HOPE COMMUNITY ACADEMY

High School Course Catalog
2026-2027

HOPE Community Academy
720 Payne Ave. St. Paul, MN 55130
Phone: 651-796-4500
Fax: 651-927-8481
www.hopecommunityacademy.org

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Registration Guidelines

At HOPE Community Academy High School, students are given the responsibility of choosing their classes for the upcoming term. After a student registers for their classes, they may schedule an individual meeting with a counselor to review their course selections. Before the end of the term, students are given a copy of their upcoming schedule to review for a second time. During the review process, students are able to make changes/drop classes.

A week before school starts, students are able to view their schedule online and email the counselor with any errors. Once the school year begins, the following policy is in place:

> *If a student would like to drop a class, it will only be approved for very limited reasons. Exceptions may be made with administrative and teacher approval only for the following reasons:*
>
> - *Medical reasons*
> - *Inappropriate academic placement*
> - *Mandated by a student's IEP*
>
> *If approved, students must complete the "Drop/Add Form" which can be picked up in the Counseling Office. Parent signature is required.*

Classes are scheduled either semester-long or year-long. Please check course descriptions in the Registration Guide for more information. Students may not drop a year-long class at the semester without teacher and parent approval.

Graduation Requirements

Graduation Credits Required by Minnesota Department of Education and HOPE Community Academy		
English Language Arts	8	**2 credits per year x 4 years** ● 1 Year of English 9 ● 1 Year of English 10 ● 1 Year of English 11 ● 1 Year of English 12
Social Studies	7	**2 credits per year x 3.5 years** ● 1 Year of World History ● 1 Year of US History ● 1 Semester of Human Geography ● 1 Semester of Economics ● 1 Semester of Government
Math	6	**2 credits per year x 3 years** ● 1 Year of Intermediate Algebra 1 ● 1 year of Geometry ● 1 Year of Algebra 2 1 Year of Algebra 2 may be substituted for Intermediate Algebra requirements if Algebra was taken in Middle School.
Science	6	**2 credits per year x 3 years** ● 1 Year of Physical Science ● 1 Year of Biology ● 1 Year of Chemistry **or** Physics
Arts	4	**4 credits total** ● 4 Semesters of Performing or Visual Arts
Physical Education	1	**1 credit** ● 1 Semester of Physical Education
Health	1	**1 credit** ● 1 Semester of Health
Personal Finance	1	**1 credit** ● 1 Semester of Personal Finance
Hmong Language and Culture	4	**4 Credits required starting for the graduation class of 2029 and after.**
South East Asian Studies	1	**1 credit** ● For 26-27
Electives	14	**28 credits over four years** (7 Period Day Schedule)
Total Required Graduation Credits	**53**	**7 Period + Advisory Day Schedule**

Recommended Elective Credits for College and Career Readiness		
Math	2	**2 credits x 1 year** Additional coursework in math is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs
Science	2	**2 credits x 1 year** Additional coursework in science is encouraged and required for many colleges and career training programs
According to the Minnesota Department of Education (January 18, 2018), “Districts have a number of requirements to fulfill for students’ career and college planning for students first enrolled in grade eight in 2012–13 and later. This includes offering students in grades 11 and 12 an opportunity to participate in a nationally recognized college entrance exam (ACT or SAT) on a school day.” HOPE Community Academy currently offers a school day preACT/ACT in the spring of each school year.		

English Language Arts

English Language Arts 9 ***1409-1 /1409-2***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9
Course Description: English 9 introduces students to the MN English Language Arts gr. 9-10 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. This course establishes a foundation in the habits and skills for the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types that will be expected of students throughout their high school years. Students will study collections of literature and informational texts, including voices from within and outside of the U.S. and MN American Indian perspectives, and write texts for a variety of purposes and audiences.

English Language Arts 10 ***1410-1/1410-2***

Prerequisite: English 9
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 10
Course Description: English 10 focuses on mastery of the MN English Language Arts gr. 9-10 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. Students will refine their habits and skills for the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types required in the upper grades of high school. Students will study collections of literature and informational texts, including voices from within the U.S. and MN American Indian perspectives, and write texts for a variety of purposes and audiences.

English Language Arts 11 ***1411-1/1411-2***

Prerequisite: English 10
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 11
Course Description: English 11 introduces students to the MN English Language Arts gr. 11-12 benchmarks for reading, writing, speaking, listening, media literacy, and language. Students will practice the critical thinking, analysis, argumentation, research, and writing types required for college and career level reading and writing. Students will study collections of seventeenth-, eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and early-twentieth-century seminal U.S. documents and foundational works of American literature including diverse cultures.

English Language Arts 12 ***1412-1/1412-2***

Prerequisite: English 12
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 12
Course Description: ELA 12 is designed to give students the opportunity to continue exploring their beliefs and roots and deepen their connection with the world around them. They read works of world literature, learn to write college-level essays, actively participate in and lead class discussions, and practice skills necessary for oral presentations and written critical analysis.Students build on previously-learned literacy skills and develop more complex approaches to thinking about and responding to literature as well as writing narrative and informational texts.

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition ***1419-1/1419-2***

Prerequisite: English 10
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: AP English Literature and Composition is a college-level course designed for students who are prepared for rigorous reading, analytical writing, and in-depth discussion. Students engage with a wide range of challenging literary works—including novels, plays, poetry, and short fiction—from various time periods and cultural perspectives.
Throughout the course, students will:

- Develop advanced literary analysis skills
- Write evidence-based analytical essays
- Examine themes, symbolism, tone, and author's craft
- Participate in structured academic discussions
- Prepare for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam in May

This course emphasizes critical thinking, close reading, and argumentative writing at a college level. Students who take the AP Exam may earn college credit depending on their score and the policies of the institution they attend.

Elective- Monsters, Myths and Magic ***1900***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: Monsters, Myths and Magic is an English Literature/Creative Writing course centered on the cryptids, myths and supernatural among us. Students will first study classic monsters from tales (Frankenstein's monster, Dracula, a werewolf, etc.) and then choose one to explore deeper, looking at what makes something a monster. They will then explore fairytales, the meaning and morals behind them, and then choose a new ending for a fractured fairy tale. Next, they will look at myths from around the world, read texts from around the world on different cryptids, and then write a new myth with a cryptid of their own design. Finally, they will explore the world of magic by reading different fantasy stories with different types of magic, before writing a short story of their own with their own chosen magic. The students will be able to take a portfolio of work from this class that can either be a fun memory, or used as a way to get published.

ML Communications ***1899-1/1899-2***

Prerequisite: EL status
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: Students strengthen their skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It prepares students for the WIDA ACCESS test, as well as work in other core classes. Units are based on the WIDA core language uses of Inform, Narrate, Explain, and Argue. This class is highly interactive

Elective- Senior Seminar ***0010***

Course Length: 1 Semester (Fall only)
Grade Level: 12
Course Description:
The primary purpose of this class is to support seniors for college applications and career explorations to to plan realistic long term life goals. In this class; students will research and write about the different college and university options, learn about apprenticeships and certifications. Students will also write multiple drafts of college and scholarship application essays, and master the form of the written personal narrative. Non-academic adulting skills will also be touched on, such as financial literacy, resume writing, household budgeting, and applying for jobs and internships.

Elective- Film Studies ***1403-2***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: From Studio Gibli, to Star Wars, to the old black and white films of the 20th Century, this class will explore how films are made, how they make us feel, how they communicate ideas, and how they tell powerful stories. During this course, students will learn how to critically analyze films. Written assignments will include a film review, a compare/contrast essay, and a research paper exploring an aspect of film history. There will also be opportunities for student-made video projects, that may include creating Youtube-style reaction videos, or video essays.

Elective- Journalism ***0911***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: This course introduces students to the fundamentals of journalism, including news writing, interviewing, research, and media ethics. Students will learn how to gather and evaluate information, write clear and engaging news stories, and produce content for school publications or digital media. Emphasis is placed on accuracy, responsible reporting, collaboration, and understanding the role of journalism in informing and serving a community. Students will develop communication, critical thinking, and storytelling skills while exploring real-world issues and events.

Elective- Science Fiction Seminar ***0910***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: This elective course explores the world of science fiction through literature, film, and media. Students will examine how science fiction imagines future technologies, societies, and ethical dilemmas while reflecting on real-world scientific and social issues. Through reading, discussion, and creative projects, students will analyze themes such as space exploration, artificial intelligence, dystopian societies, and the impact of technology on humanity. The course encourages critical thinking, creativity, and an appreciation for how science fiction shapes our understanding of the future.

Mathematics

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: 6 credits of math, including at least **two credits each of Intermediate Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2.**

Intermediate Algebra - Non-linear Algebra ***1509-1/1509-2***

Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9
Course Description: This course is the second half of a two-part Algebra course focused on linear and quadratic relationships. Students will learn to represent linear and quadratic functions as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs, as well as solve linear and quadratic equations with real numbers. Students will perform basic polynomial operations, factor polynomials, and use statistics and probability to describe data sets and make predictions. Students will apply this learning to solve real world mathematical problems. This course prepares students to be mathematically literate, as well as prepare them for future math courses, the high school MN Math Standards, and MN standardized math tests.

Geometry ***1510-1/1510-2***

Prerequisite: Intermediate Algebra- Non-Linear Algebra
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9-10
Course Description: This course is a foundational course focused on the geometry of shapes, planes and space. Emphasis is placed on understanding, applying, justifying, and developing geometric properties in two and three dimensions. Students will engage in an in depth study of geometric reasoning, coordinate geometry, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence, properties of polygons and circles, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, area, and volume. Students will apply this learning to solve real-world mathematical problems. This course prepares students for the high school MN Math Standards and MN standardized math tests. The distinction between this course and Geometry is the pacing and depth at which the above content is covered.

Algebra 2 ***1511-1/1511-2***

Prerequisite: Geometry
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 10-11
Course Description: Algebra 2 reviews what students learned in Algebra 1 and extends the insights into advanced concepts. The course emphasis is placed on graphing and solving functions. The topics include linear functions, systems, inequalities, quadratic functions, polynomials, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, trigonometry, and statistics. This course prepares students to be mathematically literate, as well as prepare them for future math courses, the high school MN Math Standards, and MN standardized math tests.

Advanced Placement Pre-Calculus ***1512-1/1512-2***

Prerequisite: Algebra 2
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: Precalculus is designed to prepare students for Calculus, either in high school or college. The course emphasis is placed on the concepts in Algebra and Trigonometry. The topics include

polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric and polar functions. Vectors, systems of equations, and matrices are also covered.

EL Math ***1500***

Prerequisite: EL status
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description:
This course offers students the opportunity to enhance their fundamental math skills while learning the English vocabulary they will need to improve their performance in grade-level math classes. The class focuses on vocabulary needed for algebra and geometry classes, as well as the basics that appear throughout math at all levels.

Advanced Placement Business with Personal Finance ***1514***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Description: Business with Personal Finance is a yearlong high school business and personal finance course that aligns closely with a college-level introduction to business course. Students explore the business disciplines of entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, accounting, and management through real-world business applications, case studies, and project based learning. In addition, students learn and apply all the National Standards for Personal Financial Education created by the Council for Economic Education and the Jump$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy. .

Social Studies

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: 8 credits of social studies, including at least **two credits each of World History and US History, one credit each of Government, Economics and Human Geography**, and **one elective credit**.

Grade 9- World History ***1709-1/1709-2***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9
Course Description:
Students in grade 9 will study patterns of human behavior across time within the historical context of global society. Students will discover commonalities and differences among peoples from past to present. They will examine and evaluate evidence to understand the social, political, environmental, technological, economic, and spiritual factors of human development. The course will draw upon a number of historical periods (prehistory, ancient civilizations, world religions, revolutions, world wars, etc.) using chronological, thematic, and regional approaches.

Grade 10- United States History ***1710-1/1710-2***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 10
Course Description:
Students in 10th grade will learn the development and history of the United States from Precontact-to present. Students will study the concepts of civics, economics, geography and history in relation to American history. Over the course of the year we will journey from the first contact with the indigenous peoples to the 21st Century. We will cover topics such as the creation of the United States, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Civil Rights, and the Cold War.

Grade 11- Human Geography ***1711***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 11
Course Description:
Students in grade 11 will focus on the various regions of the world. Students will apply geographic concepts such as population, agriculture, natural resource distribution and management, industry, political geography, cultural geography and organization to their lives. Students will also examine the impact of the physical environment on people and cultures from around the world. Maps will be frequently used to study various regions at different scales.

Grade 12- Civics ***1712***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 12
Course Description:

Students in this course will explore the fundamental principles of government and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society. Students will analyze the structure of governmental systems and engage in discussions about current events and political issues.

Grade 12- Economics ***1214***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 12
Course Description:
Students in this course will learn to integrate economic principles with real-life experiences. The course, which requires problem-solving and critical thinking skills, combines microeconomics with macroeconomics to give students various perspectives on economic issues: citizen, consumer, employee, and business owner.

Elective- Criminal Justice ***1701***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description:
Students in Criminal Justice will focus on the development of justice and law, crime and punishment, the administration of laws, the agencies' functions, and different career options related to criminal justice. Students will gain a better understanding of the local, state, and federal criminal justice systems and explore jobs related to the criminal justice system. This course will also educate the students on current real-life issues facing the United States in regards to the criminal justice system.

Elective- Psychology ***1703***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Description:
This course is designed to help students learn about human behavior and thinking. Students will develop research and analytical skills as they investigate stress, teenage suicide, environment, and heredity's effect on development, drug abuse, and learning theories. Topics covered include personality, reasoning, thinking and forgetting conflict, and adjustment.

Elective: Child Psychology and Development ***17001***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: This elective looks at how people grow and change from before birth through the teen years. Students learn basic development ideas (from thinkers like Piaget and Erikson) and practical skills for newborn and child care, health, safety, and family communication. Topics include milestones for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, children, and teens; how genes, nutrition, and the environment affect growth; attachment and parenting styles; friendships, identity, and risky behaviors; and careers in child development. This course prepares students for caregiving, education, and family-support roles while emphasizing evidence-based practice, cultural sensitivity, and real-world application.

Elective: Current Events ***17014***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: This elective course engages students in the exploration and discussion of significant local, national, and global events. Students will regularly analyze news from a variety of reliable media sources and examine topics such as government and politics, economics, science and technology, environmental issues, and global affairs. Emphasis is placed on developing media literacy, evaluating sources for credibility and bias, and forming thoughtful, evidence-based opinions. Through discussions, research, presentations, and written reflections, students will strengthen their critical thinking, communication, and civic awareness while making meaningful connections between classroom learning and the rapidly changing world around them.

Science

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: six credits of science, including at least **two credits each of earth and environmental science, biology**, **and physics.**

Earth and Space Science

1609-1/1609-2
Prerequisite: NA
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9
Course Description: Students will learn about interrelationships of the natural world through inquiry-based lab investigations and field work as they explore concepts like energy transfer, and interactions between earth systems.

Biology ***1610-1/1610-2***

Prerequisite: Earth and Space Science
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 10
Course Description:
This laboratory course studies living things and how they interact with each other. Students will learn about the chemistry of life, cells, genetics/DNA, evolution, ecology, and disease and human body systems while learning the skills of science and engineering. Students will participate in laboratory activities that promote scientific thinking. Successful completion of this course fulfills the state graduation requirement for biology and prepares students for future science courses.

Physics ***1611-1/1611-2***

Prerequisite: Biology, Earth and Space Science
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: Students will learn about basic topics such as motion, forces, energy, momentum, heat and heat transfer, waves, electricity, and magnetism. Students will be engaged in scientific inquiry, investigations, and labs so that they develop a conceptual understanding and basic scientific skills. Successful completion of this course fulfills the state graduation requirement for chemistry OR physics.

Elective - AP Environmental Science ***1602***

Prerequisite: Earth and Space Science
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Description: AP Environmental Science is a college-level course that explores the relationships between humans and the natural world. Students study environmental systems, ecosystems, biodiversity, population dynamics, natural resources, energy use, and environmental policy. The course emphasizes scientific principles, data analysis, and problem-solving as students investigate environmental challenges such as climate change, pollution, deforestation, and resource depletion. Through laboratory activities, field investigations, and case studies, students develop skills in scientific inquiry and critical thinking. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science Exam and may provide the opportunity to earn college credit depending on exam performance and college policies.

Elective - Astronomy ***1601***

Prerequisite: none
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: This course will include topics such as astronomy's history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Further knowledge is gained through the study of galaxies, stars, the origin and future of the universe, and the possibility of extraterrestrial life.

Elective - Intro to Robotics ***1611***

Prerequisite: none
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: This is an introductory level course designed as an introduction to robotics and robotic applications. Students learn topics related to robotic design including robotic terminology, robotic programming, sensing and sensors, actuators, modeling and sensing, and robotic platforms. Laboratory activities provide hands-on application of concepts and theories.

Physical Education/Health

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: 1 credit of Physical Education and 1 credit of Health Education.

Physical Education HS ***0910***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9
Course Description: Classes in the physical education department emphasize health-related fitness and developing skills and habits necessary for a lifetime of activity and wellness. This coeducational program includes skill development, application of rules, and strategies of various activities leading to lifelong fitness.

Health and Wellness ***1009***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Description: This course will provide students with knowledge, attitudes, and skills to make health-promoting decisions while incorporating the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health. In some form this course will also address the six major categories of risk behaviors that teens face today as identified by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC.) Units of study will include topics in mental wellness, nutrition, suicide and depression, family life, drugs and alcohol, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), first aid, and the use of automated external defibrillator (AED).

Elective: Strength and Conditioning ***0917***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 10-12
Course Description: Students will be introduced to the basics of strength training and conditioning. The course is designed to teach students the basics to lead a healthy lifestyle for longevity of health, fitness, and wellness. Students will learn about basic muscle groups, strength training styles, conditioning styles, stretching, flexibility vs mobility, setting goals for health and wellness, and basics of nutrition, water intake and quality of sleep impact on health. Tests/Exams will be utilized to help measure progress of the students' application of information - building an effective workout towards their health and wellness goal(s).

Music

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: 4 credits of performing or visual arts.

High School Choir ***1305-1/1305-2***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade level: 9-12
Description: The high school choir class is designed to teach students how to sing, read, perform, and connect to music at a higher level. Students will refine their singing technique in a variety of styles within a musical ensemble. Students will read and sing complex rhythms, melodies, and harmonies. They will dig deep into connecting music and meaning. They will explore musical styles and folk songs from around the world. Students will display their advanced reading and singing skills, musical expression, and performance etiquette skills in performances throughout the year.

Music Composition *1311*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade level: 9-12
Description: Music Composition is a high school course designed for students interested in creating original music across a variety of styles and genres. Students explore melody, harmony, rhythm, form, and orchestration while applying music theory concepts to compose for solo instruments, ensembles, and digital media using notation software and digital audio workstations. Through analysis, hands-on projects, peer feedback, and revision, students develop their creative voice and build a portfolio of original works. The course is ideal for students involved in band, choir, orchestra, or digital music production, and basic music reading skills are helpful but not required.

Vocal Repertoire *1306*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: The vocal repertoire class will explore solo singing in several different styles including folk, classical, musical theater, jazz, and modern popular music. Students will explore singing technique, voice types, history of vocal music, and sing a variety of repertoire. Singing and performing are the focus of this class and students will perform for each other.

Symphonic Band *1310*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade level: 9-12
Description: Symphonic Band is designed to teach students how to play an instrument, read, and perform music at a higher level. Students will refine their instrumental technique in a variety of styles within a musical ensemble that explores musical genres and styles from around the world. Students will

continue reading more complex rhythms and melodies and begin to work with larger harmonies while expanding their individual musical and technical abilities. Although not required, previous experience within a concert band is heavily encouraged.
Students will be responsible for purchasing a text (between $12-18) for this course.

Music Theory ***1307-1***

Prerequisite: Any High School Music Course
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade level: 10-12
Description: Music Theory is an introductory music theory course. Students cultivate their understanding of music theory through analyzing notated music as they explore concepts like pitch, rhythm, melody, and harmonic design. This course aims to expand the understanding of music notation through the exploration of some of the world's most well known music. Students will also be introduced to various forms of music composition, notation, and will learn how to apply music theory to all forms of music.

World Music ***1310***

Prerequisite: Any High School Music Course
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade level: 10-12
Description: This class will travel around the globe through sound. Combining active listening, guided performance, multimedia resources, and culturally responsive discussion, the course highlights indigenous, classical, folk, popular, and ritual musics of the region.
Students will learn how musical elements (rhythm, melody, timbre, form, and improvisation) interact with language, religion, history, dance, and social life. Hands-on activities include drumming circles, rhythm and melody composition projects inspired by regional practices, and short research presentations focused on the music of local communities around the world.

Guitar ***1320-1/1320-2***

Prerequisite: None, but Intro to Guitar MS or one semester of Intro to Guitar HS is encouraged
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade level: 9-12
Description: This dual track course builds on the basics established in previous guitar courses, and helps advance the student's ability to perform on the guitar. This course will introduce new topics and techniques such as fingerpicking, tablature, and advanced chords and strumming. For students who have already taken a full year of HS Guitar, opportunities for electric guitar, electric bass, and acoustic classical guitar will be available.

Art/Drama

Painting 1 *1301*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade level: 9-12
Course Description: Students will learn about painting techniques while applying various forms of paint such as tempera, acrylic and watercolor. Students will also apply techniques used by painters throughout history and have a better understanding of the evolution of paint.

Painting 2 *1302*

Prerequisite: Painting 1
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade level: 10-12
Course Description: Set up as a Studio class, students will work on large canvases to create semester long projects. This class will continue to have an emphasis on various forms of painting medium and explore the principles of art.

Illustration *1309*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade level: 9-12
Course Description: Illustration is a beginning art class for students with a strong interest in two-dimensional art and a desire to fine-tune their drawing skills. Students will develop original works of art using on-location sketches and photographs with pencil, charcoal, pastels, colored pencil, Conte crayon, watercolor pencils, and pens and ink. The course emphasizes observational drawing, and students must complete sketchbook drawings weekly.

Studio Art *1308*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: Studio Art is a class designed specifically for students interested in pursuing Visual arts after high school. This class is a student driven course that will allow students to create various forms of art in the medium of their choosing. Students will learn how to create a competitive portfolio for college applications and scholarships. They will have a better understanding of digitizing their work to keep both a digital and physical portfolio.

Advanced Placement Art History *1300*

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade level: 9-12

Description: AP Art History is a college-level course that explores global art from prehistory to the present. Students examine 250 required works of art from diverse cultures and time periods, learning to analyze form, function, content, and historical context.

Drama ***1312***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: This course will explore the fundamentals of drama and the world of theater. Students will learn about theater etiquette, theater terminology and perform monologues and dialogues. This class will touch base on improvisational work, musical theater and explore and read plays through a critical lens.

Theater Production ***1314***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: This course is an exploration of the technical side of film and stage production. Students will have an understanding of the behind the scenes of making a film. They will write scripts, understand the importance of storyboarding and critically analyze films of all genres. Students will also explore the technical side of stage production. Learning about scenic, costume and lighting design.

Digital Media ***1508***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 9-12
Course Description: Digital Media and Visual Arts introduces students to the creative use of digital tools and techniques in visual art and design. Students will explore the fundamentals of digital photography, graphic design, digital illustration, and multimedia production. Through hands-on projects, they will learn principles of composition, color, layout, and visual storytelling while using industry-standard software and technology. The course encourages creativity, experimentation, and critical thinking as students develop a digital portfolio that showcases their artistic skills and personal style. No prior experience is required.

Hmong Language and Culture

Students must successfully complete the following high school level credits: 4 credits of Hmong Language and Culture education starting for graduation class of 2029 and after.

Hmong I ***1700*** **Prerequisite:** None

Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9
Course Description: Hmong I introductory course provides a foundation in the Hmong language while exploring the rich history, cultural heritage, and identity of the Hmong people. Students continue to develop fundamental communication skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course emphasizes building cultural and linguistic literacy, and exploring social identities to help students better understand the Hmong experience.

Hmong II ***1701***

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation only
Course Length: 2 Semesters
Grade Level: 9
Course Description: Hmong II is designed to strengthen students' ability to communicate and negotiate meaning in various social settings. Students transition from isolated words to connected texts, developing greater confidence in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in Hmong. Using project‑based learning, real‑world engagement, and an integration of social identities and ethnic studies standards, this course aims to bring the Hmong language to life for students.

South East Asian Studies ***1600***

Prerequisite: None
Course Length: 1 Semester
Grade Level: 11-12
Course Description: In this project based course, students will develop understanding and appreciation for the various cultures and histories of Southeast Asia. These regions include, but are not limited to; Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Burma (Myanmar), and Cambodia. Exploration into the history, traditions, cuisine, and popular media of Southeast Asia will culminate in unit specific projects designed to allow the student to apply their studies in ways that matter. Students should expect to create 3D models, infographics, and more while they participate in this course. Students are heavily encouraged to explore their own cultures and identities alongside their participation in this course as it will involve the creation of projects specific to a student's sense of self and identity. Lastly, students should be prepared to explore and discuss difficult topics such as war, racism, marginalisation, and power dynamics within Southeast Asian history.