

Early Light Academy

9th Grade Course Catalog 2023-2024

.5 = one semester or half a year course

1.0 = a full-year course

Social Science Requirement

World Geography (1.0)

Geography is described as the study of the "why of where." This course will explore how to use geography as a tool to better understand the world in which we live. Students will learn to evaluate and question the why and where of spatial perceptions that are read, seen, and heard. The course standards follow geographic themes: location, place, movement, region, and human-environmental interaction. Geography is a year-long course, including map skills with physical and human geography essentials - beginning with North America, South America, Europe, and their connections to other world regions.

AP Human Geography (1.0)

Prerequisite: Application required

Students must take the AP exam and pass in order to receive college credit. There is an AP test fee.

AP Human Geography introduces high school students to college-level human geography. The content is organized around the discipline's main subjects: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. Case studies are drawn from all world regions, with an emphasis on understanding the world in which we live today. Historical information serves to enrich analysis of the impacts of phenomena such as globalization, colonialism, and human-environment relationships on places, regions, cultural landscapes, and patterns of interaction. This class is before school everyday from 7:15 am - 8:15 am. You sign up for A0 & B0 in your schedule.

Language Arts Requirement

Language Arts 9 (1.0)

This course, based on the 9th grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed with world and U.S. Literature in mind to help deepen understanding of sentence fluency, writing, methods of inquiry, and the processes, skills, and strategies for effective communication. This class will work closely with Geography and Biology to continue building and strengthening those scores.

Language Arts 9 Honors (1.0)

Prerequisite: Application required

This course, based on the 9th Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for students who qualify for more advanced instruction in reading comprehension, writing, methods of inquiry, and the processes, skills, and strategies for effective communication. This class will work closely with Geography and Biology to continue building and strengthening those scores. Though very similar to the mainstream Language Arts 9 class, there will be more rigorous assignments and grading policies.

Language Arts 9 Basics (Full Year)

This class is based on the 7th grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards and is focused on building concrete writing skills with a focus on sentence fluency and type, reading comprehension, writing, methods of inquiry, and the processes, skills, and strategies of effective communication. We will be reading a variety of literature from historical fiction, to non-fiction. This class is only for students with IEP's.

Math Requirements (1 Math and 1 Lab)

Secondary Math I (1.0)

The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Secondary Math I uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The final unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Secondary Math I Honors (1.0)

Prerequisite: Application required

The fundamental purpose of Secondary Math I Honors is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. This course uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The final unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Secondary Math I Honors covers additional concepts in more depth than the Secondary Math I course.

Secondary Math II or Secondary Math II Honors (1.0)

Prerequisite: Secondary Math I or math placement test

This class will be taught online through Mountain Heights Academy. Students will be able to work on the online class during a math class period to give them access to a math teacher.

The focus of Secondary Math II is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Secondary Math I, as organized into 6 critical areas, or units. The need for extending the set of rational numbers arises and real and complex numbers are introduced, so that all quadratic equations can be solved. The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods, including their use in making and evaluating decisions. The study of similarity leads to an understanding of right triangle trigonometry and connects to quadratics through Pythagorean relationships. Circles, with their quadratic algebraic representations, round out the course. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course

and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. This is not an option for anyone wanting to qualify for the NCAA.

Secondary Math III (1.0)

Prerequisite: Secondary Math II or placement test

This class will be taught online through Mountain Heights Academy. It is in Secondary Math III that students pull together and apply the accumulation of learning that they have from their previous courses, with content grouped into four critical areas, organized into units. They apply methods from probability and statistics to draw inferences and conclusions from data. Students expand their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions. Students expand their study of right triangle trigonometry to include general triangles. And, finally, students bring together all of their experience with functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. This is not an option for anyone wanting to qualify for the NCAA.

Math Lab (1.0)

This is the companion class to the secondary math classes and allows students a deeper exploration of the curriculum. This class will run similarly to the secondary math classes as students will continue to work through Secondary Math I or II curriculum during this period.

Science Requirements (1 Science and 1 Lab)

Biology (1.0)

Biology is the study of life and is meant to strengthen the student's ability to find patterns and cause/effect relationships amongst the living world. This course covers many aspects within the science of biology, including ecology, cell biology, genetics, organ and organ systems, as well as

evolution. Students in this course are also required to take the Biology Lab companion course (see below).

Honors Biology (1.0)

Prerequisite: Application required

9th grade Honors Biology is a **rigorous** course covering the many aspects of Biology and is meant to strengthen the student's ability to find patterns and cause/effect relationships amongst the living world. Students will cover topics varying from ecosystems, to cells and body systems, plant and animal adaptations, as well as evolution and genetics. Students in this course are also required to take the Biology Lab companion course (see below). Honors Biology is a foundational course for the future high school science courses and provides a stepping stone as students transition to high school. Come explore and discover the science of life - Biology!

Biology Lab (1.0)

This is a lab-based class that builds upon the content from biology. It is the companion class to the regular biology class and provides the students with deeper exploration of the curriculum. Dissections, labs, and science fair participation are completed in this class, as students take part in a range of molecular-based lab experiments and get the opportunity to dissect a sheep heart, fetal pig, and stingray.

PHOENIX Advisory – Leadership/Homeroom Requirement

Phoenix Advisory (0.25) - 7th, 8th, 9th Both Days, All Year

\$ Fee required

Students will earn elective credit for this course. It covers character education and leadership. Some of the curriculum that may be used: Leader in Me, Love and Logic, Second Steps, and Resilience curriculum. This is a required course at ELA. Students will have the same pride teacher from 7th through 9th grade.

Physical Education Requirement

PE 9 Participation Skills and Techniques (0.5) 9th

This semester course offers students instruction in lifetime activities and fulfills one P.E. requirement for high school graduation. Individual, dual, and team sports activities are included, with the emphasis on activities offering lifelong participation opportunities. Competency involves the ability to apply basic skills, strategies, and rules using standardized guidelines or rubrics. Course activities present an extension of or newer content than that presented in previous classes, and the curriculum provides enough diverse offerings to meet the individual needs of all students.

ELECTIVE COURSES

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

Tenor/Bass Choir I (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, 9th

\$ Fee required

Don't miss out on BOYS CHOIR! This course will be packed with energy and FUN! Yes, choir is FUN! We will sing songs from all over the world, from Bach to Rock! We will build powerful, amazing, healthy voices that can't be stopped! You will not have another class like it!

Soprano/Alto Choir I (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, 9th

\$ Fee required

Girls just wanna have fun? YES! We do! ELA's all-girls choir is an amazing opportunity for ELA girls to kick it up a notch! We will work to create amazing, strong, healthy voices and great musicianship! You are not going to want to miss signing up for this class!

Choir II Spotlight Singers (1.0) 8th & 9th Coed

Prerequisite: Preferred Choir I

\$ Fee required

If you want to be involved in an amazing advanced class, this is a must for your schedule! In Spotlight Singers we study the care and cultivation of a beautiful vocal tone, aesthetic sensitivity, increasing the ability to read music, building technical vocal skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits.

Advanced Theatre III: Productions (1.0) 9th

Must fill out [Theatre III Application](#)

\$ Fee required

Students will study the art of acting more rigorously by putting on Productions...thus the name! Get ready for Theatre Awesomeness!

Who? **Any** student entering the 9th grade.

What is Productions? You will be trained in more advanced theatre technique. Students will put on two class productions: Class musical (to be determined) and POW (Phoenix Original Works)!

Production skills desired: Leaders - Trustworthy - Dependable - Hard Working - Creative - Team Players - Talent!

Intermediate Stage Crew (0.5) 8th & 9th

Prerequisite: Attend Tech Olympics the January of the school year prior.

\$ Fee required

In this course, you will learn the art of technical theatre (lights, sound, costumes, stage management, etc.). Prepare to work hard and have the time of your life! No after school hours are required for this class.

Advanced Running Crew (1.0 or 2.0) 8th & 9th

Prerequisite: Attend Tech Olympics the January of the school year prior.

\$ Fee required

In this class, you will continue to learn the art of technical theatre (lights, sound, costumes, stage management, etc.). ELA Crew will be running all technical events happening in the theatre areas of ELA. Part of your grade will be running crew outside of class. Prepare to work hard and have the time of your life! 10 hours of crewing outside of class are required each quarter for this class.

Orchestra I- Beginning (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

Are you ready to make some great music with your peers? This course is for students who are interested in playing the violin, viola, cello, or upright bass. You will learn to read music and play your instrument of choice with great technique. There are four evening performances outside of class that are part of this course. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument for use at home and school is required.

Orchestra II- Intermediate (1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This ensemble is for students who have played the violin, viola, cello, or upright bass in Elementary Orchestra, Orchestra I or have studied privately for at least a year. Entrance is determined by audition. There are at least four evening performances outside of class that are part of this course. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument for use at home and school is required.

Ukulele (0.5)-Semester 1 Only, 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

Want to learn an instrument that you can take almost anywhere? This course is for students who are interested in playing the ukulele. We will learn to play chords, various strumming patterns, fingerstyle, ensemble playing, and how to accompany ourselves while we sing. Help is also given for those who want to write their own songs. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument and tuner for use at home and school is required. This class can only be taken one time.

Guitar (0.5)-Semester 2 Only, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This class, created for beginning guitarists, invites you to come and stretch your budding musical talents! We will cover basic chords, strumming patterns, fingerstyle, ensemble playing, and how to accompany ourselves while we sing. Help is also given for those who want to write their own songs. This is a great next step after learning ukulele. Acoustic instruments only. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument and tuner for use at home and school is required. This class can only be taken one time.

Drawing I (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This class will provide students with basic art skills and techniques across a variety of drawing media. It will also provide art experiences that will develop visual competence, expertise of skills in two-dimensional art in value and in color, and awareness of historical art movements.

Drawing II (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

Prerequisite: Drawing 1 or permission from instructor with advanced portfolio review. \$ Fee required

This class will build upon the roots of Drawing I. Students will push the creative and technical components of making a drawing with emphasis on line, form, space, composition, value, color, and design. Students will widen their understanding of different mediums and begin to understand how they might be introduced into their own personal work. This class consists of drawing projects, class projects, class critiques, daily drawing and one on one direction.

Painting 1 (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This class is a basic studio course in the media and techniques of painting. Activity will emphasize the study of color, structure, creativity and aesthetic values in general. A command of techniques and materials, both traditional and experimental, will be taught.

Visual Arts 9 (1.0) 9th

Recommended Prerequisite: Drawing 1, Painting 1, or Drawing 2.

Visual Art 9 is a more advanced study of drawing and painting. There are no prerequisites; however, Drawing and Painting 1 is recommended. Students work in an expanded range of two-dimensional media. There will be concentration in areas of more advanced drawing, watercolor and acrylic painting, graphic design, digital media, and printmaking, as well as work in the artist's own personal sketchbook. This course enables the student to meet all the State Academic Standards for Visual Arts for high school credit. We will also observe college requirements for various art fields and art careers.

Photography I (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This course covers basic concepts and practice in digital photography. The course is designed around the use of cell phone photography. Access to a camera is required to complete the work inside and outside of class. There are no cameras available for check out. The course covers Composition Rules such as Leading Lines, Rule of Thirds, and Contrast. Students will also learn and experiment with several of the major photographic styles including: Portraiture, Still Life, Landscape, Abstract, and Documentary/Photojournalism. The last unit of the course is a brief introduction to the use of DSLR cameras and the use of manual camera controls. **No repeats**

Photography II (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

Prerequisite: Photography 1

This course builds upon skills learned in Photography 1. The course is designed around the use of DSLR cameras. Access to a personal DSLR camera is strongly recommended. Limited cameras are available for check out. Students will learn basic Photoshop skills, differences in file formats, and will become proficient in manual camera controls. Students will use these skills to experiment and approach artistic problems creatively. Projects will focus on prompt based work so students can express their unique artistic voice. **No repeats**

CTE/ DIGITAL TECH ELECTIVES

Photo III/Photojournalism (0.5 or 1.0) 8th & 9th

Prerequisite: Photography 1 and/or 2

The course is designed around the use of DSLR cameras. Access to a personal DSLR camera is strongly recommended. Limited cameras are available for check out. Apply the photography skills you gained in Photography 1 and 2 to take portraits, landscapes, action photos, and macro shots for the yearbook. We will tell the story of ELA's students, athletics, events, and culture in stunning images. We will also complete advanced photography projects and create a portfolio of work. **This class is repeatable**

Media Art/Phoenix Feed (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

In this course students will learn basic video production skills including script writing, video recording, studio lighting, and basic video editing, etc. They will use these skills to create the weekly school news video, The Phoenix Feed. **This class is repeatable**

Yearbook/Graphic Design (0.5 or 1.0) 8th, & 9th ***application/interview required***

This course will teach students basic journalism skills such as but not limited to: note-taking, planning, interviewing, story writing, editing, etc. They will also learn team building and leadership skills while collaborating on various yearbook projects. Graphic Design skills will be taught in order to create a visually strong presentation of our school's memories. Students will learn basic principles of design, color theory, and digital calligraphy. Lastly, they will learn basic life skills such as meeting deadlines, writing skills, and social skills.

Computer Science Principles (1.0) 9th ***Fulfills digital studies credit for graduation***

Prerequisite: Creative Coding

This course fulfills the digital studies graduation requirement. Computer Science Principles seeks to broaden participation in computing and computer science. The course places emphasis on the principles of computer science rather than just programming. Big ideas and concepts include: (1) Computing is a creative activity. (2) Abstraction reduces information and detail to facilitate relevant concepts. (3) Data and information facilitate the creation of knowledge. (4) Algorithms are used to develop and express solutions to computational problems. (5) Programming enables problem solving, human expression, and creation of knowledge. (6) The internet pervades modern computing. (7) Computing has global impacts. **No Repeats**

Other Physical Education Electives and Future Requirements

Fitness for Life (0.5) 9th

This class is a required class for graduation. Students will need to take this class during one of their four high school years. It is required of all students and there are no substitutions, including participation in athletics. Fitness for Life is an individualized, concepts-based, one-semester course designed to give students the knowledge and skills necessary to self-assess, create, conduct, evaluate, and redesign personal fitness programs. The course is a combination of classroom and activity-based learning activities with a focus on proper nutrition and the mastery of skills and concepts necessary for students to become accomplished monitors of their personal lifetime fitness. Through participation, students learn to compare the fitness benefits in a variety of individual and team activities.

Group Sports (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course is designed to practice skills needed for a variety of sports which require group participation and cooperation. Some sports might include basketball, soccer, volleyball, hockey and many more. **No Repeats in the same year**

Total Body Fitness- Lifetime Activities (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This class is a total body cardio endurance and strength conditioning workout. This HIIT (High Interval Intensity Training) class combines full-body strength training with high-intensity cardio bursts designed to tone your body, improve your endurance, and clear your mind! This class also includes stretching for a complete workout. All levels are welcome!

Weight Training- Lifetime Activities (0.5) 8th & 9th

This course is designed as an introduction to proper weightlifting techniques and includes the development of individual programs that develop body tone, muscle strength, and physical conditioning.

Yoga- Lifetime Activities (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This class introduces foundational yoga postures, teaches you how to breathe, and helps you feel more comfortable in the yoga practice. Students will be introduced to yoga postures through step-by-step verbal description and demonstration. Emphasis is placed on student understanding, safety, and stability within each pose. This class will help you relax the physical body while helping to quiet the mind and calm the nervous system. Leave relaxed, content, and ready to take on the day! Open to students of all levels.

OTHER ELECTIVES

Creative Writing (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course is designed as an introduction into the world of creative writing. We will discuss the different types of creative writing as well as what it takes to get published. Students will write multiple short stories and do other activities that promote creativity and fluency in writing. This class is for those who are interested in developing their writing skills as a creative outlet.

Humanities (Literature/Art History Focus) (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course will focus on the humanities areas of Literature and Art History, introducing students to important ideas and events in both areas and encourages the exploration of BIG IDEAS with in-depth learning, and engages students in discussions to test their understanding, writing to clarify their thought processes, and projects to stretch their minds. Throughout this semester course, students will read daily—in a variety of genres—and write daily, too, as there is a strong connection between our writing and reading practice.

Spanish I (1.0) 8th & 9th

¡Bienvenidos a español! This is an introductory course focusing on reading, writing, speaking and comprehending Spanish. Students will experience the Latin culture and language through interactive games, songs and cultural activities. Native Spanish speakers should register for Spanish II instead of this course.

Spanish II (1.0) 9th

Prerequisite: Spanish I

In Spanish 2 students will continue to focus on reading, writing, speaking and comprehending Spanish. Students will experience and learn Spanish through interactive games, songs and cultural activities. Students will add more vocabulary to their previous knowledge as well as learn the past and future tenses. Additionally, students will be more immersed in the language and culture in preparation for Spanish 3. **This course may be too easy for any Native Spanish speakers.**

French A/B (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This is an introductory course to the French language and culture. Primary emphasis is given to the development of basic skills in listening and speaking. Students are given reading, speaking, and writing practice in controlled situations. Students will be taught about various francophone cultures and create projects that demonstrate the similarities and differences between our own culture. They will also obtain a basic vocabulary and familiarity with how the French language works and differs from our own as well as how it has influenced the English language. **This course is meant to prepare students for French I at the highschool level and will count as an elective credit. Each semester will have different content and can be taken in whatever order is needed.**

Student Aide (0.5) 8th & 9th

Be a helper to a teacher or other staff member. Duties will vary including making copies, assisting other students, filing or any errands needed by teachers. Students must be patient, responsible, and kind. Students may have written reflections throughout their course, in addition to being an aide. This course only generates a P and F which does NOT count in the GPA. **Students are limited to being an aide only one semester to allow them to explore our many electives.**

Secondary Reading Course (0.5 or 1.0) 9th

Recommended Prerequisite: Instructor approval

This course is designed to help struggling readers in high school. This course will implement the Utah Core Reading Standards for both Informational and Literature text through a focus on improving reading comprehension, decoding, fluency, annotation, and close reading skills. These skills will enhance students' skills and abilities in their core classes enabling them to succeed.

Release Time (Seminary) (No Credit. In schedule A1 or Early Morning)

Seminary is held at the church building on Grandville Ave., within walking distance of ELA. Students desiring to attend Seminary have the option of either "release time" during the A1 school period or early morning, A0 period which is every day at 7:15am (time subject to change). Students taking released time Seminary will only be able to select 2.0 elective credit choices instead of 3.0, since this class is not for school credit. You also must register with LDS Seminary which can be done at this website:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/si/seminary>.

Directed Studies

This class is only for students that have an IEP. It spends part of each class period learning social and life skills. The rest of the period the students work independently on classwork from other classes with the support of the teacher and aides. It helps students to learn study skills, and implement it into their daily class work.