

## 2026-2027 Course Catalog (by Department/Subject)

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Most core subjects have a Venture Higher Honors option which extends & deepens student learning. Honors courses are reflected on transcripts.

\*This is a Venture Higher recommended course that earns college credit or certificates. All students can take this course but it is recommended that Venture Higher students consider taking it before graduating.

## CTE & Exploring Computer Science

### Exploring Computer Science

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ECS

*ECS or Web Development Required for Graduation-Digital Literacy Credit. Can also be fulfilled by Computer Programming (approval required).* Exploring Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. The course focuses on the conceptual ideas of computing and helps students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Exploring Computer Science 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 artificial intelligence, web development, programming, and physical computing.

### Web Development

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ECS

*ECS or Web Development Required for Graduation-Digital Literacy Credit. Can also be fulfilled by Computer Programming (approval required).* Development 1 is a course designed to guide students in a project-based environment in the development of

up-to-date concepts and skills that are used in the development of today's websites. Students will learn the fundamentals of how the Internet works. They will learn and use the basic building blocks of the World Wide Web: HTML5 coding and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). Students follow the steps to create a website by planning, designing, developing, deploying, and maintaining the website projects. Students will learn and use different scripting technologies to create more dynamic and interactive websites. They will learn what it takes for a career in web development as they complete projects and create their own website(s).

### **Digital Photography**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE or ART

Digital Photography is a semester course where students will learn the history behind photography and artistic techniques combined with a commercial perspective to effectively communicate ideas and information to others with the use of digital photography. Students will learn how to operate a camera and camera equipment, software, maintenance and applications of digital photography.

### **Digital Design**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE or ART

In Digital Design students will learn the basics of videography while developing basic skills and understanding how to properly use Adobe Premiere Pro, with the additional support of Adobe Audition and Adobe After Effects to create professional-quality media. These abilities will prepare students for entry-level multimedia positions and provide fundamental 21st-century learning skills beneficial for other occupational/educational endeavors.

### **Digital Graphic Arts**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE or ART

In Digital Graphic Arts students will analyze, design and develop interactive media. Students will create and learn digital media applications while using elements of text, graphics and digital imaging in various formats. This class will develop basic skills and learn how to properly use Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. These abilities will prepare students for entry-level multimedia positions and provide fundamental 21st century learning skills beneficial for other occupational/educational endeavors.

### **\*Advanced Digital Media**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE

*Prerequisite: Digital Graphic Arts & Digital Design.* Advanced Digital Media is a course for students who have completed Digital Graphic Arts & Digital Design and would like to continue advancing their skills in graphic design and/or videography. Students will learn the process of planning, instructional design, development, and publishing of digital media and interactive media projects. Students will focus on developing advanced skills to plan, design, and create interactive projects using the elements of text, 2D and 3D graphics, animation, sound, video, digital imaging, interactive projects, etc. These skills can prepare students for entry-level positions and other occupational/educational goals. Students will have the opportunity and be encouraged to earn their Adobe Certifications through this course.

### **\*CE ART 2450 Foundations of Photography: Color/Digital**

Semester 1 (0.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE or ART

*Prerequisites: Digital Photography and completion of 9th and 10th grades.* This course introduces students to the foundational processes, techniques, and concepts of color photography. Through hands-on assignments, students will explore technical, aesthetic, and conceptual aspects of color and digital imagery while developing both visual and verbal vocabulary related to photographic theory. The course culminates in a final project that demonstrates students' ability to apply these skills and concepts to solve creative and technical challenges.

***This class can be paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of CE courses.***

### **3D Animation**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE

*Prerequisite: Exploring Computer Science.* 3D Animation is a semester course where students will learn how to model and animate objects on the computer using the open-source software, Blender. In the first half of the semester, students will be concentrating on modeling skills. In the second half of the semester, students will enhance their modeling skills and learn how to animate their 3D models. 3D Animation is a demanding course, it is important for students to be dedicated to the semester and to make sure they stay on task. Students must be familiar with computers and operating software to stay current on assignments and to be able to master the course.

## **Computer Programming I**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: CTE

*Required for Graduation or Exploring Computer Science/Web Development. Prerequisite: Exploring Computer Science or Approval.* 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.

## **Computer Programming II**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: CTE

*Prerequisite: Computer Programming I or Approval.* This course reviews and builds on the concepts introduced in Computer Programming 1. It then introduces students to more complex data structures and their uses, including sequential files, arrays, and classes. Students will learn to create more powerful programs within a specific programming language.

## **Gaming Development**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: CTE

*Prerequisite: Digital Graphic Arts or Exploring Computer Science.* This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and project based experience of fundamental gaming development concepts relating to STEM. These concepts include game design, scripting, creation of digital assets, graphic resources, animations, understanding hardware, problem solving, critical thinking, and collaboration.

## **Gaming Development II**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)                              Credit Type: CTE

*Prerequisite: Gaming Development I.* This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and project based experience of more advanced gaming development concepts relating to STEM. These concepts include game design, scripting, creation of digital assets, graphic resources, animations, understanding hardware, problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, and project management.

# Language Arts

## **English 9**

Year (1.0 credit)                                  Credit Type: LA

*Required for Graduation.* In English 9, students will study novels and short stories to gain an understanding of literary themes and how they can connect to their own lives. Students will analyze literature through class discussions and writing assignments, focusing on making arguments based on textual evidence. Along with studying literature, students will learn foundational writing skills essential for high school, including how to write argumentative, narrative, and informative essays.

## **English 10**

Year (1.0 credit)                                  Credit Type: LA

*Required for Graduation.* This course emphasizes American literature, reading, writing (argumentative, narrative, mechanics, usage), and listening skills while studying informational and fictional texts.

## English 11

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: LA

*Required for Graduation (AP Literature can be substituted).* In English 11, students will study novels and short stories to gain an understanding of literary themes and how they can connect to their own lives. Students will analyze literature through class discussions and writing assignments, focusing on making arguments based on textual evidence. Along with studying literature, students will learn writing skills essential for college and adulthood.

## \*AP Literature & Composition

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: LA

*Prerequisites: "C" average or better in Language Arts 10.* What makes a work of literature great? In AP English Literature and Composition, you'll examine how authors and poets create meaning through their rich, purposeful use of language. As you write and refine essays about literature, you'll develop the skills of analysis and composition that will allow you to communicate your interpretation effectively.

***This class is paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of AP Literature & Composition.***

**12th: Students must choose either CE English 1010 or two of the semester-long options to earn their 4th year English credit.**

## \*CE English 1010

Semester 1 (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: LA

*Prerequisites: "C" average or better in Language Arts 10 and 11 AND English and Reading ACT of 17+ or Accuplacer 250+.* Introductory College Writing introduces students to the basic principles of college writing. This course will focus on teaching students to find, evaluate, and understand sources while emphasizing that sources exist as part of an ongoing discussion. CE courses address college-level topics and issues within various assignments/discussions along with the required reading and appropriate film analysis for the specific course. All materials for such courses are on college level. One English credit for one semester.

***This class is paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of CE English.***

## \*CE English 2010

Semester 2 (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: LA

*Prerequisite: "D-" or better in ENGL 1010 OR English and Reading ACT of 29+ in both English & Reading, OR AP Language & Composition Score 3+.* This course will focus on writing researched arguments, discerning, engaging with, and documenting sources, and writing with rhetorical awareness and persuasive force. Students will continue to learn practices of successful academic writing including the writing process, writing for specific audiences, and collaboration with peers.

***This class is paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of CE English.***

## \*CE Interpersonal and Small Group Communication

Semester 2 (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: LA

*Requirements: 11th or 12th grade only. Is NOT college English credit. It is Humanities credit in college.* Explores the dynamics of verbal and nonverbal communication in personal relationships and small groups. The emphasis is on practical application of course content to enhance interpersonal relationships and to achieve competence as group members. This course fulfills the General Education Humanities requirement.

***This class is paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of CE English.***

## Multimedia Journalism

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: LA/EL

In this course, students will create our school newspaper and podcast, which will be shared with the Venture community. There will be opportunities to write articles and scripts, produce audio and video broadcasts, and edit content. Students will learn journalism fundamentals by focusing on all stages of news production, including researching strategies, writing style, interviewing basics, and editing principles. Additionally, students will learn digital media skills and how to use multimedia tools to enhance storytelling.

## **Gothic Literature**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: LA/EL

This course explores the evolution of gothic literature from the late 18th century to the present day, showing how much the gothic genre has impacted literature for the last two centuries. As a class, we will be analyzing the themes of horror, fear, madness and the supernatural as we discover popular and interesting texts from the genre. Students will study key aspects of gothic literature – such as haunted landscapes, monsters, and powerful emotions – in classic and modern texts, exploring how the genre reflects societal fears and anxieties. We will read several short stories, compare and contrast a few novels, and create our own horror and gothic stories in this class!

## **Fantasy Literature**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: LA/EL

An elective literature course that surveys the origins and evolution of the fantasy genre throughout Western and world literature. From Beowulf to Arthurian legends, fairy tales to sword and sorcery, spanning Middle Earth to Discworld, we'll get an understanding of the tropes, subgenres, and influences that have made fantasy a major genre in literature, film, and gaming today. Possible sample works: The Hobbit, The Last Unicorn, The Chronicles of Narnia, A Wrinkle in Time, and others. The exact authors and works covered will be presented in the syllabus.

## **Creative Writing Intro**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: LA/EL

Do you love to write? This is an introductory course to creative writing that covers creative nonfiction, fiction, and poetry. We'll also cover the revision process and help you become a better author!

## **Mythology**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: LA/EL

Every culture has evolved its own mythology, defining its character and offering a way to understand the world. From the Greek figures of Hercules and Medusa, to those of Loki and Thor, mythology has deep roots in human history. The fact these stories and figures have survived for millennia speaks volumes about how important they are to humanity as a whole. These myths can be seen in countless mediums, from books and movies, to video games and theatre plays. This class will aim to examine the myths of different cultures, comparing and contrasting them with one another, and finding out what it is that makes them so interesting to us.

## **Song Lyrics: Creative Writing**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: LA/EL

The Song Lyrics course aims to have students analyze and write song lyrics. Students will look into music history from the past 75 years to understand lyric structure in songs and how they are often composed. We will analyze some of music's most prolific artists to see how their lyrics have thrived and connected with audiences. Students will dive into figurative language and structure in order to understand how to create their own engaging lyrics.

## **Debate (II)**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: LA/EL

*No prerequisite.* In this course, students will learn the foundations of creating and presenting arguments on a variety of topics. Students will have the opportunity to work both as individuals and as part of a team to debate their classmates in several types of debate formats. In addition, students will evaluate debates and arguments, discuss rhetorical strategies, conduct research, and study ethical communication practices. Attending competitions is not required.

## Fine Arts

### **Band III**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

*Audition Required.* This course is open to any student with previous instrumental music experience. Transfer students must contact Mrs. Child to audition for this class. The Venture Band Program has a tradition of excellence and is a point of pride for our school. Venture High Band students improve their skills to perform a variety of challenging and exciting music. Students perform 3 - 4 concerts during the school year and have the opportunity to attend various band festivals in the spring. In addition, students will have individual opportunities to participate in optional events like Solo and Ensemble Contest, Utah All-State Band, Weber State University's Honor Band and The Tri-State Honor Band at Utah State University.

### **Choir I**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

This is a year-long course offered to current and aspiring singers regardless of their previous choral experience. Choir explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods through study and performance. The core curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Choir students are expected to participate in all planned evening concerts during the school year as a major part of their grade.

### **Treble Choir**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

*Audition Required.* This is a year-long course offered to current and aspiring singers regardless of their previous choral experience. Choir explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods through study and performance. The core curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Choir students are expected to participate in all planned evening concerts during the school year as a major part of their grade.

### **Chamber Choir**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

*Audition Required.* This advanced mixed choir is for skilled singers grades 9-12. Chamber Choir studies and performs choral literature selected from a variety of periods in music history. This course is designed to introduce and develop advanced singing techniques and sight-reading skills. Choir students are expected to participate in all planned evening concerts during the school year as a major part of their grade with the possibility of additional performances and participating in choral festivals and competitions. Admission to Chamber Choir is by audition only.

### **Dance- Intro**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ART/PE

For the beginning and intermediate dancer. In this semester-long course students will learn and study basic dance choreography, history, and theory in modern, ballet, jazz, and hip hop dance. There will be one dance concert each semester in which the students will perform and work together to create choreography.

### **Dance Company**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: ART/PE

*Prerequisite: Audition Required.* This is a company level dance course, which builds dance knowledge and skills in technique, improvisation, choreography, artistic expression, performance, history, culture and life skills. This course will focus mainly on modern dance and the elements, energy, space, time, and the language of dance as an art form. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and constitute part of the course grade.

## **Art Foundations (HS)**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

This course is designed to provide a broad overview of some basic visual art skills using different art mediums, related materials and concepts. This is an introductory course to the visual arts. The content covers a variety of concepts including drawing, painting and color theory techniques. This course is a prerequisite for all art classes.

## **Drawing (II)**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

*Prerequisite: Art Foundations HS.* This course builds on drawing skills students were introduced to through Art Foundations. In this course we will help students develop their perceptive ability and increase their mastery of various drawing techniques using graphite and charcoal will be introduced, as well as hard pastels.

## **Painting (II)**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

*Prerequisite: Art Foundations HS.* This intermediate course is a half-year course where students continue to explore the possibilities of the oil painting medium expanding students' perception of color and paint application.

## **\*AP Drawing or Art Studio**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: ART

*Prerequisite: Art Foundation, Intermediate Drawing or Intermediate Painting.* Skills learned in prerequisite classes are incorporated and enhanced through this course. Each student will use their prior knowledge in the previous courses to investigate more thoroughly technical subject matter. Students must show initiative, good work habits, must be interested in art, and subject to instructor approval.

## **Art For the Ages**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

AFA is a general introduction to the visual arts, media, techniques, and history. The course is designed to create a deeper appreciation of the creative processes involved in the visual arts.

## **Digital Photography**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: CTE or ART

Digital Photography is a semester course where students will learn the history behind photography and artistic techniques combined with a commercial perspective to effectively communicate ideas and information to others with the use of digital photography. Students will learn how to operate a camera and camera equipment, software, maintenance and applications of digital photography.

## **Digital Design**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: CTE or ART

In Digital Design students will learn the basics of videography while developing basic skills and understanding how to properly use Adobe Premiere Pro, with the additional support of Adobe Audition and Adobe After Effects to create professional-quality media. These abilities will prepare students for entry-level multimedia positions and provide fundamental 21st-century learning skills beneficial for other occupational/educational endeavors.

## **Digital Graphic Arts**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE or ART

In Digital Graphic Arts students will analyze, design and develop interactive media. Students will create and learn digital media applications while using elements of text, graphics and digital imaging in various formats. This class will develop basic skills and learn how to properly use Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. These abilities will prepare students for entry-level multimedia positions and provide fundamental 21st century learning skills beneficial for other occupational/educational endeavors.

## **\*CE ART 2450 Foundations of Photography: Color/Digital**

Semester 1 (0.5 credit)

Credit Type: CTE or ART

This course introduces students to the foundational processes, techniques, and concepts of color photography. Through hands-on assignments, students will explore technical, aesthetic, and conceptual aspects of color and digital imagery while developing both visual and verbal vocabulary related to photographic theory. The course culminates in a final project that demonstrates students' ability to apply these skills and concepts to solve creative and technical challenges.

# **Health & Physical Education**

## **Participation Skills**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: PE

*Required for Graduation.* This class 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. Participation Skills and Techniques is designed to develop competency in several physical skill areas.

## **Health**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: PE

*Required for Graduation.* The overall goal in Health class is to provide knowledge, understanding, strategies, and activities that will enhance individual health lifestyle choices. The health information skills, and attitudes that high school students adopt today can affect their future health, as well as the future health of their friends, families, and communities. The following areas of study will be taught throughout the semester: general health and wellness, physical activity and nutrition, mental and emotional health, promoting safe and healthy relationships, tobacco, alcohol and drugs, and disease and reproductive health.

## **Individualized Lifetime Activities (ILA)-Yoga**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: PE

*ILA Yoga or Games Required for Graduation.* In this course students will explore the history of yoga, looking at its country of origin and the progression of the practice. They will explore all areas of yoga from Bikram to Hatha. Students will practice yoga continually being mindful of their bodies abilities. Concerning ourselves with flexibility, strength and relaxation. Please provide your own yoga mat.

## **Individualized Lifetime Activities (ILA)-Games**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: PE

*ILA Games or Yoga Required for Graduation.* This course will focus on individual lifetimes games. Students will learn skills, rules and strategies that they can bring home and play for a lifetime. Such games will include, but are not limited to, pickleball, badminton, yard games and a focus on international games will be included in the curriculum. As with all physical education classes there will be a fitness component, but an overall emphasis on fun games for all ages.

### **Dance- Intro (ILA)**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: PE/ART

For the beginning and intermediate dancer. In this semester-long course students will learn and study basic dance choreography, history, and theory in modern, ballet, jazz, and hip hop dance. There will be one dance concert each semester in which the students will perform and work together to create choreography.

### **Dance Company (ILA)**

Year (1.0 credit)

Credit Type: PE/ART

*Prerequisite: Audition Required.* This is a company level dance course, which builds dance knowledge and skills in technique, improvisation, choreography, artistic expression, performance, history, culture and life skills. This course will focus mainly on modern dance and the elements, energy, space, time, and the language of dance as an art form. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and constitute part of the course grade.

### **Fitness for Life**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: PE

*Required for Graduation and planned for 11th & 12th graders.* This course 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.

## **Electives-Health & Physical Education**

### **Archery**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

**\*\* Habits grades on transcript must show no Us' for participation in this course. Students must have excellent listening and rule following skills to allow participation. \*\*** This course is designed for archers of all levels. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the basic techniques of indoor target archery emphasizing the care and use of equipment, range safety, stance and shooting techniques, scoring and competition. Each student will be instructed using compound bows during practice and will become well versed in: basic equipment used for archery, how to practice stringing and unstringing the bow, practice components for nocking, drawing, aiming and shooting on targets, practice scoring and retrieving arrows, be exposed to basic rules, competitions and etiquette of target archery, practice stretching and warming up specifically for archery, be encouraged to continue participation in Archery for its recreational, health, fitness and social benefits. **Participation in the archery class is dependent on the student's ability to follow directions, effectively listen to the teacher and classmates, and maintain all safety protocols. Failure to demonstrate these characteristics will result in a class change in order to maintain student and teacher safety. Students cannot have U's to enroll in this course.**

### **Movement for Health**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

Do you have health goals that you need help reaching? Consider taking the Movement for Health class. In this class you will set goals in becoming a healthier you. Through learning mild/moderate techniques in flexibility, building stamina, nutrition, and building an individual training plan you will be able to reach your goals and have a healthier lifestyle.

## **Math & Financial Literacy**

### **General Financial Literacy**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: FL

*Required for Graduation, 10th-12th grades only.* In this course you will gain the perspective, knowledge and tools to enter adult life capable of being financially stable and less likely to be stressed about your finances. Through a study of personal finance and the implementation of the strategies taught in this class, it is expected that students will be able to make informed decisions about money and finances. The course begins with the topic of money management. From there the student will study the concepts about savings and investing. The course ends with the subject of how to invest for the future with planning for retirement. The information presented in this course is one of the most important topics that a high school student can study.

## **Secondary Math I**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: MA

*Required for Graduation.* This class will focus on developing a solid understanding of function, and using that understanding to explore many examples of functions, including sequences. It will deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships and connect that understanding to exponential functions. It will build on prior experiences with data to develop formal methods of data analysis. Students will use properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge. Algebraic and geometric ideas will be tied together.

## **Secondary Math II**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: MA

*Required for Graduation.* The focus of Common Core Mathematics II is on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships. Students will study the set of real and complex numbers as solutions of quadratic equations. They will understand similarity as the foundation of right triangle trigonometry – as well as study the quadratic algebraic representations of circles. Students will explore conditional probability and counting methods as they make and evaluate decisions.

## **Secondary Math III**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: MA

*Required for Graduation or Math of Personal Finance.* The focus of Common Core Mathematics III is on the application of functions and geometry to create models and solve contextual problems. Students will explore functions, including polynomial, rational and radical functions, by modeling. Students will also expand their study of right triangle trigonometry to include general triangles. They will use visual displays, and methods of statistics and probability to draw inferences and conclusions from data.

## **Math of Personal Finance**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: MA

*Prerequisite: Secondary Math I & II. Math of Personal Finance can replace Sec. III with parent permission.* This course studies the mathematics of personal finance. Topics studied include information about banking and investment operations, health and property insurances, mortgages, taxes, financial laws and regulations, and other mathematical concepts included in the operations of personal finances. While meeting the necessary math requirement for graduation, this class is not a college-preparatory math. If a student is planning to enroll in a traditional college after graduation, they would need to enroll in Sec Math III.

## **\*CE Math 1030- Contemporary Mathematics**

Year (1 HS credit)                      Credit Type: MA

*Prerequisite: Secondary 1, 2, & 3 and an ALEKS score of 46+ or ACT Math Score of 21 or higher.* College Credits: (3)  
Description: This course will center on topics including: proportional reasoning, financial mathematics, linear and exponential modeling, geometry, probability and statistics. Material will be introduced in the form of real-life problems. Prerequisite material will be incorporated as appropriate.

## **\*AP Calculus**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: MA

Calculus is an introductory course to upper-division mathematics and computer science courses. AP Calculus has an AB or BC option that is a college-level course. Students will extend their experience with functions as they study the fundamental concepts of calculus: limiting behaviors, difference quotients and the derivative, Riemann sums and the definite integral, antiderivatives and

indefinite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Students review and extend their knowledge of trigonometry and basic analytic geometry. Important objectives of the calculus sequence are to develop and strengthen the students' problem-solving skills and to teach them to read, write, speak, and think in the language of mathematics. In particular, students learn how to apply the tools of calculus to a variety of problem situations.

## Electives-Math

### **Math Support-Secondary I, II, and III**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

These courses provide supplemental math instruction to support the corresponding core mathematics course (Sec I, II, or III). These are not stand-alone math courses. The standards of these courses are those of the associated core math course. Math support courses are designed to improve student success in core math classes. They will follow the core math class curriculum providing additional instruction and student practice.

### **Y Math? Y<sub>0</sub>**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

One of the most frequent questions that is heard in a math classroom is probably, "Why do I have to do this?" Explore the beauty and fun that can be had in doing mathematics. Explore with me what mathematicians through history have done in response to the question of why? Learn about how people have fun with math. When confronted with math, learn to ask, "why not?"

## Science

### **Earth Science**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: SC

*Required for graduation.* The Earth is the home to millions of biological organisms, including humans. What features of the Earth make life possible? In this course we will explore the geological foundations of the planet, including its internal structure and surface dynamics. Focusing on the atmosphere and weather patterns, we will also examine how cycles of water, oxygen, carbon, and nitrogen allow for the transfer of energy and matter throughout living organisms. Finally, we will understand the complex community interactions between organisms, and describe how humans can positively and negatively impact local and global ecosystems.

### **Biology**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: SC

*Required for graduation.* Biology is the study of life and its underlying processes, but it is also a rich story of investigation - trial and error, failures, and amazing successes! It is the story of real people doing real experiments to make sense of the world and its living parts. Current investigations in cellular biology, genetics, neuroscience, physiology, ecology, and evolution are bringing new light to our understanding of life. We will learn these fundamental concepts by exploring the stories of the scientists that discovered them. We will emphasize the process of scientific discovery (scientific method), and will develop skills to evaluate and analyze research findings. There will also be an Honors Biology option for students that are interested in a more rigorous and in-depth study of the same concepts covered in the normal Biology curriculum. This will include additional readings, activities, and assignments, and will result in an Honors designation on the high school transcript. The Honors Curriculum will be available for any student in each of the normal Biology sections, and no special registration is required.

### **\*AP Biology**

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: SC/EL

*Prerequisite: Biology.* AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics like evolution, energetics, information storage and transfer, and system

interactions. ***This class is paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of AP Biology.***

## Chemistry

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: SC

*Required for graduation (or physics).* Chemistry begins to understand the world we live in on a very small scale and how our choices affect the smallest parts of our world. This course includes the topics of atoms, energy, chemical bonds, chemical reactions and solutions. Students develop an understanding of chemical concepts and determine the relevance of chemistry in their lives. This is a great foundational course for those students who are interested in the medical, dental, engineering, nursing or any other work field that requires critical thinking. Problem solving skills will be stressed as well as working with others in a group.

## Physics Concepts

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: SC

*Required for graduation (or chemistry).* A full year physics course intended for students without a strong background in mathematics. While the amount of math will be minimized, students will still be expected to use some basic algebra and graphing to solve simple problems.

This course focuses on the underlying fundamentals of physics. We will study the basic laws of the universe (laws of motion, gravitation, energy, and momentum) and build an intuition for dealing with physical systems.

## \*AP Physics

Year (1.0 credit)                      Credit Type: SC

*Previous physics knowledge is not required.* A.P. Physics 1 is an introductory, college-level, algebra based course. Students will learn about motion, forces, gravitation, and conservation laws through problem solving, hands-on activities, and inquiry-based labs. At the end of the course, students will have the option, but are not required, to take the A.P. Physics 1 Exam, which can be used for college credit. ***This class is paired with a companion Venture Higher Academic Study period to improve student success. This study period does not award credit but will help with the work demand of AP Physics.***

## Electives-Science

### Astronomy

Semester 1 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

Astronomy is a one semester course that will focus on the study of celestial/astronomical objects. We will start our exploration by focusing on the sun-earth-moon system and the observable night sky. Then we expand outwards to larger and farther objects including stars, galaxies, and black holes. At the end of the course, students will have a basic understanding of our universe, the history of astronomy, and the processes that are used to make observations and discoveries.

### Oceanography

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

This course is designed to introduce students to marine ecosystems. The ocean is a vast space that covers over 70% of the Earth's surface. And we know almost nothing about it... We will be investigating the various regions of the ocean, the uniqueness of the different oceans, and how we (in the desert) interact with the ocean. We will focus heavily on ocean conservation and what role we can play in ocean stewardship.

### Hydrology-Investigation Science

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

This course will be taught through the lens of a hydroponic growing system. We will build and grow various vegetables and herbs with a hydroponic system while modeling the stages of the water cycle and exploring why we need water, ways we use it, and how we can conserve it more efficiently. Our main goal is to investigate different ways we can use water for the good of our Earth.

## **Anatomy & Physiology**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

*10th-12th graders only.* The fact that our bodies function without problems is amazing! To appreciate its complexity of structure and function, students will explore the major organ systems, including the nervous, musculoskeletal, respiratory, circulatory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems. While each unique organ system plays an essential role in the body's function, the real impressiveness comes when they work together to create us. We will identify how these systems cooperate to maintain homeostasis - or a state of balance - in the face of various stressors. This elective course will integrate class work, possibly dissections, and other laboratory experiences. It will expose students to the knowledge and skills needed in nursing, dental, medical, and other scientific careers. **If you are interested in the medical field at all, you need to take this class!!**

## **Zoology**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

Zoology is an introduction to the nine major phyla of the Kingdom Animalia. Students will gain knowledge about the evolutionary connection between organisms in the animal kingdom. This scientific course is designed to teach students the basic principles of the diversity of life through identification, classification, and investigation.

## **Science Methods-Investigation Science**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

This isn't a step-by-step, content focused science class, it's your chance to be the scientist. You'll ask the questions, test your ideas, analyze real results, and produce a research paper that shows what you discovered. Expect creativity, problem-solving, teamwork, and a few surprises along the way, because that's how real science works. Over the semester, you will learn how to be a scientist! The course will culminate with a Venture Science Conference and a peer reviewed Venture Journal of Science that communicates your learning to the broader community. If you want to experience science, instead of memorizing facts, this course is for you!

# **Social Studies**

## **Geography**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: SS

*Required for graduation (or cultural geography).* In this course students will learn about people from around the world, maps, immigration, and language, among other topics.

## **Cultural Geography (Geography Magazine)**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: SS/EL

Hello there, future geographers! For this class, we will be exploring different countries, people, and traditions by choosing a country to focus on throughout the semester, where you will complete a magazine-style final product throughout the semester. We will cover everything from population stats and economic factors to cultural practices and environmental issues. You'll hone your skills in research, writing, and design as you learn to think critically about how geography shapes our world and influences the lives of the people living in it.

## **World History I**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: SS

*Required for graduation.* World History I is part one of a two part course (part two HSS004) which addresses events and issues in world history from the earliest evidence of human existence to modern times. Whenever possible, students will be expected to make connections between historically significant events and current issues. These connections are intended to add personal relevance and deepen students' understanding of the world today. Topics include, but are not limited to, the Neolithic Revolution, the dawn of civilization, the development of world religions, patterns in world trade, contributions of classical civilizations, the diffusion of technology, colonization and imperialism, global conflict, modern revolutions and independence movements, and current trends in globalization.

## **World History II**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: SS

*Required for graduation.* World History II is part two of a two part course (part one HSS003) which addresses events and issues in world history from the earliest evidence of human existence to modern times. Whenever possible, students will be expected to make connections between historically significant events and current issues. These connections are intended to add personal relevance and deepen students' understanding of the world today. Topics include, but are not limited to, the Neolithic Revolution, the dawn of civilization, the development of world religions, patterns in world trade, contributions of classical civilizations, the diffusion of technology, colonization and imperialism, global conflict, modern revolutions and independence movements, and current trends in globalization.

## **U.S. History II**

Year (1.0 credit)                              Credit Type: SS

*Required for graduation.* United States History is a survey course that covers the United States from post-Civil War America to the modern day. In this course, students will address the social, economic, and political aspects of the United States from 1865-present. Topics examined include: the Gilded Age and industrialization, social change, world wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, civil rights as well as recent events that have transformed our nation.

## **\*AP U.S. History**

Year (1.0 credit)                              Credit Type: SS/EL

AP U.S. History is an introductory college-level course in United States History. Students investigate people, events, developments, and processes from 1491 to the present principally through analyzing primary and secondary sources. In addition to learning about the United States, students will also develop their writing skills as they use documents to craft evidence-based arguments. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP US History test.

## **Electives-Social Studies**

### **Anthropology**

Semester 1 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

Students will be introduced to the basics of cultural anthropology, or the science of human societies. Students will study diverse human cultures from around the world and throughout history. Topics will include social organizations, family systems, conflicts, religion, and ethics. Students will also participate in hands-on projects to better understand how human cultures adapt to their various environments. This course will also challenge students to create human-oriented solutions to real-world problems.

### **History of Latin America**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

In this class we will study Latin America in three parts: The Pre-Columbian, where we will learn about the ancient civilizations (Mayans, Aztecs, Incas and more); The Post-Colombian, where we will learn about the conflict of the Old World and New World clashing together; Fight for Independence, where we will learn about the modern-day struggles of becoming independent. Come and learn about these incredible civilizations and their journey of success, conquest, and independence. Oh, and there might be chocolate.

### **History of Music**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)                      Credit Type: EL

In this non-performance class we will study music throughout history. We will see how music has both shaped society and been shaped by society. We will, briefly, cover multiple genres throughout history. You will have an assigned playlist of music to listen to in order to complete assignments and contribute to class discussions

## **History of Sports**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)      Credit Type: EL

The sports market is expected to be worth over \$75 billion dollars in North America alone in 2021. In this course we will study sports from ancient times to modern times. We'll learn about some of the most popular sports in America and around the world, and possibly some sports that you haven't heard of before. We'll look at some of sports greatest moments and also look at cultural impacts that sports have had world wide.

## **Major Revolutions- World on Fire-A Survey of Revolutions from World History**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)      Credit Type: EL

This will be a course about chaos. Students will use historical thinking to study what exactly is a revolution, what causes them, and how they end. Our exploration will begin in the United States in 1776 and continue to Haiti, Russia, China, and Iran. But this isn't all! This is also a course about governance. Students will become leaders in the development of the nation of Dunrovia. Completion of tasks will earn you favors from your benevolent dictator, Supreme Leader Duncan. Good behavior will be compensated with lucrative contracts to grow and expand your district. The fate of Dunrovia lies in the hands of the Supreme Leader and the Council of Directors. Let's hope you paid attention in history class.

## **Psychology**

Semester 1 or 2 (.5 credit)      Credit Type: EL

This course is an introductory level course. Psychology is the study of the brain and its function governing human behavior. This course will cover several fields of study including behavior, memory and cognition, social psychology and abnormal psychology. It will provide an overview of major historical psychologists and the development of psychological thought that has led us to modern practice. Students will conduct original research and learn to analyze human behavior, including analysis and prediction.

## **\*AP Psychology**

Year (1 credit)      Credit Type: EL

This course is an introductory college-level course. Psychology is the study of the brain and its function governing human behavior. This course will cover several fields of study including behavior, memory and cognition, social psychology and abnormal psychology. It will provide an overview of major historical psychologists and the development of psychological thought that has led us to modern practice. Students will conduct original research and learn to analyze human behavior, including analysis and prediction.

# **Required Elective**

## **HS Crew**

Year (.25 credit)      Credit Type: EL

Crew is a required elective course that provides a homebase for each Venture student. Students work on building character, community and personal success. Crew provides opportunities to engage in high-leverage college and career preparation activities. Additionally, Crew helps students develop important social-emotional learning strategies and other life skills. Most importantly, Crew is fun!

## Student Options

### **Yearbook**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

Students will build the yearbook for the upcoming year and also create videos for student government, yearbook and possibly other items for the school. Students will learn how to use a DSLR camera, learn the basics of layout design and other video equipment. Students will learn how to promote the yearbook and school events.

### **\*Ogden-Weber Technical College (OTECH)**

Varies

Credit Type: EL

*Option for 11th & 12th grades. To learn more about attending OTECH and receiving college credit, please email Mrs. Norton, the school counselor, at [snorton@venturelearning.org](mailto:snorton@venturelearning.org)*

### **Student Government/Leadership**

Year (1 credit)

Credit Type: EL

*This class is required for class officers and optional for Crew Guardians.* In this course, class officers and Crew Guardians will learn interpersonal communication skills, self-improvement, and use behavioral economics to continue to develop the high school culture at Venture. This class will also plan school activities including in school events (Mega Crews and other activities during the school day) and after school activities (dances, stumps, other activities).

### **CE First Year College Experience**

Semester 2 (.5 credit)

Credit Type: EL

The First Year Experience (FYE) program is designed to help students heading to college make a successful transition into the university community. By learning academic and personal skills such as time management, study skills, stress management, college note-taking, money management, test-taking skills, and more, FYE will help students achieve their educational and individual goals. This is a Concurrent Enrollment course through Weber State that offers 3 elective credits. Available for seniors and juniors only.

### **Study Hall (Structured Work Session)**

Semester 1 or 2 (0 credit)

Credit Type: None

This is a structured work session that will teach study skills, organizational strategies, and provide concentrated work time for students to do their work from other courses. It is a non-credit bearing class and cannot be used to meet state High School Graduation requirements. Students must work on coursework during this class and participate in mini-lessons on study habits, organization strategies, and other important executive functioning skills.

### **Seminary - Released Time**

Year (0 credit)

Credit Type: None

This is a non-credit bearing released time for Venture High School Students who plan to take LDS Seminary Instruction during the school day.

### **Teacher/Office Aide**

Semester or Year (0 credit)

Credit Type: None

This is a non-credit bearing period. Students would be actively assisting the teacher or office. Requires approval and is only for 11/12 graders.

## Venture Higher Academic Study

Semester 1 or 2 (0 credit)

Credit Type: **None**

Available to Venture Higher students, this is a non-credit bearing class for students who would like additional time to study and prepare for their advanced classes. Students will work independently in the Venture Higher Study. Students who fail to work productively, maintain the quiet atmosphere, or follow any other established rules will be moved to study hall or another course. This course cannot be used to meet state High School Graduation requirements. To review the requirements and join Venture Higher please visit <https://www.venturelearning.org/venture-higher>.

## Venture Higher Pathway Examples

### University Pathway Example Path

**Note:** This is only one example. Some courses can be taken a year earlier than illustrated and all can be taken as late as senior year. Plan to craft your path with the school counselor and/or your Venture Higher mentor. Honors, AP, and CE courses often have upward grade adjustments and these courses are positively factored into the valedictorian calculation.

9th	Honors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● English</li> <li>● Science</li> <li>● Math <i>or</i></li> <li>● Social Studies</li> </ul> Band has an honor option
10th	AP Psychology  Honors in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● English</li> <li>● Science</li> <li>● Math <i>or</i></li> <li>● Social Studies</li> </ul>
11th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AP US History (in place of US History)</li> <li>● AP Literature &amp; Composition</li> <li>● CE Comm 2210</li> <li>● CE Art 2450 <i>or</i> AP Drawing</li> <li>● AP Biology</li> </ul>
12th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CE English 1010 &amp; CE English 2015</li> <li>● CE Math 1030 <i>or</i> AP Calculus</li> <li>● AP Physics</li> <li>● CE FYE 1105</li> </ul>

[College General Studies/Certificate of Completion Requirements](#) (core requirements all universities require)