



Syracuse Arts Academy Jr. High

Course Catalog

Mission & Vision

Syracuse Arts Academy provides a challenging, differentiated curriculum where academic excellence, character development, and individual growth are nurtured in a safe, orderly, and pleasant environment. SAA develops respectful, confident citizens in a solid educational environment enriched by artistic expression.

The instruction program is enhanced by a comprehensive focus on the Arts to demonstrate proficiency through performance. Such thematic emphasis serves to support the educational goals of the school and further the academic success of students.



- Sets high expectations for all students.
- Offers private school quality with no tuition.
- Requires a dress code to ensure an orderly learning environment.
- Provides a community atmosphere where every child will be successful.
- Insists on increased accountability from teachers, parents, and students.
- Provides the core curriculum as outlined by the Utah Office of Education.

7th Grade

Required 7th Grade Core Courses: <u>Year Long Classes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Math 7• English 7• Integrated Science 7• College & Career Awareness <u>One Semester Classes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beginning Fitness 7• Utah Studies	Teacher Recommended Core Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accelerated Math 7/8*• Math Strategies 7*• English Strategies 7* <p>Parents/Guardians are contacted when students are recommended for these courses.</p>
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7th Grade Required Core Course Descriptions

Math 7 (1 credit)

In Grade 7, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

English 7 (1 credit)

This is a year-long course with emphasis in the reading and writing processes. Students will study short stories, poetry, non-fiction text selections, and novels. Students will work on improving vocabulary, mechanics in writing, and grammar usage. Students will read an independent novel once each term, and complete a project alongside their reading.. In addition, they will work on speaking and listening through long and short presentations.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

Integrated Science 7 (1 credit)

In this class students will look for relationships of cause and effect in nature. Students will learn how to apply the scientific method to observe, ask questions, and make predictions about the world around them. To find answers, students will also carry out investigations, build models, and analyze data. Students will explore the structure and function of life, reproduction and inheritance, forces and interactions with matter, and changes to earth and the species over time.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

College & Career Awareness (1 credit)

A course designed to increase awareness of college and career pathways through simulations and project-based experiences. The College and Career Awareness course explores high school, college, and career options based on individual student interests, abilities, and skills. Students will investigate high-skill and/or in-demand jobs in the Utah labor market while developing workplace skills.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

Beginning Fitness 7 (0.5 credits)

Students in grade seven develop a solid foundation in skills and competencies. They are still mastering basic manipulative skills, and are ready to engage in lead-up games and drills that provide a progression toward participation in regulation or advanced play. Students will apply skills in modified games, and may be introduced to regulation rules and game play. Instruction includes an introduction to training principles and activities that can enhance health-related fitness as students pursue personal fitness goals.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th grade

Utah Studies (0.5 credits)

This class will explore Utah State History. Some of the topics we will be covering are: the original inhabitants of Utah, the geography of the state, exploration, the Mormon pioneers and their settlement of the state, how all of these things combined to create the state we live in today.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th grade

7th Grade Teacher Recommended Course Descriptions

Acc. Math 7/8 (1 credit)*

This course is only available to students who meet prerequisite qualifications. There will be areas of focus including content from both 7th and 8th grade math. This class will cover materials at an accelerated pace.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- 6th grade teacher recommendation
- Prerequisite Skills test passed with 80%
- Parent Agreement

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

Math 7 Strategies (1 credit)*

This course involves direct instruction by a special education teacher in the content area of Mathematics and is tailored specifically to a student's learning objectives, IEP goals and instructional needs. An intervention curriculum is woven into the school's general education curriculum and is utilized to meet the student's unique needs.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

English 7 Strategies (1 credit)*

This course involves direct instruction by a special education teacher in the content area of English Language Arts and is tailored specifically to a student's learning objectives, IEP goals and instructional needs. An intervention curriculum is woven into the school's general education curriculum and is utilized to meet the student's unique needs.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

7th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

Math Electives

Math 7 Elements (1 credit)*

Math Elements is designed to serve students who are performing one to three grade levels below expectations. The goal is to increase conceptual understanding of the mathematics being presented in their regular math class. In this class we assess each student and use the data to inform instruction. The curriculum in elements follows along with the regular education math class but puts the concepts at an accessible level for the elements students. Students are able to work in small groups with an instructor to help them understand and have success with the concepts. This class also works to build number sense and mathematical reasoning through games, number talks and other research based activities

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

Math Lab (0.5 credits)*

An academic Math support class for students with disabilities. This course teaches strategies designed to meet the student's individual goals. The skills taught in the Math classes will support the student in his or her general education courses.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th- 9th grades

English Electives

Introduction to Debate (0.5 credits)

This course is for students with an interest in debate and speech and improving communication skills. Students will participate in a variety of speech activities designed to increase communication, argumentative and persuasive skills and gain confidence in public speaking.

Students will compete in one meet per semester. This is a performance class. Students will need to provide transportation or arrange carpooling to and from competitions.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Children's Literature (0.5 credits)

This course will teach methods on creating and writing literature for young children that is both educational and fun. Students will share their completed work with the class. This is a project based class.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th-9th grades

Fantasy Literature (0.5 credits)

Fantasy literature explores the fantasy genre including how authors build worlds. Students will become familiar with the most important fantasy works that shaped the genre, including the YA genre. Students will read and choose from a variety of different texts. Students will be able to view the film of the book to determine how the producers changed/added to the text.. This class is a Project Based Learning Class, meaning students will engage in projects to showcase their understanding of different parts of the texts.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th-9th grades

Sci-Fi Literature (0.5 credits)

Become familiar with some of the most-influential Science Fiction works that shaped the genre and the world we inhabit today and where we'll live tomorrow. Gain an understanding of contemporary and future science fiction by studying the history of the genre and many of the works that started important conversations about what it means to be human in a changing world. We will read some works that helped establish the modern genre of science fiction in English and others that fans of the genre consider exemplary, pivotal, or just plain good. Students will watch movies that tie in with the texts and discover the differences with making a science fiction text come to life. No homework will be assigned.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

CPLA: Mythology (0.5 credits)

During this course, myths created by various cultures around the world will be examined to gain a better understanding of the power of myth, its influence on our world, and how we are still influenced by these tales to this day. Greek, Roman, Norse, Egyptian, Polynesian, as well as myths from many other cultures will be explored. This is a project based learning class where there are group and solo projects to demonstrate learning. No homework.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Creative Writing (0.5 credits)

Creative writing provides an opportunity for creativity and use of imagination through writing guided imagery, simple poetry forms, short stories, and personal narratives while learning to manipulate sensory detail. Many fun activities are provided to wake up the senses and the imagination. The class also assists students in realizing the importance of audience, word choice, detail, and sentence structure skills in their writing. In order to encourage writing and idea fluency, the students will keep a daily writing journal. Most importantly, the students write and develop structural writing skills.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

English 7 Elements*

English Elements is a support class designed for students to improve and increase their reading and comprehension and writing ability. The class utilizes a program called Read 180 by Scholastic. READ 180 is designed to meet individual needs in reading and writing skills through small group interventions, independent reading, and computer-based individualized instruction.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th grade

English Lab (0.5 credits)*

An academic English Language Arts support class for students with disabilities. This course teaches strategies designed to meet the student's individual goals. The skills taught in the English Lab classes will support the student in his or her general education courses.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Visual Arts Electives

Art Foundations 1 (0.5 credit)

This is a foundation course using primarily drawing to make and understand art. Studio practice will emphasize the elements of art such as line, shape, value, texture, color, form, and space as used in art and design. Traditional and experimental approaches of materials will be used and are structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, and art vocabulary.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Ceramics 1 (0.5 credits)

This class is a thorough introduction to ceramics clay. Almost entirely a studio course, the students will make hand-built pottery using the pinch, slab, and coil techniques. All ware will be kiln fired and glazed. Continued emphasis will be placed on the nature of three-dimensional art, design, color, and higher-level thinking. Class can be repeated.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Painting 1 (0.5 credits)

Painting is an art course designed to teach students how to use acrylic paint in creating works of art. Studio practice will emphasize elements and principles used in art and design. Projects will be structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, painting, and art vocabulary.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Performing Arts Electives

Band 1 (1 credit)

This class provides beginning and intermediate instruction on all wind and percussion band instruments. Beginning students will have the opportunity to play on several instruments at the beginning of the school year to see which instrument suits them best. No previous experience is required. This band performs 4 evening concerts, one at the end of each term.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Guitar 1 (1 credit)

This is a beginning guitar class. In this class, you will learn how to play notes and chords in 1st position. Students will learn to read and write tablature and standard notation for guitar. Guitar 1 students will perform 3 evening concerts, one at the end of terms 2, 3, and 4.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Orchestra 1 (1 credit)

This course is for students who are new beginners or still mastering the basics of their instrument. Students will need to purchase or rent their own instrument. Students who have taken one year of an after-school program should register for this course. After sufficient progress students will be invited to audition for advanced orchestra. This class is a performance class requiring participation at school concerts and assemblies.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th –9th grades

Concert Choir (1 credit)

Welcome to the spotlight! This fun and upbeat course is for music lovers and singers of ALL abilities. Whether you're a seasoned performer or a sing-along-to-the-radio person, join us as we build confidence in singing, learn to read music, and blend our voices to create a beautiful sound. This is a large choir with performances throughout the year.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Chamber Choir – Provectus Chorum (0.5 Credits)

Provectus Chorum is our honors audition choir selected from our concert choir. Students in this class will continue to learn more advanced concepts of part singing, singing aCapella, learning choreography, music theory, and collaborating with other performance groups. This class performs frequently throughout the year and travels around the community for performance opportunities. This is a semester-long course, but can be taken all year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful auditions for the class

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Musical Theater Expressions 1 (0.5 credits)

Musical Theater Expressions 1 is designed to increase students' knowledge and skill in the world of theater. Students will learn to improve their knowledge and ability in basic drama techniques. This class requires creativity, experimentation, and open-mindedness. Students will gain basic acting skills, learn general theater terms, and apply their knowledge through formal and informal performances.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Musical Theater Expressions 2 (0.5 credits)

Musical Theater Expressions 2 is designed for the more serious-minded drama student. Students will work on advanced techniques and build acting skills through many formal and informal performances.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful Completion of Musical Theater Expressions 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Musical Theater Introduction (0.5 credits) Fall Only Course (1st Semester)

Musical Theater Intro. is designed to increase students' knowledge and skills in the world of musical theater. Students will learn to improve their knowledge and ability in basic musical theater techniques such as singing, dancing, and acting. This course will directly prepare students to have an audition ready for admittance into the Spring Musical Theater production.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Not required but highly recommended, students should enroll in this course if they are planning to participate in the Spring Musical.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Spring Musical Theater (0.5 credits) Spring Only Course (2nd Semester)

An audition process will take place to determine performance responsibilities. This is a course that deals with applications of all aspects of theater production: acting, costuming, make-up, scenery, etc. Members of the production company are required to attend after-school rehearsals. Members of the spring class will participate in a full-scale musical at the end of the semester.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- All those registered will be cast in the Spring Musical.
- All students must audition to be casted in this show.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Theater Tech 1 (0.5 credits)

Theater Tech is a class that focuses on the behind the scenes magic of plays and musicals. This class will explore set design, stage managing, lighting design, rigging, stage makeup, special effects and sound designs for theater productions. Students will be asked to complete a portfolio project for each major area in theater tech as part of the semester. Students may have an opportunity to assist in an actual theater production along with members of the school's tech crew. This class is a prerequisite for being on SAA's tech crew.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Movement Electives

Dance 1 (0.5 credits)

This class provides an environment in which to gain knowledge and respect for the art of dance. In this class, we will cover the history and technique of dance including ballet, modern, jazz, and dance for musical theater as well as having an opportunity to choreograph an original dance and perform it for the class.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

CTE (Career and Technical Education) Electives

Intro to Python Coding (0.5 credits)

Python is an interpreted, interactive, object-oriented programming language. It incorporates modules, exceptions, dynamic typing, very high-level dynamic data types, and classes. Python combines remarkable power with very clear syntax. It has interfaces to many system calls and libraries, as well as to various window systems, and is extensible in C or C++. It is also usable as an extension language for applications that need a programmable interface.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th – 8th grades

Intro to Python Coding 2 (0.5 credits)

Python is a language with a simple syntax, and a powerful set of libraries. It is an interpreted language, with a rich programming environment, including a robust debugger and profiler. While it is easy for beginners to learn, it is widely used in many scientific areas for data exploration.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Intro to Python Coding

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–8th grades

Computer Science Investigations (0.5 credits)

Computer Science Investigations introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Computer Science Investigations is to develop in students the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as computing systems, networks, data & analysis, limits of computers, and societal and ethical issues.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7–8th grades

World Language Electives

Spanish 1 (1 credit)

This course is taught using 4 main language acquisition techniques: Listening Comprehension; Reading Comprehension; Writing Performance; and Speaking Performance. Students will use a combination of these techniques to gain an overall knowledge and language base that will enable them to begin creating in the Spanish language. After completing the requirements of this class students should be able to; carry on simple Spanish conversations using mostly memorized sentences and phrases, give and receive directions, and advocate for their health and wellness. The performance target for this Spanish course is Novice High on the ACTFL Proficiency Benchmarks.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Additional Electives

Study Skills (0.5 credits)

Throughout this course, students will learn a variety of skills related to organization, time management, planning, communicating, and self-advocacy. Projects and assignments will help prepare students as they begin their transition into secondary education -- gaining the skills to become successful students.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7-8th grades

Guided Study Hall (0.5 credits)*

This course is a placement course and provides a structured environment for completing assignments. Students in this course learn and practice executive functioning skills and receive more guided instruction aimed at providing support in the completion of assignments from their core and elective classes.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher or administrative recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7-9th grades

Directed Studies (0.5 credits)*

An academic support class for students with disabilities. Special education teachers work with students on executive functioning skills, time management, prioritizing, study skills, grade checks every other week and goal planning.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th-9th grades

8th Grade

Required 8th Grade Core Courses:	Teacher Recommended Core Courses:
<u>Year Long Classes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Math 8• English 8• Integrated Science 8• U.S. History <u>One Semester Classes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital Literacy• Intermediate Fitness 8• Health Education I	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Honors Math 8*• Math Strategies 8*• English Strategies 8* <p>Parents/Guardians are contacted when students are recommended for these courses.</p>

8th Grade Required Core Course Descriptions

Math 8 (1 credit)

In Grade 8, instructional time will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

English 8 (1 credit)

This is a year-long course with emphasis in reading and writing processes. Students will be studying functional, literary, and narrative texts, and working on improving vocabulary, mechanics in writing, grammar usage, and research skills. Students will read Hamlet and Fahrenheit 451. In addition, students will work on speaking and listening, presentation and viewing skills.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

Integrated Science 8 (1 credit)

The eighth-grade students will expand on what they know about the scientific process of making observations, asking questions, testing and analyzing data as they describe the constant interaction of matter and energy in nature. Students will explore how matter is arranged into either simple or complex substances, physical and chemical reactions, how energy is transferred to and used by living things and ecosystems through cellular respiration and photosynthesis. Students will also examine renewable and nonrenewable resources, and that Earth's systems change and affect ecosystems and organisms in positive and negative ways.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

Digital Literacy (0.5 credits)

Students will have opportunities to use technology and develop skills that encourage creativity, critical thinking, productivity, and collaboration in the classroom and day-to-day life.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th grade

Intermediate Fitness 8 (0.5 credits)

Students in grade eight will continue to participate in a variety of instructional physical activities. Experiences increase complexity in content, concept and skill development for a broad spectrum of activities. Students continue to practice skills in modified games, but increasingly participate in activities that are regulation games with more complex playing environments. This class incorporates more in-depth instruction training principles that can enhance health-related fitness as students progress in achieving personal fitness goals.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th grade

Health Education 8 (0.5 credits)

Health I is dedicated to teaching middle school students the skills they need to establish a healthy and safe lifestyle and enhance behaviors to resist unhealthy choices through adolescence. Health Education will focus on: health foundations and protective factors, mental and emotional health, safety and disease prevention, substance abuse prevention, nutrition, and human development.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th grade

US History (1 credit)

Students will immerse themselves in the history of the development of the United States from the first inhabitants in the United States through the Civil War. Through the examination of politics, art, literature, and the personal and social experience, they will participate in discussion, debate, writing, music, art, reading, memorization and electronic media.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

8th Grade Teacher Recommended Course Descriptions

Honors Math 8 (1 credit)*

In Grade 8, instructional time will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Beyond the scope of the general Math 8 curriculum, the honors section will take students to a deeper understanding of content and additional topics.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

Math 8 Strategies (1 credit)*

This course involves direct instruction by a special education teacher in the content area of Mathematics and is tailored specifically to a student's learning objectives, IEP goals and instructional needs. An intervention curriculum is woven into the school's general education curriculum and is utilized to meet the student's unique needs.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

English 8 Strategies (1 credit)*

This course involves direct instruction by a special education teacher in the content area of English Language Arts and is tailored specifically to a student's learning objectives, IEP goals and instructional needs. An intervention curriculum is woven into the school's general education curriculum and is utilized to meet the student's unique needs.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

8th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

Math Electives

Math 8 Elements (1 credit)

Math Elements is designed to serve students who are performing one to three grade levels below expectations. The goal is to increase conceptual understanding of the mathematics being presented in their regular math class. In this class we assess each student and use the data to inform instruction. The curriculum in elements follows along with the regular education math class but puts the concepts at an accessible level for the elements students. Students are able to work in small groups with an instructor to help them understand and have success with the concepts. This class also works to build number sense and mathematical reasoning through games, number talks and other research based activities.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

Math Lab (0.5 credits)*

An academic Math support class for students with disabilities. This course teaches strategies designed to meet the student's individual goals. The skills taught in the Math classes will support the student in his or her general education courses.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th-9th grade

English Electives

Introduction to Debate (0.5 credits)

This course is for students with an interest in debate and speech and improving communication skills. Students will participate in a variety of speech activities designed to increase communication, argumentative and persuasive skills and gain confidence in public speaking.

Students will compete in one meet per semester. This is a performance class. Students will need to provide transportation or arrange carpooling to and from competitions.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grade

Children's Literature (0.5 credits)

This course will teach methods on creating and writing literature for young children that is both educational and fun. Students will share their completed work with the class. This is a project based class.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th-9th grades

Fantasy Literature (0.5 credits)

Fantasy literature explores the fantasy genre including how authors build worlds. Students will become familiar with the most important fantasy works that shaped the genre, including the YA genre. Students will read and choose from a variety of different texts. Students will be able to view the film of the book to determine how the producers changed/added to the text.. This class is a Project Based Learning Class, meaning students will engage in projects to showcase their understanding of different parts of the texts.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Sci-Fi Literature (0.5 credits)

Become familiar with some of the most-influential Science Fiction works that shaped the genre and the world we inhabit today and where we'll live tomorrow. Gain an understanding of contemporary and future science fiction by studying the history of the genre and many of the works that started important conversations about what it means to be human in a changing world. We will read some works that helped establish the modern genre of science fiction in English and others that fans of the genre consider exemplary, pivotal, or just plain good. Students will watch movies that tie in with the texts and discover the differences with making a science fiction text come to life. No homework will be assigned.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Mythology (0.5 credits)

During this course, myths created by various cultures around the world will be examined to gain a better understanding of the power of myth, its influence on our world, and how we are still influenced by these tales to this day. Greek, Roman, Norse, Egyptian, Polynesian, as well as myths from many other cultures will be explored. This is a project based learning class where there are group and solo projects to demonstrate learning. No homework.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Creative Writing (0.5 credits)

Creative writing provides an opportunity for creativity and use of imagination through writing guided imagery, simple poetry forms, short stories, and personal narratives while learning to manipulate sensory detail. Many fun activities are provided to wake up the senses and the imagination. The class also assists students in realizing the importance of audience, word choice, detail, and sentence structure skills in their writing. In order to encourage writing and idea fluency, the students will keep a daily writing journal. Most importantly, the students write and develop structural writing skills.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

English 8 Elements (1 credit)

This support class supplements the 8th grade English classes by addressing gaps in student learning in English Language Arts. Primary programs include IXL Learning and Scholastic's Scope magazine. Some support is given for assignments in the grade-level English classes, but the primary focus is addressing individual learning needs, especially in the area of writing.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th grade

English Lab (0.5 credits)*

An academic English Language Arts support class for students with disabilities. This course teaches strategies designed to meet the student's individual goals. The skills taught in the English Lab classes will support the student in his or her general education courses.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Visual Arts Electives

3D Design (0.5 credits)

3D Design is a course in which students will increase technical skills, develop a more sophisticated approach to process, subject matter and concept to create a portfolio of individual work. In this class students will keep an artist journal to explore artistic process, experiment with materials and analyze work. Through experimentation and refinement, each person will create a body of work that includes observational drawing, mixed media and a variety of self-chosen media. The studio environment of the class will be used to support analysis, reflection and refinement of work.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Art Foundations 1 (0.5 credits)

This is a foundation course using primarily drawing to make and understand art. Studio practice will emphasize the elements of art such as line, shape, value, texture, color, form, and space as used in art and design.

Traditional and experimental approaches of materials will be used and are structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, and art vocabulary. Class can be repeated.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Art Foundations 2 (0.5 credits)

This class continues the development of skills and concepts introduced in Art Foundations 1. Focusing on studio production, the development of drawing skills remains a primary focus. In this course, a broader variety of media will be used, which may include colored pencils, watercolor, acrylic paint, charcoal, and pastel chalk.

Continued emphasis will be placed on the elements of art. The student will be introduced to the principles of design, which include balance, movement, and rhythm.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Ceramics 1 (0.5 credits)

This class is a thorough introduction to ceramics clay. Almost entirely a studio course, the students will make hand-built pottery using the pinch, slab, and coil techniques. All ware will be kiln fired and glazed. Continued emphasis will be placed on the nature of three-dimensional art, design, color, and higher-level thinking.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades. Can be repeated.

Ceramics 2 (0.5 credits)

In this course, students will build upon the concepts and skills learned in Ceramics 1 and will develop more advanced skills in hand building and wheel throwing. All ware will be kiln fired and glazed. Continued emphasis will be placed on the nature of three-dimensional art, design, color and higher-level thinking. Students are also expected to have a strong work ethic and to pursue a higher quality of work and craftsmanship on their projects.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Must have a C or better in ceramics 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Drawing (0.5 credits)

In this course, students will have the opportunity to expand, experiment, and build upon their existing drawing skills, strengthen the conceptual lines that thread throughout their work, and develop their experience regarding professional practices. Drawing is primarily an in class studio work course, but it will also cover the use of a research sketchbook, applications to art opportunities, and the writing artist statement. This class will explore the many historical and contemporary ways that other artists have explored and defined the medium of drawing while we investigate our own artistic trajectories.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Painting 1 (0.5 credits)

Painting is an art course designed to teach students how to use acrylic paint in creating works of art. Studio practice will emphasize elements and principles used in art and design. Projects will be structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, painting, and art vocabulary.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Painting 2 (0.5 credits)

Painting 2 is an art course that will build on the concepts that were used in Painting 1. Students will learn how to use watercolor in creating works of art. Studio practice will emphasize elements and principles used in art and design. Projects will be structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, painting, and art vocabulary. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Painting 1.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th Grades.

Photography (1 credit)

This course includes the inventive use of light and photographic equipment to create art. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th – 9th grades (Preference given to 9th Grade)

Performing Arts Electives

Band 1 (1 credit)

This class provides beginning and intermediate instruction on all wind and percussion band instruments. Beginning students will have the opportunity to play on several instruments at the beginning of the school year to see which instrument suits them best. No previous experience is required. This band performs 4 evening concerts, one at the end of each term.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Band 2 (1 credit)

Students learn refinement of musical skills—higher levels of performance, aesthetic judgment, and music appreciation are emphasized at this level. Ensemble performances, musical styles, and creative development are a priority. Students will perform several term concerts and assemblies throughout the year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Band 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Jazz Band (1 credit)

This is an extension of the larger ensemble experience. The jazz ensemble reflects traditional Big Band instrumentation (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and rhythm section). Through listening to recordings, critiquing, analyzing, discussion, and application, students will learn a variety of jazz, funk, and rock styles found within this genre. The class will help students understand the history of jazz and be able to associate specific musicians to distinct types of jazz. This is a performance class; therefore, students are expected to attend all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Band 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Guitar 1 (1 credit)

This is a beginning guitar class. In this class, you will learn how to play notes and chords in 1st position. Students will learn to read and write tablature and standard notation for guitar. Guitar 1 students will perform 3 evening concerts, one at the end of terms 2, 3, and 4.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Guitar 2 (1 credit)

In this class, you will continue to learn notes and chords in several positions, read and write in tablature, and standard notation. The music will be more challenging, and the class will move at a quicker pace than year one. Students will perform several term concerts and assemblies throughout the year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Guitar 1 or by audition

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Orchestra 1 (1 credit)

This course is for students who are new beginners or still mastering the basics of their instrument. Students will need to purchase or rent their own instrument. Students who have taken one year of an after-school program should register for this course. After sufficient progress students will be invited to audition for advanced orchestra. This class is a performance class requiring participation at school concerts and assemblies.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th –9th grades

Orchestra 2 (1 credit)

This course is for more advanced students who have either taken Orchestra 1 or have had more experience playing their instrument. Students who have participated in Orchestra 1 and/or have taken private lessons will be invited to audition. Students will need to purchase or rent their own instrument. This class is a performance class requiring participation at school concerts and assemblies.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER

- Successful completion of Orchestra 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Concert Choir (1 credit)

Welcome to the spotlight! This fun and upbeat course is for music lovers and singers of ALL abilities. Whether you're a seasoned performer or a sing-along-to-the-radio person, join us as we build confidence in singing, learn to read music, and blend our voices to create a beautiful sound. This is a large choir with performances throughout the year.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Chamber Choir – Provectus Chorum (0.5 Credits)

Provectus Chorum is our honors audition choir selected from our concert choir. Students in this class will continue to learn more advanced concepts of part singing, singing aCapella, learning choreography, music theory, and collaborating with other performance groups. This class performs frequently throughout the year and travels around the community for performance opportunities. This is a semester-long course, but can be taken all year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful auditions for the class

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th – 9th grades

Musical Theater Expressions 1 (0.5 credits)

Musical Theater Expressions 1 is designed to increase students' knowledge and skill in the world of theater. Students will learn to improve their knowledge and ability in basic drama techniques. This class requires creativity, experimentation, and open-mindedness. Students will gain basic acting skills, learn general theater terms, and apply their knowledge through formal and informal performances.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Musical Theater Expressions 2 (0.5 credits)

Musical Theater Expressions 2 is designed for the more serious-minded drama student. Students will work on advanced techniques and build acting skills through many formal and informal performances.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful Completion of Musical Theater Expressions 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Musical Theater Introduction (0.5 credits) Fall Only Course (1st Semester)

Musical Theater Intro. is designed to increase students' knowledge and skills in the world of musical theater. Students will learn to improve their knowledge and ability in basic musical theater techniques such as singing, dancing, and acting. This course will directly prepare students to have an audition ready for admittance into the Spring Musical Theater production.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Not required but highly recommended, students should enroll in this course if they are planning to participate in the Spring Musical.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Spring Musical Theater (0.5 credits) Spring Only Course (2nd Semester)

An audition process will take place to determine performance responsibilities. This is a course that deals with applications of all aspects of theater production: acting, costuming, make-up, scenery, etc. Members of the production company are required to attend after-school rehearsals. Members of the spring class will participate in a full-scale musical at the end of the semester.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- All those registered will be cast in the Spring Musical.
- All students must audition to be casted in this show.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Theater Tech 1 (0.5 credits)

Theater Tech is a class that focuses on the behind the scenes magic of plays and musicals. This class will explore set design, stage managing, lighting design, rigging, stage makeup, special effects and sound designs for theater productions. Students will be asked to complete a portfolio project for each major area in theater tech as part of the semester. Students may have an opportunity to assist in an actual theater production along with members of the school's tech crew. This class is a prerequisite for being on SAA's tech crew.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Theater Tech 2 (1 credit)

Theater Tech 2 is a hands-on course that builds on the foundational material learned in Theater Tech 1. Students will go more in depth with lighting design, sound design, and stage management. Students will also learn about rigging, costuming, stage makeup, and elements of broadcasting. Students in this class will be able to have opportunities to be a part of the production crew for some school events alongside the SAA's own tech crew.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Theater Tech 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Movement Electives

Dance 1 (0.5 credits)

This class provides an environment in which to gain knowledge and respect for the art of dance. In this class, we will cover the history and technique of dance including ballet, modern, jazz, and dance for musical theater as well as having an opportunity to choreograph an original dance and perform it for the class.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Dance Company (1 Credit)

Dance Company is an advanced dance course that gives members the opportunity to create, perform, reflect and connect dance to their environment and the community around them. Dance I and an audition are required prerequisites for Dance Company. An audition is held every Spring for those who are interested.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Dance 1
- Or proof of a minimum of one year prior dance experience
- Preference will be reserved for previous dance company students who are auditioning.

YEAR ROUND, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

CTE (Career and Technical Education) Electives

Intro to Python Coding (0.5 credits)

Python is an interpreted, interactive, object-oriented programming language. It incorporates modules, exceptions, dynamic typing, very high-level dynamic data types, and classes. Python combines remarkable power with very clear syntax. It has interfaces to many system calls and libraries, as well as to various window systems, and is extensible in C or C++. It is also usable as an extension language for applications that need a programmable interface.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–8th grades

Intro to Python Coding 2 (0.5 credits)

Python is a language with a simple syntax, and a powerful set of libraries. It is an interpreted language, with a rich programming environment, including a robust debugger and profiler. While it is easy for beginners to learn, it is widely used in many scientific areas for data exploration.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Intro to Python Coding

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–8th grades

Computer Science Investigations (0.5 credits)

Computer Science Investigations introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Computer Science Investigations is to develop in students the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as computing systems, networks, data & analysis, limits of computers, and societal and ethical issues.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7–8th grades

World Language Electives

Spanish 1 (1 credit)

This course is taught using 4 main language acquisition techniques: Listening Comprehension; Reading Comprehension; Writing Performance; and Speaking Performance. Students will use a combination of these techniques to gain an overall knowledge and language base that will enable them to begin creating in the Spanish language. After completing the requirements of this class students should be able to; carry on simple Spanish conversations using mostly memorized sentences and phrases, give and receive directions, and advocate for their health and wellness. The performance target for this Spanish course is Novice High on the ACTFL Proficiency Benchmarks.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Spanish 2 (1 credit)

This course is taught using 4 main language acquisition techniques: Listening Comprehension; Reading Comprehension; Writing Performance; and Speaking Performance. Students will build upon what they have learned in Spanish 1. After completing the requirements of this class students should be able to; tell and read stories in the present, preterit, and imperfect tenses, being creating and voicing opinions through spontaneous language creation, and understand a large portion of what they read and hear. The performance target for this Spanish course is Intermediate Low on the ACTFL Proficiency Benchmarks.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Spanish 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Additional Electives

Civics Military History (0.5 credits)

This course will celebrate the courage and sacrifice of the many men and women who have served to protect our country as we study the major conflicts of the 20th and 21st centuries. We will be learning about both World Wars, The Cold War, The Korean War, The Vietnam War, Gulf War, etc.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th –9th grades

Fortis Fitness (0.5 credits)

This course provides students the opportunity to set and achieve their personal health and fitness goals by learning, developing, and following an age-appropriate personal fitness program. Students will explore different types of workouts including but not limited to: cardiovascular fitness and strength training as well as flexibility, speed, agility, etc. Examples include: Yoga, Pilates, Circuit Training, HIIT, Percussion Fitness, Aerobics, Cross Training, and Body Weight Training. Other topics that are taught include nutrition, injury prevention, recovery, and proper movement technique.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Study Hall (0.5 credits)

This course provides students the opportunity to complete school work and homework during the school day. Students are graded on their participation, preparedness, and work completion. Students may take Study Hall twice during the year, but 9th grade students can only take one study hall during the year. This class is for no credit.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th –9th grades

Study Skills (0.5 credits)

Throughout this course, students will learn a variety of skills related to organization, time management, planning, communicating, and self-advocacy. Projects and assignments will help prepare students as they begin their transition into secondary education -- gaining the skills to become successful students.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7-8th grades

Directed Studies (0.5 credits)*

An academic support class for students with disabilities. Special education teachers work with students on executive functioning skills, time management, prioritizing, study skills, grade checks every other week and goal planning.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th grade

Guided Study Hall (0.5 credits)*

This course is a placement course and provides a structured environment for completing assignments. Students in this course learn and practice executive functioning skills and receive more guided instruction aimed at providing support in the completion of assignments from their core and elective classes.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher or Administration Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7–9th grades

9th Grade

Required 9th Grade Core Courses: <u>Year Long Classes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secondary Math 1• English 9 Science (Pick one): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earth Science• Physics• Biology <u>One Semester Classes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exploring Computer Science• Geography• Health 9• PE 9	*Teacher Recommended Core Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Honors Secondary Math 1*• Honors Secondary Math 2*• Math Strategies 9*• Honors English*• English Strategies 9*• Web Development*• Computer Programming 1* <p>Parents/Guardians are contacted when students are recommended for these courses.</p>
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9th Grade Required Core Course Descriptions

Secondary Math 1 (1 credit)

The focus of Secondary Mathematics 1 is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas 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 Mathematics 1 uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. Lastly, Secondary 1 ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards applied throughout the 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.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

English 9 (1 credit)

This class is designed to prepare students for high school. It will emphasize grammar, sentence structure, and composition. Comprehension skills and understanding of literature will be taught through Romeo and Juliet, Make Your Own Bed, To Kill a Mockingbird, poetry, and short stories.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Earth Science (1 credit)

The Earth and space science student will investigate processes and mechanisms that have resulted in the formation of our Earth, galaxy, and universe. Students develop models to illustrate the life span of the Sun and the role of nuclear fusion releasing energy in the Sun's core. Students analyze and interpret data to construct an explanation for Earth's 4.6 billion year history and explore changes to Earth's systems. Students develop and use a model of Earth's interior to describe the cycling of matter by thermal convection. Students plan and carry out an investigation on the properties of water to determine its effects on Earth materials. Students use computational thinking to explain sustainable and natural resources, focusing on responsible stewardship. Additionally, students design and evaluate solutions to problems that exist in these areas.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Physics (1 credit)

The physics student will explore the foundational principles of physics including forces, energy, fields, and waves. Students analyze and interpret data to determine the cause and effect relationship between the net force of an object and its change in motion. Students develop and use models to illustrate that energy at all levels can be accounted for as a combination of energies associated with motion and relative positions of objects. Students use mathematics and computational thinking to support the claim that the total momentum of a system is conserved when there is no net force acting on a system. Students plan and conduct investigations to provide evidence that an electric current causes a magnetic field and that a changing magnetic field causes an electric current. Students also engage in argument to support the assertion that electromagnetic radiation can be described either by a wave or a particle model. Additionally, students design and evaluate solutions to problems that exist in these areas.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Biology (1 credit)

The biology student will explore the patterns, processes, relationships, and the environments of living organisms. Students analyze data on the role of matter cycles and energy flow, investigate the structures and functions of living organisms needed in order to support necessary life functions, explore the cause and effect relationships of heredity, the role of DNA in gene expression and protein synthesis, and how gene expression can be altered by environmental and genetic causes. Students investigate how the mechanisms of genetic variation can lead to diversity within and among species and explain how the unity among species as well as the great diversity of species is a result of evolution by natural selection. Additionally, students design and evaluate solutions to problems that exist in these areas.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Exploring Computer Science (0.5 credits)

Exploring Computer Science (ECS) is a high school course that provides students with an introduction to the world of computer science in a non-threatening and exploratory way. Accessible to all students, it is a great way to get a general overview of computer science, explore how computers are used in nearly every industry and career today and learn how computers “think”. Students will learn how computers can be used to solve problems and they will use an online programming environment to create several basic coding projects and a basic website. This course fulfills the High School Digital Studies Graduation Requirement.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

Geography (0.5 credits)

Geography is the study of physical and human characteristics of the Earth’s people, places, and environments. Students will develop geographic thinking skills by studying the “why of where” as they examine the interactions, interconnections, and implications of forces shaping our world today. They will apply geographic knowledge and geo-literacy skills to identify, locate, interpret, analyze, and evaluate geographic patterns and processes. These standards emphasize both human geography and physical geography, and students will explore the interconnections between the two.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

Health Education 9 (0.5 credits)

Health II is dedicated to teaching high school students the skills they need to establish a healthy and safe lifestyle and enhance behaviors to resist unhealthy choices throughout their lifespan. Health Education will focus on: health foundations and protective factors, mental and emotional health, safety and disease prevention, substance abuse prevention, nutrition, and human development.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

PE 9 (0.5 credits)

Students will achieve a level of competency in motor skills and movement patterns. They will apply knowledge to attain efficient movement and performance while understanding the components necessary to maintain a healthy level of fitness to support physical activity. Students will develop cooperative skills and positive personal behavior through communication and respect for self and others. They will appraise the personal value of physical activity as a tool for wellness, challenges, and interacting with appropriate social skills with friends and family.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

9th Grade Teacher Recommended Course Descriptions

Honors Secondary Math 1 (1 credit)*

The focus of Honors Secondary Mathematics 1 is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas 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 Mathematics 1 uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. Lastly, Secondary 1 ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards applied throughout the 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. Beyond the scope of the general Secondary Mathematics 1 curriculum, students will develop skills with Matrices and Vectors.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Honors Secondary Math 2 (1 credit)*

The focus of Secondary Mathematics 2 is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions and on comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Secondary Mathematics 1. 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 the 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. Beyond the scope of the general Secondary Mathematics 2 curriculum, students will continue to develop skills with the Complex Number System. Matrices, Interpreting Functions, Expressing Geometric Properties with Equations, and Conditional Probability,

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation
- Successful completion of Secondary 1 Honors

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Secondary Math 1 Strategies (1 credit)*

This course involves direct instruction by a special education teacher in the content area of Mathematics and is tailored specifically to a student's learning objectives, IEP goals and instructional needs. An intervention curriculum is woven into the school's general education curriculum and is utilized to meet the student's unique needs.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Honors English (1 credit)*

Teacher recommended placement- In Honors English, students will have opportunities to practice higher level thinking, reading, and writing skills due to an increase in rigor, inquiry, and reflection in class curriculum. Honors students are expected to be independent learners, read above the 9 th grade level, and have superior writing ability. Students can expect rapid movement through course materials, resulting in expanded literature and writing opportunities.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

English 9 Strategies (1 credit)*

This course involves direct instruction by a special education teacher in the content area of English Language Arts and is tailored specifically to a student's learning objectives, IEP goals and instructional needs. An intervention curriculum is woven into the school's general education curriculum and is utilized to meet the student's unique needs.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Web Development (0.5 credits)*

Students will learn the fundamentals of Web Development and they will learn and use the basic building blocks of the World Wide Web (HTML & CSS). Students will create their own website including a photo gallery and interactive menus. Students should be self-starting and motivated students who enjoy computer-based projects and who are comfortable typing code for extended periods of time. Students who aren't comfortable with this are encouraged to sign up for Exploring Computer Science (ECS) which fulfills the same High School Graduation requirement. Although not necessary, any experience with coding or programming may be helpful to students interested in this course. Students who complete this class may enroll in the second semester of Web Development during High School. This course fulfills the High School Digital Studies Graduation Requirement.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

Computer Programming 1 (0.5 credits)*

An introductory course in program engineering and applications. The course introduces students to the fundamentals of computer programming. Students will learn to design, code, and test their own programs while applying mathematical concepts. Teachers introduce basic coding concepts and problem-solving skills. This course fulfills the High School Digital Studies Graduation Requirement.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

9th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

Math Electives

Math 9 Elements (1 credit)*

Math Elements is designed to serve students who are performing one to three grade levels below expectations. The goal is to increase conceptual understanding of the mathematics being presented in their regular math class. In this class we assess each student and use the data to inform instruction. The curriculum in elements follows along with the regular education math class but puts the concepts at an accessible level for the elements students. Students are able to work in small groups with an instructor to help them understand and have success with the concepts. This class also works to build number sense and mathematical reasoning through games, number talks and other research based activities

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Math Lab (0.5 credits)*

An academic Math support class for students with disabilities. This course teaches strategies designed to meet the student's individual goals. The skills taught in the Math classes will support the student in his or her general education courses.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grade

English Electives

Introduction to Debate (0.5 credits)

This course is for students with an interest in debate and speech and improving communication skills. Students will participate in a variety of speech activities designed to increase communication, argumentative and persuasive skills and gain confidence in public speaking.

Students will compete in one meet per semester. This is a performance class. Students will need to provide transportation or arrange carpooling to and from competitions.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Children's Literature (0.5 credits)

This course will teach methods on creating and writing literature for young children that is both educational and fun. Students will share their completed work with the class. This is a project based class.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Fantasy Literature (0.5 credits)

Fantasy literature explores the fantasy genre including how authors build worlds. Students will become familiar with the most important fantasy works that shaped the genre, including the YA genre. Students will read and choose from a variety of different texts. Students will be able to view the film of the book to determine how the producers changed/added to the text.. This class is a Project Based Learning Class, meaning students will engage in projects to showcase their understanding of different parts of the texts.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Sci-Fi Literature (0.5 credits)

Become familiar with some of the most-influential Science Fiction works that shaped the genre and the world we inhabit today and where we'll live tomorrow. Gain an understanding of contemporary and future science fiction by studying the history of the genre and many of the works that started important conversations about what it means to be human in a changing world. We will read some works that helped establish the modern genre of science fiction in English and others that fans of the genre consider exemplary, pivotal, or just plain good. Students will watch movies that tie in with the texts and discover the differences with making a science fiction text come to life. No homework will be assigned.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Mythology (0.5 credits)

During this course, myths created by various cultures around the world will be examined to gain a better understanding of the power of myth, its influence on our world, and how we are still influenced by these tales to this day. Greek, Roman, Norse, Egyptian, Polynesian, as well as myths from many other cultures will be explored. This is a project based learning class where there are group and solo projects to demonstrate learning.

No homework.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Creative Writing (0.5 credits)

Creative writing provides an opportunity for creativity and use of imagination through writing guided imagery, simple poetry forms, short stories, and personal narratives while learning to manipulate sensory detail. Many fun activities are provided to wake up the senses and the imagination. The class also assists students in realizing the importance of audience, word choice, detail, and sentence structure skills in their writing. In order to encourage writing and idea fluency, the students will keep a daily writing journal. Most importantly, the students write and develop structural writing skills.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

English Elements 9 (1 credit)*

This support class supplements the 9th grade English classes by addressing gaps in student learning in English Language Arts. Primary programs include IXL Learning and Scholastic's Scope magazine. Some support is given for assignments in the grade-level English classes, but the primary focus is addressing individual learning needs, especially in the area of writing.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

English Lab (0.5 credits)*

An academic English Language Arts support class for students with disabilities. This course teaches strategies designed to meet the student's individual goals. The skills taught in the English Lab classes will support the student in his or her general education courses.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher Recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Visual Arts Electives

3D Design (0.5 credits)

3D Design is a course in which students will increase technical skills, develop a more sophisticated approach to process, subject matter and concept to create a portfolio of individual work. In this class students will keep an artist journal to explore artistic process, experiment with materials and analyze work. Through experimentation and refinement, each person will create a body of work that includes observational drawing, mixed media and a variety of self-chosen media. The studio environment of the class will be used to support analysis, reflection and refinement of work.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Art Foundations 1 (0.5 credits)

This is a foundation course using primarily drawing to make and understand art. Studio practice will emphasize the elements of art such as line, shape, value, texture, color, form, and space as used in art and design.

Traditional and experimental approaches of materials will be used and are structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, and art vocabulary.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Art Foundations 2 (0.5 credits)

This class continues the development of skills and concepts introduced in Art Foundations 1. Focusing on studio production, the development of drawing skills remains a primary focus. In this course, a broader variety of media will be used, which may include colored pencils, watercolor, acrylic paint, charcoal, and pastel chalk. Continued emphasis will be placed on the elements of art. The student will be introduced to the principles of design, which include balance, movement, and rhythm.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Ceramics 1 (0.5 credits)

This class is a thorough introduction to ceramics clay. Almost entirely a studio course, the students will make hand-built pottery using the pinch, slab, and coil techniques. All ware will be kiln fired and glazed. Continued emphasis will be placed on the nature of three-dimensional art, design, color, and higher-level thinking. This class can be repeated.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Ceramics 2 (0.5 credits)

In this course, students will build upon the concepts and skills learned in Ceramics 1 and will develop more advanced skills in hand building and wheel throwing. All ware will be kiln fired and glazed. Continued emphasis will be placed on the nature of three-dimensional art, design, color and higher-level thinking. Students are also expected to have a strong work ethic and to pursue a higher quality of work and craftsmanship on their projects.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of C or better in Ceramics 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Drawing 1 (0.5 credits)

In this course, students will have the opportunity to expand, experiment, and build upon their existing drawing skills, strengthen the conceptual lines that thread throughout their work, and develop their experience regarding professional practices. Drawing is primarily an in class studio work course, but it will also cover the use of a research sketchbook, applications to art opportunities, and the writing artist statement. This class will explore the many historical and contemporary ways that other artists have explored and defined the medium of drawing while we investigate our own artistic trajectories.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Painting 1 (0.5 credits)

Painting is an art course designed to teach students how to use acrylic paint in creating works of art. Studio practice will emphasize elements and principles used in art and design. Projects will be structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, painting, and art vocabulary.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Painting 2 (0.5 credits)

Painting 2 is an art course that will build on the concepts that were used in Painting 1. Students will learn how to use watercolor in creating works of art. Studio practice will emphasize elements and principles used in art and design. Projects will be structured to provide students with a strong foundation in design, drawing, painting, and art vocabulary. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Painting 1.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th–9th Grades.

Photography (1 credit)

This course includes the inventive use of light and photographic equipment to create art. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Art Foundations 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th – 9th grades (Preference given to 9th Grade)

Performing Arts Electives

Band 1 (1 credit)

This class provides beginning and intermediate instruction on all wind and percussion band instruments. Beginning students will have the opportunity to play on several instruments at the beginning of the school year to see which instrument suits them best. No previous experience is required. This band performs 4 evening concerts, one at the end of each term.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Band 2 (1 credit)

Students learn refinement of musical skills—higher levels of performance, aesthetic judgment, and music appreciation are emphasized at this level. Ensemble performances, musical styles, and creative development are a priority. Students will perform several term concerts and assemblies throughout the year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Band 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Band 3 (1 credit)

Students learn refinement of musical skills as they progress towards mastery — this will bring about higher levels of performance, aesthetic judgment, music appreciation, and proficiency within music theory. Ensemble performances, musical styles, and creative development are a priority. Students will perform several term concerts and assemblies throughout the year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Band 1 and Band 2

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Jazz Band (1 credit)

This is an extension of the larger ensemble experience. The jazz ensemble reflects traditional Big Band instrumentation (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and rhythm section). Through listening to recordings, critiquing, analyzing, discussion, and application, students will learn a variety of jazz, funk, and rock styles found within this genre. The class will help students understand the history of jazz and be able to associate specific musicians to distinct types of jazz. This is a performance class; therefore, students are expected to attend all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion Band 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Guitar 1 (1 credit)

This is a beginning guitar class. In this class, you will learn how to play notes and chords in 1st position. Students will learn to read and write tablature and standard notation for guitar. Guitar 1 students will perform 3 evening concerts, one at the end of terms 2, 3, and 4.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Guitar 2 (1 credit)

In this class, you will continue to learn notes and chords in several positions, read and write in tablature, and standard notation. The music will be more challenging, and the class will move at a quicker pace than year one. Students will perform several term concerts and assemblies throughout the year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Guitar 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grade

Guitar 3 (1 credit)

Students with previous experience strengthen their guitar skills and knowledge, adding a variety of chords; refining finger-picking and strumming patterns; reading notation in several positions on the neck; and learning stylistic nuances, left-hand technique, and alternative fingering. Guitarists readily use tablature and standard notation, study the work of significant musicians, and develop significant self-assessment skills.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Guitar 2

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Orchestra 1 (1 credit)

This course is for students who are new beginners or still mastering the basics of their instrument. Students will need to purchase or rent their own instrument. Students who have taken one year of an after-school program should register for this course. After sufficient progress students will be invited to audition for advanced orchestra. This class is a performance class requiring participation at school concerts and assemblies.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th –9th grades

Orchestra 2 (1 credit)

This course is for more advanced students who have either taken Orchestra 1 or have had more experience playing their instrument. Students who have participated in Orchestra 1 and/or have taken private lessons will be invited to audition. Students will need to purchase or rent their own instrument. This class is a performance class requiring participation at school concerts and assemblies.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER

- Successful completion of Orchestra 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Music Appreciation (0.5 credits)

This course studies the history, culture and general mechanics of music leading to the ability to lead and conduct a musical ensemble. Students will learn how to study a musical score, research the history of works performed in our various musical groups, and play and/or sing for each other as they learn the basics of conducting. All level one musical groups and/or prior musical training are a prerequisite for this course. Fluency in reading music is a must.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade

Concert Choir (1 credit)

Welcome to the spotlight! This fun and upbeat course is for music lovers and singers of ALL abilities. Whether you're a seasoned performer or a sing-along-to-the-radio person, join us as we build confidence in singing, learn to read music, and blend our voices to create a beautiful sound. This is a large choir with performances throughout the year.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Chamber Choir – Provectus Chorum (0.5 Credits)

Provectus Chorum is our honors audition choir selected from our concert choir. Students in this class will continue to learn more advanced concepts of part singing, singing aCapella, learning choreography, music theory, and collaborating with other performance groups. This class performs frequently throughout the year and travels around the community for performance opportunities. This is a semester-long course, but can be taken all year.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful auditions for the class

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th – 9th grades

Musical Theater Expressions 1 (0.5 credits)

Musical Theater Expressions 1 is designed to increase students' knowledge and skill in the world of theater. Students will learn to improve their knowledge and ability in basic drama techniques. This class requires creativity, experimentation, and open-mindedness. Students will gain basic acting skills, learn general theater terms, and apply their knowledge through formal and informal performances.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Musical Theater Expressions 2 (0.5 credits)

Musical Theater Expressions 2 is designed for the more serious-minded drama student. Students will work on advanced techniques and build acting skills through many formal and informal performances.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful Completion of Musical Theater Expressions 1

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Musical Theater Introduction (0.5 credits) Fall Only Course (1st Semester)

Musical Theater Intro. is designed to increase students' knowledge and skills in the world of musical theater.

Students will learn to improve their knowledge and ability in basic musical theater techniques such as singing, dancing, and acting. This course will directly prepare students to have an audition ready for admittance into the Spring Musical Theater production.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Not required but highly recommended, students should enroll in this course if they are planning to participate in the Spring Musical.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Spring Musical Theater (0.5 credits) Spring Only Course (2nd Semester)

An audition process will take place to determine performance responsibilities. This is a course that deals with applications of all aspects of theater production: acting, costuming, make-up, scenery, etc. Members of the production company are required to attend after-school rehearsals. Members of the spring class will participate in a full-scale musical at the end of the semester.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- All those registered will be cast in the Spring Musical.
- All students must audition to be casted in this show.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Theater Tech 1 (0.5 credits)

Theater Tech is a class that focuses on the behind the scenes magic of plays and musicals. This class will explore set design, stage managing, lighting design, rigging, stage makeup, special effects and sound designs for theater productions. Students will be asked to complete a portfolio project for each major area in theater tech as part of the semester. Students may have an opportunity to assist in an actual theater production along with members of the school's tech crew. This class is a prerequisite for being on SAA's tech crew.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Theater Tech 2 (1 credit)

Theater Tech 2 is a hands-on course that builds on the foundational material learned in Theater Tech 1. Students will go more in depth with lighting design, sound design, and stage management. Students will also learn about rigging, costuming, stage makeup, and elements of broadcasting. Students in this class will be able to have opportunities to be a part of the production crew for some school events alongside the SAA's own tech crew.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Theater Tech 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Movement Electives

Dance 1 (0.5 credits)

This class provides an environment in which to gain knowledge and respect for the art of dance. In this class, we will cover the history and technique of dance including ballet, modern, jazz, and dance for musical theater as well as having an opportunity to choreograph an original dance and perform it for the class.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Dance Company (1 Credit)

Dance Company is an advanced dance course that gives members the opportunity to create, perform, reflect and connect dance to their environment and the community around them. Dance I and an audition are required prerequisites for Dance Company. An audition is held every Spring for those who are interested.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Dance 1
- Or proof of a minimum of one year prior dance experience
- Preference will be reserved for previous dance company students who are auditioning.

YEAR ROUND, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

World Language Electives

Spanish 1 (1 credit)

This course is taught using 4 main language acquisition techniques: Listening Comprehension; Reading Comprehension; Writing Performance; and Speaking Performance. Students will use a combination of these techniques to gain an overall knowledge and language base that will enable them to begin creating in the Spanish language. After completing the requirements of this class students should be able to; carry on simple Spanish conversations using mostly memorized sentences and phrases, give and receive directions, and advocate for their health and wellness. The performance target for this Spanish course is Novice High on the ACTFL Proficiency Benchmarks.

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 7th–9th grades

Spanish 2 (1 credit)

This course is taught using 4 main language acquisition techniques: Listening Comprehension; Reading Comprehension; Writing Performance; and Speaking Performance. Students will build upon what they have learned in Spanish 1. After completing the requirements of this class students should be able to; tell and read stories in the present, preterit, and imperfect tenses, being creating and voicing opinions through spontaneous language creation, and understand a large portion of what they read and hear. The performance target for this Spanish course is Intermediate Low on the ACTFL Proficiency Benchmarks.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Spanish 1

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Spanish 3 (1 credit)

This course is taught using 4 main language acquisition techniques: Listening Comprehension; Reading Comprehension; Writing Performance; and Speaking Performance. Students will build upon what they have learned in Spanish 1 and 2. After completing the requirements of this class students should be able to; effectively communicate their opinions, beliefs, preferences and emotions, quickly exchange information and ideas, and understand a large portion of what they read and hear. The performance target for this Spanish course is Intermediate Mid on the ACTFL Proficiency Benchmarks.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Successful completion of Spanish 1 and 2

FULL YEAR, Eligibility: 9th grade

Additional Electives

Civics Military History (0.5 credits)

This course will celebrate the courage and sacrifice of the many men and women who have served to protect our country as we study the major conflicts of the 20th and 21st centuries. We will be learning about both World Wars, The Cold War, The Korean War, The Vietnam War, Gulf War, etc.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th –9th grades

Fortis Fitness (0.5 credits)

This course provides students the opportunity to set and achieve their personal health and fitness goals by learning, developing, and following an age-appropriate personal fitness program. Students will explore different types of workouts including but not limited to: cardiovascular fitness and strength training as well as flexibility, speed, agility, etc. Examples include: Yoga, Pilates, Circuit Training, HIIT, Percussion Fitness, Aerobics, Cross Training, and Body Weight Training. Other topics that are taught include nutrition, injury prevention, recovery, and proper movement technique.

SEMESTER Eligibility: 8th–9th grades

Study Hall (0.5 credits)

This course provides students the opportunity to complete school work and homework during the school day. Students are graded on their participation, preparedness, and work completion. Students may take Study Hall twice during the year, but 9th grade students can only take one study hall during the year. This class is for no credit.

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 8th –9th grades

Guided Study Hall (0.5 credits)*

This course is a placement course and provides a structured environment for completing assignments. Students in this course learn and practice executive functioning skills and receive more guided instruction aimed at providing support in the completion of assignments from their core and elective classes. Students are placed in this class via teacher or administrative recommendations.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 7–9th grades

Directed Studies (0.5 credits)*

An academic support class for students with disabilities. Special education teachers work with students on executive functioning skills, time management, prioritizing, study skills, grade checks every other week and goal planning.

REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CLASS

- Teacher recommendation

SEMESTER, Eligibility: 9th grade