

The Columbus Academy

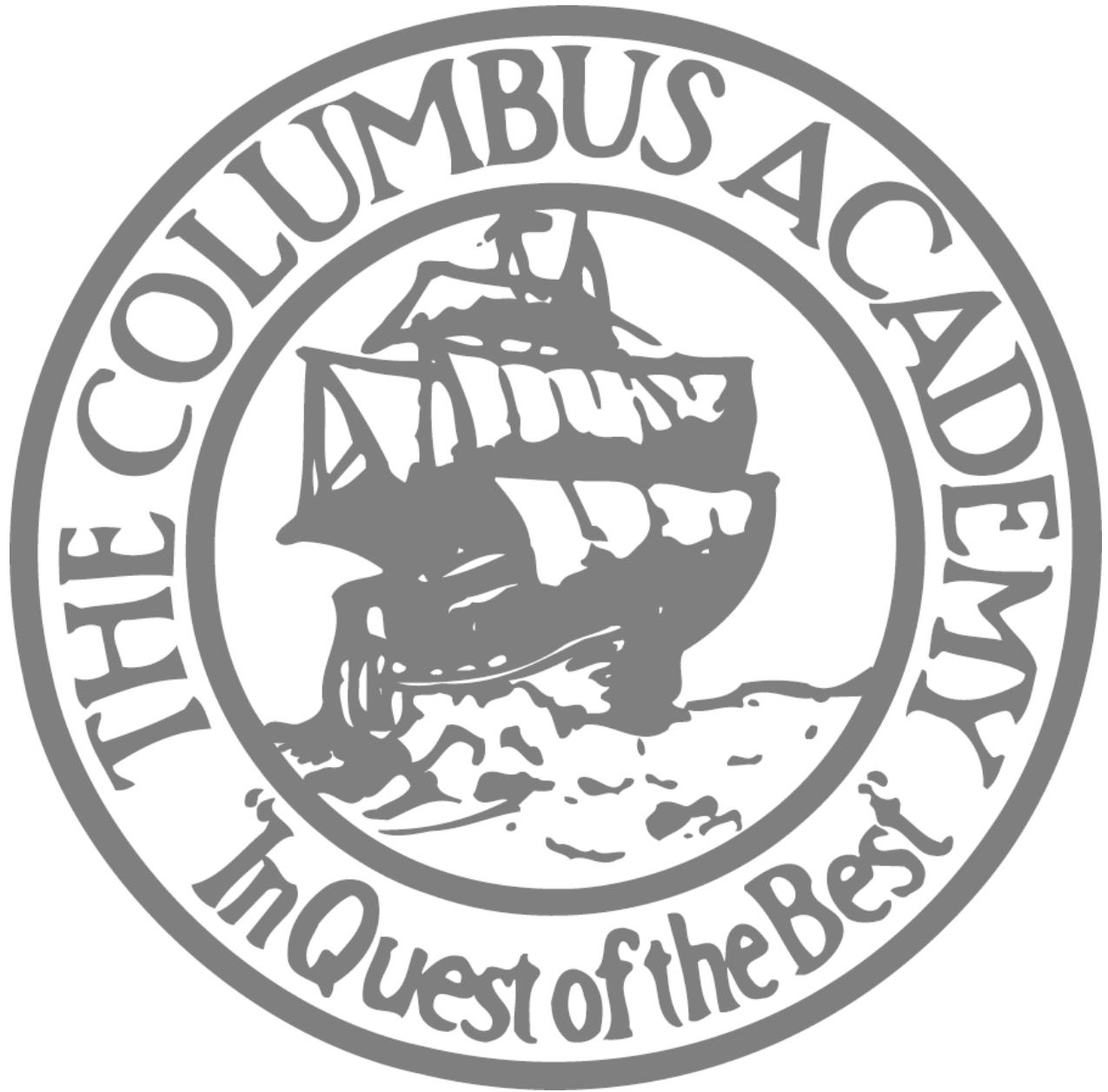
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**UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM**

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**Curriculum Guide for Grades 9 through 12**

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# UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## GRADES 9 THROUGH 12

### Mission Statement

#### The Columbus Academy

The Columbus Academy - an independent, coeducational, college preparatory school - enriches its academic tradition of excellence by valuing a broad diversity of students, as it seeks to develop the complete person - mind, body and character. The School rewards rigorous effort and accomplishment; fosters compassion, respect and moral courage; and insists on integrity, fair play, and community service. The Academy strives to develop and sustain a community of thoughtful, responsible, capable and confident citizens eager to engage in a pluralistic and ever-changing world.

**DIVERSITY STATEMENT:** The Columbus Academy aspires to be an inclusive community where all differences consistent with the mission of the school are valued, respected, and integrated into the educational process.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** The Columbus Academy encourages and welcomes applications from families without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, or sexual preference and does not discriminate in the administration of its educational policies, financial aid program, and school administrated extracurricular programs.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Twenty credits are required to graduate. The following credits are part of the graduation total:

- 4.....credits of English
- 3.....credits of Mathematics (must complete at least through Algebra 2)
- 3.....credits of a single Foreign Language or two credits of two Foreign Languages
- 3.....credits of History: World History, United States History, and Modern European History
- 3.....credits of Science: Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- 1.....credit of study in the Fine Arts or Performing Arts

**All students must take a minimum of 5 credits in core courses per year.**

In addition to the graduation requirements outlined above, students must satisfactorily complete the following in order to receive an Academy diploma: Health, 6 units of Physical Education, the Junior Speech, the Senior Project, Summer Reading Requirements, and the Community Service Requirement (50 hours). All full credit courses taken in the senior year must receive a passing grade.

### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT (4 Credits Required)

#### **ENGLISH 9: Elements and Function of Narrative (Full Year, 1 Credit) ENG9**

The ninth grade year focuses on stories from around the world. Students will be exposed to short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Students will be asked to demonstrate their comprehension by describing and discussing the elements of literature (i.e. setting, plot, and character), analyzing the author's use of language (i.e. figurative language), comparing and contrasting styles, inferring theme and meaning and responding to texts in critical and meaningful ways. Students will write narrative, compare and contrast, descriptive, and informational forms with an emphasis on literary analysis. Formal, informal, and timed writings will be assigned in response to literature and to writing prompts. Within the writings, students will draw conclusions, collect evidence to support their conclusions, evaluate their evidence, and articulate the relationship between their evidence and their conclusions. Vocabulary, grammar, reading, and visual literacy skills will be correlated with the study of literature and in preparation for standardized testing.

#### **ENGLISH 10: American Literature (Full Year, 1 Credit) ENG10**

The historical development and prevailing philosophies regarding America from the colonial period to the present will provide the central focus in this course. Readings will reflect a variety of literary genre, including nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will utilize various critical approaches and reading strategies when examining important authors and themes. Emphasis when reading will be placed on analysis, interpretation, and explanation, which also will be the foundation for the writings. Building upon the critical analysis skills introduced in English 9, formal, informal,

and timed writings will be assigned in response to literature and to writing prompts. Students will draw conclusions, collect evidence to support their conclusions, evaluate their evidence, and articulate the relationship between their evidence and their conclusions. Vocabulary, grammar, reading, and visual literacy skills will be correlated with the study of literature and in preparation for standardized testing.

**ADVANCED ENGLISH 10: Advanced American Literature** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **AENG10**  
Tenth-Grade Advanced American Literature serves as an introductory class in at least two ways: by introducing students to the study of American Literature and by introducing them to the concepts of literary history and the development of a national literature as it shapes and is shaped by the culture from which it arises. While these latter issues are implicit in any study of a national literature, in the Advanced section, students are asked to engage with them more directly and in greater depth than in the American Literature course. Readings are drawn primarily from the *Norton Anthology of American Literature* and include novels, short stories, plays, poetry and essays. Paper assignments and focus on vocabulary and sentence structure serve to reinforce writing skills as well as provide preparation for standardized testing. **Prerequisites: final grades of A- or higher in English 9 and permission of the department.**

**ENGLISH 11: British Literature** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **ENG11**  
English 11 introduces and lays the groundwork for the study of British Literature, as well as continuing students' engagement with the study of literature generally by reading works that range from *Beowulf* to postmodern stories. Given the less direct applicability of the British tradition to the lives of today's American students, the course also explores how both the form and content of the works have relevance to and connection with their personal and cultural present, and how these ideas and structures can help students to convey their own ideas more effectively. Students work to refine their writing skills in the expository essay and to increase their vocabulary not only to facilitate their reading, but also to add depth to their writing and to prepare for standardized tests.

**HONORS ENGLISH 11: Honors British Literature** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **HENG11**  
This course is a more rigorous version of the regular eleventh-grade British Literature course that serves to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Examination given each spring. In addition to a selection of important literary works ranging from *Beowulf* to *Heart of Darkness* (and beyond), students read a selection of relevant non-fiction works—essays, criticism, aesthetic manifestoes, to name a few. Particular attention will be paid to reading critically and writing clearly under the pressure of time. **Prerequisites: final grades of A- or higher in English 10 or B- or higher in Advanced English 10 and permission of the department.**

**PUBLIC SPEAKING** (One Semester, 1/4 Credit) **PUB**  
Public Speaking, a required course for juniors, introduces students to various techniques of oral expression. Each student learns to overcome natural fears and speak with relative ease, clarity and organization. Enunciation, expression, eye contact, volume, poise and the content of each presentation are evaluated. A formal speech, delivered to the Upper School and parents, fulfills a graduation requirement and upholds one of Columbus Academy's oldest traditions.

**ENGLISH 12: English 12: Stories of a Life** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **ENG12**  
English 12 is a course that seeks to refine the language skills—critical reading, media literacy, analytical writing—of college-bound seniors through encounters with compelling texts from a range of media. English 12 consists of a series of three major units focusing on narrative patterns: The

Quest, which focuses on the personal challenges and opportunities for growth afforded by quests and other types of journey; the Family, which focuses on the individual as a member of a literal or figurative family; and the Rugged Individual, which focuses on the traditional attributes of the ancient and contemporary hero. In the fourth quarter, students will engage in a significant individual project that tells the story of a life through a range of media—biography, memoir, film, performance, or photography. This course will offer challenging and engaging texts that will stimulate student thinking about individual and societal values. There will be formal writing assignments ranging from literary analysis to personal narrative.

### **HONORS ENGLISH 12 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HENG12**

Students complete close readings of representative works based on their literary merit from various genres and periods. Assignments focus on critical analysis of text. In-class writing prompts are given weekly. Students complete papers on comparative texts and learn to write a research paper using the MLA guide. Students also prepare for the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Examination. Texts: *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *Ceremony*, *Invisible Man*, *Obasan*, *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *Slaughterhouse Five*, *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, *Death of a Salesman*, "The Things They Carried," "Okinawa: The Bloodiest Battle of Them All," and other selected essays and short stories from both *The Oxford Book of American Short Stories* and *The Best American Essays of the Century*. **Prerequisites: A final grade of A- or higher in English 11 or B- or higher in Honors English 11 and permission of the department.**

### **CREATIVE WRITING (Full Year, 1/4 Credit) CREATE**

The Creative Writing courses meet during “zero” period and provide a formal means for students to practice the craft and discipline of writing outside the traditional academic class structure. The emphasis is on providing support and incentive for focusing on writing as an art and craft and to allow students to practice and develop their skills at writing, at responding to others' writing, and at incorporating others' feedback into their work. Sections meet with the instructor once a week and with smaller workshop groups once a week. Classes focus on writing prompts and discussion; workshops provide a writing community in which students alternate in presenting works for critique by the group. In Creative Writing 1, the students develop a portfolio. In Creative Writing 2, the course is structured so that students spend the year proposing, outlining and developing a longer, sustained piece (or collection) of writing.

### **JOURNALISM (Full Year, 1/4 Credit) JOURNAL**

Journalism 1 (Beginning), 2 (Intermediate), and 3 (Advanced) are offered during zero periods: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, respectively. Students in Journalism 1 study leads for opinions and news in *The New York Times* and other leading newspapers. In the Fall of 2008 journalism students focused on David Brooks, Maureen Dowd, George Will, for example, to recognize different views on the same topic. This class studies dominant photos on hard copies and refers to a site for front-page newspapers around the nation. Journalism 1 students learn InDesign and produce a mock newspaper. Journalism 2 students have taken Journalism 1 and learn how an editorial is composed. Journalism 2 students begin writing articles for *The Academy Life*. Journalism 3 students decide which articles to cover, write for every issue of the paper, and compose the editorial. The co-editors lay out the paper.

## **FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT** **(1 Credit Required)**

### **INTRODUCTION TO ART** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **IART**

In this course, students will formally study the elements and principles of design as well as some key artists and styles. They will apply their knowledge while exploring selected studio projects in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and crafts. **Introduction to Art is a prerequisite for most Fine Arts courses.**

### **CERAMICS** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **CER**

This course covers all basic clay handling and firing techniques. Hand-building provides the opportunity to become familiar with the properties and the potential of clay. First semester students create hand-built projects using coil, slab, and “waddie” construction techniques. Throwing on the potter’s wheel, advanced firing processes, and glaze chemistry are introduced in the second semester.

### **CRAFTS/TEXTILES** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **CRAFT**

This studio course explores both the traditional and contemporary approaches to fabric and craft design concepts. Students may work in any of the following methods: fused glass, hand-made paper and books, jewelry, stained glass, fabric ornamentation, precious metal clay, and/or a combination of several mediums to produce functional pieces of art. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

### **DRAWING** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **DRAW**

A variety of drawing techniques are covered in this course. Characteristics of drawing mediums and purposes of drawing are stressed, while students are encouraged to create personal interpretation and to show improvement in their skills. Maintaining a personal sketchbook is a requirement. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

### **GRAPHIC DESIGN** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **GRAPH**

This course introduces students to the art of visual composition, communication, and presentation. Students will create symbols, images, and/or words to represent ideas or express messages. PhotoShop and InDesign will be used to learn the importance and art of typography, page layout, and visual expression. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

### **PAINTING** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **PAINT**

This studio-based course stresses the techniques, composition, and content of painting. Studying the works of past and contemporary painters intensifies experiences in both opaque and transparent materials. Students are asked to demonstrate individuality through their use of materials. Sketchbooks are required to provide a resource for ideas. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

### **PHOTOGRAPHY** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **PHOTO**

Photography students learn about the various types of film and digital cameras, and how to control composition and exposures to produce excellent images. The emphasis will be on capturing images digitally and manipulating them through the use of Photoshop. Some black and white darkroom work will be introduced as time and interest allows. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

**ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **APHOTO**

Students in their second or third year of Photography are encouraged and expected to develop a body of images that demonstrates a high level of originality, technique, and personal vision. This advanced level course emphasizes creative thinking and a desire to work independently on projects developed by the individual student. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art and at least one year of Photography**

**PRINTMAKING** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **PRINT**

Students in this course can become involved in both relief and serigraph printing techniques. The collagraph, woodcut, linoleum block, etching, and silkscreen processes are variously attempted. The ability of students to demonstrate their knowledge and application of design elements and principles is integral to their efforts. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

**SCULPTURE** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **SCULPT**

The emphasis in this studio course is on the unique qualities of sculpture, including its three-dimensional and tactile nature. Assignments focus on specific realistic and/or abstract problems. The work of well-known artists is studied in order that the students see both the practical and the creative aspects of sculpting. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

**PORTFOLIO ART** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **PORT**

This course provides the opportunity for intense studio experiences through the preparation of a portfolio and the participation in local and statewide competitions. Individuals meet daily and must be self-motivated as the workload is demanding and the deadlines are strictly enforced. Upon electing to take this class, students declare a major area of study. However, but they are still afforded the opportunity to work in a variety of mediums. Seniors who take this course will participate in a show at The Columbus Academy. Assessment is based upon productivity and growth as a young artist. **This course is available to Juniors and Seniors only. Prerequisite: Introduction to Art**

**VIKING CHOIR** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **VCHOIR**

Viking Choir is a class that emphasizes four basic areas of study: performance skills, rehearsal skills, vocal skills, and musicianship. It meets 3 days of a 6-day rotation. Performances include two major concerts, OMEA competitions, and community performances.

**CAMERATA** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **CAMERATA**

Camerata emphasizes four basic areas of study: performance skills, rehearsal skills, vocal skills, and musicianship. Camerata focuses more intensely than Viking Choir on music theory and the development of sight-reading skills. Students meet daily to prepare for two major concerts and OMEA Solo, Ensemble, and Large Group competitions.

**ACADEMY CONCERT BAND** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **BAND**

The Academy Concert Band is open to students whose playing ability is equivalent to that of an average 8<sup>th</sup> grade band student. An audition may be requested to determine the student's proficiency. The Concert Band performs in at least three required concerts, which may require rehearsals to be held outside the regular school day. Concert Band members may participate in the OMEA District Contest for Large Group as well as the OMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest. Attendance at all Pep Band events is required unless a scheduling conflict prevents attendance.

**ACADEMY JAZZ BAND** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **JAZZ**

The Academy Jazz Band offers students an opportunity to explore the Jazz experience in both performance and musicianship. More advanced instrumental experience is strongly recommended for this course and an audition may be required for certain instruments. Students perform in a number of settings, including All That Jazz, a Fall concert, and various festivals around Columbus. Although this course is open to Freshmen, a full year of Concert Band is highly recommended. Jazz Band is considered to be an Honors level course and requires a moderate amount of home practice.

**ACADEMY STRINGS ORCHESTRA** (Full Year; 1/2 Credit) **STR**

Academy Chamber Music Levels I and II are open to students in grades 9 through 12. An audition may be requested to determine the students' proper placement. Performances include at least three major concerts, OMEA solo and ensemble competition, and community concerts. Students are assessed regularly on individual improvement and performance.

**MUSIC THEORY 1** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **MUT**

The first year of Music Theory introduces the fundamentals of music including, but not limited to, notes, rhythm, intervals, chords, aural training, and voice leading. At the end of the course, students will be able to analyze music written in four-part harmony (Bach-style) as well as compose their own four-part harmonic pieces. They will also be able to sight-sing and complete both melodic and rhythmic dictation.

**MUSIC THEORY 2** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **MUT2**

The second year of Music theory continues to build upon the fundamentals of music. Areas of study include voice leading, harmonic progressions, cadences, modal writing, advanced analysis, and advanced aural training. Students may be asked to take an entrance exam to be admitted to Music Theory 2. At the end of this course, students will take the AP Music Theory Exam. This is an Independent Study course, ideally meeting 3 times per week, either during the school day, before or after school, or a combination of the two. **Prerequisite: Music Theory 1**

**ACTING 1** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **ACTING1**

There is a fundamental difference between technique and creativity. Technique is a learned skill. Creativity is a gift and is unique to the individual. Acting technique is only a tool used to enable individuals to express their creativity. This course is designed to teach students acting techniques, which, in turn, should help them to develop their own creative potential. At the beginning of the school year, students will take part in a self-discovery laboratory. Later areas of study will relate to rehearsal and performance of scenes with a deeper study of characterization.

**ACTING 2** (Full Year, 1/2 Credit) **ACTING2**

This class will be a continuation of Acting 1 with an emphasis on character, scene, and acting improvement. The study and development of scenes will be the mainstay of the class and additional time devoted to rehearsal outside of class will be required. This class would be of interest to students who are interested in the "other side of the stage" and will allow for deeper research of characterization as well as a chance to direct. Students will be required to attend several local productions and to provide a written analysis of each experience. **Prerequisite: Acting 1**

**PORTFOLIO TECHNICAL THEATER** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **PORTTECH**

This is an Independent Study course that will allow students who are interested in theater to further their studies within a specific field. Each student will take on the responsibility of a designer for

each Columbus Academy production. The specific field (lighting, scene, makeup, or props) will be decided by the student and instructor. The final project will be a ten-minute DVD showcasing each individual's work within their field of interest that can be used for college entrance applications.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**  
**(3 Credits Required - Single Foreign Language)**  
**or**  
**(2 Credits Required - Two Foreign Languages)**

**CHINESE 1 (Full Year, 1 Credit) CH1**

Chinese 1 is an introductory course in Mandarin Chinese with an emphasis on the development of the four critical language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Because Mandarin Chinese is a tonal language, accurate pronunciation is stressed. Memorizing Chinese characters is also emphasized. Role-play, learning games, and various projects are added to bring energy to the classroom. Chinese history and geography are also introduced. The student's experience is enriched by cultural activities including calligraphy, crafts customs, food, folklore and music.

**CHINESE 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) CH2**

Chinese 2 is the second year of study in our Mandarin Chinese program with the emphasis on the continued development of the four critical language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Student vocabularies continue to expand and so do the topics of conversation as complicated sentence structure is introduced. A wide range of supplementary reading material is provided, including short stories, poems, idioms and newsprint, Chinese cartoons and philosophy. Cultural activities are also emphasized.

**CHINESE 3 (Full Year, 1 Credit) CH3**

Chinese 3 is the third year of study in our Mandarin Chinese program. This course is designed to expand students' vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students are expected to converse in Chinese on a broad range of topic areas, to comprehend short stories in oral and written form, to write short essays, and to make presentations in Chinese. Research projects relating to culture, history, literature, and current events further enrich the language study.

**CHINESE 4 (Full Year, 1 Credit) CH4**

Chinese 4 is a discussion-based class in Mandarin Chinese. It includes advanced study of vocabulary, grammatical structure, tonal recognition, and idiom while continuing to stress four basic competencies: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Chinese culture, literature, history, and art are studied throughout the year. Students also prepare for the SAT II in Chinese Language.

**CHINESE 5 (Full Year, 1 Credit) CH5**

Chinese 5 is designed as a natural sequence to Chinese 4. The course consists of intense speaking drills, the study of complex sentence patterns and grammar, advanced reading, and advanced writing. The class is conducted in Chinese and uses natural tones and speed for listening comprehension. The textbook is an intermediate level, and upon completion, students will comfortably transition to a late-second or third year college course. The students are introduced to formal written language while keeping up with current Chinese issues. The students write in a Chinese journal and write to their Hefei Chinese pen pals through our exchange program. By the

end of fifth year Chinese, almost all Chinese language students will have taken a trip to China. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

**FRENCH 4 (Full Year, 1 Credit) FR4**

French 4 is for students who wish to continue their study of French language, literature, and culture. It includes advanced study of grammar, syntax, and idiom. Extensive aural work and conversation are stressed, with emphasis on accent, accuracy of expression, and use of idiom. There is regular writing, both general composition and essays on the literature being studied. The class is conducted primarily in the target language. There is continuous emphasis on close reading of texts for comprehension of philosophy and theme.

**FRENCH 5 (Full Year, 1 Credit) FR5**

French 5 is a seminar designed for students who have completed French 4. The course consists of intense oral and aural work, advanced writing and critical reading and evaluation of literary works. In addition to class discussion, written reports are required. Conducted primarily in the target language, French 5 prepares students for the Advanced Placement Examination.

**LATIN 1 (Full Year, 1 Credit) LATIN1**

Latin 1 stresses reading and translation, the mastery and pronunciation of Latin vocabulary, basic grammatical structures, the building of a stronger English vocabulary and grammar through study of the relationship of the two languages, and an introduction to ancient mythology and Roman history. It acquaints students with study and organizational skills and the precision and daily discipline, which will facilitate the learning of other languages.

**LATIN 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) LATIN2**

Latin 2 is a continuation of Latin I with the general philosophy remaining unchanged: reading Latin with confidence, providing insight into Roman culture, and improving English skills through the study of Latin. Greater attention is paid to sustained reading with emphasis on more sophisticated grammatical and syntactical structures. In addition, the content of the stories and the cultural material are used as a basis for oral discussion stressing the comparisons and contrasts between the elements of ancient Roman society and today's society.

**LATIN 3 (Full Year, 1 Credit) LATIN3**

Latin 3 is an introduction to Latin prose with an emphasis on the variety of Roman prose styles. After the completion of the most complicated aspects of Latin grammar, students read works by Pliny, Caesar, Cicero, and other classical Latin authors. These authors are read with consideration for and attention to the cultural and political milieu in which they wrote.

**LATIN 4 (Full Year, 1 Credit) LATIN4**

Latin 4 is an intensive study of Latin poetry. Primary emphasis is placed on reading Vergil's Aeneid (Books 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12), although the poetry of other classical Latin authors is introduced as well. Students concentrate on acquiring knowledge of the meter of Latin epic poetry and the conventions of classical poetry. Students are prepared for the Advanced Placement Examination through their study of Vergil.

### **LATIN 5 (Full Year, 1 Credit) LATIN5**

Latin 5 is a seminar-style class designed for students who have completed the four-year Latin program. The course consists of critical reading and evaluation of literary works. Grammar is thoroughly reviewed. Emphasis is placed on lyric poetry, philosophy, and comedy.

### **SPANISH 1 (Full Year, 1 Credit) SP1**

In Spanish 1, students are given the vocabulary and grammar tools necessary to express themselves in everyday communicative tasks using both the present and past tenses. Emphasis is put on the basic language skills of, reading, writing, speaking, and listening, and on the principles embodied in the five C's of foreign language: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. This course is designed for the student with no previous knowledge of the language. It can, though, also be used as a review of Spanish studied previously.

### **SPANISH 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) SP2**

Spanish 2 is a continuation and expansion of the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in Spanish 1. Students will be able to communicate in all language skills utilizing the present and past tenses as well as the subjunctive to express desires, doubt, and emotions. Spanish 2 is taught in the target language and students participate in conversations, discussions, and oral exercises, and writing exercises. The students are exposed to authentic materials such as news articles, music, television commercials, soap operas, as well as literary selections like poetry and short stories. Students will be expected to achieve a certain level of proficiency to be able to continue to either Spanish 3 or Advanced Spanish 3. **Prerequisite: Spanish 1**

### **SPANISH 3 (Full Year, 1 Credit) SP3**

This course is designed to develop and refine proficiency in all four language skills. Conducted entirely in Spanish, it includes grammar review, vocabulary development, and engages students in communicative exercises. Reading materials include a selection of contemporary articles as well as literary and cultural texts. Reports and oral presentations strengthen understanding of the target language. This course completes the foreign language graduation requirement. **Prerequisite: A final grade or final exam grade of at least a C in Spanish 2 or faculty recommendation.**

### **ADVANCED SPANISH 3 (Full Year, 1 Credit) ASP3**

This course is designed to develop and refine proficiency in all four language skills. Conducted entirely in Spanish, it includes grammar review, vocabulary development, and engages students in communicative exercises. Reading materials include a selection of contemporary articles as well as literary and cultural texts, such as the stories of Garcia Marquez, a Nobel Prize winner in 1982. Reports and oral presentations are used to strengthen understanding of the target language. This course not only completes the foreign language graduation requirement, it is designed to prepare students for standardized national foreign language testing. **Prerequisite: A final grade or final exam grade of at least A- in Spanish 2.**

### **SPANISH 4 (Full Year, 1 Credit) SP4**

This course is designed for students who are interested in deepening their language proficiency and have the intermediate language proficiency to approach literature and culture in the target language. Grammar, writing, speaking, and reading are an integral part of the course. In addition, through literary readings, music, and film, the students will develop insights into their own language and culture as they make cultural comparisons with Spanish-speaking people and their culture. Students continue to develop a sensitivity to the cultural and linguistic heritage of other groups, understand

their influence on American culture, and become prepared to participate in a society characterized by linguistic and cultural diversity. **Prerequisite: A final grade or final exam grade of at least C+ in Spanish 3 and faculty recommendation.**

#### **HONORS SPANISH 4 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HSP4**

Honors Spanish 4 is designed to refine students' language skills. Students will communicate with native speakers, write on selected literary topics, and discuss current events and personal issues with relative ease. Students read extensively and produce written projects and oral reports. This course also includes selected readings from Gabriel Garcia Marquez, a Nobel Prize winner in 1982, a review of advanced Spanish grammar, and a selection of Latin American literature. Honors Spanish 4 is designed for students interested in taking the Spanish Language Advanced Placement Examination in the following year. **Prerequisite: A final grade of at least B+ in Advanced Spanish 3 and/or faculty recommendation.**

#### **SPANISH 5 (Full Year, 1 Credit) SP5**

Spanish 5 is designed as a continuation and expansion of Spanish 4. It is a course for students (not interested in taking, or ready to take, the Advanced Placement Examination) who desire to develop further knowledge of Spanish grammar, vocabulary, and conversation skills in the context of a broad study of Spanish history and culture. Special emphasis is placed on current events and cultural developments in film, art, and literature. At this level, research papers, reports, and oral presentations integrating technology are an important way of developing the students' presentation skills, cultural awareness, and language proficiency. **Prerequisite: A final grade or final exam grade of at least C+ and faculty recommendation.**

#### **HONORS SPANISH 5 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HSP5**

This intense course is intended to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination. Students at this level are studying a course equivalent to a third-year college course in advanced Spanish composition and conversation. According to the College Board standards, this course emphasizes the use of Spanish for active communication, and it encompasses aural/oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar, and composition. The overall objectives are: to comprehend formal and informal spoken language, to acquire vocabulary and a grasp of structure to allow the easy and accurate reading of newspaper/magazine articles and modern literature in Spanish, to compose expository passages, and to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency. This course also seeks to develop language skills that are useful and can be applied to various activities and disciplines. **Prerequisite: A final grade of at least B+ in Honors Spanish 4 and/or the approval of the department chair.**

## **HISTORY DEPARTMENT**

**(3 Credits Required - 1 Each in World, U.S., and Modern)**

#### **WORLD HISTORY (Full Year, 1 Credit) WORLD**

Ninth grade World History utilizes a case study and comparative approach to examine the modern histories (1500 to present) of three areas of the world within a global context: the Middle East, China, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Areas of focus include political, economic, social, and cultural development; the role of religion; the impact of European exploration and Imperialism; cultural

diffusion; cross-cultural assimilation; globalization; and contemporary issues. The development of critical thinking, collaborative learning, and writing skills is emphasized, and the successful completion of an historical fiction short story is required.

### **STUDIES IN UNITED STATES HISTORY (Full Year, 1 Credit) US**

This required course for tenth grade students is taught within a chronological framework, with special emphasis on themes such as American identity, the growth of democracy, civil rights and liberties, economic development, the environment, the impact of technology, cultural diversity, the individual and society, the influence of religion, and the U.S. role in world affairs. The course requires students to explore divergent viewpoints, encourages them to evaluate these viewpoints, and then develop informed opinions of their own by examining various historical perspectives, including the arts, literature, and cultural artifacts of the time. The development of critical thinking and writing skills is emphasized, and the successful completion of a research paper is a course requirement.

### **HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY (Full Year, 1 Credit) HUS**

This course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination. A rigorous, college-level course, Honors U.S. History is a chronological survey that addresses the themes, issues, and causal relationships of U. S. History. The course focuses on primary source documents of U.S. History and their interpretation; historiography and the issues of revisionist history; and the impact of the past on the present. A primary focus of this course is the ability to organize and write essays clearly and concisely.

### **MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY (Full Year, 1 Credit) MOD**

This is a chronologically organized course in the study of western civilization from approximately 1300 to the present from the European perspective. Students build a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the foundations of the western world. Major concepts developed and traced include: religion, nationalism, liberalism, democracy, industrialism, internationalism, capitalism, and socialism. Students address the theme of change in history: political revolution, economic change, and intellectual movements. Other topics such as social change, war and imperialism are also discussed. Students critically analyze primary and supplemental historical sources.

### **HONORS MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY (Full Year, 1 Credit) HMOD**

This course is a more rigorous version of the regular Modern European course, and helps prepare students who choose to take the Advanced Placement Examination given each spring. A challenging, college level course, Honors Modern European History is a chronologically organized study of western civilization from approximately 1300 to the present from the European perspective.

### **ART HISTORY (Full Year Elective, 1 Credit) ARTHIS**

This course is a survey covering two and three-dimensional art forms and architecture from prehistory to the present. The vision and record of artists and designers are emphasized. At its conclusion, students should have a greater appreciation for creative personal expression and be prepared to look at art insightfully. ART ACROSS TIME (Adams) is the primary text; and slides and supportive studio exercise compliment classes. Independent study offers the opportunity to consider taking the Advanced Placement Examination.

**ECONOMICS** (Full Year Elective, 1 Credit) **ECON**

Economics gives senior history students a thorough understanding of the principles of economic systems. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price determination, and develops the students' familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. The course is designed to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement Examination in Macroeconomics. Textbook readings, primary source readings, simulations, group projects, and individual problem solving activities are used to build understanding. In addition, short papers on current topics and a presentation on a selected topic are required.

**HONORS COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT** (Semester Elective, 1/2 Credit) **HCGOV**

This course is designed to study the major political and governmental systems that are presently prominent in the world. Included is an in-depth exploration of comparative politics examining the political framework and structures of government in countries and how these countries adapt to change politically, socially, and economically. The course examines sources of political power. Six countries are the basis for this exploration: China, Russia, Great Britain, Iran, Nigeria, and Mexico. Students are prepared to sit for the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

**HONORS U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS** (Semester Elective, 1/2 Credit) **HUSGOV**

This course is designed to survey the United States federal government and political systems. An examination of the philosophical underpinnings of the constitutional system is combined with the historical development and current trends of the institutions and systems. Primary focus is placed on the national level, with a brief examination of local and state systems and how they function, complement, and interact within the federal system, as well as how their governments differ from the national government. Students are prepared to sit for the Advanced Placement examination in May.

**ADVANCED TOPICS IN GOVERNMENT** (Full Year Elective, 1/2 Credit) **ATGOV**

This "zero" period course is an in depth seminar study of contemporary global issues. Race in Contemporary Society, Mother Nature vs. Man, Terrorism, and Development Economics are a few of the topics that will help form the body of the class. Students are required to complete, and defend before a committee, a year-long research project relating to one of the topics discussed in class.

**STUDIES IN MILITARY HISTORY** (Semester Elective, 1/2 Credit) **MIL**

This course presents an examination of the evolution of warfare from ancient times to the present. It focuses on specific peoples, nations, and individuals and illustrates their experiences with and contributions to warfare. It examines the leadership qualities and styles of Alexander the Great, Hannibal, Napoleon, Wellington, U.S. Grant, and Hitler. It also demonstrates to students how, despite the increasing sophistication and complexity of the means and techniques of conflict, there has been little change in the fundamental human objectives of war.

**STUDIES IN RUSSIAN HISTORY** (Semester Elective, 1/2 Credit) **RUS**

This course traces the growth of Russia from the late tsarist times to its present role as a struggling power. It analyzes important historical trends and events that will serve to illustrate the intertwined dynamics and constants of Russian History. Political, diplomatic, military, cultural, economic, ethnic, and religious factors will provide perspectives for examination and study. A considerable portion of the course involves an overview and analysis of contemporary topics in Russian studies; currents of

foreign policy; the breakup of the Soviet Empire and internal ethnic, political, economic, social, and foreign policy complexities and challenges.

**CHINA AND JAPAN: THE GLOBAL ERA** (Semester Elective, 1/2 Credit) **CHINA**

Prior to the mid-1800's, China and Japan had been largely insular civilizations. China had three millennia of sinocentric dynastic rule and Japan was at the tail end of the ultra-insular Tokugawa Period. With the Opium Wars and Matthew Perry's contact both civilizations were fundamentally changed. This course is a critical examination of these two societies and their interaction with the other world societies during the dynamic and turbulent times of the past 150 years. The course utilizes a seminar format, placing responsibility on all members of the class to be active and informed participants. The reading for this course is largely primary sources. The course will culminate with a comprehensive project that incorporates the students' understanding and perspectives of the material.

**SOUTHERN AFRICAN HISTORY** (Semester Elective, 1/2 Credit) **SA**

Prior to European contact, Southern Africa was a region that was a collection of distinct cultures, civilizations, and traditions. The Zimbabwe, Khoikhoi, Sotho, and Xhosa all possessed long histories, proud traditions and unique innovations. With the arrival of the Dutch East India Company, this region's history became much more global in scope. This course is a critical examination of the evolution of Southern Africa and study of the effect of global interaction in the subsequent centuries to the present day. This class utilizes a seminar format, placing responsibility on all members of the class to be active and informed participants. The reading for this course is both primary and secondary sources. The course will culminate with a comprehensive project that incorporates the students' understanding and perspectives of the material.

**PSYCHOLOGY** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **PSYCH**

This is a general survey course that provides students with a broad background in principles and applications of psychology. The major goal of this course is to help students become better prepared to live in a diverse world. The following modules will be covered: principles and proponents of psychological theories and methods of scientific inquiry; the biological basis of behavior including psychology of the brain and nervous system and the accompanying systems and perceptual processes; learning theories and cognitive processes; theories and applications of motivation and emotion; the major domains of human life span development; the major theories of personality, detailing the major disorders, their treatments, and therapy; and how human interaction is influenced by the individual, a group, and the environment.

**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**  
**(3 Credits Required - Through Algebra 2)**

**ALGEBRA 1** (Full Year, 1 Credit) **ALG1**

Algebra 1 is a basic introduction course into the processes of variable expressions, equations, inequalities, and graphing. Offered to ninth graders, Algebra 1 is the first of the three required courses that comprise the minimum graduation requirement in mathematics. **Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra**

**GEOMETRY (Full Year, 1 Credit) GEOM**

Geometry is a course designed to introduce the concepts of deductive structure in which postulates and axioms of Euclid are the foundation of planar and solid geometric understandings. Students learn to shape ideas by logical reasoning as well as observation, measurement, and description. This course continues to build on and use the axiomatic thinking of algebra in the way it approaches the discovery of unknown quantities. The analytic emphasis begins to prepare the students for trigonometry and the early stages of calculus. **Prerequisite: Algebra 1**

**ADVANCED GEOMETRY (Full Year, 1 Credit) AGEOM**

Advanced Geometry is an accelerated course in Euclidean geometry with emphasis on algebra and advanced geometry topics. **Prerequisite: Algebra 1**

**ALGEBRA 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) ALG2**

This course is designed to continue a logical development of a second course in algebra and trigonometry that emphasizes basic concepts and understanding. The primary aims are to help students understand algebra as a study of the structure of real and complex number systems, recognize the techniques of algebra as the outgrowth of this structure, and acquire a facility for applying algebraic concepts and skills. **Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry**

**ADVANCED ALGEBRA 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) AALG2**

This is an advanced course with emphasis on mastery of advanced algebra as the basic building blocks necessary for calculus and higher-level science, with topics including real and complex number systems/techniques, advanced graphing, transcendental functions (e.g., logarithms) and conics, among others.

**HONORS ALGEBRA 2 w/ HONORS PRE-CALCULUS (Full Year, 1 Credit) HA2WHPC**

This course is an accelerated Algebra 2 course with heavy emphasis on analytic geometry in preparation for Honors Calculus 1 the following year.

**PRE-CALCULUS (Full Year, 1 Credit) PC**

This course is a survey of abstract mathematical topics with special emphasis on pre-calculus materials and the goal of preparing the student for the first course in calculus. Graphing calculators are used to explore functions and their graphs more fully, reinforcing and expanding the concepts of pre-calculus mathematics. **Prerequisite: Algebra 2**

**ADVANCED PRE-CALCULUS (Full Year, 1 Credit) APC**

Like Pre-Calculus, Advanced Pre-Calculus will broaden the students understanding of previous studies of Algebra and Geometry. The work at this level is more advanced in a qualitative rather than quantitative sense. Students will be asked to investigate in greater depth and detail how Algebra and Geometry are interconnected. They will be exposed to more difficult concepts and will be required to utilize a higher level of thinking skills than students in the regular sections of Pre-Calculus. **Prerequisite: Advanced Algebra 2 and permission of the department**

**CALCULUS (Full Year, 1 Credit) CALC**

This course is an introduction to basic calculus of one variable. Through lectures and discussions, this course develops basic skills such as the computation of limits, derivatives, and integrals. **Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or special permission of the department chair**

**HONORS CALCULUS 1 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HCALC1**

Honors Calculus 1 is an introduction to basic calculus of one variable with a focus on preparing students for the Advanced Placement Examination. The course aims at developing basic skills such as computation of limits, derivatives, and integrals. Applications of calculus to a variety of geometrical and physical problems are developed.

**HONORS CALCULUS 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HCALC2**

This second year course in calculus involves a basic review of differential and integral calculus with introduction of additional topics in preparation for the Advanced Placement Examination.

**ADVANCED TOPICS IN MATHEMATICS (Full Year Elective, 1/2 Credit) ATM**

While Honors Calculus 1 and Honors Calculus 2 study the calculus of one variable, Advanced Topics in Mathematics (ATM) concentrates on the differential and integral calculus of functions of two or more variables. ATM studies how calculus can help describe the shape of curves and surfaces in space. Processes and applications of partial derivatives and multiple integrals are investigated.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE (Full Year, 1 Credit) CS**

This course introduces computer science by teaching the basic constructs (i.e., selection, iteration, and functions) and data structures that are found in any programming language. This is done using the backdrop of HTML and JavaScript. As a result, students will be learning the fundamentals of computer science while becoming proficient at generating dynamic web pages. Class days are spent in the Upper School Computer Science Lab where students spend the majority of their time completing various lab activities. This course is recommended for students who are interested in computer science and in developing their own programs. No prior experience is necessary. Available to students in grades 9-12.

**HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE 1 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HCS1**

Honors Computer Science 1 is an aggressive introduction to computer science. This class is modeled after a collegiate level programming course that embraces the object orientated paradigm. By the end of the year, students will be able to independently develop substantial programs. This course also prepares students for the Advanced Placement Examination. No prior experience is necessary. Available to students in grades 9-12.

**HONORS COMPUTER SCIENCE 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HCS2**

This course is modeled after a collegiate level data structures course. The data structures covered are linked lists, stacks, queues, binary search trees, heaps, hash tables, sets, and maps. In addition, more complex searching and sorting algorithms and recursive techniques are covered.

**Prerequisite: Honors Computer Science 1**

**ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (Full Year, 1 Credit) ATCS**

Advanced Topics Computer Science is an advanced computer science project based course. Here the students, in conjunction with the instructor, choose one or two large collaborative projects to work on for the year. The goal of the course is for each class to leave an impressive project as their legacy. **Prerequisite: Honors Computer Science 2 (or concurrently enrolled in Honors Computer Science 2)**

### **ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) ATCS2**

For students who start in Honors Computer Science 1 their freshman year, Advanced Topics Computer Science 2 allows them to continue their studies in the field of computer science as seniors. In this independent study course, students are expected to develop one or two pieces of software for a broader audience. For example, students have written software that has been put into production here at Academy, software utilities for faculty and students, as well as software for mobile devices. **Prerequisite: Advanced Topics in Computer Science**

## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

**(3 Credits Required - Including Biology, Chemistry and Physics)**

### **BIOLOGY (Full Year, 1 Credit) BIO**

Ecology, evolution, cell biology, and genetics are presented in the first semester, while systematic diversity of life and human biology are studied second semester. The course emphasizes real world applications of these concepts. Laboratory and classroom activities stress a hands-on approach to science.

### **HONORS BIOLOGY (Full Year, 1 Credit) HBIO**

This course is designed for students who are interested and ready to explore biology in greater detail. Ecology, evolution, biochemistry, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, biotechnology; and cell biology are studied in the first semester. Genetics, systematics, and the diversity of life, including animal and plant physiology are studied in the second semester. In addition, current directions in biological research are studied and an emphasis is placed on recent publications in biology. Students are expected to carry out many laboratory experiments that stress hypothesis testing and to write these experiments in proper scientific format. Mathematical and statistical approaches to biology are also emphasized, where applicable. There is an independent project at the end of the year that allows students to design, carry out, and then report results and conclusions of an experiment. Students are prepared to take the Advanced Placement Examination in the spring quarter.

### **CHEMISTRY (Full Year, 1 Credit) CHEM**

All standard topics in chemistry are covered including: the periodic table; basic atomic structure; chemical bonds; chemical equations; basic thermodynamics; gas laws; solids and liquids; equilibrium; acid-base chemistry; and reaction rates. Practical application of chemistry is stressed, and laboratory investigation is an integral part of the course.

### **ADVANCED CHEMISTRY (Full Year, 1 Credit) ACHEM**

Advanced Chemistry is designed to help students gain understanding into the composition and properties of matter and how chemical reactions turn reactants into products. It is a traditional chemistry course that explores the topics to a greater depth than the Chemistry course. Problem sets and lab investigations are presented at a more challenging level. In addition to studying the structure of the atom, topics include stoichiometry, periodicity, chemical bonds, the gas laws, studies of the liquid and solid state, solutions, colligative properties, acid-base chemistry, kinetics, and oxidation-reduction chemistry. Use of the laboratory is a vital component in this course.

**PHYSICS (Full Year, 1 Credit) PHYS**

This is a traditional course that offers a descriptive look at the physical phenomena of the world and how they can be described mathematically. There is less emphasis on complex problem solving than there is in the Honors Physics course.

**HONORS PHYSICS 1 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HPHYS1**

Honors Physics 1 is the study of fundamental processes in the material universe as gleaned through the scientific method. The primary course objective is to focus the student's perception on the realization that the world is governed by a series of basic physical relationships described by mathematical processes. Describing nature through the application of mathematical principles allows the student to understand physical phenomena they have encountered, to relate and attempt to understand phenomena not yet seen, and to realize the limitations of our understanding. The course consists of the traditional categories of mechanics, thermodynamics, electromagnetism, and atomic theory. Emphasis is placed on symmetry principles and conservation laws. Laboratory work, demonstrations, and discussions are integral parts of the learning process. After completing the year, students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

**HONORS PHYSICS 2 (Full Year, 1 Credit) HPHYS2**

Honors Physics 2 is a yearlong course consisting of lectures and problem solving. Advanced topics from mechanics and electrodynamics are treated employing methods of real variable calculus and vector calculus. A research project is required. After completing the year, students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

**BIOLOGY 2 (Full Year Elective, 1 Credit) BIO2**

Biology 2 challenges senior students who have completed courses in general biology, chemistry and physics. The course is intended to increase the breadth of knowledge in the subject of biology by looking at the topics of ecology, evolution, cell biology, molecular biology, genetics, anatomy and physiology, and development. Students learn more about these topics not only by participating in lecture and conventional laboratory activities, but also by designing and carrying out independent projects in these topics areas. The course promotes inquiry-based techniques of science and also enriches the student's knowledge of general biology.

**HONORS CHEMISTRY (Full Year Elective, 1 Credit) HCHEM**

This course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course taken during college. Students in this course will build on the foundation provided during their first year of high school chemistry. The primary objective is for each student to maximize his/her understanding of fundamentals and develop competence in dealing with chemical problems. This course will help students to think clearly and to express their ideas with logic and clarity. Students will be prepared to sit for the Advanced Placement Examination.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (Full Year Elective, 1 Credit) ENV**

Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary course for seniors. Principles from biology, chemistry and physics are employed in understanding natural earth systems and environmental issues. Geology, oceanography, meteorology and basic astronomy apply the physical sciences, while ecology and species diversity relate biology to "Health of the Planet" issues. Some topics are also discussed from a social perspective; including environmental regulation, resource allocation, agricultural methods and population. While this course is not specifically designed for the Advanced Placement Examination, the curriculum will cover most of the Advanced Placement designated topics.

Outstanding students are encouraged to consider taking the Advanced Placement Examination in the spring quarter.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**  
**(1/4 Credit Required - Health)**  
**(6 Units Required – Physical Education)**

**HEALTH (Full Year, 1/4 Credit) HEALTH**

The Health curriculum is based on the concept of providing the knowledge and skills necessary for students to make responsible, well-informed choices that promote a healthy lifestyle. The students are encouraged to take personal responsibility and to utilize critical thinking skills when looking at current health topics and how they impact their daily lives. Topics include personal and mental health, drug and alcohol prevention, stress management, eating disorders, human growth and development, relationships, sexually transmitted diseases, cancer awareness and early detection, and CPR certification. Students will participate in a variety of teaching and learning methods such as class discussions, role-playing, videos, projects, tests, and demonstrations.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION (1 Semester = 2 Units) PE**

The primary focus of Upper School Physical Education is on lifetime sports and physical fitness activities. Students are introduced to a variety activities to encourage the development of a fitness regime that targets strength training, cardiovascular fitness, and personal fitness. Cooperation, positive peer interaction and sportsmanship skills are emphasized.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR OFFERINGS IN THE UPPER SCHOOL

Each year the Upper School offers extra-curricular options. Students who have genuine interest are encouraged to get involved in one or more activities. In addition to the list below, new clubs are welcomed which are all-inclusive and must have a faculty sponsor. We encourage student initiative in the forming and developing of activities.

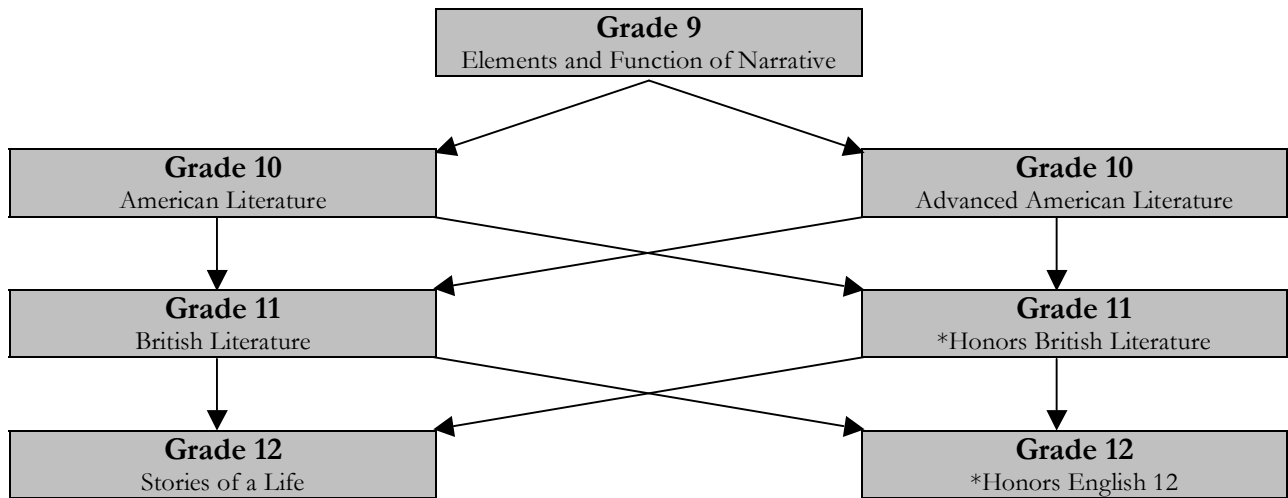
UPPER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>The Academy Life</i> (newspaper)</li> <li>○ Amnesty International</li> <li>○ Asian Club</li> <li>○ Art Society</li> <li>○ Astronomy Club</li> <li>○ Broadway Club</li> <li>○ Band</li> <li>○ Chess Club</li> <li>○ Christian Fellowship</li> <li>○ Creative Writing</li> <li>○ Dead Language Society</li> <li>○ Desi Club (Indian Affinity group)</li> <li>○ Digital Video Club</li> <li>○ Drama</li> <li>○ Economics Club</li> <li>○ Film Society</li> <li>○ GROW (gender issues)</li> <li>○ GSA (gay/straight issues)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In-The-Know</li> <li>○ Jewish Club</li> <li>○ Kendo Club (martial arts)</li> <li>○ Makers Guild</li> <li>○ M.E.C.C.A. (Muslim affinity group)</li> <li>○ Mozart's (classical music)</li> <li>○ Music Club</li> <li>○ Outdoor Adventure</li> <li>○ Political Club</li> <li>○ PRAISE (African-American affinity group)</li> <li>○ <i>Quest</i> (art and literary magazine)</li> <li>○ Robotics Club</li> <li>○ Service Board</li> <li>○ Spanish Club</li> <li>○ Student Council</li> <li>○ Student Court</li> <li>○ <i>The Caravel</i> (yearbook)</li> </ul>

UPPER SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS		
Fall	Winter	Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cross Country (boys/girls)</li> <li>○ Field Hockey (girls)</li> <li>○ Football (boys)</li> <li>○ Golf (boys)</li> <li>○ Soccer (boys/girls)</li> <li>○ Tennis (girls)</li> <li>○ Volleyball (girls)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basketball (boys/girls)</li> <li>○ Swimming (boys/girls)</li> <li>○ Wrestling (boys)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Baseball (boys)</li> <li>○ Lacrosse (girls)</li> <li>○ Tennis (boys)</li> <li>○ Track (boys/girls)</li> </ul>

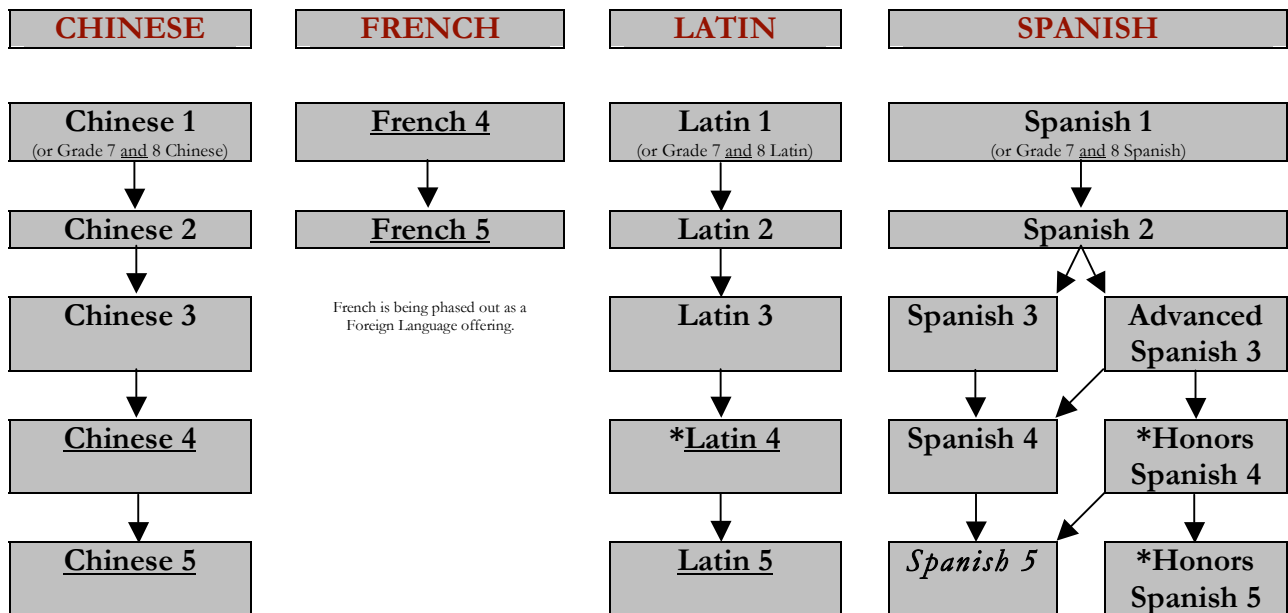
## ACADEMIC FLOW CHARTS

The following charts represent possible paths through each departmental curriculum. There is no designated “honors” track, so curriculum paths may vary. An asterisk denotes a course that prepares students for an Advanced Placement Examination. Advanced classes, as well as italicized courses, receive an additional 10% weighting. Honors classes and underlined courses receive an additional 15% GPA weighting. (Please refer to the Grading and Weighting scale chart on page 25 for more information.)

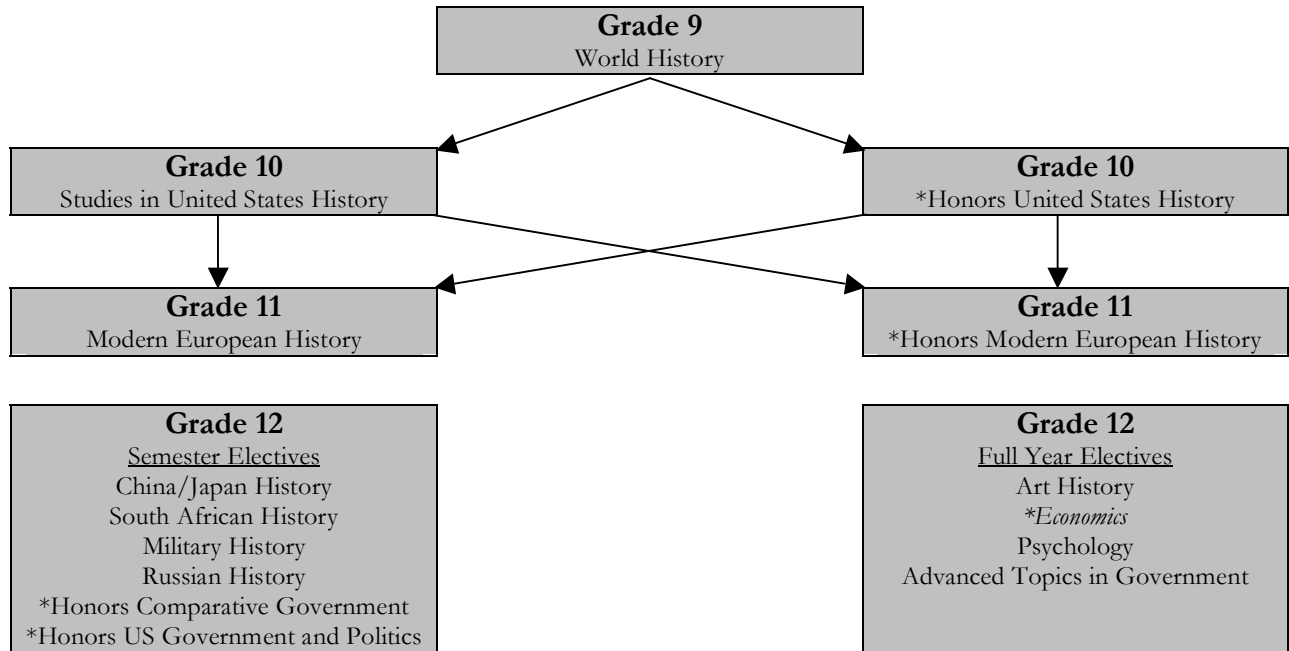
### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



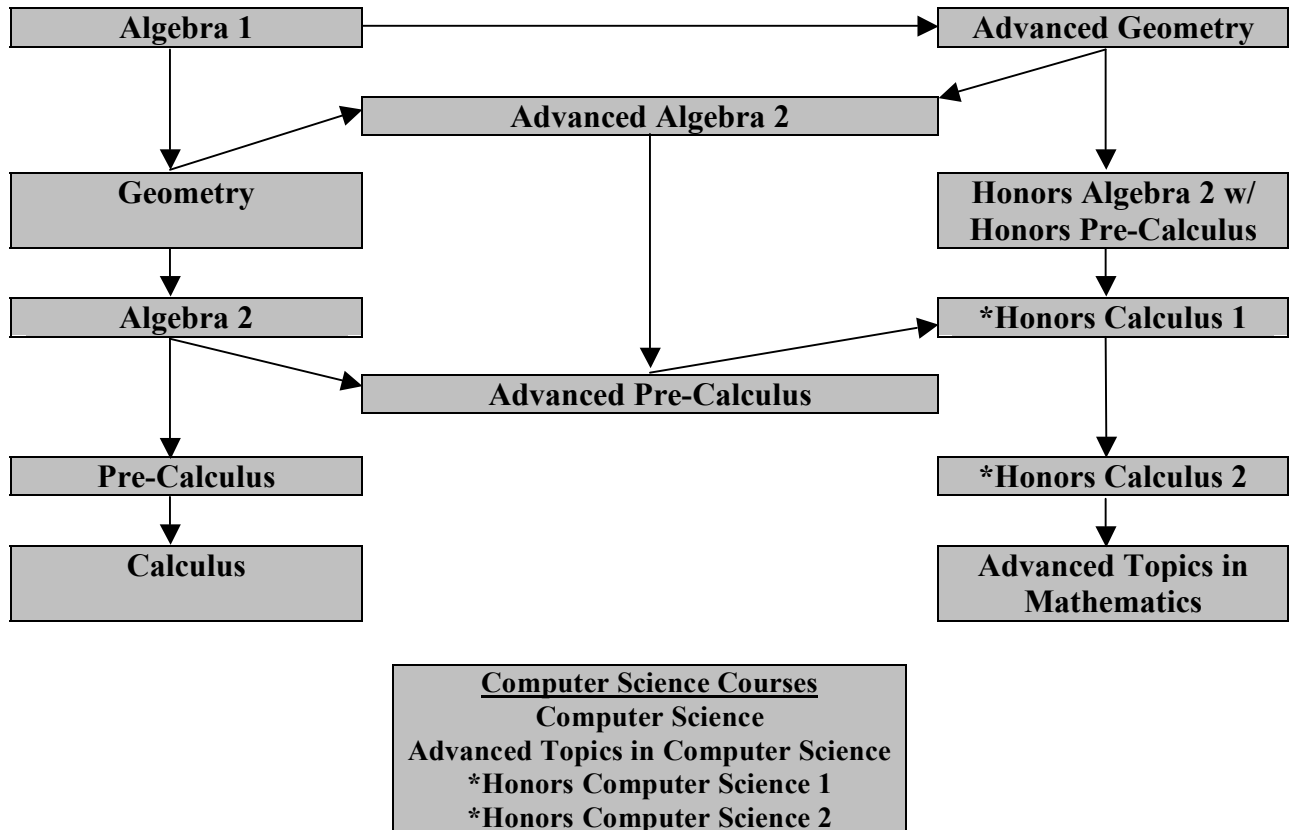
### FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

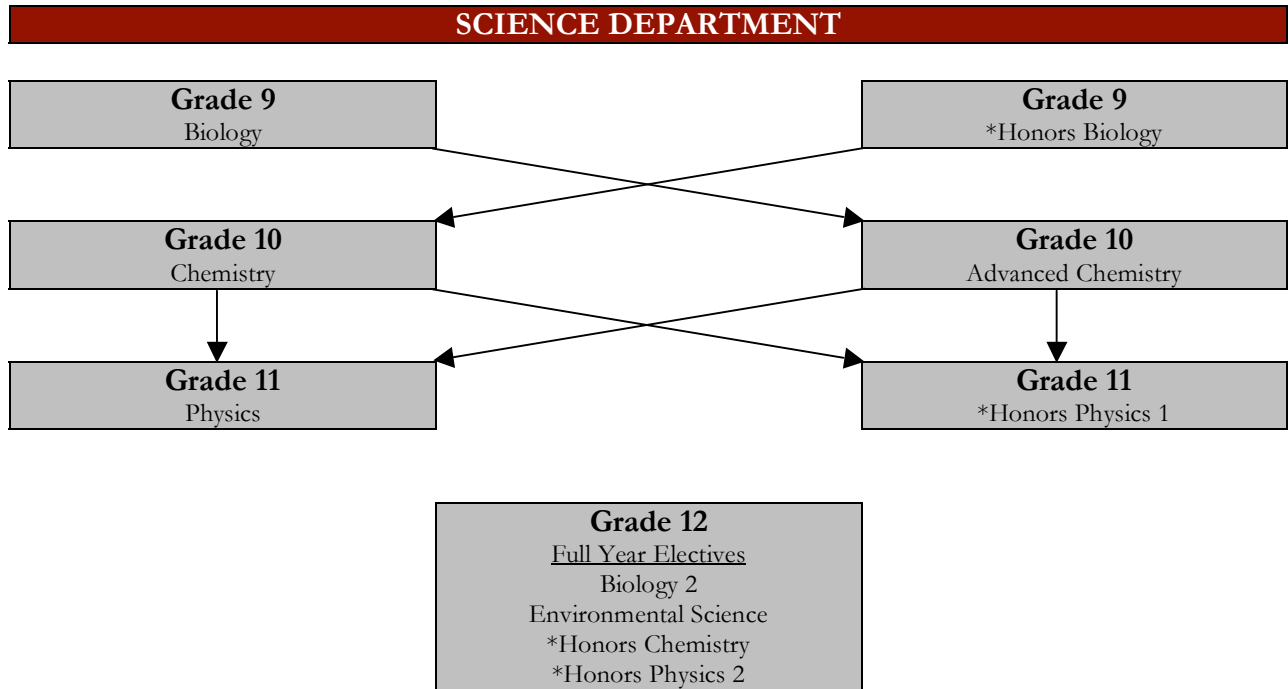


**HISTORY DEPARTMENT**



**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**





## Grade Weighting System

A sliding scale of grade weighting is used to determine grade point average (GPA). Standard weighting on a four point scale will be applied to normal college preparatory courses. An additional ten percent weight will be added to grades in “Advanced” courses, and an additional fifteen percent weight to grades in “Honors” courses. See the chart on the next page for listings of course weights.

**Advanced** courses indicate accelerated versions of our college-preparatory courses. **Honors** courses indicate those designed predominantly to prepare students for a college level, external examination. Courses that cover two years’ worth of material in one year are also included. Prerequisite criteria must be met for entry to Advanced and Honors courses.

Both unweighted (uGPA) and weighted (wGPA) grade point averages are reported on the transcript and on documents sent to colleges and scholarship agencies. The Columbus Academy does **not** calculate class rank.

### Grading and Weighting Scale

Description	Grade	Scale %	Normal Unweighted	Advanced Weight +10%	Honors Weight +15%
Outstanding	A+	97-100	4.33	4.66	4.83
Superior	A	93-96	4.00	4.33	4.50
Superior	A-	90-92	3.66	3.99	4.16
Well Qualified	B+	87-89	3.33	3.66	3.83
Well Qualified	B	83-86	3.00	3.30	3.45
Well Qualified	B-	80-82	2.66	2.93	3.06
Qualified	C+	77-79	2.33	2.56	2.68
Qualified	C	73-76	2.00	2.20	2.30
Qualified	C-	70-72	1.66	1.83	1.91
Poor	D+	67-69	1.33	1.46	1.53
Poor	D	63-66	1.00	1.10	1.15
Poor	D-	60-62	0.66	0.73	0.76
Failing	F	Below 60	0.00	0.00	0.00
Passing	P		0.00	0.00	0.00
Outstanding	O		0.00	0.00	0.00
Incomplete	I		0.00	0.00	0.00
Withdrew	W		0.00	0.00	0.00

*Note: Weighting shall not exceed a maximum of .33 additional weight in the 10% column or .50 additional weight in the 15% column.*

## Weighting Table for Designated Courses

	<b>NORMAL COURSES</b>	<b>ADVANCED COURSES</b>	<b>HONORS COURSES</b>	
	<b>STANDARD WEIGHT</b>	<b>+ 10% WEIGHT</b>	<b>+ 15% WEIGHT</b>	
<b>English</b>	English 9	Advanced English 10	Honors English 11*	
	English 10		Honors English 12*	
	English 11			
	English 12			
	Creative Writing			
	Journalism			
<b>Mathematics</b>	Algebra 1	Advanced Geometry	Hon Alg 2 w/ Hon Pre-Calculus	
	Geometry	Advanced Algebra 2	Honors Calculus 1*	
	Algebra 2	Advanced Pre-Calculus	Honors Calculus 2*	
	Pre-Calculus	Advanced Topics in Math	Honors Computer Science 1*	
	Calculus	Adv Topics in Computer	Honors Computer Science 2*	
	Computer Science			
<b>Science</b>	Biology	Advanced Chemistry	Honors Biology*	
	Biology 2		Honors Chemistry*	
	Chemistry		Honors Physics 1*	
	Physics		Honors Physics 2*	
	Environmental Science			
<b>History</b>	World History	Adv Topics in Government	Honors U.S. History*	
	Studies in U.S. History	Economics*	Honors Modern Euro History*	
	Modern European History		Honors Comp Government*	
	China and Japan		Honors U.S. Government*	
	Southern African History			
	Studies in Russian History			
	Studies in Military History			
	Classical History			
	Classical Myth			
	Art History			
	Psychology			
<b>Foreign Lang</b>	Chinese 1	Advanced Spanish 3	Chinese 4	
	Chinese 2	Spanish 5	Chinese 5	
	Chinese 3		French 4	
	French 1		French 5	
	French 2		Latin 4*	
	French 3		Latin 5	
	Latin 1		Honors Spanish 4*	
	Latin 2		Honors Spanish 5*	
	Latin 3			
	Spanish 1			
	Spanish 2			
	Spanish 3			
	Spanish 4			

\* These courses offer preparation for Advanced Placement examinations

## Advanced and Honors Courses at Columbus Academy

**General Guidelines:** Honors courses are college level courses which frequently adhere to a national standardized curriculum. These courses give prepared and qualified students an opportunity to pursue their passion for a particular subject by taking a demanding, in-depth course that will provide both accelerated learning and an opportunity to take the national Advanced Placement Exams in May. Student who take an AP also have the opportunity to earn college credits for their high school work if they score a three or higher (out of five) on an exam; however, they should keep in mind the following: 1) some colleges accept only 4 or 5 scores for credit; 2) some use the exam only for placement; 3) some will still have students repeat the course in college even if they pass the exam; 4) poor grades in Honors classes will not enhance their college application and indeed can be used to "weed out" applicants.

### What kinds of questions should students ask before committing to Advanced and Honors courses?

- Do I really enjoy this subject enough to consider devoting so much time and energy to this class?
- Will taking this Advanced or Honors class or these classes allow me time to pursue other aspects of my participation at Academy, such as drama, athletics, service and my other academic responsibilities?
- Do the colleges to which I am considering applying give credit for this Honors course if I pass the corresponding AP exam?
- What AP test score is required by a college to receive credit? (Colleges vary.)
- Do colleges place students in courses based on AP results, or will I also be required to take a placement exam?

### Important Information for students participating in the Advanced and Honors program:

- Each Advanced and Honors course has a set of prerequisites that must be met in order to enroll in that course.
- Though students are encouraged to take the AP Exams in May, they are not required to take them. The fee varies each year and, when applicable, can be applied to the student's account. The scheduled dates and times for the exams are announced early in the school year and are published in the school calendar.

## Admission into Advanced and Honors Classes

### Science

- To go from an Advanced or Honors class to the next level Advanced or Honors class requires a B+ or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.
- To go from a non-Advanced/Honors class to the next level Advanced or Honors class requires an A or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.
- All students entering Honors Physics should have finished Honors Algebra 2 with Honors Pre-Calculus or Honors Calculus 1, or should be taking either concurrently with Honors Physics.

Students who do not meet the above requirements may submit a petition to the Department Chair to enter an Advanced or Honors class. A student petitioning to enter Advanced Chemistry must take a quantitative departmental test and score an A or above. A student petitioning to enter Honors Physics must pass an Algebra 1 exam with a grade of A or above. A student petitioning to enter Honors Biology must meet with current instructor and Honors Biology instructor. To be considered for entry into the Honors Biology class, the petitioning student may be asked to do additional summer work (to be determined by the instructors, Science Department Chair and Head of Upper School).

### Math

- To go from an Advanced or Honors Class to the next level Advanced or Honors class requires a B- or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.
- To go from a non-Advanced/Honors class to the next level Advanced or Honors class requires an A- or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.

Students who do not meet the above requirements may petition to enter an Advanced or Honors class. Petitioning students must meet with the Math Department Chair and Head of Upper School. To be considered for entry into an Advanced or Honors class a petitioning student may be asked to complete additional summer math work (to be determined by the Math Department Chair and Head of Upper School).

### English

- To go from an Advanced or Honors class to the next level Honors class requires a B- or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.
- To go from a non-Advanced/Honors class to the next level Advanced or Honors class requires an A- or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.

Students who do not meet the above requirements may petition to enter an Advanced or Honors class. Petitioning students must meet with current instructor, instructor of the class the student wishes to enter, the English Department Chair and Head of Upper School. To be considered for

entry into an Advanced or Honors class a petitioning student may be asked to complete additional summer English work (to be determined by the instructors, English Department Chair and Head of Upper School).

### **History**

- To go from an Advanced or Honors class to the next level Honors class requires a B- or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.
- To go from a non-Advanced/Honors class to the next level Advanced or Honors class requires an A- or better and/or recommendation of the instructor.

Students who do not meet the above requirements but have earned a grade no lower than a C in an Advanced or Honors class, or no lower than a B in a non-Advanced/Honors class may petition to enter an Advanced or Honors class. Petitioning students must file a written request with the current instructor before examination week in May and then meet with their current instructor and the Department Chair to discuss their petition

### **Spanish**

- To go from Spanish 2 to Advanced Spanish 3 requires an A- or better, consideration of final exam and /or recommendation of the instructor.
- To go from an Advanced or Honors class to an Honors class requires a B+ or better, consideration of final exam and/or recommendation of instructor.

Students who do not meet the above requirements may petition to enter an Advanced or Honors class. Petitioning students must meet with current instructor, instructor of class the student wishes to enter, and the Department Chair. To be considered for entry into an Advanced or Honors class a petitioning student may be asked to complete additional summer work in Spanish and pass a Spanish Placement test.

Because of the difference in pace and depth between non-Advanced/Honors Spanish classes and Honors Spanish classes, with rare exception, students in non-Advanced/Honors classes will not be placed in Advanced or Honors classes. Non-Advanced/Honors students may be placed in Advanced or Honors classes at the discretion of the instructor, the Department Chair and Head of Upper School.

### **French, Chinese, Latin**

While there are no designated Honors classes in French, Chinese, or Latin, students in levels 4 and 5 in each of these languages will receive Honors designation and grade weighting for successful completion of these courses.

## Typical Columbus Academy Courses by Grade Level

Grade 9	
<b>English</b>	Elements and Function of Narrative
<b>History</b>	World History
<b>Science</b>	Biology or Honors Biology
<b>Mathematics</b>	Algebra, Geometry, Advanced Geometry, Computer Science
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Chinese 1, Chinese 2, Latin 1, Latin 2
<b>Fine/Performing Arts</b>	Introduction to Art, Music Theory, Acting 1, Viking Choir, Camerata, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Strings
<b>Other</b>	Health, Creative Writing, Journalism

Grade 10	
<b>English</b>	Regular or Advanced-American Literature
<b>History</b>	Studies in United States History or Honors United States History
<b>Science</b>	Chemistry or Advanced Chemistry
<b>Mathematics</b>	Geometry, Advanced Geometry, Algebra 2, Advanced Algebra 2, Computer Science
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish 2, Regular or Advanced Spanish 3, Chinese 2, Chinese 3, Latin 2, Latin 3
<b>Fine/Performing Arts</b>	Art Electives, Music Theory, Music Theory 2, Acting 1, Acting 2, Viking Choir, Camerata, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Strings
<b>Other</b>	Health, Creative Writing, Journalism

Grade 11	
<b>English</b>	British Literature or Honors British Literature
<b>History</b>	Modern European History or Honors Modern European History
<b>Science</b>	Physics or Honors Physics 1
<b>Mathematics</b>	Algebra 2, Advanced Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Pre-Calculus, Honors Algebra 2 with Honors Pre-Calculus, Computer Science, Honors Computer Science 1
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish 3 or Advanced Spanish 3, Spanish 4 or Honors Spanish 4, Chinese 3, Chinese 4, Latin 3, Latin 4, French 4
<b>Fine/Performing Arts</b>	Art Electives, Music Theory, Music Theory 2, Acting 1, Acting 2, Viking Choir, Camerata, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Strings
<b>Other</b>	Public Speaking, Creative Writing, Journalism

Grade 12	
<b>English</b>	English 12 or Honors English
<b>History</b>	Art History, Psychology, Military History, Russian History, Economics, Honors US Government and Politics, Honors Comparative Government, Advanced Topics in Government
<b>Science</b>	Environmental Science, Ethics in Science, Honors Chemistry, Honors Physics 2, Biology 2
<b>Mathematics</b>	Calculus, Honors Calculus 1, Honors Calculus 2, Advance Topics in Mathematics, Honors Computer Science 2, Advanced Topics in Computer Science
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish 4 or Honors Spanish 4, Spanish 5 or Honors Spanish 5, Chinese 4, Chinese 5, Latin 4, Latin 5, French 5
<b>Fine/Performing Arts</b>	Art Electives, Music Theory, Music Theory 2, Acting 1, Acting 2, Viking Choir, Camerata, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Strings
<b>Other</b>	Creative Writing, Journalism