



# **ACADEMIC COURSE GUIDE**

**2018-2019**

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## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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### ARTS CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

To receive a diploma, students must successfully complete required credits in arts.  
 Arts credit requirements are determined based on the year students enroll in SPCPA. Required courses vary, based on the track: Dance, Instrumental Music, Musical Theatre, Theatre, and Vocal Music.

GRADE OF ENTRY INTO SPCPA*	ARTS CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION
9	20
10	15
11	10
12	5

\*Students who enter the school mid-year will have their arts credit requirements adjusted accordingly.

### ACADEMIC COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

Students must successfully complete the required credits and high school level academic courses.

## CLASS OF 2019

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>
<b>4.0 credits</b>	<b>3.5 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English 9 OR English 9 Advanced</li> <li>• English 10 OR English 10 Advanced</li> <li>• English 11 OR AP English Language &amp; Composition</li> <li>• English 12 OR AP English Literature and Composition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World History OR World History Advanced</li> <li>• Government OR Government Advanced</li> <li>• Economics OR Economics Advanced</li> <li>• U.S. History OR AP U.S. History</li> <li>• Geography</li> </ul>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<b>SCIENCE</b>
<b>3.0 credits</b>	<b>3.0 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algebra 2 OR Algebra 2 Advanced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biology OR Biology Advanced</li> <li>• Chemistry OR Chemistry Advanced</li> </ul>

NOTE: All course offerings are based on sufficient enrollment

## CLASS OF 2020

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>
<b>4.0 credits</b>	<b>3.5 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English 9 OR English 9 Advanced</li> <li>• English 10 OR English 10 Advanced</li> <li>• English 11 OR AP English Language &amp; Composition</li> <li>• English 12 OR AP English Literature and Composition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• World History OR World History Advanced</li> <li>• Government OR Government Advanced</li> <li>• Economics OR Economics Advanced</li> <li>• U.S. History OR AP U.S. History</li> <li>• Geography</li> </ul>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<b>SCIENCE</b>
<b>3.0 credits</b>	<b>3.0 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High School Algebra OR HS Algebra Advanced</li> <li>• Geometry OR Advanced Geometry</li> <li>• Algebra 2 OR Algebra 2 Advanced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical Science OR Physical Science Advanced</li> <li>• Chemistry OR Chemistry Advanced</li> <li>• Biology OR AP Biology</li> </ul>

## CLASS OF 2021 - 2022

<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>
<b>4.0 credits</b>	<b>4.0 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English 9 OR English 9 Advanced</li> <li>• English 10 OR English 10 Advanced</li> <li>• English 11 OR AP English Language &amp; Composition</li> <li>• English 12 OR AP English Literature and Composition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civics</li> <li>• Geography OR Geography Advanced</li> <li>• World History OR AP World History</li> <li>• U.S. History OR AP U.S. History</li> <li>• Government OR AP Comparative Government and Politics</li> <li>• Economics OR AP Microeconomics</li> </ul>
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	<b>SCIENCE</b>
<b>3.0 credits</b>	<b>3.0 credits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High School Algebra</li> <li>• Geometry OR Advanced Geometry</li> <li>• Algebra 2 OR Algebra 2 Advanced</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical Science OR Physical Science Advanced</li> <li>• Chemistry OR Chemistry Advanced</li> <li>• Biology OR AP Biology</li> </ul>

NOTE: All course offerings are based on sufficient enrollment.

## EARN COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL

College credit options are available to many high school students. Studies show that students who complete some college credit in high school are more likely to attend college and graduate with a certificate, diploma or degree. Classes that can potentially earn college credit are found by looking for advanced placement (AP) courses in this guide.

### **Advanced Placement (AP)**

This is a college-level course that requires students to work at a high level of rigor and complete additional work outside of class. AP classes prepare you for the college experience.

#### *Benefits:*

- Expectations and pace of classes are designed to closely match college experience.
- An AP exam score may allow you to earn college credit.
- AP is recognized by post-secondary schools around the nation.
- This is a weighted grade at SPCPA. The grade is multiplied by 1.2 rather than 1.0 to calculate GPA.

#### *Eligibility:*

- AP classes are available in grades 10, 11, and 12.
- Students should have strong reading and writing skills and plan on additional time outside of class for reading and assignments.
- Some classes may have prerequisites.

#### *How to earn college credit:*

- Take the AP exam in May.
- Many colleges award credit for scores of 3 or higher (scores range from 1-5).
- Check the website of the college you may attend to determine the credit policy.



The American Council on Education (ACE) and the College Board recommend that colleges and universities award credit for AP scores of 3 or higher on any AP Examination. This recommendation is based upon ACE’s most recent review of the AP Program and on the recommendation of the Development Committee for each course and exam. Founded in 1918, ACE is the nation's unifying voice for higher education. ACE serves as a consensus leader on key higher education issues and seeks to influence public policy through advocacy, research and program initiatives.

AP Examination	Minimum Credit-Granting Score	Number of Semester Hours	Number of Semesters
Biology	3	8	2
Calculus AB	3	3 to 4	1
Chemistry	3	8	2
	4	12	3
English Language and Composition	3	6	2
English Literature and Composition	3	6	2
Government & Politics: Comparative	3	3	1
Microeconomics	3	3	1
Music Theory	3	5	1
	4		2
Psychology	3	3	1
Spanish Language and Culture	3	6	2
	4	9	3
	5	12	4
Statistics	3	3	1
U.S. History	3	6	2
World History	3	6	2

## **Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)**

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) is a program that allows 10th, 11th and 12th-grade students to earn both high school and college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college-level, nonsectarian courses at eligible participating postsecondary institutions.

Most PSEO courses are offered on the campus of the postsecondary institution; some courses are offered online. Each participating college or university sets its own requirements for enrollment into the PSEO courses. Eleventh and twelfth grade students may take PSEO courses on a full- or part-time basis; 10th graders may take one career/technical PSEO course. If they earn at least a grade C in that class, they may take additional PSEO courses, pending approval. There is no charge to PSEO students for tuition, books or fees for items that are required to participate in a course. Students must meet the PSEO residency and eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09.

- Funds are available to help pay transportation expenses for qualifying students to participate in PSEO courses on college campuses.
- Schools must provide information to all students in grades 8-11 and their families by March 1, every year.
- Students must notify their school by May 30 if they want to participate in PSEO for the following school year.
- Students must meet PSEO college admission requirements and must complete classes required for high school graduation.
- This option is for independent, highly responsible, and motivated students.

### *Benefits:*

- Students can earn college credits that may be accepted by other colleges and/or universities following high school.
- Students gain college experience while in high school.

### *General education option eligibility:*

- General Education option is available in grades 11 and 12.
- PSEO College sets the academic requirements such as high school class rank.
- PSEO families are responsible for providing transportation.

### *Career technical education option eligibility:*

- Career Technical option is available in grades 10, 11, and 12.
- Must meet or exceed the standards on the 8th grade MCA Reading test.
- Only one class can be taken during a college semester.
- PSEO families are responsible for providing transportation.
- Courses eligible must be career technical education courses.
- This option is only available at community and technical colleges.

### *How to earn college credit:*

- Your results are reflected in a college transcript from the college or university you attend. This transcript will be a part of your academic record for future schools and employment.

# College and Career Planning

SPCPA offers a wide variety of assistance and resources for students and parents who are seeking post-high school planning support. In addition to providing a performing arts faculty of working dance, music and theatre professionals and a college-preparatory academic curriculum, SPCPA staffs a dedicated College and Career Planning Center (CCPC) with a fulltime College Counselor. Our College Counselor is available to answer questions and assist with college applications (including transcript requests) and resume creation. In addition, throughout the academic year, the CCPC staff provides a range of presentations and a series of college and career focused newsletters to ensure that students and parents have the information they need to be successful in the college application process.



Topics range from ACT preparations, audition planning, how to develop a list of “Good Fit” schools, financial aid skills, scholarship opportunities, options for summer engagement and more. Individual and family appointments are always encouraged. Not surprisingly, over 80% of SPCPA seniors take the necessary steps to enroll in college in the fall following graduation.

Each August through November, the CCPC hosts in-school visits for colleges and universities to meet interested juniors and seniors. These events, which occur during normal school hours, provide all students with the opportunity to engage with admissions representatives to learn more about the college application and BFA/BM audition processes prior to graduation. Each spring SPCPA hosts an official in-school college entrance test (ACT) opportunity for interested juniors and seniors during normal school hours. Although this is a voluntary exam, over 90% of all seniors take the ACT prior to graduation. ACT fee waivers are available to students who qualify. All 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in free preparatory college entrance testing (PSAT 9, 10 and 11) annually to ensure that they have an opportunity to develop these important test-taking skills. Historically, SPCPA students have on aggregate scored above the Minnesota state average on the ACT. Additional information about these topics and more can be found at: <https://www.spcpa.org/current-students/college-counseling/>

## College Admission Requirements and Options

Unlike students from most public institutions in Minnesota who focus their college search within the five-state region, SPCPA students tend to apply to multiple institutions (an average of 5 per student) located across the country (35 states) as well as outside of the United States. Our percentage of students pursuing BFA and BM degrees, which require artistic as well as academic acceptances, is also unusually high compared to other schools in the state; not surprising as more than half of SPCPA students intend to continue studying the performing arts in some capacity after high school.

To ensure the greatest range of college possibilities, SPCPA students are encouraged to follow the University of Minnesota general admission guidelines:

<b>Minimum High School Course Requirements:</b>		
English	4 years	Emphasis on writing including instruction in reading and speaking skills and in literary understanding and appreciation.
Mathematics	4 years	Elementary algebra, geometry, intermediate algebra (integrated math 1,2, and 3), examples of 4 <sup>th</sup> year of mathematics include: calculus (preferred), precalculus, analysis, integrated math 4
Science	3 years	Including one year each of biological and physical science, and including laboratory experience. Note: biological science, chemistry, and physics are required for the Carlson School of Management, Biological Sciences, and Science and Engineering
Social Studies	3 years	Including one year each of U.S. history and geography (or a course which includes a geography component such as world history, western civilization, or global studies)
Single Second Language	2 years	If English is not your native language, a second language is not required
Visual and/or Performing Arts	1 year	Including instruction in the history and interpretation of the art form (e.g. theater arts, music, band, chorus, orchestra, drawing, painting, photography, graphic design, media production, theater production)

Students interested in including the most selective colleges and universities (as defined by an acceptance rate of 30% or less) in their pool of applications are highly encouraged to complete 4 years of coursework in all 5 academic subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Language) at the highest level available (Advanced, AP or PSEO).

Because of the highly competitive nature of performing arts focused degree programs (BFA – Dance, Musical Theatre, Theatre, BM – Instrumental and Vocal Music), students interested in this career path are encouraged to look for opportunities outside of SPCPA to explore and hone their craft while still in high school. Audition-based programs (BFA/BA) expect their applicants to demonstrate a high degree of skill (via audition) and a clear indication of commitment to their craft (via artistic resume/artist statement). For SPCPA students this may mean anything from (but not limited to) training as a competitive dancer/dance company

member, membership in a youth symphony, participation in outside choirs/solo vocal work, roles in local youth/community theater, and internships with/leadership roles within local arts organizations/efforts. Students intending to pursue non-performing arts majors in college are encouraged to audition for talent-based scholarships, if offered to non-majors, as these scholarships can make the difference between an affordable and not affordable college option. All students are provided with information related to Minnesota's affordable college option that takes advantage of the **Minnesota Transfer Curriculum** (MnTC).

The transfer curriculum allows you to start your BA or BS degree at one Minnesota college and finish it at a different school.

- Each institution within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) system certifies the courses for the ten goal areas within the MnTC.
- You choose courses in each goal area as required by the institution where you are intending to complete the MnTC. To complete the entire MnTC, you must earn a minimum of 40 credits in the ten goal areas, as well as the requirements for each of the goal areas.
- Passing grades (A-D) for MnTC courses apply including transfer courses; however, a cumulative MnTC GPA of 2.0 is required to complete the entire 40 credit package.

The Minnesota State system mentioned above includes campuses in Bemidji, Mankato, Marshall, Moorhead, St Cloud, St Paul and Winona. Within the community college system, Anoka-Ramsey, MCTC, and Normandale among others offer two year performing arts focused (AFA) degrees with cooperative arrangements for students who are interested in completing a four year (BA) in a performing arts field.

Students who complete the MnTC requirements community colleges can also qualify for the Minnesota Cooperative Admissions Program (MnCAP) which provides guaranteed acceptance to the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. When you enroll in MnCAP, you will be guaranteed transfer admission to one of the participating U of M majors when you meet certain conditions. The participating community colleges are:

- Anoka-Ramsey Community College
- Century College
- Inver Hills Community College
- Minneapolis Community & Technical College (MCTC)
- Normandale Community College
- North Hennepin Community College and
- St Paul College

Please note: This program is open to transfer students only. You are considered a transfer student if you are a high school graduate who has registered or enrolled at a college, university, or any other school after graduating from high school. If you are a high school student and are enrolled in PSEO or have earned AP credit, you are still considered a freshman.

Also, if you have previously enrolled in a degree program, are transferring from one degree-program to another on the Twin Cities campus, or are transferring from another University of

Minnesota campus, you do not qualify for MnCAP and you must follow the steps to complete the Change of College form instead.

Participating U of M colleges include:

- College of Biological Sciences (CBS)
- College of Continuing Education (CCE) (Construction Management, Health Services Management, Information Technology Infrastructure, Manufacturing Operations Management)
- College of Design (CDes) (Landscape Design & Planning only)
- College of Education & Human Development (CEHD) (Family Social Science, Recreation Administration, and Youth Studies only)
- College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences (CFANS)
- College of Liberal Arts (CLA)
- College of Science and Engineering (CSE) (Astrophysics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Science, Mathematics, and Physics only)

Students enrolling in this program will work with designated staff from one of the community colleges and the University's Office of Admissions to define the specific conditions for transfer.

Because of SPCPA's location, our students can also qualify for the **Power of YOU (POY) Program** offered at MCTC and St Paul College. Based on family income, POY provides two free years of community college. POY will cover the cost of tuition and fees for two years or up to 72 attempted credits at Minneapolis Community and Technical College through state and federal grants and private scholarships. Students have the opportunity to earn incentives which can assist with the cost of books, transportation, and meal cards. The Power of YOU supports as many students as possible based on student need and funds available.

Eligibility Requirements for POY:

- Graduate from a Minneapolis, St. Paul, or surrounding suburban public, charter, alternative, or private high school in Spring 2018.
- Meet the criteria to apply for Federal Financial Aid and complete the financial aid package by going to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) (MCTC's School Code is 002362).
- Meet the family (student and parents) adjusted gross income cap of \$75,000.
- Take REQUIRED Accuplacer assessment tests and score above Adult Basic Education (ABE) in Reading and Math

For interested students hoping to complete their college education on time with limited debt, POY + MnCAP = a well-respected four-year college degree from the U of MN-Twin Cities for the price of two years!

# Mathematics

Required Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
High School Algebra	9	Middle School Algebra
Geometry		High School Algebra or equivalent
Geometry	10	High School Algebra
Algebra 2 Advanced		Geometry Advanced
Algebra 2	11	Geometry OR Geometry Advanced
Elective Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
Algebra 3	11, 12	Algebra 2
AP Statistics	11, 12	Algebra 2 OR Algebra 2 Advanced
Precalculus	11, 12	Algebra 2 Advanced
Calculus	11, 12	Precalculus
Teaching Assistant – Math	11, 12	Approval process

- Highly competitive colleges and universities require a fourth year of math or science.
- Please contact the colleges and universities you are considering for their requirements.

## 1110/2110 High School Algebra

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

High School Algebra addresses benchmarks from the Algebra and Data Analysis/Probability strands of MN Academic Standards in Mathematics. The topics covered are: linear functions, linear programming, exponential functions, quadratic algebra and functions, and probability. In addition, students will use technology tools, such as graphing calculators, to aide in solving real world problems.

## 1120/2120 Geometry

**Prerequisite:** High School Algebra or equivalent course

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9 or 10

Geometry addresses the Geometry strand in the MN Academic Standards in Mathematics. The topics covered are: geometric foundations, linear relationships, triangle congruence, constructions, quadrilaterals, polygons, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, circles, area, volume, and coordinate geometry. Proofs will be integrated throughout the course.

### 1130/2130 Algebra 2

**Prerequisite:** High School Algebra

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

Algebra 2 addresses the more advanced benchmarks from the Algebra and Data Analysis/Probability strands of MN Academic Standards in Mathematics. Algebra 2 will build on prior learning from High School Algebra and Geometry. This course will be a more in-depth study of functions including quadratic, radical, rational, polynomial, and trigonometric functions, as well as the foundations of statistics.

### 1135/2135 Algebra 2 Advanced

**Prerequisite:** High School Algebra or equivalent course

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10

Algebra 2 Advanced addresses the more advanced benchmarks from the Algebra and Data Analysis/Probability strands of MN Academic Standards in Mathematics. This course includes all topics covered in Algebra 2. Content in this course is explored with greater intensity and emphasis on analytical thinking. Additional topics may include logarithms and matrices.

### 1140/2140 Algebra 3

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 Advanced

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

Algebra 3 addresses material that is typically covered in a one-semester college course in algebra. The course is designed for students who need to strengthen their algebra skills before taking a precalculus or statistics course. Students will explore rational functions, logarithms, trigonometric functions, matrices, and statistics.

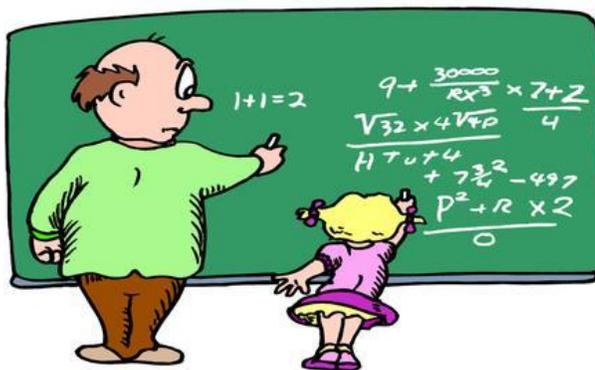
### 1150/2150 Precalculus

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 Advanced

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

Precalculus is designed for students who wish to pursue future pathways in mathematics and/or science. It is a fast-paced, rigorous course to prepare students for Calculus. The emphasis of the course is to have a deep understanding of the family of functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, an extensive study of trigonometry, and conic sections.



### **1165AP/2165AP AP Statistics**

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 Advanced

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11 or 12

Statistics is designed for students who wish to pursue future pathways in non-math related fields. This course addresses the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

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

The AP Statistics course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. The use of a graphing calculator in AP Statistics is an integral part of the course. AP Statistics aligns to the AP standards. SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1175AP/2175AP AP Calculus**

**Prerequisite:** Precalculus

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

Calculus is similar to a first semester college calculus course, devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. By the end of the course you should be able to:

- Work with functions represented in a variety of ways: graphical, numerical, analytical, or verbal. You should understand the connections among these representations.
- Understand the meaning of the derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation and use derivatives to solve a variety of problems.
- Understand the meaning of the definite integral both as a limit of Riemann sums and as the net accumulation of change and use integrals to solve a variety of problems.
- Understand the relationship between the derivative and the definite integral as expressed in both parts of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.
- Communicate mathematics both orally and in well-written sentences and explain solutions to problems.
- Model a written description of a physical situation with a function, a differential equation, or an integral.
- Use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and verify conclusions.
- Determine the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement.
- Develop an appreciation of calculus as a coherent body of knowledge and as a human accomplishment.

This course is roughly equivalent to a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. The use of a graphing calculator is considered an integral part of the course. This course aligns to AP Calculus AB. SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.



# Science

## Classes of 2020 - 2022

Required Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
Physical Science OR Physical Science Advanced	9	
Chemistry OR Chemistry Advanced	10	
Biology OR AP Biology	11, 12	
Elective Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
Anatomy and Physiology	12	Biology
Physics Advanced	12	
AP Chemistry	11, 12	Chemistry Advanced
Teaching Assistant – Science	11, 12	Approval process

## Class of 2019

Required Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
Biology OR Biology Advanced	9	
Anatomy and Physiology OR Anatomy and Physiology Advanced	10	
Chemistry OR Chemistry Advanced	11	
Elective Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
Physics Advanced	12	
AP Chemistry	12	Chemistry Advanced
Teaching Assistant – Science	11, 12	Approval process

- Highly competitive colleges and universities require a fourth year of math or science.
- Please contact the colleges and universities you are considering for their requirements.

### **1210/2210 Physical Science**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

Physical Science aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science and the national standards in health. This required course provides an introductory exploration of science skills and application at the high school level. Topics covered include the nature of science and engineering, measurement, basic geology, climate science, atomic structure, molecular bonding, chemical reactions, energy, electricity, and motion. In addition to lecture and discussion, students engage in experimental laboratory work, write reports and communicate data.

### **1215/2215 Physical Science Advanced**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

Physical Science Advanced aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science and the national standards in health. This course provides a more rigorous exploration of science skills and application at the high school level. Topics covered include the nature of science and engineering, measurement, basic geology, climate science, atomic structure, molecular bonding, chemical reactions, energy, electricity, and motion. Students study topics in depth with a greater emphasis on higher level thinking skills in problem solving. Students engage in experimental laboratory work, write reports, and communicate data.

### **1220/2220 Chemistry**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10

Chemistry aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science and the national standards in health. In this introductory-level course, chemistry students engage in the study of matter and the changes it undergoes. Topics of study include modern atomic theory, the periodic table and its trends, chemical and physical properties of matter, bonding in chemical compounds, chemical reactions, and solutions. Chemistry is a required course for all students, and as such, it prepares the college-bound student, though not necessarily someone interested in studying science after high school. Additionally, the course emphasizes problem solving, lab activities, and computer simulations with a real-world focus and highlights experiential learning.

### **1225/2225 Chemistry Advanced**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10

Chemistry Advanced aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science and the national standards in health. In this advanced-level introductory course, chemistry students develop an in-depth understanding of matter and the changes it undergoes. Topics of study include modern atomic theory, the periodic table and its trends, chemical and physical properties of matter, bonding in chemical compounds, chemical reactions, solutions, and acid-base chemistry. Advanced chemistry satisfies the chemistry requirement for all students and it prepares the college-bound student interested in studying a STEM related field after high school. Additionally, the course emphasizes creative problem solving, student-lead lab activities, and challenging computer simulations with a real-world focus and highlights experiential learning.

This course is a prerequisite for AP Chemistry. Some of the AP labs in this course will assure that all labs are completed prior to the end of the AP course.

### **1230/2230 Biology**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

Biology aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science and the national standards in health. This course provides students with an overview of biological processes, from a cellular level to the biosphere. Students learn the various cellular activities required to support life, which include the following topics: biochemistry, cell structure and function, photosynthesis, growth and division, and genetics. Other content areas that will be covered over the course of the year include: evolution, classification and diversity of life, ecology, and bioethical issues pertaining to scientific and technological advances. Students engage in laboratory experiences, projects, and discussions throughout the course. CPR will be taught in this course.

### **1235AP/2235AP AP Biology**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes—energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

The intent of the course is to expose students to higher-level biological principles, concepts, and skills and allow them the opportunity to apply their knowledge to real-life applications. Rather than learning from a micro level outward, students learn from a macro level inward. Students are also expected to learn not by memorization of facts, but through content and concept application via the AP Biology science practices. Core concepts called enduring understandings and their application via the science practices are the basis of the AP Biology curriculum. These concepts are organized around biological principles called big ideas that permeate the entire course and focus on the following topics: evolution, biological systems using energy to maintain homeostasis for survival, passing heritable information to provide continuity of life, and the interaction of biological systems with biotic and abiotic factors.

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory biology course. This course aligns to the AP standards and SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1240/2240 Anatomy and Physiology**

**Prerequisite:** Biology or Biology Advanced or AP Biology

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

Anatomy and Physiology aligns to the national standards in Health. This course is a lecture and laboratory-based study of the human body emphasizing the complementary nature of structure and function, molecular and cellular interactions, homeostasis, and metabolic processes. It includes a study of cells, tissues, and membranes, as well as the skeletal, muscular, digestive, immune, endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous and reproductive systems.

### **1255AP/2255AP AP Chemistry**

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry Advanced

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11 or 12

AP Chemistry is open to all students that have completed a year of chemistry who wish to take part in a rigorous and academically challenging course. This course is structured around the six big ideas articulated in the AP Chemistry curriculum framework provided by the College Board. A special emphasis will be placed on the seven science practices, which capture important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objectives that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills.

With the ever-increasing need for innovators, problem finders, and designers of materials, pharmaceuticals, and even new fuels, comes the need for individuals skilled in the science practices and knowledgeable about chemistry. The AP Chemistry course provides students with training for such knowledge and skills through guided inquiry labs, a focused curriculum on content relevant to today's problems, and an exam that assesses students' mental models of the particulate nature of matter instead of memorization of rules to understand chemistry.

This AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. For most students, the course enables them to undertake, as a freshman, second year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or to register in courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. This course aligns to the AP standards and SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1265/2265 Physics Advanced**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, see chart on page 16, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11, 12

Physics Advanced aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in Science. This course helps students develop their scientific reasoning and critical thinking skills and prepare for college. Students have the option to take the AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based exam in May. Advanced Physics is a challenging and engaging course that includes rigorous discussions, application of algebra to physical scenarios, higher-level thinking, and time spent outside class engaged in reading texts and practicing problem solving. Topics covered include Newtonian mechanics; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and the basics of electricity and simple circuits.

### **1290TA/2290TA Teaching Assistant – Science**

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, elective, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grades 11, 12

This service learning class provides the opportunity for students to support students in other science classes. Students display evidence of success in the discipline. Students support peers, as directed by the teacher, in small group or individual classroom settings. Students may support the work of teachers through task completion. Placement of students for this course is determined by the Science Department.



# Social Studies

## Classes of 2021-2022

Required Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
Civics 9 AND Geography 9 (includes preparation for high school academics)	9	
World History OR AP World History	10	
United States History OR AP United States History	11	
Economics OR AP Microeconomics (2020-21)	12	
Government OR AP Comparative Government and Politics		
Electives	Grades	Prerequisites
Psychology	11, 12	
AP Psychology	11, 12	
Teaching Assistant – Social Studies	11, 12	Approval process

## Classes of 2019 - 2020

Required Courses	Grades	Prerequisites
World History OR World History Advanced	9	
Government OR Government Advanced	10	
Economics OR Economics Advanced		
United States History OR AP United States History	11	
Geography	12	
Electives	Grades	Prerequisites
Psychology	11, 12	
AP Psychology	11, 12	
AP Comparative Government and Politics	11, 12	
Teaching Assistant – Social Studies	11, 12	Approval process

### **1310 Civics 9**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

(Offered Semester 1)

Civics aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and English Language Arts. This course explores the origins of the American democratic system while looking at how the constitution embodies the values and purposes set up by the founding fathers. Students analyze the structure and function of the U.S. government on a national, state, and local level while showing how each level interrelates. Throughout the course, students will focus on how people play an active role in government and the importance of individual citizen contributions to society.

In addition, this course provides students with an overview of the skills needed to be successful in academic students in academic high school and college courses. Students develop the ability to make plans, keep track of time, manage more than one thing at once, engage in group dynamics, evaluate ideas, reflect on their work. Students learn to make mid-course corrections while thinking, reading and writing. Students meet expectations by finishing work on time, asking for help, following classroom rules, and seeking more information when needed. These are necessary skills for all classes at SPCPA and beyond. These are taught through the content of Civics.

### **2310 Geography 9**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

(Offered Semester 2)

Geography aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course focuses on regions of the world. Students apply geographic concepts such as population, agriculture, natural resource allocation and management industry, political geography, cultural geography, and urbanization to their lives. In addition, students examine the impact of the physical environment on people and cultures.

### **1320/2320 World History**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** See chart on p. 20

World History aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. During first semester, students examine comparatively and chronologically, the evolution of selected cultures and societies before 1500 in Asia, India, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and pre-Columbian America. Students explore such topics as religious practices and the birth of world religions, trade and interregional exchanges, human interaction with the environment, forms of political authority, and family life and gender roles. During second semester, students examine, comparatively and chronologically, the evolution of selected cultures and societies after 1500 in Asia, India, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America. Students explore such topics as religious practices and world religions, trade and interregional exchanges, human interaction with the environment, forms of political authority, and family life and gender roles.

### **1325AP/2325AP AP World History**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** See chart on p. 20

World History Advanced aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course is faster paced with increased rigor which prepares students for more advanced social studies classes. During first semester, students examine comparatively and chronologically, the evolution of selected cultures and societies before 1500 in Asia, India, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and pre-Columbian America. Students explore such topics as religious practices and the birth of world religions, trade and interregional exchanges, human interaction with the environment, forms of political authority, and family life and gender roles. During second semester, students examine, comparatively and chronologically, the evolution of selected cultures and societies after 1500 in Asia, India, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America. Students explore such topics as religious practices and world religions, trade and interregional exchanges, human interaction with the environment, forms of political authority, and family life and gender roles. Additional content for the course involves further exploration of topics through projects and literature.

This course aligns to the AP standards and SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1330/2330 U.S. History**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

U.S. History aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. The study of U.S. History helps students understand the democratic traditions of the United States, the establishment of these traditions, and how they carry forward in present times. During the first half of the semester students examine the development of American culture and society from the Columbian encounter through the Civil War and Reconstruction. The second half of the course covers the development of American institutions and society from Reconstruction to the present. Students examine economic, social, cultural, and political themes from the multiple perspectives that comprise the unique history of the United States. Class resources include the class text, primary source materials, American biographies and autobiographies.

### **1335AP/2335AP AP U.S. History**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

The AP U.S. History course focuses on developing students' understanding of American history from approximately 1491 to the present. Students investigate the content of U.S. history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods, and develop and use the same thinking skills and methods (analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation) employed by historians when they study the past. The course also provides seven themes (American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society) that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places.

AP U.S. History is designed to be equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university U.S. history course. Students read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. This course aligns to the AP standards and SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1340 Government**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** See chart on p. 20

(Offered Semester 1)

Government aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course provides an opportunity for students to gain the knowledge and skills needed for informed and responsible participation in public life. The course aids students in understanding political ideology and opposing viewpoints. It incorporates the study of constitutional principles and the democratic foundation of our national, state and local institutions. The course examines the political processes and structures of government grounded in an understanding of our constitution. Students learn how to participate to make a difference and acquire the skills required for competent participation in the political process.

### **1345 Government Advanced**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** See chart on p. 20

(Offered Semester 1)

Government Advanced aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course is for highly-motivated students. The faster pace and increased rigor prepares students for more advanced social studies classes. Advanced Government provides an opportunity for students to gain the knowledge and skills needed for informed and responsible participation in public life. The course aids students in understanding political ideology and opposing viewpoints. It incorporates the study of constitutional principles and the democratic foundation of our national, state and local institutions. The course examines the political processes and structures of government grounded in an understanding of our constitution. Students learn how to participate to make a difference and gain the skills required for competent participation in the political process. Students read and analyze *The Idea of America* by H. Michael Hartoonian to gain an understanding of the debates over the ideals occurring within a democracy.

### **2350 Economics**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** See chart on p. 20

(Offered Semester 2)

Economics aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course provides an opportunity for students to gain knowledge and skills in a subject area that affects all areas of their life both today and in the future. This course introduces basic economic concepts and principles that demonstrate how our choices are affected by the role of scarcity. The course focuses on the following four units: Introduction to Economics, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Personal Finance. In addition, students gain an understanding of the three basic economic questions, the mixed market system and the role buyers, sellers and government play, how the economy is measured and adjusted, as well as individual financial decisions.

### **2355 Economics Advanced**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** See chart on p. 20

(Offered Semester 2)

Economics Advanced aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course is designed with a faster pace and increased rigor in order to prepare students for more advanced social studies classes. Economics provides an opportunity for students to gain knowledge and skills in a subject area that will affect all areas of their life both today and in the future. This course introduces basic economic concepts and principles that demonstrate how our choices are affected by the role of scarcity. The course will focus on four units including: Introduction to Economics, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Personal Finance. The course focuses on the following four units: Introduction to Economics, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Personal Finance. In addition, students gain an understanding of the three basic economic questions, the mixed market system and the role buyers, sellers and government play, how the economy is measured and adjusted, as well as individual financial decisions. There is an emphasis on supply and demand graphing and analysis.

### **3341 Geography**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Required, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

(Offered Semester 1 and 2)

Geography aligns to the MN Academic Standards in Social Studies and in English Language Arts. This course focuses on regions of the world. Students apply geographic concepts such as population, agriculture, natural resource allocation and management industry, political geography, cultural geography, and urbanization to their lives. In addition, students examine the impact of the physical environment on people and cultures.



### **1345AP/2345AP AP Comparative Government and Politics**

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Elective, Two Semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grades 11, 12

The AP Comparative Government and Politics course introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. Comparison assists both in identifying problems and in analyzing policy making. For example, we only know that a country has a high population growth rate or serious corruption when we compare it to other countries. Careful comparison of political systems produces useful knowledge about the institutions and policies countries have employed to address problems, or, indeed, what they have done to make things worse. We can compare the effectiveness of policy approaches to poverty or overpopulation by examining how different countries solve similar problems. Furthermore, by comparing the political institutions and practices of wealthy and poor countries, we can begin to understand the political consequences of economic well-being. Finally, comparison assists explanation. Why are some countries stable democracies and not others? Why do many democracies have prime ministers instead of presidents?

In addition to covering the major concepts used to organize and interpret what we know about political phenomena and relationships, the course covers specific countries and their governments. Six countries form the core of the AP Comparative Government and Politics course: The People's Republic of China, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Islamic Republic of Iran, United Mexican States, Federal Republic of Nigeria, and Russian Federation. By using these six countries, the course moves the discussion of concepts from abstract definition to concrete example, noting that not all concepts are equally useful in all country settings.

AP Comparative Government and Politics is equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course. Students read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. This course aligns to the AP standards. SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **3360 Psychology**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, Elective, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11 or 12

(Offered Semester 1 and 2)

This course examines the basic principles and methods of psychological science from an evolutionary and cultural perspective. Students use critical thinking skills to examine fascinating topics: dreaming, cultural influences, identity, learning, thinking, and the biology of behavior. Applying basic research methods, students act as skeptical scientists. This course applies to almost any career choice in today's world and provides insight into self and others.

### 1365AP/2365AP AP Psychology

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11 or 12

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

AP Psychology is equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course. Students read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. This course aligns to the AP standards. SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### 1390TA/2390TA Teaching Assistant – Social Studies

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, elective, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grades 11, 12

This service learning class provides the opportunity for students to support students in other Social Studies classes. Students display evidence of success in the discipline. Students support peers, as directed by the teacher, in small group or individual classroom settings. Students may support the work of teachers through task completion. Placement of students for this course is determined by the Social Studies Department.



# English

Required Courses	Grade(s)	Prerequisites
English 9: Introduction to Literature and Composition OR English 9 Advanced: Intro to Literature and Composition	9	None
English 10: World Literature and Analysis OR English 10 Advanced: Literary Theory and Deduction	10	None
English 11: American Literature OR AP English Language & Composition	11	None
English 12: Literature in a Social Context OR AP English Literature and Composition	12	None
Elective Courses	Grade(s)	Prerequisites
Teaching Assistant – English	11, 12	Approval process

## 1410/2410 English 9: Introduction to Literature and Composition

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

English 9 aligns to the MN Academic Standards in English Language Arts. The course helps students build writing and critical thinking skills. Students obtain a foundation in composition and literary analysis while building vocabulary and increasing understanding of grammatical concepts. This course provides a survey of literature including drama, poetry and prose.

## 1415/2415 English 9 Advanced: Introduction to Literature and Composition

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

Advanced English 9 aligns to the Minnesota Academic Standards in English Language Arts. This course is for highly-motivated students committed to academic excellence. Students best suited for this course are able to put time in outside of class to complete reading and writing assignments, have a strong interest in language arts and literature, and seek to improve as an English student. This course helps students build reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Students obtain a foundation in composition and literary analysis while building vocabulary and increasing understanding of grammatical concepts. Students read both fiction and non-fiction texts. This course provides a faster pace as well as a greater depth of study, with considerable attention given to higher level critical thinking in preparation for upper level Advanced courses.

## 1420/2420 English 10: World Literature and Analysis

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10

English 10 aligns to the MN Academic Standards for English Language Arts. This course provides an opportunity to understand and appreciate world literature through a variety of reading, writing, and viewing experiences. This course will develop reading and viewing skills, writing skills (argument, research, and analysis), and critical thinking skills. Students read *Things Fall Apart*, *Lord of the Flies*, and *Feed*, and also spend time additional time on informational texts in preparation for the MCA reading test.

## 1425/2425 English 10 Advanced: Literary Theory and Deduction

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10

English 10 Advanced aligns to the MN Academic Standards in English Language Arts. This course is for highly-motivated students committed to academic excellence. Students best suited for this course are able to put time in outside of class to complete reading and writing assignments, have a strong interest in language arts and literature, and seek improvement as an English student. This course develops reading and viewing skills, writing skills (argument, research and analysis), and critical thinking skills. This course covers literary theory and analysis, argumentative and analytical writing, dystopian literature, global perspectives, and literary staging or adaptation. Students read *Things Fall Apart*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Macbeth*, and several short texts; they also read critical essays and study film adaptations of *Sherlock*, *Into the Woods*, and *Macbeth*.

## 1430/2430 English 11: American Literature

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

English 11 aligns to the MN Academic Standards in English Language Arts. The course focuses on the study of literature of diverse nations and cultures (including many multicultural texts from around the world). Students read works form around the world and use them as the starting place for gaining a broad understanding of points of view beyond their own. The second semester is a broad survey course in the literatures of Britain and its colonies. The course emphasizes reading, analyzing, discussing, and writing with particular emphasis placed on applying critical concepts in the understanding and interpretation of other countries' literature. Students also work to further their understandings the English language and developing writing skills.



### **1435AP/2435AP AP English Language and Composition**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

This course provides high school students the opportunity to engage with a typical introductory-level college English curriculum. Students read and comprehend college-level texts and apply the conventions of Standard Written English in their writing. This course aligns to the AP standards and SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1440/2440 English 12: Literature in a Social Context**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

English 12 aligns to the MN Academic Standards in English Language Arts. This course builds on skills and knowledge acquired in previous courses while also emphasizing oral and written communication skills. English 12 focuses on studying literature such as short stories, poetry, drama, nonfiction, and the novel, reviewing and more deeply applying narrative elements and poetic devices to various texts within a social justice context. This allows students to draw from their other courses (arts and academics) to explore national and international problems while emphasizing academic discussion.

### **1445AP/2445AP AP English Literature and Composition**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, Required, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

This course provides high school students the opportunity to engage with a typical introductory-level college English curriculum. Students read and comprehend college-level texts and apply the conventions of Standard Written English in their writing. This course aligns to the AP standards. SPCPA encourages students to take the AP exam in May.

### **1490TA/2490TA Teaching Assistant – English**

**Credit:** 0.5 credit, elective, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grades 11, 12

This service learning class provides the opportunity for students to support students in other English classes. Students display evidence of success in the discipline. Students support peers, as directed by the teacher, in small group or individual classroom settings. Students may support the work of teachers through task completion. Placement is determined by the English Department.

# World Languages

Elective Courses	Grade	Prerequisites
American Sign Language (ASL) 1	9, 10, 11, 12	
American Sign Language (ASL) 2	9, 10, 11, 12	ASL 1
Teaching Assistant – ASL	11, 12	Approval Process
Spanish 1	9, 10, 11, 12	
Spanish 2	9, 10, 11, 12	Spanish 1
Spanish 3	10, 11, 12	Spanish 2
AP Spanish 4	11, 12	Spanish 3
Teaching Assistant – Spanish	11, 12	Approval Process

- Many colleges and universities require two consecutive years of the same world language for admissions.
- Highly competitive colleges and universities also require three consecutive years of a world language.
- Please contact the colleges and universities you are considering for their requirements.

## 1521/2521 American Sign Language (ASL) 1

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9

American Sign Language 1 is an introductory course that focuses on the acquisition and mastery of skills at the beginning level. Successful students communicate about topics such as family, friends, food, school, time, and weather. They can describe oneself and others, acknowledge one’s feelings and health, talk about likes and dislikes, and leisure activities. American Sign Language (ASL) is a visual/gestural language. This course covers sign vocabulary, sentence structures, dialogue formats through facial expressions and body movements used in signing.



## **1522/2522 American Sign Language (ASL) 2**

**Prerequisite:** ASL 1

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10

This course is a continuation of the study of American Sign Language, the language used by Deaf people in the United States and most of Canada. Students will also learn about Deaf culture, since a language cannot be separated from its culture.

Students will continue to develop ASL communication skills (including vocabulary and basic grammatical aspects such as use of space, role-shifting and storytelling techniques, non-manual markers, and classifiers) and cross-cultural information (including strategies for negotiating a signing environment and other behavioral norms). Students will develop the practical skills and knowledge necessary for basic interactions within the deaf community.

## **1529TA/2529TA Teaching Assistant – ASL**

**Prerequisite:** ASL 2

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

This service learning class provides the opportunity for students to support students in other ASL classes. Students display evidence of success in the discipline. Students support peers, as directed by the teacher, in small group or individual classroom settings. Students may support the work of teachers through task completion. Placement of students for this course is determined by the World Language Department.

## **1511/2511 Spanish 1**

**Prerequisite:** none

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 9 or 10

This introductory course focuses on the acquisition and mastery of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills at the beginning level. Successful students communicate about topics such as family, friends, food, school, time, and weather. They can describe oneself and others, acknowledge one's feelings and health, talk about likes and dislikes, and leisure activities. The course topics align with the College Board's Advanced Placement Themes. By the end of the course students recognize and manipulate infinitives; understand and apply the concepts of number and gender in relation to noun and adjective agreement and placement; conjugate verbs in the present tense as well as some commonly used irregular verbs, and form and answer basic questions in Spanish.

## **1512/2512 Spanish 2**

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 1

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 10 or 11

The Spanish 2 course is a continuation of the introductory study of the language begun in Spanish 1 and advance students to the intermediate level by continuing their study of present tenses and introducing them to past, future, and perfect tenses, as well as the conditional mood. Students further develop proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening through a study of thematic units aligned with the College Board's Advanced Placement Themes. Students read basic texts, write simple paragraphs, and converse in real-world situations. Students continue to study the culture and history of the Spanish-speaking world.

### 1513/2513 Spanish 3

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 2

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 11 or 12

Spanish 3 is an introduction to the intermediate study of the Spanish language. Students build greater vocabulary, grammar, and cultural understanding. Successful students increase their ability to function in the Spanish-speaking world by improving their proficiency in reading, speaking, listening, writing, and cultural understanding. Students explore topics such as current events, art, media, environmental concerns, family, professions and social awareness. With the use of authentic texts, materials, videos, and music students build skills learned in previous levels. This course is conducted mainly in Spanish.

### 1514/2514 AP Spanish 4

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 3

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, Two semesters

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

AP Spanish prepares students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam. The proficiencies acquired through the study of Spanish language and literature endows students with cognitive, analytical, and communication skills that carry over into many other areas of their academic studies. This course focuses on interpersonal, interpretive and presentational aspects of the Spanish language. The course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language and course strives to promote both fluency and accuracy in language use and not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. This course is entirely in Spanish.

### 1519TA/2519TA Teaching Assistant – Spanish

**Prerequisite:** AP Spanish 4

**Credit:** 1.0 credit, elective, One semester

**Typical Audience:** Grade 12

This service learning class provides the opportunity for students to support students in other Spanish classes. Students display evidence of success in the discipline. Students support peers, as directed by the teacher, in small group or individual classroom settings. Students may support the work of teachers through task completion. Placement of students for this course is determined by the World Language Department.

