:

1. Intro to Literature 9
2. Algebra 1 or Geometry
3. World Cultures
4. Physics
5. World Language
6. Intro to Women's Gender Studies
7. Women's Bodies, Women's Minds (PE/Health)
8. Intro to Visual Arts/Music/Theater
9. PE Upper School or Intro to Dance

GRADE 10:

1. World Literature
2. Geometry or Algebra 2, Trigonometry
3. European History
4. Chemistry
5. World Language
6. Introduction To Women's And Gender Studies**/Women's Bodies, Women's Minds (PE/Health)**
7. Perspectives In Women's History (Social Studies)
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. Biology or AP Biology/AP Environmental Science
5. World Language (optional after level 3)
6. Junior Seminar
7. PE Upper School or Intro to Dance
8. Electives

GRADE 12:

1. American Literature or British Literature; AP English
2. Math Core or Elective
3. American Government
4. Physics, AP Biology/AP Environmental Science/Science Electives
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.

UPPER SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The following program will serve as a general guide for students entering grades 10–12 in 2019–2020.

GRADE 9:

1. Intro to Literature 9
2. Algebra 1 or Geometry
3. World Cultures
4. Biology
5. World Language
6. Intro to Women's Gender Studies
7. Women's Bodies, Women's Minds (PE/Health)
8. Intro to Visual Arts/Music/Theater
9. PE Upper School or Intro to Dance

GRADE 10:

1. World Literature
2. Geometry or Algebra 2, Trigonometry
3. European History
4. Chemistry
5. World Language
6. Intro To Women's And Gender Studies**/Women's Bodies, Women's Minds (PE/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
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 6
2. Social Studies 6
3. Math 6
4. Science 6
5. Art 6
6. Music 6
7. Theater 6
8. PE 6
9. Success In Middle School 1 & 2

GRADE 7

1. English 7
2. Math 7
3. Science 7
4. World Geography
5. Introduction To Languages
6. Middle School Art
7. Middle School Music
8. Middle School Theater
9. Design Thinking
10. PE Middle School

GRADE 8

1. English 8
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.*