



Pearson

Connections Learning

Online Course Catalog 2016–2017

Grades K–12

CONNECTIONS LEARNING®



Curriculum Designed for Today's Students to Master Tomorrow's Skills

A Strong Curriculum is Essential for a Great Education

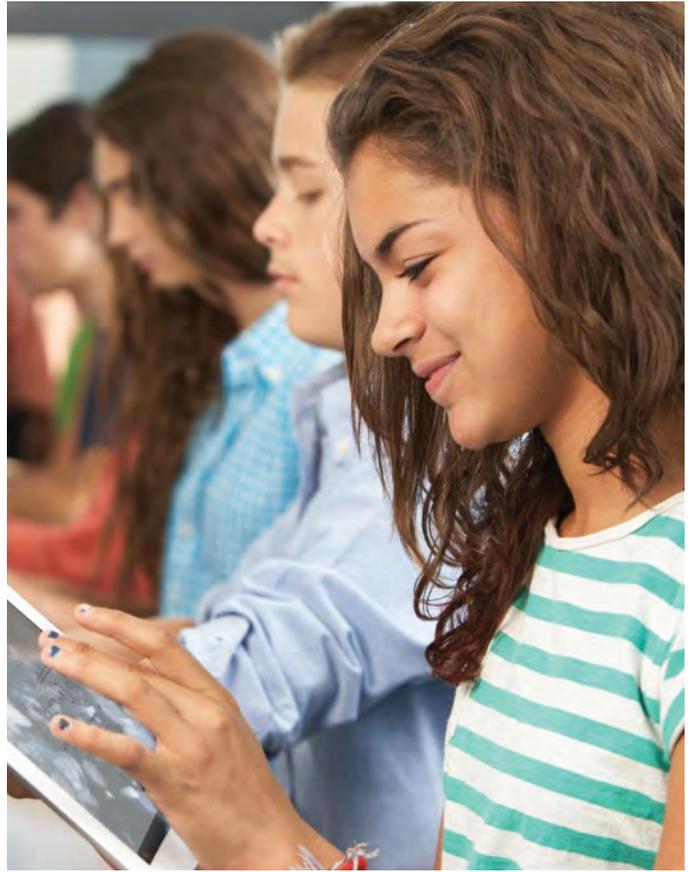
Our catalog of more than 600 proven, standards-aligned courses and instructional tools integrate the essential elements necessary for quality online learning, including custom-built lesson plans that feature a rich scope and sequence, and cutting-edge interactive content and recorded LiveLesson® sessions. We bring personalized learning to students everywhere through a proven curriculum, the latest instructional tools, certified teachers skilled in online instruction, and a dedicated program manager committed to understanding your students' needs and tailoring solutions to meet them. Our advanced technology provides access to the curriculum, tracks academic performance, and facilitates communication while students learn and prepare for college and/or career.



Illustration by TangYau Hoong

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Language Arts

Language Arts K A
 Language Arts K B
 Language Arts 1 A
 Language Arts 1 B
 Language Arts 2 A
 Language Arts 2 B
 Language Arts 3 A
 Language Arts 3 B
 Language Arts 4 A
 Language Arts 4 B
 Language Arts 5 A
 Language Arts 5 B

Mathematics

Essential Math 3 A
 Essential Math 3 B
 Essential Math 4 A
 Essential Math 4 B
 Essential Math 5 A
 Essential Math 5 B
 Math K A
 Math K B
 Math 1 A
 Math 1 B
 Math 2 A
 Math 2 B
 Math 3 A
 Math 3 B
 Math 4 A
 Math 4 B
 Math 5 A
 Math 5 B

Science

Science K A
 Science K B
 Science 1 A
 Science 1 B
 Science 2 A
 Science 2 B
 Science 3 A
 Science 3 B
 Science 4 A
 Science 4 B
 Science 5 A
 Science 5 B

Social Studies

Social Studies K A
 Social Studies K B
 Social Studies 1 A
 Social Studies 1 B
 Social Studies 2 A
 Social Studies 2 B
 Social Studies 3 A
 Social Studies 3 B
 Social Studies 4 A
 Social Studies 4 B
 Social Studies 5 A
 Social Studies 5 B

Humanities

Art K
 Art 1
 Art 2
 Art 3
 Art 4
 Art 5
 Discovering Music I (3-5)
 Discovering Music II (3-5)
 Discovering Music III (3-5)
 Elementary Chinese I (3-5) **
 Elementary Chinese II (3-5) **
 Elementary Sign Language
 Elementary Spanish I (3-5) **
 Elementary Spanish II (3-5) **
 Experiencing Music I (K-2)
 Experiencing Music II (K-2)
 Experiencing Music III (K-2)
 Home Life

Health and PE

Physical Education K
 Physical Education 1
 Physical Education 2
 Physical Education 3
 Physical Education 4
 Physical Education 5

Technology

Ed Tech and Online Learning K
 Ed Tech and Online Learning 1
 Ed Tech and Online Learning 2
 Ed Tech and Online Learning 3
 Ed Tech and Online Learning 4
 Ed Tech and Online Learning 5
 WebQuest

Gifted and Talented

Gifted and Talented
 Language Arts 3 A †
 Gifted and Talented
 Language Arts 3 B †
 Gifted and Talented
 Language Arts 4 A †
 Gifted and Talented
 Language Arts 4 B †
 Gifted and Talented
 Language Arts 5 A †
 Gifted and Talented
 Language Arts 5 B †
 Gifted and Talented
 Literature Study 2 #
 Gifted and Talented Math 3 A
 Gifted and Talented Math 3 B
 Gifted and Talented Math 4 A
 Gifted and Talented Math 4 B
 Gifted and Talented Math 5 A
 Gifted and Talented Math 5 B
 Gifted and Talented Science 3 A
 Gifted and Talented Science 3 B
 Gifted and Talented Science 4 A
 Gifted and Talented Science 4 B
 Gifted and Talented Science 5 A
 Gifted and Talented Science 5 B

Key

Designates course is an elective credit

† Must accompany G&T Literature Study

** Please note: The World Languages courses require a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided by Connections Learning.

Course list subject to change.

Language Arts

Language Arts 6 A
Language Arts 6 B
Language Arts 7 A
Language Arts 7 B
Language Arts 8 A
Language Arts 8 B

Mathematics

Algebra Readiness A
(Pre-Algebra) 8
Algebra Readiness B
(Pre-Algebra) 8
Essential Algebra Readiness A
(Pre-Algebra) 8
Essential Algebra Readiness B
(Pre-Algebra) 8
Essential Math 6 A
Essential Math 6 B
Essential Math 7 A
Essential Math 7 B
Math 6 A
Math 6 B
Math 7 A
Math 7 B

Science

Science 6 A
Science 6 B
Science 7 A
Science 7 B
Science 8 A
Science 8 B

Social Studies

Social Studies 6 A
Social Studies 6 B
Social Studies 7 A
Social Studies 7 B
Social Studies 8 A
Social Studies 8 B ‡

Humanities

Art 6 A
Art 6 B
Art 7 A
Art 7 B
Art 8 A
Art 8 B
Exploring Music I
Exploring Music II
Exploring Music III
Home Life
Middle Chinese I **
Middle Chinese II **
Middle Sign Language
Middle Spanish I **
Middle Spanish II **

Health and PE

Health & Physical Education 6
Health & Physical Education 7
Health & Physical Education 8

Other

MS Introduction to
Entrepreneurship

Technology

Business Keyboarding
Ed Tech and Online Learning 6
Ed Tech and Online Learning 7
Ed Tech and Online Learning 8
MS Digital Arts I
WebQuest

Gifted and Talented

Gifted and Talented
Language Arts 6 A †
Gifted and Talented
Language Arts 6 B †
Gifted and Talented
Language Arts 7 A †
Gifted and Talented
Language Arts 7 B †
Gifted and Talented
Language Arts 8 A †
Gifted and Talented
Language Arts 8 B †
Gifted and Talented Math 6
(Pre-Algebra) A
Gifted and Talented Math 6
(Pre-Algebra) B
Gifted and Talented Math 7
(Algebra 1) A
Gifted and Talented Math 7
(Algebra 1) B
Gifted and Talented Math 8
(Geometry) A
Gifted and Talented Math 8
(Geometry) B
Gifted and Talented Science 6 A ^
Gifted and Talented Science 6 B ^
Gifted and Talented Science 7 A ^
Gifted and Talented Science 7 B ^
Gifted and Talented Science 8 A ^
Gifted and Talented Science 8 B ^

Key

‡ Designates course is new, revised, or expanded

† Must accompany G&T Literature Study

^ G&T Science courses include the core grade level science course and a G&T accompanying course combined

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Course list subject to change.

Language Arts

English 9 A *
 English 9 B *
 English 10 A *
 English 10 B *
 English 11 A *
 English 11 B *
 English 12 A *
 English 12 B *
 Journalism A
 Journalism B
 Speech and Debate

Mathematics

Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications A
 Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications B
 Algebra 1 A *
 Algebra 1 B *
 Algebra 2 A *
 Algebra 2 B *
 Calculus A
 Calculus B
 Consumer Math A
 Consumer Math B
 Explorations in Mathematics A
 Explorations in Mathematics B
 Geometry A ‡ *
 Geometry B ‡ *
 Precalculus A ‡ *
 Precalculus B ‡ *
 Statistics A
 Statistics B

Science

Biology A *
 Biology B *
 Chemistry A *
 Chemistry B *
 Earth Science A *
 Earth Science B *
 Earth Space Science A *
 Earth Space Science B *
 Environmental Science A
 Environmental Science B
 Marine Science A *
 Marine Science B *
 Physical Science A *
 Physical Science B *
 Physics A
 Physics B

Social Studies

American Government A * ‡
 American Government B * ‡
 Economics
 Geography and Society
 Personal Finance
 Psychology A

Psychology B
 United States History A *
 United States History B *
 World Geography
 World History A * ‡
 World History B * ‡

Business Management

Introduction to Entrepreneurship I
 Introduction to Entrepreneurship II
 Introduction to Marketing
 Sports Management

Career Technical

Accounting I
 Accounting II
 Administrative Duties and Office Management
 Anatomy & Physiology
 Business Communication
 Business Information Systems
 Business Law
 Business Math
 Criminal Investigation
 Developmental Writing
 Health, Safety & Nutrition
 Human Resources Management
 Introductory Astronomy
 Introduction to Business
 Introduction to Communication
 Introduction to Criminal Justice
 Introduction to Early Childhood Education
 Introduction to Finance
 Introduction to Homeland Security
 Introduction to Law
 Introduction to Medical Assisting
 Introduction to Paralegal Profession
 Introduction to Psychology
 Introduction to Sociology
 Introductory Astronomy
 Java Programming I
 Java Programming II
 Leadership and Supervision in Business
 Medical Law and Ethics
 Medical Terminology
 Principles of Management
 Principles of Marketing
 Public Speaking
 Research Methods

Health and PE

Health, Fitness, and Nutrition A
 Health, Fitness, and Nutrition B
 Personal Fitness
 Physical Education

Humanities

Art History A
 Art History B
 Chinese I A **
 Chinese I B **
 Chinese II A **
 Chinese II B **
 Chinese III A **
 Chinese III B **
 Digital Photography
 French I A **
 French I B **
 French II A **
 French II B **
 French III A **
 French III B **
 French IV A **
 French IV B **
 German I A **
 German I B **
 German II A **
 German II B **
 German III A **
 German III B **
 Japanese I A **
 Japanese I B **
 Japanese II A **
 Japanese II B **
 Living Music I
 Living Music II
 Latin I A **
 Latin I B **
 Latin II A **
 Latin II B **
 Latin III A **
 Latin III B **
 Sign Language I A
 Sign Language I B
 Sign Language II A
 Sign Language II B
 Spanish I A **
 Spanish I B **
 Spanish II A **
 Spanish II B **
 Spanish III A **
 Spanish III B **
 Spanish IV A **
 Spanish IV B **

Other

Career Exploration
 HS Critical Thinking and Study Skills
 College Prep w/ACT
 College Prep w/SAT
 Life Management Skills

Technology

Business Keyboarding
 Digital Arts I
 Emergent Computer Technology

Engineering Design I
 Game Design
 Information Technology: Preparing for the IC3 A
 Information Technology: Preparing for the IC3 B
 Introduction to Computer Applications
 Web Design I A
 Web Design I B
 3D Art I – Modeling

AP Courses

AP Art History A
 AP Art History B
 AP Biology A
 AP Biology B
 AP Calculus AB A
 AP Calculus AB B
 AP Calculus BC A
 AP Calculus BC B
 AP Computer Science A
 AP Computer Science B
 AP English Language & Composition A
 AP English Language & Composition B
 AP English Literature & Composition A
 AP English Literature & Composition B
 AP Environmental Science A
 AP Environmental Science B
 AP Human Geography A
 AP Human Geography B
 AP Macroeconomics
 AP Microeconomics
 AP Psychology
 AP Spanish Language A
 AP Spanish Language B
 AP Statistics A
 AP Statistics B
 AP United States Government and Politics
 AP United States History A
 AP United States History B

Key

* Also offered as an Honors course

Designates course also offers a Foundations level

‡ Designates course is new, revised, or expanded

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Course list subject to change.



Image by Danny Fernandez

Grades K–5

Course Descriptions

Kindergarten

Language Arts A&B

In kindergarten, students build a foundation for successful reading as they explore topics and apply reading, writing, speaking, and listening practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. Learning activities consist of phonics, listening, comprehension, and vocabulary instruction with daily exposure to books, including literature and informational texts. A combination of interactive and hands-on exercises encourages the development of fine motor skills. Students learn language skills as well as letter formation, and they practice these with drawing, dictating, and writing. By the end of kindergarten, many students will be reading, and all students should be able to recognize consonant as well as long and short vowel sounds.

Math A&B

In kindergarten, mathematical thinking and problem solving are introduced. Students explore topics and apply mathematical practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. They learn how to identify numbers, write numbers zero to 20, and count to 100 by ones and tens. They also describe, sort, and compare objects and learn basic shapes. Stories and activities introduce addition and subtraction. A combination of interactive and hands-on exercises teaches students about money, time, fractions, and measurement.

Science A&B

The key to science is to stimulate curiosity. A combination of interactive and hands-on exercises encourages students to observe, describe, measure, and question the world around them. Life, Earth, and physical sciences are introduced. Students investigate living things, such as plants and animals, and nonliving things, such as matter and mixtures.

Social Studies A&B

Students learn the concepts of community, nation, and world in this course. They answer essential questions including: "How do people get what they need?"; "How is culture shared?"; and "How does life change throughout history?" A combination of interactive and hands-on exercises teaches students about personal responsibility, good citizenship, and basic geography. While learning about America's past and important historical figures, students research their personal history and heroes.

Electives

Art

In art, students explore color, line, and shape. A combination of interactive and hands-on studio projects encourages students to create art. They sharpen their fine motor skills and explore the areas of art they find interesting. Artistic modes include drawing, painting, assembling, and sculpting.

Educational Technology and Online Learning

In this course, students explore the features of a draw and paint program as a tool to support emerging reading, writing, and mathematics skills. They learn to locate letters and numbers on the keyboard. A study skills unit introduces them to listening and visualization skills that support learning across the school day. Students also learn to recognize safe and responsible use of technology resources so they can become model digital citizens.

Physical Education

In kindergarten, physical education encourages students to develop their fine motor skills, movement, and confidence to enjoy healthy physical activity regularly. A combination of interactive and hands-on activities teaches students essential skills. Students learn how to respect themselves and others while playing.

 Course requires a free third-party download

First Grade

Language Arts A&B

Students explore topics and apply reading, writing, speaking, and listening practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. Students are taught to attack new words using a variety of decoding and contextual strategies, and are given daily opportunities to apply these skills to literature and informational texts. They are taught to think about what they read through various guided reading strategies. Their handwriting improves and their writing skills strengthen as they compose narrative, informational, and opinion pieces.

Math A&B

In first grade math, students explore topics and apply mathematical practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. While building strategies for addition and subtraction of whole numbers up to 18, students also develop their problem-solving and reasoning skills. Students use hands-on activities and tools to practice money and measurement concepts. They also explore geometry topics—shapes, congruence, and symmetry—and learn to analyze picture graphs, data, and bar graphs.

Science A&B

This course encourages students to explore the natural world. They study Earth, its resources, ways to protect them, and how plants and animals grow and change. They create a model of a mountain and investigate the way sunlight affects leaves. Students also learn about the scientific method and explore possible careers in science.

Social Studies A&B

Students learn about the ways people contribute to their communities and work together to the benefit of all. This course explores the concepts of good citizenship, neighborhoods, and economics. Students also study maps, photographs, biographies, illustrations, poetry, and music to help explain the concept of communities and extend it to the larger world.

Electives

Art

Students expand their understanding of color, line, and shape. Activities include drawing, cutting, creating designs, and paper construction. The concepts of texture and three-dimensional forms are also introduced.

Educational Technology and Online Learning ◇

In this course, students build on foundational skills while using software to draw, type, and format text, and they create presentations to support academic skills. Students learn listening and organizational skills and set attainable learning goals. Students become responsible users of technology as they learn about Internet safety and appropriate online behavior.

Physical Education

Each week, students learn new games and activities that are grouped in thematic units including Making Healthy Choices and Games Around the World. In addition to doing the activities described in the lessons, students have the option of participating in yoga or an individual sport.



◇ Course requires a free third-party download

Second Grade

Language Arts

Students explore topics and apply reading, writing, speaking, and listening practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. They are given the opportunity to apply word-attack skills to increasingly complex texts and build their oral and sight vocabularies through daily instruction. While practicing new skills, students take part in activities based on selections they are reading. Students apply handwriting and grammar skills to frequent narrative, informational, and opinion pieces.

Math

Students explore topics, and apply mathematical practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. Students use hands-on activities to study time, money, geometry, and fractions. They connect numbers to statistics using basic algebraic concepts and simple graphs. Students also investigate measurement topics such as weight, mass, capacity, time, and temperature.

Science

This course stimulates students' curiosity about the world around them. They investigate energy and changing states of matter, such as liquid water changing to water vapor, and they create a weather chart. Students enjoy hands-on and virtual activities as they investigate the importance of water and vegetation in life science and explore forces in physical science.

Social Studies

Students explore basic concepts of history, geography, economics, and government while discovering more about world cultures. Students practice basic map, chart, graph, and critical-thinking skills. They also learn about ordinary people who demonstrate good citizenship and famous people who have influenced our country and the world.

Electives

Art

Students learn how the elements and principles of art are combined to create unique and expressive artwork. They explore how art is connected to other subjects such as science and math. Students also learn the basics of drawing, painting, and three-dimensional design.

Educational Technology and Online Learning ♦

In this course, students use appropriate technology tools and resources to complete projects and solve problems. Students use software to draw, write, organize, and present information. Students learn listening and organizational skills and set attainable learning goals. Students become responsible users of technology as they learn about Internet safety and appropriate online behavior.

Physical Education

Each week, students learn a new game or activity based on thematic units including Games You Can Make and Games Around the World. In addition to doing the activities described in the lessons, students have the option of participating in yoga or an individual sport.



Image by Said Tayar Segundo

♦ Course requires a free third-party download

Third Grade

Language Arts

Students explore topics and apply reading, writing, speaking, and listening practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. As they read critically and analyze literature and informational texts, they are also learning and applying new word-study skills. Writing progresses to paragraphs and, eventually, longer compositions. As they compose, students learn the five stages of writing: planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Students also begin to conduct short research projects.

Math

Third grade math provides the opportunity for students to explore topics and apply mathematical practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. Multiplication and division are introduced as well as adding and subtracting decimals. Students' understanding of these operations continues to develop as they apply problem-solving strategies and mathematical reasoning to solve problems. Students use hands-on activities to explore geometric patterns, shapes, and solids. They also use tools to determine measurements including time and temperature. In the probability unit, students gather data, create graphs, and perform experiments.

Science

Students explore the living world and the sky above. In life science, students begin by analyzing things that make up our living world and then study life cycles and the ecosystems. They study the composition of Earth as well as its location in relation to the sun and moon. In physical science, students investigate the properties of matter.

Social Studies

This course centers on the theme of community, focusing on history, along with civics, economics, and geography. Students compare communities and examine the American political system, including the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the three branches of government, all within the context of a citizen's rights and responsibilities. Students are introduced to economics by studying money, prices, and supply and demand, with a special emphasis on making good personal economic decisions.



Image by Sharon Bathily

Electives

Art ♦

Students engage in arts and crafts that explore the characteristics of the four seasons. As they study the art of various cultures, they will be introduced to art history and art criticism. Students also use a variety of media to create two- and three-dimensional projects.

Educational Technology and Online Learning

In this course, students use appropriate technology tools and resources to complete projects, manage information, and solve problems. Students use software to write, organize, analyze, and present information. Students learn listening and organizational skills and set attainable learning goals. Students become responsible users of technology as they learn about Internet safety and appropriate online behavior.

Physical Education

By third grade, students are expected to understand and demonstrate clearly defined combinations of movements, and they learn one or more new activities each week. The students learn the importance of nutrition as it relates to health and physical fitness. Students also have the option of participating in yoga or an individual sport.

♦ Course requires a free third-party download

Fourth Grade

Language Arts

Students explore topics and apply reading, writing, speaking, and listening practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. They learn to understand vocabulary and read more independently. Basic writing skills are reinforced as students write longer, well-organized narrative, informational, and opinion compositions. Spelling, handwriting, and proper language usage are also emphasized. Daily spelling activities help students learn to spell and use words correctly.

Math

Students explore topics and apply mathematical practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. Mastery of basic skills helps students multiply two-digit numbers and divide three-digit numbers by one-digit divisors. Measurement covers both customary and metric units. Students also study geometry concepts including lines, angles, polygons, perimeter, area, and congruence. Fourth grade math also covers equations, statistics using data and graphing techniques, and probability concepts. Throughout the course, students practice problem-solving strategies and explain mathematical reasoning.

Science

Students in this course use the scientific method to complete hands-on and virtual explorations. In the area of life science, they explore the differences and similarities among organisms. In Earth science, students investigate the differences between rocks and minerals and explore forces and forms of energy. Students are also introduced to the idea of a career in science.

Social Studies

A regional approach is used to examine the geography and history of the United States in this course. During their studies, students learn how to use different types of maps and apply geographic skills and concepts. The course emphasizes the role of the individual in the community and the concept of change over time.

Electives

Art

In this course, students are introduced to works of art from several continents. As they become more familiar with art elements and the principles of design, they learn how these are applied in creating visual art in diverse cultures around the world. In addition, students use various media to create two- and three-dimensional projects.

Educational Technology and Online Learning

In this course, students use appropriate technology tools and resources to complete projects, manage information, and solve problems. Students use software to write, organize, analyze, and present information. Students become responsible users of technology as they learn about Internet safety, appropriate online behavior, and effective search and website evaluation strategies.

Physical Education

By fourth grade, students are ready for more advanced instructions for both individual and partner activities. They understand rules and the importance of following them, and their hand-eye coordination has improved. Students learn the importance of nutrition and exercise as they relate to health and physical fitness. Students have the option of participating in yoga or an individual sport.

Fifth Grade

Language Arts

Students explore topics and apply reading, writing, speaking, and listening practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. Writing instruction focuses on structure, format, and grammar. Students use effective planning tools such as graphic organizers and outlines to create narrative, informational, and opinion compositions.

Math

Students explore topics and apply mathematical practices outlined in the Common Core State Standards and other state standards. The order of operations is discussed, and students learn to solve and write equations and inequalities. Students advance in geometry as they classify two- and three-dimensional solids; calculate the surface area and volume of regular and irregular figures; explore graphing and probability; create circle graphs; and make predictions based on statistics. Throughout the course, students practice problem-solving strategies and explain their mathematical reasoning.

Science

Students continue to sharpen their investigative skills. In life science, students examine the living world, and in physical science, they explore characteristics of matter, sound, and light. Students also learn about Earth's composition and the forces that shape its surface. The scientific method is reinforced, and careers in science are discussed.

Social Studies

In this course, students trace the history of the United States from the earliest Americans to the 21st century. Students practice map skills as they chart the growth of the nation and develop their ability to compare, sequence properly, and interpret sources. Students also study how geography has affected culture and historic events.

Electives

Art

Students are introduced to various works of art, and they become familiar with art elements and the principles of design. They examine how these elements and principles were applied to create visual art in different time periods and cultures. Students use assorted media to create two- and three-dimensional projects.

Educational Technology and Online Learning

In this course, students use appropriate technology tools and resources to complete projects, manage information, and solve problems. Students use software to write, organize, analyze, and present information. Students learn listening and organizational skills and set attainable learning goals. Students become responsible communicators and users of technology as they learn about intellectual property, Internet safety, and effective search and evaluation strategies.

Physical Education

By fifth grade, students understand the concept of fair play and playing by the rules. Respecting themselves and others is emphasized during cooperative physical education activities. Students learn the importance of nutrition and exercise as they relate to health and physical fitness. They have the option of participating in yoga or an individual sport.



Image by Lu Yi

K-5 Electives

Discovering Music I, II, III (3-5)

Designed for students in grades 3–5, these courses teach students fundamental musicianship skills from a Western Classical approach while aligning to national music education standards. The courses challenge students to improve their listening, notation, analysis, performance, and improvisation skills. With audio, visual, and interactive technologies, these courses provide a unique and advanced learning experience for students in these grades.

Elementary Chinese I and II (3-5) **

Students learn Mandarin Chinese through conversations with a native speaker. Cultural explorations lead students to make connections between their cultures and those of people in the Mandarin-speaking world. These introductory courses use many interactive components to engage students with the Chinese language and culture. (The courses are offered for students in third, fourth, and fifth grade.) This course requires a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided.

Elementary Sign Language

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of American Sign Language through the use of vocabulary, grammar, and conversation as well as basic signing and fingerspelling techniques. Special activities and exercises also help students understand the culture of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Elementary Spanish I and II (3-5) **

These highly interactive courses enable students to communicate with a native speaker and make connections between their culture and the culture of people in the Spanish-speaking world. Students further develop their Spanish communication skills as they study familiar topics such as school, clothes, and community. (These courses are offered for students in third, fourth, and fifth grade.) This course requires a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided.

Experiencing Music I, II, III (K-2)

Designed for students in grades K–2, these courses introduce younger students to the basic components of music: melody and rhythm. Students use these components to explore their own voices by creating beats and rhythms. In addition, students use critical-listening skills to analyze music they hear as they participate in interactive experiences. With audio, visual, and interactive technologies, these courses provide a unique and advanced learning experience for students in these grades.

Gifted and Talented Language Arts 3 A&B †

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. This course focuses on developing critical thinking and analytical skills. Students also create compositions throughout the course by moving through the five stages of the writing process: planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Students continue to master the basic skills of writing with instruction in spelling, handwriting, grammar, and language usage.

Gifted and Talented Language Arts 4 A&B †

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. Oral language skills are developed with instruction in oral compositions, interviews, and discussion. Writing skills are reinforced with instruction in spelling, handwriting, grammar, and language usage. Classic and award-winning children's literature carries students across oceans and through centuries as tales of adventure unfold.

† Must accompany G&T Literature Study

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Gifted and Talented Language Arts 5 A&B †

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. Critical thinking skills are intertwined with novel activities in order to sharpen students' analytical abilities. Reading comprehension instruction allowing students to practice identifying main ideas and themes in any given reading passage. The writing content throughout the course concentrates on crafting quality sentences, organizing paragraphs, summary writing, and adding detail to writing.

Gifted and Talented Literature Study 2 #

The Junior Great Books™ program involves a student in reading engaging literature and participating in rich discussion. The literature included in the Junior Great Books program is chosen to spark a high level of thinking and expose the student to rich language and vocabulary. The teacher and Learning Coach use the Shared Inquiry™ method to help a student acquire the qualities and strategies of effective readers and thinkers. The student learns to read actively, noticing thoughts and questions that come to mind during the act of reading. The student also learns to use the text, his own experiences, prior knowledge, and critical and creative thinking to participate in discussions about the text. These discussions help the student answer their own questions, satisfy their curiosity, and think more deeply about the content and process of their reading.

Gifted and Talented Math 3 A&B

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing are introduced in a way that provides students with a conceptual understanding of the operations. Statistics is presented by creating graphs and conducting experiments in probability. Students also have the opportunity to study geometry concepts, including lines, angles, shapes, perimeter, area, congruence, and similarity.



† Must accompany G&T Literature Study

Designates course is an elective credit.

Junior Great Books and Shared Inquiry are trademarks of The Great Books Foundation.

K–5 Electives *(continued)*

Gifted and Talented Math 4 A&B

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are introduced to more complex activities, such as adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals, fractions, and fractions with mixed numbers. Patterns and variables are studied as a precursor to solving equations and inequalities. Students learn number theory to help them understand divisibility, factors, and prime numbers. Throughout the course, students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion.

Gifted and Talented Math 5 A&B

This course reinforces students' understanding of mathematical concepts in preparation for higher level courses. Students learn to create, analyze, and interpret graphs in their study of statistics. Geometry continues to be explored, with students classifying polygons and using measurement skills to find the perimeter, area, and volume of geometric figures. In addition to learning basic probability and permutations, students begin their algebra studies with solving equations and inequalities.

Gifted and Talented Science 3 A&B

This course introduces science as an adventure in learning about the world around us. Through hands-on activities, student-designed experiments, research, and guided readings, students begin exploring the life and Earth sciences. In the Earth science unit, students learn about the Earth and its changing features. In life science, they explore the living world and its organisms. Designed to accommodate a variety of learning styles, the lessons encourage students to apply new concepts through activity-centered learning, reading, and traditional research and instruction methods. Students also explore the scientific method and various careers in science.

Gifted and Talented Science 4 A&B

This course deepens the student's understanding of the life and Earth sciences through observation, research, and experimentation. Our life science unit explores the differences and commonalities between organisms. The Earth science unit investigates the Earth's different land features and how to care for the Earth in the 21st century. Students become engaged while observing seed growth, exploring the effects of flooding on a riverbank, and conducting a variety of experiments.

Gifted and Talented Science 5 A&B

This exciting course encourages students to see themselves as scientists by empowering them to make their own discoveries. Students begin by studying the roles of scientists and the scientific method and then explore the Earth and life sciences in the context of the discoverer. In life science, they study cells and heredity. In Earth science, students design their own experiments for investigating the earth's composition and the factors affecting that composition. A range of activity-based learning and traditional instruction engages students of diverse learning styles.

Home Life

In this course, students select from a number of projects that develop skills through fun, experiential learning projects. Activities include cooking, crafts, sewing, home maintenance, family outings, and genealogy. Projects feature photography as well as textiles and clothing.

WebQuest

This interactive elective allows students to participate in a unique online experience. The course is primarily based on students' collecting, submitting, and tracking their own data. In addition, students are able to share the collected information with other students online.





Image by Christof van der Walt

Grades 6-8

Course Descriptions

Language Arts

Math

Language Arts 6 A&B

In sixth grade, through the literature of authors such as Jane Yolen, Francisco Jiménez, and e.e. cummings, students ponder such questions as, “What’s fair and what’s not?”; “What makes a hero?”; and “What makes you who you are?” While exploring the literary genres of informational text, biography, autobiography, persuasive text, poetry, fiction, folktales, nonfiction, and drama, students strengthen their reading and writing skills and vocabulary development.

Language Arts 7 A&B

In seventh grade, through the literature of authors such as Rita Dove, Gary Soto, and Langston Hughes, students think about questions like, “How can we become who we want to be?”; “Whom can we really count on?”; and “Who influences us?” While exploring the literary genres of informational text, biography, fiction, persuasive text, nonfiction, folktales, poetry, and historical documents, students strengthen their reading and writing skills and vocabulary development.

Language Arts 8 A&B

In eighth grade, through the literature of authors including Maya Angelou, Yoshiko Uchida, and Nikki Giovanni, students contemplate questions such as, “How do you stay true to yourself?”; “How do you keep from giving up when bad things happen?”; and “What is the American dream?” While exploring the literary genres of autobiography, biography, folktales, informational text, poetry, fiction, drama, persuasive text, and historical text, students strengthen their reading and writing skills and vocabulary development.



Algebra Readiness A&B (Pre-Algebra) (8) ♦

In this course, the student will be introduced to basic algebraic principles. The text, Prentice Hall Mathematics: Pre-Algebra, provides the basis for the course content. The student will solve equations and inequalities with positive and negative integers, decimals, and fractions. The student will then use these algebra skills to work with ratios, proportions, and percents. In the second course, the student will explore basic algebraic principles. The student will also examine and evaluate two-step and multi-step equations and inequalities and then explore and use graphs to solve linear relations and functions. Next, the student will be introduced to basic concepts of geometry including angle relationships, parallel lines, polygons, circles, and transformations. The student will continue to apply his knowledge of geometry and algebra to solve area and volume problems. Then the student will explore nonlinear functions and polynomials. Finally, the student will examine properties of right triangles, data analysis, and probability.

Essential Algebra Readiness A&B (Pre-Algebra) (8) ♦

In this course, the student will be introduced to basic algebraic principles. The student will review properties of expressions and integers. The student will solve one-step equations and inequalities with positive and negative integers, decimals, fractions, and exponents. Then the student will explore problems involving operations of fractions and will apply his knowledge of algebra to solve real-world ratio, proportion, and percent problems. Finally, the student will be able to examine and evaluate two-step and multi-step equations and inequalities. In the second course, the student will explore basic algebraic principles. The student will examine and evaluate two-step and multi-step equations and inequalities and then explore and use graphs to solve linear relations and functions. Next, the student will be introduced to basic concepts of geometry including angle relationships, parallel lines, polygons, circles, and transformations. The student will also apply his knowledge of geometry and algebra to solve area and volume problems. Then the student will explore nonlinear functions and polynomials. Finally, the student will examine properties of right triangles, data analysis, and probability.

♦ Course requires a free third-party download

Science



Image by Louis Hamel

Essential Math 6 A&B

In this course, students use the four mathematical operations with decimals, fractions, and integers. Patterns and variables are studied as a precursor to solving equations and inequalities. Students learn number theory to help them understand divisibility, prime numbers, factors, and multiples. They also learn about ratios, proportions, and percents and apply them to scale drawings. The course also covers basic statistics and the fundamentals of geometry.

Essential Math 7 A&B

This course reinforces students' understanding of mathematical concepts in preparation for higher level courses. Students learn to create, analyze, and interpret graphs in their study of statistics. Geometry continues to be explored, with students classifying polygons and using measurement skills to find the perimeter, area, and volume of geometric figures. In addition to learning basic probability and permutations, students begin their algebra studies with solving equations and inequalities.

Math 6 A&B ‡

Students connect ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and also use the concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems. In addition, they extend their understanding of dividing fractions and of writing, interpreting, and applying expressions and equations as well as develop an understanding of statistical thinking.

Math 7 A&B ‡

Students build on their knowledge of proportional relationships and operations with rational numbers. They solve real-world problems involving scale drawings, geometric constructions, area, surface area, and volume. Students also draw inferences about populations based on samples.

Science 6, 7, and 8 A&B

In the spirit of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and in accordance with 21st century skills, the new media-rich science courses enable students to engage actively in inquiry-based investigations, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) projects, as well as cross-disciplinary and cross-curricular activities. Students make connections, collaborate, and reflect on their learning as they work through the content. The science program consists of life science, Earth science, and physical science units that cover topics listed below. Because each course is designed to meet both national and state-based standards, the sequence of content will vary by state and may include:

- Structure of the cell
- Organism systems and information processing in the body
- Transfer of matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems
- Interdependent relationships in ecosystems
- Natural selection and adaptations
- Growth, development, and reproduction of organisms
- Earth and space systems
- Earth's surface and interior processes
- Weather and climate
- Human impacts on Earth
- Structure and properties of matter
- Chemical reactions
- Forces, energy, and motion
- Waves and electromagnetic radiation

‡ Designates course is new, revised, or expanded

Social Studies

Social Studies 6 A&B

In sixth grade, students focus on ancient civilizations. They begin by analyzing a historian's role and utilizing the tools and skills he or she would use including building timelines, studying geography, and evaluating multiple sources. Students trace how societies shifted from hunting and gathering to farming. They also trace the development of ancient China, India, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Students enhance their critical thinking by interpreting primary sources and reading eyewitness accounts to draw conclusions.

Social Studies 7 A&B

In seventh grade, students study political, economic, and social changes from the fifth century to modern times. They utilize their critical-thinking skills by making connections between historical events, such as the rise and fall of empires and the rise of democracy, and analyzing long-term changes and recurring patterns in world history. Students complete a comprehensive study of the history, geography, and cultures of nations in North and South America. Thinking as historians, they read primary source documents, form hypotheses, and draw conclusions.

Social Studies 8 A&B ‡

Social Studies 8 examines the American experience from pre-colonial times through Reconstruction following the Civil War. U.S. political, economic, and social history is explored from a chronological point of view with lessons that develop the students' abilities to analyze, interpret, and evaluate different forms of information. Throughout the course, students make connections between historical events and their impact on the American people and landscape.



Electives

Art 6, 7 & 8 A&B ◇

In middle school, students explore how art can be used for design, functionality, or personal expression. They study how American and international visual art influences ideas, actions, cultures, and environments. Students use various media and techniques to create two- and three-dimensional visual art projects. Through discussions of art history and criticism, students learn methods to analyze, interpret, and judge artworks. Students also make connections between art and artists, from across time and location, and explore how science, math, history, and religion impact art.

Business Keyboarding

Students begin by learning the functions of all the keys and how to find them quickly. They explore the alphabetic and numeric keyboard, study the history of the keyboard (and new technology), and build speed and accuracy. Proper formatting for various academic and business documents, a discussion on business ethics, and the importance of keyboarding in virtually every career are also covered.

Educational Technology and Online Learning 6, 7 & 8 ◇

Students use electronic media and software to apply academic concepts as they create meaningful organizers, projects, and presentations. Students locate, retrieve, and evaluate data in order to construct and analyze databases. They produce presentations on Internet safety, online predators, and cyberbullying. Students become effective communicators and collaborators as they plan, evaluate, and synthesize research emphasizing current issues with technology.

Exploring Music I, II, III

This series of courses is designed to teach students fundamental musicianship from a Western Classical approach while aligning to national music education standards. Through the use of virtual tools and an analysis of classic repertoire, students improve their rhythm, listening, notation, analysis, performance, and improvisation skills. With audio, visual, and interactive technologies, the course sequence provides a unique and progressively more advanced learning experience for students in grades 6–8.

◇ Course requires a free third-party download

‡ Designates course is new, revised, or expanded

† Must accompany G&T Literature Study

Gifted and Talented Language Arts 6 A&B †

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. This course deepens students' appreciation of literature through the reading and comprehension of a variety of works from poetry to novels. Grammar, vocabulary, and spelling are incorporated to help students master the mechanics of English. Students create paragraphs and short essays to promote their understanding of the writing process and respond to literature.

Gifted and Talented Language Arts 7 A&B †

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. This course uses a variety of texts to guide students into becoming better readers. Students enhance their writing skills through grammar, mechanics, and language development, and they learn useful writing techniques in the context of crafting autobiographical accounts, research papers, poetry, and persuasive essays.

Gifted and Talented Language Arts 8 A&B †

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers. Building on the reading comprehension skills learned in Language Arts 7, this course delves more deeply into literature and writing and prepares students for high school coursework. In addition to improving reading comprehension and communication skills, two novels are read and analyzed, enhancing skills such as predicting, clarifying, summarizing, and identifying plot development.

Gifted and Talented Math 6 (Pre-Algebra) A&B

Students are introduced to basic algebraic principles in this course by solving equations and inequalities with positive and negative integers, decimals, and fractions. Students move on to working with ratios, proportions, and percents, and then to solving two-step and multi-step equations and inequalities. A look into relations and functions demonstrate how to find the slope, y-intercept, and solve systems of linear equations. Algebra skills are applied across math disciplines with the study of right triangles, data analysis, and probability.

Gifted and Talented Math 7 (Algebra I) A&B

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. This algebra course starts with a review of basic real number operations and properties, then continues on to more complicated concepts such as multi-step equations and inequalities, proportions (in preparation for graphing functions), exponents, and polynomials. Coursework also includes problem-solving and test-taking strategies gearing students for continued study in high school. Students are provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers.

Gifted and Talented Math 8 (Geometry) A&B

This course provides students opportunities to work at an accelerated pace, while engaging in more complex and challenging instructional activities. Using the basic principles of logic, students learn geometry through constructing formal proofs and studying parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, and equilaterals. Students learn to find area and volume, and study the concept of similarity as it relates to various figures, including circles and their unique properties. Students are also provided opportunities for increased student-teacher interaction and discussion, as well as increased interaction with their peers.

‡ Designates course is new, revised, or expanded

† Must accompany G&T Literature Study

^ G&T Science courses include the core grade level science course and a G&T accompanying course combined

Electives *(continued)*

Gifted and Talented Science 6 A&B ^

Students learn how science is around them every day. Through interactive labs and engaging assignments, students discover the key elements of Earth, life, and physical sciences. The nature of matter is explored, covering the properties of a simple atom to those of more complex molecules. Energy and motion are also introduced, and a biology unit examines organisms and the principles of heredity. Units on Earth and space science provide detailed information about the planet, the universe, and the relationships between them.

Gifted and Talented Science 7 A&B ^

Science for seventh graders is an integrated approach with opportunities for students to explore concepts in earth science, life science, and physical science. Students learn lab report processes and protocols, and these skills are utilized throughout the course. Earth science investigates the properties of rocks and minerals, patterns in the atmosphere, and the solar system. Students describe the structures of living things, explore how living things interact, and learn about various human body systems in the life science unit. Physical science covers physical and chemical properties of matter, different types of forces and motion, and various forms of energy.

Gifted and Talented Science 8 A&B ^

Focusing on the fundamentals of Earth, life, and physical sciences, Science 8 lessons are designed to engage students through exploration and discovery. Life science units expose students to traits and how they change, relationships between organisms and their environments, and cycles in nature. Earth's changing geology is studied in the Earth science unit, in which students learn the causes and effects of earthquakes and volcanoes and the bodies that comprise the solar system. In the physical science unit, students learn about atoms and elements and how to calculate different forms of motion and force.

Health and Physical Education 6, 7 & 8

With the support of virtual friends, students determine current personal fitness levels and learn to improve those levels. Students also learn safety rules for exercise, how to create equipment from household items, how different activities target different body parts, how to set and reach a goal, and how to be good sports. Activity choices are plentiful, leading students to a healthy and physically active lifestyle. Students keep a log of physical fitness activities so they can monitor and reflect on personal progress.

Home Life

In this course, students select from a number of projects that develop skills through fun, experiential learning projects. Activities include cooking, crafts, sewing, home maintenance, family outings, and genealogy. Projects feature photography as well as textiles and clothing.

Middle Chinese I and II **

In Chinese I and II, students have the opportunity to “see it, hear it, say it, and write it” as they interact with content and communicate with native speakers throughout the courses. Familiar characters introduce the students to lesson content and serve as tour guides as students visit the Great Wall, meet pandas in Sichuan, and celebrate the Lantern Festival. This course requires a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided.

Middle Sign Language

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of American Sign Language. They explore vocabulary, grammar, and conversation by using basic signing and fingerspelling techniques. Special activities and exercises also help a student understand the culture of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

^ G&T Science courses include the core grade level science course and a G&T accompanying course combined.

**Please note: The World Languages courses require a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided by Connections Learning.

Middle Spanish I and II **

Spanish I and II introduce students to Spanish language and culture. Student guides share information on topics such as family and friends, home, food, clothing, and neighborhoods. Culture is presented throughout the course to help students make connections between their culture and the culture of people in the Spanish-speaking world. Opportunities for students to communicate with native speakers throughout the course provide a real world context. This course requires a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided.

MS Digital Arts I

Students learn basic concepts essential to visual and digital art such as line, shape, form, color, value, space, and texture. They use Inkscape, a vector drawing application, to create original digital art and complete a still life scene for a course-long art project.

MS Introduction to Entrepreneurship I

Students learn the basics to plan and launch their own business by studying successful entrepreneurs and basic economic concepts such as competition and production, setting up a business plan, and marketing a company.

WebQuest

This interactive elective allows students to participate in a unique online experience. The course is primarily based on students' collecting, submitting, and tracking their own data. In addition, students are able to share the collected information with other students online.

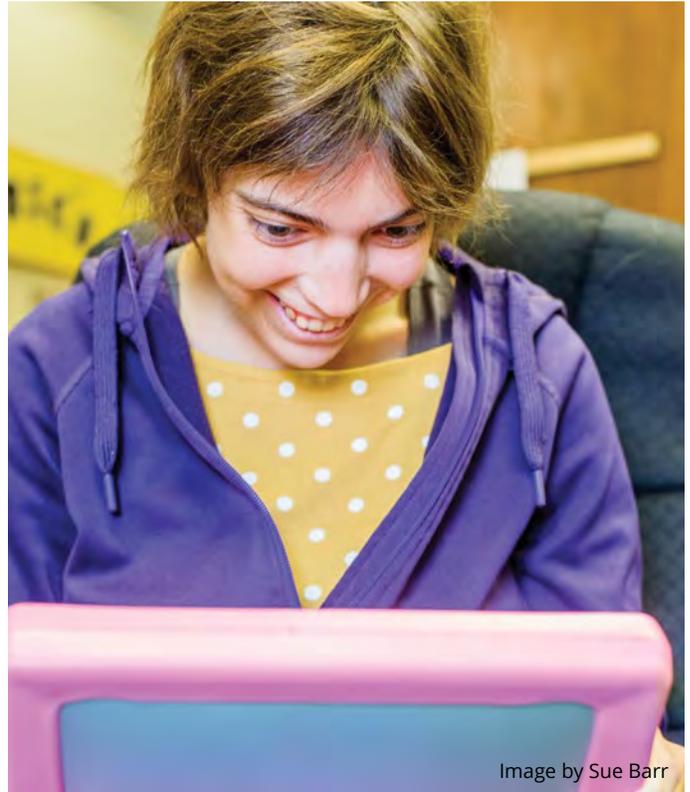


Image by Sue Barr

**Please note: The World Languages courses require a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided by Connections Learning.



Grades 9–12

Course Descriptions

English

English 9 A&B *•

Classic and contemporary works of American, British, and world literature in a variety of genres are introduced in English 9. Students analyze short fiction, nonfiction, and poetry selections. Students also read and analyze novels and other major literary works. Reading and writing assignments strengthen students' understanding of literary elements in poetry, fiction, and drama; the characteristics of narrative, expository, and persuasive writing; correct grammar and usage; and research skills. The thematic units include works by Homer, Gabriel García Márquez, and Leslie Marmon Silko.

English 10 A&B *•

The timeless themes in world literature are emphasized in English 10, which includes literature of the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, the Pacific Rim, and Africa. A classic world literature selection introduces each region, followed by contemporary short fiction, poetry, and drama. Students explore the cultures from which each piece of literature derives and consider the similarities that unite the human family. The survey of world literature includes works by Margaret Atwood, Pablo Neruda, and Eugene Ionesco. Students continue to strengthen their mastery of the writing process and compose for various purposes. Skills are further developed, including the research process and oral communication.

English 11 A&B *•

Students focus on the literary movements that comprise American literature and trace the chronology of national literature from the early American and colonial period through the contemporary period. Students read selections from the Native American oral tradition, seminal historical documents and essays, in addition to fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. The survey of American authors includes Mark Twain, Ralph Ellison, and Julia Alvarez. Students continue to strengthen and apply higher-level critical reading, literary analysis, and research skills through the use of visual organizers and notetaking strategies.

English 12 A&B *•

Students study classical and contemporary British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the modern era. They examine how the historical, social, and cultural contexts of each period influenced writers. Particular attention is given to the form and function of different types of literature including epic poetry, allegory, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and drama. The survey of British literature includes excerpts from Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare, and Virginia Woolf. Students write creative and analytical compositions and participate in collaborative discussions to refine their writing products.

Journalism A&B

Students gain firsthand experience writing news, sports, and feature articles and following proper journalism guidelines. The activities and assignments simulate an actual newsroom.

Speech and Debate

Using video tutorials, students study verbal and nonverbal techniques—including those of famous orators—to use when presenting simple and complex ideas and when speaking to a group. Using an audiovisual tool to record their speeches, students learn how to speak persuasively, develop position statements, support their arguments, and think analytically. Brainstorming techniques, media analysis, research skills, and presentation strategies are also discussed.

* Also offered as an Honors course

• Course also offers a Foundations level

Math

Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications A&B

Students explore topics such as saving money, spending money, and dealing with debt. Formulas to determine account balances, monthly payments, and total costs are evaluated and applied. Incorporating real-world scenarios, students learn about mortgages, investments, and retirement, which serves as a foundation for making future financial decisions.

Algebra 1 A&B *•◇

Students learn about the properties of real numbers and apply their knowledge to equations, inequalities, and multi-step equations. They move on to identify, write, and graph functions and equations; simplify radical expressions; solve quadratic equations; and factor and perform operations with binomials and polynomials. Students calculate slope and use the slope-intercept form to graph linear equations. They also learn to solve systems of equations and inequalities both graphically and algebraically.

Algebra 2 A&B *•◇

Students engage in high-level mathematical discussions and apply algebraic concepts to real world scenarios as they build on prior knowledge of functions, systems of equations, the quadratic formula, and factoring. Students also continue to study arithmetic and geometric sequences and series, probability and statistics, and trigonometric identities and equations.

Calculus A&B

Students are introduced to advanced concepts relating to limits, differentiation, and integration. Using graphs and equations, they investigate finite and infinite limits, apply various methods such as the chain rule to solve derivatives, and use both area calculations and the substitution method to evaluate integrals. A TI-83+ or TI-84+ graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

Consumer Math A&B

Students focus on math skills and problem-solving strategies that are relevant to practical financial applications. Topics include planning and managing a budget, avoiding common financial pitfalls, and posing questions to businesses and companies. Students also learn to examine their own spending behavior and evaluate purchasing decisions.

Explorations in Mathematics A&B ◇

Students delve into fundamental math concepts and apply those concepts to real-life situations. Topics covered include prime factorization, operations with rational numbers and integers, solving equations, properties of real numbers, and basic statistics. The goal is to establish a solid base for studies of more advanced math.

Geometry A&B *•◇

This course guides students through the exploration of geometric figures. They analyze plane figures and three-dimensional figures and apply formulas to calculate area, surface area, and volume. They learn how to use inductive and deductive logic to conduct formal proofs through predictions, counterexamples, and drawing conclusions. Students also conduct detailed analyses of the properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, polygons, quadrilaterals, and circles, including similarity and transformations.

Precalculus A&B •◇

This course includes an in-depth study of functions. Students review the principles and techniques of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry, and they learn to explore, solve, and evaluate various functions, equations, and inequalities. Mathematical reasoning and problem solving are stressed to prepare students for calculus at the high school or college level. A TI-83+ or TI-84+ graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

Statistics A&B ◇

In this course, students are introduced to the major concepts of collecting, organizing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students have the opportunity to observe patterns and departures from patterns, plan a study, produce models using probability and simulation, and use statistical inference to confirm models.

* Also offered as an Honors course

• Course also offers a Foundations level

◇ Course requires a free third-party download

Science

Biology A&B *•

Students have frequent opportunities to debate scientific findings and analyze how biology impacts society as they study topics such as ecology, genetics, and anatomy. Using both hands-on experiments and interactive tools, they also study cells, compare microorganisms, investigate plant and animal structure and function, and explore the history of life on Earth.

Chemistry A&B *◇

Students are given the opportunity to model atomic structure and to observe, represent, and interpret reactions between atoms and molecules. Students investigate the properties of solutions and analyze the nature of solids, liquids, and gases using interactive tools. They describe and calculate the energies of different types of reactions and explore electrochemistry.

Earth Science A&B *•

Students look at our planet's place in the universe, at its composition, and at the many changes it may undergo. In addition, they study Earth's history by comparing landforms, investigating the properties of rocks and minerals, analyzing weather patterns, and examining the relationships between the Earth, moon, and sun.

Earth Space Science A&B *

Students focus on the study of space and the geologic and atmospheric forces that shape our world. Through experimentation and investigation, students explore Earth cycles including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and carbon cycle. They learn about scientific inquiry, geologic time, space exploration, the solar system, and the universe. Students use Web 2.0 tools, interactive experiences, higher-order thinking, collaborative projects, and real-world application through labs and a variety of assessments.

Environmental Science A&B

Students have an opportunity to study the fundamentals of ecology and investigate ways to protect the environment. They review the scientific method and the water and carbon cycles. Students also take a look at various kinds of pollution and ways to safeguard our natural resources.

Marine Science A&B

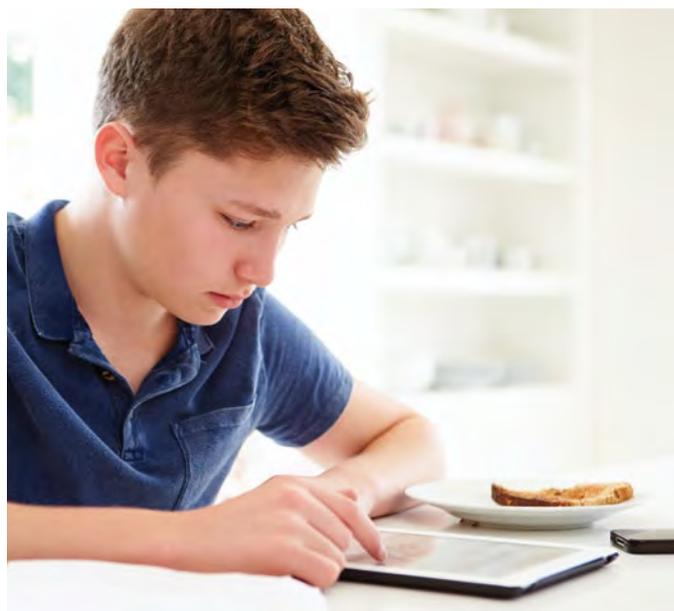
Students delve deep into Earth's bodies of water and study geologic structures and how they impact oceans. They investigate characteristics of various populations, patterns of distribution of life in our aquatic systems, and ongoing changes occurring every day in the ecosystems. Students have the opportunity to explore the relationships among living organisms and see how they are affected by the oceans' currents, tides, and waves.

Physical Science A&B *•◇

Students explore and learn the basic concepts of chemistry and physics. The chemistry-focused lessons extend prior knowledge of the properties, states, and structure of matter; explore the dynamics of chemical bonding and reactions; and introduce students to nuclear chemistry. The physics-focused lessons enable students to explore motion, force, work, power, energy, wave mechanics, electricity, magnetism, optics, and the electromagnetic spectrum. Additional content includes Earth science. Hands-on explorations and virtual simulations enhance students' comprehension of key science concepts.

Physics A&B

Students apply the math and science skills they already learned to explain the laws of motion, analyze the laws of thermodynamics, describe the behavior of waves, and investigate the relationship between electricity and magnetism. They are introduced to quantum physics and are asked to apply physics concepts to real-life situations.



* Also offered as an Honors course

• Course also offers a Foundations level

◇ Course requires a free third-party download

Social Studies

American Government A&B *

Magruder's American Government provides the basis for instruction. In this course, the student will explore the foundations of American government and its fundamental principles and organization. The student will examine government concepts such as the growth of democracy, federalism, separation of powers, and checks and balances. The branches of government—legislative, executive, and judicial—are studied in depth. This course promotes understanding and participation in government by presenting information in a context that is relevant to the student. Activities in this course are designed to develop the student's abilities to question, read, analyze, interpret, and evaluate different forms of information, as well as to communicate ideas to others. In the second semester course, the student will examine the basic rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens and the foundations of American government. In addition, the student will explore constitutional freedoms, citizen requirements, and aspects of American law. Other topics covered include political parties, interest groups, ways to affect the government, and the influence of the media. Finally, the student will learn about local and state government structures, and compare political systems and economies from around the world.

Economics •

This course provides an introduction to macroeconomics and microeconomics and covers such basics as supply and demand, labor issues, financial markets, taxes, and international trade. Students also examine how capitalism and the global economy work.

Geography and Society

Students explore geography skills and principles as they examine several case studies with geographic implications. They gain an understanding of the ways that geography influences the daily lives of people around the world. This course covers the concepts of physical geography, human and environmental interaction, human systems, and the movement of peoples and their culture.

Personal Finance

Through real-world applications and clear, engaging lessons, Personal Finance prepares students for making sound financial decisions. Exercises illustrate the influence of economics in daily life and how financial decisions made today affect the future. The course covers topics such as financial and career planning; banking, savings, and investments programs; and stocks, bonds, and mutual funds.

* Also offered as an Honors course

• Course also offers a Foundations level

Psychology A&B

The course begins with a review of the ways people have sought to explain human behavior from ancient times through today. Students explore research methods and discover how the scientific method has moved psychology from hypnosis and mesmerism to using serious inquiries to prove theories. They also investigate brain personality theories to help understand such complex mental processes as learning, memory, thought, and language.

United States History A&B *•

Students follow the significant developments in America's history. They explore the growth of American society from early settlement and colonization to the emergence of America as an independent nation. The causes and aftermath of the Civil War are discussed, as is America's involvement in World War I. Students explore social and economic whirlwinds of the Roaring Twenties and the subsequent Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, and the turmoil and societal changes of the 1960s and 1970s. The final part of the course explores America's history from Watergate to the early 21st century. Throughout this course, geography and government concepts are introduced and discussed.

World Geography

Students explore the world's cultural regions by focusing on location, physical characteristics, demographics, historical changes, economic activity, and land use. They are encouraged to examine real-life situations, develop an understanding of multiculturalism, and compare relationships between people and their environment.

World History A&B *

Pearson's World History provides the basis for instruction. This course provides the student with a comprehensive examination of world history from ancient times through the Global Age. The student will begin by exploring prehistory and early civilizations, focusing on the ancient civilizations of the Americas, Egypt, India, China, Greece, and Rome. The student will then study Medieval Christian Europe from the early to the late Middle Ages, followed by regional civilizations with a focus on the Muslim world, Africa, and Asia. Finally, the student will explore early modern times with a focus on the Renaissance, Reformation, and the Global Age. The second semester course provides the student with a comprehensive examination of world history from the Age of Absolutism through the present day. The student will explore social, political, and economic changes of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, focusing on the Industrial Age and independence movements around the globe, including the impact of nationalism, imperialism, and the world wars. The later part of the course covers such topics as the Cold War, new nations, and the effects of globalization.

Business Management

Introduction to Entrepreneurship I and II

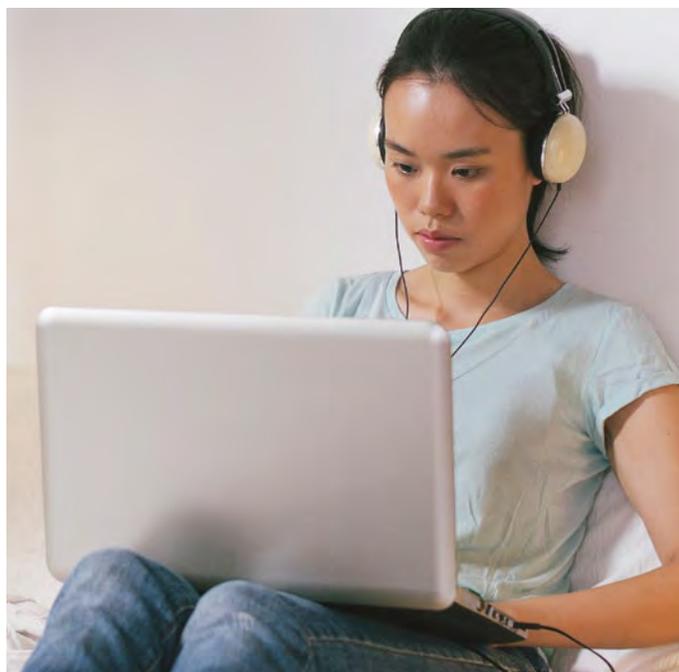
Students learn the basics to plan and launch their own business by studying successful entrepreneurs and basic economic concepts such as competition, production, setting up a business plan, and more. In course II, students continue to develop skills including setting goals, understanding financial concepts, working with others, and managing employees.

Introduction to Marketing

In this Introduction to Marketing class, students will master the basics of marketing, including core concepts such as financing, pricing, distribution, product management, and more. Throughout the course they'll learn about the basics of economics and economic systems, managing business finances accounting practices, operating a business in the global marketplace, generating business ideas and seeking out business opportunities, creating a business plan, and promoting and advertising a business.

Sports Management

In this introduction to the fast-growing field, students explore topics such as sports marketing, branding, ticket sales, media relations, and ethics. They also learn tips for breaking into the industry. The activities and assignments require students to respond to real-world sports management scenarios.



Career Technical (CTE)

Accounting I

This course provides students with an introduction to accounting concepts and principles, financial statements, internal control design, and accounting for partnerships.

Accounting II

The student will build upon knowledge gained in Accounting I and continue to explore topics such as corporate accounting and financial statements, long-term liabilities, cash flow, financial statement analysis, managerial accounting, budgeting, and using financial data to make business decisions.

Administrative Duties and Office Management

Students learn the skills and knowledge required to perform tasks in the administrative department of a medical office. Topics include, but are not limited to, receiving patients, scheduling appointments, handling medical records, and processing insurance claims.

Anatomy and Physiology

Students learn about anatomical structures and physiology of the human body. Body systems are discussed in terms of how each participates in homeostasis of the body. Students learn about selected major pathologies, including causes, symptoms, diagnostic procedures, and treatments, as well as common changes that occur through the life span.

Business Communication

Students explore business communication, including letters, memos, electronic communication, written reports, oral presentations, and interpersonal communication. Resumes, application letters, interviewing tips, and employment follow-up are also covered.

Business Information Systems

This course introduces students to various information and communications technologies and explains how information systems are used to solve problems and make better business decisions.

Career Technical (CTE) *(continued)*

Business Law

Students explore principle areas of business law and topics such as torts, crimes, intellectual property, contracts, negotiable instruments, agency, employment, and forms of business organization. They learn rules of law and legal terminology, as well as legal solutions for business-related issues.

Business Math

The student will explore topics such as business statistics, profit calculations, payroll, banking, interest calculations, insurance, taxes, and other business topics.

Criminal Investigation

Students examine the process of identifying and arresting criminal suspects, types of crimes and offenses, and preparing for court. They study the history of criminal investigation and explore the relationship between investigation and the courtroom process by examining case studies.

Developmental Writing

The student will explore the fundamental tools and techniques needed to write clear sentences, effective paragraphs, and well-organized essays for general education courses and employment settings. Using standard American English, the student will learn to organize, clarify, and communicate written ideas, as well as how to use correct sentence structure, grammar, and parts of speech in written communication. The student will also develop skills in revising and editing to clarify voice, tone, style, and mode.

Health, Safety, and Nutrition

Students learn about the physical and psychological needs of children, from birth to age eight, and how to meet these needs in group settings. Topics include wellness of young children, standards, guidelines and national initiatives, children's nutritional needs, safe and healthy environments, emergency response, child abuse and neglect, educational experiences, and partnering with families.

Human Resources Management

The student will learn important human resource management skills used by business managers in day-to-day operations. While focusing on various aspects of human resource management and practices, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills are applied.

Introduction to Business

Students explore business in global society, learning terminology, concepts, systems, strategies, and current issues. Topics include the business environment, ethics, entrepreneurship and global business, management, marketing, production, information systems, and financial elements.

Introduction to Communication

The student will examine the communication process, including elements of listening and verbal and nonverbal communication. The course also explores how these communication elements operate between self, individuals, and groups. Communication concepts and skills are explored through a variety of methods and activities.

Introduction to Criminal Justice

Students explore law enforcement, the courts, and the correctional system. They study what crime is, how crime is measured, and theories of crime causation. They also examine issues and challenges within the criminal justice system and its future directions.

Introduction to Early Childhood Education

This course provides the historical, theoretical, and developmental foundations for educating young children, with emphasis on creating inclusive environments and curricula for diverse children and their families. Topics include historical influences, program types, guidance strategies, professionalism, current trends and issues, and advocacy.

Introduction to Finance

Students gain understanding of financial management, including key language and terminology, time-value of money, financial markets and securities, financial statements, financial analysis, risk and return, valuation of stocks and bonds, capital budgeting and valuation, cost of capital and capital structure, working capital management, dividend policy, and international finance. Students apply financial tools and understand how they impact financial decision making.

Introduction to Homeland Security

This course provides an overview of the elements involved in the homeland security function, as well as the challenges managers in government and industry can face while maintaining mission operations and staff accountability in the midst of multiple overlapping roles and responsibilities. The key functions of threat prevention, asset protection, crisis response, and operations recovery are addressed from a variety of perspectives.

Introduction to Law

Students receive an overview of substantive and procedural areas of law and legal practice. They explore the legal profession, courts, ethics, sources of law, and alternative dispute resolution systems, and they analyze an application of law to factual circumstances.

Introduction to Medical Assisting

Students explore the role of the medical assistant, including professionalism, duties and responsibilities, and medical specialties. Also included is information on medical law and ethics, office management, and compliance and regulatory issues affecting the role of the medical assistant.

Introduction to Paralegal Profession

The student will explore the role of paralegals in the legal system, paralegal skills, legal working environments, ethical considerations, and career opportunities. The student is introduced to the sources of law, an overview of courts, and alternative dispute resolution systems.

Introduction to Psychology

Students gain an understanding of human behavior, including biological foundations and the brain, sensation, motivation, and perception. Students explore the relationship between learning and memory; various personality theories; emotions; states of consciousness; cognition; life-span development; and applied psychology.

Introduction to Sociology

Students examine the sociological processes that underlie everyday life, focusing on globalization, cultural diversity, critical thinking, new technology, and the growing influence of mass media.

Introductory Astronomy

Students explore a broad range of astronomy topics, including the planetary system, stars, galaxies, and the universe. Students also learn about the scientific method and the evolution of scientific ideas.

Java Programming I ♦

The student will explore programming fundamentals, basic problem solving, variables and assignments, math, conditionals, control flow, methods and functional abstraction, objects and data abstraction, inheritance and polymorphism, exception handling, graphical user interfaces, and external libraries. The student will use Sun's Java® programming language throughout this course.

Java Programming II ♦

The student will explore programming fundamentals, linked lists, stacks, queues, binary trees, generics and interfaces, an introduction to Big O notation, Java® collections framework, analyzing complexity and implementing various sorting algorithms, graph applications, and advanced GUIs and graphics.

Leadership and Supervision in Business

This course examines the roles and responsibilities of supervisors in private, service, and public organizations. The student will gain an understanding of the expanded scope of supervisory responsibilities for business personnel ranging from first-time, first-line supervisors to top-level executives.

Medical Law and Ethics

The student will gain an understanding of the legal and ethical issues that can impact professional roles in health care settings. Laws that regulate the health care industry, such as HIPAA, the Patient's Bill of Rights, and standard of care, are introduced. The student is encouraged to consider the impact of personal ethics and morals on decision making.

♦ Course requires a free third-party download

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Medical Terminology

Students explore medical terminology and its symbols and abbreviations, as well as the application of this new language in health care. They learn medical terms relating to body structure and function, and how to construct terms using word parts such as roots, suffixes, and prefixes.

Principles of Management

The student is introduced to common management philosophies and issues in today's changing world. The student will study globalization, ethics, diversity, customer service, and innovation from a managerial perspective.

Principles of Marketing

Students explore factors influencing how marketing decisions are made, including the impact of marketing decisions on an organization and its customers. They gain a working knowledge of practical marketing and business vocabulary. They also evaluate how the actions of competitors influence marketing decisions in the global marketplace.

Public Speaking

The student will gain a basic understanding of public speaking and the basic elements of a speech. The student will learn strategies to effectively communicate, to adapt to different audiences, and to practice organizational methods to create engaging speech content. Throughout the course, the student will develop and present original speeches to classmates.

Research Methods

Students practice the fundamentals of scientific research methodology by examining a social issue. They develop a research question, find and evaluate existing research, and design and implement an objective research method.

Health, Fitness, and Nutrition A&B

This course covers first aid, the benefits of good nutrition, and the dangers of alcohol and drug use. Students learn how to evaluate their own fitness and nutritional needs and how to make changes that lead to a healthier lifestyle over the long run. Also discussed are strategies for resisting peer pressure and ways fitness can influence self-image and overall well-being.

Personal Fitness

Students learn the proper ways to exercise and eat healthy, how to assess their fitness level, and strategies for reaching their highest possible fitness level. They have the option of learning yoga in this course.

Physical Education

This course emphasizes self-directed activities that a student can participate in for a lifetime. This includes the option of learning and practicing yoga. Students' skill levels are measured with written assignments, class evaluations, and demonstrations of a particular skill.

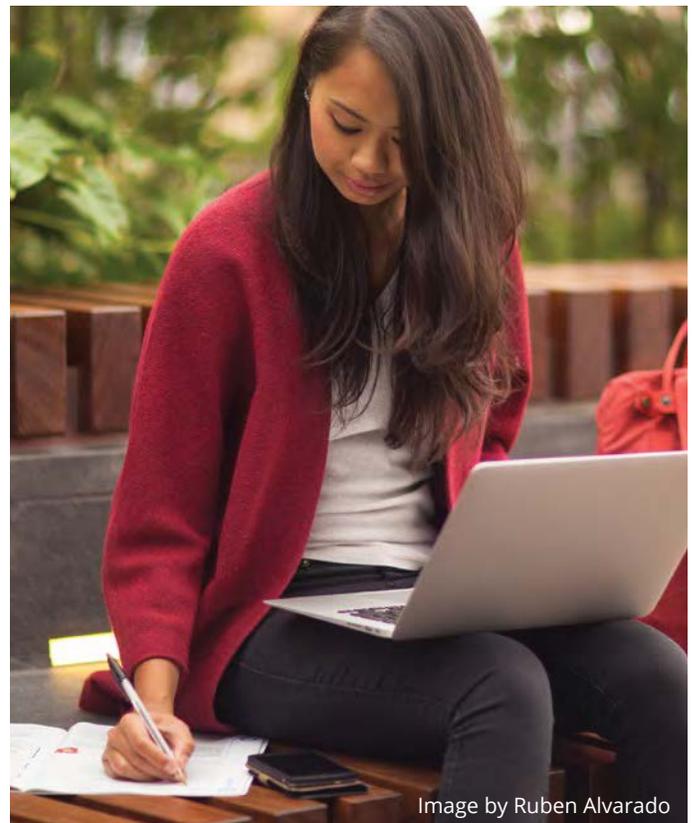


Image by Ruben Alvarado

Humanities

Art History A&B

Students begin exploring the basic elements of art and its role in history through their examination of works from Paleolithic times to the Roman Empire. The goal is to enhance students' understanding of ancient history and show how art reflects historical events.

Chinese I A&B **

Spoken by one-fifth of the world's population, Mandarin is the dialect of Beijing and the basis for modern standard Chinese. This course emphasizes listening skills, including the mastery of Chinese tones and tonal changes, as well as vocabulary and grammar skills. Students also begin to identify and write Chinese characters.

Chinese II A&B **

This course enables students to further develop the skills of listening to, speaking, reading, and writing Mandarin Chinese at a more advanced level. As they are immersed in Chinese culture, students expand their vocabulary, practice interacting with others, and learn the use of appropriate terms to communicate in various everyday situations.

Chinese III A&B **

Students continue to expand their knowledge of Mandarin Chinese in this course. They build their knowledge of vocabulary, sentence patterns, and grammar points through communicative texts; enhance their listening and speaking skills through pronunciation and intonation; and work to improve their reading ability. Students advance their skills by learning to write in various formats such as journals, essays, and letters, and by composing simplified Chinese characters. By studying Chinese culture, including origins, histories, anecdotes, and more, students learn to compare and contrast various aspects of this other culture with their own.

Digital Photography ♦

This course covers both digital photography and graphic design. Students learn basic photographic concepts and composition skills, elements of graphic design, digital image editing, and special effects techniques. They also explore the fields of photography, advertising, and illustration as possible career choices.

French I A&B **

This course introduces students to basic vocabulary and grammar. Lessons and assignments focus on simple speaking and reading, comprehension, and composition. Students also study the history and culture of French-speaking peoples around the world.

French II A&B **

Students are exposed to more complex reading, writing, and listening coursework. They explore advanced grammatical structure and apply vocabulary and word usage to various situations.

French III A&B **

This course is designed for students with strong listening and speaking skills plus a solid vocabulary base. The focus is on verb conjugation, direct and indirect object pronouns, and tenses. Students also improve their writing and speaking skills as they study the culture, art, and governments of French-speaking countries.

French IV A&B **

Students cover present, past, future, and conditional tense verbs, subjunctive mood, articles, and adjectives while delving more deeply into French culture. This course, rich in authentic reading material, uses native-speaker recordings to enrich the student's culture, grammar, and vocabulary lessons.

German I A&B **

Students use discussions and other activities to learn how to speak, read, write, and understand basic German. Simple grammar, punctuation, and spelling are reinforced with interactive lessons, games, and activities. Students also study German culture and history, as well as the influence of the German language.

German II A&B **

In this course, students are introduced to increasingly complex vocabulary and grammar. There is more emphasis on improving spoken communication and listening comprehension.

♦ Course requires a free third-party download

**Please note: The World Languages courses require a headset and microphone which is compatible with the computer being used for the course. This equipment is not provided by Connections Learning.

Humanities *(continued)*

German III A&B **

Students learn to express themselves using an ever-increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs, articles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind, including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Culture is sprinkled throughout the course in order to help the learner focus on the German-speaking world and its culture, people, geographical locations, and histories.

Japanese I A&B **

In today's business world, learning Japanese can be extremely valuable. This course focuses on spoken and written Japanese with a thorough grounding in Japanese culture. Using warm-up activities, reading, vocabulary studies, games, and multimedia presentations, students gain the foundation to communicate successfully in Japanese.

Japanese II A&B **

Students practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as they express themselves using new vocabulary, present-tense verbs, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Students learn about the culture through a focus on the people, lifestyle, geography, and history of Japan.

Latin I A&B **

Students gain a foundation in Latin grammar and vocabulary as well as an appreciation and understanding of the Roman culture as the foundation for much of Western culture. Through the study of Latin, students will gain an appreciation for and understanding of the grammatical constructs of the English language as they increase their vocabulary and understanding of word origins.

Latin II A&B **

Students build on their knowledge of Latin grammar and vocabulary and gain a solid foundation in the structure of the language as well as an understanding of the life and times of ancient Romans. They learn to appreciate how Roman engineering, art, commerce, and law systems were all supported by a clear, expressive, and flexible language.

Latin III A&B **

Students expand their knowledge of Latin by exploring prose written and spoken by Roman figures such as Caesar, Cicero, and Catullus. Through exposure to authentic texts, students strengthen their vocabulary as well as their understanding and appreciation of well-crafted writing.

Living Music I and II

This series of courses teaches students fundamental musicianship from a Western Classical approach while aligning to national music education standards. Students use classic repertoire to analyze compositional style and are challenged to improve their rhythm, listening, notation, analysis, performance, and improvisation skills using virtual tools. With audio, visual, and interactive technologies, the course sequence provides a unique and progressively more advanced learning experience for students in grades 9–12.

Sign Language I A&B

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of American Sign Language. They explore vocabulary, grammar, and conversation using basic signing and fingerspelling techniques. Special activities and exercises also help students understand the culture of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Sign Language II A&B

In this course, students continue their study of American Sign Language (ASL). Students expand their ASL vocabulary, grammar, and conversational skills. In addition, students complete activities and exercises that help them understand the culture of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Spanish I A&B **

Students cover basic vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and punctuation to build a solid foundation for further study. Assignments include engaging in simple conversation, writing paragraphs, and listening to Spanish dialogue. Students also study the history and culture of Spanish-speaking peoples.

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Other



Spanish II A&B **

As they engage in more advanced conversations, write paragraphs and stories, and translate to and from Spanish, students improve their vocabulary and grammar. Intense listening comprehension exercises aid in understanding more complex thoughts and subjects.

Spanish III A&B **

Students build their vocabulary and communication skills even further in Spanish III. Advanced grammar, including the study of tenses, sentence structure, and punctuation, is covered. Students also practice correct accents and learn to comprehend real-world native speech.

Spanish IV A&B **

The fourth year of Spanish covers advanced grammar including present, past, future, and conditional tense verbs, subjunctive mood, articles, and adjectives. Students focus on the Spanish-speaking world including its culture, people, geographical locations, and histories.

Career Exploration

From writing an effective resume to giving the perfect interview, students learn how to get started and succeed in their chosen careers. This course introduces possible career options and helps prepare students for the transition from high school to college and from college to the workplace.

HS Critical Thinking and Study Skills

In this course, the student will implement thinking strategies, learn test-taking strategies, time management and organization skills, build verbal competence, and sharpen his mathematics reasoning. Specifically, the student will learn strategies for acquiring, storing, and retrieving knowledge, and strategies for linking new information with prior knowledge.

College Prep with ACT®

Students learn test-taking strategies and complete practice tests. Students also develop college resumes, write effective personal essays, and request letters of recommendation as part of the college admissions process.

College Prep with SAT®

Students complete several practice quizzes and tests and develop test-taking strategies as they prepare for the SAT. Also, students develop college resumes, write effective personal essays, and request letters of recommendation as part of the college admissions process.

Life Management Skills

This course provides an opportunity for the student to explore important decisions he may have to make as a teenager. The course provides important information pertaining to issues such as nutrition, substance abuse, coping with stress, and sexual abstinence. In this course, the student will also learn how to be a savvy consumer in a world of advertising and credit cards as well as review Earth-friendly practices.

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Technology



Business Keyboarding

Students begin by learning the functions of all the keys, how to find them quickly, and the importance of keyboarding in virtually every career. They explore the alphabetic and numeric keyboard, study the history of the keyboard and new technology, and build their speed and accuracy. Students learn proper formatting for various academic and business documents and participate in discussions of business ethics.

Digital Arts I ♦

Students learn basic concepts essential to visual and digital art such as line, shape, form, color, value, space, and texture. They use Inkscape, a vector drawing application, to create original digital art and also complete a still life scene for a course-long art project. (May be considered an arts course at some schools.)

Emergent Computer Technology

In this course, students learn the basics of building safe websites including the use of hypertext markup language (HTML). They then plan their own sites and learn how to link and navigate pages. As they progress to more complex design techniques, students also learn how graphics can make a site more attractive.

Engineering Design I ♦

Students apply computer-aided design skills to draw plans and diagrams by creating points, lines, three-dimensional models, and more. They also learn how to translate abstract concepts into functional designs and create a diverse portfolio of projects.

Game Design ♦

This course introduces students to the basic skills necessary for game design. Students study the various games in the industry, explore the processes and art of making game elements, and develop a prototype showing their understanding of the game design process.

♦ Course requires a free third-party download

Information Technology: Preparing for the IC3 A

In this course, the student will gain an understanding of computing and common features of popular applications. The student will practice and apply computer skills needed in today's academic and business environments including word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications. Skills needed for working in an Internet or networked environment are also covered. This course prepares the student for the three Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC3) tests.

Information Technology: Preparing for the IC3 B

In this course, the student will continue to practice and apply computer skills needed in today's academic and business environments including word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications. Skills needed for working in an Internet or networked environment are also covered. This course prepares the student for the three Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC3) tests.

Introduction to Computers and Applications A&B

This course helps students understand hardware, software, and operating systems. Topics include hardware features and commonly used business applications. Students learn the basics of creating a word processing document in Microsoft® Word®, a spreadsheet in Excel®, and PowerPoint® presentations. Internet safety skills are also covered including the effective use of search engines and respect for intellectual property rights. In addition, students create their own presentations on subjects such as cyberbullying.

Web Design I A&B

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the essentials of website design. From designing page layouts to coding with CSS and JavaScript®, students learn how to create a complete website. Through study of real-world design scenarios and hands-on projects, students create compelling, usable websites using KompoZer, one of the Internet's easiest to-use open-source editing applications.

3D Art I – Modeling ◊

This course introduces students to three-dimensional modeling tools and concepts. Using Blender, a popular open-source 3-D modeling package, students learn the basics of creating shapes, adding textures and lighting, and rendering. By the end of the course, students produce a series of increasingly sophisticated projects for their portfolio. This course is suitable for students with no prior experience in three-dimensional design or digital media authoring tools.



◊ Course requires a free third-party download

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AP Courses

AP Art History A&B

This course is designed to provide college-level instruction in art history and prepare students for the AP Art History exam. Students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past to the present and from a variety of cultures. They learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience.

AP Biology A&B

This challenging course is designed to provide a college-level experience and prepare students for the AP Biology exam. Students are engaged in a wide variety of activities with substantial emphasis on interpreting and collecting data in virtual labs, writing analytical essays, and mastering biology concepts and connections. The key themes in the course include the scientific processes; the effects of science on technology and society; the chemistry and makeup of living organisms; and genetics, diversity, and evolution.

AP Calculus AB A&B

This college-level course covers such concepts as derivatives, integrals, limits, approximation, applications, and modeling. In the first semester, students begin by reviewing function notation, then exploring absolute value, piecewise, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial, and rational functions. After studying limits and continuity, students move on to concepts of derivatives, including the chain rule, differentiation, implicit differentiation, and logarithmic differentiation. Toward the end of the course, students apply what they have learned to solve integration problems. This course effectively prepares students for the AP Calculus AB exam.

AP Calculus BC A&B

This course, an extension of AP Calculus AB, emphasizes broad concepts and applicable methods. Students describe and analyze functions, limits, and graphs; calculate and apply derivatives; interpret and apply integrals; and study polynomial approximations and series. The course provides opportunities for students to apply concepts to real-world situations. This course effectively prepares students for the AP Calculus BC exam.

AP Computer Science A&B \diamond

Students develop the skills to write programs or parts of programs in order to correctly solve specific problems. There is an emphasis on the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and, when appropriate, reusable. The development of useful computer programs and classes is used as a context for introducing other important concepts of computer science including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms and typical applications.

AP English Language and Composition A&B

This course provides high school students with college-level instruction in language, rhetoric, and exposition. Students study and write various kinds of analytic and persuasive essays on literary and nonliterary topics. Students become skilled readers of prose written in various periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. Both reading and writing are designed to make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, the audience's expectations, and subjects, as well as the way writing conventions and language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course effectively prepares students for the AP English Language and Composition exam by enabling them to read, comprehend, and write about complex texts while developing further communication skills on a college level.

AP English Literature and Composition A&B

This course prepares high school students for the AP English Literature and Composition exam by providing them with college-level instruction in various kinds of analytic and persuasive essays on literary and nonliterary topics. Students become skilled readers of prose written in various periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. Through their integrated reading and writing activities, students analyze and evaluate the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way writing conventions and language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

AP Environmental Science A&B

The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and human-made, and prepare for the AP Environmental Science exam. Students evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative methods for resolving or preventing problems. Hands-on and virtual lab experiences support student content mastery.

\diamond Course requires a free third-party download

AP Human Geography A&B

The course is designed to provide college-level instruction on the patterns and processes that impact the way humans understand, use, and change Earth's surface. Students use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world, and they are challenged to use maps and geographical data to discern spatial patterns and analyze changing interconnections among people and places.

AP Macroeconomics

Students cover the overall economy and explore the gross domestic product (GDP) and other indicators. Students also examine inflation, unemployment, world trade patterns, and the role of the Federal Reserve. Working with a theoretical economy, they also use fiscal and monetary policy to create high employment and a higher standard of living. This course effectively prepares students for the AP Macroeconomics exam.

AP Microeconomics

This course introduces the ways in which people make use of limited resources. Students examine supply and demand, factors of production, the roles of labor and management, the relationship between the environment and the economy, and the impact of government policies on individuals' economic decisions. Students also study the stock market and trace the progress of various stocks. This course effectively prepares students for the AP Microeconomics exam.

AP Psychology

The equivalent of an introductory college course, this course includes an overview of current research methods and theories. Students explore therapies used by professionals and examine the way people learn and think. Human reactions, instincts, aggression, intimacy, altruism, and information retention are studied. The course prepares students for the AP Psychology exam.

AP Spanish Language A&B

The main objective of this course is to develop students' interpersonal communication skills and prepare them for the AP Spanish Language exam. Students develop a strong command of the Spanish language and become very proficient in reading, writing, and speaking. Students are exposed to Spanish literature, historical and current events, music, movies, radio, and television.

AP Statistics A&B

Students gain an understanding of the vocabulary, method, and meaning of statistics. They explore data and patterns found in the world around them by analyzing information and noting statistical relationships. They apply their knowledge to relevant, open-ended tasks requiring them to connect multiple statistical topics together. To demonstrate their comprehension, students actively construct experiments to understand, interpret, communicate, and apply statistical methods. General topics of study include planning and designing a study, anticipating patterns, and making statistical inferences. This course effectively prepares students for the AP Statistics exam.

AP United States Government and Politics

Students survey the complex subjects of the U.S. government and politics. They make detailed analyses of the processes and institutions (both formal and informal) by which the political system functions and policy decisions are made. These analyses include the constitutional structure of government, participatory politics, the formal institutions of power (and extra-constitutional influences on them), as well as public policy and individual rights and liberties. This course effectively prepares students for the AP United States Government and Politics exam.

AP United States History A&B

Students are exposed to a broad body of historical knowledge as they prepare for the AP United States History exam. They are required to express their ideas clearly in writing, learn to interpret and apply data from original source documents, and identify less commonly represented points of view. In addition, students cover the exploration and colonization of America, the rise of nationalism and sectionalism, and events through the present day.



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