

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION COURSES

CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

CAREER DEVELOPMENT and RESEARCH ORIENTATION

9 Semester

Career Development and Research Orientation (CDRO) is a one-semester course designed for ninth graders. Students will be introduced to university/college and career opportunities, utilizing computer technology as a basic research tool. Students will develop college level research methods, writing formats, and documentation, expanding analytical thinking and problem solving skills. In addition, students will learn to communicate effectively utilizing a variety of media and production tools.

ACCOUNTING 1 A/B

9-12 Semester/Year

Accounting 1 is a first year accounting course that should be taken by all students. Knowledge of accounting practices and theory is a MUST for all students for use in their personal, professional, and college careers. Students progress through the entire accounting cycle for the major forms of business: sole proprietorship, partnership, and corporation. Students learn how to keep personal and business records. The class material includes; starting a business and keeping a set of books; preparing checks and bank statements; payroll and income tax reporting; petty cash reports; recording entries in journals and ledgers; and preparing financial statements. Students learn how to use this valuable accounting knowledge and skill in their daily lives. Students are also introduced to accounting on the computer. Careers in the area of business are explored. *Students who complete this course should enroll in Accounting 2 and are eligible to enroll in a course in Keyboarding, Word Processing, and Independent Study Business.* Meets elective units for graduation.

*ACCOUNTING 2 A/B

10-12 Semester, Year

In Accounting 2, students will review the accounting cycles presented in Accounting 1 covering sole proprietorship, partnership, and corporate accounting procedures. Emphasis is placed on planning, recording, analyzing, and interpreting accounting principles and practices. This advanced, computerized accounting course is recommended for students who want to pursue a career in accounting or become CPA's; who plan to attend college and major in accounting or any phase of business or finance; who want to enter the work force in an accounting position after graduation; who want to obtain the accounting skills necessary to advance to a higher accounting position; or who want to broaden and improve their knowledge, understanding, and application of accounting principles and practices. Careers in the area of business are explored. *Students who complete this course should enroll in Independent Study Business and are eligible to enroll in a course in Keyboarding and Word Processing.* meets elective units for graduation. Meets elective units for graduation.

KEYBOARDING 1 A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

Keyboarding 1 is a hands-on computer class that teaches students to type by the touch method using good keyboarding techniques. Accuracy and speed are stressed throughout the course.

Students will learn how to identify and operate the basic parts of the programs and equipment used. This course is designed for students who want to learn how to type for personal, college and vocational use. Emphasis will be placed on learning how to type and format a variety of business documents, i.e., letters, memos, reports, and tables, and also how to prepare for entry-level employment. Careers in the area of business are explored. *Students who complete this course should enroll in Word Processing and are eligible to enroll in a course in Accounting and Independent Study Business.* Meets elective units for graduation.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP A/B

10-12 Semester/ Year

Prerequisites: Career Development and Research Orientation (CDRO), Keyboarding 1AB strongly recommended.

This course trains students to recognize a business opportunity and develop business management characteristics for starting, operating and maintaining their own business. It also provides a foundation in business concepts for individuals working in the increasingly competitive corporate world. Students learn the areas of planning, accounting, finance, marketing, management, business ethics, social responsibility, and the legal and economic environments in which a new venture operates. Training requires business scenarios, simulation such as Virtual Enterprise and/or activities through high school site student store venues. Students will receive a **SCROC** certificate of completion. This class satisfies elective units for graduation.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING A/B

10-12 Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Career Development and Research Orientation (CDRO) Keyboarding 1AB strongly recommended.

This course provides instruction in planning and creating a document, page layout and design, text development, use of Desktop publishing equipment/software, use of fonts, columns, illustrations, text, and managing multiple pages. Students complete projects and use HTML-Web publishing. **SCROC** on campus class.

WEB PAGE DESIGN A/B

10-12 Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Career Development and Research Orientation (CDRO) Keyboarding 1AB strongly recommended.

This course introduces students to the foundations and fundamentals of the World Wide Web. Students learn to utilize search engines and different browsers, acquire basic knowledge of Internet technologies, network infrastructure and Web authoring using HTML. Students will develop Web Pages in a text editor and a graphic user interface (GUI) editor. After completing this course, students will be able to create Web Pages containing text, graphics, hyperlinks, tables, forms and frames. Networking Fundamental and E-Commerce will also be covered. Integrated throughout the course are career preparation standards, communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving, and other employment readiness skills. **SCROC** on campus class.

JOURNALISM

10-12 Year

This course is for students interested in publishing the school newspaper. Activities include brainstorming story ideas, designing pages, gathering materials through interviews and research, writing articles, taking photos and illustrating stories.

GRAPHICS COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY: ANNUAL PRODUCTION

10-12 Year

This class is for interested students who are average to above average writers, creative thinkers, or photographers. Students will produce the school yearbook while learning teamwork, layout design, computer publishing techniques, and how to meet deadlines.

HOME ECONOMICS(Family and Consumer Science) COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

FOOD SCIENCE AND HOSPITALITY A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

This course emphasizes the study of nutrition, scientific principles, and food preparation procedures. Course units include; safety and sanitation, food marketing and management, food technology, and dietary guidelines as they relate to health throughout the life cycle, and foods from around the world. Careers in the fields of food service, dietetics, and hospitality are explored. Lab donation of \$20.00 per semester is suggested. Meets elective units for graduation.

FASHION CONSTRUCTION AND EXPLORATION 1 A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

This is the beginning course in clothing, design and textiles. Learn how to use a sewing machine and create your own fashions using commercial patterns. Study elements and principles of design. Explore careers related to fashion and textiles as well as analyze consumer choices in the apparel industry. Cost of the course varies with the selection of project materials. Meets elective units for graduation.

*FASHION CONSTRUCTION AND EXPLORATION 2 A/B

10-12 Semester, Year

Prerequisite: Fashion 1 A/B or teacher approval

This is the intermediate course in clothing, design, and textiles. Units include art elements and design principles, color theory, wardrobe planning, history of apparel, budgeting, fashion merchandising, careers, and the construction, maintenance and design of fashion. Cost of the course varies with the selection of project materials. Meets elective units for graduation.

*FASHION CONSTRUCTION AND EXPLORATION 3 A/B

11-12 Semester, Year

Prerequisite: Fashion 2 A/B or teacher approval

This is an advanced course where projects expand your application of art elements, design principles, textiles, merchandising, fashion forecasting, garment construction and alterations, apparel design, and careers related to the fashion industry. Cost of the course varies with the selection of project materials. Meets elective units for graduation.

*CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION A/B

11-12 (must be 16 years old) Semester, Year

(2 hours – 10 credits)

This is a HERO(Home Economics Related Occupations) class in child psychology, growth and development. In this two period class students are taken by bus to local preschools and Victor

Elementary School where they assist teachers in planning and conducting activities for children. Weekly instruction includes units in child development, first aid and safety, nutrition, parenting, discipline and lesson preparation. This occupational class helps students learn employment skills such as resume preparation, job interviews, and completion of job applications. A portfolio of work is accumulated during the year. This class is recommended for any student planning to become a teacher, social worker, psychologist, counselor, or pre-school director, and, of course, is excellent preparation for informed parenting. Meets elective units for graduation. *Excellent attendance (no more than 6 absences/year) is required. Professional dress code is enforced. Proof of a negative TB test result within the last year is required.* SCROC certificate earned.

FAMILY PSYCHOLOGY A

10-12 Semester

This is a course in psychology which helps you understand yourself and others better. Learn practical skills necessary for a productive life including: developing communication skills; improving personality; coping with stress; and getting along with parents. Units are included on dating, love, marriage, and parenting. Study of family concerns and current social problems including divorce, suicide, mental health and illness, alcoholism, drugs, AIDS, teenage pregnancy, child abuse and step parents/children. Helps you become an informed teenager through learning the challenges and rewards of different lifestyles so you can choose the one that is right for you. Meets graduation requirements for Career Technology Education.

SURVIVAL OF SINGLES A

11-12 Semester

Learn essential living skills needed to make it on your own as you gain knowledge of how to manage your financial resources to meet the demands of your future, as well as basic life skills. Concepts are presented in ways that teenager can understand using hands-on simulations, video and computer lessons. Major national and international economic concepts are covered as well as consumer applications that include job/career planning, managing a checkbook, buying a car, selecting an apartment, cooking for singles, and choosing insurance. Meets elective units for graduation.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

BASIC TECHNICAL DRAFTING A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

This course is designed to develop basic skills and understandings in technical drafting that will be helpful in many technical occupations. Standard drafting techniques are stressed with special emphasis on the theory of shape and size description. Students who complete this two-semester course will be able to graphically describe objects by means of one view, multi-view, pictorial, isometric, schematic, mechanical, and freehand drawings. Students will use compasses, scales, various templates, and drafting machines to make approximately 45 drawings involving a variety of drafting techniques. This class is recommended for students interested in technical careers, engineering, construction, architecture, and interior design. Students will spend time learning basic CAD system (computer aided drafting) operations. The opportunities to translate and develop the latest technical advances makes drafting an exciting, challenging career.

ADVANCED TECHNICAL DRAFTING A/B

10-12 Year or Semester

Prerequisite: Basic Technical Drafting A/B required.

This is an advanced course for students with an emphasis on Auto CAD residential and commercial architecture projects. Solid works 3D CAD work to be completed fourth quarter.

WOODS TECH 1 A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

(No prerequisite, but it is recommended that students complete a semester of Drafting prior to enrolling in Woods 1 A.)

Students will acquire a knowledge of basic woodworking processes and operations and learn to safely use and care for woodworking hand tools and power tools. Students will learn to operate machinery including the band saw, radial arm saw, jointer, surface planer, lathe, various sanders, and the drill press. They will complete three required projects that teach basic woodworking operations—cutting board, lamp, and stepstool/book box. During the 2nd semester, students will construct a taper-legged shaker table with drawer and a small project of their own choice within their ability as time permits and with the teacher's approval. Students will acquire knowledge of woodworking joints and use different types of woodworking finishes. Students will make working drawings prior to working on projects of their choice. The suggested lab fee for the materials for this class will be approximately \$30.00 each semester.

WOODS TECH 2 A/B

10-12 Semester

Prerequisite: Woods 1 and/or instructor approval.

Students in Woods 2 will learn to safely operate, install special setups and maintain all power tools and machines in our shop. They will construct projects of their own choice as well as community projects. These projects are expected to be more complex and show superior design and craftsmanship. Students will learn about basic furniture design and construction methods and make detailed working drawings of their projects. Students will calculate a bill of sale and pay for materials as used for their projects.

CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CAREER PATHWAY

Grade 11-12

This is an opportunity to take a SCROC sponsored 2-hour course at another Torrance Unified High School Campus. Transportation needed. See your Home Economics/ Career Technology Education teachers for information.

North High – Police Science

South High- Culinary Arts

Torrance High – Fashion (with emphasis on fashion show production)

West High – Child Development and Education

ENGLISH COURSES

Guidelines for English Classes

Requirements for Graduation:

1. Passing of the English-Language Arts section of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE).
2. Completion of 40 units of course work. Each semester class is 5 units.
 - a. Freshmen take English 1 (10 units).
 - b. Sophomores take English 2 (10 units).

- c. Juniors and Senior take four additional semester classes of English 3 / 4, one of which must be English 3 / 4: American Dream.

ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

ENGLISH 1

9th Year

English 1 is a student-centered, literature rich, integrated language arts course which offers intensive reading and writing experiences. It is designed to give all ninth grade students a maturing life view of the world and to build their communicative abilities to read, write, speak and listen with confidence. English 1 is a **required**, 10 unit course.

ENGLISH 1 HONORS

9th Year

Recommendation: A in 8th grade English and teacher recommendation

Eligibility and acceptance into this course will be determined by TUSD placement criteria.

In English 1 Honors the student reads literature of varied type, with in-depth analysis through discussion and writing. An emphasis is placed on writing formal essays, and creative work of all kinds. Grades are based on literature and vocabulary tests, written assignments, individual projects, and oral participation.

FORENSIC WORKSHOP (DEBATE)

9-12 Semester, Year

Students develop public speaking skills as they participate in public speech tournaments. They also learn of the theory behind the art of argumentation through debate events. Students will develop researching techniques and skills as they must be prepared for debates on current political issues. Students will be expected to attend all league tournaments barring any major illnesses. The class is graded purely on attendance and effort so all who enroll into this class must be willing to give active participation and attendance at every required tournament.

ENGLISH 2

10th Year

English 2 is the study of literature and instruction in the writing process. English 2 emphasizes World Literature. Short stories, novels, poems, and plays from different cultures and times are read and discussed. The literature is the focus for journals, class writings, and essays. Speaking and listening experiences are integrated in all areas of study. The reading for the class is completed at home.

ENGLISH 2 HONORS

10th Year

Recommendation: A or B in English 1/English 1 Honors and teacher recommendation.

English 2 Honors is a challenging class that requires extensive reading, literary analysis, collaborative discussion and writing. The Honors student reads several kinds of World Literature. Short stories, novels, poems, and plays from different cultures and times are read for in-class scrutiny. Each quarter, students read a novel and an additional 150 pages verified independent reading per week. Journals, shorter writings, and 6-8 essays of various lengths per quarter accompany the reading. Essay exams and quizzes are part of the assessment process. In addition to smaller projects, formal projects will culminate in major presentations. English 2 Honors requires 1-2 hours of homework per night and is for the motivated, above average student who has the willingness and ability to be dedicated to the rigorous requirements. The

focus of the course is preparation for college and advanced placement exams. Besides the increased challenge and requirements of the Honors class, California Content Standards for sophomores are taught.

ENGLISH 3 HONORS

11th-12th Year

Recommendation: A or B in English 2/English 2 Honors and teacher recommendation.

This is a very demanding academic class in literature and composition meant to prepare an honors student for college. This year-long class covers American literature in a fairly chronological way and includes reading 4 books over the summer, 4 books outside of class during the year, and 4 books together during the year. Both classic and Modern American literature are studied in depth. Analytical writing, as well as some creative writing, are major components of the course. In addition, students are required to attend 4 fine arts events during the year.

*ENGLISH 4 P – ENGLISH LITERATURE AP

12th Year

Recommendation: A or B in English 3 elective/English 3 Honors and teacher recommendation.

This course maintains a strong academic approach to composition and literature. The literature is challenging and is read outside of class. Students read four novels during the summer, complete learning activities with each one, and take an essay examination the second day of school. During the year, students read four whole-class novels, four independent novels, six full-length plays (including one Shakespearean play), short stories, nonfiction works, and poetry. Emphasis is given to in-depth analysis, through numerous at home essays, timed writings, essay examinations, discussion, and projects. In addition, students go to six fine arts events for which they write critiques. All students are expected to take the English Literature Advanced Placement Examination.

ENGLISH 3/4 CLASSES

ENGLISH 3/4: AMERICAN DREAM – (REQUIRED COURSE)

11th-12th Semester

Required of all students. May be taken in the 11th or 12th grade. In this class students read American literature of all types, including two core books: *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Huckleberry Finn*. As with all English classes, writing instruction is an integral part of the course.

ENGLISH 3/4: CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

11th-12th Semester

In this course students read novels, non-fiction, short stories, plays, and poetry that reflect the best writing of late 20th century authors. The in-class and homework activities are as varied as the literature presented. In addition to the readings, coursework includes formal writings, literature journals, creative projects, small group work, tests, and class discussion.

ENGLISH 3/4: POWER AND JUSTICE

11th-12th Semester

Every person must find, recognize and use his/her individual power in a responsible way. In this course, students look at the conflicts between power and justice with an emphasis on ways to keep them in balance. They read a variety of literature that explores several aspects of power and justice including male/female, social, and moral. They also grapple with some difficult ethical questions reflected in the literature as well as their own lives. As in all English classes,

students receive instruction in essay and creative writing. The “strands of concentration” are ethics, cultural awareness, global survival, and aesthetics.

ENGLISH 3/4: LITERARY HEROES

11th-12th Semester

Do Americans still have their own heroes or do they just look to other countries, as the media has recently suggested? This course attempts to answer this and other questions as students explore the concept of “hero” in the literary and real world. They read a variety of literature both contemporary and classic, including some myths, short stories, plays, a current novel, and a biography. As in all English classes, writing instruction is an integral part of the course. They concentrate on the following strands: cultural awareness, ethics, independence and interdependence.

ENGLISH 3/4: MULTICULTURAL VOICES

11th-12th Semester

This course explores multi-racial and multicultural voices who are trying to find a place in multicultural America. The course asks the question: who are Americans? Students will respond to a novel, poetry, and short stories in various forms of writing. They will explore the universal issues presented by the literature through creative projects, discussion, and writing. Areas of concentration will be cultural awareness, transitions, ethics, global survival, independence and interdependence.

ENGLISH 3/4: PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE

11th-12th Semester

In Philosophy and Literature students read short stories, selections by well-known philosophers, poetry and a novel which deal with four major areas of philosophical thought: truth, beauty, goodness and commitment. Class participation in discussion and activities, tests and writing assignments determines the grade. Homework is moderate and consists mostly of reading assignments.

ENGLISH 3/4: SEMANTICS

11th-12th Semester

In Semantics students engage in discussions and assignments exploring various forms of communication. A long unit in Media literacy is included as well as the study of cultural perspectives, body language, political propaganda, and advertising.

ENGLISH 3/4: THANATOLOGY

11th-12th Semester

Thanatology is an extensive investigation of death, the dying process, and human reactions to death. The class explores death from a social, psychological, financial and literary point of view. Extensive reading is an integral part of the class as well as written position papers. Guest lectures and film presentations are utilized when appropriate.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT COURSES

Designed for English Language Learner (ELL) students only. Grades 9-12.

Students who are learning English as a second or third language take classes that teach them to speak, read and write English along with regular or sheltered classes in mathematics,

science, history/social science, visual and performing arts and applied technology. In sheltered classes, the regular curriculum is taught by a teacher who uses a variety of sheltering techniques and strategies. Classes are offered in English Language Development to help students improve their use and understanding of English. When they meet the standards set by the State of California, they are re-designated as fluent, mainstreamed into the regular school program in all areas, and no longer take classes in English Language Development.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

ELD WORKSHOP 1 A/B, 2A/b

9-12 Semester, Year

ELD 1 is part of the English Language Development (ELD) program and is designed for non or very limited English proficient students. It includes listening, speaking, reading and writing with an emphasis on oral language development for comprehension and communication. This course introduces the student to basic English vocabulary and usage. Students will also be exposed to American culture, values and traditions. Students will have the opportunity to share various aspects of their own cultures and learn about their peers. (Five units of elective credit is earned each semester.)

READING WORKSHOP 1 A/B, 2 A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

Reader's Workshop is designed to give limited English proficient students the opportunity to learn to read and to become fluent readers. In English the goal of Reader's Workshop is to pursue learning English, developing vocabulary and comprehension while experiencing enjoyable and accessible young adult literature that encourages enthusiasm and active participation in the classroom environment. Students' choice in literature is encouraged to enable them to pursue independent interests which will further their comprehension, vocabulary, and enjoyment, creating life-long readers. (Five units of elective credit is earned each semester.)

WRITING WORKSHOP 1 A/B, 2 A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

Writers' Workshop is a Language Arts course, which helps the ELL student develop the skills to write in English with fluency and effectiveness. It is designed to give the level 2 and 3 ELL student the practice, support, and instruction needed to meet minimum proficiency, to develop the skills necessary to be successful in high school academic classes, and to develop the writing strategies demanded by colleges and universities. (Five units of elective credit is earned each semester.)

SPEECH WORKSHOP A/B

9-12 Semester

Speech workshop is part of the English Language Development (ELD) program and is designed to give English Language Learners the opportunity to practice and improve their oral communication skills. The activities, such as storytelling, demonstration speeches, movie reviews, job interviews, and opinion speeches, are designed not only to improve a student's speaking abilities, but to teach other skills as well (organization, research, vocabulary). Students work in groups, with partners, and individually depending on the assignment. These learning activities are also designed with into, through, and beyond steps that promote student understanding, productivity and ownership. (Five units of elective credit is earned each semester.)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

Foreign language classes are for students wishing to learn a new language other than English. In order to be proficient both orally and in writing a foreign language, a student should take 3 to 4 years of study in the same language. As students progress from one level to the next, they build upon the previous skills learned and continue to learn and practice new skills in communicating the new language. Therefore, level 2 requires completion of level 1 with a grade of C or better, and level 3 requires completion of level 1 and 2 with a grade of C or better. Level 4 requires completion of levels 1, 2, and 3 with a grade of C or better. NOT ALL LEVELS ARE TAUGHT EVERY YEAR. STUDENTS NEED TO CONSULT THE COURSE OFFERING LIST WHEN SCHEDULING.

The five main goals of language learning involve *communication, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities*.

Communication, or communicating in languages other than English, is at the heart of second language study, whether the communication takes place face-to-face, in writing, or across centuries through the reading of literature. Through the study of other languages, students gain a knowledge and understanding of the *cultures* that use that language; in fact, students cannot truly master the language until they have also mastered the cultural contexts in which the language occurs. Learning language provides *connections* to additional bodies of knowledge that are unavailable to monolingual English speakers. Through *comparisons* and contrasts with the language studied, students develop greater insight into their own language and culture and realize that multiple ways of viewing the world exist. Together, these elements enable the students of languages to participate in multilingual *communities* at home and around the world in a variety of contexts and in culturally appropriate ways.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

CHINESE 1, FRENCH 1, JAPANESE 1, KOREAN 1, SPANISH 1

9-12 Semester (Some languages may be open to Grade 8 students.)

In level 1 class the student will learn to understand, speak, read and write simple sentences in the foreign language. Chinese students will acquire the pinyin (phonetics) rules of pronunciation: and to read and write Mandarin. Japanese students will learn to read and write in Hiragana and Katakana (Japanese alphabet) and begin character writing, “Kanji” (Japanese characters). Korean students will learn to read and write Hangeul (Korean alphabet). Conversations are used in a variety of ways to learn correct pronunciation and sentence patterns. The teacher will help the student understand the styles and customs of the areas where the language is spoken.

CHINESE 2, FRENCH 2, JAPANESE 2, KOREAN 2, SPANISH 2

9-12 year

Prerequisite: First year of same language with grade of “C” or better.

Level 2, like Level 1, is structured around the idea that a foreign language is most effectively learned if the students work with the four basic skills of communication: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There is continued stress on developing skills in listening and in producing the language orally. As in level 1, conversations are used to develop a working vocabulary and for practice with grammar structures of the language. Reading selections illustrate the life style

and customs of the people, and students continue to develop speaking skills through dialogues, skits, and presentations. In Japanese, students will continue learning character writing in “Kanji” (Japanese characters).

CHINESE 3, FRENCH 3, JAPANESE 3, KOREAN 3, SPANISH 3

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: First and second year of same language with grade of “C” or better.

Building upon a background of basics, students will increase their oral and written communication skills and enjoyment of the language. Asian language students will be utilizing character writing to express an expanding vocabulary. A greater insight into culture will be gained through the use of reading selections, visual and audio resources and cultural projects.

CHINESE 4, FRENCH 4, JAPANESE 4, KOREAN 4, SPANISH 4

11-12 Year

Prerequisite: First three years of the same language with grade “B” or better.

Level 4 is an extension of Level 3. In addition, the students will be involved in the literature of the countries whose language they study, with literary analysis and discussions carried out in the target language. The class is conducted in the target language and students should have a command of the written language and competence in listening comprehension, reading and speaking.

KOREAN FOR KOREAN SPEAKERS

Korean for Korean Speakers takes into consideration student’s previously acquired language skills and builds from there. It is designed to develop students’ four communication skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course will provide the learner with the study of advanced literature and a profound understanding of the Korean culture through and integrated whole-language literacy skills. *Korean for Korean Speakers* will be offered for level one and two. Upon finishing level two of *Korean for Korean Speakers*, students should be able to take regular Level 3.

KOREAN 4, KOREAN 5 HONORS BY DEMONSTRATION

Eligibility in Korean 4 and 5 Honors by Demonstration will be determined by placement exam. Students who earned 91% or better are qualified to take this exam. This exam may be waived if students achieved 95% or better for two semesters in the previous level.

****HONORS AND AP COURSES ARE OFFERED IN SPANISH in the following levels:***

SPANISH 2H, SPANISH 3H, SPANISH 4AP, SPANISH 5AP

Recommendation: First, second and third year of same language with a passing grade of 85% or better in Honors, and a passing grade of 91% or better in regular classes, and teacher recommendation.

These courses are fast-moving academic classes designed to prepare students for greater success in the next level. These classes are conducted in the target language and students should have a command of the written language and competence in listening comprehension, reading, and speaking.

Students should expect:

Weekly quizzes

At least 30 minutes of nightly homework

Rapid acquisition of vocabulary

Reading selections
Independent and group projects
Writing composition

SPANISH LANGUAGE AP; SPANISH LITERATURE AP

Recommendation: Third year or fourth year of the same language with a passing grade of 85% or better in 3 Honors or 91% in 3 Regular; 91% or better in 4 AP and a passing grade on the Language AP.

The AP Spanish Language course and the AP Spanish Literature course are college prep courses designed to be comparable to advanced level college/university courses. They encompass aural/oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar and composition, poetry analysis and reading discussions.

The Spanish Language AP is designed to prepare students to take the AP test in language and the Spanish Literature AP to prepare students to take the AP test in literature. These classes are conducted in the target language and students should have a command of the written language and fluency of the oral language.

Students should expect:

Weekly quizzes

Between 45 minutes to 1 hour of nightly work

Acquisition of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions (50-70 words weekly)

Reading authentic editions of all the works in the AP list (Spanish Literature AP students will read during their vacation time)

Individual and group projects

Write in Spanish about topics of general interest

Participate in discussions with accuracy and fluency

In addition, AP students are required to attend AP practices during lunch and complete three tests on Saturdays during the second semester

The ability to work independently and the desire to advance in all areas of language application are essential

MATHEMATICS COURSES

Students who plan to enroll in a four-year college or university, should take a sequence of courses at least through Algebra 2. The State University and UC systems require Algebra 2 for entrance into the University from high school, although further coursework is recommended. Students who plan a career in mathematics, science, or a related field are encouraged to take four years of high school mathematics.

MATHEMATICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

*ALGEBRA 1

9-12 Year

Algebra 1 is the minimum mathematics requirement for high school graduation. All students completing Algebra 1 with a passing grade of A,B,C may continue on to Geometry. Students earning a D will be recommended to repeat the course. Students earning an F must repeat the course.

HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS 1

10-11 Year

Prerequisite: Passing grade in Algebra 1.

This is a year long transition course for students who have not mastered their algebra skills enough to pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) or to be prepared for geometry. This class will reinforce algebra skills and techniques and introduce geometric concepts in preparation for geometry. The class is designed for students who have a passing grade in Algebra 1, but have not been recommended for geometry. This class is also for students who have algebra credit, but have not passed the CAHSEE.

HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS 2

12th grade only- Year

This class will reinforce algebra skills and techniques and introduce geometric concepts. The class is designed for students who have not passed the CAHSEE or who are deficient in math credits necessary for graduation.

*GEOMETRY

8-12 Year

Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Algebra 1

In this course, the student will set up a mathematical system in which he/she accepts certain undefined terms, definitions, and postulates (properties) and proves other statements called theorems. This involves creative and logical thinking on the student's part. A great deal of Algebra is applied in the second semester.

*GEOMETRY HONORS

8-10 Year

Recommendation: High "A" in Algebra 1 and teacher recommendation

Geometry Honors is for the student who has high interest and ability in mathematics. Students will remain in the course for the entire school year. All grades earned will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

*ALGEBRA 2

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Geometry

This course extends the real number system into the complex number system. Problem solving techniques, the study of many functions (linear, quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, etc.) polynomials, sequences, and series are included. The student should demonstrate an interest and ability in mathematics with good work habits and orderly thought processes.

ALGEBRA 2 HONORS

9-10 Year

Recommendation: A or B in Geometry Honors, High "A" in Geometry and teacher recommendation.

Algebra 2 Honors is for the student who has high interest and ability in mathematics. Students will remain in the course for the entire school year. All grades earned will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

TRIGONOMETRY

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Algebra 2

This year-long course is designed for students who have already passed Algebra 2 with a grade of at least a "C" but are not ready for the rigors of Pre-calculus. The course embeds prerequisite

Algebra 2 concepts while complementing and expanding the mathematical content and concepts of geometry as they relate to the study of trigonometry. Emphasis is on abstract thinking skills, the function concept, and the solution of problems in various content areas. Successful completion of this course will allow students to move on to either Pre-calculus or Probability and Statistics.

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: "C" or better in Algebra 2

This is a year-long course introducing students to the concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will explore data plan studies and anticipate patterns and complete statistical inferences. Student will remain in the course the entire school year and all grades will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

STATISTICS AP

12 grade only

Recommendation: A or B in Algebra 2 or higher and teacher recommendation.

Statistics AP is a year-long course introducing students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will explore data, plan studies, and anticipate patterns and complete statistical inferences. Students who successfully complete the course and examination may receive credit for a one-semester introductory college statistics course. Students will remain in the course for the entire school year. All grades earned will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

*PRE-CALCULUS

11-12 Year

Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or better in Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation

The trigonometry topics include the study of functions and relations and trigonometric identities. The pre-calculus topics included are sequences, series and their limits, functions and their limits, exponential and logarithmic functions, and conics.

*PRE-CALCULUS HONORS

11-12 Year

Recommendation: "A" or "B" in Algebra 2 Honors or High "A" in Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation.

This honors course is for the student who has high interest and ability in mathematics. Students will remain in the course for the entire school year. All grades earned will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

*CALCULUS AP-AB

11-12 Year

Recommendation: A or B in Pre-Calculus/Pre-Calculus Honors and teacher recommendation.

Calculus is a one-year course intended for the student who has a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics including algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. This course will prepare the student for the AB Calculus Advanced Placement Examination. This course is equivalent to one semester of college calculus. Students will remain in the course for the entire school year. All grades earned will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

*CALCULUS AP-BC

11-12 Year

Recommendation: Successful completion of Calculus AB and teacher recommendation.

Calculus is a one-year course intended for the student who has a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics including algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. This course will prepare the student for the BC Calculus Advanced Placement Examination. This course is equivalent to two semesters of college calculus. Students will remain in the course for the entire school year. All grades earned will become part of the student's permanent transcript.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH COURSES

Twenty units of Physical Education and five units of Health are required for graduation. Students must be enrolled in P.E. each semester of their 9th and 10th grade year.

***** Uniform Requirement:** Each student enrolled in a Physical Education class is asked to purchase a P.E. uniform. The cost may vary from year to year. (Approximately \$20.00)

HEALTH

In health Education students study thematically the physical, social, emotional, spiritual and mental aspect of wellness. This one-semester course is designed to meet the graduation requirements of the Torrance School District. The prevention of disease and the maintenance of a healthy body will be emphasized. The course will include the following units as prescribed by state law:

The human reproductive system:	its organs, functions, and processes
Sexually transmitted disease:	the symptoms, diagnosis, and treatments
The use and misuse of drugs	
Family Life Education:	values and forces influencing individuals and the family unit
Basic First Aid and CPR	

*ADAPTIVE P.E.

9-12 Quarter, Semester, Year

(Physician's recommendation and approval of West High screening committee consisting of district nurse, special education coordinator, assistant principal and P.E. teacher needed.)

Students receive individualized instruction based on their needs and abilities. Each student is provided activities and performs according to his/her individual capacity. Exercises of a general warm-up nature and exercises to strengthen weak parts of the body are performed.

*ATHLETICS

9-12 Quarter

(Passed team tryouts and/or teacher recommendation.)

The course emphasizes improvement of individual skill level, sports strategy, sportsmanship, and school spirit. Physical performance testing is conducted for 9th graders once each year. Students must meet Torrance scholastic and citizenship requirements plus CIF physical, medical and insurance requirements.

*BAND/TALL FLAGS P.E.

9-12 Quarter

(Membership in Entertainment Unit)

This P.E. class is taught by teachers in the P.E. department and the band director. During the first semester of the year the P.E. activities are preparation for marching activities. During the remainder of the year regular P.E. units are covered. Students take part in physical fitness testing.

*DRILL TEAM P.E.

9-12 Quarter

(Tryouts are given, and once selected, team members must meet internal standards governing performance participation)

This course is designed for those students who are selected to represent West High School as drill team members. A regular P.E. schedule of activities is offered including the administration of physical performance tests for all 9th graders.

BEGINNING DANCE

9-12 Year

In Beginning Dance, students learn the basic elements of dance such as space, time and force. Students deal with other art media in relation to dance, such as painting, poetry, and music. Students will create their own dances in relation to these basic elements. Dance students may participate in a dance production during the school year.

*INTERMEDIATE DANCE

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: Beginning Dance or instructor's approval

In Intermediate Dance, students are given the opportunity to create and form their own dances based on energy, shape, spatial design, and rhythmic phrases. The students learn dance technique, fundamentals, forms and styles of movement. The emphasis in this course will be on developing the student's awareness and understanding of their own movement style through improvisation. All dance students participate in a dance production during the school year.

AEROBICS

10-12 Year

Aerobics is a coeducational class consisting of exercises and body movements done rhythmically with appropriate music for life-long fitness.

P.E. 9

Grade 9 - Quarter

Freshmen have six to twelve time blocks of sports activities (see below) during the year. Instruction is given in basic team and individual sports. Credit will be given on a quarter basis. California physical fitness tests are given once each year.

P.E. 10,11,12

Grade 10-11-12 Quarter

Students have eight time blocks of sports activities during the year. Instruction is given in basic individual and team sports. Credit will given on a quarter basis.

P.E. Sports Activities taught in the 9th grade:

AEROBICS – A coeducational class consisting of exercises and body movements done rhythmically with appropriate music.

- ARCHERY** – A coeducational class consisting of safety procedures, target shooting for accuracy and distance, and care of equipment. All equipment is furnished by the school.
- BADMINTON** – Badminton is a coeducational activity that can be played fast or slow, hard or easy, in or out of doors. When properly played, badminton requires a great deal of speed, endurance and power. Team play of partners in a doubles game demands the utmost cooperation, concentration and initiative in the use of strokes.
- BASKETBALL** – Basketball is an activity that is played on an indoor or outdoor court. teams are composed of 5 players each. The purpose of the game is to score a larger total number of points than the opponent. Scores are obtained by shooting the ball through the basket either from the field (court) or from the free throw line. Basketball emphasizes respect for others, sportsmanship, respect for rules, and competitive attitude.
- FLAG FOOTBALL** – Flag football is an activity played on an outdoor grass area. Special tear-away belt flags are worn by each team member. Flag football emphasizes individual skills, team strategy, sportsmanship, and a knowledge of the rules.
- SOCCER** – Soccer is an activity played outdoors which emphasizes skills, individual strategy, team strategy, sportsmanship, and a knowledge of the rules.
- SOFTBALL** – Softball is a coeducational activity played with from six to twelve individuals utilizing rule modification to allow teams to pitch to their own players with a maximum of three pitches and three outs. The official game of softball is also played with students gaining a knowledge of the rules of the game. All equipment is furnished but students may use their own gloves if they so desire. No cleats may be worn.
- TENNIS** – Tennis is a coeducational activity played outdoors on a tennis court. It emphasizes skills, individual strategy, sportsmanship and a knowledge of rules of the game.
- TRACK & FIELD** – Track and Field is a coeducational activity meeting on the track area of the stadium. After basic instruction on running techniques, shot putting, long/high jumping, pole vaulting (boys only), and hurdling, the students participate in a decathlon type program. Each student attempts to get their best mark in each event and a record is kept of the points scored. Awards are given for high point performances.
- VOLLEYBALL** – Volleyball is a coeducational activity played either indoors or outdoors. It must be played with a minimum of two people per team and is usually played with six players per team. Volleyball emphasizes individual skills, team strategy, sportsmanship and a knowledge of the rules.
- WEIGHT TRAINING** – Weight Training is a coeducational activity utilizing various weight training machines in the weight room, free barbells, dumbbells, the universal gyms, and jump ropes. Instruction is given on the proper use of the equipment and safety procedures. The activity promotes a healthier, better condition and better looking physical body.
- WRESTLING** – The Wrestling unit is comprised of the introduction of the rules and the rules and the students compete in a tournament based on their weight class, and take a skills and/or written test.

Grade 10- 12 Quarter

Students will participate in fitness and conditioning activities that promote lifelong learning. Activities encompass skills that target cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance and flexibility. Credit will be given on a quarter basis.

SCIENCE COURSES

Science Requirements for Graduation:

Students are required to take two years of a lab science: one year of a life science and one year of a physical science.

As you plan for your successive science classes, please keep in mind the recommendations and necessary prerequisites, especially concurrent math classes.

SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

PHYSICAL SCIENCE OF EARTH

9th Year

Recommendation: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1 or beyond

Physical Science of the Earth is an overview of Physical Sciences with an emphasis on the Earth Sciences. Topics covered include the Earth's place in the universe, dynamic Earth processes, energy in the Earth's system, biogeochemical cycles, structure and composition of the atmosphere, and the geology of California. This yearlong lab course includes the essential skills and knowledge students will need to be scientifically literate citizens in the twenty-first century and develop abilities in problem solving through experimentation and concrete examples

BIOLOGY

9-10th Year

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Geometry or beyond

Biology 1 is designed to study basic biological principles, including cell theory and systems, cellular biochemistry, genetics, DNA and protein synthesis, biotechnology, evolution, ecology, and human physiology. Hands-on activities, laboratory techniques and investigations are strongly emphasized. Because of the academic background and maturity level necessary for success, Biology 1 is designated as a 10th grade class. This is consistent with the past practice of the Torrance Unified School District and with the current practice of surrounding districts. Students can expect to spend one-half to an hour each night on homework assignments. *Students who take Biology in 9th grade MUST take a physical science in 10th grade in order to satisfy the science graduation requirement.*

BIOLOGY HONORS

8th-10th Year

*Recommendations: 8th grade: "A's" in 7th or 8th grade Science, Language Arts, Algebra 1, and science teacher recommendation
9th/10th grade: "A" or "B" in previous science course; science teacher recommendation*

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Geometry

B.S.C.S. (Biological Science Curriculum Study) focuses on several major themes that are interwoven throughout the text: Change through Time; Biological Diversity; Genetic Continuity;

Ecological Principles; Complementarity of Structure & Function; Regulation & Homeostasis; Science as Inquire; History of Biological concepts; Science & Society. The main objective is to lead each student to conceive of biology as a science and to see the process of science as a reliable method of gaining objective knowledge. This course is designed for the above average, self-motivated student. It provides sophisticated knowledge of biology and sharpens their abilities to analyze information and to cope with important bio-social issues throughout their lives. Students can expect to spend forty-five minutes to an hour each night on assignments and study. Homework is given every night and weekends. There will be several group and individual projects that entail research outside of class. This is the foundation course for Biology AP after Chemistry is taken. *Students who take Biology Honors as their first high school science course, MUST take Chemistry 1/H or Physics in order to satisfy the science graduation requirement.*

BIOLOGY AP

10th-12th

Recommendations: Science teacher recommendation

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Chemistry 1/Chemistry Honors with grade of "A" or "B", and completion of Algebra 2/H with a grade of "A" or "B"

Biology AP is designed to be the equivalent of a one year college introductory biology course that aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. The major themes of this course include: Science as a Process, Evolution, Energy Transfer, Continuity and Change, Relationship of Structure to Function, Regulation, Interdependence in Nature, and Science, Technology, and Society. This course is significantly different from Biology H in the range and depth of the topics covered. The laboratory portion (approximately one-third of the class time) is equivalent to college lab work and made up of twelve recommended lab experiments that encourage higher order thinking skills which include evaluating and monitoring an investigation, generating ideas, and formulating hypotheses. Students should be exceedingly self-motivated and expect to spend an hour or more per night studying and completing assignments. To receive AP credit, the AP test must be taken as part of the course requirement. *This course is an excellent class for serious pre-medical, pre-dental, nursing, biomedical fields and biology.*

CHEMISTRY

9th-12th

Recommendations: Successful completion of Biology 1/H with a grade of "C" or higher

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher

Chemistry 1 introduces students to the fundamental laws and principles of chemistry. Topics include Stoichiometry, Gas Laws, Thermochemistry, Physical and Chemical Properties of Matter, Atomic Structure and Bonding. Skill, attitudes and interest are developed through laboratory experiments and activities. Good math skills are required. Students can expect to spend on-half to one hour per night on homework. *The successful completion of Chemistry prepares a student for future science electives including Physics, Journeys Through Time, Anatomy & Physiology, Biology AP or Environmental Science AP.*

CHEMISTRY HONORS

9th-12th

Recommendations: Successful completion of Biology 1/H with a grade of "A" or "B", and science teacher recommendation

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher

Chemistry Honors is designed for students with exceptional ability in math and science as it goes beyond the fundamentals of chemistry to emphasize the theoretical and quantitative aspects of chemistry. Topics include Stoichiometry, Gas Laws, Thermochemistry, Physical and Chemical Properties of Matter, Atomic Structure and Bonding. Skill attitudes and interest are developed through laboratory experiments and activities. Students need to be self-motivated and can expect to spend one hour per night on studying and homework. Chemistry Honors is the foundation course for Chemistry AP. *The successful completion of Chemistry Honors prepares a student for future science electives including Physics, Journeys Through Time, Anatomy & Physiology, Chemistry AP, Biology AP or Environmental Science AP.*

CHEMISTRY AP

10th-12th

Recommendations: Science teacher recommendation

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Chemistry H with a grade of A or B, and completion of Algebra 2/H with a grade of A or B

Chemistry AP is designed to be equivalent to a general chemistry course taken at college. It is qualitatively different from Chemistry H in terms of chemical calculations, mathematical formulations of principles, and the kinds of laboratory work performed by students. While fundamental concepts such as reactions, states of matter, and societal issues which involve chemistry are covered, topics such as the structure of matter, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, thermodynamics, and chemical calculations are considered in considerable depth. Students should be exceedingly self-motivated and are expected to spend at least five hours per week in individual study. To receive AP credit, the AP test must be taken as part of the course requirement. *This course is recommended for students interested in chemistry and engineering as well as biomedical fields.*

MARINE SCIENCE

11th-12th

Prerequisite: Completion of TUSD's two-year science graduation requirement with grades of "C" or higher

Marine Science is a multidisciplinary science course that includes oceanography and marine biology. Oceanography explores the physics, chemistry, and geology of the oceans and their applications in ocean engineering. Marine biology explores the biology and ecology of the oceans, their applications in aquaculture and related technologies. This course is recommended for students who are interested in the ocean and the aquatic environment.

JOURNEYS THROUGH TIME

11th-12th

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry or Chemistry H with a grade of "C" or higher

"Journeys Through Time" is an upper-level Astrobiology course that explores three broad topics: the origins and development of the universe; the origin and development of life on Earth; the development of the human mind and human technology. The course focuses on cutting-edge science topics and the latest in scientific discoveries. Students will use hands-on activities to explore and critically evaluate evidence for competing scientific theories. The course prepares students for college level science by expecting higher level thinking skills. The course will change as new discoveries are made, and it is intended to be challenging and mind-stretching. *This course is recommended for students who are interested in how scientists seek to understand the fundamental questions of where the universe comes from, where we as a species come from, and where our unique cognitive abilities are taking us.*

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

10th-12th

Recommendations: Successful completion of Chemistry

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology/Biology Honors with a grade of "A" or "B"

Anatomy and Physiology is an investigation into the structure and function of the human body. The student will use the microscope to observe human tissues. Real skeletons and individual bones are studied with an emphasis on understanding human muscles and their skeletal attachments. Real mammalian brains and eyes are dissected while studying the nervous system. A fetal pig is dissected in the laboratory for a first hand look at the mammalian systems. The muscles of the frog and a sheep heart are also dissected. *This course is recommended for those considering a career in the fields of health, nursing, dentistry, medicine, biomedical research and all the various para-medical fields.*

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY HONORS

10th-12th

Recommendations: Successful completion of Biology/Biology Honors with a grade of "A" or "B" and science teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry or Chemistry Honors.

Anatomy and Physiology is designed for those students who are highly self-motivated and have excellent study skills. The course investigates the structure and function of the human body. The physics and biochemistry of body movements and functions are stressed. The student will use the microscope to observe human tissues. Real skeletons and individual bones are studied with an emphasis on understanding human muscles and their skeletal attachments. Real mammalian brains and eyes are dissected while studying the nervous system. A fetal pig and a cat are dissected in the laboratory for a first hand look at the mammalian systems. The muscles of the frog and a sheep heart are also dissected. Students can expect to spend up to one hour per night on homework and study. *This course is recommended for those considering a career in the fields of health, nursing, dentistry, medicine, biomedical research, and all the various para-medical fields.*

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AP

10th-12th

Recommendations: Science teacher recommendation

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Chemistry Honors with a grade of "A" or "B", and completion of Algebra 2 Honors with a grade of "A" or "B"

Environmental Science AP is designed as a one year laboratory science course that provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and man-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Topics include ecological principles, human population demographics, renewable and nonrenewable resources, environmental quality, global changes and their consequences, and the political, economic, and social influences that shape decisions throughout the world. Students should be exceedingly self-motivated and are expected to spend at least five hours per week in individual study. To receive AP credit, the AP test must be taken as part of the course requirement. *This course is recommended for all students who have an interest in the environment, including those majoring in science or social science.*

PHYSICS

10th-12th Year

Recommendations: Successful completion of Chemistry Honors with a grade of "B" or higher

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Trigonometry or Pre-Calculus or higher

Physics introduces the fundamental laws of physics and how it affects our society through critical thinking, problem solving, and laboratory experiments. Topics covered include mechanics, sound, heat and energy, electricity, magnetism, and light. The class is conceptually based physics with integrated math. Emphasis will be spent on preparing students for college level science through higher level thinking skills. It is assumed each student has mastered skills needed in note taking, writing, and algebra. Students should expect to spend at least one hour each day on physics homework, study, and review. *Upon successful completion of physics, students are encourage to take Journeys through Time, Mechatronics, Intro to Engineering, and Anatomy & Physiology. Or one of the four AP science courses offered: Biology AP, Chemistry AP, Physics AP, and Environmental Science AP.*

PHYSICS B AP

10th-12th

Recommendations: Science teacher recommendation

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Chemistry H with a grade of A or B. Concurrent enrollment in Calculus AB or BC.

Physics B AP is designed to be the equivalent of one year of college physics which emphasizes problem solving. Newtonian Mechanics, Fluid Mechanics and Thermal Physics, Electricity and Magnetism, Waves and Optics, and Atomic and Nuclear Physics. In the problems, labs and discussions, math is emphasized as a tool in scientific investigation. The students, through a series of investigations, experiments and problems, seek to understand the nature of the physical world. Students should be exceedingly self-motivated and have excellent mathematical skills and reasoning. Students are expected to spend at least five hours per week in individual study. *To receive AP credit, the AP test must be taken as part of the course requirement. *This course is an excellent choice for students interested in biomedical fields, applied sciences, and life sciences.*

ENDEAVOUR ACADEMY ENGINEERING SCIENCE PROGRAM:

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING SCIENCE

9th-10th year

Recommendation: Successful completion of Algebra 1

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Geometry

This interdisciplinary course teaches hands-on physical science, mechanics, electronics, computers, and engineering design. Engineering related coverage of material from the following physical science areas: astronomy and optics, electromagnetic spectrum, electricity and magnetism, forces and motion, thermo-fluid systems, and materials science. Basic mechanical devices (levers, gears, pulleys, springs, etc.) and linkages are mathematically described and examined in lab work. An introduction to basic electronics is given and students learn to breadboard practical circuits.

ENGINEERING MECHATRONICS AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS I AND II

11th year

Recommendation: Successful completion of Geometry and/or Introduction to Engineering Science

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2 or higher

Mechatronics is a lab project-based course covering both mechanical and electromagnetic theory and their engineering applications. The beginning of the course covers static and dynamic systems and how to solve the variety of physics problems dealing with mechanics, and introduces beginning college-level engineering problems. Students will be able to calculate and have a detailed and comprehensive understanding of systems that are at rest as well as those in motion. After covering the physics (electricity and magnetism) and materials science behind electronics, they will be trained to describe, mathematically analyze, and design electronic circuits. This will allow them to describe and engineer their own electro-mechanical projects. The final part of the course is an introduction to digital logic circuits and microcomputer components, operation, and uses in data acquisition and control systems.

SERVICE COURSES

SERVICE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

*All of the following courses require teacher permission.

***LEADERSHIP A**

9-12 Semester, Year

(This course is for Student Council members.)

Student government, parliamentary procedures and school service responsibilities are stressed.

***CLASSROOM AIDE A/B**

11-12 Semester, Year

Completion of graduation requirements is suggested before applying for an aide position. Your grade is partially based on your attendance.

***OFFICE AIDE A/B**

11-12 Semester, Year

See your Counselor for information. Your grade is partially based on your attendance. A maximum of 10 credits as an aide will be allowed.

LIBRARY PRACTICE A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

Students learn the wide variety of skill, procedures, and responsibilities necessary for smooth operation of a library media center. Jobs include helping patrons locate resources, taking charge of one section of the library, checking out materials, making deliveries, processing new books, operating equipment, and assisting with various library maintenance duties. Students build public relations skills and learn to use the media center's computer programs and other information resources. Each student researches one topic of personal interest during the semester.

SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

GEOGRAPHY

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

9 or 10 Semester, ELECTIVE COURSE

This course is designed to enhance student understanding of the countries and cultures in every region of the world. Effective map use will be emphasized to identify common and unique physical features and locate current national boundaries. Students will analyze basic cultural, political, and economic data to understand the geographic challenges we face in moving forward as a global community.

WORLD HISTORY:

WORLD HISTORY A/B

10 Semester, REQUIRED COURSE

Students will study the historical process, forces, and dramatic events that have worked together or separately to produce the world in which we live. Global ideas, values, and cultural influences will be emphasized. After reviewing geography skills and the rise of democracy, the course will emphasize the period from the French Revolution (1789) to the present.

*WORLD HISTORY A/B AP

10 Semester, Year

Recommendation: A in English 1/Honors and English teacher recommendation.

This course is designed to prepare students for the World History Advanced Placement Exam as well as to help students develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global development and contacts over time. The course highlights the nature of changes, their causes and consequences, makes note of important continuities, while directly comparing and contrasting major societies. The course provides balanced global coverage, with Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe all represented. Students should be prepared to spend a minimum of eight hours per week on challenging assignments done outside of class. They should demonstrate an active interest in history, be able to work independently, and have very good reading and writing skills.

UNITED STATES HISTORY:

U.S. HISTORY A/B

11th Semester, REQUIRED COURSE

Students will study the historical processes, forces, values, people, and dramatic events that have helped to shape the American nation. An emphasis is placed on our multi-ethnic heritage and the history of the United States in the twentieth century. After a review of the development of the U.S. from the American Revolution to 1900, the course focuses on the Progressive Era through the present.

*U.S. HISTORY A/B AP

11 Semester, Year

Recommendation: A or B in World History/AP and teacher recommendation.

This course covers a significantly broader scope of topics than U.S. History A/B in order to prepare students to pass the AP test in U.S. History. The demanding exam covers details of five centuries of U.S. History from the settlement of the New World to the present day. Students who wish to take this course should be prepared to devote at least one hour per day to college level reading and writing assignments done outside of class. Because of the sheer volume of material, work is assigned on weekends, over breaks, and during the summer before the course. Because grades are based heavily on test scores; students must be able to work independently and demonstrate a high level of comprehension and written expression as well as

an active interest in history in order to succeed. Finally, they also should be responsible for meeting deadlines (as late work is not accepted) and have earned an A or B grade in their World History course.

ECONOMICS

ECONOMICS A

12 Semester, REQUIRED COURSE

Economics A is primarily a course in social science, enriching students' understanding of the operations and institutions of economic systems, rather than a course in household or business management or budgeting. The course places emphasis in the following areas: fundamental economic concepts, comparative economic systems, microeconomics (the study of individual behavior), macroeconomics (aggregate behavior in the economy as a whole), and international economic concepts.

***MACROECONOMICS AP**

12 Semester

Recommendation: A or B in U.S. History/AP and teacher recommendation.

The purpose of this intensive AP course is to give students a thorough understanding of economic principles. These topics include basic economic concepts, measurement of economic performance, national income and price determination (including Keynesian and classical analysis, fiscal and monetary policy, multipliers, deficits, money, and the banking sector), and international economic concepts (including balance of trade, exchange rates, and growth). Students who wish to take this course must be able to work independently on graphical analysis and problem solving as well as demonstrate skills in reading comprehension and application in order to succeed. Students also must be responsible for completing work on time and have earned an A or B grade in their U.S. History course.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

U.S. GOVERNMENT B

12 Semester, REQUIRED COURSE

This course is designed to acquaint students with the basic concepts of United States government, including its structure and how it works. Emphasis is placed on the Constitution, the three branches of our federal government, the political system (including elections and interest groups), and the rights and responsibilities of citizens. Investigative learning methods are used, including required community service and exploration of local government. As an active, informed citizenry is essential in a democratic society, this course will help further the noble goals listed in the Preamble of the Constitution.

***U.S. GOVERNMENT B AP**

12 Semester

Recommendation: A or B in U.S. History/AP and teacher recommendation.

This intensive AP course will give students an in depth understanding and an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The topics include constitutional underpinnings, political beliefs and behaviors, linkage institutions (including political parties, interest groups, campaigns, and the media), institutions of government (including Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary, and the Bureaucracy), public policy, and finally civil rights & liberties. Students who wish to take this course are required to complete debates, current event presentations, Supreme Court case studies and other projects in addition to ongoing homework.

Because grades are based heavily on test scores, students must be able to work independently and demonstrate a high level of comprehension and written expression in order to succeed. Students also must be responsible for completing work on time and have earned an A or B grade in their U.S. History course.

PSYCHOLOGY

PSYCHOLOGY AP*

11th-12th

Recommendations: "A" or "B" in English 2/3 and "A" or "B" in World/U.S. History and teacher recommendation.

Psychology AP is equivalent to an introductory college course in psychology designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their research and practice. Students should be exceedingly self-motivated and expect to spend an hour or more per night studying and completing assignments. To receive AP credit, the AP test must be taken as part of the course requirement.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

***INDEPENDENT STUDY A/B**

10-12 Semester, Year – Approval of Application

See Counselor for information and application form.

GENERAL WORK EXPERIENCE

11th –12th grade only Semester, Year

This program provides students with a combination of related work experience education instruction and paid employment designed to assist students in acquiring desirable work habits and attitudes. The paid employment need not be related to the student's career goal. This class includes regular required classroom meetings and assignments. Students must average 20 hours of work per week for the semester to earn 10 credits.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS COURSES

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

FINE ARTS SEMINAR

10-12 Year

Learn the history of all the arts! Survey of Fine Arts A/B is a two-semester course designed to provide an integrated overview of visual art, music, theatre, and dance that also incorporates history and literature. The student will acquire an understanding of the arts from various cultures and the effect of the arts on societies both past and present through the use of a text book, videos, fine arts event reports, audio materials and hands-on projects where applicable. The course is taught from a historical perspective and is sequential, covering all fine arts in relation to their given time period. (Fulfills U.C. "F" requirement)

ART COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

ART 1 A/B

9-12 Year

Students are encouraged to develop creative ability through drawing, painting and the application of fundamental principles of design. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

*ART 2 A/B

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: Art 1 or instructor approval

This course extends the study of realistic and interpretive drawing and painting with emphasis on subject matter and techniques. Student abilities in drawing still life, abstract design, interpretative and pictorial design advertising and decorating are emphasized; also portraiture fundamentals. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

*ART 3 A/B

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: Art 2 or instructor approval

Importance is placed on refining the powers of observation and visual judgment, composition, and the creative use of a wider variety of materials. Advanced techniques of figure drawing are covered. A critical evaluation of a wider variety of materials is made of art productions. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

*ART 4 A/B

11-12 Year

Prerequisite: Art 3 or instructor approval

Projects are required of students enrolled in this course. Greater freedom is exercised in allowing individual art expression and growth with special emphasis on creativity. Art portfolios may be prepared for one-man exhibits on campus. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

STUDIO ART AP

11-12 Year

Prerequisite: Art 2 and instructor approval

The Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art is designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. Drawing Portfolio requires 30-40 pieces of superior quality standard based artwork. Students are expected to maintain a sketchbook and art journal; turn in weekly assignments, photograph and mat their works; attend museum and gallery exhibits; and write reports on areas of art history related to their area of study. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

BEGINNING CERAMICS A/B

9-12 Year

In this yearlong course students will learn to create as well as appreciate expressive, creative three dimensional clay forms. Students will practice to become proficient at forming clay objects and refine their craftsmanship skills though a range of construction methods by hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Various decoration and glazing techniques will also be emphasized. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

*ADVANCED CERAMICS A/B

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: Ceramics 1 or instructor approval

Greater emphasis on the development and skill in executing designs, as well as originality and inventiveness are required. Ceramic glaze technique, surface decoration and two-and-three-dimensional forms are introduced. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

DRAMA COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

THEATER ARTS 1 A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

Theater Arts 1 consists of instruction in basic knowledge of the stage, exploration of the actor's tools: movement, voice, and imagination, theatre appreciation, the production process, and self scripted performances and improvisation in the areas of pantomime, storytelling, oral interpretation, and character development. Students are invited to attend workshops, festivals, competitions and to come on field trips if they so desire. All theatre students will be expected to attend or observe at least one audition and one performance of each of the two major productions each year. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

***THEATER ARTS 2 A/B**

***THEATER ARTS 3 A/B**

10-12 Semester, Year

Prerequisite: Successful completion of theater arts courses and/or instructor approval

Will continue instruction in the basic techniques of performance concentrating on more advanced projects and scripted material. Those students in their second and third year of instruction will be expected and encouraged to compete in festivals and to attend workshops and field trips whenever possible. All theatre students will be expected to attend or observe at least on audition and one performance of each of the two major productions each year.

****Please be aware that there may be fees for activities which are required for this class. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)*

***THEATER ARTS 4 A/B (ADVANCED PLAY PRODUCTION)**

11-12 Semester, Year

Prerequisite: Audition and instructor approval

An advanced class that is only open through audition and will consist of advanced techniques in performance and competition. All students will be expected to participate in all aspects of all department productions and projects, including fundraising, technical work, rehearsals, performance, strike, publicity, field trips and competitions. ****Please be aware that there may be fees for activities which are required for this class. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)*

STAGE TECHNOLOGY A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

Students learn the skills necessary for costume design, management, and set construction, design, and decoration. Students design and build sets for all major school plays and construct a scale model of a simple set of their own design. Participating in drama productions as well as assisting in assemblies which need stage facilities is required.

TELEVISION PRODUCTION A/B

9-12 Semester, Year

This is year long course in the history, appreciation and production of film and video. The course will cover aesthetic valuing and validity in film, historically significant works in film and video,

script writing, filming, directing, acting for the camera, editing and other aspects of film production. School to career opportunities will be explored. There will be opportunities to produce and exhibit your student works.

DANCE COURSE DESCRIPTION:

ADVANCED DANCE

10-12 Semester, Year

Prerequisite: Audition and instructor approval. Successful completion of Intermediate Dance is highly recommended

Advance Dance concentrates on developing the student's ability to form dances using a variety of interesting sources. Students are given the experience of working with poetry, music, art objects, props, etc. and the opportunity to develop knowledge and awareness of other art media in relation to dance. All dance students participate in two dance productions during the school year. Every other year one of these productions is the school musical. (Fulfills U.S. "f" requirement)

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

INSTRUMENTALMUSIC PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

BEGINNING INSTRUMENTS A/ B (Guitar OR Piano)

9 – 12 Year

This class is open to all students wishing to learn to read music and play either guitar or piano. Students must choose one instrument and continue playing that instrument all year long. Students will learn pitch, rhythm, technique, music reading, sight reading and musicianship. An in-class recital is required at the end of each semester.

***INTERMEDIATE INSTRUMENTS A/B (Guitar OR Piano)**

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: Beginning instruments (with a grade of "B" or better) and/or permission of the instructor.

This class is open to all students wishing to continue to advance on guitar or piano. Students will move on to more advanced forms of pitch, rhythm, fingering, technique, music reading, sight reading and musicianship. An in-class recital is required at the end of each semester.

***BAND/TALL FLAGS P.E.**

9-12 Year (Entertainment Unit)

This P.E. class is taught by teacher in the P.E. department and the band director. During the first semester of the year, the P.E. activities are preparation for marching activities. During the remainder of the year, regular P.E. units are covered. Students take part in physical fitness testing.

***ADVANCED BAND (CONCERT BAND) A/B**

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: Students must already play an instrument; required for all 9th grade Band students
Concert band literature, grades 3 and 4, marching band literature, and appropriate studies, etudes and exercises are rehearsed in small and large groups and performed in public. Members of the advanced band take part in both concert and marching band activities including

public performances, music festivals, and SCSBOA judged marching band competitions. Students in Advance Band must enroll in Band P.E. first semester, and must provide their own instruments and equipment. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

***BAND A/B (FIELD CHOREOGRAPHY – TALL FLAGS)**

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: By audition or permission of the band director

This course is open to all auxiliary members of the band. Drill routines and flag choreography are taught for all parade, half-time and festival performances.

***PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE A/B**

9-12 Year (*Required for all 9th grade percussion students and all members of the marching band drum line*)

Prerequisite: Recommendation of instructor

Percussion Ensemble is now a year course. Ability to read music and perform on a percussion instrument is required. Students learn the fundamentals of playing snare drum, tenor drum, cymbals, bass drum, timpani, bells, chimes and Latin percussion instruments. Students take part in the marching band percussion section and drum corp competition. Daily rehearsals of marching band drum music and ensembles are held; students are expected to work in a small group, alone, and with the entire percussion class. Students in this class must enroll in Band P.E. and take part in all marching band activities.

***JAZZ BAND B**

10-12 Semester (*Spring only*)

Prerequisite: By audition

The class is a jazz-oriented performance course emphasizing good ensemble playing techniques, improvisation, music theory, self-discipline, and public performance. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

***WIND ENSEMBLE A/B**

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: By audition – outstanding musical ability as demonstrated by performance on standard wind instruments

Students study, rehearse, and perform wind music literature of grades 4,5, and 6 individually, in small ensembles, and with the complete wind ensemble. Music is selected from all periods of music history, and students learn to recognize the characteristic style of each period studied by listening to and by performing such literature. Students enrolled Wind Ensemble must enroll in Band P.E. and participate and perform with the marching band. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

ORCHESTRA A/B

9-12 Year

Note: This course is offered only during seventh period. Students must arrange for their own transportation to the class.

This class is open to intermediate and advanced students who have played violin, viola, cello, or string bass for at least a year. (Students at the beginning level will enter with the consent of the instructor.) Students will study, rehearse, and perform standard orchestral compositions and chamber music. Frequent performances in school and the community are part of the course requirement. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

VOCAL MUSIC PROGRAM

VOCAL MUSIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

CHOIR A/B

9-12 Year

Here you will learn how to sing without damaging your voice and how to sing in harmony in a group. You'll also learn how to read music. This class includes singing music in a wide variety of styles including singing pop, Broadway, jazz, multicultural and classical in 2- and 3-part harmony. Performance at the Torrance Memorial Hospital *Holiday Festival*, the Winter Choral Concert, the Spring Choral Concert and at Graduation are required. Basic vocal technique, music theory (reading and writing music) and sight singing are taught. This is the recommended class for incoming freshmen. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

GLEE ENSEMBLE (FEMALES ONLY)

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor, and one year in Choir is preferred

This is a more advanced choral group that performs in 3-part harmony. Students will learn how to read and write music, and how to sing without damaging their voice. A wide variety of music will be learned including pop, Broadway, jazz, multicultural and classical. Students will develop vocal technique, and learn how to blend and balance choral singing. Performance at the Torrance Memorial Hospital *Holiday Festival*, the Winter Choral Concert, the Spring Choral Concert and at Graduation are required. Basic vocal technique, music theory (reading and writing music) and sight singing are taught. This is the recommended class for slightly more advanced girls. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

*CHORAL WORKSHOP (Aristocracy)

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: By audition only. One semester in Choir A/B or Glee Ensemble is preferred.

Students are required to sing difficult choral music in 4- to 8- part harmony, both accompanied and a *cappella*. A wide variety of music is performed including pop, Broadway, jazz, multicultural and classical styles in a variety of languages. Emphasis is on the development of poise and confidence in performing, and on proper vocal technique and style. Many opportunities are provided for students to perform for school and community activities, and all performances are mandatory. Students are tested each week on music for correct pitches, rhythms and lyrics. All music must be memorized. More advanced forms of vocal technique, music theory and sight singing are taught. (Fulfills U.C. "f & g" requirement)

MUSIC THEORY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

*MUSIC THEORY A/B

9-12 Year

Prerequisite: a basic knowledge of the writing of music in either treble or bass clef. Prior musical knowledge is a plus.

This course is the equivalent of a 1st semester college music theory class and is for the serious music student. Learn to read and write music at an intermediate level. This class is very similar to Music Theory AP in the material covered, as it is offered in the same class period. Student learning expectations are adjusted during 2nd semester. Students will learn to read and write music as well as identify musical form by hearing music. Homework is given every day and the

topics are sequential, so keeping up with the work is a must. Students taking this class may opt to take the AP test in May. (Fulfills U.C. "f" requirement)

***MUSIC THEORY AP**

10-12 Year

Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. One year in Music Theory A/B is preferred

This is a college-paced class and students enrolled in it must take the AP test in May. This course provides an in-depth study of music theory and analysis. It covers all the topics on the Advanced Placement Test in Music Theory and more. Course content includes the following components: basic properties of sound; notation, including scales, modes, intervals, tonality, key, melody; melodic organization, including 4-part voice leading; harmonic progressions; formal music analysis; ear training and sight singing. Homework is given every day and the topics are sequential, so keeping up with the work is a must. This is one of the most challenging and rewarding classes at West High School.(Fulfills U.C. "f & g" requirement)