Dear Students,

What a fascinating time to be a member of the Kents Hill community! As many of you know, our school recently initiated a process of curriculum redesign aimed at readying students for the challenges of the twenty-first century. To that end, we not only rebalanced many of our traditional classes to emphasize skills, character, and reflection, but added a variety of new courses exploring twenty-first-century topics. Over the past year, several events, most notably the COVID-19 pandemic, have continued to shift the way we think about our program. Suddenly, it no longer feels useful to define the Kents Hill experience as mere preparation for the future; the present demands our attention too, challenging us to not only consider the world we will inherit, but to understand the one we inhabit.

It is with great excitement, therefore, that I present the 2020-2021 Curriculum Guide. This document provides descriptions of next year’s courses, and a careful reader will notice that many of those courses will allow students to engage with today’s world in all of its complexity. A pair of timely Science courses, Biochemistry of Nutrition and Global Public Health, will introduce students to major health-related problems in the U.S. and around the world, while the interdisciplinary Environmental Economics will explore the benefits and considerable costs of natural resource exploitation. A reconceptualized version of the Social Studies Department’s United Nations class will not only study the institution’s origins, structure, and legislative processes, but also examine the ways in which the U.N. participated in, and impacted, the last half-century’s major events. A new art course, Art and Entrepreneurship, will look at the contemporary marketplace for creative work and show students how to start, manage, and develop their own arts-oriented businesses. And, in addition to these new classes, our recently expanded Character Education Program will allow students to acquire greater self-knowledge, learn about several ethical frameworks, and, ultimately, practice using these frameworks to wrestle with both personal and institutional problems.

I encourage you to read and discuss this Curriculum Guide with your family, friends, and advisor in the coming weeks and to let me know if you have questions. I truly believe there is something here for everyone, and I hope you find our evolving academic program as interesting, innovative, and relevant to this unique moment as I do.

Best wishes as you continue your Kents Hill journey,

Dr. Benjamin Priest
Dean of Academics
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ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

Academic Philosophy
In a rigorous, yet supportive academic community, where self-discovery and ethical scholarship are highly prized, we prepare each student to appreciate and value the joys and responsibilities of life-long learning; the creative wonder of the arts; the beauty and fragility of our shared environment; and the importance of diversity of thought and experience.

Credits
Kents Hill School awards 1 credit for each successfully completed yearlong course and 1/2 credit for each semester course. Successful completion of each yearlong course entails earning two semester grades that, when averaged together, result in a passing grade for the year. Students may receive 1/2 credit by earning a passing grade for one semester but failing the course for the year.

Kents Hill School also awards 1/2 credit to students who enroll for part of a school year. Students joining Kents Hill prior to the end of the first quarter will be treated as full-year students and may earn credit accordingly; students who enroll after the first quarter concludes will be treated as midyear students and receive 1/2 credit for each successfully completed course. With the noteworthy exception of students participating in the academic exchange program, students who leave Kents Hill School before the end of the year will be awarded 1/2 credit for each successfully completed semester course.

Graduation Requirements
Students must fulfill the requirements below to receive a Kents Hill diploma. Students in exceptional circumstances may receive waivers for some requirements; all waivers must be approved by the Dean of Academics and the Director of College Counseling. Please note that students must be enrolled until graduation. Kents Hill School does not graduate students early.

4-Year Students

English: 4 credits (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times)
Mathematics: 3 credits (including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or beyond)
Social Studies: 3 credits (including 1 credit of United States History)
Science: 3 credits (including 1 credit of Biology and 1 credit of either Chemistry or Physics)
World Languages: 2 credits and completion of 200-level coursework in a language
Arts: 2 credits (1/2 credit must be in Visual Arts and 1/2 credit in Performing Arts)
Environmental Studies: 1/2 credit

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 20 (including additional coursework in any of the subjects listed above).

3-Year Students

English: 3 credits (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times)
Mathematics: 2 credits (including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or beyond)
Social Studies: 2 credits (including 1 credit of United States History)
Science: 2 credits (including 1 credit of Biology and 1 credit of either Chemistry or Physics)
World Languages: 1 credit (including completion of 200-level coursework in a language)
Arts: 2 credits (1/2 credit must be in Visual Arts and 1/2 credit in Performing Arts)
Environmental Studies: 1/2 credit

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 15 (including additional coursework in any of the subjects listed above).

2-Year Students

English: 2 credits (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times)
Mathematics: 1 credit (must be Algebra 2 if not previously taken)
Social Studies: 1 credit (must be United States History if not previously taken)
Science: 1 credit (must be Biology or either Chemistry or Physics if not previously taken)
World Languages: 1 credit of 200-level coursework in a language if not previously taken
Arts: 1/2 credit (which may be fulfilled by either Visual Arts or Performing Arts)
Environmental Studies: 1/2 credit
Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 10 (including additional coursework in any of the subjects listed above).

1-Year Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>1 credit (each student must be enrolled in an English course at all times)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>1 credit of Algebra 2 if not previously taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>1 credit of United States History if not previously taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>1 credit of Biology or either Chemistry or Physics if not previously taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages</td>
<td>1 credit of 200-level coursework in a language if not previously taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>1/2 credit (which may be fulfilled by either Visual Arts or Performing Arts)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Kents Hill credits required to graduate: 5 (including additional coursework in any of the subjects listed above).

Course Load

Students in grades 9-12 must be enrolled in 6 classes at all times. Exceptions to this policy are rare and must be approved by the Dean of Academics.

Students with sufficient credits, both aggregate and departmental, are promoted to the next grade level according to these guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th grade</td>
<td>5 credits, including 1 of English and 1 of mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th grade</td>
<td>10 credits, including 2 of English, 2 of mathematics, 1 of social studies, and 1 of science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th grade</td>
<td>15 credits, including 3 of English, 2 of mathematics, 2 of social studies, 2 of science, and 1 in a world language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>High School diploma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Selections

Students are encouraged to carry challenging but manageable course loads. Schedules are finalized toward the end of the summer based on grades, teacher recommendations, enrollment numbers, scheduling conflicts, and departmental permission. Every effort is made to provide the best schedule for each student, and the Dean of Academics, the College Counseling Office, and faculty advisors work closely to ensure that students have strong academic records to present to colleges.

Course Changes

Course changes may be made during the first two weeks of the fall semester and the first week of the spring semester. Students must obtain permission from the Dean of Academics and, in the case of juniors, seniors, and postgraduates, their college counselors.

Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement courses are rigorous classes that follow College Board syllabi and culminate in external exams each May. All Advanced Placement students are required to take AP exams and pay the requisite fees. Students who wish to enroll in AP courses must have strong academic backgrounds and obtain instructor permission. See course descriptions for offerings and prerequisites.

Dual-Enrollment Programs

Kents Hill School partners with the University of Maine at Farmington, the University of Maine at Augusta, and Thomas College to provide advanced students with opportunities to complete college coursework. Qualified Kents Hill instructors work with college professors to design and teach Dual-Enrollment courses in the sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities using approved college-level syllabi. Students who complete these courses earn high school credit, as well as college credit from the participating institution. See the course descriptions below for Dual-Enrollment offerings and prerequisites. Additional course fees apply.

Independent Studies and Professional Internships

Any student who wishes to undertake an independent study or complete a professional internship must work with a faculty member to present a proposal to the Dean of Academics prior to the start of the school year. The proposal must include a syllabus or a detailed description of an internship. It must also have the support of a faculty sponsor and the appropriate department chair.
### Academic Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100 - 97</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96 - 93</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92 - 90</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89 - 87</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86 - 83</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82 - 80</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79 - 77</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>76 - 73</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>72 - 70</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69 - 67</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>66 - 63</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>62 - 60</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 - 0</td>
<td>(Fails to meet minimum course requirements)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/P</td>
<td>Withdrawn with a passing grade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/F</td>
<td>Withdrawn with a failing grade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INC</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pass (Meets course requirements)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Semester grades appear on the school transcript; cumulative GPA is recalculated at the end of each semester.

### Effort Grades

Effort grades assess areas such as class attendance, class preparation, homework, participation, initiative and motivation, and the degree of care exhibited in the work. The following effort grades are awarded:

1. **Excellent**: Identifies excellent effort, represented by active class participation, thorough study and preparation, and an eager attempt to master the material of the course.
2. **Satisfactory**: Indicates good class participation and adequate fulfillment of course assignments carefully prepared and submitted on time.
3. **Needs Improvement**: Represents little effort, reflected in occasional unexcused absences or lateness, lack of preparation for class or inattentiveness in class, some failure to submit required work, poorly prepared work, and/or failure to seek help.
4. **Unacceptable**: Reflects a consistent failure to complete assignments, a lack of class participation, failure to seek extra help, consistent inability to participate in class when called upon, and lack of initiative in making up missed work.

Effort grades do not appear on the school transcript.

### Weighting

Kents Hill weights Honors, AP, and Dual-Enrollment courses. For each Honors course, 0.5 points are added to the student’s GPA; that number is then multiplied by the number of credits earned and divided by the number of credits attempted. The same weighting formula is used for AP and Dual-Enrollment courses, except that students earn 0.75 additional points for AP classes and 1 additional point for Dual-Enrollment classes. Students are encouraged to see the Dean of Academics for clarity on weighting.

### School Reports

Kents Hill student grade reports are released through the school website at the end of each semester.

### Honors Recognition

At the end of each semester, Kents Hill School recognizes those students who have attained academic excellence and/or excellent effort in their studies at Convocation. The Honor Roll is defined as:

- **Honors with Distinction**: An academic average of at least 4.0, no grade below A-
- **Honors**: An academic average of at least 3.5, no grade below B-
Effort Honors 1’s (“excellent” effort grades) and up to two 2’s (“satisfactory” effort grades)

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Academic Coaching Program
Kents Hill’s Academic Coaching Program offers support for students in the context of a college preparatory curriculum and is fully part of the culture of Kents Hill. Our unique mix of students, with Academic Coaching Program students included in the academic program with all other students, creates a community where the talents and contributions of all are valued.

The Academic Coaching Program pairs students with adult mentors who are fully committed to ensuring that students thrive in all aspects of school life and are prepared to tackle college and beyond with self-confidence, self-determination, and self-advocacy. To best fit the needs of individual students and their families, the Academic Coaching Program offers two levels of support. Level 1 Support provides private, one-on-one Academic Coaching; three formal meetings with an Academic Coach each week; and an individualized learning plan focused on strengths, opportunities, and feedback. Level 2 Support provides small-group Academic Coaching based on common learning profiles; three meetings with an Academic Coach per week; and an individualized learning plan. Additional fees apply for both levels of Academic Coaching. Please consult the Admissions Office for specifics.

English Language Support
English Language Support is available to students who do not speak English as their first language. Kents Hill offers two levels of support. In the first, students receive support from a language teacher in a group setting that allows for instructional guidance with independence. In the second, students work one-on-one with a language teacher for more comprehensive support.

Academic Gap Year Program
The Academic Gap Year provides high school graduates with opportunities to broaden their horizons, nurture their personal growth, and evaluate their personal and professional goals before college. Individualized programs and faculty mentors help students sharpen their skills while allowing ample time to pursue the arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities. Additional benefits include internship and travel opportunities, regular college counseling sessions, and the chance to earn transferable college credit through our Dual-Enrollment program.

Each AGY student works with the Dean of Academics, the Director of the AGY Program, and the Director of College Counseling to create a personalized course of study that reflects the student’s interests and college goals. All AGY students take at least 3 classes while fulfilling extracurricular and internship opportunities and completing a culminating capstone project.

College Counseling Program
The College Counseling Office works as a team to support each student and family through the college search, application, and enrollment process. College Counseling begins formal programming with students in the junior year. Through group workshops and individual appointments, college counselors introduce students to a variety of topics, including standardized test preparation and registration, course selection, how to research colleges, college affordability and financial aid, scholarship opportunities, athletic recruitment and the NCAA eligibility process, and preparation for art and music portfolios and auditions.

Over the course of their relationship, counselors listen as students voice their priorities, interests, and concerns and, using online and print resources as well as their own personal experience and knowledge, help students identify the best possible college fit.

Character Education Program
Kents Hill School’s Character Education Program consists of four main pillars: Community Health and Wellness, Identity, Ethics, and Values in Action. All students in grades 9-12 explore these pillars in a series of age-appropriate and purposefully designed seminars that help them develop personal character, better understand themselves and their communities, and wrestle with real-world problems. Character Education seminars also include relevant twenty-first-century knowledge and provide frequent opportunities to practice essential skills (in particular communication and critical thinking) and reflect on character-based growth. Grades 9-12 students are enrolled in Character Education seminars each semester they attend Kents Hill.
Global Programming
Kents Hill School offers several global learning opportunities throughout the academic year. Options include academic exchanges with international schools, cultural explorations, linguistic excursions, and domestic travel opportunities. International travel destinations have included France, Spain, South Africa, Australia, and various European countries. All students are encouraged to participate in these trips at any stage of their learning. Academic exchanges are offered to sophomores and juniors only; participants are chosen based on an application process and are vetted by the Dean of Academics.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

THE ARTS

The Arts Department’s mission is to provide all students with opportunities to develop their appreciation of the arts. Kents Hill offers variety, depth, and growth to every student and nurtures creative environments in which students feel safe, supported, and appropriately challenged. All students must complete two years of art (including 1/2 credit visual arts and 1/2 credit performing arts) to meet Kents Hill’s graduation requirements. Courses awarding visual and performing arts credits are specifically designated as such, as are interdisciplinary classes. The Arts Department offers courses at the 100-600 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 101: First-Year Arts Seminar
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
The First-Year Arts Seminar is designed to give students basic foundations in the visual and performing arts. The course is taught in three sections by three different instructors, each focusing on a specific scope and topic. (Previous versions of the course have included introductions to Drawing and Painting, Ceramics, Woodworking, and Performing Arts.) The course provides the necessary background for students interested in pursuing introductory courses offered by the department. Additional course fees apply.

VISUAL ARTS

200-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 201: Ceramics
Full-year course (1 credit visual art)
College Prep
A semester course designed to introduce students to various methods of creating art with clay as the medium. Students will learn the four primary methods of construction and various glazing techniques while using several clay bodies. Students will also learn more advanced techniques such as mold making and slip casting, as well as wheel throwing. Projects will range from creating sculptural pieces to functional wares while giving the students creative freedom to develop their artist voices. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 211: Community Designing and Building
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Spring 2021
College Prep
This course will focus on the designing and building needs of the Kents Hill Community. Students will identify instances where design can make a positive impact on our campus or community and work together to create project proposals. We will then work as a class to create one-of-a-kind objects of value that enrich the quality of life on campus. Projects will range from garden beds to boat building, office furniture, and furniture restoration. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 221: Digital Media 1
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Fall 2020
College Prep
This two-course series is intended for students who want to explore the ever-expanding world of commercial art, logo design, photo manipulation, and new media. Digital Media combines the principles of art and design with the digital tools of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. The basic elements of art and design such as color, composition, visual emphasis, typography and ligature,
composition, line, and color are focal points in each project. In this course, with the use of Photoshop, digital photographs are manipulated to create expressive artworks. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 231: Drawing and Painting  
Full-year course (1 credit visual art)  
College Prep  
The first half of this course is designed to help students develop basic drawing skills. Using various mediums including pencil, pen, and charcoal, students will learn how to see as an artist sees and through a series of drawings, will become comfortable rendering from observation. Principles such as proportion, perspective, composition, negative/positive space relationships, value, and shading are all taught through various drawing projects. Upon completion of the first half of the course, students move into painting. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 241: Green Woodworking  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art OR 1/2 credit environmental studies): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
This course focuses on the basic techniques of green woodworking, in other words, using wood directly from the tree. Students will learn the anatomy of the trees and how it used to create forest products such as lumber. Participants will be instructed on the safe and proper use of hand tools and techniques for creating greenwood furniture and sculptures. The course will also dive into issues of sustainability including the growth and harvesting of trees. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 251: Metalsmithing and Jewelry  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Spring 2021  
College Prep  
This is a semester long course that is designed to introduce students to working with metal from a fine art or jewelry perspective. Students will work with copper and silver as they learn to design functional and sculpture work. Some of the skills they will learn will include using a jeweler’s saw, soldering, riveting, sanding, patina, and stone setting. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 261: Photography 1  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
This two-course series is an introduction to the art and science of taking photographs. Students will explore the history of photography and the technology artists have used over the past century to capture images on film. The class primarily focuses on the use of DSLR cameras, Photoshop, and Lightroom. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 271: Sculpture  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
This course explores concepts and processes associated with: form, volume, line, space, texture, additive, subtractive, casting, and fabrication. Students will use a variety of materials in the sculpture making process including: clay, cardboard, wood, and found objects. Students will also have the opportunity to explore plaster casting and figure modeling. Contemporary issues related to sculpture will be explored through group readings, individual research, and classroom critique. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 281: Woodworking and Design  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Fall 2020 and Spring 2021  
College Prep  
This course will focus on fundamental design principles and woodworking techniques. Students will learn creative problem-solving skills through a variety of projects and construction methods. Students will be instructed on the safe and proper use of woodworking machines including the table saw, jointer, planer, hand saw, chisels, and hand planes. Participants will learn how to transform sketches into technical drawings and scale models, then fabricate those ideas into finished pieces. Through slideshows, lectures, and field trips students will be introduced to the techniques and concepts of historical and contemporary furniture design. Additional course fees apply.

300-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 301: Advanced Woodworking and Design  
Full-year course (1 credit visual art)  
College Prep
This year-long woodworking course will allow students to create in-depth woodworking projects. The course will focus on advanced machine processes and specific techniques such as steam bending, veneering, and cabinet construction. With an emphasis on design and personal development, students will create substantial projects throughout the year that fulfill their self-determined woodworking goals. Prerequisites: Woodworking and Design or Green woodworking. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 311: Art of Short Film  
Full-year course (1 credit visual art)  
College Prep  
This full-year course is a full-year investigation into the art of making short films. All aspects of filmmaking are covered including storyboarding, direction, camera usage and cinematography, editing, sound design, and post-production using Adobe Premiere software. Students create short films of different genres including suspense, action/chase, and documentary-style films. Video cameras are provided. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 32: Art and Entrepreneurship  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
This class explores entrepreneurship within the realm of the visual and performing arts. We will take a look at the process of creating a small business and the broad range of creative energy this process takes. We will investigate product design, production costs, web design, marketing, and sales. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 331: Art History: A Survey of North American Design  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Spring 2021  
College Prep  
This one-semester survey course is focused on influential artists and designers from North America. We will explore a variety of mediums and products from furniture and fashion to industrial design and architecture. Students will gain an appreciation for craft, design, and culture through a mixture of exercises, ranging from lectures to field trips and hands-on design projects. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 341: Digital Media 2  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Spring 2021  
College Prep  
This two-course series is intended for students who want to explore the ever-expanding world of commercial art, logo design, photo manipulation, and new media. Digital Media Design combines the principles of art and design with the digital tools of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. The basic elements of art and design such as color, composition, visual emphasis, typography and ligature, composition, line, and color are focal points in each project. In this course, Illustrator is used as a creative tool in order to design posters, logos, T-shirts, tri-folds, and other products. Prerequisite: Digital Media 1. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 351: Photography 2  
Semester course (1/2 credit visual art): Spring 2021  
College Prep  
A deeper exploration of the practices and techniques used by photographers to hone their voice. We will dive deeper into Adobe Suite, branching from Lightroom into Photoshop. We will introduce concepts relating to studio photography and work at cultivating a personal voice through our photos. Prerequisite: Photography 1. Additional course fees apply.

500-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 501: AP Two-Dimensional Studio Art  
Full-year course (1 credit visual art)  
Advanced Placement  
This course is intended for juniors, seniors, and Academic Gap Year students who are serious about art and are considering a major or minor in art in college. Students will prepare an art portfolio for the AP 2-D or the Drawing Studio Art exam in May and as a supplement for their college applications. The goals of this course are to encourage creative as well as systemic investigation of formal and conceptual issues; to emphasize art as an ongoing process involving informed and critical decision-making; to develop technical skills and to familiarize students with the functions of the visual elements. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

VPA 511: AP Three-Dimensional Studio Art  
Full-year course (1 credit visual art)
Advanced Placement
This course is intended for juniors, seniors, and Academic Gap Year students who are serious about art and are considering a major or minor in art in college. Students will prepare an art portfolio for the AP 2-D, 3-D or the Drawing Studio Art exam in May and as a supplement for their college applications. The goals of this course are to encourage creative as well as systemic investigation of formal and conceptual issues; to emphasize art as an ongoing process involving informed and critical decision-making; to develop technical skills and to familiarize students with the functions of the visual elements. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

PERFORMING ARTS

200-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 202: Introduction to Electronic Composition
Semester course (1/2 credit performing art): Fall 2020 and Spring 2021
College Prep
This semester-long course will focus on the fundamentals of music, notation, rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, texture, and form. Students will take that musical knowledge and learn how to compose music in various electronic media. Using our recording studio, students will learn the nuance of recording, mixing, editing, sampling, and producing music. Students will create high-quality recordings and electronic compositions using a wide array of tools and techniques. No specific prior training is required. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 212: Introduction to Guitar
Semester course (1/2 credit performing art): Fall 2020 and Spring 2021
College Prep
Introduction to Guitar welcomes any level of guitar player. In this semester-long course, students will focus on the fundamentals of guitar, reading music notation, playing techniques, and literature. Students are not required to perform publicly as part of the course, but playing opportunities will be available within the Kents Hill community for those who would like them. No prior musical training needed. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 222: Kents Hill Orchestra
Full-year course (1 credit performing art)
College Prep
Kents Hill Orchestra is an instrumental ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of traditional symphonic music including strings, brass, woodwinds, and percussion. This is a full-year course open to all students who play an instrument and would like to perform as a group and enrich their instrumental music education. We will learn and review musical notation, symbols, and terminology so as to perform our selections with technical and expressive accuracy. This group will perform extensively throughout the year and participation in concerts and other scheduled events is required. Additional course fees apply.

VPA 232: Kents Hill Singers
Full-year course (1 credit performing art)
College Prep
Kents Hill Singers is a vocal ensemble dedicated to the study and performance of vocal music from a variety of genres and styles. This is a full-year course open to all students who want to sing together as a group and enrich their choral music education. We will learn and review musical notation, symbols, and terminology so as to perform our selections with technical and expressive accuracy. Learning to sing safely and correctly will also be emphasized. This group will perform extensively throughout the year and participation in concerts and other scheduled events is required. No prior singing experience necessary. Additional course fees apply.

300-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 302: Introduction to Live Performance
Full-year course (1 credit performing art)
College Prep
This full-year course will give you an introduction to the elements of producing live performances. Students, using our recording studio, will produce live content bi-weekly for the greater Kents Hill community. Students will take on all of the different roles required for live production including camera work, lighting, sound, scriptwriting, acting, and directing. Original content can range from podcasts, radio, live performance skits, or live comedy skits. Additional course fees apply.
600-LEVEL COURSES

VPA 602: Western Classical Tradition in Music
Full-year course (1 credit performing art OR 1 credit Social Studies)
Dual-enrollment
When you listen to music—on the radio, on your phone, or at a concert—how much do you really hear? This course refines students’ listening skills through the study of major composers, styles, genres, and historical revolutions in the music of the Western Classical tradition. We will explore music from the Middle Ages to the Modern era through a social-historical lens. Genres to be covered include Gregorian chant, choral music, the symphony, string quartet, sonata, opera, popular song, jazz music, and experimental music. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

ENGLISH

Kents Hill’s English program provides college-bound students with regular opportunities to develop proficiency in reading, speaking and listening, and writing. Our course sequence introduces students to literature from a range of authors, time periods, and literary forms, and all courses promote skill development through discussions, presentations, creative work, and traditional essay writing. In keeping with Kents Hill School’s 4D curriculum framework, English classes also include extensive investigation of character-related issues and multiple opportunities for student reflection. Each student is enrolled in an English course at all times and is required to complete at least four credits of English in order to graduate. Kents Hill offers English courses at the 100-600 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 101/111/121: English Foundations
Full-year program (3 credits)
College Prep
This program offers a year of comprehensive English instruction to students who are still developing their proficiencies in reading, speaking and listening, and writing. Students enrolled in English Foundations acquire the knowledge and skills needed for further coursework by taking three interconnected classes: ENG 101: Scaffolding for Reading Comprehension, ENG 111: Complex Communication, and ENG 121: Writing Foundations. Like subsequent courses, Foundations explores one unifying topic each year, allowing students to engage with contemporary issues as they develop the competencies that will allow them to thrive at Kents Hill.

200-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 201: The Nature of Self
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
The Nature of Self is an entry-level English course designed to introduce students to several genres of literature and build their communication skills. Throughout the year, students will read essays, personal narratives, poetry, short fiction, and novels that interrogate the ways in which people construct their identities. They will also embark on their own journeys of self-discovery through the writing they produce, learning how to present their ideas, tell their stories, and form their arguments.

ENG 211: Honors The Nature of Self
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
The Honors version of The Nature of Self is a writing-intensive, seminar-style introduction to participating in the literary arts as a conscientious reader, writer, and conversationalist. Students will read deeply across genres and think critically about language as both artistic expression and a practical tool for communication. Like the College Prep version of the class, the Honors course will also investigate the ways in which works of literature represent and question constructions of identity. Freewriting, journal entries, creative assignments, and formal essays will improve students’ communication skills and instill in them responsible habits for reading, writing, and thinking across academic disciplines.

300-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 301: Multicultural Literature
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Multicultural Literature is a year-long course that introduces Kents Hill students to literature from around the world. The course examines work from a wide range of cultures and carefully considers each text’s unique social and historical circumstances. Although specific reading assignments vary from year to year, students always encounter multiple genres and forms and grow familiar with such foundational literary elements as character, setting, theme, and point of view. Multicultural Literature also builds upon the heavy skills focus of the 100- and 200-level English courses by continuing to emphasize the development of several skill areas, particularly reading, speaking and listening, and writing.

ENG 311: Honors Multicultural Literature
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
Multicultural Literature is a year-long course that introduces Kents Hill students to literature from around the world. The Honors version of this class examines work from a range of cultures and considers each text’s historical context, but also features a heavier and more challenging reading load, including multiple college-level reading assignments. Like their peers, Honors students encounter a variety of genres and forms and study important literary elements. Multicultural Literature also builds upon the heavy skills focus of the 100- and 200-level English courses by continuing to emphasize the development of several skill areas, particularly reading, speaking and listening, and writing. Honors students complete activities to bolster reading comprehension and interpersonal communication skills, but also hone advanced skills by giving regular presentations and participating in graded seminar discussions.

400-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 401: American Literature
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course affords students the opportunity to explore the American experience from two directions, combining the chronology of history with a critical approach to literature. The primary goal of the class is to build solid interpretive reading skills and teach the process of analytical writing through intensive classroom discussion and regularly scheduled critical papers. Typical texts include but are not limited to: *The Crucible*, “Bartleby the Scrivener,” *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,* *Their Eyes Were Watching God,* *The Great Gatsby,* and *A Lesson Before Dying.*

ENG 411: Honors American Literature
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
This Honor course is designed to both explore the American experience and develop academic rigor for the student that may be interested in Advanced Placement English down the road. Movements such as Puritanism, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, and Modernism are considered, through a core of American authors such as Twain, Melville, and Miller. The class teaches reading, reacting, and writing, with an emphasis on the critical essay and the research paper.

500-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 501: Global Voices, Global Perspectives
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Global Voices, Global Perspectives is a year-long course that introduces students to writers, artists, and thought leaders from around the world who are speaking about contemporary issues that transcend geographical borders. Through a diverse range of perspectives, we will engage with these voices as mirrors to better understand our own experiences and as windows to investigate the world around us. The course focuses on developing critical skills of reading, writing, thinking, questioning, and engaging in dialogue; seeks to develop strong habits of learning and doing; and intersects with Kents Hills focus on character. Through these competencies, students will hone their voices and agency so that they are empowered to think, act, and communicate for impact.

ENG 511: Environmental Literature
Semester course (1/2 credit): Spring 2021
College Prep
Environmental Literature will attempt to unpack the human understanding of the environment by engaging with the works of classic environmental writers. The course will investigate the bifurcation of man and the natural world, and utilize the biocentric and anthropocentric worldviews in an attempt to unify the two, should that be deemed possible and appropriate. Students will learn to find and unify themes within the works of John Muir, Edward Abbey, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, and others. Students will also compose their own environmental literature. This course satisfies the Environmental Studies graduation requirement.
ENG 521: Public Communication
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020 and Spring 2021
College Prep
This class covers the theory and practice of public communication. It starts by identifying the challenges of public speaking and analyzing well-known speeches. Students practice the organization, writing, and delivery of speeches, working both independently and in groups. Assignments include speeches devoted to special occasions, personal experiences, communicating information, and persuading an audience. The course also focuses on anxiety management, speech design, active listening, and communication ethics. Students will have the opportunity to interact with audiences in and outside the class.

ENG 531: Creative Writing
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Creative writing is designed to help students develop their creative expression through the written word. This will be a workshop class; students will write every day. Students will explore the craft and art of creative writing and use their discoveries to learn how to identify successful elements of creative writing, develop oral and written articulation skills by properly and thoughtfully giving and receiving feedback, experience the wonders and intellectual empowerment of a “writing community,” and use writing as a tool for self-discovery and scholarly exploration. Students will write non-fiction, fiction, and poetry in this course, and they will have the opportunity to assist in the publication of Juxtapose, Kents Hill’s literary magazine.

ENG 541: AP English Literature and Composition
Full-year course (1 credit)
Advanced Placement
Designed to mimic a college-level course, AP English explores a variety of literary genres in intensive, student led, daily discussions moderated by the instructor. In addition to regularly scheduled short papers and longer critical analyses, students prepare for the AP exam by writing weekly in-class essays from previous AP exams. Readings include but are not limited to novels, plays, and poems from authors such as Joseph Conrad, Robert Penn Warren, Toni Morrison, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Virginia Woolf, Leslie Marmon Silko, Walt Whitman, Maya Angelou, Richard Wright, and Samuel Beckett. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

600-LEVEL COURSES

ENG 601: College Writing Seminar
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
College Writing Seminar is a rigorous, year-long course that focuses on a variety of college-level essay genres. Students will draw on personal experiences, reading assignments, and original research as they explore a unifying course topic or theme; written assignments will include narratives, analyses, argumentative essays, and research papers about the same topic or theme. Prerequisites: instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

MATHEMATICS

Students are required to complete at least three years of mathematics. The department, along with College Counseling, strongly recommends a fourth year and students should be aware that most selective colleges require four years of high school mathematics. All students are expected to complete two years of algebra, through Algebra 2, and one year of geometry. Unless otherwise stated, all students must have a TI-84 graphing calculator or equivalent. Math courses are offered at the 100-500 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 101: Algebra 1
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course includes the solution of linear equations and inequalities, graphing, factoring, rational expressions, real numbers, and higher degree polynomials. This course will culminate in an introduction to the Quadratic Equation.

200-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 201: Geometry
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
In this course, students will explore the theorems and properties of geometric figures such as circles, lines, triangles, and other polygons. While gaining knowledge of and speaking a new mathematical language, students will learn to think critically and rationally. Trigonometry will be studied in the latter part of the year. Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

MAT 211: Honors Geometry
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
In this course, students will explore the theorems, proofs, and properties of geometric figures such as circles, lines, triangles, and other polygons. While gaining knowledge of and speaking a new mathematical language, students will learn to think critically and rationally. In the Honors-level Geometry course, students will cover trigonometry topics and the year will culminate with a study of both two- and three-dimensional geometry including area, surface area, and volume. Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

300-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 301: Algebra 2
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course includes the study of second-degree equations and inequalities, factoring, the quadratic formula, exponents, complex numbers, logarithms, functions, right triangle trigonometry and conic sections. Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry.

MAT 311: Honors Algebra 2
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
Honors Algebra 2 is a rigorous course that includes the study of second-degree equations and inequalities, factoring, the quadratic formula, exponents, complex numbers, logarithms, functions, right triangle trigonometry and conic sections with a greater emphasis on functions and graphing than the college prep course. Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry.

400-LEVEL COURSES

MAT 401: Math and Finance
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020 and Spring 2021
College Prep
This course introduces students to the basic mathematics of money management. Simply put, many people do not know how to manage their money. 80% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck. Student loans in America have reached over $1.5 TRILLION! This course shows students how to stay out of debt, build wealth, and live prosperous and productive lives. The course will use a combination of classroom discussion, instruction, infographics, activities, projects, role plays, case studies, videos, group work, readings, essays and individual reflections to cover the content. Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra 2.

MAT 411: Statistics and Probability
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course is designed as an introduction to the topics of statistics and probability. Using a hands-on, practical approach, students will visualize and understand data, conduct surveys and experiments, look at distributions of data, and conduct significance tests. TI calculators are used extensively. Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra 2.

MAT 421: Precalculus
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course extensively covers graphing of inverse, quadratic, and higher degree functions, then shifts into exponential and logarithmic functions. Precalculus culminates with a deep dive into the study of Trigonometry. Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra 2.

MAT 431: Honors Precalculus
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
This fast-paced honors level course is offered to students who intend to take AP Calculus AB the following year. Chapters 1 and 2 will be covered through summer work and the course will begin with exponential and logarithmic functions. Trigonometry will be covered extensively, followed by Analytic Geometry and an introduction to Calculus and Limits to culminate the year. Prerequisites: Geometry and Honors Algebra 2.

### 500-LEVEL COURSES

**MAT 501: Calculus**  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
College Prep  
This course is designed as an introduction to Calculus before entering higher-level math in college. Major course topics will parallel those of AP Calculus, including limits, derivatives, integrals, but will not be driven by the external AP Curriculum, giving the course great flexibility in depth and breadth of topics. Prerequisite: Precalculus. Instructor permission required.

**MAT 511: AP Calculus (AB)**  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
Advanced Placement  
This course follows the Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB syllabus, designed to prepare the students for the AP exam in May. Topics include limits, derivatives, integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Students will learn to use these techniques for solving instantaneous rate of change, deepen understanding of exponential growth and decay, finding areas of regions, and volumes of solids. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Prerequisites: Honors Precalculus and instructor permission.

**MAT 521: AP Calculus (BC)**  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
Advanced Placement  
This course is a second year of Calculus for students who have completed the AB curriculum and received permission to continue. Topics include integrating using integration by parts, integration using linear partial fractions, evaluating improper integrals, approximating solutions to differential equations using Euler’s method, logistic models with differential equations, arc length of a smooth, planar curve and distance traveled, parametric equations, and series and sequences. These topics are in addition to the AP Calculus (AB) curriculum. Knowledge from the Calculus (AB) curriculum is needed and applied throughout the BC curriculum, and it is assessed on the AP Calculus (BC) exam in May. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Prerequisites: AP Calculus (AB) and instructor permission.

**MAT 531: AP Statistics**  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
Advanced Placement  
AP Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The four major components of the course are: describing data, finding ways to display and explain what one or more variable data means; collecting data, looking at how to gather data randomly and without bias to the extent that is possible; probability, looking at the mathematical rules that govern the behavior of random events; and those three culminate with the study of statistical inference, estimating population parameters and testing hypothesis. A TI calculator is required. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee. Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and instructor permission.

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Students must complete three years of science, two of which must be the core laboratory courses of biology, chemistry, or physics. Classes are offered at the 200-600 levels beginning with Biology, which most of our first-year students take.

### 200-LEVEL COURSES

**SCI 201: Biology**  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
College Prep  
This laboratory course studies basic cell processes, genetics, evolution, microbiology, comparative zoology and botany, human biology and ecology. Frequent laboratory experiences reinforce discussion material.
SCI 211: Honors Biology
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
This honors-level laboratory course covers a more in depth study of cell processes, genetics, evolution, microbiology, comparative zoology and botany, human biology, and ecology. Frequent laboratory experiences reinforce discussion material.

300-LEVEL COURSES

SCI 301: Chemistry
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This laboratory course covers topics that will enable a student to enter a first-year college chemistry course. These include phases of matter (solids, liquids, and gases), the historical development of atomic structure from Dalton’s theory to the present quantum mechanical model, the properties of elements, chemical bonding, chemical equilibrium, acids and bases, oxidation and reduction. Experience in the laboratory is an important part of this course and experiments are chosen to help students reinforce the course topics as well as learn good basic laboratory techniques. Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

SCI 311: Honors Chemistry
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
This honors-level laboratory course covers in a more in-depth manner topics that will enable a student to enter a first-year college chemistry course. These include phases of matter (solids, liquids and gases), the historical development of atomic structure from Dalton’s theory to the present quantum mechanical model, the properties of elements, chemical bonding, chemical equilibrium, acids and bases, oxidation and reduction. Experience in the laboratory is an important part of this course and experiments are chosen to help students reinforce the course topics as well as learn good basic laboratory techniques. Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

SCI 321: Physics
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Physics explores the nature of the physical world and associated laws that apply to these phenomena. After an introduction to measurement and related mathematical skills, topics studied include mechanics (velocity, acceleration, force, momentum, work, and energy), states of matter, thermodynamics, waves (including sound and light), electricity and magnetism. Regular demonstrations and laboratory work enhance an understanding of the material. Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently).

400-LEVEL COURSES

SCI 411: Sustainability
Semester course (1/2 credit): Spring 2021
College Prep
Sustainability will start by calculating each student’s ecological footprint. Then, by way of the Union of Concerned Scientists’ Cooler Smarter, the class will investigate and implement techniques that decrease personal greenhouse-gas emissions. The second half of the class will focus on emissions related to land-use, societal structure, and externalities. The class will attempt to identify one area of concern within the Kents Hill community and design and implement a solution. This course satisfies the Environmental Studies graduation requirement.

SCI 421: Biochemistry of Nutrition
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020
In Introduction to Nutrition Science, students will develop a thorough understanding of the human gastrointestinal system, how nutrition facts are calculated, and how diet impacts health. This class will emphasize the importance of food for energy and maintaining homeostasis within our bodies. In addition to dietary requirements, students will also learn about common dietary allergies, restrictions, and diseases. Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

SCI 431: Global Public Health
Semester course (1/2 credit): Spring 2021
College Prep
Global Public Health will investigate real public health challenges facing the twenty-first-century world. Examples include infectious diseases, malnutrition, and pollution. The class will develop statistical analysis and complex system-thinking skills to research these issues and use scientific reasoning to explore their governmental, cultural, and geographical aspects. By the end of the course, students will be able to identify current public health problems, develop plans to address the problems, and present their proposals to classmates and other members of the Kents Hill community. Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra 2.

SCI 441: Astrophysics
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course will explore the universe, learn what modern astrophysicists are concerned with, and determine whether space exploration is worth investing in. We will start by focusing on what the solar system is and learn about the objects that comprise our immediate surroundings. We will then focus on stars. Students will learn about stellar characteristics and evolution. Our study of the universe will then broaden as students learn about an expanding universe in terms of Hubble’s law and red-shifting. The course will wrap up by exploring dark energy, dark matter, and black holes. Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently).

SCI 451: Robotics
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Robotics is based on curriculum developed by Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Academy and uses both the LEGO Mindstorms EV3 and the VEX IQ platforms through the year. The course focuses on robotics technologies, math and science concepts including fundamentals in physics, mechanical design, circuit design, engineering and construction techniques, and programming skills. Prerequisites: Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently).

SCI 461: Introduction to Computer Science
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Computer Science is a full year laboratory course designed to introduce the workings and programming of computers and computer-controlled devices. Students will learn and demonstrate theory and skills related to contemporary electronics and will learn how to control electronic devices such as those used in industrial robotics. Students will use (and in some cases make) robotic cars, sensors, micro-controllers (Arduino platform), a CNC robotic carving machine, and 3D printers. Additionally, students will learn microcontroller programming in the “C” language which is used in a wide variety of computer-controlled applications. Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently).

SCI 471: Coding for Games
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020
College Prep
Coding for Games is intended to present the tools and methods used in the development of computer-based games. The course utilizes popular object-oriented coding languages, online training material, and a game-coding engine (pre-built code libraries that make game coding easier and faster). The course includes game theory and design, animation techniques, map generation techniques, and game physics. Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

SCI 481: Coding for Web-Based Applications
Semester course (1/2 credit): Spring 2021
College Prep
Coding for Web-Based Applications introduces the student to the components of high-level programming for applications hosted on the web. The course includes the following methodologies: Model, View, Controller (MVC) architecture, Rapid Application Development (RAD), Agile programming, and Don't Repeat Yourself (DRY) programming. Components included are Rails scaffolding (using Ruby on Rails), Database connected applications using Sequential Query Language (SQL), and web-based coding
using Ruby on Rails, HTML, JavaScript, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), MySQL databases. Prerequisites: Introduction to Computer Science or Coding for Games.

500-LEVEL COURSES

SCI 501: AP Biology
Full-year course (1 credit)
Advanced Placement
AP Biology is designed as the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. The course includes in-depth lectures, discussions and laboratory exercises on the following topics: biological chemistry, cells, energy transformations, molecular genetics, heredity, evolution, populations, ecology, and the study of animal and plant classification, structure, and physiology. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

SCI 511: AP Environmental Studies
Full-year course (1 credit)
Advanced Placement
The goals of this interdisciplinary science course are to provide students with the skills and knowledge to understand the interrelationships of the natural world and to understand and analyze both natural and human-made environmental issues. This course integrates the disciplines of chemistry, biology, and physical sciences as they apply to understanding the interconnectedness of the natural world. Classes will consist of lectures and discussions as well as extended laboratory and field investigations. Topics will include the following concerns from a local and global perspective: interdependence of earth’s systems, population dynamics, resource use, environmental quality, global changes, and the interactions of the environment and society. Students can expect a variety of written assessments plus a cumulative portfolio of their classroom, laboratory, and field work. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

600-LEVEL COURSES

SCI 601: Anatomy and Physiology
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
A solid understanding of human anatomy and physiology is the foundation of every health-related career. Designed in collaboration with the University of Maine at Farmington, this Dual-Enrollment course offers students the opportunity to establish that foundation. After reviewing the basics of Biology and Chemistry, we will use labs, activities, and a variety of case studies to explore both traditional and contemporary topics, including such timely issues as medical ethics and the recent explosion of healthcare-related jobs. We will also make use of local healthcare facilities to better understand the ways in which our course material is applied in the real world. Prerequisites: Honors Biology and instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit in Biology. Additional course fees apply.

SCI 611: College Physics 1
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
This course is an introduction to the content, methods, and philosophy of science with an emphasis on the principles of physics and their application to topics in research and current issues in science. The course will focus on Mechanics (with specific attention to motion, the forces that cause that motion and conservation principles in energy and momentum) and principles of Thermodynamics. This allows more in-depth study of the topics. Prerequisites: instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

SCI 621: College Physics 2
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
This course is a second-year physics class with an emphasis on the principles of physics and their application to topics in research and current issues in science. As an advanced course, the focus areas will include Wave Fundamentals (to include Sound and Light, Electricity and Magnetism, and Modern Physics (Quantum Mechanics and Nuclear Physics.) This will allow more in-depth study of the topics. Prerequisites: instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.
SOCIAL STUDIES

In addition to valuing the traditional curricular goals of content knowledge, all Social Studies courses emphasize skill development in critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication, as well as the exploration of character and reflection. Three years of Social Studies courses, including U.S. History, are required for graduation, but the department strongly recommends taking additional elective courses, particularly junior and senior year. The Social Studies Department offers courses in the 200-600 levels.

200-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 201: Global Studies Seminar
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This entry-level Social Studies course begins with a focus on some of the major political, economic, and social systems that have shaped and organized the global community over time. Students seek to understand civilizations and communities through interactions with broad phenomena (agriculture, geography, conflict, imperial desire, industrial power, environmental change, cultural diffusion, epidemics, and disruptive technologies) that have challenged communities throughout history. The students will compare past events with ever-changing current events in an attempt to develop solutions to a series of complicated and contemporary global challenges.

SOC 211: Honors Global Studies Seminar
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
The Honors version of this entry-level course explores much of the same content as the College Prep class but at a slightly faster pace and with greater emphasis on developing the skills needed for advanced Social Studies coursework, in particular critical thinking and communication. Honors students review major political, economic, and social systems that have shaped and organized the global community and devote considerable time to connecting the past to relevant current events. Regular discussions, projects, and papers allow students to develop innovative solutions to a series of complicated and contemporary global problems.

300-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 301: United States History
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
Critical analysis of the entire breadth of the American experience is the theme of this college prep course. Students evaluate the successes and failures of politicians, social reformers, business leaders, military strategists, and everyday people to define and maintain the liberties, rights, and responsibilities integral to the character and ideals of the nation.

SOC 311: Honors United States History
Full-year course (1 credit)
Honors
This course examines the social, political, and economic history of the United States from the Colonial Era through the nineteenth century and is recommended for students interested in taking AP U.S. History later on. Students will learn to evaluate history, analyze the relationships between people and events, and uncover the roots of present-day problems. They will also gain an understanding of how historians develop interpretations of the past through the use of primary sources and scholarly research. Prerequisite: instructor permission.

400-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 401: Psychology
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course covers the biological foundations of behavior; stages of consciousness, perception, learning, memory, language, thought, and intelligence; psychological, cognitive and moral development from birth to old age; motivation, emotion, personality, psychology and health; psychological disorders; therapy; and male and female roles and social relationships. Using the text, periodicals, experiments, problem solving activities, personal inventories, and community outreach, students come to understand themselves and society better. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).
SOC 411: Abnormal Psychology  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
College Prep  
In this course, students will gain knowledge of psychological disorders including mood disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, and schizophrenia. The course focus will also include historical and contemporary topics related to psychological disorders such as the de-institutional movement of the 1960s, historical perspectives on women and mental illness, and the rise of depression and anxiety disorders among young people in the 21st century. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

SOC 421: Economics  
Full-year course (1 credit)  
College Prep  
The course introduces students to Economics through a focus on the foundations of conventional microeconomic and macroeconomic theory, as well as the emerging field of behavioral economics. Students will study business development and management by designing and presenting an entrepreneurial venture on campus, and by analyzing Kents Hill School as a business. Students will explore such economic problems as unemployment and poverty, and the government's role is setting regulatory, fiscal, and monetary policies. While studying the fundamentals of investing, students will participate in an online stock market simulation, and they will conclude the course with a creative and collaborative project tackling real-life economic challenges facing communities and policymakers. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

SOC 431: Behavioral Economics  
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
Why do our new jeans make us unhappy? Why do we assume that we’re better than “average” at so many things? Why do we give kids candy at Halloween rather than just giving them money? Traditional microeconomic and macroeconomic theories are based on the choices of consistently rational and self-interested economic actors. However, the field of Behavioral Economics widens that analytical scope to illuminate the ways in which human psychology and seemingly irrational motivations play an important (and sometimes surprising) role in our economic decision-making. Topics will include prospect theory, mental accounting, anchoring, the paradox of choice, herd mentality, perverse incentives, and confirmation and availability biases. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

SOC 441: Economics and Ethics  
Semester course (1/2 credit): Spring 2021  
College Prep  
Should the hamburger you are served look like the hamburger in the advertisement? Should the CEO of a company earn 200 times more money than its average worker? Is it OK to pollute a river, so long as you only pollute up to the legal limit allowed? Do employees have an ethical obligation to speak out about dangerous conditions or illegal activity in the workplace? Is greed, to quote Gordon Gekko in the movie “Wall Street,” actually “good”? This course will explore normative theories of ethics and the application of ethical reasoning as it relates to economic decision-making on individual, business, and policy levels. Whether evaluated according to virtue, consequentialist, or deontological principles, students will move beyond the mathematics and modeling of economic behavior to discover a world of challenging personal interpretations of the economically good, fair, and just role of international organizations and financial institutions in promoting economic prosperity. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

SOC 451: Environmental Economics  
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
Environmental Economics will examine the ways in which individuals and groups value and allocate resources, manage and account for their waste, and assess the ethics and trade-offs associated with complex economic activity. The goal is to teach students about the aggregate impact of economic decisions on the environment and to directly relate these topics to the Kents Hill community through exploratory research and projects. This course satisfies the Environmental Studies graduation requirement. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

SOC 461: The United Nations: A Global History  
Semester course (1/2 credit): Fall 2020  
College Prep  
The United Nations was founded in 1945 in the wake of World War II as an international organization that could address issues confronting the global community, provide a forum for dialogue and negotiation between nations, and be a mechanism through which governments seek agreement and collectively solve problems. Since its founding, it has navigated such
monumental historical events as The Cold War, revolutions in Asia, Africa, South America, and the Middle East, environmental challenges from carbon emissions to Chernobyl, and dramatic global social and economic movements. This course will examine the often-controversial form and functions of the United Nations, both through an historical lens and through a look at current events. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

SOC 471: International Relations and Diplomacy
Semester course (1/2 credit): Spring 2021
College Prep
The course introduces students to basic concepts of international political theory, varieties of state systems and ideologies, and frameworks for global relations. Along the way the class addresses events and topics related to peace and security, climate change and sustainable development, human rights and gender equality, and humanitarian and health emergencies. Students will also prepare for and participate in the Maine Model United Nations Conference to hone and test their skills in analysis, problem-solving, communication, and compromise with thousands of other students. There is a $200 course fee to pay for each student’s conference registration. While taking “The United Nations: A Global History” first isn’t a prerequisite for this course, it is highly recommended. Prerequisites: U.S. History (may be taken concurrently).

500-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 501: AP European History
Full-year course (1 credit)
Advanced Placement
The central goal of this course is to gain knowledge of the major events in European history from 1450 to the present. Students will develop an understanding of important historical themes and learn to interpret historical evidence and analyze historical problems in their written work. Areas studied include the Renaissance, Reformation, Catholic Revolution, Constitutionalism, Absolutism, the French Revolution, Napoleon, the Scientific Revolution, Industrial Revolution, World Wars One and Two, and the Cold War. Prerequisites: U.S. History and instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

SOC 511: AP United States Government and Politics
Full-year course (1 credit)
Advanced Placement
The student will gain knowledge of the workings of our government and its place in the wider world. Students delve deep into the three branches of federal and state governments while studying the election cycle, partisan politics and democracy as an institution. Prerequisites: U.S. History and instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

SOC 521: AP United States History
Full-year course (1 credit)
Advanced Placement
This course provides students opportunities to acquire extensive factual knowledge in U.S. History and develop analytical skills. Students learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to interpretive problems, their reliability, and their importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. The AP U.S. History course thus develops the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of informed judgments and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. Prerequisite: instructor permission. Students are required to take the AP Exam and pay the accompanying fee.

600-LEVEL COURSES

SOC 601: Principles of Entrepreneurship and Management
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
Whether in college or in a rapidly changing global economy, our graduates will navigate a world of change and uncertainty, and entrepreneurship education will help them to develop a collaborative, problem-solving, growth mindset, and the skills associated with learning through setbacks and perseverance. This course will focus on the principles of entrepreneurship and the process of small business development. Prerequisites: U.S. History and instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

SOC 611: Principles of Investment and Financial Planning
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
Demand for our students to be exposed to the topics of personal finance and planning is increasing each year. Many states are making it a requirement for graduation. This course will dive deep into topics such as retirement, tax planning, estate planning, risk management and investments along with budgeting, credit/debt, saving, spending, market trends, insurance, college loans, and more. This course will focus on all aspects of personal finance and how decisions regarding money throughout a person’s life affects long-term investments, wealth building, and planning for the future. Students will acquire knowledge in the world of finance and develop habits that will last through their lives. Prerequisites: U.S. History and instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

SOC 621: Principles of Leadership
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
This course is designed to provide students with a strong foundation in the principles of leadership across varied areas of application. While the goal of the course is to familiarize students with leadership theory and terminology, our discussions, activities, and projects will provide opportunities to apply what we learn in different environments. Students will examine leadership in business, athletics, the military, and the outdoors, and develop an understanding of the approaches that are specific to each group and task. We will use school groups, teams, and a backpacking trip to apply our learning. Prerequisites: U.S. History and instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

WORLD LANGUAGES

The Kents Hill World Languages Department aims to develop competency in the four areas of language skill: listening, reading, speaking, and writing, and to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of cultures other than their own. Students acquire a working knowledge of essential grammatical structures and learn to speak and understand the language in the context of specific, real-world outcomes. In the upper levels, students develop the ability to read, analyze, and discuss literary works, contemporary texts, and films. World Language courses are offered at the 100-600 levels.

100-LEVEL COURSES

LAN 101: Beginner French
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
An introductory course in the French language and culture, Beginner French seeks to build a strong foundation in the language, with equal emphasis placed on reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. A variety of methods are employed to help students develop proficiency in the language. These include, but are not limited to, textbook and workbook exercises, grammar lessons, reading comprehension activities, informal conversation, games, music, videos, and Internet research.

LAN 111: Beginner Spanish
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
An introductory course in the Spanish language and culture, Beginner Spanish seeks to build a strong foundation in the language, with equal emphasis placed on reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. A variety of methods are employed to help students develop proficiency in the language. These include, but are not limited to, textbook and workbook exercises, grammar lessons, reading comprehension activities, informal conversation, games, music, videos, and Internet research.

200-LEVEL COURSES

LAN 201: Advanced Beginner French
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course begins with a review of the skills taught in Beginner French and then builds upon those skills throughout the school year. The same, multi-modal methods are used to help students continue to develop their ability to read, write, and speak French. Emphasis is placed on grammatical accuracy and conversational fluency. Prerequisite: Beginner French.

LAN 211: Advanced Beginner Spanish
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course begins with a review of the skills taught in Beginner Spanish and then builds upon those skills throughout the school year. The same, multi-modal methods are used to help students continue to develop their ability to read, write, and speak Spanish. Emphasis is placed on grammatical accuracy and conversational fluency. Prerequisite: Beginner Spanish.

300-LEVEL COURSES

LAN 301: Intermediate French
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course is designed for students who excelled in Advanced Beginner French and who wish to become more competent in the language and deepen their understanding of Francophone culture. The course begins with a rapid and comprehensive review of the language elements presented in earlier levels. Then students learn the remaining tenses while expanding their vocabulary through a variety of readings, films, and discussions in the target language. The course requires students to read, write, and speak extensively in French, demonstrating increasing fluidity and grammatical accuracy. Prerequisite: Advanced Beginner French.

LAN 311: Intermediate Spanish
Full-year course (1 credit)
College Prep
This course is designed for students who excelled in Advanced Beginner Spanish and who wish to become more competent in the language and deepen their understanding of Hispanic culture. The course begins with a rapid and comprehensive review of the language elements presented in earlier levels. Next, students learn the remaining tenses while expanding their vocabulary through a variety of readings, films, and discussions in the target language. The course requires students to read, write, and speak extensively in Spanish, demonstrating increasing fluidity and grammatical accuracy. Prerequisite: Advanced Beginner Spanish.

600 LEVEL COURSES

LAN 601: Intermediate College French
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
This advanced course will cover the material regularly taught in an intermediate, second-year college French class. The course will emphasize conversational and written fluency, while presenting grammatical concepts more advanced than those covered in a regular high school class. Intermediate College French will equip students to participate in advanced-level French courses at the university level. Prerequisites: instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

LAN 611: Intermediate College Spanish
Full-year course (1 credit)
Dual-Enrollment
This rigorous course will cover the material commonly taught in an intermediate, second-year college Spanish class and place a greater emphasis on grammar and fluency than most high school classes. Students will leave the course with the necessary foundation for higher-level conversational Spanish. Prerequisites: instructor permission. Students who successfully complete this course will receive college credit. Additional course fees apply.

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