**Hybrid Learning Consortium Core Courses List**

The Hybrid Learning Consortium is able to offer, by special request, a range of core curriculum courses through our wide and expanding network of experienced online teachers. These courses are available on an ongoing basis and also appear on our Upper and Middle School course catalogs only when they have been requested.

This document provides full descriptions of standard core courses we are able to provide to partner schools upon request.

For a complete listing of regular HLC courses that are currently enrolling, please consult our online course catalogs:

- [HLC Upper School Course Catalog](#)
- [HLC Middle School Course Catalog](#)

To request a class -- core or otherwise -- that you do not see listed in the current course catalogs, please contact Sarah Hofstra, Director of Hybrid Learning: [hybridlearning@barstowschool.org](mailto:hybridlearning@barstowschool.org)
Upper School Core Courses

ARTS

Art History AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This full-year course is designed to be the equivalent of a first-year college art history course. It covers topics including the nature and uses of art, the social and historical context of art production, and human responses to art. Students will investigate a wide range of artistic traditions, both historical and contemporary. Over the course, students will develop their analytical faculties through lively class discussions, independent research, and in-depth engagement with individual works.

Music Theory AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This full-year course is comparable to the first year of college music theory where the student learns to deal with music in its own terms, developing a vocabulary of sound, as well as words. The College Board asserts that “the student’s ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental to such a course. It is also strongly recommended that the student will have acquired at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument.” This class integrates aspects of melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, elementary composition and, to some extent, history and style. Musicianship skills such as dictation and other listening skills, sight-singing, and keyboard harmony are considered an important part of this theory class.
ENGLISH & HUMANITIES

English 9
English 9 H
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: None**
Freshmen students examine literature that focuses on social structures, the injustices often inherent in those structures, and the ways in which individuals and groups combat injustice. Synchronous and asynchronous discussions lay the foundation for written responses to texts that are both creative and analytical. Through these responses, students increase knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and research paper techniques.

English 10
English 10 H
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: English 9 or equivalent**
The individual quest for identity in an increasingly chaotic world is the subject of literary study in the sophomore year. Employing literature from around the world, students will ask how and in what context identity is formed. Students will be encouraged to search for connections between primary texts and secondary materials such as poems, short stories, paintings, and music. The curriculum includes a significant research paper during the third quarter.

English 11
English 11 H
English Language & Composition AP
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: English 10 or equivalent**
Students in English 11 will read, discuss, ponder, and write about American fiction, poetry, essays, letters, speeches, and drama. In the fall, we will explore early American writing, such as Emerson, Thoreau, Chopin, and Twain. We will journey into the twentieth century literature in the spring and meet Hemingway, Faulkner, O’Connor, and Morrison. Depending on circumstances, Junior English may also devote time to SAT/ACT and AP exam preparation, academic writing and revision, creative exploration, and precision in written prose and oral pronouncements.

English 12
English 12 H
English Literature & Composition AP
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: English 11 or equivalent**
English 12 allows students the opportunity for focused study in specific subject areas. In small, discussion-oriented sections, students will concentrate on topics such as literary movements, genre study, and thematic groupings. Each fall, seniors will spend time crafting the personal essay for college applications. The English Literature & Composition AP course prepares students for college English courses and for the Advanced Placement exam. The class operates as closely as possible to a college-level course. The course fosters independent thinking through challenging literary analysis, synchronous and asynchronous discussion, and advanced writing assignments.
HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Ancient World History**
*Ancient World History H*
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites:** None; instructor’s permission required to enroll in Honors

Ancient World History surveys the shift from prehistory to the agricultural revolution, the rise of river valley civilizations and early city states, the development of empires during the classical period, and the growth and impact of codified religions. The relationship between religion and empire leads into a study of developments during the post-classical age ending with the medieval period. Along with discussion of these developments, the course emphasizes the development of historical skills and methodology. Students learn to analyze primary documents, dissect sophisticated historical texts, explore the role of physical geography in human history, write scholarly essays, and connect the past to the present through study of current events. Students who enroll in Honors can expect more rigorous requirements on assessments and other assignments.

**Modern World History**
*Modern World History H*
*Modern World History AP*
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites:** None; instructor’s permission required to enroll in Honors or Advanced Placement

Modern World History opens with global developments just before the age of exploration and discovery by examining regional trade routes shifting into a global trade system. Special attention is paid to the impact of the Columbian Exchange on global economic, social, and demographic developments. The course examines political, intellectual, social and economic developments in Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America over the course of the modern era. The course encourages students to consider viewing history through multiples lenses, to analyze primary sources, to think critically, to analyze perspective, and to write lucidly about the past and its impact on the present. Students who elect to enroll in Honors or AP can expect more rigorous requirements on assessments and other assignments. Students who enroll in AP will be required to complete AP practice activities throughout the year, and to take the World History AP exam in May.

**United States History**
*United States History H*
*United States History AP*
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites:** None; instructor’s permission required to enroll in Honors or Advanced Placement

United States History is a chronological survey of the rise of the American nation since Reconstruction. Students survey the nation’s origins from the end of the Civil War to the present. Classes will be devoted to discussion and group analysis of problems within U.S. history. Frequently assigned document-based questions will further an ability to assess primary sources and present relevant arguments. Study includes the development of cultural, political, and religious systems; patterns of continuity and change; causal relationships of historical events; significant historical figures and their impact; intellectual, political, and reform movements; and primary and secondary source analysis. Students use research techniques and technology to create projects and communicate ideas. Students who elect to enroll in Honors or AP can expect more rigorous requirements on assessments and other assignments. Students who enroll in AP will be required to complete AP practice activities throughout the year, and to take the United States History AP exam in May.
Economics AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This course is composed of two one-semester courses designed to prepare the student for successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam in both Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. The semester of Macroeconomics covers basic concepts, measurement of national economic performance, national income and price levels, financial sector characteristics, inflation, unemployment, economic growth, productivity, and international trade. The semester of Microeconomics covers product markets, resource markets, market failure, and the role of government. The course will make extensive use of mathematical reasoning without much formal algebra manipulation.

European History AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Modern World History or equivalent
Taught as a college freshman survey in modern European history, the course closely follows AP guidelines in content and scope. Students learn about major trends from 1450 to the present and examine issues in intellectual, social-economic, and political European history. There is continued work on essay writing, as well as practice on multiple choice and document-based questions for the AP exam. During the course, a student should become much more aware of the role of point of view in approaching the past and the necessity to support his or her point of view with persuasive evidence. Significant efforts are made to relate current problems and developments in Europe to their antecedents as we come across them in the course of study.

Human Geography AP
1 Semester
Prerequisites: None
The AP Human Geography course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth’s surface. Students examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. We will consider issues such as migration, economic development, agriculture, land use, and urbanization as examples of cultural processes that shape and are shaped by geographic forces. A substantial portion of our time and effort will be spent on doing human geography through methods-based fieldwork. The course will prepare students to take the Human Geography AP exam in the spring.

United States Government & Politics AP
1 Semester
Prerequisites: None
This class is an intensive one-semester study of the six key topics mandated by the College Board: constitutional underpinnings of the United States government; political beliefs and behaviors; political parties, interest groups, and mass media; institutions of national government; public policy; and civil rights and liberties. Although students will acquire factual knowledge, they will also be required to critically engage the merits and shortcomings of the American political system, the multi-faceted and often contested nature of citizenship, and their roles and responsibilities within the political process. Through a seminar format and an emphasis upon current events, the class will accentuate the relationship between historical topics and the contemporary period while situating individual students within the broader parameters of U.S. government and politics.
MATHMATICS

Algebra I
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This course includes topics on real numbers, the language of algebra, operations, inverses, order and sets, linear and quadratic equations, factoring, simplifying algebraic expressions, graphing, problem solving, expressions, equations, polynomials, and properties of exponents.

Geometry
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra I or equivalent
Geometry covers definitions, postulates, and theorems as they deal with angles, triangles, perpendicular and parallel lines, planes, congruence, similarity, circles, polygons, area, coordinate methods, specific right triangles, trigonometric functions, arcs and chords, constructions and loci, and transformations. Geometry also provides an introduction to formal logic and proofs. With the instructor’s permission, Geometry may be taken concurrently with Intermediate Algebra, Algebra II, or Algebra II H.

Intermediate Algebra
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra I or equivalent
This course provides further preparation for Algebra II and reviews and strengthens algebra skills. Topics include operations with polynomials, linear & quadratic equations & graphs, functions, linear inequalities, absolute value, rational expressions, determinants, matrices, radicals, rational exponents, and systems of linear equations. With the instructor’s permission, Intermediate Algebra may be taken concurrently with Geometry.

Algebra II
Algebra II H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry or equivalents
This course begins with a review of linear functions and systems. It progresses to the development of quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, and rational and irrational algebraic functions. The course emphasizes the study of a class of functions by definition, graphs, properties, and applications. With the instructor’s permission, Algebra II and Algebra II H may be taken concurrently with Geometry.

Fundamentals of Precalculus
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra II or equivalent
This course begins with a review of Algebra II concepts, which include solving equations graphically, numerically, and algebraically. Other areas of study include modeling with functions, equation solving, graphical transformations, and complex numbers. Ten basic functions will be studied, including quadratic, rational, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, inverse, and trigonometric functions. The idea of the limit will be introduced, with limit notation to describe end behavior and asymptotes. Also, the average rate of change of a function will show the rate of change of a linear function as it relates to the slope.

Precalculus H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra II H or equivalent
This course consists of the following topics: analytic geometry and graphing techniques, exponential and logarithmic functions, polynomial functions, rational functions, trigonometry, circular functions, algebra of functions, and inverse functions. With the instructor’s permission, students who have completed Algebra II (non-honors) to a high degree of accomplishment may be enrolled in Precalculus H.
Fundamentals of Calculus
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Fundamentals of Precalculus, Precalculus H, or equivalent**
This is a college preparatory course covering the fundamental concepts of differential and integral calculus. This course is less rigorous than the Calculus AB and Calculus BC Advanced Placement courses. A review of functions and trigonometry will be incorporated in the beginning of this course. This course will then thoroughly explore limits and their properties, differentiation and applications, and integration and applications, as well as logarithmic, exponential and other transcendental functions. Real-world concepts and business and financial problem solving will be explored.

**Calculus AB AP**
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Precalculus H or equivalent**
This course is designed to meet the requirements set forth by the College Entrance Examination Board for the Calculus AB Advanced Placement Exam. Topics in this course include analytic geometry, limit theorems, differentiation and integration formulas, and transcendental functions. Applications and problem solving are stressed.

**Calculus BC AP**
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Calculus AB AP or equivalent**
This course will meet the requirements described by the College Board for the Calculus BC Advanced Placement Exam. The topics include sequences and series, parametric, polar and vector functions, advanced integration techniques, and first order differential equations. A review of Calculus AB topics is included as part of the BC exam preparation. The Maple computer algebra system is used.

Multivariable Calculus
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Calculus BC AP**
This course covers differential, integral and vector calculus for functions of more than one variable. These mathematical tools and methods are used extensively in the physical sciences, engineering, economics and computer graphics.

**Statistics H**
**Statistics AP**
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Fundamentals of Precalculus, Precalculus H, or equivalent**
Statistics H covers the following areas: elementary counting techniques, discrete and continuous probability distributions, and descriptive and inferential statistics with applications. Computer software used in this course includes Excel and MiniTab. Statistics AP meets the requirements set forth by the College Board for the Statistics Advanced Placement Exam. The topics covered in this course include exploratory data analysis, experimental design, elementary counting techniques, discrete and continuous probability distributions, sampling distributions, and inferential statistics using multiple methods. Applications of the material are stressed throughout the course.

**Mathematical Finance**
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Fundamentals of Precalculus, Precalculus H, or equivalent**
This course identifies the mathematical structure of various financial topics taken from both personal and general finance. Basic probability theory and the theory of exponential and linear functions will be reviewed and used to describe the time value of money, insurance, taxes, investments, credit and loan repayment, amortization and annuities, and income and expense budgeting.
SCIENCES

Biology
Biology H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This full-year program is an introductory laboratory course in the life sciences. Students study the chemistry of life, cell biology, microbiology, genetics, photosynthesis, respiration, evolution, ecology, and the diversity of life. The course includes frequent laboratory and hands-on activities at the partner school. Both Biology and Biology H follow the same curriculum. However, students enrolled in Biology H conduct a year-long independent research project in addition to their daily coursework.

Chemistry H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Biology, Biology H, or equivalent
The focus is on the world of the atom as an entrance into the physical sciences and leads the student into the macroscopic world of data collecting and analysis by exploring the composition and interaction of matter. Techniques of graphing and algebra are used to perform experiments at the partner school. Much of the class time is spent in small groups for problem-solving activities. The course covers the traditional topics of chemistry and encourages the development of critical thinking that can be applied to other areas of the student’s life.

Biology AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Biology, Biology H, Chemistry H, or equivalent
The Advanced Placement Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory laboratory course taken by Biology majors during their first year of college. Students enrolled in Biology AP study topics in each area of emphasis specified by the College Board: molecules and cells; heredity and evolution; and organisms and populations. Additionally, the twelve required AP Biology laboratory exercises are completed throughout the course at the partner school. The course prepares students to take the AP Biology Exam in May.

Chemistry AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Chemistry H or equivalent
This course satisfies the recommendations of the College Board for an Advanced Placement course in Chemistry. The student will explore chemistry topics in depth and focus on more sophisticated and rigorous lab activities at the partner school. The adoption of microscale practices for the AP lab creates a safer and more environmentally friendly approach.

Environmental Science AP
1 Semester
Prerequisites: Biology (H) and Chemistry H or equivalent
This course is designed to be the equivalent of a laboratory-based introductory college level environmental science course. Topics of study include earth systems and resources, ecosystems and energy flow, population biology, land and water use, energy resources and consumption, pollution, and global change. Laboratory work and field studies are an integral component of this course. This course prepares students to take the AP exam in May.

Physics H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Chemistry H and Precalculus or equivalent
This course is an introduction to the major principles of physics including kinematics, dynamics, work and energy, heat, waves, light, sound, electricity, magnetism, and atomic physics, and includes a brief introduction to nuclear physics. Emphasis is placed on problem solving. Regular labs are performed and analyzed at the partner school. Physics simulations, interfaces, and database programs are used to supplement lab work. The relation between physics and mathematics is used to strengthen skills in both areas. With the instructor’s permission, Physics H may be taken concurrently with Precalculus.
Physics C AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Physics H and Calculus AB AP or equivalent
This course satisfies the recommendations of the College Board for the Advanced Placement Physics C Exam. The course involves a calculus-based approach to mechanics (test 1) and electricity/magnetism (test 2). Topics covered include kinematics, vectors, dynamics, rotation, momentum, and energy in mechanics. In electricity/magnetism, we cover electric potential, current, circuits, capacitance, inductance, and Maxwell’s equations. The course maintains a computer-based approach to labs, employing and emphasizing data analysis. With the instructor’s permission, Physics C AP may be taken concurrently with Calculus AB AP.

Computer Science AP
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
The AP Computer Science course is a full year introductory course in computer programming with the programming language Java. Learning the skill to develop computer programs that solve problems is fundamental to the study of computer science. Therefore, much of the course revolves around the development of computer programs or parts of programs that correctly solve a given problem. The course also emphasizes the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and, when appropriate, reusable. This course will also cover other major concepts such as the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms. This course satisfies the recommendations of the College Board for an Advanced Placement course in Computer Science.
WORLD LANGUAGES

**American Sign Language I**
*2 Semesters*
**Prerequisites:** None
This is an introduction to learning and understanding American Sign Language. Students will learn basic vocabulary, letters, numbers, and grammar. Students will also focus on mastering the basics of fingerspelling, colors, and conversational/cultural behaviors necessary to hold a beginning-level conversation in American Sign Language. Introductory information about deaf culture will also be presented, along with deaf humor, to provide students with a broad picture of language and culture.

**American Sign Language II**
*2 Semesters*
**Prerequisites:** American Sign Language I or equivalent
This course is a continuation of American Sign Language I and will introduce students to the more commonly used American Sign Language (ASL) by expanding coverage of ASL’s basic vocabulary, structure, syntax, and grammar. Students will continue to focus on fingerspelling, numbers, facial grammar and sentence structure. Students will also further develop the conversational/cultural behaviors necessary to hold a beginning-level conversation.

**Chinese I**
*2 Semesters*
**Prerequisites:** None
This course is designed to help beginners develop communicative competence in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with special emphasis on Chinese conversation. In the first weeks of Chinese I, the phonetic system called pinyin is mastered. Chinese characters are then introduced, with the goal of mastering 252 characters by the end of the first year. In addition to textbook work, students use Chinese language video and audio materials, and other media to increase proficiency in spoken and written Chinese.

**Chinese II**
*2 Semesters*
**Prerequisites:** Chinese I or equivalent
This intensive course builds on Chinese I, while allowing students an opportunity to review the basic skills to improve both oral and written proficiency. Students learn more complex sentence structures and expressions, and approximately 1000 characters are learned. In addition to the basic textbook, students start to read more extensively on various topics. After eight lessons, students should be able to talk and write about their school lives, leisure activities, health conditions and traveling. By the end of the year, students are able to write short essays and have a working vocabulary of about 1500 words. This course is open to non-native speaking students who have completed Chinese I or to students who pass a competency test.

**Chinese III**
*2 semesters*
**Prerequisites:** Chinese II or equivalent
To complement the development of communicative competence in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, Chinese III students will turn increasingly to literature to improve language fluency and aid in the acquisition of new vocabulary. Emphasis will also be placed on gaining knowledge about Chinese culture, with linguistic and cultural differences between Mainland China and Taiwan consistently pointed out. Chinese III students are expected to use Chinese to interact in class. By the end of the year, students will be able to recognize more than 750 frequently used characters.

**Chinese IV**
*2 Semesters*
**Prerequisites:** Chinese III or equivalent
This course lays the foundations for the AP Chinese Language and Culture course and/or college-level Chinese courses. Chinese IV students use literature and electronic media to improve language fluency and aid in the acquisition of new vocabulary. Emphasis will continue to be placed
on gaining knowledge about Chinese culture, with linguistic and cultural differences between Mainland China and Taiwan consistently pointed out. Chinese IV students are expected to use Chinese to interact in class. By the end of the year, students will be able to recognize more than 1,000 frequently used characters.

**Chinese Language & Culture AP**

**2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: Chinese IV or equivalent**

This course is designed to be comparable to a fourth semester (or equivalent) college or university course in Mandarin Chinese, and prepares students for the Chinese Language and Culture Advanced Placement Exam. The AP course’s main goal is to develop students’ interrelated language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) within an enriched cultural framework. In their exploration of both contemporary and historical Chinese culture, students will utilize level-appropriate authentic materials designed for native speakers, including newspapers, fiction and nonfiction works, plays, poetry, films, and Chinese educational system textbooks.

**ELL I: Culture & Communication**

**2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission**

This course, designed for international students studying – or preparing for study -- in the United States, is a study of the relationship between media communications and social actions and attitudes. Students examine the relationship between cultural values and mass media and their influence on each other. Additionally, students will conduct an analysis of the various media employed in communicating to the masses through an examination of the practices to learn about the possibilities and limitations of each.

**ELL II: Argumentation, Critical Thinking & Speech**

**2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: ELL I or the instructor’s permission**

This course, designed for international students studying – or preparing for study -- in the United States, is aimed to further develop effective oral communication with an emphasis on the development of critical thinking and argumentation. In independent schools where class participation is expected and assessed, second year ELL students will benefit from additional instruction in this area.

**ELL III: Advanced Listening through Media & Culture Studies**

**2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: ELL II or the instructor’s permission**

This course, designed for international students studying – or preparing for study -- in the United States, will focus on practicing standard American English through the use of American media, as well as introducing how the evolution of American media has shaped American culture. TV newscasts, radio programs, documentaries, sports, sitcoms, and of course movies that reflect how Americans use the English language to express their culture and opinions will be viewed. This course is intended to improve and enhance student comprehension of the spoken idiomatic and colloquial use of American English. Emphasis will be on comprehension of standard American English spoken with slang and colloquialism through American media.

**French I**

**2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: None**

This course introduces the fundamental elements of the French language within a cultural context. Emphasis is on the development of basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Upon completion, students should be able to comprehend and respond with grammatical accuracy to spoken and written French as well as demonstrate cultural awareness.

**French II**

**2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: French I or equivalent**

The goal of this course is to further develop students’ proficiency in French. All four language skills (speaking, reading, writing, and listening) are strengthened. The course is integrated into an online platform that delivers audio-visual materials, tutorials, solo and group activities,
flashcards, and practice assessments with immediate feedback. Collaborative and creative projects enhancing the vocabulary covered in each unit are an essential part of this class.

French III
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: French II or equivalent**
In this intermediate level course, students continue to broaden their knowledge of the French language and civilization and to develop their writing and speaking abilities. The introduction of literary texts in the second semester prepares the students for work in the advanced levels.

French IV
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: French III or equivalent**
In this advanced course, students are introduced to literature while continuing to develop proficiency in all areas. Representative works from important literary periods are read and analyzed. Students are expected to write papers, to make oral reports in French, and to actively engage in online class discussions. The course is integrated into an online platform that delivers film shorts and documentaries, tutorials, solo and group activities, flashcards, and practice assessments with immediate feedback.

French Language & Culture AP
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: French IV or equivalent**
This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam in French Language. Students will continue expanding their knowledge of French culture and language by reading literary works and magazine/newspaper articles, and by exploring film and other pertinent materials, such as French TV channels, blogs, etc. Students are expected to communicate exclusively in French. They must also write essays in French to demonstrate the ability to discuss and analyze a variety of topics.

Latin I
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: None**
The Latin I course introduces Latin grammar and vocabulary, Roman culture, mythology, and history. Students will learn to translate and write simple Latin sentences and to identify Greek and Roman word roots within English. Students will actively investigate the Greco-Roman world and the connections between it and their own lives through hands-on learning.

Latin II
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Latin I or equivalent**
The Latin II course builds on the skills and knowledge learned in Latin I. Students will continue to learn Latin grammar and vocabulary and will begin to translate more difficult texts. Students will also continue their exploration of the Classical world.

Latin III
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Latin II or equivalent**
Students in the Latin III course will finish learning general and advanced Latin grammar and vocabulary. Students will learn and to apply advanced analysis techniques as well as essay writing strategies. Students will then begin to read and analyze native Latin texts from authors such as Catullus, Plautus, Caesar or Medieval texts.

Latin Language Survey
2 Semesters
**Prerequisites: Latin III or equivalent**
The fourth year of Latin study will be spent reading unadulterated Latin. During this course, students will review previously learned grammatical items in correspondence with their texts and will also learn new constructions and nuances as they appear in the readings. This class in essence is centered around the translation of ancient sources. The history, scansion, poetic devices, culture, and mythology behind these texts will also be analyzed in order to gain a historical background for the individual authors. The course will typically include one semester of Latin prose and one semester of Latin poetry.
Authors may vary but may include: Catullus, Ovid, Lucretius, Seneca, Pliny the Elder, Tacitus, Sallust, Cicero, Plautus, Terence, or various Medieval texts. The course requires daily work as it can be used as preparation before entering an Advanced Placement Latin course or as a continuation of study for advanced students. Note: Students who have proceeded directly from Latin III to Latin AP may continue on to Latin Literature Survey for “Latin V” credit.

**Latin AP**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: Latin Literature Survey, Latin III, or equivalent**

Students in Advanced Placement Latin will prepare for the AP exam given in May. The current exam covers approximately 1700 lines of Latin from Caesar’ *Commentaries on the Gallic Wars* and Vergil’s *Aeneid*. Students will be expected to translate all of the lines, write essays, and discuss and analyze topics. Students in the course are expected to have advanced knowledge of Latin grammar, Roman history, literature, and culture. A placement test may be required for new students. Note: Students who have proceeded directly from Latin III to Latin AP may continue on to Latin Literature Survey for “Latin V” credit.

**Spanish II**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: Spanish I or equivalent**

During this second level course, students greatly expand their knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and language structures. Students read short stories and novels at ever-increasing levels of sophistication. Projects, such as oral presentations, song writing, and video creation, allow students to synthesize their writing and communication skills. Cultural videos, pop music, class discussions, and collaborative projects help students to continue advancing their listening and speaking skills. Spanish II continues to foster students’ cultural knowledge of the Spanish-speaking world and encourages students to make their own intercultural connections.

**Spanish III**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: Spanish II or equivalent**

Readings, video clips, and activities in Spanish about history, current events, and popular culture are integral to the curriculum. These brief glimpses into Spanish-speaking cultures will cover as many countries as time permits. We will also review and expand upon the fundamental grammatical concepts and begin studies of more sophisticated linguistic structures. To develop verbal skills, students are expected to converse in Spanish during all live meets. The site offers access to all video and listening activities found in the activity workbook. Upon completion of this course, students will have refined their communication skills, developed a better understanding of the diverse Spanish-speaking cultures, and established a higher degree of confidence in their speaking abilities.

**Spanish IV**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: Spanish III or equivalent**

In this advanced course, students continue to develop their verbal and writing skills, broaden their vocabulary, and deepen their understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures and civilizations. Literary selections, articles, and movie shorts engage students in the study of language and culture. Students are expected to actively engage in discussions, write often and make
presentations entirely in the target language. Along with activities that refine the four communication skills, we focus on developing essential abilities for continuing language studies such as note taking and essay writing.

**Spanish Language and Culture AP 2 Semesters**

**Prerequisites: Spanish IV or equivalent**

This advanced course works under the assumption that students have a firm grasp of essential linguistic concepts and are prepared to delve into the nitty-gritty of grammar. Much of the grammar studies will be independent as we use live meets to build skills for more sophisticated communication and literary analysis. Magazine and newspaper articles, a variety of literary pieces, internet pages, short film clips, and other pertinent materials will provide the essential resources for this class. Students will continue to communicate exclusively in Spanish as they discuss literary works and current events. They will have the opportunity to develop their writing skills in a variety of registers, with the expectation that they will incorporate more sophisticated grammar and vocabulary into their communications. The class will prepare students to enroll in intermediate level college courses.
Middle School Core Courses

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This course includes topics on real numbers, the language of algebra, operations, inverses, order and sets, linear and quadratic equations, factoring, simplifying algebraic expressions, graphing, problem solving, expressions, equations, polynomials, and properties of exponents.

Geometry H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra I or equivalent
This course will teach students a broad understanding of proofs, geometric properties, concepts of measurement, construction, and how to apply these concepts to the real world. Emphasis is placed upon precision in language, proofs by direct and indirect methods and algebraic techniques. Additional topics include three-dimensional geometry and three-dimensional coordinate systems. Students will also complete projects that apply their understanding of these geometric principles.

Algebra II H
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry or equivalents
This course begins with a review of linear functions and systems. It progresses to the development of quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, and rational and irrational algebraic functions. The course emphasizes the study of a class of functions by definition, graphs, properties, and applications.

WORLD LANGUAGES

American Sign Language I-A
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This course is the first in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed American Sign Language I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into American Sign Language II as Upper School students. American Sign Language I-A and I-B are an introduction to learning and understanding American Sign Language. Students will learn basic vocabulary, letters, numbers, and grammar. Students will also focus on mastering the basics of fingerspelling, colors, and conversational/cultural behaviors necessary to hold a beginning-level conversation in American Sign Language. Introductory information about deaf culture will also be presented, along with deaf humor, to provide students with a broad picture of language and culture.

American Sign Language I-B
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: American Sign Language I-A or equivalent
This course is the second in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed American Sign Language I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into American Sign Language II as Upper School students. American Sign Language I-A and I-B are an introduction to learning and understanding American Sign Language. Students will learn basic vocabulary, letters, numbers, and grammar. Students will also focus on mastering the basics of fingerspelling, colors, and conversational/cultural behaviors necessary to
hold a beginning-level conversation in American Sign Language. Introductory information about deaf culture will also be presented, along with deaf humor, to provide students with a broad picture of language and culture.

**Chinese I-A**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: None**

This course is the first in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed Chinese I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into Chinese II as Upper School students.

Chinese I-A and I-B are an introduction to the Chinese Language. Students will focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing the Chinese language, as well as gaining understanding of Chinese culture. The classes will also introduce students to Pinyin (phonetic symbols) that are used as a supplementary tool to learn the spoken language. Students will increase proficiency in spoken Chinese using varied resources. Students will also practice Chinese in context with native speakers.

**Chinese I-B**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: Chinese I-A or equivalent**

This course is the second in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed Chinese I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into Chinese II as Upper School students.

Chinese I-A and I-B are an introduction to the Chinese Language. Students will focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing the Chinese language, as well as gaining understanding of Chinese culture. The classes will also introduce students to Pinyin (phonetic symbols) that are used as a supplementary tool to learn the spoken language. Students will increase proficiency in spoken Chinese using varied resources. Students will also practice Chinese in context with native speakers.

**French I-A**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: None**

This course is the first in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed French I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into French II as Upper School students.

French I-A and I-B introduce the fundamental elements of the French language within a cultural context. Emphasis is on the development of basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Upon completion, students should be able to comprehend and respond with grammatical accuracy to spoken and written French as well as demonstrate cultural awareness.

**French I-B**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: French I-A or equivalent**

This course is the second in two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed French I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into French II as Upper School students.

French I-A and I-B introduce the fundamental elements of the French language within a cultural context. Emphasis is on the development of basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Upon completion, students should be able to comprehend and respond with grammatical accuracy to spoken and written French as well as demonstrate cultural awareness.

**Latin I-A**

*2 Semesters*

**Prerequisites: None**

This course is the first in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed Latin I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into Latin II as Upper School students.

Latin I-A and I-B introduce Latin grammar and vocabulary, Roman culture, mythology, and history. Students will learn to translate and write simple Latin sentences and to identify Greek and Roman word roots within English. Students will actively investigate the Greco-Roman world and the connections between it and their own lives through hands-on learning.
Latin I-B
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Latin I-A or equivalent
This course is the second in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed Latin I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into Latin II as Upper School students. Latin I-A and I-B introduce Latin grammar and vocabulary, Roman culture, mythology, and history. Students will learn to translate and write simple Latin sentences and to identify Greek and Roman word roots within English. Students will actively investigate the Greco-Roman world and the connections between it and their own lives through hands-on learning.

Spanish I-A
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: None
This course is the first in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed Spanish I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into Spanish II as Upper School students. Spanish I-A and I-B introduce students to the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Students build a foundational vocabulary, along with a working knowledge of basic language structure. Throughout the course, students learn essential vocabulary and gain a working knowledge of basic language structures. Students develop foundational reading and writing skills by reading short stories and novels and by engaging in creative writing. Videos, music, online discussions, presentations, and collaborative projects cultivate students’ listening and speaking skills. Country studies of Latin America and Spain foster cultural appreciation and provide a platform for making intercultural connections.

Spanish I-B
2 Semesters
Prerequisites: Spanish I-A or equivalent
This course is the second in a two-year sequence. Students who have successfully completed Spanish I-A and I-B will be prepared to matriculate into Spanish II as Upper School students. Spanish I-A and I-B introduce students to the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Students build a foundational vocabulary, along with a working knowledge of basic language structure. Throughout the course, students learn essential vocabulary and gain a working knowledge of basic language structures. Students develop foundational reading and writing skills by reading short stories and novels and by engaging in creative writing. Videos, music, online discussions, presentations, and collaborative projects cultivate students’ listening and speaking skills. Country studies of Latin America and Spain foster cultural appreciation and provide a platform for making intercultural connections.