



Busche Academy

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BA 2025-2026 Academics & Course Catalog

Link: [BA Middle School Course Catalog](#) (Pages 4-7)

Link: [BA High School Course Catalog](#) (Pages 8-15)

Link: [BA Electives List](#) (Pages 16-19)

School Overview

Busche Academy (BA) is a private boarding and day school in Chester, New Hampshire, offering a pre-college, multicultural education to a diverse student body hailing from all corners of the world.

Through the exchange of resources and teaching faculty, Busche Academy students obtain a strong education while also engaging in academic and athletic opportunities across the United States and internationally through our partner schools and organizations.

Busche Academy is an approved nonpublic school by the New Hampshire Department of Education for attendance purposes. Busche Academy core courses are accredited through the NCAA.

Communicating with the School

To request official transcripts, diplomas, and recommendation letters, or for general questions regarding academics and graduation requirements, please email admin@buscheacademy.org

To schedule a meeting for course registration and transcript reviews, or to request assistance with the college application process, please also contact the email address above.

CEEB College Board Code: **301517**

College App Guide: bit.ly/busche-commonapp

SAT Registration: bit.ly/busche-sat

ACT Registration: bit.ly/busche-act

NCAA High School Code: **853269**

NCAA Eligibility Center: bit.ly/busche-ncaa1

NCAA High School Search: bit.ly/busche-ncaa2

NCAA 2024-2025 Guide: bit.ly/busche-ncaa3

Tutoring and Test Prep Resources

On-Demand Tutoring and Test Prep are available, online and at no cost, for all New Hampshire students through our State's partnership with Tutor.com. Students can register an individual account as a home education student to login at tutor.com/nhed

High School Graduation Requirements & NCAA Eligibility

[1] Among other requirements, college-bound student-athletes planning to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school are required to have a 2.3 (DI) / 2.2 (DII) grade point average in 16 NCAA-approved core-course units and provide proof of high school graduation.

Calculate your core-course credits and GPA here: bit.ly/busche-ncaa4

Division I Eligibility Guide: bit.ly/busche-d1

Division II Eligibility Guide: bit.ly/busche-d2

[2] The minimum high school graduation requirement at Busche Academy is a passing grade of 60 or higher in at least 16 core-courses across the following subjects: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. We highly recommend students take more than 16 core-courses plus electives to be more competitive in the college admissions process.

[3] As of January 2023, the NCAA has permanently removed the requirement that first-year Division I and II athletes earn a qualifying SAT or ACT score to participate in sports. While general admissions to many colleges and universities are now also test optional, we recommend students check if their particular college of interest or academic scholarship still requires the SAT or ACT.

[4] Effective July 2023, New Hampshire law requires all high school seniors to pass a competency assessment in civics and pass the 2020 USCIS naturalization exam with a grade of 70% or better. Read more here: bit.ly/busche-civics1.

Students will prepare for this test by taking a one-semester National Civics course either in-person or online. Busche Academy will administer this same test in a multiple-choice format with unlimited retakes. The full 128-question test is available with answers here: bit.ly/busche-civics2.

Academic Reporting

Through the Family Portal, parents will be able to access their student's live grades anytime.

At the end of each semester, BA will issue to parents a report card or transcript with final grades for recently completed courses, along with updated cumulative GPA and total credit count.

As always, please direct any questions about academics to the email admin@buscheacademy.org

Grading Scale

The following numerical grades translate into the following letter grades and GPA:	93 - 100 = A (4.0)	73 - 76 = C (2.0)
	90 - 92 = A- (3.7)	70 - 72 = C- (1.7)
	87 - 89 = B+ (3.3)	67 - 69 = D+ (1.3)
	83 - 86 = B (3.0)	63 - 66 = D (1.0)
	80 - 82 = B- (2.7)	60 - 62 = D- (0.7)
	77 - 79 = C+ (2.3)	0 - 59 = F (0.0)
Honors adds 0.5 to that course's weighted GPA.		

Course Selection and Registration

Students will have the opportunity to enroll in a variety of courses to challenge themselves academically. Course selection will be based on students past academic achievements and previous success in advanced level classes.

English	Mathematics	Science
English 6 English 7 English 8 English 9 English 9 Honors English 10 English 10 Honors English 11 English 11 Honors English 12 English 12 Honors Creative Writing Public Speaking	Math 6 Math 7 Math 8 Algebra 1 Algebra 1 Honors Geometry Geometry Honors Algebra 2 Algebra 2 Honors Precalculus Precalculus Honors Statistics Statistics Honors	Science 6 Science 7 Science 8 Biology Biology Honors Chemistry Chemistry Honors Physics Physics Honors Earth and Space Science Earth and Space Science Honors Environmental Science Environmental Science Honors Anatomy and Physiology Anatomy and Physiology Honors
Social Studies	World Languages	Electives
Middle School World History Middle School Contemporary History Middle School United States History World History World History Honors United States History United States History Honors United States Government United States Government Honors Economics Economics Honors World Geography World Geography Honors Psychology Sociology High School Civics	Spanish 1 Spanish 1 Honors Spanish 2 Spanish 2 Honors Spanish 3 Spanish 3 Honors Spanish 4 Spanish 4 Honors French 1 French 1 Honors French 2 French 2 Honors French 3 French 3 Honors	Please see pages 16-19 for a full list of electives offered. Please note that electives, by default, are not considered core courses by the NCAA. NCAA core courses are courses in the 5 core-subject categories of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages.

2025-2026 Middle School Course Catalog

English

English 6

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: English 6 offers targeted instruction, practice and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills by identifying and addressing learning gaps down to elementary-level content, using adaptive remediation to bring students to grade-level no matter where they start. Students engage with the content in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through standards-aligned modules. Reading comprehension modules strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing modules combine free response exercises with drafting strategies and examples to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening modules guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions.

English 7

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: English 7 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response exercises with drafting strategies and examples to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and informational styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate one another's speeches and adjust to new audiences and situations. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

English 8

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: English 8 has students reading and analyzing various kinds of written texts, including novels and short fiction, informational texts representing a wide range of topics and forms, and several one-act plays. Lessons will also guide students in writing their own narratives and essays, using the readings in the course as both examples and sources of ideas for reflection, analysis, and argument. Students will learn better ways to discuss their thoughts and perceptions with others—they will practice their skills in collaborative discussions as well as informal journal entries, presentations, and speeches. Special emphasis is placed on reading in certain content areas, such as science and history, as well as understanding and thinking critically about news and media sources.

Mathematics

Math 6

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Math 6 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to develop computational fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply mathematical practices. Course topics include ratios and rates, fraction and decimal operations, and signed numbers. Students continue to build their algebra skills by plotting points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane and solving equations and inequalities. Geometry topics include area, surface area, and volume, and statistical work features measures of center and variability, box plots, dot plots, and histograms.

Math 7

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Math 7 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to develop computational fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply mathematical practices. Throughout the course, students gain a deep understanding of proportions and their use in solving problems. They extend their fluency with operations on rational numbers and translate among different forms of rational numbers. Algebra topics include simplifying and rewriting algebraic expressions and solving more complex equations and inequalities. Students also sketch geometric figures and explore scale drawings, investigate circle properties and angle relationships, and deepen their understanding of area, volume, and surface area. They see how statistics uses sample data to make predictions about populations and compare data from different data sets. Students gain a fundamental understanding of probability and explore different ways to find or estimate probabilities.

Math 8

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Math 8 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to develop computational fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply mathematical practices. In this course, students focus on understanding functions — what they are, how to represent them in different ways, and how to write them to model mathematical and real-world situations. In particular, students investigate linear functions by learning about slope and slope-intercept form. Students' understanding of linear functions is extended to statistics, where they make scatter plots and use linear functions to model data. They solve linear equations and equations involving roots and explore systems of linear equations. Additional topics include exponents, powers of ten, scientific notation, and irrational numbers. Students learn about transformations and extend that understanding to an investigation of congruence and similarity. Other geometric concepts explored include the Pythagorean theorem, angle relationships, and volumes of cylinders, cones, and spheres.

Algebra 1

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Note: Recommended for middle school students (typically grade 8) who have already completed Math 8 or Pre-Algebra.

Course Description: This Algebra 1 introduces students to the foundational skills needed for more advanced mathematics courses. Students will develop the skills needed to solve mathematical problems by performing operations involving numbers, sets, and variables. Upon completion of this course, students will know the basic properties of real numbers; solve and use first degree equations and inequalities; understand functions, relations, and graphs; solve and use systems of equations and inequalities; solve problem involving integral exponents; solve problems involving polynomials and rational algebraic expressions; factor polynomials; simplify rational and irrational expressions; solve and use quadratic equations.

Science

Science 6

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Science 6 with Virtual Labs is an integrated science course based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Semester A focuses on basic physical science and earth and space science. Semester B focuses on the history of the Earth, ecosystems, and weather and climate. In this course, students complete teacher-graded labs in the Course Activities and Unit Activities. This version of Science 6 has been designed so that all labs are virtual. Students will still be able to plan and execute investigations through carefully designed simulations and videos. They will also be able to design experimental setups and analyze data and visuals derived from real-world experiments.

Science 7

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Science 7 with Virtual Labs is an integrated science course based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Semester A focuses on cells, the life cycle, and nutrition. Semester B focuses on chemical reactions, force fields, and energy. In this course, students complete teacher-graded labs in the Course Activities and Unit Activities. This version of Science 7 has been designed so that all labs are virtual. Students will still be able to plan and execute investigations through carefully designed simulations and videos. They will also be able to design experimental setups and analyze data and visuals derived from real-world experiments.

Science 8

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Science 8 with Virtual Labs is an integrated science course based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Semester A focuses on genes, evolution, and the Earth's energy. Semester B focuses on Earth's changing climate, waves, and human impact on the Earth. In this course, students complete teacher-graded labs in the Course Activities and Unit Activities. This version of Science 8 has been designed so that all labs are virtual. Students will still be able to plan and execute investigations through carefully designed simulations and videos. They will also be able to design experimental setups and analyze data and visuals derived from real-world experiments.

Social Studies

Middle School World History

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Middle School World History delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of world history, from the Neolithic Revolution through the Middle Ages. By constantly honing their ability to analyze history, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test. In each unit, activities make complex ideas about world history accessible through focused content, guided analysis, multi-modal representations, and personalized feedback. Each lesson includes a variety of activities such as direct instruction, application of skills, performance tasks, and formative and summative assessments.

Middle School Contemporary History

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Contemporary World History is a course designed to strengthen learners' knowledge about the modern world. Multimedia tools, including custom videos, custom maps, and interactive timelines, will engage learners as they complete this course. Learners will explore the importance of geography, the influence of culture, and the relationship humans have with the physical environment. They will also focus on the responsibility of citizens, democracy in the United States, U.S. legal systems, and the U.S. economy. Ultimately, learners will complete this course as global citizens with an understanding of how to help and better their community and the world.

Middle School United States History

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: Middle School U.S. History offers targeted instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of early U.S. history and command of historical thinking skills. Students engage with the content in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through standards-aligned modules. By constantly honing their ability to analyze the foundations of U.S. history, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test.

World Languages

Spanish 1

Note: Recommended for middle school students (typically grade 8) who wish to start High School Language Coursework.

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Spanish 1 is focused on the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students are exposed to the richness and diversity of the Spanish-speaking world through the study of culture in Spain and Latin America. Students will utilize various texts and activities to learn and practice Spanish grammar, vocabulary, and expressions. These activities reinforce the vocabulary, grammar and culture being covered in class. Students will participate in a variety of classroom activities, including games, songs, skits, and dialogues. Students will take written tests and create oral presentations to demonstrate their mastery of course material. At the conclusion of Spanish 1, students will understand fundamental Spanish grammar and vocabulary and be able to communicate in Spanish at a novice level.

French 1

Note: Recommended for middle school students (typically grade 8) who wish to start High School Language Coursework.

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: French 1 presents the basics of the French language and culture. This course focuses on the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with activities that will foster communication in conversational situations. Students learn greetings, basic verb conjugations, vocabulary, pronunciation rules, grammar structures and cultural highlights using a thematic approach, various texts and activities. Students will develop basic reading and conversational skills with a focus on application rather than memorization.

2025-2026 High School Course Catalog

English

English 9

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This course is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to read and comprehend complex texts at a post-secondary level. To prepare students to study English language Arts in a post-secondary education setting, this course will focus on text from multiple genres including British Literature, American Literature, and 20th century fiction. Students will be expected to engage with the texts through in class discussion, writing, well developed essays, and projects.

English 10

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This course is designed to engage students in various integrated language arts activities including reading comprehension, writing, analysis, and complex grammar. Students will develop writing skills through guided creative and practical writing activities and compositions. Students will learn the application of rules for sentence formation, usage, spelling, and mechanics. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to apply their understanding of grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, to scholarly writing assignments.

English 11

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This course is designed to help students develop college-level skills in the areas of text analysis and scholarly writing. To prepare students to study English language Arts in a post-secondary education setting, this course will focus on text from multiple genres including British Literature, American Literature, Victorian Literature, Poetry, and 20th century fiction. This course is designed to teach students to compose scholarly text that demonstrates a thorough analysis of a variety of classical literature selections. Students will apply their understanding of grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and paragraphing to varied and frequent writing assignments.

English 12

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This 12th grade English Language Arts course is designed to introduce students to post-secondary English curriculum. Students will learn how to analyze text and develop scholarly writing at a level that surpasses the traditional high school senior. Throughout this course, students will show their mastery of content by providing a well written analysis of all major texts studied throughout this coming school year. This course will focus on text from multiple genres including British Literature, American Literature, Victorian Literature, and 20th century fiction. Students will be expected to engage with the texts through in class discussion, writing, well developed essays, and projects.

Creative Writing

Credit: 0.5 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Creative Writing is a one-semester course that is designed to get students to pursue creative writing as a vocation or as a hobby. To that purpose, it exposes them to different genres and techniques of creative writing and the key elements (such as plot and characterization in fiction) in each genre. Great creative writing doesn't come merely by reading about the craft—one also needs ideas; a process for planning, drafting and revising; and the opportunity to experiment with different forms and genres. The lessons in this course familiarize students with the basic structure and elements of different types or genres of writing.

Public Speaking

Credit: 0.5 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This is a one-semester course that teaches students how to become effective at verbal and nonverbal expression. In a rapidly changing world filled with constantly evolving technology, social media, and social networking, students need skills to send clear verbal and nonverbal messages and adapt those messages to multiple contexts. Students need to prepare to identify, analyze, develop, and evaluate communication skills in personal, academic, and professional interactions. Major topics include intrapersonal and interpersonal interaction, informal communication and interviewing, and the preparation and delivery of informal, informational, and persuasive addresses. Students also engage in recognizing bias, resolving conflicts, and evaluating media messages; gain an understanding of elements of ethical communication and group dynamics; and participate in peer review.

Mathematics

Algebra 1

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This Algebra 1 course introduces students to the foundational skills needed for more advanced mathematics courses. Students will develop the skills needed to solve mathematical problems by performing operations involving numbers, sets, and variables. Upon completion of this course, students will know the basic properties of real numbers; solve and use first degree equations and inequalities; understand functions, relations, and graphs; solve and use systems of equations and inequalities; solve problem involving integral exponents; solve problems involving polynomials and rational algebraic expressions; factor polynomials; simplify rational and irrational expressions; solve and use quadratic equations.

Geometry

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This geometry course is designed to help students excel in post-secondary mathematical studies. Students will experiment with transformations, understand congruence in terms of rigid motions, prove geometric theorems, make geometric constructions, understand similarity in terms of similarity transformations, prove theorems involving similarity, understand and apply theorems about circles, find arc lengths and areas of sectors of circles, explain volume formulas, and use them to solve problems. In addition, students will visualize relationships between two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects, and apply geometric concepts in modeling situations by using traditional and real-world mathematical practices.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 1 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Algebra 2

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This Algebra 2 course is designed to help students excel in post-secondary mathematical studies. Students will continue learning and working with the concepts of algebra including operations with matrices, relations, functions, variation, exponential growth and decay, imaginary numbers, complex numbers, logarithmic functions, quadratic equations, graphing, trigonometric ratios, and systems of equations. This course also introduces students to polynomial, rational and exponential functions. Upon completion of this course, students will understand the structures of and interpret functions and other mathematical models.

Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Precalculus

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Precalculus emphasizes mathematical analysis and critical thinking. This course provides students with a structured entry to advanced studies while building on concepts learned in previous high school math courses. Designed to be taken after Algebra 2, Precalculus builds upon students' understanding of various aspects of functions and expands their knowledge of trigonometric functions, all while helping them make connections between Geometry and Algebra. Throughout the pre-calculus course, students will reach for the following goals: Make connections between numeric, graphical, and algebraic representations of relations and functions.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Statistics

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This course provides a curriculum focused on understanding key data analysis and probabilistic concepts, calculations, and relevance to real-world applications. Course topics include types of data, common methods used to collect data, and representations of data, including histograms, bar graphs, box plots, and scatter plots. Students learn to work with data by analyzing and employing methods of extending results, involving samples and populations, distributions, summary statistics, experimental design, regression analysis, simulations, and confidence intervals. Ideas involving probability — including sample space, empirical and theoretical probability, expected value, and independent and compound events — are covered as students explore the relationship between probability and data analysis.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Science

Biology

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This course explores basic principles of biology with a focus on those features shared by all living organisms and seen through the lens of evolutionary theory. Students are introduced to the scientific method, cell biology, basic principles of genetics, biological changes through time, classification and taxonomy, structure and function of plants, structure and function of animals, structure and function of the human body, and ecological relationships. Students will understand and use scientific vocabulary. Students will develop lab skills including observations, experimentation, data analysis, and conclusions. Through lectures, readings, and discussion, offers students an opportunity to understand how the scientific method has been and is used to address biological questions.

Chemistry

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This laboratory course in the principles and practice of the use of instruments for quantitative and qualitative chemical measurements. Students will investigate the composition of matter and the physical and chemical changes it undergoes. Students will use science process skills to study the fundamental structure of atoms, the way atoms combine to form compounds, and the interactions between matter and energy. Topics covered will include definitions of chemistry, atoms and atomic structure, chemical bonding, nuclear chemistry, chemical reactions, acid base chemistry, organic compounds, food production, and energy resources. Students will develop vocabulary skills appropriate to the field of chemistry.

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Physics

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Physics, a fundamental and quantitative science, involves the study of matter and energy, and interactions between them. This course focuses on ensuring students get a clear understanding of motion, energy, electricity, magnetism, and the laws that govern the physical universe. Students learn to understand scientific principles and processes, ask questions, present hypotheses, experiment, solve problems, and think abstractly and critically. Topics covered will include kinematics, forces, Newton's Laws of motion, momentum, work, power, energy, heat, waves, light, and electricity. Students will develop vocabulary skills appropriate to the field of physics.

Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Earth and Space Science

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This Earth and Space Science course focuses on the structure and development of the Earth and its environment over time including the formation of the universe and Earth's place in space. Students will study the four primary earth systems--the atmosphere, biosphere, geosphere, and hydrosphere--and the interconnections between each system. Through various methods of scientific inquiry, students will examine the interactions of air, water, and other physical processes that shape the physical world. Students will also explore the Earth and its place in space as part of the solar system, galaxy, and the universe.

Environmental Science

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Environmental Science explores the biological, physical, and sociological principles related to the environment in which organisms live on Earth, the biosphere. Course topics include natural systems on Earth, biogeochemical cycles, the nature of matter and energy, the flow of matter and energy through living systems, populations, communities, ecosystems, ecological pyramids, renewable and non-renewable natural resources, land use, biodiversity, pollution, conservation, sustainability, and human impacts on the environment.

Anatomy and Physiology

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This course is a study of the structure and function of the human body including cells, tissues, and organs of the following systems: integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous. Students will focus on the structure and function of the major human body systems. Semester 1 includes the introduction, histology, skeletal, muscular, and part 1 of the nervous system. Semester 2 is part 2 of the nervous system, cardiovascular, digestive, and reproductive system. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of principles of anatomy and physiology and their interrelationships. Laboratory work includes dissection of preserved specimens, microscopic study, physiologic experiments, computer simulations, and multimedia presentations.

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Social Studies

World History

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Students are engaged in the study and research of ancient and modern civilizations, societies, and historical periods leading to the beginning of the 21st Century to build a foundation for understanding human history across different cultures and civilizations. Emphasis will be placed on the interaction among world cultures, the linking of the past and present, and the importance of the relationship of geography and history. The first semester covers prehistory to 1500, including ancient civilizations of the world, ancient Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages, Regional Civilizations (730 BC-AD 1500) and the Renaissance until 1500. The second semester traces time from the 16th century to the present day, highlighting the Western and non-Western areas of the world and the interactions and conflicts between them. Eras include the Renaissance and Reformation, discovery of the New World, the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, Industrial Age, and resulting world conflicts. Students will develop essay composition, research, and debate skills utilizing 21st century technology skills.

United States History

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Students research the chronological development of the American people by examining the political, economic, social, religious, military, and cultural events that affected the rise and growth of our nation. This course is designed to cover the history of the US from the Age of Exploration and Colonization through the present. Topics to be pursued will include indigenous America, colonization, the Revolution, sectional conflict and the Civil War, the Antebellum reform movement, the rise of a national economy, the development of twentieth century foreign policy, World War I, the Depression and New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, and modern social reform. Both primary and secondary sources will be employed. Students will build upon the historical skills developed in World History and writing skills will be enhanced throughout the course.

United States Government

Credit: 0.5 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Students will learn to perform effectively as informed citizens of their community and the United States by acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for active participation in a dynamic, pluralistic and democratic society. This course will emphasize a study of government and individual rights and responsibilities, as well as student-based research of current topics of debate from both advocacy and impartial perspectives. Civic understanding increases as students develop the skills to make informed decisions, to resolve conflicts peacefully, to articulate and defend positions, and to engage in the civic and political life of their communities. Students will better understand how the government works, and how it impacts their lives. Students will examine the growth of democracy, federalism, separation of powers, checks, and balances, civil liberties, civil rights, civic participation, comparative government, political processes, public policy, free enterprise, and cultural pluralism. They will create a civic discourse concerning contemporary political issues facing Americans today and participate in creating their own legislation.

Economics

Credit: 0.5 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Students are involved in discovering the definition of economics, the concept of scarcity, supply and demand, resource allocation, institutional and governmental effects on consumer behavior, unemployment, regional, national and global competitive situations, the economic cycle, and the production of goods and services by industry and government. Students will examine current economic issues with a focus on the American economy and the interconnected issues of global trade, markets, and various financial institutions. Students will also examine selected topics such as: spending, saving, stocks/bonds, investments, and budgeting.

World Geography

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: In an increasingly interconnected world, equipping students to develop a better understanding of our global neighbors is critical to ensuring that they are college and career ready. These semester-long courses empower students to increase their knowledge of the world in which they live and how its diverse geographies shape the international community. Semester A units begin with an overview of the physical world and the tools necessary to explore it effectively. Subsequent units survey each continent and its physical characteristics and engage students and encourage them to develop a global perspective.

Psychology

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Students acquire an understanding of the foundations of psychology theories and an appreciation for human behavior; behavior interaction and the progressive development of individuals that helps them better understand their own behavior and the behavior of others. Topics covered will also enhance students' awareness of personality and behavior, group dynamics, learning styles, multiple intelligences, and the impact and treatment of such disorders as depression, autism, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Specifically, topics to be discussed include the history of psychology and its scientific basis, understanding the biological and environmental basis of psychology, explaining theories of human development, as well as exploring the basic concepts of sensation and perception, consciousness, memory, intelligence, motivation and emotions, stress, gender, social and cultural issues.

Sociology

Credit: 0.5 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Students engage in the analysis of the social contexts; groups, neighborhoods, cities, and whole societies in which thoughts, feelings, beliefs, ideas, and norms are formed, learning how people function within these societal norms. Using sociologists' tools, students learn to observe, describe, analyze, and sometimes predict people's behavior in certain situations and conditions. Sociology offers various ways for critically evaluating society from issues of individual acts and beliefs to the roots of global interactions. Culture, normal behavior systems, family, social structure, social institutions, social change, the organization of social behavior and its relationship to society and social conditions are emphasized. Students will challenge their own preconceived ideas about society, cultures and contemporary issues and problems.

High School Civics (for USCIS Naturalization Test)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: National Civics is a one-semester course offering seven units that cover topics including the origins of American government, the structure and function of our government, rights and responsibilities of citizens, the American federal system, political parties and the election process, basic economic principles, and current matters regarding domestic and foreign policy. The course includes a variety of unit and lesson activities that examine the history, culture, and economy of the nation that encourage research and reflection. In these activities, students will examine seminal documents and landmark Supreme Court cases in American political history, analyze changes in federal and executive power over time, explore the political election process and data related to recent voting trends, research and propose a public policy plan, as well as compare and contrast the functions of the national government with state and local governments. The course also prepares students to pass the civics portion of the USCIS Naturalization Test.

World Languages

Spanish 1

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Spanish 1 is focused on the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students are exposed to the richness and diversity of the Spanish-speaking world through the study of culture in Spain and Latin America. Students will utilize various texts and activities to learn and practice Spanish grammar, vocabulary, and expressions. These activities reinforce the vocabulary, grammar and culture being covered in class. Students will participate in a variety of classroom activities, including games, songs, skits, and dialogues. Students will take written tests and create oral presentations to demonstrate their mastery of course material. At the conclusion of Spanish 1, students will understand fundamental Spanish grammar and vocabulary and be able to communicate in Spanish at a novice level.

Spanish 2

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Spanish 2 continues to develop students' abilities to understand and converse in Spanish and focuses on all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are introduced to new elements of grammar and vocabulary while they continue to review structures and vocabulary learned in Spanish 1. Students will utilize various texts and activities to practice their listening and reading comprehension skills. Students will participate in a variety of classroom activities, including games, songs, skits, and dialogues as well as take oral and written tests and create presentations to demonstrate their mastery of course material. At the conclusion of Spanish 2, students will understand fundamental Spanish grammar and vocabulary and be able to communicate in Spanish at a beginner level.

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 1 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Spanish 3

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: Spanish 3 introduces students to more advanced grammar structures as well as new vocabulary from the assigned texts. Individual work will be assigned regularly. Students will be quizzed often to assess their progress. Students are expected to use Spanish in the classroom and are encouraged to do so outside the classroom as well. Students will demonstrate an understanding of their community in relation to Spanish speaking cultures they study.

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 2 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

Spanish 4

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: This Spanish Language course reviews materials typically learned during the first and second year of college study with the goal of preparing you to pass the College Board's CLEP examination and obtain college credit for free. This course will help you to acquire the knowledge and skills required to comprehend written and spoken Spanish.

Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish 3 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

French 1

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: French 1 presents the basics of the French language and culture. This course focuses on the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with activities that will foster communication in conversational situations. Students learn greetings, basic verb conjugations, vocabulary, pronunciation rules, grammar structures and cultural highlights using a thematic approach, various texts and activities. Students will develop basic reading and conversational skills with a focus on application rather than memorization.

French 2

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: French 2 strengthens students' comprehension of the French spoken and written language. Students learn how to respond in real-life situations, while expanding their vocabulary and improving their reading using the assigned texts. Grammar exercises focus on and expand on the knowledge of pronouns, past tense, future tense, the subjunctive, and more. Students are encouraged to speak French in the classroom, in communicating with the teacher and in cooperative groups. Cultural aspects of the French-speaking world will be studied.

Prerequisite: Completion of French 1 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

French 3

Credit: 1.0 | NCAA Core-Course

Course Description: French 3 reviews and builds on the grammar and vocabulary taught in French 1 and 2 to enhance conversational, reading, listening, and writing skills. Students will study compound verb tenses, and the subjunctive and passive moods through the assigned texts. Students will practice through reading comprehension, class discussion, activities, and journal entries. French 3 incorporates all four language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Prerequisite: Completion of French 2 with a grade of 'C' or higher.

2025-2026 Electives List

Artificial Intelligence

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course is focused on the history, applications, and innovations of artificial intelligence. Students will learn about intelligence agents, problem solving using search algorithms, knowledge representation, and reasoning in artificial intelligence. Students will also learn about the basic concepts of machine learning and natural language processing (NLP). Students will also learn about expert systems, computer vision and robotics. This course also covers ethics and safety related to artificial intelligence.

Applied Medical Terminology

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course that helps students understand the structure and meaning of medical terms and identify medical terminology associated with various body systems. As the healthcare industry becomes more complex, developing expertise in accurately and efficiently identifying medical terms and their specific application is essential to a growing variety of health care careers. This course begins to prepare your students for those careers.

College and Career Preparation

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: In this two-semester course, students obtain a deeper understanding of what it means to be ready for college. Students are informed about the importance of high school performance in college admissions and how to prepare for college testing. They know the types of schools and degrees they may choose to pursue after high school and gain wide exposure to the financial resources available that make college attainable. Students connect the link between interests, college majors, and future careers by analyzing career clusters. Students come away from this course understanding how smart preparation and skill development in high school can lead to expansive career opportunities after they have completed their education and are ready for the working world. This course provides a step-by-step guide to choosing a college. It walks students through the process of filling out an application, including opportunities to practice, and takes an in-depth look at the various college-admission tests and assessments, as well as financial aid options. This course also instructs students in interviewing techniques and provides career guidance. Students explore valuable opportunities such as job shadowing and internships when preparing for a career.

Computer Science Essentials

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course offers a focused curriculum designed around foundational computer science concepts, including computer systems, programming, networks, and data management. The course also introduces students to foundational computer science skills such as coding, troubleshooting, and being a responsible digital citizen. Course topics include the history and impact of computers; careers in computer science; computing laws and ethics; bias and equity issues in computing; algorithms and coding; data storage, organization, and analysis; hardware and software; robotics; networks and the internet; cybersecurity and online safety; website design; and the use of abstraction in computing.

Engineering and Technology

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course focuses on the fundamental concepts of engineering and technology. This course covers important inventions and innovations in engineering and technology, engineering's contributions to society, and how fields such as science, mathematics, and technology influence engineering. The course also explores the technologies, principles, and safety considerations in various engineering and technology career areas. It covers how to create models or prototypes of manufacturing, construction, biotechnology, power, and communication systems. Finally, students explore career areas in the engineering and technology industries and learn what skills and education are required for various career options.

Entrepreneurship

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course is based on Career Technical Education (CTE) standards and is designed to help students understand the roles and attributes of an entrepreneur, marketing and its components, selling process, and operations management. In this course, students will explore entrepreneurship and the economy, marketing fundamentals, managing customers, production and operations management, money, and business law and taxation.

Exploring Health Sciences

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course focuses on exploring health science careers. In this course, students will explore various career options in health care, such as biotechnology research, health informatics, and therapeutic, support, and diagnostic services. They will learn about the educational qualifications and skills required for a career in health care. They will analyze the evolution of healthcare in the United States and how it has affected care. They will compare the different areas of health care such as primary care, mental health, public health, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices. Students will also discover the foundational health care skills that will help them be successful in a variety of health careers.

Health

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course covers the essential concepts of health. Students are provided with a variety of health concepts and demonstrate their understanding of those concepts through problem solving. The five units explore a wide variety of topics that include nutrition and fitness, disease and injury, development and sexuality, substance abuse, and mental and community health.

International Business

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course covers the fundamentals of international business, global transactions, and how a business can go global. Students will learn about international business and how globalization has impacted it. They will learn about global trade and investment policies, and politics and laws that impact international business. Students will also learn about the International Monetary Fund, foreign exchange and global capital markets, key world economies, and economic cooperation across countries. This course also covers strategies to enter the international market along with factors like strategic planning, marketing, global sourcing, and logistics, human resource management, and employability skills. Students also learn about the cultural elements involved in conducting international business.

Introduction to Astronomy

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course is designed to enable students to learn the basics of astronomy. The course begins with coverage of the history of astronomy from ancient times to modern times. Students then learn to identify the movements of the Sun, Moon, planets, and stars across the sky and to describe the formation of the solar system and the role of the Sun and Moon in the solar system. The course goes on to cover the causes of seasons on Earth and why Earth can sustain life. The course culminates in a study of the stars, galaxies, and the Milky Way, various theories of cosmology, and advantages and disadvantages of space exploration.

Introduction to Business and Technology

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course provides the foundational knowledge and skills students need for careers in business and technology. Students will gain a knowledge of business principles and communication skills, an understanding of the impact of financial and marketing decisions, and proficiency in the technologies required by business. Students will also learn the essentials of working in a business environment, managing a business, and owning a business.

Introduction to Criminology

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course will enable students to understand basic concepts related to criminology. This course allows students to analyze and compare various theories related to criminology. Additionally, students will explore topics such as punishing offenders, deterring criminal behavior, and eliminating injustice with peace.

Introduction to Finance

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course will enable students to develop financial skills that they can use during their careers in business organizations. Financial literacy is an essential capability for students as they prepare for the workforce, and this course provides the information they need to determine if a career in finance is right for them. This course introduces students to a variety of topics, including investment strategies, money management, asset valuation, and personal finance.

Introduction to Forensic Science

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course is designed to introduce students to the importance and limitations of forensic science and explore different career options in this field. They also learn to process a crime scene, collect and preserve evidence, and analyze biological evidence such as fingerprints, blood spatter, and DNA samples. Moreover, they learn to determine the time and cause of death in homicides and analyze ballistic evidence and human remains in a crime scene. Finally, they learn about forensic investigative methods related to arson, computer crimes, financial crimes, frauds, and forgeries.

Introduction to Military Careers

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course that introduces the US military and describes each of its branches, which include the National Guard, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force. Students will learn about the relationship of the military reserve to the branches of the military. The course covers non-combat careers in the military, such as military intelligence, information technology, health care, legal services, logistics, aviation, and transportation, and other specialized careers. This course also covers enlistment and fitness requirements for military careers and personal traits that are essential for success in the military. The lessons in the course provide students with both breadth and depth, as they learn about the US Military.

Introduction to Philosophy

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course provides students an introduction to the field of philosophy and its great, timeless questions. Students are guided to understand the subject matter of philosophy, its main branches, and the major ideas and issues discussed in each branch. Students will explore the origin and evolution of philosophy as a discipline and learn about the times, lives, and intellectual contributions of essential philosophers.

Introduction to Marine Biology

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course is designed to introduce students to oceanic features and processes, ocean habitats and ecosystems, life forms in the ocean, and types of interactions in the ocean. Students will learn about the formation and characteristic features of the oceans. They will learn about the scientific method and explore careers available in marine biology. The course then covers the characteristic features of different taxonomic groups, habitats, life forms, and ecosystems that exist in the oceans and different adaptations marine creatures possess to survive in the ocean. Students will learn about succession and the flow of energy in marine ecosystems, as well as the resources that the oceans provide and the threats that the oceans face from human activities.

Introduction to Veterinary Science

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of veterinary science. The students will explore the history of veterinary science and the skills and requirements for a successful career in the veterinary industry. They will also explore the anatomy and physiology of animals, learn how to evaluate animal health, and determine effective treatments for infectious and noninfectious diseases in animals. Additionally, they will learn about zoonotic diseases, and the impact of toxins and poisons on animal health.

Introduction to World Religions

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course familiarizes students with the origins, history, beliefs, and practices of various prominent world religions, primal religions, and contemporary religious movements. The target audience for this course is high school students. This course covers primal religious traditions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto and contemporary religious movements.

Personal Finance

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course teaches financial literacy skills to help students plan and achieve career and personal goals. This course focuses on consumer economics, financial services, and personal financial management. Students learn how to budget, spend, invest, and make every day financial decisions. This course also provides an exploration of careers in personal finance and consumer services.

Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This two-semester course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help students understand the functioning of law enforcement agencies, courts, the correctional system, and security and emergency agencies. This course covers the history and development of criminal law in the United States, court procedures, the role of law enforcement agencies and private security in public safety, and the role of firefighters and emergency responders. It also covers the ethical and legal responsibilities and working conditions in law enforcement and security.

Sports and Entertainment Marketing

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course is intended to help students gain an insight into the field of sports, entertainment, and recreation marketing. This course covers fundamental concepts in sports, entertainment, and recreation marketing. It also covers essential skills related to advertising, sponsorship, and marketing campaigns. In addition, the course covers crucial workplace skills, such as teamwork and leadership skills.

Theater, Cinema, and Film Production

Credit: 0.5

Course Description: This one-semester course explores what goes into the making of a theater and film production. Lessons focus on the pre-production, production, and post-production stages of theater and film productions. Students will be introduced to theater and film, and their different genres and subgenres. They will also learn about roles and responsibilities of the cast and crew, including the director, actors, screenplay writers, set designers, wardrobe stylists and costume designers, and makeup artists. This course also covers technical aspects, such as lighting and sound. Students will also learn about the influence of the audience on theater, cinema, and film production.