



Electives



Here is an overview of electives that
are available in high school...



NEW!

This year students will be able to take yearlong electives or semester long electives! Year-long and semester electives both earn one high school credit. All high school students have 3 elective periods, which means that you will choose either 3 yearlong electives, or 6 semester long electives, or any combination of the two. For example:

- 1st Period Elective – Spanish (yearlong class)**
- 5th Period Elective – Music Theory(S1) and Business Principles(S2)**
- 6th Period Elective – Visual Art 1 (yearlong class)**

Electives that are year long (YL) are:

AP Courses

Art courses

Modern Orchestra

PE

Theatre I, II, III,IV

World Languages

All other electives are one semester in length.

**Some are offered in only some semester
and some are offered in both semesters.**

**PowerSchool will only allow you to
register for courses being taught in the
corresponding period.**

Current Affairs and Model United Nations



We examine modern issues
in politics and international
affairs.

Meet people from around
the world at the Model UN
Conference.
Go to UNC Chapel Hill



World Language Options

As a college-bound program, **FSI encourages students to meet the minimum admission requirements for NC public universities, successfully completing at least 2 years of the same world language.**

- FSI offers French & Spanish.
- Students can earn credit for Spanish 1 and French 1 taken in 8th grade.
- Spanish & French can be taken at the Honors level year 3 and up.

(If you know you do NOT want to attend a 4 year college and you are not interested in learning a new language, we recommend that you do not take this class and instead choose a less academically rigorous elective!)



Spanish Classes



Join us to learn how to speak in one of the most commonly spoken languages in the world! You will frequently find use for Spanish as an adult, no matter what job you end up doing. Our classes will teach you how to speak, listen, read, write, bargain, sing, and so much more!

Français



FSI French students after winning or placing in 4 categories at the WNC language competition.

French is the official language of 29 countries world-wide. In French class you'll learn to understand, speak, read, write, and express yourself in the language that some are projecting will be the world's most-spoken language by 2050.



Adventure Education

Semester 1
Prerequisite: PE

***Utilizes an outdoor classroom
in almost all weather**



A class designed to explore the role of challenge and adventure, with a focus on outdoor skills and the Habits of Scholarship.

Team Building: leadership skills and team initiatives

Woodcraft: outdoor skills, survival tools and naturalizing

First Responder: front country and wilderness first aid, including search and rescue

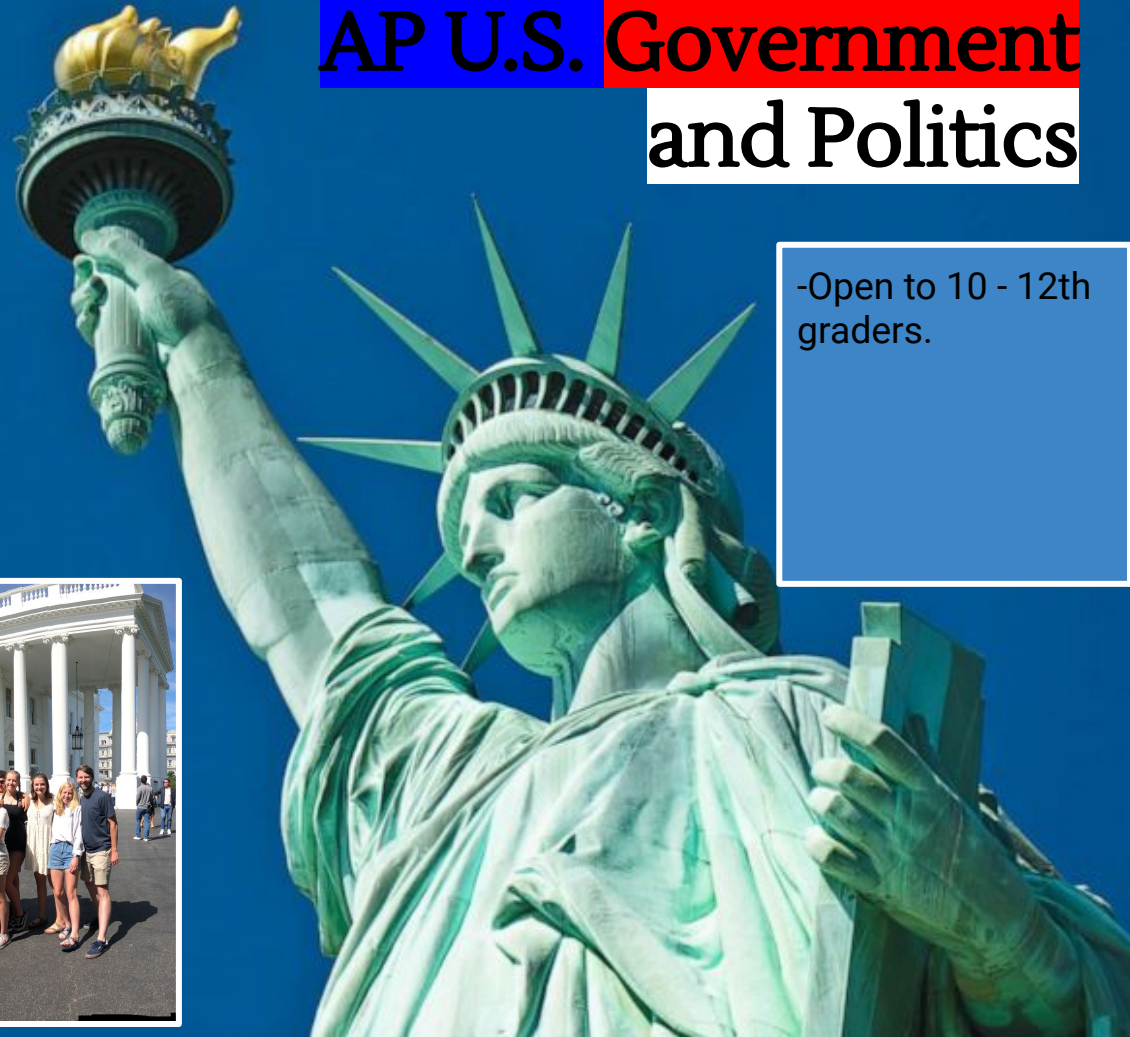


- **Earn** College Credit!
- **Dive** deep into how our country works and *doesn't* work.
- Student-Centered Learning - **NO lectures!**
- **Learn** the advanced skills you need to be successful in any class and college.
- **Be** an informed citizen and put it to use outside of the classroom.

****This is a college level course and moves at a college level pace****

AP U.S. Government and Politics

-Open to 10 - 12th graders.





Advanced PE



Elective 10th-12th
Available for FSI's student athletes!



Weightlifting & Conditioning

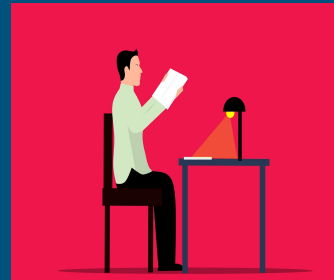
This course will give students the tools and resources needed to be physically fit and healthy for a lifetime

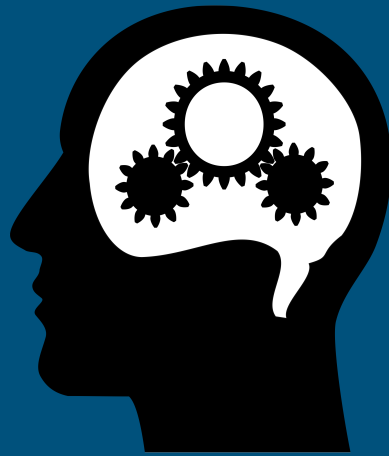


Available for grades 10-12

Freshman Seminar

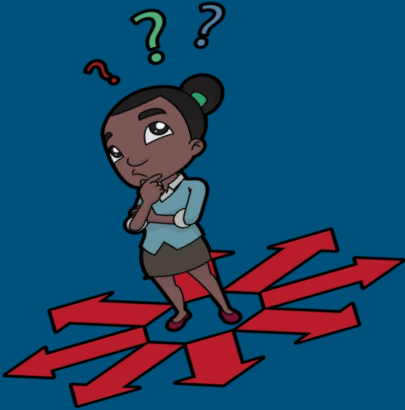
Learn skills to help you be successful in high school such as note taking, test-preparation, reading and writing strategies, and organization skills.





Psychology

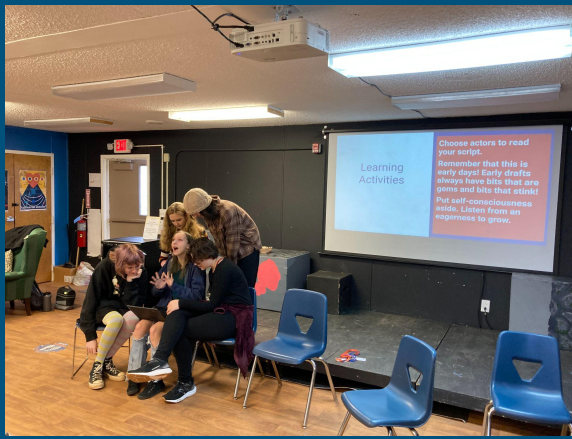
A basic introduction into what Psychology is and its relationship to learning and relationships. Topics may include psychological disorders and their treatment, sensation and perception, memory, thinking, language, motivation, and human development.



Theatre I introduces students to the basic elements of acting: using movement, vocal expression, focus, and collaboration to portray character, relationship and setting. Activities are very active/participatory and include theatre games, ensemble building, improv, scene work, performance and more. In addition, students will be introduced to other theatre arts through some focus on scriptwriting, and design. The course strives to give students an appreciation for the global and historical significance of theatre through fun challenges that develop skills necessary for success in the 21st century: confidence, communication, creative problem solving and teamwork. Participation in after school productions is encouraged but not required.

Theatre Electives





Theatre II/III/IV provide students the opportunity to continue beyond the introductory level, further developing vocal and physical acting skills (including in-depth character development and script analysis), playwriting, and hands on production (costumes, set, lighting, sound). Students at levels III and IV have the chance to do an independent project that focuses on an area of special theatre interest. These courses continue to provide students an appreciation for the global and historical significance of theatre through fun challenges that develop skills necessary for success in the 21st century: confidence, communication, creative problem solving, and teamwork. Participation in after-school productions is strongly encouraged but not required.

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts I or permission from teacher



Theatre Electives

Improv

Improv is the art of making things up on the spot—characters, scenes, and stories.

Course activities will include all sorts of warm ups and games that develop focus, quick creative thinking and collaboration, Theatre Sports, Long Form Improv, and more. This is a very fun and active class that will build your ability to listen carefully and think on your feet.

(1 semester; No prerequisite)

Tech Theatre

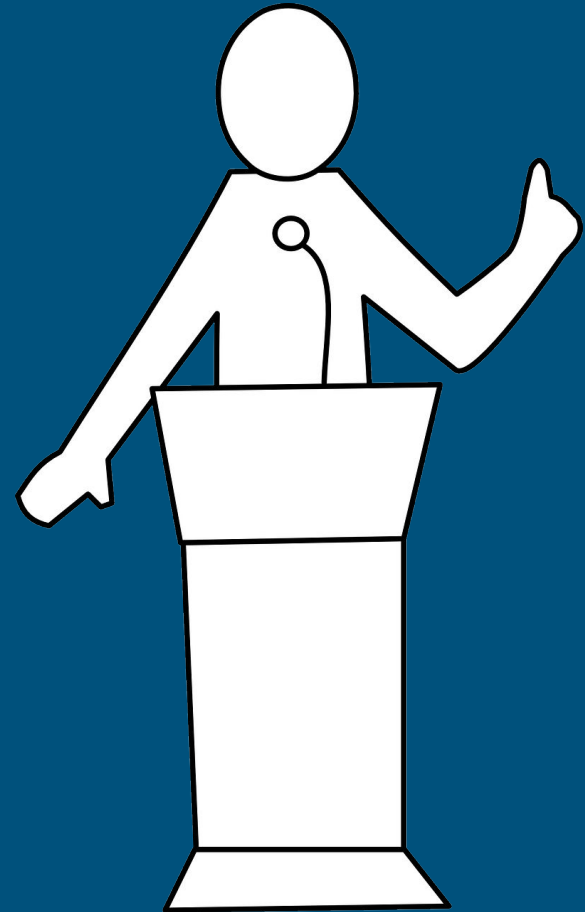
Technical Theatre 1 is an introductory course, which explores the technical (nonperformance) aspects of theatrical production. Students will gain hands-on experience in backstage theatre arts like lighting, sound, costuming, set, props, stage make up (old age, wounds), etc. Special emphasis is placed on the elements of theatrical design, stage management, and the set up and running of sound and lights.

(1 semester; No prerequisite)

Theatre Electives

Public Speaking

is a course designed to develop the skills necessary to be an effective communicator with an emphasis on public speaking content and performance. Students will begin to understand the different types of speeches, identifying distinct purposes and gaining confidence in speaking as performance. Students will understand how planning, preparation and revision contribute to good public speaking. Within the context of a safe, supportive group dynamic, students will experiment with persuasive, informative, and entertaining public speaking challenges.



Modern Orchestra

Elective for 9th-12th

This course is not quite “band” not quite “orchestra”, it’s a combined version of both of these ensembles while also adding instrumentation not seen in traditional ensembles. Our instrumentation allows any brass, woodwind, percussion, and string instruments including guitar, piano, ukulele, and bass guitar. Students get to experience learning a new instrument and playing in a large ensemble so everyone can play beautiful music together with no restraints. Students also learn and develop proper playing techniques, music theory skills, songwriting and part-writing, and sight reading skills to allow them to become the best musicians and performers they can be. Music Theory course in semester 1 is highly recommended.



Chorus

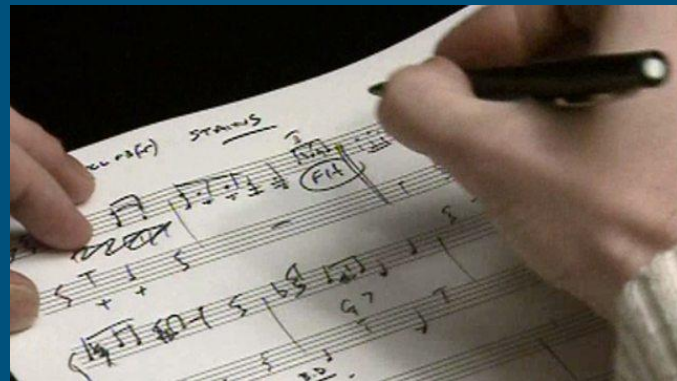
Elective for 9th-12th

Franklin School of Innovation now offers vocal music for middle and high school students. Students have the opportunity to learn a variety of repertoire ranging from Classical to A Cappella, to Pop/Rock and World Music. Students will learn and develop proper singing skills, techniques, learn music theory, and sight singing skills which will allow students to be the strongest musicians and performers that they can be. This is a performance based class. This course is only offered during second semester. The Music Theory course the semester before is highly recommended.



Intro to Music Theory

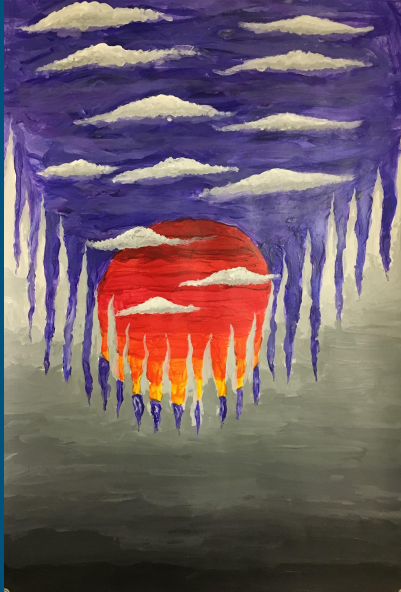
Music Theory is a semester-long course that is designed to enhance music skills and basic music fundamentals. The essential aspects of melody, harmony, rhythm, and form are studied as well as, basic notation, scales, key signatures, intervals, and more. Aural dictation and ear training are also an integral part of the course and will be taught throughout the year. Individual creativity is nurtured through both rhythmic and melodic composition. This course is highly recommended for students in any vocal or instrumental ensemble or anyone interested in getting started with music. Even if you have never played music before, all are welcome.



Visual Arts: Art 1

No Prerequisites

This is an introductory course in the visual arts. Students study and use the elements of art and principles of design to create, invent, experiment, take risks, and solve artistic problems. The curriculum includes a variety of concepts and drawing media, techniques in perspective, painting and color theory, printmaking and ceramics. This course is a prerequisite for advanced art courses.

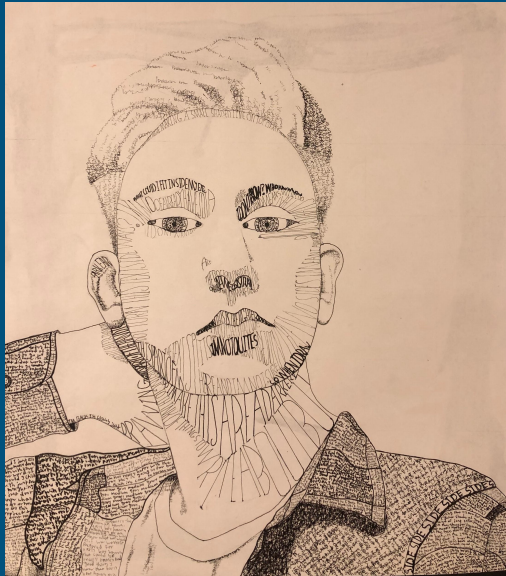


Visual Arts: Art 2 and Art 3

Art 2 Prerequisite: Art 1

Art 3 Prerequisite: Art 2

Visual Arts 2 and 3 are combined with Art 3 students having higher level requirements for course work. Students use the concepts, skills and techniques learned previously to enhance artwork in two and three-dimensional design using a variety of different media. Students develop an ability to make effective choices concerning media, techniques, subject matter and compositional design through in-depth studio based art projects.



Visual Arts: Art 4

Prerequisite: Art 3 or AP Studio Art

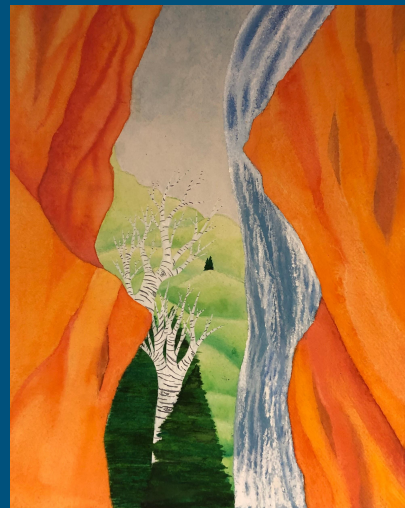
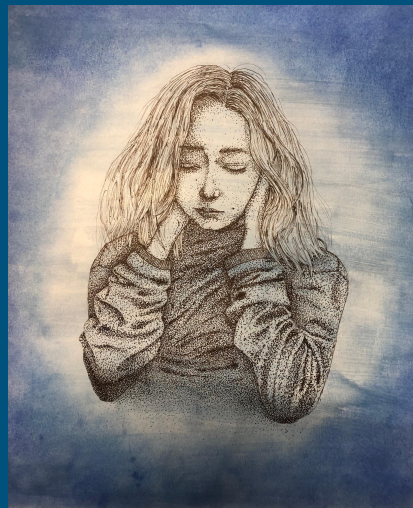
This is an upper level art course designed for students who wish to further develop the concepts, skills and techniques learned in Art I, II, III and AP Studio Art. In Art IV students will use these skills and techniques to design and implement their own advanced level art projects. With teacher guidance, students will create projects that display growth in a variety of media and work towards the development of a diverse portfolio. Students will have the opportunity to expand their creative ideas as well as their technical potential.



Visual Arts: AP Studio Art 2D Design

Recommended Prerequisite: Art 2

This course is for highly motivated students who are seriously interested in the study of art. The program demands significant time (2 elective periods), commitment to deadlines and dedication to the quality of work. AP Art students demonstrate mastery of the elements of art and principles of design through a variety of 2D mediums. The purpose of the course is to submit a culminating portfolio that demonstrates the artistic skills and ideas they have developed, refined and applied over the course of the year. Portfolios are evaluated based on standardized scoring descriptors aligned with skills and understanding developed in college foundation courses.



Visual Arts: 3D Art

No Prerequisites

3D Art explores a variety of materials used to create three-dimensional art, with an emphasis on ceramic processes and techniques. Students will practice and develop sculpture skills including but not limited to: additive, subtractive, assemblage and casting. In addition to clay, students will experiment with materials such as wire, wood, plaster, paper mache, and found objects. Students study and use the elements of art and principles of design to create, invent, experiment, take risks, and solve artistic problems.



Fall 2023: Film Studies

Open to all HS students

In this introductory course to the world of film students will learn the basic elements that comprise film and survey the history of cinema from the 1890s to present day. Students should expect a great deal of collaboration in activities in analyzing and studying choice films, fishbowl discussions, and learning how to draw storyboards and write screenplays. Consistent attendance is highly encouraged due to many of the short videos and films shown in class that may be hard to seek on your own. The selection and frequency of films we'll watch and study depends on the interests of the students and the productivity of the class! The end-of-the-semester project is creating an independent short film, a precursor to a filmmaking-focused class if students choose to continue in the Spring.



Film & technique analysis



Studying film history

Spring 2024: Filmmaking

Prerequisite: Passed Film Studies -OR- Approval from Mr. Lubos



Hands-on video projects



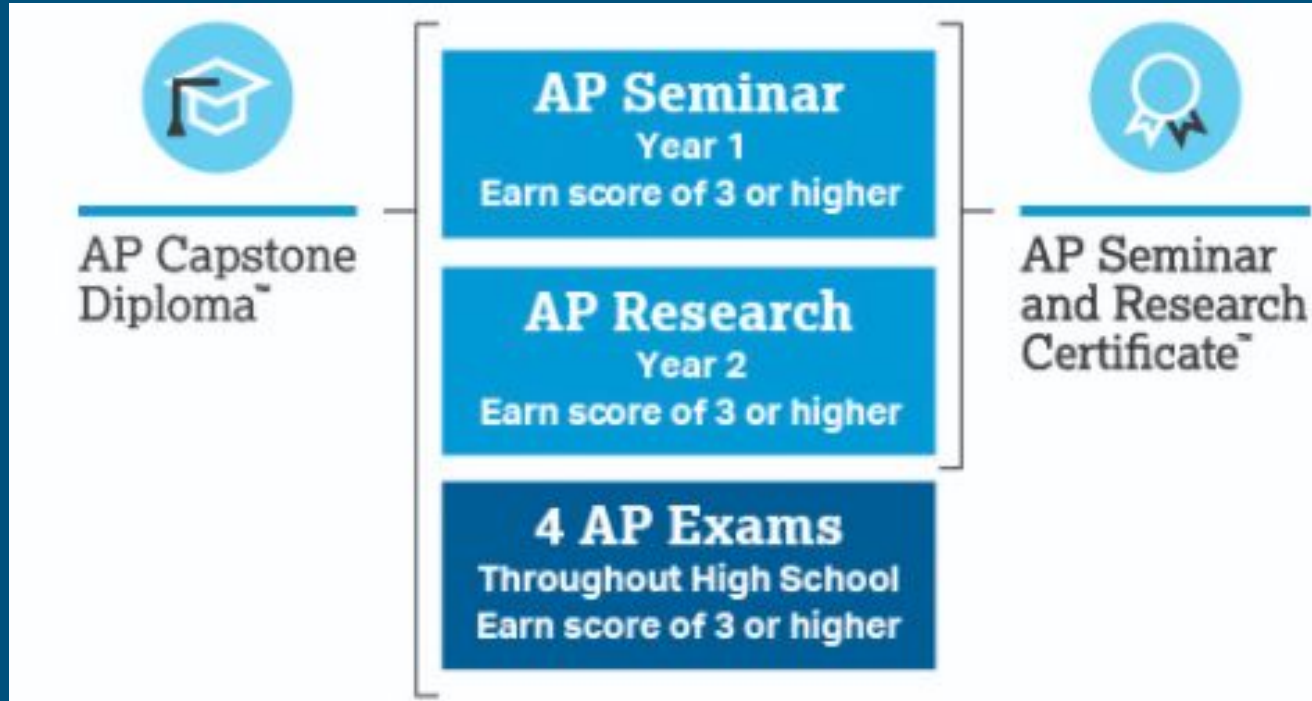
Collaborating and sharing roles

As a follow-up to Film Studies, the Spring Semester will incorporate short-term and long-term filmmaking projects. Students will learn the steps of filmmaking from pre-production to post-production and will incorporate some of the knowledge and skills they learned in the previous semester (storyboarding, screenwriting, a basic knowledge of cinematic history). Every month or so will focus on a certain filmmaking technique that they will apply. This is designated as an Honors-level course due to it requiring commitments inside and outside of class and a good command of communication and time management skills. The end-of-semester/course project is creating a short film that will be shown during a Screening Day/Night to a broader audience.

Students say,
“My research
skills have never
been stronger!”

A.P. Seminar (11th or 12th grade)

“Now I feel
so prepared
for college!”

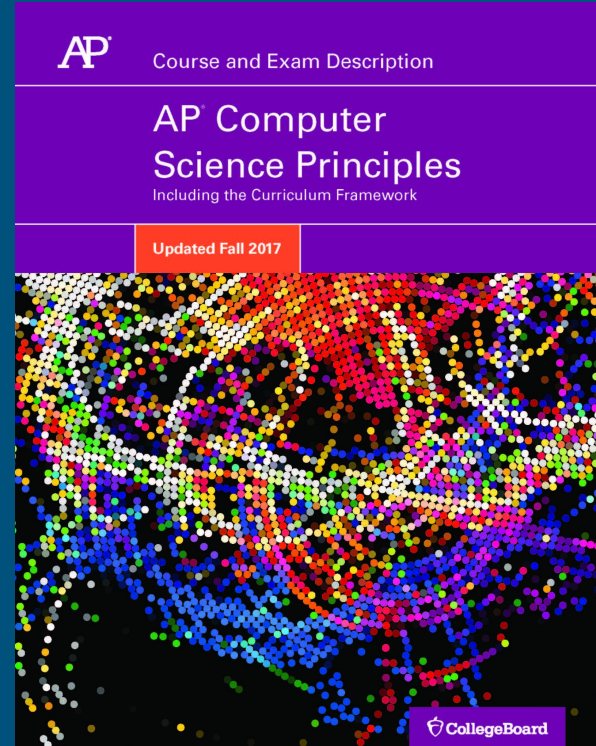


Seminar consists of ...

- Team collaboration around research projects and presentations
- Individual research projects and presentations
- Investigating big questions and credibility of sources

AP Computer Science Principles

- This class is designed to introduce high school students to computer science.
- There is a mandatory AP exam at the end of the school year.
- There is a mandatory Create Performance Task where students create a program that either solves a problem or showcases an area of interest.
- Students learn how to program in SCRATCH and in Python.



Poetry

- *Read, analyze, and interact with poems and poets from across the globe.*
- *Learn how to lead a poetry workshop*
- *Design and publish a collection of poetry*
- *Organize readings and open mics*
- *Daily journaling*



Creative Writing

Welcome to the world of creative writing!
Let's explore the art of storytelling. Whether you're a confident writer or you're just starting out, you'll have the opportunity to develop your skills in a supportive, collaborative environment.

- Emphasis on fiction & short stories
- Creating compelling original characters
- Believable dialogue
- Focus on worldbuilding
- Peer feedback & writing workshops



DON'T TELL ME
THE MOON IS
Shining
SHOW ME THE
glint of light
ON BROKEN GLASS

Journalism

Work with a team to publish school & local news

- Learn how to write engaging news stories, opinion pieces, interviews, and feature articles*
- Cover events on (and off) campus: sports games, school concerts, community events*
- Develop strong organizational and critical thinking skills as you report on current events*

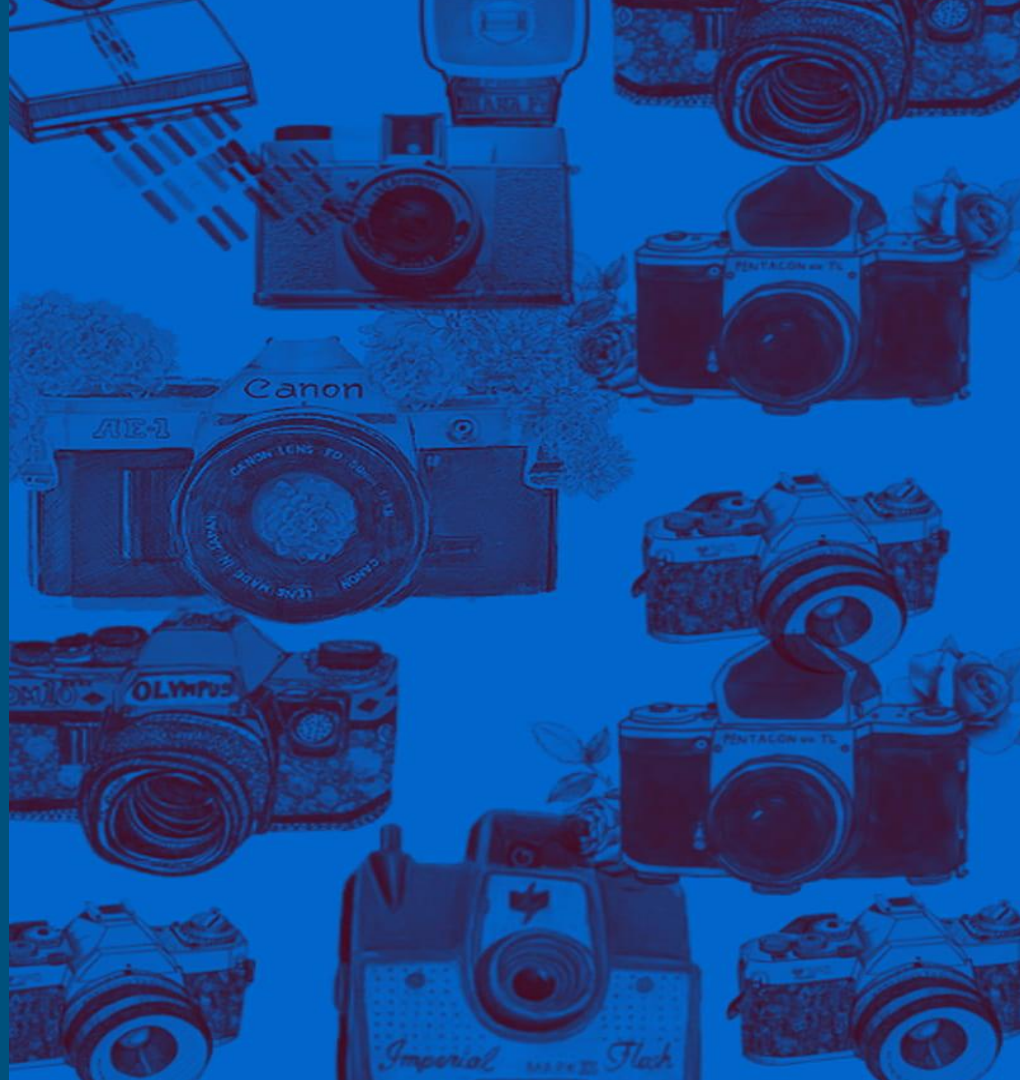


Yearbook

(Prerequisites: None)

- develop and grow in:
 - digital design
 - photography
 - communication skills

Throughout the year, members will photograph school events, interview students and staff, and arrange all of the highlighted moments in a final printed book that is the ultimate reward of your hard work!



Introduction to Computer Science

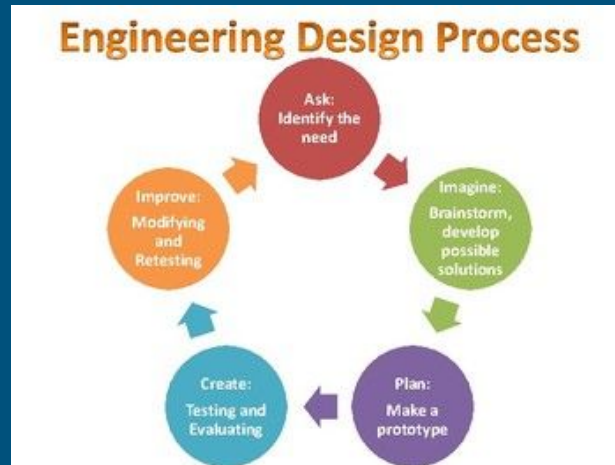
This class is an introductory course for students brand new to programming that teaches the foundations of computer science.

We focus on Python and start with the basics, and move on to moving animations and beyond :)



Introduction to Engineering Principles

This is a project driven course where students learn how to answer questions, solve problems and make decisions using the engineering design process. Using industry standard design software, students will create solutions to a variety of problems that can be 3D printed.



Business Principles and Management

- This class is designed to introduce high school students to the world of business - including how a business is started/formed, typical departments in an organization, managerial skills, professional communication, technology and information security, finance, marketing, human resource management, and business ethics.
- It will be largely case-study based and will integrate the use of documents, spreadsheets, and presentations.

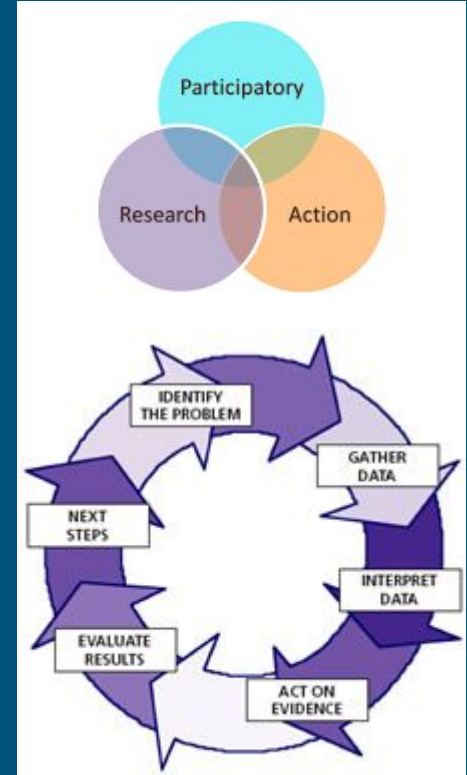


Youth-Led Participatory Action Research (YPAR)

Want to change the world? Check out Y-PAR, which positions youths as important leaders in social justice and reform.

Y-PAR starts by having students identify the communities in which they participate along with the issues, problems, or points of growth that exist in these spaces. Next, they design and implement solutions, before evaluating the impact and beginning again.

This is a good class for folks who want to create change, have interest in writing articles for publication, and are generally motivated individuals.



Sustainability (prerequisite: Earth and Environmental Science)

This class focuses on local and global environmental issues. The project based service learning approach utilizes a students ability to recognize ecological issues, understand their impacts and explore solutions. Areas of focus include sustainable agriculture, waste management, and habitat restoration.

Please note this class involves physical activity and ½ of class time spent outside.



Forensics

Students will learn the science behind forensics using a hands-on approach that integrates chemistry, biology, mathematics, technology, history, and political science.

Subtopics include DNA profiling, forgery and counterfeiting, ballistics and forensic toxicology, entomology, and anthropology.



NC Life Sciences (prerequisite: biology and earth and environmental science)

* Can be taken as an elective or can count towards required Science Credit

This class focuses predominantly on plant biology - including concepts such as structure and function, ecology and evolution, diversity and explores the connections between plants and people. Other topics include fauna, wilderness ethics, and conservation. Multiple field trips are incorporated into the curriculum as well as guest speakers and labs.

