

CURRICULUM: The goal of the Accelerated Pre-AP Preparatory Program is to provide a challenging curriculum in a technologically advanced learning program. It is designed to provide an educational opportunity in our high school for academically advanced students, grades 7 and up, so that they are able to take full advantage of our advanced placement and college in high school programs. Below is the curriculum for a level I student.

-----Curriculum-----

Scope of Pre-AP Math Program:

The scope of the Pre-AP Algebra I and II courses is to prepare the student for advanced concepts in mathematics, leading the student to participation in AP Probability and Statistics, AP Calculus AB and Honors Calculus BC.

Pre-AP Algebra I: This course is designed to teach topics of Algebra I that include adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing real numbers; performing the order of operations; solving equations and inequalities; writing functions; identifying linear functions; graphing linear equations; solving systems of equations by substitution and elimination; performing properties of exponents; adding and multiplying polynomials; factoring trinomials; adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing radical expressions; and an introduction to adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing rational expressions

Pre-AP Algebra II: This course is designed to teach topics in Algebra II that include operations with equations and inequalities; linear relations and functions; systems of equations and inequalities; matrices; quadratic functions and inequalities; polynomial functions; radical expressions, equations and inequalities; advanced functions and relations; rational expressions, equations and inequalities.

Pre-AP English and Language Arts Level I: Students will develop the literacy skills, academic habits and critical strategies needed to succeed in rigorous academic courses. Students will read, with a focus on critical analysis, a variety of challenging fiction and nonfiction text. Students will also practice composition strategies, build an understanding of grammar, and develop academic vocabulary. The depth of content covered is designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement courses in high school.

Pre-AP Chemistry and Physics: A Natural Approach to Chemistry and Physics Principles and Problems: This course follows a guided-inquiry based instructional strategy that provides students with a direct experience with scientific processes and how they are related to their world. A comprehensive overview of the main themes in chemistry is presented that includes the atomic nature of matter, systems, temperature and energy. In depth coverage of the core concepts of chemistry such as atomic structure, the Periodic Table, compounds, molecules, solutions, bonding, and chemical reactions are taught. The physics component includes an extensive study into the science of kinematics and dynamics, waves, light, energy, and electricity. Algebra-based quantitative problem solving is an integral component. Instructional strategies include: inquiry, science literacy, STEM, and critical thinking.

World Geography and Cultures: In this class we will examine the various countries that encompass our Earth. Students should expect to learn about various cultures, economies, government and landscape. Key concepts learned throughout the year will incorporate general understanding of map reading and how people across the world live off the environment around them. Students whom enroll in this class should expect an entertaining learning environment with collaborative assignments, independent exams and research papers.

Religion Foundations: An Overview of Faith

Students will explore the basic tenets of Catholicism through an academic study of its foundational doctrines and practices. This will then be systematically applied to a thorough exploration of the Catholic worldview through a special literary and multimedia program. Besides the standard academic study and assessments, students will be expected to engage in creative writing, literary analysis, service and multimedia work of their own in order to demonstrate their mastery of the subject matter in numerous facets throughout the year.

World Languages

Foreign language skills will be achieved through oral, written, listening and reading activities. Cultural awareness and understanding will also play an important role. Students will apply critical thinking skills while mastering the target language. All instructional activities guide students to proficiency in the language.

Languages offered include: Chinese, French, Latin and Spanish

Health and Physical Education

This year long course will combine both health and physical education. Students will learn about all aspects of their health including mental, emotional, social and physical health. The students will understand how to keep all aspects of their health in balance through classroom and physical applications.

TEAM – Technology, Enhanced Art and Music

Technology: Students will use appropriate technology skills to conduct research and complete core curriculum projects. Instructional emphasis on word-processing, multi-media presentations, Internet applications and spreadsheets will be incorporated through both Windows/PC s and Apple/iPad applications. Legal, social and ethical issues related to the use of computers in our daily life will continue to be reinforced.

Enhanced Art and Music:

Art History - This course is an enhanced study of art and its historical progress from the Prehistoric Period to the Renaissance. Basic drawing is introduced using a variety of materials. Students will gain a greater appreciation for the arts.

Music History & Theory - This semester course provides the non-musician with the understanding of musical concepts necessary to appreciate music from many genres, composers, and historical periods of music. Students gain knowledge of music theory through in historical context through musical notation and analysis of the aural components of music. Other concepts will include scales, chords, structure and contextual analysis.

Band/Instrumental - The instrumental music course is an enhanced performance-practice course where students receive group instruction to hone their skills as instrumentalists in an ensemble setting. Skills include reading music, sight-reading, aural training, and mixed instrumental literature. This course requires attendance for some after-school rehearsals, as well as several numerous public performances outside of the regular school day.

Advisory

Academic skill building, personal growth, social development, on-on-one academic advising and class activities