

# High School Course Catalog 2024-2025

Northwest Classical Academy is adding 10th grade in 2024-2025. As the school continues to add grades in future years, the Course Catalog will expand, especially in the areas of Fine Arts and other electives.



# Mission, Vision, and Values

#### Mission

The mission of Northwest Classical Academy is to develop students in mind and character through a classical, content-rich curriculum that emphasizes the principles of virtuous living, traditional learning, and civic responsibility.

# Vision

To be a nationally regarded K-12 classical school and serve as a local and national incubator for the growth and promotion of classical education.

# **Organizational Values**

- The tenets of a classical, liberal arts education
- Community and partnership in the common pursuit of forming intelligent, virtuous citizens
- Excellence in teaching and learning

# **Core Virtues**

Courage, courtesy, honesty, humility, perseverance, self-government, and service.

# **School Pledge**

I will learn the true. I will do the good. I will love the beautiful.

# **Graduation Requirements**

The minimum credits required for graduation are listed below. The satisfactory completion of a Senior Thesis, including a written paper and oral defense, in 12th grade is also required for graduation.

The curriculum of Northwest Classical Academy meets all the course requirements for admission to any college in the University System of Georgia. All students who complete NCA's curriculum will meet or exceed the minimum number of "rigor courses" required for eligibility for the HOPE scholarship.

| Course or Subject              | Credits required in high school |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Literature                     | 4                               |  |
| History                        | 4                               |  |
| Math                           | 4                               |  |
| Science                        | 4                               |  |
| Foreign Language               | 3                               |  |
| Composition                    | 0.5                             |  |
| Logic                          | 0.5                             |  |
| Health                         | 0.5                             |  |
| Personal Fitness               | 0.5                             |  |
| Fine Arts                      | 1                               |  |
| Moral and Political Philosophy | 1                               |  |
| U.S. Government                | 0.5                             |  |
| Personal Finance and Economics | 0.5                             |  |
| TOTAL                          | 24                              |  |

# **Course Progression**

|                     | 9th Grade                                     | 10th Grade                                    | 11th Grade                         | 12th Grade   |
|---------------------|---|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Literature          | Ancient Literature                            | Medieval and British<br>Literature            | American Literature                | Modern Literature &<br>Senior Thesis                         |
| History             | Ancient World History<br>to 500               | European History<br>500-1815                  | American History<br>1607 - Present | Modern World History<br>1815 - Present                       |
| Math                | Algebra I or<br>Geometry                      | Geometry or<br>Algebra II                     | Algebra II or<br>Pre-Calculus      | Pre-Calculus or<br>Calculus                                  |
| Science             | Biology                                       | Physical Science or<br>Chemistry              | Chemistry or<br>Physics            | Science Elective   |
| Foreign<br>Language | Latin I or Latin II                           | Latin or other language                       | Latin or other language            | Foreign Language<br>or Elective                              |
| Other               | Composition (1 sem)<br>Logic (1 sem)          | Elective                                      | Moral and Political<br>Philosophy  | U.S. Gov. (1 sem)<br>Personal Finance &<br>Economics (1 sem) |
| Other               | PE / Health (1 year)<br>or Fine Arts (1 year) | PE / Health (1 year)<br>or Fine Arts (1 year) | Elective                           | Elective   |

Notes on the course progression and graduation requirements:

- 1. A student's placement in math and science courses is determined by the Math and Science Departments based on course grades, test scores, and teacher recommendations.
- 2. A student must earn 4 credits for Math in high school. A credit earned for Algebra I in 8th grade will not count toward these 4 required high school math courses.
- 3. The 4 credits required in Science include Biology, Chemistry, and either Physical Science or Physics.
- 4. Three years of Foreign Language are required in high school. At least two years must be in the same language. At least one year of Latin in high school is required.
- 5. The Fine Arts, Health, and Personal Fitness requirements are to be met by the end of 10th grade. A student who takes a Fine Arts course in 9th grade must take Health and Personal Fitness in 10th grade.

# **Course Descriptions by Department**

# **Literature and Composition**

# Ancient Literature Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 9

In Ancient Literature, students will study founding works of great literature from the ancient world. The goal is to engage with great authors and participate in the worlds their stories create. Students will examine works of poetry, drama, and prose in order to gain insight into the cultures and societies that produced them. Throughout each text, students will be encouraged to analyze themes, motifs, and important stylistic elements, as well as to consider the historical and cultural contexts in which these works were created. In addition to reading and discussing these works, students will also be expected to complete a variety of writing assignments and assessments. Throughout the course, students will develop a deeper understanding of the literary traditions of the ancient world, as well as the enduring themes and ideas that continue to resonate with readers today. Instead of racing through excerpted versions of these works, this course moves deliberately through complete texts, delving into them in great detail.

#### Composition

#### Credit: 0.5

#### Grade: 9

Composition explores how academic writing is created and demonstrates that writing well is foundational for academic success. Students will use a variety of approaches, including diagramming, model sentences, mentor texts, close reading, and writing workshops to create clear academic prose. In the first nine weeks, students will pay special attention to improving the structure and cohesion of sentences, paragraphs, and essays. The second nine weeks will encourage students to appreciate the rhetorical qualities particular to academic prose. This course is required for all 9th grade students.

Logic

# Credit: 0.5

#### Grade: 9

The art of persuasion is an indispensable tool for a free and responsible citizenry. This course will focus on one of the three essential aspects of persuasion, namely logic. Logic is the means by which we not only construct rational arguments but also critique flawed arguments. The course will use in-class exercises to teach the basics of formal logic, syllogisms, and informal fallacies. Students who complete this course will learn to think more clearly and, therefore, to live more freely. This course is required for all 9th grade students.

# **Medieval and British Literature**

Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10

In Medieval and British Literature, students will study major works of literature from the medieval and early modern periods in British history. Students will explore the cultural, historical, and literary contexts of works from the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and the Reformation, and the seventeenth century. Students will analyze the great literature of this time as products of their historical and cultural contexts and examine their literary conventions and themes, including the role of the individual versus society, the nature of heroism, and the relationship between power and morality. Throughout the course, students will develop their analytical and critical thinking skills as well as their ability to make connections between texts and to understand the development of literature over time.

# **American Literature**

Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11

In American Literature the students will study the great works of American literature from the colonial period to the modern era. Students will explore the rich and diverse literary traditions of American writers, examining the cultural and historical contexts that give rise to different genres, themes, and styles of writing. Throughout the course, students will engage with a range of texts, including novels, poetry, essays, and speeches. Students will analyze the literary techniques and devices employed by great American authors, explore the themes and motifs that recur throughout American literature, and consider how different cultural and historical factors shape writers' perspectives and their work. Students will engage in class discussions and writing assignments that aim to deepen their understanding of American literature and its broader significance. By the end of this course, students will have developed their analytical and critical thinking skills as well as their ability to appreciate the complexity and richness of American literary traditions.

# **Modern Literature and Senior Thesis**

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 12

In this course, students will examine their relationship with their fellow human beings and the implications of living in society with others as they move towards fully exercising their freedoms in the wider world. Students will explore how literature reflects and responds to modernity, examining the unique features and themes of poetry, fiction, drama, and nonfiction written during this period. Students will spend a significant part of second semester writing their senior theses, a capstone writing experience that pulls together the seminal questions of the Western Tradition.

# Principles of Justice Credit: 0.5 Grade: 10

Northwest Classical Academy emphasizes seven core virtues: courage, courtesy, honesty, humility, perseverance, self-government, and service. Beyond these virtues is one that unites them and all other virtues: justice. We struggle to understand what it means to be just in any given situation: is it just to harm one's enemies? To punish a crime? What does it mean to have virtue at all? In this class we will study the different – and often conflicting – answers given by major thinkers and societies across the globe and across time. Students will read and discuss philosophers from ancient Greece and China, early modern Europe, and contemporary America, as well as other readings that give a broader understanding of justice across the world.

# **Dante: The Divine Comedy**

# Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 10

The epic tradition of the *Iliad, Odyssey*, and *Aeneid* is taken up by Dante Alighieri in his epic *Commedia*. In this class we will study how Dante adapts the Classical epics into something totally new: an epic on the grandest scale, traveling through Hell, Purgatory, and Paradise, but in which every person is the central hero. We will also consider how Dante bridges the gap between the Classical World studied in 9th grade Literature and Milton's early modern *Paradise Lost* in our 10th grade Literature course. Students will read Dante's *Inferno* as well as the majority of Dante's *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*, along with secondary works that help us understand the historical and literary context.

# **History/Humanities**

# Ancient World History to 500

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 9

Ancient World History to 500 is a comprehensive study of the history and civilizations of the ancient world. Students will explore the rise and fall of empires, the development of different cultures, and the major social, economic, and political events of the ancient world. Students will examine the social and cultural practices of these societies as well as their contributions to art, philosophy, and science. By the end of this course, students will have a deeper understanding and appreciation of the complexities of the ancient world. They will be able to analyze the various factors that contributed to the rise and fall of ancient civilizations and interpret how those events are relevant to contemporary issues faced by modern-day societies.

# European History 500-1815

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10

European History is a continuation of Ancient World History. In European History, the curriculum focuses on the ways the legacy of the ancient world was both transmitted and reshaped over the course of almost 2,000 years. In the Fall semester, the curriculum primarily explores Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages. In the Spring semester, the focus shifts to the Later Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Enlightenment.

# American History 1607-Present

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11

American History covers the period from 1607 to the present day. The course is designed to provide students with an in-depth understanding of the major events, people, and ideas that have shaped American history. Throughout the course, students will explore the political, economic, social, and cultural developments of the United States. They will analyze primary source documents and engage in critical thinking exercises to develop their skills in historical analysis and interpretation. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deep understanding of American history and its significance in shaping the world in which we live. They will have honed their critical thinking and analytical skills and developed their ability to communicate effectively about complex historical ideas and events.

# Moral and Political Philosophy

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11

The Moral and Political Philosophy course provides students with an in-depth exploration of the major philosophical theories and concepts that underlie moral and political thought. The course is designed to foster critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and an appreciation for the complexities of ethical and political decision-making. Throughout the course, students will engage with primary source texts and develop their skills in close reading and analysis. They will explore the major theories of ethics and political philosophy. By the end of the course, students will have developed a deep understanding of moral and political philosophy and its significance for contemporary society. They will have honed their critical thinking and analytical skills, learned how to effectively communicate complex philosophical ideas, and developed the ability to apply philosophical concepts to real-world situations. Additionally, students will have gained a deeper appreciation for the importance of ethical decision-making and its role in their lives as good citizens.

# Modern World History 1815-Present

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 12

Modern World History covers the major events and themes of global history from the 19th century to the present day. The course is designed to provide students with a deep understanding of the political, economic, social, and cultural developments that have shaped the modern world. Throughout the course, students will analyze primary and secondary source materials, engage in critical thinking exercises, and develop their skills in historical analysis and interpretation. By the end of the course, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of modern global history and its significance in shaping the contemporary world. They will have developed their critical thinking and analytical skills and learned how to effectively communicate complex historical ideas and events. Additionally, students will be able to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world situations, helping them become informed and engaged citizens of the world.

# **U.S. Government**

# Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 12

U.S. Government will provide students with an understanding of the principles, institutions, and processes of the United States government. The course is designed to develop students' knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, principles of limited government, and ideas that have shaped American political culture. Throughout the course, students will explore foundations of American government, including the concepts of natural law, the social contract, and the separation of powers. Students will conclude the course with a comprehensive understanding of the U.S. government and its role in society. They will also have the tools necessary to become engaged and informed citizens, ready to participate in the democratic process.

# **Personal Finance and Economics**

Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 12

Personal Finance and Economics is a one-semester introduction to the basic tools of micro and macroeconomic analysis. Students will learn to identify, analyze, and evaluate the causes and consequences of individual economic decisions and public policy, including issues raised by the constraints imposed by scarcity, how economies and markets work, and the benefits and costs of economic interaction and interdependence. Students will also learn about a variety of personal finance topics, including budgeting, saving, investing, taxes, various forms of debt, and interest.

# **Cultural History of the United States**

# Credit: 0.5

#### Grade: 10

This course will examine the development of music, fashion, food, film, and television culture in the United States from 1800 to 2000. By examining the cultural development of the United States, students will be given a broad understanding of how colonial Europeans became uniquely American, how African and Latin Americans greatly influenced the development of that culture, and how the melting pot of America continues to find inspiration in other cultures. Students will learn about cultural development in the United States, how that culture impacts their lives, and how American culture in particular has worked to preserve the cultural heritage of many diverse groups through inspiration and imitation.

# Introduction to Law

# Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 10

This course will introduce students to the basic framework of Anglo-American Law, the structure of the legal system, the hierarchy of the court system, and the role that various groups, from police to lawyers to judges, play in the American system of justice. This course will provide students with a better understanding of legal processes and legal authority, thereby enhancing their understanding of their rights and responsibilities as American residents and citizens.

# **History of Western Thought**

# Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 10

This course will be an examination of western philosophical thought from Thales of Miletus to John Locke. Rather than a study of philosophy directly, the course will examine the growth and development of western thought from a historical perspective utilizing the economic, political, and religious philosophies of classical western civilization as a foundation.

# **Mathematics**

#### Algebra I

#### Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 8-9 (Pre-Req: Pre-Algebra; Math Department approval required for 8th graders)

Algebra I provides students with a foundation in the fundamental concepts of algebra. The course is designed to develop students' skills in problem-solving, critical thinking, and logical reasoning. Engaging lessons will explore solving equations and inequalities; simplifying expressions; linear, exponential, and quadratic functions; exponents; polynomials; factoring; radicals; data analysis; and probability. By the end of the course, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of algebra and be able to apply algebraic concepts to solve real-world problems. They will have developed their critical thinking and problem-solving skills and be able to communicate mathematical concepts effectively. Students who take Algebra I in 8th grade will be in the Honors class and will receive a 0.5 GPA bump at the end of the course.

#### Geometry

#### Credit: 1.0

#### Grade: 9-10 (Pre-Req: Algebra I)

Geometry provides students with an in-depth exploration of the fundamental concepts and principles of geometry, grounded in the classical tradition. Plato claimed that "Geometry draws the soul towards truth," and this class reflects that resilient desire for learning what is true versus what only appears to be. Throughout the course, students will study the basic principles of Euclidean geometry including defining the relationship of points, lines, planes, and space, which allows students to utilize deductive reasoning to present a clear argument. Other topics include perpendicular and parallel lines, similar figures, triangles, and coordinate geometry. Students who take Geometry in 9th grade will be in the Honors class and will receive a 0.5 GPA bump at the end of the course. The Honors class will move at a faster pace and will be more challenging than the regular course.

#### Algebra II

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10-11 (Pre-Req: Geometry)

Algebra II is designed to provide students opportunities to build understanding of important, new mathematical concepts and develop fluency with key skills. Algebra II builds on Algebra I concepts by reviewing previously learned topics and expanding depth of knowledge by presenting new ideas and more complex problems. Students build upon the foundation laid in the study of Algebra I and Geometry, continuing to explore linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, and radical functions, while introducing trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Conic sections, probability, statistics, and matrices will also be examined. Students who take Algebra II in 10th grade will be in the Honors class and will receive a 0.5 GPA bump at the end of the course. The Honors class will move at a faster pace and will be more challenging than the regular course.

# Algebra II and Trigonometry

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11 (Pre-Req: Geometry. Math Department approval required.)

This course combines Algebra II and Pre-calculus. It is intended for students who took Geometry in 10th grade and have been approved to move into advanced math in 11th grade, paving the way to take Calculus in 12th grade. Departmental approval is required. Due to the accelerated nature of the course, a mandatory summer packet must be completed before the first day of school. Algebra II and Trigonometry is an Honors course; students will receive a 0.5 GPA bump at the end of the course.

# **Pre-calculus**

#### Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11-12 (Pre-Req: Algebra II)

Pre-calculus is designed to finalize the study of concepts introduced in previous classes. As the final step before the collegiate level, pre-calculus acts as the bridge between elementary and higher mathematics and, as such, contains a healthy dose of both familiar and new concepts. Many algebraic, geometric, and logical reasoning skills acquired in previous classes will be strengthened and refined this year. In addition, this class will contain an emphasis on the study and applications of trigonometry. Additional topics are also covered, including alternate graphing methods, vectors, matrices, discrete mathematics, and limits. Students who take Pre-Calculus in 11th grade will be in the Honors class and will receive a 0.5 GPA bump at the end of the course. The Honors class will move at a faster pace and will be more challenging than the regular course.

#### Calculus

#### Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 12 (Pre-Req: Pre-Calculus)

Calculus introduces the concepts of calculus in both theory and application. This course emphasizes an intuitive approach to calculus, where students analyze the concepts geometrically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Calculus is split into two branches - differential and integral calculus. In differential calculus, students learn the rules of derivatives and some of their applications, including the analysis of curves, modeling and optimization, and the relationship between position, velocity, and acceleration. In integral calculus, students study the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and rules of basic integration, along with methods to find areas under curves and volumes of irregular figures. Both of these branches take an in-depth study of how we wrestle with infinity and limits.

#### **AP Calculus AB**

#### Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 12 (Pre-Req: Pre-Calculus. Approval required.)

Students in this course will explore the concepts, methods, and applications of differential and integral calculus. This course follows the Advanced Placement curriculum and moves at a faster pace than the

non-AP Calculus course. Students in an AP class are required to take the AP Exam at the end of the course. Students will receive a 1.0 GPA bump at the end of the course.

# **AP Calculus BC**

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 12 (Pre-Req: Pre-Calculus. Approval required)

Students in this course will explore the concepts, methods, and applications of differential and integral calculus, including topics such as parametric equations, polar coordinates, vector functions, and series. This course moves at a faster pace and covers more topics than the AP Calculus AB course. Students in an AP class are required to take the AP Exam at the end of the course. Students will receive a 1.0 GPA bump at the end of the course.

# <u>Science</u>

# Biology

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 9

Biology expands on the life science concepts acquired in earlier courses. Students will explore a diversity of topics, including the inner workings of the cell, DNA, evolution, and the interactions of ecosystems to gain a deeper understanding of how life systems operate. By the end of this course, students' eyes will be opened to the world around them, helping them understand the beauty and wonder of biological life on our planet.

# **Physical Science**

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10

Physical Science provides students with an introduction to the fundamental concepts and principles of physics and chemistry. Students will develop scientific inquiry skills and have a solid foundation for further study in the physical sciences. Students will explore the basic principles of matter, energy, and motion, and they will apply these principles to real-world situations. By the end of the course, students will have an appreciation for the importance of scientific inquiry and its role in shaping our understanding of the natural world.

# Chemistry

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10-11 (Science Department approval required for 10th graders)

Chemistry provides students with a fundamental understanding of matter and change, scientific measurements and procedures, atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical formulas, chemical reactions and equations, stoichiometry, states of matter, kinetic theory of matter, gas laws, solution chemistry, acid-base theories, and reaction energy. Each major unit includes a historical perspective, focusing on the questions posed, analyzed, and answered by the founders of modern chemistry.

# Physics

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11

Physics is designed to further the understanding of the physical sciences that began in previous courses and provide students with the necessary skills to be proficient in physics. This course is designed to provide students with hands-on, real-world connections that will deepen their understanding of this math-based science discipline. Areas of concentration include classical mechanics, gravitation, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, and electromagnetic and sound waves.

# **AP Biology**

Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11-12 (Pre-requisites: Biology; Chemistry; Science Department approval)

Advanced Placement Biology builds on the concepts acquired in Biology and is a rigorous, year-long course equivalent to a college-level introductory biology course. Students will expand upon the knowledge acquired in their previous biology course and deepen their understanding using real-world examples through lab activities. Key concepts include cellular biology, genetics, evolution, and ecology. Lab work emphasizes the development and testing of a hypothesis; collection, analysis, and presentation of data; and discussion of results to learn how to think critically and solve problems. Students in an AP class are required to take the AP Exam at the end of the course. Students will receive a 1.0 GPA bump at the end of the course.

# **AP Chemistry**

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11-12 (Pre-requisite: Chemistry; Science Department approval)

AP Chemistry is comparable to a college-level general chemistry course. Students will explore concepts learned previously in Chemistry in greater depth and study new material that will build upon their prior knowledge. Major topics covered include the structure of matter, states of matter, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermochemistry, equilibrium, acid-base chemistry, and electrochemistry. Students will learn numerous chemical calculation skills in the study of the content and in the analysis of lab data. AP Chemistry is a challenging course in which explanation, calculation, laboratory work, and data analysis feature prominently. Students in an AP class are required to take the AP Exam at the end of the course. Students will receive a 1.0 GPA bump at the end of the course.

# Foreign Language

# Latin I

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 9

In Latin I, students cover the beginning chapters of *Wheelock's Latin* and *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata*. Focus is placed on learning new Latin vocabulary and on incorporating derivatives of those words into one's own vernacular. The course also covers classical culture. This class is for students who are new to Northwest Classical Academy and have little or no previous Latin language experience.

# Latin II

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 9-10 (Pre-Requisite: Latin I)

In Latin II, students cover the middle chapters of *Wheelock's Latin* and continue readings in *Lingua Latina pe se Illustrata*. Focus is placed on reading significant amounts of Latin, including original texts wherever appropriate. The course also covers classical culture.

# Latin III

#### Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10-11 (Pre-Requisite: Latin II)

In Latin III, students cover the later chapters of *Wheelock's Latin*, learning about the various tenses of the subjunctive mood of verbs, the uses of the subjunctive mood, and the different types of conditional sentences. This course will conclude the basics of Latin grammar, giving students an opportunity to read more extensive texts like Ritchie's *Fabulae Faciles*. The course also covers classical culture.

# Latin IV

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 11-12 (Pre-Requisite: Latin III)

This course will focus on reading continuous passages of un-adapted, or only slightly adapted, Latin literature. Special attention will be given to reading works by Vergil, Caesar, Pliny the Younger, and Cicero.

# Spanish I

# Credit: 1.0

# Grade: 10-12

This course immerses students in the Spanish language by implementing different activities that help with language development. Students work on developing the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as the vocabulary and basic grammar necessary to establish a working knowledge of Spanish.

# **Physical Education**

Health

# Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 9-10

Health is the condition of the human body when it is functioning properly. Lack of health - or being unhealthy - is the condition of the human body when it is not working properly or to its potential. Health class is the formal study of the human body in order to understand what constitutes health, what practices and habits contribute to health, what practices and habits impair health, and what ailments and conditions must be diagnosed and treated lest they endanger health. Health is a required course for all students.

# **Personal Fitness**

Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 9-10

This course will focus on the different types of workouts that can be accomplished to increase strength, endurance, and flexibility. Students will learn about muscle groups, circuit training, interval training, and how to tier/rotate workouts. Personal Fitness is a required course for all students.

# Introduction to Team Sports and Officiating

# Credit: 0.5

# Grade: 10-12

The Georgia High School Association (GHSA) has announced a new partnership with RefReps, an innovative education technology company focused on sports officiating education. The goal of the partnership is to develop the next generation of great sports officials in the state of Georgia. In the Introduction to Team Sports and Officiating course, students will earn high school course credit and obtain certification to officiate basketball, soccer, and baseball games. Obtaining officiating certification will allow students to earn money while serving their communities and local youth sports leagues. For the RefReps program and certification assessment, there is a fee of \$135 per student that must be paid before the first day of class. A PE uniform is not required for this course.

# Fine Arts

# Visual Art Survey Credit: 1.0 Grades: 9-10

This course introduces art history, criticism, and studio production to the beginning art student. It emphasizes the ability to understand and use the elements of art and principles of design through a variety of mediums and processes including 2-D and 3-D works. A chronological study of history and criticism accompanies the studio experience.

**Drawing and Painting I** 

Credit: 0.5 (Fall semester)

# Grades: 10-12 (Pre-Requisite: Visual Art Survey)

This course introduces drawing and painting techniques and a variety of drawing and painting media. It emphasizes the development of drawing and painting skills, critical analysis skills for responding to master drawings and paintings, and problem-solving skills to achieve desired results.

# Sculpture I

# Credit: 0.5 (Spring semester)

# Grades: 10-12 (Pre-Requisite: Visual Art Survey)

Sculpture I introduces 3-D art forms and a variety of materials. It includes a historical review of sculpture through chronological study.

# **Concert Band**

Credit: 1.0

# Grades: 9-12

The Concert Band class applies a performance-based approach to the study of music. No previous experience is required. The band will perform in at least two concerts, and attendance at these concerts is required. Students need to provide their own instruments. Students who already play an instrument will be able to continue playing that instrument. Students who do not have experience with an instrument will have the opportunity to try some instruments at the beginning of the course but may or may not be assigned their first-choice instrument, depending on the makeup of the band. Possible instruments include flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, and trombone. This is a year-long course that may be taken multiple times for credit.

# String Orchestra

Credit: 1.0

# Grades: 9-12

The String Orchestra class applies a performance-based approach to the study of music. No previous experience is required. The orchestra will perform in at least two concerts, and attendance at these

concerts is required. Students need to provide their own instruments. Students who already play an instrument will be able to continue playing that instrument. Students who do not have experience with an instrument will have the opportunity to try some instruments at the beginning of the course but may or may not be assigned their first-choice instrument, depending on the makeup of the band. Possible instruments include violin, viola, cello, and double bass. This is a year-long course that may be taken multiple times for credit.

# **Miscellaneous**

# Study Hall (NO CREDIT)

# Semester (Fall or Spring) Grade: 10-12

A silent, supervised study hall provides an opportunity for students to study and complete homework during the school day. A study hall is an elective class but does not carry any course credit. A student may take a study hall only if he or she is on track to complete all required credits for graduation and has room available in his or her schedule. A study hall may be requested for one semester or both semesters.