Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District

LAHS

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

201 Almond Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022

COURSE CATALOG

SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024

Last revised December 2022

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PREFACE

This Course Catalog serves as a course selection guide for students and parents who are seeking information about courses at Los Altos High School. This catalog is published annually and reflects the most current offerings; however, it cannot be assumed that every course listed here is offered each semester. Core courses for graduation and entrance to the University of California and California State Universities are always offered. Elective courses are offered based on student sign-ups and the availability of qualified teaching staff.

As a basic planning tool, this catalog features brief descriptions of courses offered and a listing of high school graduation and college entrance requirements. The Course Catalog is intended to be used together with other supplementary materials. Using these resources in conjunction with the support of their parents or guardians and counselors, students will be able to design a course schedule that reflects their interests and aptitudes and meets their post-high school goals.

Los Altos High School encourages and welcomes the continuous participation of parents during this planning process and throughout students' high school years. Parents are partners in the educational process and their active participation is key to students' success.

Course Catalog is available at https://lahs.mvla.net
click ACADEMICS/Course Information

Los Altos High School Vision

A New ERA at LAHS: Learners, Thinkers, Communicators, Citizens

We at **Los Altos High School** value a healthy, equitable learning environment in which students and staff support one another.
We are committed to the application of 21st Century skills and knowledge in the classroom and beyond.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: RECS

All Los Altos graduates will be:

Responsible, Global Citizens who...

- demonstrate honest, ethical and respectful behavior.
- act equitably, considering their community and the environment.
- make choices that support physical and mental health.

Effective, Engaged Communicators who...

- convey ideas and information and engage with others through a variety of media.
- address and understand diverse audiences and the perspectives of others.
- utilize technology and new media in a responsible manner.

Critical, Creative 21st Century Thinkers who...

- identify problems or challenges.
- analyze and synthesize information and develop hypotheses.
- create new strategies and tools to solve problems and overcome challenges.

Self-Directed, Collaborative Learners who...

- actively and independently seek out new ideas and information.
- apply a metacognitive, self-aware approach to learning.
- value the contributions of others and collaborate effectively.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

MVLA Union High School District	University of California	California State University
English **40 credits**	**English** **4 years**	**English** **4 years**
Social Studies **35 credits** World Studies 10 credits Indv Soc/Global Persp 5 credits U.S. History 10 credits Civics 5 credits Economics 5 credits	**History** **2 years** World Studies 1 year U.S. History 1 year	**History** **2 years** World Studies 1 year U.S. History 1 year
Mathematics **20 credits** Must include Algebra I or higher	**Mathematics** **3 years** Algebra I I year Geometry I year Algebra II I year (4 years recommended)	**Mathematics** **3 years** Algebra I I year Geometry 1 year Algebra II I year (4 years recommended)
Science **20 credits** Must include 10 credits of a physical science and 10 credits of a life science	**Laboratory Science** **2 years** 2 of 3 disciplines: Biology, Chemistry, or Physics (3 years recommended)	**Laboratory Science** **2 years** Biology and one other college prep. science course (Chemistry, Physics, AP Envir Sci or Forensics) Acceptance of "g" courses subject to change
World Language/Visual Arts/ Performing Arts/Practical Arts 20 credits in one area or any combination in the 4 areas	**World Language** **2 years** Must be in the <u>same</u> language. (3 years recommended)	**World Language** **2 years** Must be in the <u>same</u> language.
Physical Education **20 credits** 1. All Freshmen will be enrolled in 9th grade P.E. for the entire year 2. Refer to course catalog or BP6142.7 for options after 9"' grade to complete requirement.	**Visual and Performing Arts** **1 year**	**Visual and Performing Arts** **1 year**
Health Education **5 credits**	**Electives** **1 year** One unit (two semesters), in addition to those required above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts, social studies, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, computer engineering/technology, and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the world language requirement or two years of another language).	**Electives** **1 year** One unit (two semesters), in addition to those required above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts, social studies, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, computer engineering/technology, and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the world language requirement or two years of another language).
Electives **60 credits**		
TOTAL **<u>220 credits</u>**		

Revised 1-10-2020

THE “a-g” SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

The University of California and California State University systems require prospective students to complete a series of high school college preparatory courses in order to be eligible for admission. These are known as the “a-g” subject requirements and can be summarized as follows:

History/Social Science (“a”) – *Two years*, including one year of world or European history, cultures and geography and one year of U.S. history, or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of American government or civics.

English (“b”) – *Four years* of college preparatory English that include frequent writing, from brainstorming to final paper, as well as reading of classic and modern literature.

Mathematics (“c”) – *Three years* of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. A geometry course with a sufficient amount of geometry content must be completed. Four years are recommended for UC and CSU.

Science (“d”) – *Two years* of college-preparatory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of the three disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. Three years are recommended for UC.

Language other than English (“e”) – *Two years* of the same language other than English or equivalent to the second level of high school instruction. Three years are recommended for UC.

Visual and Performing Arts (“f”) – *One year*, including dance, drama/theater, music or visual art.

College-Preparatory Elective (“g”) – *One year (two semesters)* chosen from the “a-f” courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements above, or courses that have been approved solely for use as “g” electives.

https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/agcourselist/institution/2252

Wynne Satterwhite, Principal
Assistant Principals:
Nicolás Betancur
Kristin Castillo
Fabian Morales Medina
Galen Rosenberg

SAMPLE PAGE **Contract for Honors/AP Classes** **SAMPLE PAGE**

Due by **April xx, 20xx**

Students (and their parent/guardian) who wish to register for an Honors or Advanced Placement (AP) course must sign the following contract in order to be enrolled:

1. I recognize that participation in Honors and AP classes requires me to:
   - demonstrate increased student independence,
   - take on a high degree of responsibility, and
   - meet higher standards than students in College Preparatory courses to earn the same grade.

   Note: College Preparatory classes typically require 30-45 minutes homework nightly. Honors and AP courses will require additional time for nightly homework.

2. **I commit to remain enrolled in the Honors and AP classes I have chosen for the entire year.** While transfers to a college preparatory class *may* be granted, the following policy will be applied:

   - Students will not be permitted to transfer from an Honors/AP course until after the first week of the course.
   - There is no guarantee that there will be space available in college preparatory classes for students who want to drop Honors/AP classes after the first week of school.
   - When transferring, a student's grade will follow them into the new non-Honors or non-AP course. **Please note, level changes must take place by the end of 6th week of class.**
   - Students who drop an Honors/AP course after the first six weeks of the semester will receive a W (Withdraw) on their transcripts.

3. I realize that by enrolling in an Advanced Placement course I am expected to take the corresponding Advanced Placement Examination in May. Funding support for this examination may be available for students with demonstrated financial need.

4. I agree to uphold the school's honor code. I understand that I may be dropped from any Honors or AP class without credit if I plagiarize, cheat, or submit work that I did not personally complete as an assignment for this class.

5. **For Modern European History and Human Geography students**: Students who fail the class (F grade), will be enrolled in Contemporary World Issues, on a space available basis, to complete the Individual in Society (Global Studies) graduation requirement.

(OVER)

1000 _____ _____

Student ID Student Name (Print) Student Signature Date

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian Signature Date 2nd Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Please return signed contract to Los Altos High School P-18 Office
Fabian Morales Medina
Los Altos High School
201 Almond Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022

HOW TO READ THE COURSE INFORMATION

Length of Course:
S = Semester
Y = Year

Grade eligible for enrollment

Units of credit toward graduation

COURSE TITLE **CRS. #**

Grades 9-12	S	5 Credits
	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
	Recommendations*	
	Level	

Meets subject area requirement for HS Graduation (see page 5)

Fulfills UC "a-g" Requirement (see a-g Requirement on page 6)

Fulfills CSU "a-g" Requirement (see a-g Requirement on page 6)

Level of Course

CP - College Prep
H - Honors
AP - Advanced Placement
"+" - receives weighted credit by UC/CSU in eligibility GPA
NCP - Non-college prep
N - Non-academic

*Historically, students who have taken this class have successfully completed the coursework listed in this section.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS

ARTS - VISUAL ARTS

Visual Art Pathway Click here

https://classes.lahs.plus/d/visual-arts

LEVEL/YEAR	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT			AP Drawing AP 2-D Art and Design	AP Drawing AP 2-D Art and Design
COLLEGE PREP	Drawing I	Drawing I Drawing II Drawing III	Drawing I Drawing II Drawing III	Drawing I Drawing II Drawing III
	Painting	Painting	Painting	Painting
	Photo I	Photo I Photo II Digital Photo	Photo I Photo II Digital Photo	Photo I Photo II Digital Photo

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ARTS (VISUAL ARTS)

The University of California requires one year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art. All full-year art courses identified as College Prep (CP) or Advanced Placement (AP) meet this requirement.

DRAWING I **IC1010**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Drawing I introduces students to the fundamentals of drawing. The course will cover various drawing skills, elements of art, principles of design and art history relevant to each project. The course emphasizes technical skills, use of drawing knowledge, creative development and analysis of aesthetic images. A wide variety of media is introduced, including graphite, charcoal, pastels, pen and ink, and colored pencils. Some project ideas include still-life studies, portraits, landscapes and human figures in both realistic and abstract manner. A donation of $40 per semester is suggested.

DRAWING II **IC1011**

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Prerequisite: Drawing I or teacher recommendation.

Recommendations: C- or better in Drawing I.

Drawing II will concentrate on creative interpretation of themes, advanced drawing techniques and a variety of media. The course emphasizes individual expression and development in diverse subjects, concepts and interpretation/analysis of ideas and aesthetic images. Through investigating different styles and techniques, students will create refined, meaningful drawings that demonstrate technical mastery and creative growth. The course will cover various drawing media, elements of art, principles of design and art history relevant to each project. Some project ideas include still-life studies, figures, formal draw- ings concentrating on art elements and principles of design, mixed media drawings, abstraction, expressive landscapes, emotional drawings and surrealism. A donation of $40 per semester is suggested.

DRAWING III **IC1012**

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Prerequisite: Drawing II or teacher recommendation.

Drawing III is designed to prepare students for AP Studio Art. Students will work with complex projects and aesthetic issues. Students will use elements of art and principles of design to find creative solutions for sophisticated art works. This course will emphasize development of personal style and verve, creative interpretation of ideas and technical mastery. Methods of instruction include slide presentation, group work, research, critiques, videos, field trips and teacher presentations. A donation of $40 per semester is suggested.

This class will be held based on enrollment.

PAINTING **IC1110**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Students develop rendering skills in the handling of various painting tools and media, including acrylics, and watercolors. Fundamental principles of art are stressed through the study of traditional and contemporary painting styles. Assignments range from still life study, abstract works and traditional painting exercises. Methods of instruction include the use of slides, videos, critiques, demonstrations and teacher presentations. A donation of $65 per semester is suggested.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ARTS (VISUAL ARTS)

PHOTOGRAPHY I IC1210

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This course is designed to introduce students to the foundations and standards of basic photography. Students will learn the principles and aesthetics of photography through the use of a single-lens reflex camera, black and white 35 mm roll film and dark-room processing techniques. Students will be exposed to the history of photography and beginning digital concepts. A donation of $65 per semester is suggested.

PHOTOGRAPHY II IC1211

Grades 10 -12	Y	Credits – 10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: C or better in Photography I

Recommendations: C- or better in Photography I.

Students will be introduced to advanced black and white film photographic techniques and alternative photographic methods. Students will continue to develop & advance their talents and develop their own artistic style. Students will also be able to explore more advance skills in digital photography through the use of the Adobe programs. Through the use of film and digital based photography students will learn to develop a series of photographs. A donation of $65 per semester is suggested.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY IC1220

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits –10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Photo I or teacher recommendation.

This course is an introduction to digital photography as a valuable tool for artists and photographers. The course will guide student through photographing with a DSLR camera, digital image manipulation and retouching and digital printing. Students will learn to understand color management and the digital workflow processes. Students will also learn more advanced image retouching and digital manipulation for the digital photographic artist.

Students will learn the Adobe programs as a tool for digitally altering and enhancing images for fine art and commercial application by first completing technical exercises and then developing a professional portfolio of work. Assignments on digital manipulation, collage/montage, and retouching will be given. Class discussion and slide lectures will focus on the use of digital manipulation in contemporary art including the work of artists from diverse cultures with a variety of approaches. A donation of $100 per semester is suggested.

AP DRAWING IA1015

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits –10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
AP "+"	Level	

Prerequisites: Completion of a year of Drawing. (Note: Students who took one year of Painting or Photography or Art Appreciation could enroll in AP Studio Art Drawing with teacher recommendation).

The AP Studio Art course is designed for advanced art students. The course will focus on investigation and development of AP Art Drawing Portfolio elements – Sustained Investigation and Selected Works. Students will learn and utilize a variety of design concepts, approaches, aesthetic and formal theories, artistic styles and media. Students will work with a variety of techniques to create first year, college-level quality art works. Students will also learn problem-solving skills, decision-making skills and art criticism. This course provides an opportunity for advanced students to develop an art portfolio which may be sub- mitted for college credit. Students may use previous art projects from drawing, painting, photography or art appreciation to develop a college level portfolio for the AP exam. A donation of $65 per semester is suggested.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ARTS (VISUAL ARTS)

AP 2-D ART AND DESIGN IA1025

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits –10
Visual Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
AP "+"	Level	

Prerequisites: Completion of a year of Drawing. (Note: Students who took one year of Painting or Photography could enroll in AP Studio Art with teacher recommendation).

The AP Studio Art course is designed for advanced art students. The course will focus on investigation and development of AP Art Portfolio elements – quality, breadth and concentration. Students will learn and utilize a variety of design concepts, approaches, aesthetic and formal theories, artistic styles and media. Students will work with a variety of techniques to create first year, college-level quality art works. Students will also learn problem-solving skills, decision-making skills and art criticism. This course provides an opportunity for advanced students to develop an art portfolio which may be submitted for college credit. Students may use previous art projects from drawing, painting, photography or art appreciation to develop a college level portfolio for the AP exam. A donation of $65 per semester is suggested.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ATHLETICS

Students may earn P.E. credit for Athletics. LAHS offers an extensive sports program. Athletes must maintain a 2.0 grade point average, earn a minimum of 20 credits in the previous grading period and be enrolled in a minimum of five classes, no more than one "F" in a grading period.

Athletes are responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued. It must be returned in the same condition at the end of the season. Students will be charged for any lost or damaged equipment.

*****Prerequisites: All students must have a yearly physical, have medical insurance (school insurance may be purchased at the finance office), purchase an ASB card, and pay a $100.00 transportation assessment or obtain a waiver from the Administration.

Practices for the Fall sports begin prior to the start of school.

FALL – (1ST SEMESTER) - BOYS

FOOTBALL QO1010/QO1011/QO1012

F/S & Varsity	1st Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomores may compete on the F/S level. You must be 15 years or older to compete on the Varsity level. Uniforms and safety equipment will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Games are in the afternoons and evenings.

WATER-POLO - B QO1040/QO1041/QO1042

F/S & Varsity	1st Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomores may compete on the F/S level. Students will need to purchase their team swimsuits. (Coaches will order team suits). Water polo caps will be issued to students and will be collected at the end of the season. Practices are in the afternoons or evenings. Possible morning workouts. The tournaments are on weekends.

FALL – (1ST SEMESTER) - GIRLS

CHEER/RALLY OO1040/OO1050
FRESHMAN COMPETITIVE CHEER QO3150
COMPETITIVE CHEER QO3151

J.V.	Y	Credits – 5.0
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
N	Level	

This course includes Cheerleading. Students participate in the fall football season, the winter basketball season. Freshmen through seniors may participate in this program depending on their skill level. Practices are held after school. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students may try-out for Traditional Competitive Cheer which holds separate practices and has Saturday competitions. Traditional Competitive Cheer is only in winter season.

DANCE TEAM OO1060

J.V. & Varsity	Y	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
N	Level	

The Dance Team performs at rallies and games during the fall football season and winter basketball season. They represent LAHS at regional competitions in the spring. Freshmen through seniors may participate in this program upon acceptance following spring tryouts. Practices are held after school. Some weekend practices and competitions may also be required.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ATHLETICS

FIELD HOCKEY QO1020/QO1021/QO1022

J.V. & Varsity	1st Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete at the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Players purchase socks, shoes and mouth guards. Though hockey sticks are available, students are encouraged to purchase their own stick. Goalie equipment is available to goalies. There are some weekend tournaments.

GOLF – G QO3143/QO3144/QO3145

Varsity	1st Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen may compete on the Varsity team. The home course is Shoreline Golf Course. Students will need their own set of golf clubs and will need to purchase their team golf shirts. Golf bags and golf jackets will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. A special Transportation by Private Vehicle form must be filled out.

TENNIS - G QO1060/QO1061/QO1062

J.V. & Varsity	1st Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Students will need to purchase a team T-shirt and provide their own tennis racquet. Competitions are in the afternoons with a possible weekend tournament.

VOLLEYBALL - G QO1050/QO1051/QO1052

J.V. & Varsity	1st Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Student uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students will have to provide a pair of royal blue spandex, knee pads and suitable volleyball shoes. There are weekend tournaments.

WATER-POLO - G QO1043/QO1044/QO1045

J.V. & Varsity	1st Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Students will need to purchase team suits and latex caps ordered by coaches. Water polo caps will be issued to students and will be collected at the end of the season. There are afternoon competitions and several tournaments during the season that require Friday/Saturday commitments. Practices are in the afternoons or evenings. Possible morning workouts.

FALL – (1st SEMESTER) – CO-ED

CROSS COUNTRY QO1030/QO1031/QO1032

Boys F/S & Varsity Girls JV & Varsity	1st Sem. Co-ed	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomore boys may compete on the F/S level. Freshmen are allowed to run on the Varsity team. Students run off campus and at local and as well as regional parks. Uniforms are issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. There are competitions on the weekends and after school. Girls and boys compete on separate teams.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ATHLETICS

Time Commitment for Fall Sports
*Cross Country – 2 hours a day, one meet a week.
*Girls' Field Hockey – 2 hours a day, two games a week. Tournaments are on Saturdays.
*Football – 2 hours a day, one game a week. Extensive off-season training including summer.
*Girls' Golf - 2 hours a day at local golf courses. Two matches a week.
*Girls' Tennis – 2 hours a day, two matches a week.
*Girls' Volleyball – 2 hours a day, Practices or tournaments are on Saturdays. Two matches a week.
*Water Polo – 2 hours a day, some morning workouts, two games each week. Tournaments are mostly on Saturdays.

WINTER – (2nd SEMESTER) - BOYS

BASKETBALL - B QO2010/QO2011/QO2012

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomores may compete on the F/S level. Uniforms are issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students need to provide own basketball shoes. Practice will be Monday-Saturday. Practices and games will be held over Thanksgiving and December and February breaks. Games are in the evenings and tournaments on the weekends.

SOCCER - B QO2020/QO2021/QO2022

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credit – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomores may compete at the F/S level. Uniforms are issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students need to provide own cleats and shin guards. Practice will be Monday-Saturday. Practices and games will be held over Thanksgiving and December and February breaks. Games are in the evenings and tournaments on the weekends..

WINTER – (2nd SEMESTER) – GIRLS

BASKETBALL - G QO2013/QO2014/QO2015

JV & Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete at the JV level. Uniforms are issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students need to provide their own basketball shoes. Practice will be Monday-Saturday. Practices and games will be held over Thanksgiving and December and February breaks. Games are in the evenings and tournaments on the weekends.

SOCCER - G QO2023/QO2024/QO2025

J.V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level. Uniforms are issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students need to provide their own cleats and shin guards. Practice will be Monday-Saturday. Practices and games will be held over Thanksgiving and December and February breaks. Games are in the evenings and tournaments on the weekends.

CHEER/RALLY OO1040/OO1050
FRESHMAN COMPETITIVE CHEER QO3150
COMPETITIVE CHEER QO3151

J.V. & Varsity	Y	Credits – 5.0
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
N	Level	

This course includes Cheerleading. Students participate in the fall football season, the winter basketball season. Freshmen through seniors may participate in this program depending on their skill level. Practices are held after school. Some weekend practices are required. Students may try-out for Traditional Competitive Cheer which holds separate practices and has Saturday competitions. Traditional Competitive Cheer is only in winter season and on Varsity team.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ATHLETICS

WINTER – (2nd SEMESTER) – CO-ED

WRESTLING QO2030/QO2031/QO2032

J.V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Co-ed	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Wrestlers issued singlets, headgear and warm-up suit and must be returned at the end of the season. Kneepads will be available if needed. Students must purchase their own wrestling shoes and may choose to buy personal headgear. Practice will be Monday-Friday. There are a number of Saturday tournaments. Practices and tournaments will be held over Thanksgiving and winter breaks.

Time Commitment for Winter Sports

*Boys' and Girls' Basketball – 2 hours a day, including Saturdays, two games a week plus tournaments. Off-season practices are in fall and summer.

*Boys' and Girls' Soccer – 2 hours a day, two games a week. Saturday tournament.

*Wrestling – 2 hours a day, one match a week and tournaments are mostly on Saturdays.

SPRING – (2nd SEMESTER) - BOYS

BASEBALL - B QO3020/QO3021/QO3022

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomores may compete on the F/S level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Games are in the afternoons, evenings, and some weekends. Athletes need to provide protective gear including cleats and gloves. (Catcher's gear will be provided by the school.)

GOLF – B QO3140/QO3141/QO3142

Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen may compete on the Varsity team. No more than 12 players will be selected for the golf team. The home course is Shoreline Golf Course. Students will need their own set of golf clubs and will need to purchase their team golf shirts. Golf bags must be returned at the end of the season. A special Transportation by Private Vehicle form must be filled out.

LACROSSE – B QO3110/QO3111/QO3112

Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. There are some weekends which involve tournament games. Players purchase their mouthguards. Though lacrosse sticks are available, students are encouraged to purchase their own stick. Practices and games are held throughout both winter and spring breaks.

SWIMMING - B O3030/QO3031/QO3032
DIVING - B O3040/QO3041/QO3042

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen and sophomores only may compete on the F/S level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Students will need to purchase their personal swimsuit. (Coaches will order team suits.) The swimmer must provide swim goggles. There are some weekend meets and afternoon competitions. Morning workouts and a flexible afternoon/evening practice schedule can be required.

TENNIS - B QO3050/QO3051/QO3052

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomores may compete at the F/S level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Students will need to purchase a team T-shirt (coaches will order the T-shirts) and have their own tennis racquets. Competitions are in

the afternoons with a possible weekend tournament.

TRACK QO3080/QO3081/QO3082

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Only freshmen and sophomore boys may compete at the F/S level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season (event shoes may be requested by coaches). There are some weekends involved for invitational track meets. Practices and meets are held throughout both winter and spring breaks.

VOLLEYBALL - B QO3090/QO3091/QO3092

F/S & Varsity	2nd Sem. Boys	Credit – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through seniors may compete on the Varsity level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students will need to provide suitable volleyball shoes. All league matches are in the evenings.

SPRING – (2nd SEMESTER) - GIRLS

GYMNASTICS QO3070/QO3071/QO3072

J.V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level.

LACROSSE – G QO3120/QO3121/QO3122

Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Players purchase their mouthguards. Though lacrosse sticks are available, students are encouraged to purchase their own stick. Practices and games are held throughout both winter and spring breaks.

SOFTBALL QO3060/QO3061/QO3062

J.V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season. Students will have to provide socks, cleats and gloves. (Catcher's gear will be provided by the school.) There are weekend tournaments.

SWIMMING - G O3033/QO3034/QO3035
DIVING – G O3043/QO3044/QO3045

J.V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Students will need to purchase their personal swimsuits. (Coaches will order team suits.) Goggles must be provided by the swimmer. Swim parkas will be issued to students and will be collected at the end of the season. There are some weekend meets and afternoon competitions. Morning workouts and afternoon practices can be required.

TRACK QO3080/QO3081/QO3082

J.V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Girls	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Uniforms will be issued to team members and must be returned at the end of the season, (event shoes may be requested by coaches). There are some

weekends involved for invitational track meets. Practices and meets are held throughout both winter and spring breaks.

SPRING – (2nd SEMESTER) CO- ED

BADMINTON QO3010/QO3011/QO3012

J. V. & Varsity	2nd Sem. Co-ed	Credits – 5.0
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
N	Level	

Freshmen through juniors girls and freshmen through junior boys may compete on the J.V. level depending on their skill level. Freshmen are allowed to compete on the Varsity level. Students will need to purchase their team badminton shirts. Players will be issued racquets. Most players purchase their own racquets. There are weekly practices. Matches and practices are scheduled during winter and spring breaks.

Time Commitment for Spring Sports

*Badminton – 2 hours a day, including some Saturdays. Matches are twice a week.
*Baseball – 2 hours a day, at least 2 games a week including Saturdays.
*Boys' Golf – 2 hours a day at local golf courses. Two matches a week.
*Gymnastics – 2 hours a day, meets are once a week.
*Lacrosse – 2 hours a day and games are twice a week.
*Softball – 2 hours a day and games are twice a week.
*Swimming – 2 hours a day, meets are once a week.
*Boys' Tennis – 2 hours a day, Matches are twice a week.
*Track and Field – 2 hours a day, meets are once a week, may include some Saturday invitational practices through spring breaks.
Practices throughout both winter and spring breaks, tournament games are on some weekends.
*Boys' Volleyball - 2 hours a day, practices or tournaments are on Saturdays. Two matches a week.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is an internationally recognized program. It is designed to prepare students for entrance into four-year colleges and universities. The mission of AVID is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. AVID provides support to enable students to:

- *Succeed in a rigorous college preparatory path,*
- *Enter mainstream activities of the school,*
- *Increase their enrollment in four-year colleges, and*
- *Become educated and responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society.*

All AVID classes help students pursue excellence in academics, leadership, and service so students will be competitively prepared for a four-year college/university upon graduation. All class activities focus on developing college readiness through WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading) strategies. Twice a week, students actively participate in the tutorial inquiry process and clarify points of confusion to develop conceptual understanding.

AVID Freshman **HC0020**

Grade 9	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: AVID Coordinator approval and concurrent enrollment in a minimum of four college-preparatory classes.

AVID Freshman is an introduction to Los Altos High School and college. Students learn about resources and opportunities at LAHS, high school graduation and college entrance requirements, and different types of colleges and careers. Students develop a four-year plan for a successful high school career, and begin developing college readiness skills, ranging from study skills (such as note-taking, test-taking, and time management) to critical reading and thinking skills (focusing on Costa's Levels of Inquiry and metacognition). Students also develop research, writing, and presentation skills as they explore cultural and contemporary issues.

AVID Sophomore **HC0030**

Grade 10	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: AVID Coordinator approval and concurrent enrollment in a minimum of four college-preparatory classes.

AVID Sophomore continues to build on the knowledge and skills developed in AVID Freshman; new students are also welcome. Students continue to develop college readiness through refining critical reading and inquiry skills. Students begin preparing for college entrance exams by learning strategies for the PSAT and developing academic vocabulary. Students also develop research, writing, and presentation skills as they explore colleges, careers, and contemporary issues in more depth.

AVID Junior **HC0040**

Grade 11	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: AVID Coordinator approval and concurrent enrollment in a minimum of four college-preparatory classes.

AVID Junior is a continuation of the AVID Sophomore class, with a greater emphasis on college readiness; new students are also welcome. AVID Junior emphasizes rhetorical reading, analytical writing, collaborative discussion strategies, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, college study skills and test-taking strategies, note taking, and research. Students engage in higher levels of WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading) strategies than experienced in prior years of AVID.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – AVID

In collaboration with the University of California, AVID has developed a two-year sequential program to prepare students for a rigorous college education that integrates critical reading, writing, and research. Students complete several in-depth investigations into great leaders and their contributions, examining "How have great leaders been catalysts for change?" Students also prepare for the college admission process by drafting applications/essays and preparing for and taking the PSAT and SAT/ACT.

AVID Senior **HC0050**

Grade 12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: AVID Coordinator approval and concurrent enrollment in a minimum of four college-preparatory classes.

AVID Senior is the culmination of the AVID program. The course emphasizes rhetorical reading, analytical writing, collaborative discussion strategies, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, college study skills and test-taking strategies, note taking, and research. Students engage in higher levels of WICOR (writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading) strategies than experienced in prior years of AVID.

First semester, students complete and submit college applications and financial aid applications. Second semester, students prepare for the transition to college, completing scholarship applications, placement tests, a college budget, and a college four-year plan.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS

ENGLISH

LEVEL/YEAR	9th GRADE	10th GRADE	11th GRADE	12th GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT		World Literature Honors	AP Language & Composition	AP English Literature & Composition
COLLEGE PREP	Survey of Composition & Literature	World Literature Culture, Identity & Communication (CIC-A/B)	American Literature Survey Culture, Identity & Communication (CIC-A/B)	English Literature Survey Global Connections A Film Analysis
English ELECTIVES	Journalism One*	Journalism One* Journalism* New Media Lit** Yearbook	Journalism One* Journalism* New Media Lit** Yearbook	Journalism* New Media Lit** Yearbook
NON-COLLEGE PREP	Survey Skills Required concurrent enrollment in Survey Comp & Lit			

*(UC-g) Electives **(UC-f) Visual & Performing Arts/Broadcast Journalism

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ENGLISH

The University of California requires 4 years of college-preparatory English that include frequent writing, from brainstorming to final paper, as well as reading of classic and modern literature. No more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.

SURVEY OF COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE DC1010

Grade 9	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

All mainstream ninth-grade students are enrolled in this college-preparatory English course. Students read a variety of works with an emphasis on multi-genre, multicultural literary understanding. Students develop writing skills in a variety of modes. Class size is limited to an average of 20-1 when state funding allows.

SURVEY SKILLS DI1010

Grade 9	Y	Credits – 10
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

Recommendations: 8th grade English Language Arts Teacher recommendation.

This course is a second period of English for students who need extra support in building their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, with a particular focus on supporting English Language Learners. Students are concurrently enrolled in the Survey of Composition and Literature class. The Survey Skills course will provide some support for students as they complete major assignments for their Survey class, but the primary focus will be on building English language skills through direct teaching, additional assignments, small group work, individual work, and one-on-one instruction.

WORLD LITERATURE DC2015

Grade 10	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Students continue to build communication skills, particularly in writing, through their work in this continuation of the college preparatory freshman course. Literacy selections represent a broad range of challenging texts and cultural perspectives.

WORLD LITERATURE HONORS DB2010

Grades 10	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H	Level	

Recommendations: A- or above in Survey of Composition & Literature.

This course is a rigorous study of world literature requiring extensive reading, writing and discussion. Greater independence is expected as students undertake longer and more complex assignments. Students are expected to meet a higher level of performance in the quantity and quality of their assigned work.

AMERICAN LITERATURE SURVEY DC3010

Grade 11	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Students in this college preparatory course study major works of American literature, focusing on prominent themes in the American experience and discussing the works of famous American writers of the 19th and 20th centuries. Poetry, novels, short stories, dramas, and essays will be used in this course.

AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION DA2010

Grade 11	Y	Credits - 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Grade B or above in World Literature H or grade of A- or above in World Literature.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ENGLISH

This course is a study of major American authors, with a specific emphasis on rhetorical analysis, and requires extensive reading, writing, and discussion. This is a college level course, which serves as an equivalent to a freshman year of college English. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement test in May, and based on their score, they may earn up to a full year of college credit.

CULTURE, IDENTITY AND COMMUNICATION (CIC-A) DC5150

Grade 10-11	Y	Credits - 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This college preparatory course teaches students the skills and strategies to read and analyze nonfiction texts, articles, novels, film, and essays in preparation for the kinds of texts they will encounter at the college level. Homework, class activities, discussions, reading assessments, major projects, and major papers are carefully designed to develop students' fluency and advanced language arts skills as well as to help them foster an appreciation for and confidence in oral and written communication. Students will be taught to write in a variety of modes, particularly those they will encounter at the college level. CIC-A and CIC-B can be taken in any order; students can take one or both. The two courses focus on similar skills but different content/texts.

CULTURE, IDENTITY AND COMMUNICATION (CIC-B) DC5155

Grade 10-11	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This college preparatory course teaches students the skills and strategies to read and analyze nonfiction texts, articles, novels, film, and essays in preparation for the kinds of texts they will encounter at the college level. Homework, class activities, discussions, reading assessments, major projects, and major papers are carefully designed to develop students' fluency and advanced language arts skills as well as to help them foster an appreciation for and confidence in oral and written communication. Students will be taught to write in a variety of modes, particularly those they will encounter at the college level. CIC-A and CIC-B can be taken in any order; students can take one or both. The two courses focus on similar skills but different content/texts.

ENGLISH LITERATURE SURVEY DC4010

Grade 12	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This college preparatory literature and composition course focuses on interpreting challenging texts and critically analyzing written and oral information. Most written assignments focus on analysis and synthesizing complex ideas from multiple sources, often connecting class texts to contemporary society. Students develop effective inquiry and research skills, culminating in a senior project, conducting primary and secondary research on a topic of their choice and developing a formal research paper and presentation. Students also create multiple reflective assignments, developing their voice and personal insights. Students develop the skills to communicate effectively for a variety of purposes and audiences in written, oral and multimedia formats.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION DA4010

Grade 12	Y	Credits – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Grade of B or above in AP Language & Composition or grade of A- or above in American Literature Survey.

This course emphasizes reading and analysis of literature and writing in a variety of modes. Students will complete the senior project, which includes a 10-12 page research paper. This is a college-level course, which serves as an equivalent to a freshman year of college English. Students are expected to meet a higher level of performance in the quantity and quality of their assigned work. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement test in May, and based on their score, students may earn up to a full year of college credit.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ENGLISH

FILM ANALYSIS DC5010

Grade 12	Y	Credits – 10
English/Comm. b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This college preparatory course uses a wide variety of feature films and a film textbook to teach students filmmaking as well as film analysis. Students continue to develop reading, writing, and analytical skills in preparation for college-level work. As their senior project, students will write short analytical essays on films chosen by the student which lead to a visual essay film on the student's director of choice. During the second semester, students will create a 5-7 minute short film for the Film Festival. If you are a student-athlete who plans to participate in NCAA sports in college, please note that this course is not accepted by Division 1 and Texas University.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS DC5040/DC5041

Grades 12	Y	Units - 20**
Eng/Civics/Indiv. & Soc.** a,b a,b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

In this interdisciplinary (English Language Arts & Civics) course, students will analyze the complexities of their world community using a metacognitive approach. They will use inquiry to understand the role that individuals play in impacting large scale human and civil rights violations, how identity is a key component in determining access to power and status, and the way that the legal system reinforces or equalizes power and status within communities. Students will be empowered to develop and strengthen their own values and identities as a result of better understanding the world and their role in it. Specific emphasis will be placed on non-fiction reading, research, discussion, presentation and documentary as a form of using one's voice.

Students attend class in a two-period block each day. At least one of these periods is devoted to smaller group (regular class size) discussion. The other period often involves large group instruction that can take the form of teacher presentation, guest speakers, performances, panel presentations, or a multimedia format. A team of teachers working cooperatively teach the two periods.

**Students earn 20 credits in this course. It fulfills graduation requirements in English (10 credits), Civics (5 credits, earned 2nd semester), and Individual and Society (5 credits).

JOURNALISM ONE DC5052

Grades 9-11	Y	Credits - 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

This course is offered to 9th-11th graders, and is a prerequisite to *The Talon*. No previous class work or experience is necessary. Journalism One will teach the basics of journalistic practice, law, ethics and literacy. Students who want to be involved in Journalism at LAHS need to take this course.

Students will study the craft of journalism, including newswriting, photography, videography, student journalism law and ethics, and critical media literacy. Students will work collaboratively with classmates to produce news articles, photo essays, and video packages. They will also have the opportunity to submit their work for publication on the various news sites run by *Talon* and New Media Lit. Students will read and watch a wide variety of nonfiction work, much of it related to current events and local news. In this project-based class, students will develop time management skills, personal and organizational skills, and technical skills. In addition, they will access, analyze, evaluate, and create media in order to gain better understanding of media manipulation and explicit and implicit bias. After completing this course, students will be ready to join *Talon* or New Media Lit and make an immediate impact.

JOURNALISM/ TECHNICAL WRITING DC5051

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Application and teacher recommendation. 10th and 11th graders with completion of Journalism One. 12th graders may apply directly to *The Talon*.

Students will learn all of the skills necessary to become contributing members of the school newspaper staff, including the gathering, writing, and revision of news stories and editorials.

Students manage the paper's business and finances using advanced desk-top publishing technology, solicit advertising, handle distribution, and do all graphics, lay-out, and other design.

NEW MEDIA LITERACY **KC1055**

Grade 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Visual/Perf Arts/Elective f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Application and teacher recommendation. Students, particularly 10th graders, are highly encouraged (but not required) to take Journalism One DC5052.

This class will focus on writing and reporting compelling stories using new media, primarily podcasting and video, accessible via the internet. Students will research, report, write, shoot, and edit stories. In doing so, students will develop time management and leadership skills as they work individually and within small teams to produce stories that are held to journalistic standards of excellence. Students will deeply analyze the intersection of new media and on-the-ground first person reporting with traditional news reporting. A crucial aspect of this course will be working toward an understanding what media literacy (and literacy writ large) means in the 21st century: students will learn how to make informed choices about their own consumption of information with regard to credibility, access, and an understanding of agenda-driven content. This understanding will flow from both the creation and analysis of content.

YEARBOOK **OC1040**

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

The course is taught by an English teacher.

Yearbook is an elective course that gives students experience in print media publishing and photojournalism. The course works toward the production and completion of the school yearbook. In class, students compose, construct, and edit all elements of a computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography. Students work on business operations, advertisement, conduct student, teacher and coach interviews, a Spring Supplement, and the planning and execution of the year-end signing party. The bulk of class time will be spent on generating computerized yearbook pages. The students will gain real world skills in teamwork, time management, organizational skills, and design principles. Students will often work in teams, but will also be expected to complete individual assignments. Some out of class time will be required. No prior experience is necessary. Students are highly encouraged to take the course over multiple years.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – ENGLISH

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (E.L.D.)

Placement in the following courses is determined by placement test results and the recommendation of the ELD teacher and/or the ELD Department Coordinator.

ELD I LITERATURE **GC1010**
ELD I ORAL **GC1011**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10 each
English No	HS Graduation Req. UC / CSU Req.	
None	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

ELD I Lit and Oral are challenging courses for the English Learner. These courses will develop students' skills in speaking, listening, studying, reading, writing and using the computer for word processing and research. Class activities include individual and group work, silent and shared reading, writing, class discussions, presentations and dictations. The course is aligned to the California English Language Development and Common Core Standards.

ELD II LITERATURE **GC1020**
ELD II ORAL **GC1021**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10 each
English No	HS Graduation Req. UC / CSU Req.	
Successful completion of previous course or demonstration of a level of English proficiency appropriate to this course	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

ELD II Lit and Oral are academic courses for the English Learner. These classes will develop skills in vocabulary development, academic and colloquial language, listening, reading and writing. Students will use computers and other software programs to support academic and language acquisition. Students will learn study skills, note taking, literary analysis and problem solving through literature and non fiction texts. Class activities include individual and group work, silent and shared reading, writing, editing, class discussions, presentations, and dictations. The course is aligned to the California English Language Development and Common Core Standards.

ELD III LITERATURE **GC1030**
ELD III ORAL **GC1031**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10 each
English No	HS Graduation Req. UC / CSU Req.	
Successful completion of previous course or demonstration of a level of English proficiency appropriate to this course	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

ELD III Lit is a challenging course for the learner of the English language. The course will develop the students' skills in studying, reading, writing and with a focus on developing academic language. Students will become familiar with short stories, plays and short novels. Class activities include individual and group work, silent and shared reading, writing, editing, class discussions, computer skills, and presentations. The course is aligned to the California English Language Development and Common Core Standards.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – HEALTH

HEALTH EDUCATION **LC1010**

Grade 9-12	S	Credits – 5
Health No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

Health education focuses on contemporary health issues affecting teens. This course is designed to support students in developing health literacy, positive health attitudes, comprehending essential health concepts, and practicing & promoting health enhancing behaviors. Students practice necessary skills, such as analyzing influences, accessing valid information, communication, decision making, goal setting, and self management.

This one-semester course is recommended for the freshman or sophomore year. The six Health Education content areas covered are: Alcohol, Tobacco, Medicines, and Other Drugs; Growth, Development, and Sexual Health; Injury Prevention and Safety, Mental, Emotional, and Social Health; Nutrition and Physical Activity, Wellness, Personal and Community Health.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS

MATHEMATICS

LEVEL/YEAR	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT	Geometry Honors Algebra II** Algebra II Honors**	Algebra II Honors	Trigonometry/ Math Analysis Honors Statistics	Calculus AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC Math 1C/1D/2B*** Statistics AP Statistics
COLLEGE PREP	Geometry 9	Algebra II	Trigonometry/ Math Analysis Statistics	Trigonometry/Math Analysis Honors Calculus AP Calculus AB Statistics AP Statistics
	Algebra 9	Geometry	Algebra II Essential Math	Trigonometry/ Math Analysis Statistics Essential Math
NON CP	Algebra I with skills*	Alg II with skills*	Alg II with skills*	Alg II with skills*

*These courses are two period classes (10 Algebra credits and 10 elective credits) designed to provide additional support.
**Sign-up requires teacher recommendation from middle school. ***Foothill course taught at LAHS campus.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – MATHEMATICS

The University of California requires 3 years and recommends 4 years of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three- dimensional geometry. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

ALGEBRA 9 — AC1010

Grade 9	Y	Credits - 10
Elective c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This course is for 9th grade students who have an ability to understand abstract mathematical concepts. Topics covered include basic operations and properties of the real number system, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, and basic coordinate geometry of lines. Also studied are systems of equations in two (2) variables, properties of exponents, rational expressions, irrational numbers and radicals, and word problems related to the above topics.

ALGEBRA I — AC1110

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

The curriculum is the same as Algebra 9 above.

ALGEBRA I with skills/lab — AI1210/AI0020

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits - 20
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req.(10 credits) Univ. of Calif. Req.(10 credits) Calif. State Univ. Req.(10 credits)	
See below	Recommendations	
CP only for Alg I	Level	

Recommendations: 8th grade math teacher recommendation. Students are recommended for this course on the basis of their math skills and teacher or parent recommendation.

The course meets two periods a day and is designed for the student that has struggled in mathematics classes. In addition to the Algebra I curriculum, numeracy, problem solving and basic math skills are a focus of this class.

ALGEBRA II Skills — AI3110

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req.(10 credits) Univ. of Calif. Req.(10 credits) Calif. State Univ. Req.(10 credits)	
See below	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

Recommendations: math teacher recommendation. Students are recommended for this course on the basis of their math skills and teacher or parent recommendation.

The course meets once a day concurrently with Algebra II and is designed for the student that has struggled in mathematics classes. In addition to the Algebra I curriculum, numeracy, problem solving and basic math skills are a focus of this class.

ALGEBRA II — AC3010

*Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or above in Geometry.
*This course is offered to freshmen with teacher recommendations from middle school.

Algebra II expands and develops the study of the topics learned in Algebra I. New topics covered include sequences and series; complex numbers; and logarithmic, exponential and polynomial functions. Students are also introduced to conic sections, systems of equations involving more than two variables, permutations, combinations, and probability.

ALGEBRA II HONORS — AB3010

*Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H	Level	

Recommendations: A- or above in Geometry or B or above in Geometry H.
*This course is offered to freshmen with teacher recommendations from middle school.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – MATHEMATICS

This course is designed for students with a high level of interest and ability in mathematics. All topics listed for Algebra II are covered. As time permits, students also study trigonometry and circular functions and equations, linear programming, linear algebra, and mathematical induction.

ALGEBRA II with skills/lab AI1310/AI0030

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 20
Elective No No	HS Graduation Req.(10 credits) Univ. of Calif. Req.(10 credits) Calif. State Univ. Req.(10 credits)	
See below	Recommendations	
CP only for Alg II	Level	

Recommendations: Algebra I, Geometry, and/or current Algebra II math teacher recommendation. Students are recommended for this course on the basis of their math skills and teacher or parent recommendation.

The course is designed for students that have struggled in mathematics classes. This class provides additional instructional support on material/concepts that are covered in their current Algebra II classes.

CALCULUS AC5010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Trigonometry/Math Analysis or Trigonometry/Math Analysis Honors.

This course covers the fundamental concepts (limits, derivatives and integrals) of calculus with applications. Students enrolled in this class are not expected to take the Calculus AP exam, but will be well prepared for a college level class in calculus.

AP CALCULUS AB AA5010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: B- or above in Trigonometry/ Math Analysis Honors or A or above in Trigonometry.

This course meets the needs of students preparing for advanced study in college mathematics, science, or engineering. Major areas of study cover limits, functions, and the development of the differential and integral calculus of functions in one variable. The course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Calculus AB examination.

AP CALCULUS BC AA5011

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: B- or above in Trigonometry/Math Analysis Honors or A or above in Trigonometry.

Calculus BC is recommended for students who have a thorough knowledge of elementary functions, college preparatory algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Calculus BC is considerably more extensive and more challenging than Calculus AB. Students are prepared to take the Advanced Placement Calculus BC examination.

MATH 1C/1D/2B (Foothill) VC1010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
College	Level	

Recommendations: Completed AP Calculus BC and passed the AP Calculus BC exam.

This course covers integrals, derivatives in 3-dimensions, and vector calculus. This is a three-sequence course concurrently enrolled at Foothill College. The course is taught on the LAHS campus.

ESSENTIAL MATH CONCEPTS AI2350

Grade 11-12*	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

The course reviews math concepts in preparation of math placement tests given by community colleges. Graphing calculator practice in regards to statistics will be emphasized. Life skills will also be introduced such as resiliency, cost of living (monthly budgeting and event planning), career, college/post secondary awareness and general finance.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – MATHEMATICS

*This course is best offered to seniors as they would be taking the placement test during their senior year.

GEOMETRY 9 **AC2010**

Grade 9	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematic c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or above in Algebra I.

This course involves the formal development of geometric skills and concepts necessary for students who will take Algebra II and other advanced courses in math. The instructional program will include consistent use of Algebra I concepts, exploratory development and demonstration of the nature of proof through logical arguments, geometric transformations, and use of problem solving skills in the development of geometric concepts. Properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, other polygons, circles, and polyhedral will be explored. The trigonometry of right triangles will also be studied.

GEOMETRY **AC2110**

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or above in Algebra I.

The curriculum is the same as Geometry 9 above.

GEOMETRY HONORS **AB2010**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H	Level	

Recommendations: A- or above in Algebra I.

This course is designed for students with a high interest and ability in mathematics. In addition to covering the regular geometry curriculum in greater depth, students will also study transformations, introductory trigonometry, and non-Euclidian geometry. Strong emphasis is placed on proofs and the application of algebra to geometry including coordinate geometry.

STATISTICS **AC6010**

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations:
C- or above in Algebra II or Algebra II Honors.

This course is designed for students who would like to take a math course after Algebra II or Algebra II Honors where students will collect, analyze, interpret or explain a collection of data. Students will study statistical distributions, describing relationships, produce data (sampling, surveys, and designing experiments), probability and probability models, and statistical inference (confidence intervals, chi-squared tests).

AP STATISTIC **AA6010**

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations:
pass Trigonometry/Math Analysis with at least a B-, or B- or higher in Algebra II or Algebra II Honors.

This course meets the needs of students who wish to complete studies in a secondary school equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus based college course in Statistics. Major areas of study cover exploring data, planning a study, and anticipating patterns in advance and statistical inference. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Statistics Exam.

TRIGONOMETRY/ MATH ANALYSIS **AC4010**

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or above in Algebra II.

This course is designed for mathematically talented students planning careers in science, mathematics, or engineering who will take calculus in high school or

college. Concepts studied include trigonometry, limits, vectors, functions, complex numbers, elementary probability theory, polar coordinates, exponential and logarithmic equations. Equations of lines and planes are also emphasized. Also included are introduction to calculus, statistics, and fractals.

TRIGONOMETRY/
MATH ANALYSIS HONORS AB4010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H "+"	Level	

Recommendations: B or above in Algebra II H or A- or above in Algebra II.

This course is designed for students with a great deal of interest and ability in mathematics. It covers regular trigonometry and advanced topics in algebra, analytical geometry, limits, and an introduction to calculus materials in greater depth. Students who are successful in this course may go on to take AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC.

The AP Computer Science A course is an introductory course in computer science. Because the design and implementation of computer programs to solve problems involve skills that are fundamental to the study of computer science, a large part of the course is built around the development of computer programs that correctly solve a given problem. These programs should be understandable, adaptable, and, when appropriate, reusable. At the same time, the design and implementation of computer programs is used as a context for introducing other important aspects of computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, the study of standard algorithms and typical applications, and the use of logic and formal methods. In addition, the responsible use of these systems is an integral part of the course.

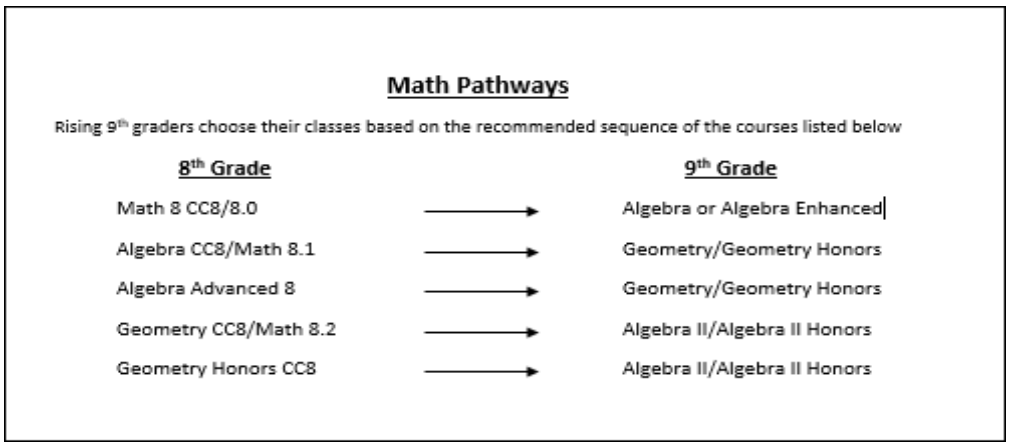
MATH OPTIONS FOR INCOMING 9TH GRADERS

Algebra I with Skills: This class meets two periods a day and is designed for the student that has struggled in mathematics classes. In addition to the Algebra I curriculum, numeracy, problem solving and basic math skills are a focus of this class.

Algebra: This class is integrated, spiraled (will see the same topics throughout the year), and hands-on.
Incoming 9th graders: For students who have never taken Algebra, or who have received below a C- in 8th grade Math class and scored "Standard Not Met" or "Standard Nearly Met" on the 7th Grade Math SBAC Exam.

Geometry or Geometry Honors: For students who have taken and passed Algebra with a C or better.

Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 Honors: For students who have passed Algebra I ***and*** Geometry or Geometry Honors with a C or better.



Placement Protocol

Placement in appropriate mathematics courses is critically important for a student during his or her middle and high school years. A student's 9th grade math course placement is a crucial crossroad for his or her future educational success. Misplacement in the sequence of mathematics courses creates a number of barriers and results in students being less competitive for college admissions, including admissions at the California State University and the University of California.

1. During Course selection in February, 8th-grade students pick their 9th-grade math class based on the above pathways chart.
2. Students may self-select into Honors if they feel that they are prepared for the rigor of an HS honors class. Historically, students who earned a grade of 'B' or better in an accelerated 8th-grade math class are likely to do well in a high school honors class.
3. Student's math placement is subject to review and adjustment based on the following criteria:
    a. Students who earn a C or better in their 8th-grade math course will be automatically advanced to the next course in the sequence, as indicated on the Math Pathways chart.
    b. Students who earn a minimum score on an objective placement test adopted by the district, are automatically advanced to the next course in the high school math sequences, regardless of the grade earned in the 8th-grade course.

ALGEBRA

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Algebra I with skills (double period)	Algebra 9 (Alg 1)
Content: ● Linear Functions ● Simplifying Radicals ● Quadratic Functions ● Exponents ● Scatter Plots ● Properties of exponents ● Rational algebraic expressions ● Distributing, axioms, and properties ● Inequalities ● Built-in time devoted to improving basic pre-algebra knowledge such as operations on integers	**Content:** ● Linear functions ● Simplifying radicals ● Quadratic functions ● Exponents ● Scatter plots ● Properties of exponents ● Rational algebraic expressions ● Distributing, axioms, and properties ● Inequalities
Two Class Periods back to back with the same teacher for both periods	**One Period Course**
Homework: ● Homework problems assigned every day. ● Homework should take no more than 35 minutes each night. ● Students have built-in time to start HW during class.	**Homework:** ● Homework problems assigned every day. ● Homework should take no more than 35 minutes each night.
Background necessary for success: ● Basic knowledge of operations on integers ● Basic knowledge of order of operations ● Basic knowledge of graphing in the coordinate plane ● Desire to improve study and organizational skills ● Willingness to use extra time and help	**Background necessary for success:** ● Knowledge of pre-algebra skills including: integer arithmetic, order of operations, simplifying expressions, fraction arithmetic, factors, GCF, LCM, and solving one-step equations

GEOMETRY

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Geometry/Geometry 9	Geometry Honors
Content: ● Introduction to vocabulary, notation and fundamental building blocks ● Logic statements and proofs of congruence, similarity and other aspects of geometric figures ● Introduce concept and application of sine, cosine and tangent ● Constructions and Transformations ● Properties of Geometric Figures	**Content:** ● Introduction to logic and formal proofs ● Theorems involving triangle similarity and congruence, angle measure, arc measure, tangent and secant lines are all discussed ● Introduction to right triangle trigonometry
Activities: ● Group work/partner activities to explore and apply concepts ● Presentation of proofs/solutions to problems at board ● Classwork as defined by instructor	**Activities:** ● Group work, partner activities ● Presenting Proofs on the board, justifying reasoning to the class ● Possible long-term group project (time permitting)
Homework: ● Assigned daily ● Average HW time ~30 minutes per night (some may take longer) ● Primarily proofs and applications, some requiring algebraic solutions	**Homework:** ● Assigned daily ● Average homework time approx. 45 minutes per night (can range from 30-60 minutes) ● Has many proofs that require extensive knowledge of theorems and definitions covered in class ● Very few computational problems

Background necessary for success:
● Completion of Algebra I with a C or better
● Basic Algebra I Skills are required:
  ● Solve linear equations of 1 variable
  ● Solve linear systems of 2-3 variables
  ● Factor both numbers and expressions
  ● Recognize and solve quadratics
	Background necessary for success:
	● Completion of Algebra I with an A- or better
	● Thorough knowledge of Algebra I is expected in advance and is used throughout the course.
	● Students should enjoy mathematics and a desire to be challenged.

ALGEBRA II

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Algebra II	Algebra II Honors
Content: ● Linear relations and functions ● Systems of equations ● Quadratic relations and functions ● Powers and roots ● Complex numbers ● Exponents and logarithms ● Polynomials ● Binomial theorem, Probability, Statistics ● Sequences and series ● Trigonometry basics ● Conic sections	**Content:** ● Linear relations and functions ● Quadratic relations and functions ● Exponential and logarithmic functions ● Rational and irrational algebraic functions ● Higher degree functions ● Complex numbers - arithmetic and graphing ● Sequences and series ● Probability ● Data analysis ● Matrices
Activities: ● Group work ● Lectures ● Quizzes and tests	**Activities:** ● Group projects, group work, and challenge problems ● Weekly quizzes (twice a week) ● Presenting problems on the board ● Fast pace (on average, one section per night)
Homework: ● Assigned daily (including weekends) ● Around 30-45 minutes per night ● Required to read the text, take notes, and show work	**Homework:** ● Assigned each class meeting up to 1 hour ● Reading and taking notes is required ● Problems require synthesis of learned skills and concepts
Background necessary for success: ● Recommended to have an Algebra 1 and Geometry grade of C- or above for all semesters ● Basic knowledge of Algebra 1 including: solving equations, numeracy, exponents, and graphing linear functions	**Background necessary for success:** ● Thorough knowledge of Algebra I is expected. ● Recommended A- or higher in both Geometry and Algebra I ● Students should enjoy mathematics and have a desire to be challenged.

TRIGONOMETRY

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Trig / Math Analysis	Trig / Math Analysis Honors
Content: ● Some review of Algebra II concepts ● Prepares students to take Calculus AB ● Linear and Quadratic Functions ● Polynomial and Rational Functions ● Exponential and Logarithmic Functions ● Trigonometric Functions ● Unit Circle ● Analytic Trigonometry (Trigonometric Identities, Trigonometric Formulas, etc.) ● Applications of Trigonometric Functions ● Polar Coordinates and equations ● Vectors ● Analytic Geometry (Conics) ● Systems of Equations (Matrices) and Inequalities ● Sequences and Series	**Content:** ● Linear and Quadratic Functions ● Polynomial and Rational Functions ● Exponential and Logarithmic Functions ● Trigonometric Functions ● Unit Circle ● Analytic Trigonometry (Trigonometric Identities, Trigonometric Formulas, etc.) ● Applications of Trigonometric Functions ● Polar Coordinates and equations ● Vectors ● Analytic Geometry (Conics) ● Systems of Equations (Matrices) and Inequalities ● Sequences and Series ● Preview of Calculus: The Limit, Derivative, and the Integral of a polynomial function
Activities: ● Group projects, group work, and group challenge problems ● Guided notes and direct instruction	**Activities:** ● Group projects, group work, and group challenge problems ● Daily quizzes ● Presenting problems on the board ● Fast pace: first 3 chapters in the first 2 weeks, one section covered per day after that
Homework: ● Around 45-60 minutes per night	**Homework:** ● 4 to 5 hours per week ● Reading and taking notes is required ● Problems require synthesis of learned skills and concepts
Background necessary for success: ● Recommended grades in Algebra II of C- or higher for 2 semesters	**Background necessary for success:** ● Recommended grades in Algebra II of A- or higher for 2 semesters ● Students should enjoy mathematics and have a desire to be challenged.

CALCULUS / STATISTICS

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Calculus AB	Calculus BC	Statistics AP
Class designed for: ● Students interested in pursuing a field related to math and science	**Class designed for:** ● Students interested in pursuing a field related to math and science at a more rigorous level	**Class designed for:** ● Students interested in pursuing a field not related to math and science
Review of prior courses: ● Some class time spent reviewing relevant topics from Trig/Math Analysis and Algebra II	**Review of prior courses:** ● Fast pace going through Chapters 1, 2, and the beginning of Chapter 3, which is a review of information from Trig/Math Analysis and basic limit and derivative Calculus	**Review of prior courses:** ● No review
Pace of class: ● Most sections covered in 1-2 days	**Pace of class:** ● Most sections covered in 1 day	**Pace of class:** ● Most sections covered in 1 day ● Fast paced with heavy reading
Computation: ● High computation level, medium reading level	**Computation:** ● High computation level, low reading level	**Computation:** ● Low computation level, high reading and analysis
AP exam review: ● Significant class time spent reviewing for AP test	**AP exam review:** ● Little class time spent reviewing for AP test	**AP exam review:** ● Significant class time spent reviewing for AP test

NOTE: The topics of Calculus and Statistics are completely different, as are the textbooks. It is almost impossible to change from one course to the other once the year has started.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – PERFORMING ARTS

The University of California requires one year of fine/performing arts. One yearlong course of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art. All full-year performing arts courses (except those associated with Marching Bands) meet this requirement.

ACTING I — JC1410

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of acting technique, including physical theater, improvisation, vocal projection and articulation. Performance work includes scenes, monologues and short plays, incorporating reading and analysis. Students attend live performances, learn how to give and receive critiques, and spend some time writing and performing original work. The course also introduces rudimentary concepts of technical theater and design.

ACTING II — JC1420

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Audition and director recommendation.

Acting II continues and extends the skills developed in Acting I and functions primarily as a theatre company. During the year, students in Acting II prepare three full-length plays for production. The plays are rehearsed in class, but students are expected to be available for tech week and dress rehearsals as well as performances outside of class time. Commitment to intense work on production projects is mandatory for students in this class.

AUXILIARY UNIT — JO1211

Grades 9-12	S	Credits – 5
Performing Arts No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
NCP	Level	

This course is more commonly known as “Color Guard”. Students are not required to be musicians, but they perform with the Marching Band and must meet all of the obligations of that group. See Marching Band for more information.

BEL CANTO — JC1045

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Treble singing voice, audition, and director recommendation.

This advanced treble choral ensemble is dedicated to the study and performance of choral literature for chamber groups. Singers in this ensemble are expected to read music at an advanced level and sing with experienced vocal technique. This ensemble performs and tours regularly. Students chosen to participate in this group are selected on the basis of their commitment and prior musical experience.

CHAMBER ENSEMBLE — JC1250

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Director recommendation/audition. Advanced incoming 9th graders with auditions.

This course is for the advanced string player (violin, viola, cello, and string bass) by audition only. All styles of traditional and contemporary music are studied and performed at several concerts and festivals during the year. Evening and weekend performances are required.

CHORALE — JC1020

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This course is for beginning to intermediate singers and focuses on the fundamentals of choral singing. Students develop healthy singing technique and music literacy skills through the practice and performance of a variety of choral music. This group performs in concerts throughout the year.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – PERFORMING ARTS

CONCERT BAND JC1220

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Post middle school proficiency on a standard band instrument.

This class explores standard literature for band with emphasis on developing skills on a band instrument (including percussion) and other fundamentals of music theory and history. Evening and weekend performances are required.

CONCERT CHOIR JC1030

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Audition and director recommendation.

This ensemble is for singers with some prior choral music experience and focuses on the continued development of music literacy skills and appropriate vocal technique. Singers in this ensemble are expected to read music at an intermediate level. This ensemble performs in concerts throughout the school year.

EXPLORING MUSIC JC1310

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 5
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

This course is open to all students with and without prior musical experience. Students will develop fundamental skills on the keyboard. Other topics include music literacy, music appreciation, music for social justice, careers in music, and music technology. Students will help produce one event per semester.

JAZZ DANCE JC1210

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts/P.E. f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

In this course, students learn the skills and techniques for jazz, modern, ballet, and musical theatre dance. The class provides physical development, musical training, and artistic development. Students gain poise, grace, rhythm, strength, and flexibility as a result of taking this class. Participating in dance performance is required. May be repeated for credit.

JAZZ DANCE - ADVANCED JC1211

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts/P.E. f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Audition and teacher recommendation. Freshmen must audition and be concurrently enrolled in P.E.

A challenging, fast-paced technique class for advanced dancers. Emphasis is placed on refining and perfecting dance technique, creative choreography, and performance. Participating in dance performances each year is required. May be repeated for credit.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE JC1260

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Audition and director recommendation. Incoming 9th graders may audition but if accepted must also participate in Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Orchestra, or Chamber Ensemble.

This is an advanced instrumental ensemble. It explores a variety of jazz styles such as swing, funk, rock, Latin, bebop, and improvisation. Freshmen wishing to enroll in Jazz Ensemble are encouraged to first enroll in Concert Band to improve their musicianship skills.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – PERFORMING ARTS

MARCHING BAND JC1200/JC1202

Grades 9-12	S	Credits – 5
Performing Arts/P.E. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
NCP	Level	

Recommendations: Basic instrumental proficiency. (Color Guard excepted.)

Marching Band and Color Guard (auxiliary) meet after school Monday, Tuesday, and Friday afternoons from 4:00-6:15 PM, Wednesday mornings before school from 7:00-8:40 AM and most Saturdays August-mid November, and/or performances. Prior to the beginning of the season each family receives a detailed calendar of all rehearsals, performances, and Healthother mandatory activities. Performances are required. Students are expected to attend a summer camp preceding the beginning of school. The Marching Band performs at home football games, band competitions, and community events. Because most activities associated with Marching Band occur during the first quarter, students are encouraged to enroll in another, year-long musical group such as Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, or Orchestra.

ORCHESTRA JC1270

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Students must play a standard stringed instrument (violin, viola, cello, or double bass).

This class is designed for qualified string players (violin, viola, cello, or upright bass) emphasizing the works of the great composers and utilizing a wide variety of musical styles. This course is open to students of medium to advanced ability. Orchestra meets as a string ensemble during the day. Some evening rehearsals throughout the year will be required. Winds may be added for special performances. Several performances, evening rehearsals, and festivals will be required.

SYMPHONIC BAND JC1230

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Intermediate instrumental proficiency. Incoming freshmen may schedule an audition for placement in this ensemble.

This is an advanced band that meets every day. Students explore standard music for band including the Marching Band literature during the first nine weeks of school. Evening and weekend performances are required.

VOLARE JC1085

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Audition and director recommendation.

This advanced mixed choral ensemble is dedicated to the study and performance of choral literature for chamber groups. Singers in this ensemble are expected to read music at an advanced level and sing with experienced vocal technique. This ensemble performs and tours regularly. Students chosen to participate in this group are selected on the basis of their commitment and prior musical experience.

WIND ENSEMBLE JC1240

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Director recommendation/audition.

This course is for the more advanced instrumentalist by audition only. All styles of traditional and contemporary music are studied and performed at several concerts and festivals during the year. Evening and weekend performances are required.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education Uniform Students are required to wear the LAHS Physical Education uniform which may be purchased in the student store with the Finance Office. If a student is not dressed out for class they are still required to participate and receive 70% for the class.

Medical Excuse Policy Our department policy is that a student with a medical issue may be excused from participating for up to three days with a note from a parent. If a student is requesting to be excused for more than three days a doctor's note is required. Doctor's notes should state clearly what activities the student is able to participate in and what they are not. If we can assign them an appropriate activity they can receive at least partial participation points for the day.

GRADE 9 PE — PO1010/PO1020

Grade 9	Sem.	Units – 5
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
N	Level	

Individual and dual activities, wellness and aquatics:
Grade 9 will meet the California State Standards for Physical Education through individual and dual activities, such as badminton, tennis, pickleball, table tennis, fitness, wellness and aquatics. These units are designed to develop self-awareness and a de- sire to learn life-long skills for maintaining personal fitness. The wellness unit focuses on stress reduction and character choices. Students will take the mandatory California State Fitness Test and need to pass five out of six tests.

GRADE 10-12 PE — PO1030/PO1040

Grade 10-12	Sem.	Units – 5
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
N	Level	

Team activities, gymnastics and combatives:
Grade 10 will meet the California State Standards for Physical Education through gymnastics and combatives, as well as team activities such as soccer, football, volleyball, basketball, ultimate Frisbee, softball, team handball, and volleyball. These units are designed to develop self-awareness and a de- sire to learn life-long skills for maintaining personal fitness.

JAZZ DANCE — JC1210

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts/P.E. f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

In this course, students learn the skills and techniques for jazz, modern, ballet, and musical theatre dance. The class provides physical development, musical training, and artistic development. Students gain poise, grace, rhythm, strength, and flexibility as a result of taking this class. Participating in dance performance is required. May be repeated for credit.

JAZZ DANCE - ADVANCED — JC1211

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Performing Arts/P.E. f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Prerequisites: Audition and teacher recommendation.

Advanced Jazz Dance is a challenging fast-paced technique class for advanced dancers. Emphasis is placed on refining and perfecting dance techniques, creative choreography, and performance. Participating in dance performances each year is required. May be repeated for credit.

YOGA — PO1280

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Physical Ed. No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
N	Level	

Yoga and Movement is a year-long PE course offered to 10th-12th graders who have passed their physical exams. In the course students will learn the fundamentals of yoga, and grow in strength, flexibility, and balance through the yoga practice and other physical movements. The class will focus on both the physical and mental elements of yoga.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ATHLETICS – Fall, Winter and Spring Sports
Also see COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - ATHLETICS

Fall Sports

Cross Country, Girls' Field Hockey, Football, Girls' Golf, Girls' Tennis, Girls' Volleyball, and, Boys' and Girls' Water Polo.

All fall sports start a week before school and run approximately through the second week of November. Each sport practices every day for two hours. No Sundays.

Winter Sports

Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Boys' and Girls' Soccer, and, Wrestling.

All winter sports start the final Monday in October and run through the second week of February. Each sport practices every day for two hours. No Sundays.

Spring Sports

Badminton, Baseball, Boys' Golf, Girls' Gymnastics, Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse, Softball, Boys' and Girls' Swimming, Boys' and Girls' Diving, Boys' Tennis, Boys' and Girls' Track and Field, and, Boys' Volleyball.

All spring sports start the final Monday in January and run through the first week of May. Each sport practices every day for two hours. No Sundays.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS

SCIENCE

LEVEL/YEAR	9th GRADE	10th GRADE	11th GRADE	12th GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT	Biology Honors	Biology Honors Chemistry Honors	AP Physics I AP Biology AP Chemistry Biology Honors Chemistry Honors AP Environmental Science Biotech Forensics Adv. Sci. Investig.	AP Physics C* AP Physics I AP Biology AP Chemistry Biology Honors Chemistry Honors AP Environmental Science Biotech Forensics Adv. Sci. Investig.
COLLEGE PREP	Biology Environmental Science	Biology Chemistry Human Biology	Biology Chemistry Physics Human Biology Agroecology Biotech Forensics	Biology Chemistry Physics Adv. Sci. Investig. Agroecology Biotech Forensics

*must be in AP Calculus class as a minimum requirement

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SCIENCE

The University of California requires two years and recommends three years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in two of the following subject areas: biology, chemistry and physics. Advanced placement (AP) courses in science are taught as second-year subject courses and are recommended for students who have successfully completed the first-year honors level course.

BIOLOGY **CC1010**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Course comparison information sheet is provided at the end of the department section

This college preparatory course involves the study of life and the inter-relationships that exist among all living organisms and their environment. The teaching of biological concepts involves the completion of laboratory experiments using college level equipment, lecture/discussions, videos, projects, and reading and writing assignments. Students will develop laboratory skills as well as science literacy. Biology is a course for students intending to take more advanced science courses and plan to attend a four-year college.

BIOLOGY HONORS **CB1010**

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H	Level	

Course comparison information sheet is provided at the end of the department section

Biology is the study of living organisms, and this course is designed to help the student better understand the relationships between organisms and their environment. It will be conducted at an advanced rate compared to general biology and students are expected to work accordingly. In addition, students will be reading two novels outside of class. Topics covered in this college preparatory biology course include: the nature of science, the classification and characteristics of living things, biochemistry and energetics, cell structure and function, evolution, Mendelian and molecular genetics, plant and animal systems, and ecology. An inquiry-based method of learning is used as well as reading, note taking (lectures and book), lab experiments, and group/class discussions.

AP BIOLOGY **CA1010**

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP “+”	Level	

Recommendations: Grades of B or above in Biology Honors, Chemistry Honors, and Algebra II

This rigorous second year biology course is designed to be equivalent to an introductory biology course taken in the first year of college. If you enjoy learning about Biology, this is the course for you. If not, looking for another option to fulfill your science requirement is recommended. There are four main principles or “Big Ideas” prescribed by the College Board that will be covered over the course of the year: (1) Evolution, (2) Cellular Processes - Energy and Communication, (3) Genetics and Information Transfer, and (4) Interactions. In addition to submitting reports on the intensive labs that accompany each unit, students should expect 45 minutes to 1 hour of homework each night. The intent of this course is to provide students a better understanding and appreciation for how life works. AP Biology will also prepare students for a successful outcome on the Advanced Placement examination in May. It is the expectation of the instructor that all students enrolled will take the exam.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SCIENCE

CHEMISTRY CC2010

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Course comparison information sheet is provided at the end of the department section

Chemistry is a course designed to develop student understanding of the basic concepts and techniques of general chemistry. Topics include the atomic structure, stoichiometry, solution chemistry, kinetic molecular theory, and acid-base reactions. This course emphasizes mastering techniques of chemical exploration through regular laboratory exercises and the application of principles in group activities. An adequate level of problem solving skills, reflected by their mathematics background, is required for success.

CHEMISTRY HONORS CB2010

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H	Level	

Course comparison information sheet is provided at the end of the department section

Chemistry Honors is a course designed to develop an in-depth and detailed understanding of the nature of matter. Through lectures, weekly labs, homework, and projects, we focus on strengthening logical reasoning processes, enhancing problem solving strategies, and developing skills in organizing the products of scientific thought and experimentation into coherent reports. The fundamental concepts of chemistry are covered as well as advanced topics in electrochemistry, nuclear chemistry, thermos-chemistry, and oxidation-reduction reactions.

AP CHEMISTRY CA2010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Concurrent enrollment in Trigonometry/Math Analysis; grades of A- or above in Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors is recommended.

This is a second year chemistry course designed to be the equivalent of a general chemistry course in the first year of college. Topics include: atomic theory and structure, periodic relationships, nuclear chemistry, thermodynamics, states of matter, reactions types, equilibrium, kinetics, laboratory measurements, and descriptive chemistry. The intent of this course is to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry examination in May, and it is the expectation of the instructor that all students enrolled will take the exam.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SCIENCE

PHYSICS CC3010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Concurrent enrollment in Trig/Math Analysis. Completion of Algebra II and Chemistry with passing grades. Students need to be interested in science and enthusiastic about learning.

Physics is the branch of science concerned with the nature and properties of matter and energy. This high school level course will introduce students to concepts in physics and describe them using algebra and right triangle geometry. Topics include kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, work & energy, impulse & momentum, plate tectonics, electrostatics, electric circuits, magnetism, geometric optics and wave phenomena. Instructional approaches include lectures, demonstrations, laboratories, class discussions, free response questions, homework sets, quizzes and tests.

AP PHYSICS I CA3010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Concurrent enrollment in Trig/Math Analysis or higher level math. Completion of Algebra II and Chemistry with a grade of B or higher. Students need to have very strong math skills for this course.

This AP level course will introduce students to algebra-based physics. Topics covered in this course include kinematics, Newton's Laws of motion, circular motion, energy, momentum, wave phenomenon, electrostatics, and DC circuits. Students will use algebra, right triangle geometry and physics concepts to build and apply mathematical models to make predictions of naturally occurring phenomena. This course has an extensive laboratory component. This course requires students to have a strong work ethic, and be able to work independently. Students are expected to take the AP Physics 1 exam in May.

AP PHYSICS C CA3041

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Grade of B or better in AP Calculus and completion of Physics or AP Physics 1 with a grade of B or better. Concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus is a minimum requirement.

This is a second year, calculus based physics course designed to be the equivalent of a general physics course taken in the first year of college by physical science or engineering majors. This course is designed to prepare students to pass the College Board's AP Physics C - Mechanics exam and the AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism exam. Topics include: kinematics with aerodynamic drag, Newton's laws of motion, work and the conservation of energy, impulse and the conservation of momentum, rotational dynamics, universal gravitation and simple harmonic oscillators. Labs will emphasize experimental design, data collection and analysis using probeware and spreadsheets. Symbolic mathematics will be used to create models of natural systems. Instructional approaches include lectures, demonstrations, laboratories, class discussions, free response questions, homework sets, quizzes and tests.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CC4010

Grades 9	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Course comparison information sheet is provided at the end of the department section

This course is designed to be an introduction to environmental sciences. The Environmental Science course integrates information and ideas from the natural sciences, such as biology (ecology, conservation), chemistry (chemical cycles, chemistry of water, soil, and air), physics (energy), and earth sciences (geology, oceanography). The goal is to learn how natural Earth systems function and how humans interact with these natural systems. We will also focus on human impacts on the environment and solutions to environmental problems. Students will increase their awareness of environmental

issues and learn how to live more sustainably.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CA4010

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Grades of A- or above in Biology and Chemistry

AP Environmental Science is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college course in environmental science The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. The AP Environmental Science course is an excellent option for any interested student who has completed two years of laboratory science in Biology and Chemistry.

The course includes laboratory and field investigations. The goal of this component is to complement the classroom portion of the course by allowing students to learn about the environment through firsthand observation. Experiences both in the laboratory and in the field provide students with important opportunities to test concepts and principles that are introduced in the classroom, explore specific problems with a depth not easily achieved otherwise and gain an awareness of the importance of confounding variables that exist in the "real world".

AGROECOLOGY CC1030

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Agroecology is the scientific study of sustainable agriculture, which treats the farm or garden as an ecosystem and considers the interactions between the living and nonliving aspects of the environment. Each student learns to cultivate a raised garden ecosystem from seed to harvest. Students spend the majority of class time in the gardens applying knowledge. Areas of study include drip irrigation, plant anatomy and physiology, composting theory and techniques, soil science, and plant propagation via direct seeding, transplanting, and cuttings.

HUMAN BIOLOGY CC0010

Grades 10-11	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Human Biology will explore the traditional life science covered depth study of the human body and its processes. Topics covered in the course include: the nature of science, biochemistry and energetics, and mendelian and molecular genetics. Each of these topics will be body systems (i.e. digestive, circulatory, etc.). An inquiry-based reading, note taking (lectures and book), lab experiments, online discussions.

BIOTECH CC1050

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Biotechnology is a one-year laboratory course that emphasizes the application of biology, chemistry and physics concepts in the investigation of DNA science. The course will address the history and applications of DNA/RNA technology, biochemistry, microbiology, molecular biology and manipulation of DNA, bioethics, protein analysis, immunological applications, and laboratory safety practices. Students carry out investigative activities to deepen their understanding of scientific principles and the very nature of scientific thinking. They will develop laboratory, critical thinking, and communication skills currently used in the biotechnology industry. Through extensive reading, laboratory work, and workplace experience, they will explore and evaluate career opportunities in the field of biotechnology. Students will utilize a broad range of laboratory procedures and laboratory apparatus used in the biotechnology laboratory and will document their work in a scientific notebook.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SCIENCE

FORENSICS CC4020

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: Biology with a C or better, Chemistry or Physics with a C or better, Algebra II with a C or better

Forensic science (criminalistics) is an introduction to the analysis of crime scenes by collecting and analyzing physical evidence. This course is designed to integrate the core scientific disciplines while giving students both theory and hands-on experience with the skills and knowledge required of a forensic crime scene investigator. This multidisciplinary course will cover topics in biology, chemistry, physics, technology, earth science, math, social studies and language arts. Sample evidence for analysis will include fingerprints, DNA, handwriting, trajectories, hair, fiber, toxicology, blood spatter patterns, ballistics, chromatography, forgery and tool marks. Students will be asked to use process skills including comparative analysis, critical thinking, deductive reasoning, interviewing, observation, organization, problem solving, research, communication, evidence collection and technical reading. *Students should be aware of the sensitive/serious nature of the material presented and be ready to respond in a mature manner.*

ADVANCED SCI INVESTIGATION CC1060

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Science g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: This course is an audition course and requires an interview with ASI teacher before admission to the course. Please contact Mr. Dressen and/or Ms. Johnson for more information. Biology A or Bio Honors B or better; Chemistry A or Chem Honors B or better. Either completion or concurrent enrollment in Physics. If interested in Biology projects it is highly recommended to have or be enrolled in Biotech and/or AP Biology.

This course is being designed as a capstone course for our science department. Students taking this course are some of our most promising scientific students who have completed a number of AP/Honors courses in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Students enrolled in this class will develop scientific questions that they are interested in. They will then learn how to research this question by accessing primary research sources and ultimately develop a research plan. It is expected that students will then independently do the research during class and ultimately report their findings at the end of the year via a formal presentation. Along the way they will learn how to conduct a literature review, how to develop a research proposal, how to execute their research plan, and ultimately present their research findings to their peers and teachers.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND BIOLOGY

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Environmental Science	Biology	Biology Honors
Text: • *Pearson Environmental Science*, and Google Classroom	**Text:** • Standard first year high school Biology text	**Text:** • College entry-level Biology textbook. • Novel "*The Hot Zone*"
Content: Survey course covering foundational concepts in Environmental Science • Ecology • Geology • Human Population Dynamics • Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy • Hydrology • Waste Management	**Content:** • Nature of science • Ecology • Evolution • Classification and characteristics of living things • Biochemistry • Cell structure and function • Plant and animal systems • Mendelian and molecular genetics	**Content:** • Same topics as in Biology, but with a greater level of detail/depth and more biochemical emphasis • Bioethics will be embedded
Workload: • 15-25 minutes of studying, review and homework assignments 1-2 nights per week. • Most work done in groups with heavy teacher guidance through all assignments.	**Workload:** • 20-30 minutes of studying which will include reviewing, reading and/or written assignments 2-3 nights per week. • Some independent work expected, but often reviewed in class.	**Workload:** • 30-40 minutes of reading and/or written assignments 3-4 nights a week. • More independent work expected.
In-class instruction: • Lectures, laboratory experience activities, demonstrations, and projects. • Pacing is dependent student success and work completion.	**In-class instruction:** • Lectures, laboratory experience, activities, demonstrations, computer work, modeling, and projects. • Lectures will cover material at a slightly slower pace than honors.	**In-class instruction:** • Laboratory experience, discussions, projects, computer work, simulations. modeling, and presentations. • Lectures will cover more difficult topics at a faster pace.
Skills developed: • Students will use their basic Algebra skills to solve simple equations. • NGSS Science and Engineering practices • Creation of graphs and graphical analysis of data both by hand and with a computer • Logical reasoning skills related to collected or provided data • Group collaboration and intrapersonal skills • Academic organization/studying • **Preparation for successful transition to Biology**	**Skills developed:** • NGSS Science and Engineering practices • Use of research and scientific method to determine answers • Creation of graphs and graphical analysis of data both by hand and with a computer • Logical reasoning skills that connect experimental results to Biology principles • Communication of ideas and reasoning to others in written and spoken form • Biotechnology skills and techniques	**Skills *in addition* to those in Biology:** • Sophisticated use of the Google Suite • Library and Internet research skills • Design and implementation of experiments
Background necessary for success: • Study and organizational skills • Problem solving skills • Critical thinking	**Background necessary for success:** • Study and organizational skills • Problem solving skills • Critical thinking	**Background necessary for success:** • Comfort applying Algebra skills • Strong reading, writing, and analytical skills

NOTE: The textbooks used in these courses are different. Topics are not covered in the same order. It is very difficult to change courses after the school year has started.

CHEMISTRY

Course Comparison Information Sheet

Chemistry	Chemistry Honors
Text: ● Standard first year high school chemistry text	**Text:** ● College entry-level textbook
Content: ● Matter, chemical/physical change ● Classification of matter ● Measurement in chemistry ● Atomic Structure and nuclear processes ● Ionic and covalent compounds/bonding ● Nomenclature ● Types of Reactions ● Stoichiometry ● Thermochemistry ● Electronic Structure ● Solutions ● Gas Laws ● Equilibrium ● Acids and Bases ● NGSS Earth Science Standards for the 3-course model (Plate tectonics, climate change, ocean acidification)	**Content:** Covers all topics in the regular chemistry course plus … ● Uncertainty in measurement ● Bond energies ● Quantum numbers ● Colligative properties ● Rates of reactions ● Equilibrium in acids and bases ● Electrochemistry/Redox
Homework: ● 20-30 minutes per night focuses on reinforcement of concepts from class.	**Homework:** ● 30-45 minutes per night requires students to apply concepts learned in class to a variety of situations.
Skills Practiced: ● Asking questions and defining problems ● Developing and using models ● Planning and carrying out investigations ● Analyzing and interpreting data ● Using math and computational thinking ● Constructing explanations and designing solutions ● Engaging in argument from evidence ● Obtaining, evaluating and communicating information	**Skills Practiced:** Covers all the skills required in the regular chemistry course plus … ● Students should be able to follow and master three- and four- step problems in a logical fashion.
Background necessary for success: ● Good algebraic foundation ● Good graphic analysis foundation	**Background necessary for success:** ● Strong algebraic skills ● Superior graphic analysis foundation ● Ability to translate word problems into mathematical representations

NOTE: The textbooks used in these courses are different. Topics are not covered in the same order. It is very difficult to change courses after the school year has started.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS

SOCIAL STUDIES

LEVEL/YEAR	9th GRADE	10th GRADE	11th GRADE	12th GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT		**AP European History** **AP Human Geography**	**AP U. S. History** **Elective:** **AP Psychology**	**AP U.S. Government and Politics*** **AP Microeconomics*** **Elective:** **AP Psychology**
COLLEGE PREP	**Ethnic Studies** **Ethnic Studies, ELL/SDAIE** .	**Psychology*** **World Studies** (in 2023-2024 available for students who took Ethnic Studies in 2022-2023) **World Studies, ELL/SDAIE**	**U. S. History** **U. S. History, ELL/SDAIE** **Elective:** **Psychology***	**Civics*/Economics*** **Civics*/Economics*, ELL/SDAIE** **Global Connections (Civics)** **Elective:** **Psychology***

*Semester length courses.

SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

9th Grade	**WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY** ● Ethnic Studies	**LEVEL I SKILLS**
10th Grade	**INDIVIDUAL IN SOCIETY/GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES** ● AP European History ● AP Human Geography ● Psychology (Semester) ● World Studies (in 2023-2024 available for students who took Ethnic Studies in 2022-2023)	**LEVEL II SKILLS**
11th Grade	**AMERICAN HISTORY** ● U.S. History ● AP U.S. History	**LEVEL III SKILLS**
12th Grade	**AMERICAN GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS** ● Civics (Semester) ● Economics (Semester) “g” Elective ● AP Microeconomics (Semester) “g” Elective ● AP U.S. Government and Politics ● Global Connections (Civics)	**LEVEL IV SKILLS**

SKILLS	
LEVEL I 1. Writing in an organized manner 2. Map skills 3. Oral and graphic presentations 4. Study skills: note-taking, outlining, test taking 5. Library and research skills 6. Chart interpretation 7. Collaborative Skills 8. Reading Apprenticeship 9. Critical Thinking Skills	**LEVEL II** 1. The nature of these elective courses requires extensive in-depth study which is designed to reinforce the Level I skills. Some classes may require higher level skills.
LEVEL III 1. Advanced library and research skills to include research paper or project 2. Analysis and interpretation of historical sources/materials 3. All Level I skills	**LEVEL IV** 1. Solving hypothetical problems 2. Participating in community affairs 3. Advanced oral presentation, e.g. debate, group participation 4. Advanced skills in chart and graph interpretation 5. All of the preceding skills

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SOCIAL STUDIES

The University of California requires 2 years of history/social science, including:

- One year of world history, cultures and geography (may be a single yearlong course or two one-semester courses), and
- One year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one half year of civics or American government.

WORLD STUDIES EC1010
WORLD STUDIES, ELL*/SDAIE*

Grade 10	Y	Credits – 10
Global Studies a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

*Appropriate scaffolds of the material make it accessible to English Learners

This is an introductory social studies course for tenth graders who took Ethnic Studies in ninth grade. Focusing on political, social, and cultural history, it examines the development of the major regions of the world. There is also an emphasis on geography, its significance to world history, and the development of important study skills. The course gives students both a historical outlook and a contemporary view of the world through the theme of increasing interdependence among nations.

ETHNIC STUDIES EC6010
ETHNIC STUDIES, ELL*/SDAIE*

Grade 9	Y	Credits – 10
Indiv. & Soc. g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

*Appropriate scaffolds of the material make it accessible to English Learners

This is an introductory social studies course for ninth graders. The course focuses on the development of identity, and the examination of the experiences of various populations in the United States, from arrival to the present day. Its goal is to prepare students to be productive members of a diverse society. There is also an emphasis on the development of important academic skills in preparation for students possibly taking Advanced Placement courses.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY* EA5010

Grades 10	Y	Credits – 10
Global Studies/Indiv. & Soc. a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: A- or better in previous social studies classes.
*AP Human Geography will be held based on student enrollment.

AP Human Geography is a one-year college level course that is the curricular equivalent of an introductory college-level class in human or cultural geography. The course themes are organized around the discipline's main subfields: economic, cultural, political, and urban geography with a spatial and problem oriented approach. The goal for students is to be more geoliterate, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more multicultural in their viewpoints. Specific human geography skills that will be developed over the course of the year include approaching problems geographically, utilizing maps and geospatial technologies, thinking critically about both visual and written documents, interpreting cultural landscape, and applying geographical concepts to our modern world. Moreover, students will need to utilize an interdisciplinary approach in their critical thinking in order to read academic writings, create well-constructed essays and research reports, and work collaboratively to analyze real-world issues and controversies. Students will learn to see geography as a discipline that is integral and relevant to the world they live in and as a medium in which to solve problems to build environmental stewardship and global citizenship. Students are expected to take AP exam in May.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY EA2010

Grades 10	Y	Credits – 10
Global Studies/Indiv. & Soc. a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SOCIAL STUDIES

Recommendations: A- or better in previous social studies classes.

This course is designed to be an examination of the development of the intellectual/cultural, political/diplomatic and social/economic history of modern Europe. This statement should be viewed with a bit of healthy skepticism. To cover this much history in any depth or breadth is a difficult task. The trap associated with covering this much human activity in a single academic course is to become overly involved in the history of events. As one historian puts it, historical events are mere "crests of foam that the tides of history carry on their strong backs." The essential criticism of this type of history is that it is superficial. Historical events are the reflections of much deeper human happenings and trends. Our goal is to identify these deeper currents in European history, give meaning to these events and trends, and place them in a paradigm that makes sense to us today. Students are expected to take AP exam in May.

PSYCHOLOGY* **EC4310**

Grades 10-12	S	Credits – 5
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

*Course is offered based on student enrollment.

This course provides an introduction to psychology, the study of the mind and behavior. Students learn about themselves and the reasons behind their thinking and actions. Areas of study include the brain, sensation and perception, learning, personality, influential psychologists, dreams, E.S.P., the nature of intelligence, and abnormal behavior. This course does not replace an introductory college course but has proven to be extremely helpful to students interested in studying psychology in college.

AP PSYCHOLOGY* **EA4030**

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: C or better in previous social studies classes.
*AP Psychology will be held based on student enrollment.

This course is to introduce the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Included is a consideration of the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. The aim is to provide a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory psychology courses.

U.S. HISTORY **EC3010**
U.S. HISTORY, ELL*/SDAIE*

Grade 11	Y	Credits – 10
U.S. History a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

*Appropriate scaffolds of the material make it accessible to English Learners

United States History is a college prep course in which students examine major turning points in US history. The year begins with a selective review of US history in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and will thereafter emphasize events and trends in the twentieth century. During the year, certain themes will be emphasized: the realities of conquest and colonization at the root of US history; the different meanings of revolution; the role of religion in shaping US culture; the expanding role of the federal government and courts; the emergence of a modern corporate economy; the impact of technology on US society and culture; changes in the ethnic composition of US society; the role of people's movements for equal rights and liberation in making history; and the role of the US as a major world power.

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS B **DC5041**

Grade 12	Y	Credits – 20
Eng./Civics/Indiv. & Soc.** a, b, g a, b, g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Students in this college preparatory course learn about events and issues from around the world with a particular focus on Asia, Africa, and Latin America. They ask questions which lead them into areas of study such as education, science and technology, religion, history, politics, and the arts. The course allows students to consider questions through

multiple perspectives (different disciplines, different cultures or nations, etc.)

Students attend class in a two-period block each day. At least one of these periods is devoted to smaller group (regular class size) discussion. The other period often involves large group instruction that can take the form of teacher presentation, guest speakers, performances, panel presentations, or a multimedia format. A team of teachers working cooperatively teach the two periods.

**Students earn 20 credits in this course. It fulfills graduation requirements in English (10 credits), Civics (5 credits, earned 2nd semester), and Individual and Society (5 credits)

AP U.S. HISTORY **EA3010**

Grade 11	Y	Credits – 10
U.S. Hist a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: A- or better in previous social studies classes.

AP US History is a one-year college level course in which students examine major turning points and cultural themes in the history of US. The AP in the title signals: (1) a **highly accelerated** pace and level of learning, (2) a course geared to students motivated and appreciative of history and (3) a course for which college credit can be earned through completion of the course and taking of the AP Test. The year will cover American History from the exploration period into the 2000s emphasizing the following themes: the changing demographics and diversity of the American population, the struggle between the majority and minority in politics, the conflict over the shape and direction of reform and change in society, the characteristics of past and present American economies, the expanding role of the federal government and the role of the courts, the impact of technology on American society, the role of the US as a world power, the evolving geopolitical and global economic role of the US, the growth of culture (including literature, art, philosophy, music, theater, film, etc) environmental issues (such as conservation and dependence of natural resources), the role and influence of religion upon American institutions, and examination of what it means to be "American." Instructional techniques will include projects, group work, direct instruction, critical analysis of primary articles, research, artistic interpretation, peer critiques, kinesthetic activity, debate, interviews of historical experts, and student creations of learning exercises.

CIVICS **EC4010**
CIVICS, ELL*/SDAIE*

Grade 12	S	Credits – 5
Civics a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

*Appropriate scaffolds of the material make it accessible to English Learners

This course involves discussion and analysis of the main issues confronting American government in the context of our political and legal system. Students study the structure of our government and learn how to be participating citizens. Topics such as the legislative/executive/judicial system, administration of justice, foreign policy, and the government's role in solving national economic and social problems are covered.

AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS EA4010

Grade 12	S	Credits – 5
Civics a a	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: A- or better in previous social studies classes.

AP Government is a rigorous, one semester in-depth study of the American government and political system. Students will study and demonstrate mastery of constitutional underpinnings; political beliefs and behaviors; influences upon government; institutions of government; public policy; and civil rights and liberties. Students are required to take the AP Government Examination in May and therefore assessments will focus on essay writing as well as objective test taking. Students should plan on an average of one hour of homework every night.

ECONOMICS **EC4020**
ECONOMICS, ELL*/SDAIE*

Grade 12	S	Credits – 5
Economics g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

*Appropriate scaffolds of the material make it accessible to English Learners

This one-semester course provides an overview of the field of economics. Students are introduced to economic theories with an emphasis on practical applications. Topics in both microeconomics and macroeconomics are covered.

AP MICROECONOMICS EA4020

Grade 12	S	Credits – 5
Economics g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: A- or better in previous social studies classes.

AP Microeconomics provides an understanding of the role of individual decision makers within the economic system. This includes individuals as both producers and consumers, and businesses. Specific concepts covered include the nature of functions of product markets and factor markets, market structures including competition, oligopoly and monopoly, optimization behavior by both individuals and firms, market failure, and the role of government in correcting market failures. The course will prepare students to pass the College Board Microeconomics AP exam and receive college credit.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SPECIAL EDUCATION

Eligibility for special education is based on a thorough assessment consisting of both academic and psychological testing. Special Education services are determined at an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) meeting.

The Special Education Department provides services to students with learning and other disabilities. Los Altos High School offers services for students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities. There are other programs within the district that serve students to provide a continuum of services. In an ongoing effort to better serve students' needs and meet state and federal mandates for the least restrictive environment, students often see more than one teacher within the department and/or in General Education.

For more information, contact the Special Education Program Specialist at (650) 960-8811, ext.2069.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS

TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

LEVEL/YEAR	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT		AP Computer Science	AP Computer Science	AP Computer Science
COLLEGE PREP	Innovative Design Essentials Intro to Computer Prog Engineering I Design and Prototyping Robotics I	Innovative Design Essentials Intro to Computer Prog Engineering I Engineering II Design & Prototyping Design & Fabrication Robotics I Robotics II	Innovative Design Essentials Intro to Computer Prog Advanced Data Structures and Embedded Systems and Networking (ADEN) Engineering I Engineering II Design & Prototyping Design & Fabrication Robotics I Robotics II	Innovative Design Essentials Innovation Design Capstone Intro to Computer Prog Advanced Data Structures and Embedded Systems and Networking (ADEN) Engineering I Engineering II Design & Prototyping Design & Fabrication Robotics I Robotics II
NON CP		Culinary Arts I	Culinary Arts I Culinary Arts II	Culinary Arts I Culinary Arts II

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

Technology, Engineering and Design (TED) classes are open to all students regardless of site and availability depending on student needs and funding. To be eligible for these classes, see your counselor for information. Access is available on a space-available basis only.

TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING & DESIGN T.E.D. COURSES

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10-20
Practical Art g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

PATHWAY | Course Title

Innovative Design Essentials

COMPUTER SCIENCE |
Intro to Computer Programming
AP Computer Science
ADEN

ENGINEERING | Engineering I
Engineering II

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT |
Design and Prototyping
Design and Fabrication

ROBOTICS | Robotics I
Robotics II

Innovative Design Capstone

CULINARY | Culinary Arts I
Culinary Arts II

INNOVATIVE DESIGN ESSENTIALS
BC2045

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Students will engage in projects demonstrating proficiency in design thinking through the application of skills in the following areas:

- Art and design concepts
- Robotics and coding
  - VEX – RobotC
  - Arduino – Java
- Prototyping with 3D printers and laser cutters
  - TinkerCAD, Fusion360, or other modeling environment
  - Adobe Illustrator
- User empathy and understanding the complexities of real world problems

Students will participate in design teams of 3 to 4 other students to address a challenge or problem in their community. They will spend the year applying their learning of design thinking to create a solution to their chosen problem. The focus of this problem oriented design thinking is to push past the desire to design for yourself and to understand what is needed to properly design and create with another user or group of users in mind. Experience with the technical skills listed above is appreciated but not required.

INTRO TO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING (CP)
BC1017

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits - 10
Science d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: B- or above in Algebra I.

This course is geared towards students who want to gain skills in computer programming or get prepared for AP CS. No prior experience is required. This course is still suitable for students who have taken a coding elective in middle school.

Students will work with SNAP (a drag-and-drop programming language) to learn critical thinking, logic, and problem solving skills and then with Java where they will apply their knowledge of algorithms to code in a written format. Concepts learned include variables, functions, 1D and 2D arrays, and object oriented programming. The objectives of this course are that students will:

- develop computer programming skills such as abstraction, logic, and algorithmic thinking.
- develop projects using object-oriented principles.
- become prepared for problem solving skills in the AP Computer Science course.
- increase their awareness of computer science as a career and life skill.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE BA1010

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits - 10
Mathematics c c	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: Algebra II with concurrent enrollment in Trigonometry/Math Analysis.

The goals of the AP Computer Science are comparable to those in the introductory course for computer science majors offered in college and university computer science departments. It is not expected, however, that all students in the AP Computer Science will major in computer science at the university level. The AP Computer Science is intended to serve both as an introductory course for computer science majors and as a course for students who will major in other disciplines that require significant involvement with technology. It is not a substitute for the usual college-preparatory mathematics courses.

Students will be able to:

- design and implement solutions to problems by writing, running, and debugging computer programs.
- use and implement commonly used algorithms and data structures.
- develop and select appropriate algorithms and data structures to solve problems.
- code fluently in an object-oriented paradigm using the programming language Java. Students are expected to be familiar with and be able to use standard Java library classes from the AP Java subset.
- read and understand a large program consisting of several classes and interacting objects. Students should be able to read and understand a description of the design and development process leading to such a program. (An example of such a program is the *AP Computer Science Case Study.)*
- recognize the ethical and social implications of computer use.

ENGINEERING I BC2010

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits - 10
Practical Art d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: B- or above in Algebra I.

In this class, students will dig deep into the engineering design process, practically applying math, science, and engineering standards.. Students will engage in a deep dive into technical drawings and 3D modeling software (Fusion 360) to work both individually and in design teams to present solutions to posed challenges or problems. Students will begin to develop a personal portfolio that they can carry with them into their collegiate and professional careers. This class is focused on the application of 3D modeling, drawing, and digital design. Students will also apply basic physics concepts to learn about structural mechanics, material strength, and load conditions through force analysis. By the end of the year, students will be able to create complete digital assemblies in Fusion 360, demonstrating simulated interactions of components and visually accurate relative motion.

ENGINEERING II BC2011

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Practical Art d d	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: B- or above in Geometry
This course relies heavily on CAD skills developed in Engineering I

Through project-based design challenges, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including physical mechanisms and motion transfer systems, electrical circuits, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. Students will learn how to properly test designs using data and statistical analysis to offer strong support for results and claims of performance. The class relies heavily on the CAD skills in Fusion 360 that are developed in the Engineering 1 course.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

DESIGN AND PROTOTYPING BC2040

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: B- or above in Geometry or Algebra II

To introduce students to the ideas of engineering and design through a prototyping process that begins with a problem and follows a standard engineering process of conceptualizing a solution, testing and re-testing of prototypes, and redesign of original concept.

Enrolled students will engage in computer aided design and modeling beginning in two dimensions and progressing to three dimensions. Students will not only learn the software behind 21st century design but also the hardware through hands-on experience with a laser cutting system, three dimensional printers, and computer numerically controlled router systems. Design software includes Adobe Illustrator, CorelDRAW, TinkerCAD, and Fusion 360. Students will engage in collaborative group projects with peers of varying skill levels and backgrounds to produce real products. The course teaches and follows a typical industry style prototyping process where much of the learning occurs through product component failure and re-design. Groups will design a solution to an engineering challenge at the end of the year that is realized through the various media presented throughout the class.

DESIGN AND FABRICATION BC2041

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

No Prerequisites but Recommendations: B- or above in Geometry or Algebra II, and B- or above in Design and Prototyping

In this course students will continue to develop prototyping and fabrication skills using larger manual machines that provide the largest flexibility for product development. Students will work in varying sized groups to design and create full sized products that fit within different assigned categories using modern design software, rapid prototyping machines and full scale wood and metal working tools. Students will be taught to safely use modern machine shop tools such as mills, lathes and routers to create full sized, working prototypes. Students will be led through the process of creation from brainstorming ideas to building hand crafted finished products.

ROBOTICS I BC2060

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

An introductory course teaching the basics of engineering and the process of engineering design and construction. Students will learn the foundational skills necessary for a competition robotics team: computer aided design, machining, assembly, code, basic physics, and electronics. Students will work in collaborative groups designing robots to address various engineering challenges. Students enrolled will automatically be considered part of FIRST Robotics Competition Los Altos Robotics Team 114 Eaglestrike and are expected to join the team at competition and devote significant time to engage in the primary robot build in January and February.

ROBOTICS II BC2061

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

A second+ year course for veteran robotics team members. This course is primarily focused on continuing skill development around the FIRST competition. In the fall, students will engage in off-season projects and rebuilds to improve and prepare for multiple off-season competitions. Veterans are expected to train new team members in skill development in preparation for build season in January and February. During build season veterans will lead design teams guiding other team members through components of the primary robot build. Students enrolled will automatically be considered part of FIRST Robotics Competition Los Altos Robotics Team 114 Eaglestrike and are expected to join the team at competition and devote significant

time to engage in the primary robot build in January and February.

ADEN – Advanced Data Structures and Embedded Systems and Networking BC1030

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: AP Computer Science or Teacher Approval.

ADEN builds upon the concepts and skills learned in AP Computer science. During first semester, students will explore and use advanced data structures such as Queues, Trees, Maps, Hashes and Graphs, applying them to solve complex problems and evaluate performance tradeoffs of different implementations. Collaborative projects will provide opportunities to develop experience with formal documentation, testing and revision control. During the second semester, students will explore a variety of topics, including Embedded System where they will use C and Assembly language to program a robot to autonomously navigate through several challenges, including controlling motors, reading sensors, implementing finite state machines and prioritizing interrupts and sampling intervals. In addition, students will explore different types of networks, understand network protocols and routing, router configuration and security concerns and writing software to access across a network.

INNOVATIVE DESIGN CAPSTONE BC2050

Grades 12	Y	Credits – 10
Elective g g	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

This course follows two years of prior engineering, computer science or architectural design coursework and gives students the freedom to propose, design and refine their own project or professional certification. Students are expected to work in teams and collaborate on a long-term project utilizing emerging technologies and a range of skills. Students will present their project proposal to an industry panel and will receive feedback on their progress. Project proposals may fall under any of a variety of TED pathways including mechanical, civil, software or electrical engineering, computer science, app and game design, product design, architectural design, or other subjects as approved by the instructor. Students will follow their project through from conception to completion during the course of the year, and will document their design and manufacturing process as they develop a professional quality product. In addition to the specific design and technology skills that their project demands, students will develop skills in field research, project management, teamwork, leadership, time management, customer relations, budget management, and community outreach.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

CULINARY ARTS I — KC1010

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10-20
Practical Art/Elective No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See above	Prerequisites	
NCP	Level	

This two-semester program with an additional second year of training available prepares students for food production, preparation and service employment in institutional, commercial or independently owned food establishments or other food and hospitality industry occupations. Instruction includes topics such as planning, selecting, storing, purchasing, preparing, testing, serving and selling of quality food and food products. The program includes the basic skills of food service including sanitation, safety, methods of cooking, stocks, soups, sauces, methods of baking, pastry, banquet set up, catering, nutrition, and job preparation. Teaching methods include demonstration, laboratory, and textbook work. Students have an opportunity to cook both individually and in groups and to participate in planning meals. During the second semester students are counseled to participate in “on the job training.” On the job training may be completed at fast food restaurants, coffee shop operations, on-site food service, or in independent living retirement centers. This may be followed by actual employment at these sights. This experience has the potential to lead to actual employment opportunities.

CULINARY ARTS II — KC1011

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10-20
Practical Art/Elective No No	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Prerequisites	
NCP	Level	

Prerequisites: Culinary I or instructor approval.

This course prepares the student to work in the food service industry. The program prepares students with food production, preparation and service skills for employment in institutional, commercial or independently owned food establishments or other food and hospitality industry occupations. Instruction includes topics such as planning, selecting, storing, purchasing, preparing, testing, serving and selling of quality food and food products. Students are expected to meet a higher level of performance in the quantity and quality of their assigned work. The students will learn intermediate level skills, both theoretical and practical, performed in the dining room and kitchen restaurant operations. Teaching methods include demonstration, laboratory and textbook work. Training areas covered in this course will include food service facilities and equipment; quality food purchasing and costing; health and safety regulations and practices; skills in food preparation and service and practical experience in such food service jobs. Integrated throughout the course are career preparation standards, which include basic academic skills, communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving, safety technology and other employment skills. The full Serve-Safe curriculum and certification is a major emphasis of this course. State law dictates every food facility must have one or more certified employee.

LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL

TYPICAL PATHWAYS WORLD LANGUAGE

LEVEL/YEAR	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT	French I, II	French I, II, III Honors AP French Lang	French I, II, III Honors, AP French Lang	French I*, II, III Honors, AP French Lang
	Latin I	Latin I, II	Latin I, II, III	Latin I*, II, III AP Latin
	Spanish I, II H, III H III Honors for Spanish Spkr	Spanish I, II H, III H III Honors for Spanish Spkr	Spanish I, II H, III H III Honors for Spanish Spkr	Spanish I*, II H, III H III Honors for Spanish Spkr
		AP Spanish Lang	AP Spanish Lang	AP Spanish Lang
		AP Spanish Lit	AP Spanish Lit	AP Spanish Lit
	Mandarin/Chinese I, II, III, IV/Honors	Mandarin/Chinese I, II, III, IV/Honors, AP Mandarin/Chinese	Mandarin/Chinese I, II, III, IV/Honors, AP Mandarin/Chinese	Mandarin/Chinese I*, II, III, IV/Honors, AP Mandarin/Chinese
COLLEGE PREP	French I, II	French I, II, III	French I, II, III AP French Lang	French I*, II, III, AP French Lang French V Honors
	Latin I	Latin I, II	Latin I, II, III	Latin I*, II, III, IV
	Spanish I, II	Spanish I, II, III, IV	Spanish I, II, III, IV Spanish III H for Spanish Speakers AP Spanish Lang AP Spanish Lit	Spanish I*, II, III, IV Spanish III H for Spanish Speakers AP Spanish Lang AP Spanish Lit
	Mandarin/Chinese I, II, III, IV, IV H	Mandarin/Chinese I, II, III, IV, IV H	Mandarin/Chinese I, II, III, IV, IV H	Mandarin/Chinese I*, II, III, IV, IV H

*Level 1 is okay as a second language in the World Language Department once students have completed two consecutive years of another language other than English.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – WORLD LANGUAGE

The University of California/California State University requires 2 years of college-preparatory world language of the same language, other than English, or equivalent to the second-level of high school instruction.

FRENCH I FC1010

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This course is designed for beginning language students and students who have had less than one year of prior language study. It provides the basis for the continuing study and use of French. With an emphasis on conversation and practical application, the student is taught to understand, speak, read, and write the language. A working vocabulary is developed in context as are the basic grammatical structures in the language. In addition to listening and oral conversations, there are readings, written grammatical exercises, creative writing opportunities, and original dialogue performances. Students are introduced to culture and customs through skits, music, videos, food, and online resources.

FRENCH II FC1011

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in French I.

This course continues the work of the first year in all four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The goal of the second year is to give students a working knowledge of French language and culture. Contemporary topics, vocabulary, and culture are emphasized. A variety of activities, including skits and videos, are included to enhance students' understanding of life in Francophone countries and their use of the language.

FRENCH III FC1012

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in French II.

At this level, students use more sophisticated language structures than in the first two years. Class work is conducted mainly in French. Students are exposed to a wider range of vocabulary and to more in-depth original expression (impromptu and prepared) in both oral and written form. They continue their study of culture reinforced by reading literary works, seeing films or videos, and creating skits for class presentations.

FRENCH III HONORS FB1013

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H "+"	Level	

Recommendations: B+ or better in French II. Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.

This intensive honors course at level 3 is conducted in French and students are expected to use only French in class. The students' listening and speaking skills are further developed with an emphasis on original and spontaneous self-expression. Students are introduced to French Literature and engage in oral and written discussion based on their readings. Students enrolled in this honors course are expected to have a deep interest in French language, literature, and culture.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE FA1014

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: B or better in French III or equivalent. Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.

At this level, students have a higher degree of competency in all four language skills: speaking, reading, writing, and listening. They are now able to read and interpret selected literary works, discuss contemporary issues as presented in online resources/media, have an understanding and appreciation of the history and culture of the people using the language, and interact comfortably with native speakers.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – WORLD LANGUAGE

LATIN I FC3010

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Students will begin their study of Classical Latin. Students will complete daily homework assignments, showing their work by labeling or color-coding, and having completed translations. They will demonstrate their comprehension of Latin via chapter quizzes and unit exams. They will investigate various aspects of the Ancient Mediterranean (Mythology, Culture, History, Art, etc.) via monthly group projects and a weekly podcast assignment. They will improve their English vocabulary and grammar by learning Latin vocabulary and grammar. By June, students will recognize the relevance of Latin in both our local and global society. This course is academically rigorous and requires dedication and enthusiasm.

LATIN II FC3011

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Latin I.

Students will continue their study of classical Latin. Students will complete daily translation homework assignments. They will demonstrate their comprehension of Latin via chapter quizzes and unit exams. They will investigate the history of Romans looking at topics such as: daily life, politics, and war, via monthly group projects and a weekly podcast assignment. They will continue to expand their English vocabulary and will become experts on English grammar through learning Latin grammar. They will learn advanced aspects of Latin grammar including: participles, the passive voice, and uses of the subjunctive mood. This course is academically rigorous and requires dedication and enthusiasm.

LATIN III FC3012

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Latin II.

Students will complete their study of Latin grammar and move on to translating the works of various classical authors, including: Caesar, Cicero, Pliny, Catullus, Horace, and Ovid. They will work extensively in groups to translate these texts. They will learn exceptions to the rules of grammar learned previously. They will become familiar with particular authors' styles. They will begin literary analysis of Latin prose and poetry. They will also continue the study of Roman History. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of Roman history and culture via periodic group projects.

LATIN IV FC3013
AP LATIN FA3013

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP/AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in previous Latin class.

Latin IV/AP Latin will focus entirely on the AP reading list: Julius Caesar's *de Bello Gallico* and Vergil's *Aeneid*. Students will supplement their translation study with poetic analysis, essay writing, and comprehension questions. They will also sight-read authors such as: Martial, Catullus, and Cicero. They will be prepared for the AP Latin exam by early May.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – WORLD LANGUAGE

SPANISH I FC2010

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

This course is designed for beginning language students and students who have had less than one year of prior language study. It provides the basis for continuing study and use of Spanish throughout high school and college. With emphasis on conversation and practical application, the student is taught to understand, speak, read, and write the language. A working vocabulary is developed in context, as are the basic grammatical structures of the language. In addition to listening and oral drills, there are readings, written grammatical exercises, creative writing opportunities, and original dialogue performances. Students are introduced to culture and customs through skits, music, videos, food, and magazines. Students who speak Spanish at home should skip Spanish I and begin in II, II Honors, Spanish for Spanish speakers or III Honors for Spanish Speakers.

SPANISH II FC2011

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Spanish I.

This course continues the work of the first year in all four language skills: speaking, comprehending, reading, and writing. The goal of the second year is to give students a working knowledge of Spanish. Contemporary topics, vocabulary, and culture are stressed. A variety of activities, including skits, food days, and videos, are included to enhance students' understanding of life in foreign countries and their use of the language. Students who speak Spanish at home may wish to skip Spanish I and begin here, Spanish II Honors, Spanish for Spanish Speakers, or III Honors for Spanish Speakers.

SPANISH II HONORS FB2012

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H	Level	

Recommendations: A- or better in Spanish I. **Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.**

This course is designed for those who have demonstrated exceptional language ability in Level I, either in junior high school or in high school. While following the basic program of Level II, it also expands upon and provides enrichment in all areas. This course progresses at a faster pace, and students are expected to be greatly interested in the subject and responsible for completing assignments. The course is conducted entirely in the target language.

SPANISH III FC2013

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Spanish II.

At this level, students use more sophisticated language structures than in the first two years. Class work is conducted mostly in Spanish. Students are exposed to a wider range of vocabulary, to conversation, and to more in- depth original expression (impromptu and prepared) in both oral and written form. They continue their study of culture reinforced by reading original works, seeing films and videos, creating skits, and interacting with native speakers.

SPANISH III HONORS FB2014

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H "+"	Level	

Recommendations: A- or better in Spanish II or B or better in Spanish II Honors. **Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.**

This enrichment course at Level III increases listening and speaking skills with an emphasis on original and spontaneous self-expression. Students are introduced to literature in Spanish and engage in oral and written discussion based on their reading. Students enrolled in this honors course are expected to have a deep interest in Spanish language, literature and culture. The course is entirely conducted in the target

language. Students are expected to engage with each other as well as instructor in the target language.

SPANISH III HONORS FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS FB2111

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
H "+"	Level	

This is a Pre-AP course. Recommendations: Students who are Spanish Speakers that **extensively speak and read Spanish at home and have strong academic skills, heritage Spanish students who have taken and received a B or better in a Spanish II or Spanish II Honors class, or students who attended a dual immersion school in Spanish.** Students with a **strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits**.

The Spanish for Spanish Speakers level III honors course provides continuing language instruction for students who are already **proficient** in Spanish but who need to continue developing reading and writing. The course develops all language skills, emphasizing critical thinking, comparing and contrasting through reading and writing, and continued development of academic vocabulary and discourse. The culture, literature, and history of the Spanish-speaking world are emphasized. **This course provides the preparation necessary for advancement to AP Spanish literature or Spanish AP Language**. Students enrolled in this honors course are **expected to have a deep interest in learning the language** and be interested in current events at an international level.

SPANISH IV FC2015

Grades 11-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Spanish III or III Honors.
Students use a more sophisticated language structure than in the previous three years. Class work is conducted in Spanish. Students are exposed to a wider range of vocabulary, grammatical structure, and original expression through conversations, oral and written work. Students read in class and discuss contemporary issues as presented through literature, magazines and videos. This course emphasizes the use of conversational Spanish.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE FA2015

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

Recommendations: B or better in Spanish III, III Honors or IV or equivalent. **Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.**

The AP Spanish Language course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Spanish Language as well as the SAT Subject Test in Spanish. At this level, students have a higher degree of competency in all four language skills: speaking, reading, writing and listening.

AP SPANISH LITERATURE* FA2017

Grades 10-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
See below	Recommendations	
AP "+"	Level	

This course can be taken after any Spanish level III class (Spanish III, Spanish III Honors or Spanish III H for Spanish Speakers)
Recommendations: A- or better in Spanish III, III Honors, or B or better in the III Honors for Spanish Speakers, Spanish IV, or AP Spanish Language. **Students with a strong work ethic that highly enjoy reading literature, who are highly motivated to learn, and have outstanding homework completion habits.**

**AP Spanish Lit will be held based on student enrollment.*

At this level, students have a higher degree of competency in all four language skills: speaking, reading, writing and listening. Students read the literary selections in class as well as for homework. The readings are discussed and interpreted during class time; students learn about historical issues from the 15th to the 20th century and develop an understanding and appreciation of the history and culture of the people using the language. At this level students interact comfortably with native speakers. **The Spanish Literature class prepares students for TWO AP tests at once. The AP Spanish Literature Exam and the AP Spanish language Exam**. Students can take both tests in the same year if they choose to.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – WORLD LANGUAGE

MANDARIN/CHINESE I FC5010

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Prerequisite	
CP	Level	

Mandarin/Chinese I is designed to provide the basic communicative skills in Mandarin. The student is required to develop a basic mastery of the four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The students will learn Hanyu pinyin, radicals, word usages, sentence patterns, basic dialogues and short sentences in real life situations. The course also presents an introduction to the culture/history of the Mandarin/Chinese-speaking world. The students are able to use formulaic language to engage in conversations and appropriate responses in a culturally authentic way. This course is for beginning students or non-heritage speakers only.

MANDARIN/CHINESE II FC5011

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Mandarin/Chinese I or equivalent	Prerequisite	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Mandarin I or equivalent

In this course the students will continue to develop a mastery of the four language skills – speaking, listening, reading, and writing. They will further develop their oral skills, their knowledge of Chinese culture/history, and the skills needed to interact positively with members of the culture. They will become more confident in using the vocabulary studied, becoming more skillful in the conversational use of sentence patterns and structures. They will develop needed skills in reading for content and begin to acquire basic skills in spontaneous composition. They will demonstrate understanding of the general meaning, key ideas, and some details in authentic texts.

MANDARIN/CHINESE III FC5012

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Mandarin/Chinese II or equivalent	Prerequisite	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Mandarin II or recommendation from teachers.

Mandarin/Chinese III is designed to bring the students to a level where they are able to satisfy most survival needs and many social demands. They are able to show increased spontaneity in speaking. The students have fair control of basic grammar and can communicate in the different tense forms. They will create more sophisticated sentence structures in both formal and informal situations. The students will be able to describe, narrate, explain information, exchange personal opinions and state the various topics beyond survival needs. Writing will include story narration, reports, summaries, and translations. They will demonstrate understanding of the main idea and key details in authentic texts.

MANDARIN/CHINESE IV* FC5013

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Mandarin/Chinese III or equivalent	Prerequisite	
CP	Level	

Recommendations: C- or better in Mandarin III or recommendation from teachers.
**Mandarin/Chinese IV will be held based on student enrollment.*

Mandarin/Chinese IV is designed to develop students' four communications skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will also acquire more vocabulary and grammar patterns. At the end of the year, students will be able to produce and present their own viewpoints of events by using the Chinese language in both spoken and written forms. This course also provides students with the opportunity for cultural enrichment. The objective of this course is to help students master their abilities in reading, writing, speaking and listening and to respond to and express ideas with accuracy and fluency. During the yearlong course, students communicate exclusively in Chinese when speaking and writing. Likewise, their exposure to instruction, reading and auditory input is primarily in Chinese.

MANDARIN/CHINESE IV HONORS FB5014

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Mandarin/Chinese III or equivalent	Prerequisite	
H “+”	Level	

Recommendations: B+ or better in Mandarin III or recommendation by teachers. **Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.**

Mandarin/Chinese IV Honors is designed to enable the students to participate extensively in the life of the Chinese society. The students should be able to manipulate most social situations and casual conversations regarding current events. They will be able to discuss, compare and contrast, support or persuade an opinion in various topics. Grammar and writing skills will be reviewed and refined in the context of cultural studies, which will include the study of Chinese idioms, proverbs, literature, art, music and customs. They will demonstrate understanding of the main idea and details in authentic texts. They are able to use extended paragraphs to produce formal communications related to the external environment. **This class is conducted primarily in Mandarin and is considered a Pre-AP class.**

AP MANDARIN/CHINESE LANGUAGE/CULTURE FA5013

Grades 9-12	Y	Credits – 10
World Language e e	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Completion of previous level with a grade of “B+” or above	Prerequisite	
AP “+”	Level	

Recommendations: B+ or above in Mandarin IV, IV Honors or recommendation by teachers. Students with a strong work ethic and outstanding homework completion habits.

The AP Mandarin/Chinese Language and Culture course is an intensive course designed to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of a fourth-semester college course. In this course, students engage in an exploration of both contemporary and historical Chinese culture through a wide array of authentic sources while they further refine and expand their knowledge of the Chinese language in vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, grammatical structures, and written characters. Extensive speaking assignments on various topics, reading of authentic texts, and writing in different genres and registers are required. This course is conducted entirely in Mandarin. Students who enroll will also prepare to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Chinese Language and Culture.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NON-DEPARTMENTAL / ELECTIVES

ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

60 elective credits are required for graduation. ANY class taken in excess of a subject requirement is an elective. For example, a third year of science or mathematics will be applied towards the elective requirement. The classes on this page, **as well as those described in Department Sections**, may serve as electives.

AVID TUTOR — HO0070

Gr. 10-12 | Year | 10 credits

Requires AVID Coordinator/administrative approval.

AVID Tutors are students who want to specifically work with 1st generation college bound peers. AVID Tutoring is an inquiry based model that aligns with other Tutoring programs, but functions independently. AVID Tutors will receive training through the Tutorial Center and from the AVID Coordinator, and will solely report to AVID classrooms. AVID Tutors are confident in their ability to tutor in two or more subject areas and want to develop leadership and communication skills in a group tutoring environment.

PEER TUTOR — NO1060

Gr. 10-12 | Semester | 5 credits

Requires Tutorial Center Coordinator/administrative approval.

Peer Tutors are student leaders who are committed to support the success of their peers and the success of the LAHS community. Students will undergo training and complete assignments designed to increase skills related to personal growth and providing support to others. Various activities are available to students and will be assigned by the coordinator: peer tutoring in the Tutorial Center, classroom placement with a teacher, online essay feedback, 9th grade mentorship, writing skills in English courses, and more.

DANCE TEAM — OO1060

*Gr. 9-12 | 3 quarters | 10 credits

*Gr.10-12 receives PE credits.
Requires audition plus a 2.0 grade point average.

The Dance Team performs at rallies, games and community events during the fall football season and winter basketball season. They represent LAHS at regional competitions in the spring. Freshmen through seniors may participate in this program upon acceptance following spring tryouts. Practices are held after school. Some weekend practices and competitions may also be required.

RALLY — OO1040/OO1050

*Gr. 9-12 | 3 quarters | 10 credits

*Gr.10-12 receives PE credits.
Requires audition plus a 2.0 grade point average.

This course includes Cheerleading. Students participate in the fall football season and the winter basketball season. Freshmen through seniors may participate in this program depending on their skill level. There are tryouts for the fall and basketball season. Practices are held two to three times a week before school. Practices include cheer reviews, skill building and strength conditioning. Some weekend practices may be required.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT — OC1020

Gr. 9-12 | Year | 10 credits

This year-long student-led course offers students opportunities to develop leadership skills and to serve as representatives of the LAHS student body. All students will learn and practice valuable skills in: public speaking and presenting; event planning; task and event coordination; finance and fundraising; and student body governance and service. Course enrollment is required for all ASB members, elected and appointed, and for class presidents. Students interested in this class but not appointed or elected may petition the Assistant Principal who serves as ASB advisor. Members of the ASB class give input to the administration on school-wide decisions that affect students, organize school spirit events, and put on fundraisers. They also develop and operate a budget for ASB expenditures and income, review club charters, and approve or deny requests for class/club fundraisers. As ASB representatives, members must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA, demonstrate commitment to the goals and

expectations of ASB, and act as role models for LAHS. Students enrolled in the class have volunteered their time to make Los Altos High School the best school possible. Being involved in ASB Leadership is a privilege, not a right. The students enrolled will be expected to show superior performance in the areas of leadership, citizenship and dedication to the betterment of Los Altos High School.

STUDENT COMMUNITY LEADERS (SCL) OC1025

Gr. 9-12 Year 5 credits

This year-long student-led course offers students the opportunities to develop leadership skills as they develop their academic, social and emotional potential to engage with peers and the broader community in meaningful ways. Students will collaborate with peers, school staff, and community partners to organize and participate in wellness- and diversity-focused activities on campus, service learning projects both on the campus and the larger community around LAHS. This course is an opportunity for students to continue to develop their leadership skills and be involved in their community both on campus and off throughout their high school career.

POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY EC4311

Gr. 10-12 Year 10 credits

Course is offered based on student enrollment.

This elective course provides an introduction to positive psychology, a study which aims to understand what contributes to a person's well-being. Students will learn about the concept and science of happiness and learn and practice tools to gain more joy in their daily lives and improve their well-being. In addition to learning about themselves, their strengths, and their passions, students will develop mindfulness and emotional intelligence. Topics range from the latest neuroscience to gratitude, self-compassion, and emotional regulation including stress management. We learn from two textbooks and relevant films and articles to quickly apply what we learn to real life at school, at home, and beyond.

YEARBOOK OC1040

Gr. 10-12 Year 10 credits

Yearbook is an elective course that gives students experience in print media publishing and photojournalism. The course works toward the production and completion of the school yearbook. In class, students compose, construct, and edit all elements of a computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography. Students work on business operations, advertisement, conduct student, teacher and coach interviews, a Spring Supplement, and the planning and execution of the year-end signing party. The bulk of class time will be spent on generating computerized yearbook pages. The students will gain real world skills in teamwork, time management, organizational skills, and design principles. Students will often work in teams, but will also be expected to complete individual assignments. Some out of class time will be required. No prior experience is necessary. Students are highly encouraged to take the course over multiple years.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NON-DEPARTMENTAL / ELECTIVES

ONLINE INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSE RX1020

Grade 10-12	S	Credits – 5
Yes Varies Varies	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Counselor	Recommendations	
NCP	Level	

This is an online software course delivery system. Counselor recommendation is required. The class is for credit recovery purposes with offerings in the core subject areas. It is not designed for acceleration or in lieu of courses currently being taught at Los Altos or Mountain View High School as part of the regular school curriculum.

The course is administered on the Los Altos High School campus during 7th period. Students meet with the teacher once per week to monitor their progress. The rest of the course work is completed by the student at home on their computer. The curriculum is also available over the Internet from most standard computers. Computers are also available in the library, tutorial center, and the college/career center.

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
ON-SITE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC) All of CHAC's programs are designed to protect young people from high-risk behaviors such as alcohol use, illicit drug use, violence, and premature sexual activity, while building personal assets such as school success, valuing diversity, maintaining good health, and the ability to delay gratification; all of which will help insure that they have the greatest chance for success in life. A critical component of CHAC's work is an "integrated care" model of working with four school districts to support the psychological and emotional well-being of students in K-12. All school programs are provided free of charge to students and their families. CHAC's school-based on-site counseling services address social, emotional and mental health issues affecting students' ability to learn. To request a screening for on-campus support from CHAC, and from other mental health programs, please complete the online MVLA Student Support Referral form, which is available at http://bit.ly/mvlasupport or http://bit.ly/mvlaayuda.
More information is available by e-mail to info@chacmv.org or by calling (650) 965-2020.

Mentor Program/Mentor Tutor Connection The Mentoring Program through Mentor Tutor Connection partners a LAHS student with a caring adult mentor. The mentors are from our local community representing different careers, interests, and life experiences. The mentors are recruited, screened and trained by Mentor Tutor Connection. The mentor will spend quality time with their student mentee at least twice a month. Mentors act as a friend, role-model, cheerleader, listener, and resource. The goal of the program is to help LAHS students thrive by providing high quality mentoring. This program has been in the district for over 25 years and has an outstanding success record in helping students feel cared for as they navigate the teenage years and transition into adulthood. Students are referred to the mentor program by teachers, counselors and administrators. M**ore information is available by e-mail to ann.wolff@mvla.net.**

The Academy
This course is designed to improve student's academic preparation and focus on completing high school graduation requirements. A large portion of class time is geared toward staying on top of coursework and assignments. Twice a week, on tutorial days, students will work individually or in groups on coursework and improving their knowledge of academic content. Weekly and monthly check-ins take place to make sure students are also accessing support services and academic support on campus. Intertwined into this academic focus is a series college preparation/vocational workshops and activities to help students stay motivated and begin to plan their future goals. Constant and consistent communication with family is an essential piece to the course. Finally, rewards are given to students who show improvement and positive behavior in the class.
For further information please contact (650) 960-8811 ext.2037 or e-mail to jacob.larin@mvla.net.

Tutorial Center
Funded by the MVLA High School Foundation, the Tutorial Center supports academic achievement for students of all ability levels. Students can come to the Center to get help in all subjects as well as prepare for quizzes, tests, SAT/ACT and AP exams. The Center is a great place to do homework, to get help from tutors, or use computers, and other reference materials. The Center is open daily, Monday - Thursday from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM, and Friday from 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

Tutors are recruited from a variety of sources including peer tutors who are successful high school students, and adult volunteers from the community. Tutoring sessions are conducted on a one-on-one basis. All of the Tutorial Center's services are free to the students.
For more information please e-mail the coordinator at esmeralda.paredes@mvla.net.

The Library
The LAHS Library has a wide variety of resources to support students' academic and creative interests. Our collection of over 90,000 print, electronic, and audio books covers many different subjects and genres. In addition to books, students can also access seven different research databases to help them find accurate and timely articles for their information needs. To help students create original, multimedia products, the library has video and audio equipment that students can check out with just their student ID card and computer software to edit and polish their work.

The library is open daily, Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Funded by the MVLA High School Foundation, extended library hours are Monday- Thursday from 3:30 – 6:00 PM.
For more information please call (650) 960-8811, ext.2051, or e-mail to gordon.jack@mvla.net.

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

ON-SITE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

College and Career Center at Los Altos High Schools invites you to use their many resources and services. Students and parents should visit the College and Career website https://sites.google.com/mvla.net/lahsccc/home for a variety of helpful materials relating to the college process and avail themselves of career resources. Students are encouraged to explore college and career choices using the Naviance/navigational tool and other resources, as well as paying for college, Financial Aid and scholarship information.

College representatives from around the country and world speak with interested students. The Center also offers occupational information and helps students make post-high-school plans. In collaboration with the Counseling Department, the Center sponsors evening programs about college admissions, financial aid, standardized testing, as well as the College Fair and Countdown to College.

College & Career Center hours are:
8:00 am - end of school day Monday - Friday. **The Center is located in P-15,** the portable near Almond Avenue parking lot.
The center is funded by the donations to the MVLA High School Foundation. Thank you for your support! **For further information please call (650) 960-8811, ext.2128, or e-mail to laura.duran@mvla.net.**

College Adviser

The College Adviser works with the Counselors, and the College and Career Center to build a comprehensive college-going culture for all students in addition to facilitating presentations to all juniors and seniors highlighting the importance of planning post-secondary options, discussing basic college requirements and the detailed application process. In collaboration with the Superintendent office, sponsors evening events with College Admission Deans and Directors to give families District-wide insight into the College Admission process.

The College Adviser created a guide for freshman, sophomores and juniors to assist in their navigating their path to college. College and financial aid application workshops are held before and after school. Junior and senior parent night is available to families. See Ms. Price for the guide if the student does not have one. The College Adviser is funded by the MVLA Foundation. **Office is located in P-15. For further information please call (650) 960-8811, ext.2059, or e-mail to angela.price@mvla.net.**

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
OFF-CAMPUS ALTERNATIVES

Alta Vista High School Continuation School Program, 1325 Bryant Ave., Mtn. View CA 94040

https://avhs.mvla.net | (650) 691-2433

Alta Vista High School (AVHS) is an alternative high school in Mountain View serving the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District (MVLA) and the Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD). AVHS is recognized by the California State Department of Education as a Model Continuation High School. Alta Vista High School has been fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) since 1999.

AVHS is for students who prefer a small school setting, have not found success in a traditional school setting, and/or work best in flexible classrooms where students' individual learning styles and needs are honored.

AVHS is designed to: enable students to graduate from high school prepared to attend college and career programs; allow students to complete required credits/courses to transition or return to a traditional high school; and encourage students to take courses at community college, adult education, or traditional schools. Faculty instruct and guide students who have unique needs and may need: independent study, work-study, or a modified schedule due to extenuating circumstances, and provide special education services for those students who qualify.

AVHS students must meet the same graduation requirements as students who attend the traditional schools. All courses required for graduation are offered on site.

The AVHS staff includes one principal, six teachers, two instructional aides as well as a community resources coordinator, school psychologist, mentor coordinator, program specialist, college & career coordinator, and cafeteria services and custodial assistants. Additional counseling services are provided by the Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC), Pacific Clinics, and the Lucille Packard Children's Hospital's Adolescent Health Van visits our campus every month.
For more information call (650) 691-2433.

Community Services Coordinator

The Alta Vista High School Community Services Coordinator complements and supports the alternative educational programs by providing a variety of school-linked services to students and their families to address needs that have a negative impact on the student's educational performance. The Community Services Coordinator identifies, assesses, evaluates, refers, and may access services for students and their families. The Community Services Coordinator also provides resources for conflict resolution, alcohol/drug prevention-intervention, emergency housing and food, health and legal services, etc.
For more information please contact AVHS Office at (650) 691-2433, x3015.

Freestyle Academy of Communication Arts & Technology, 1299 Bryant Ave., Mtn. View, CA 94040

At Freestyle Academy of Communication Arts and Technology, students develop skills in effective written, oral, and visual communication, and work with the latest multimedia technology to find outlets for creative expression. Juniors and Seniors enrolled in Freestyle attend during Periods 2, 3, 4 OR Periods 5, 6, 7. Students attend classes the alternate part of the day at Mountain View, Los Altos, or Alta Vista High School. Rather than emphasizing lectures, quizzes and tests, classes at Freestyle rely on project-based learning and real-world connections to engage students.

Project-based learning combines traditional English and Fine Arts curricula with 21st century skills, such as self-direction, creativity, and collaboration. Students use the latest technology to become producers (not just consumers) of media, using the latest multimedia software such as Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Dreamweaver, Animate,

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After Effects, Premiere Pro, DragonFrame, Maya, Reason, Ableton Live, and Pro Tools.

All classes at Freestyle Academy meet UC/CSU requirements for English and Visual & Fine Arts. The Academy is designed as a two-year program with advanced work offered in the 2nd year. More information at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks**, or call (650) 940-4650, ext.0090.

ENGLISH III **TC1010**

Grade 11	Y	Units – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

In this college preparatory, UC-approved junior English course, students explore personal, social, and political topics through the study and composition of literature and visual art. They develop core project concepts and content to translate in their Freestyle media classes. In addition to developing research and writing skills through persuasive speeches, research projects, essays, short stories, and poetry, students will also learn to become strong presenters, technological communicators, project managers, collaborative workers, and creative problem solvers. They will also practice critical reading and thinking and learn the fundamentals of English mechanics and grammar. In class discussions, developing skills in Shared Inquiry is an essential component of the class. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/English**.

ENGLISH IV **TC1030**

Grade 12	Y	Units – 10
English b b	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
None	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

This is a UC-approved, college-preparatory senior English class. In this course, students examine themes and questions relating to psychology and philosophy through a variety of literary fiction and nonfiction genres. They develop expository, creative and reflective writing, critical reading and thinking, and public speaking skills as well as learning the fundamentals of English mechanics and grammar. In class discussions, developing skills in Shared Inquiry is an essential component of the class. Students will create a formal presentation of their portfolio of their work to a panel of experts in a specific professional field related to their Freestyle work. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/English**.

DIGITAL MEDIA I **TC1060**

Grade 11-12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
*	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Digital Media I is year one of a 2-year sequenced exploratory, project-based learning course designed to educate students on the ever-changing digital world, as well as to provide hands-on experience with industry standard software and equipment. The course curriculum introduces students to a wide range of areas, so it appeals to a diverse group of students who can discover, enhance and develop a passion for communicating their ideas through various forms of media. Topics covered in Digital Media I include graphic design, photography, print production, animation, music/audio production, video production, and web design.

Digital Media I and the Freestyle Academy program will become a springboard to a possible future in some of the most highly sought after 21st Century careers. Through guided and independent practice, students will gain repeated experience with diverse technology and highly versatile communication media skills applicable to personal career goals, any college environment, and a large variety of professions. Students operate in a state-of-the-art computer lab and recording studio with modern equipment. All students are challenged to produce a variety of projects using industry standard software such as Adobe Premiere, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, After Effects, Audition, Avid Pro Tools, Propellerhead Reason, WordPress, and HTML/CSS/jQuery. Every student leaves Freestyle Academy with a diverse and deep Digital Portfolio through their personal website that features project productions from all 3 of their Freestyle classes. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rock/Digital_Media**.

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DIGITAL MEDIA II **TC1063**

Grade 12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Digital Media I	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Digital Media II is year two of a 2-year sequenced exploratory, project-based learning course designed to educate students on the ever-changing digital world, as well as to provide hands-on experience with industry standard software and equipment. The course curriculum introduces students to a wide range of areas, so it appeals to a diverse group of students who can discover, enhance and develop a passion for communicating their ideas through various forms of media. Topics covered in Digital Media I include graphic design, photography, print production, animation, music/audio production, video production, and web design.

Digital Media II and the Freestyle Academy program will become a springboard to a possible future in some of the most highly sought after 21st Century careers. Through guided and independent practice, students will gain repeated experience with diverse technology and highly versatile communication media skills applicable to personal career goals, any college environment, and a large variety of professions. Students operate in a state-of-the-art computer lab and recording studio with modern equipment. All students are challenged to produce a variety of projects using industry standard software such as Adobe Premiere, Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, After Effects, Audition, Avid Pro Tools, Propellerhead Reason, WordPress, and HTML/CSS/jQuery. Every student leaves Freestyle Academy with a diverse and deep Digital Portfolio through their personal website that features project productions from all 3 of their Freestyle classes. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Digital_Media**

ANIMATION I **TC1070**

Grade 11-12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
*	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Animation I, an elective course at Freestyle Academy, is designed to provide students with an opportunity to build up their portfolio of digital work by focusing on animation principles and drawing skills for digital animation. Students will increase their knowledge of the production process from initial script writing, concept design and storyboarding through a final edit, sound design and rendering by using animation software and studying both traditional (2D, stop- motion, frame-by-frame) and 3D digital animation techniques. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Animation**.

ANIMATION II **TC1073**

Grade 12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
*	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Animation II, an elective course at Freestyle Academy, is designed to provide students with advanced animation and filmmaking skills for their digital portfolio by focusing on the study and exploration of CGI computer animation, advanced concept design, and storytelling. The student will increase their knowledge of multiple digital animation pipelines and formats including video mapping, 360, VR and AR. New skills will include character development, lip sync, cinematography and special effects. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Animation**.

DESIGN I **TC1040**

Grade 11-12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif.Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
*	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Design I, an elective course at Freestyle Academy, provides a foundation in the elements and principles of art and design via digital applications. Students create digital photography, illustrations, and graphic design using Adobe computer programs. Course work is fully integrated with the other courses at Freestyle Academy (Digital Media, Film Production and English). Software used in the class includes Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Design**.

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DESIGN II **TC1043**

Grade 12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ.Req.	
Design I	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Design II, an elective course at Freestyle Academy, continues the exploration of the elements and principles of visual design in a series of longer term, larger scale, more technically demanding projects through a series of projects involving traditional and non-traditional photography as well as more advanced new media challenges. Students will also use Adobe Illustrator, InDesign and Photoshop for various projects but at a more advanced level. They learn more unconventional and cutting-edge techniques in photography and the Adobe programs using alternative lighting, different exposure techniques, and shooting more challenging objects/subjects. In addition, students will focus on critical thinking by developing the concepts behind their work, delving further into symbolism and meaning through visual art. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Design.**

FILM PRODUCTION I **TC1050**

Grade 11-12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
*	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Film Production I, an elective course at Freestyle Academy, offers experience in pre-production, production and post- production filmmaking techniques, instruction in story development and film analysis, storyboarding, basic camera and audio operation, and editing and special effects. Students study film form, learning basic rules of continuity shooting and editing while collaborating to develop and complete short experimental, narrative, and documentary film projects using professional film tools and resources. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Film**.

FILM PRODUCTION II
TC1053

Grade 12	Y	Units – 10
Visual & Perf. Arts f f	HS Graduation Req. Univ. of Calif. Req. Calif. State Univ. Req.	
Film Production I	Recommended Prerequisites	
CP	Level	

Film Production II, an elective course at Freestyle Academy, introduces students to advanced skills and techniques in all aspects of the filmmaking process, Academy, introduces students to advanced skills and techniques in all aspects of the filmmaking process,while also adding experiences in the roles of writer, director, and producer. New skills include screenwriting and character development, creation of shot lists and shooting schedules, advanced cinematography and lighting, and specialized special effects. Students collaborate on video essays, screenplays and narrative films, while also developing an independent project of their own design. Editing moves beyond the basics and includes the use of post-production special effects software. Second year projects demonstrate improved cinematic aesthetic, depth, and creativity. More info at **https://freestyleacademy.rocks/Film.**

Middle College, 12345 El Monte Rd., Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

Middle College is an alternative high school program serving juniors and seniors in the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District and Palo Alto Unified School District. The program is targeted toward intellectually-curious students who either feel disconnected from their home site and/or are not performing up to their full potential, but who nevertheless seem capable of self-directed, college-level work. Students meet their high school graduation requirements by taking Foothill Community College courses with the general college population and daily high school courses with other Middle College students on the Foothill campus. High school courses are taught by Middle College teachers who also act as academic advisors and guidance counselors. Middle College offers a collaborative and caring community, diverse college offerings, and an opportunity to develop independence, self-advocacy, and a renewed sense of educational purpose. Middle College students must meet the same high school graduation requirements as their peers in our traditional schools to earn a diploma from their home high school. **For more information call (650) 949-7168.**

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College Now!, 12345 El Monte Rd., Los Altos Hills, CA 94022

MVLA High School District and Foothill College are collaborating on a new program - College Now! This is an early college high school program. The program is designed for high school juniors and seniors who wish to get an early start on college and are able to do college level work. The average unweighted grade point average for students who enter the program is 3.6 in a solid college preparatory curriculum including honors and advanced placement class. To enter the program a student must complete an application online. College Now! students take all classes at Foothill College unless they need to complete a world language sequence, a class to complete their high school graduation requirements or any class that is not offered at Foothill College. Permission of the Principal is required to take a class at their home high school. **For more information about the program and how to apply, visit https://www.foothillcollegenow.org/ or email the Counselor/Advisor gary.mchenry@mvla.net.**

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PROGRAMS OPERATED BY or HOUSED AT ADULT SCHOOL

333 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View, CA (650) 940-1333 ext. 4104
https://as.mvla.net | Coordinator Email: danielle.dinh@mvla.net

Moffett Independent Study Program

MVHS and LAHS students who need to complete high school diploma requirements independently may do so through the Moffett Independent Study Program. All classes are supervised by a highly qualified credentialed instructor. This is a blended model program with a-g approved online course-work and direct instruction. Students who need additional help can reach out to their teachers by coming to the Adult School Room 104 during open lab hours.

Teacher office hours are Mon-Thu from 9:00AM-8:30PM and Fri from 12:00-4:00PM. Virtual teacher support meetings are also available to students.

All students are required to meet at least once per week at regularly scheduled day or evening appointments to review and evaluate their work with their instructor. Students are assigned a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of schoolwork every two weeks. For every 75 hours of satisfactory work, a student receives 5 high school credits.

Students must first consult with their high school counselor and Assistant Principal to ensure that Independent Study is the appropriate program for achieving their goals. **Call (650) 940-1333, ext.4104 or email the Coordinator for more information.**

Concurrent Enrollment – District high school students

MVLA Adult School offers part-time high school coursework to currently attending district high school students. Students MUST BE at least 16 years of age and attending their home high school full-time. All concurrent classes are conducted as a blended program with online work and in-person instruction. Students are required to meet at least once a week with instructors during scheduled times. Teacher office hours are Mon-Thu from 9:00AM-8:30PM and Fri from 12:00-4:00PM. Virtual teacher support meetings are also available to students.

Students must first consult with their high school counselors to ensure that the course of study is the appropriate program of study and be officially referred to this Adult School program. Most students enroll concurrently to improve a grade, make up deficient credits, or because they have difficulty scheduling classes at their regular high school. Once the referral has been made, students must attend a mandatory orientation session with a parent on Thursdays at 4:30PM at the Adult School Room 106. **Call (650) 940-1333, ext.4104 or email the Coordinator for more information.**

High School Diploma Program (for adults)

Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District offers a high school diploma program for persons *18 years of age and older* who want to complete their high school credits and need 50 credits or less to obtain a high school diploma. All classes are conducted on an independent study basis through a blended model of online course-work and regular teacher meetings. Students are assigned a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of schoolwork every two weeks. They are required to meet with their instructor at least one hour per week to review and evaluate their work. Teacher office hours are Mon-Thu from 9:00AM-8:30PM and Fri from 12:00-4:00PM.

Enrollment is open entry/open exit. To be considered for the program, please drop off official transcripts to the senior staff secretary in Room 104 or email transcripts to marina.sandoval@mvla.net. All diploma programs meet district and state requirements. **Call (650) 940-1333, ext.4104 or email the Coordinator for more information.**

GED Test Preparation Classes

Individualized instruction and group discussions are offered to students in Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. High school students wishing to enroll in GED must first consult with their high school counselor and Assistant Principal to ensure that they meet the minimum requirements to attend GED. Classes meet in person at the Adult School in Room 106. Morning classes are available from Mon-Fri 9:00AM-12:00PM and evening classes from Mon-Thu 6:00-8:30PM.

Prerequisite: Students must be 18 years old or within 60 days of their 18th birthday to be eligible. Students should pass a preliminary reading assessment prior to enrolling in this class. **Call (650) 940-1333, ext.4104 or email the**

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PROGRAMS OPERATED BY or HOUSED AT ADULT SCHOOL

Coordinator for more information.

GED Testing

The Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School is an official G.E.D. Testing Center. Go to GED.com for testing options and to schedule your test. Students also have the option to take the test online from their home. Test fee: $35 per test or $140 for the complete battery of four tests. **Call (650) 940-1333 ext.4104 or email the Coordinator for more information.**

Young Parents Program (YPP)

Pregnant and parenting teens in the MVLA district can earn credits towards their high school diploma in a safe and supportive environment. This is a blended program with online course-work and direct instruction. Free lunch and infant childcare are available while students are on site. Childcare is available Mon-Thu 12:30-3:30PM. Public VTA transportation can be requested at no cost from the student's home high school. Students must consult their high school counselor or Assistant Principal in order to be officially referred to this program during the regular school year.

Students can obtain academic support from teachers during open lab office hours: Mon-Thu 9:00AM-8:30PM, Fri 12:00-4:00PM at the Adult School in Room 104. Virtual teacher support meetings are available to students. **Call (650) 940-1333, ext.4104 or email the Coordinator for more information.**

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND PROGRAM ABBREVIATIONS

Some of the words and terms used in this booklet or in the course selection and scheduling process may not be familiar to all students and parents. The following brief explanations may be helpful.

"a-g" Subject Requirements
See page 6. This designation refers to a set of courses required for entrance into the University of California or California State University systems. UC requires students to complete a series of high school college preparatory courses in order to be eligible for admission. The current a-g course list may be found at https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide.

a-g Policy Resource Guide
https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide

Academic Courses
Academic courses prepare students to meet graduation requirements, seek immediate employment after high school, enter the military, or to further their education. As the name implies, the emphasis is on serious academic studies.

ADEN – Advanced Data Structures and Embedded Systems and Networking
See TED section for Computer Science courses.

AP - Advanced Placement
Advanced Placement or AP (when capitalized) refers to college courses taught according to syllabi prescribed by the College Board Advanced Placement Program and/or courses designed to prepare students for College Board AP Tests. Successful performance on AP tests (a score of 3, 4, or 5 on a five-point scale) may lead to college credit and/or advanced placement in college courses. For further information on the policies on the granting of AP credit, consult the catalogs of specific colleges and universities or contact your high school counselor. Success in AP courses can be an important factor in admission to highly selective colleges and universities.

ASB – Associated Student Body-Student Government

AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination
This course is a support class for students underrepresented in higher education. It engages students in the writing process, inquiry method, and collaborative learning to improve critical thinking and communication skills.

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP, SBAC, SBSA, *CAST*)
Every spring, students in grade eleven take the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments for English Language Arts and mathematics. *Students in grade twelve take the CAST is science*. Results from these assessments are just one piece of information to help teachers, parents/guardians, and students understand how well a student is meeting grade-level standards.

The Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments *and CAST* are an important innovation in several ways:

- They are aligned with California's new content standards for ELA, mathematics *and science*.
- They reflect the critical thinking and problem solving skills that students will need to be ready for college and the 21st century job market.
- They are taken on a computer and are adaptive, which means that during the test, the questions will become more or less difficult on the basis of how the student performs. If the student answers a question correctly, the next question may be a bit more challenging; if the student answers it incorrectly, the next question may be less difficult.
- They provide many more supports for students who need them, including students learning English and students with disabilities.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND PROGRAM ABBREVIATIONS

CHAC – Community Health Awareness Council
CHAC provides Counseling, therapy, and a variety of programs to help the children and families.

CHSPE – California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) (Examination subject to funding by the State)

The California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) is a voluntary test that assesses proficiency in basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills taught in public schools. Eligible persons who pass the CHSPE are awarded a Certificate of Proficiency by the California State Board of Education. The test is given in English only.

You may take the CHSPE only if you meet one of the following requirements on the test date:

- You are at least 16 years old, or
- You have been enrolled in the tenth grade for one academic year or longer, or
- You will complete one academic year of enrollment in the tenth grade at the end of the semester during which the CHSPE administration will be conducted.

College and Career Center
Provides assistance to students in preparing for career and college. The Center coordinates events, speakers from business and industry and college admissions officers. It houses many resources in print and online to help students in the selection of a college or a career.

CP – College Prep
The designation is used for courses that meet the UC or CSU a-g requirements.

Crossroads
A special education, independent study class in specific subject areas designed to help students make up credits they need to graduate. The program offers vocational and career/job training, and supplies course materials for home & hospital students.

College Board
https://www.collegeboard.org

CSU – The California State University
https://www2.calstate.edu/
There are as many as twenty three (23) CSU campuses spread across northern, central and southern California.

CSU Campus Match
https://www2.calstate.edu/attend/campuses/campus-match

CSU Eligibility Index
https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/eligibility- index

Elective Course
Electives are courses that students choose to take. Electives, by definition, are not required. However, students may be required to choose from a variety of electives in order to meet graduation or college requirements.

ELL – English Language Learner
Students who are learning English as a second language.

ELD – English Language Development
Specially designed English program for ELL students and offered in Mountain View HS.

Extracurricular Activities
Extracurricular refers to student clubs and activities which meet outside of the regular school day and which are not part of specific courses within the traditional school curriculum.

GED - General Educational Development
The GED is a high school equivalency certificate that is generally accepted by employers and colleges in lieu of a high school diploma. It is awarded upon passing four subject tests. The GED measures an

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND PROGRAM ABBREVIATIONS

individual's level of general educational development in comparison to high school students. Students must be 18 years or older to be eligible to take this exam.

Honors (H) Courses
Honors courses are those which are taught at a high school level but which, like AP courses, provide the greatest challenge and the best preparation for admission to and success at highly selective colleges.

IEP – Individual Educational Plan
For students who qualify for Special Education.

LEP – Limited English Proficient
Instruction for students whose first language is other than English and who are eligible for placement in the English Language Development Program.

NAVIANCE/Family Connection
Naviance is a web-based resource that supports college/career planning. This is how LAHS submits supporting documents for college applications. Students can login using classlink app & parents can request an account. Contact College/Career Center or directly click on Naviance on our School Homepage https://lahs.mvla.net/Our-School/index.html.

NCP – Non College Prep
The designation is used for courses that do not meet the UC or CSU a-g requirements.

PLTW – Project Lead the Way
See TED section for Engineering courses.

Prerequisite
A prerequisite is a course that a student must complete in order to qualify for entry into another course. Before students can take Algebra 2, for example, they must have completed Geometry. Therefore, Geometry is a prerequisite for Algebra 2.

Quarter
Each semester is divided into 2 quarters. Students receive grade reports at the end of each quarter and semester. Only semester grades are recorded on the transcript.

Required Course
A required course is one that must be taken by all students in order to meet high school graduation requirements. Examples of required courses are U.S. History, Health, and Physical Education.

RSP – Resource Specialist Program
A less restrictive environment for Special Education students. Students can receive assistance with their mainstream class work for one period daily.

SAI - Specialized Academic Instruction
Courses offered in Special Education program.

SDC – Special Day Class
Intensive instruction for eligible Special Education students who require additional support in academic areas. Students also take a variety of mainstream course offerings.

SELPA – Special Education Local Plan Area
The regional team responsible for providing Special Education services to students within a particular geographic region of Santa Clara County.

Semester
A semester is one-half of a school year and includes two of the four marking periods. The first semester starts in late August and finishes near the end of December. The second semester starts in January and finishes in mid-June. Semester grades are recorded on the official transcript.

Student Information System (SIS)
Aeries SIS allows parents and students to access a wealth of information, including: attendance, course history, current progress report grades, and some current grades

(depending upon teachers utilization). This can be found on https://lahs.mvla.net/ and click on Parent/Student Portal on the front homepage.

T.E.D. – Technology Engineering and Design
A new department composed of elective courses focusing on the application of practical skills that get students both college and career ready. Course topics stem from engineering, computer science, and culinary arts concepts.

TP – Therapeutic Program
A program designed to meet the emotional, behavioral, and educational needs of students whose learning is significantly impacted by their social-emotional needs that cannot be addressed within any of the other special education programs.

Tutorial Center/Study Center
A place where students can go to get help with their studies. Both student and adult tutors are available through the center to help students in specific subject areas. The Center is located in the library building.

UC – University of California
https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/

UC – University of California Admissions | Freshman requirement Subject (A-G)
https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/freshman-requirements/subject-requirement-a-g.html

UC – University of California | Office of the President
https://www.ucop.edu/

WorkAbility I
This grant-funded program assists high school Special Ed students to gain skills and become successful in the workplace.