Brightmont ACADEMY®
THE ONE-TO-ONE SCHOOL

Course Catalog for 6th to 12th Grade

Contents

English

English 6

English 6 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response exercises with drafting strategies and exemplars to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

English 7

English 7 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response exercises with drafting strategies and exemplars to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

English 8

English 8 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response

exercises with drafting strategies and exemplars to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

English 9

English 9 is an overview of exemplar selections of literature in fiction and nonfiction genres. Students read short stories, poems, a full-length novel, and a full-length Shakespeare play, analyzing the use of elements of literature in developing character, plot, and theme. Each unit includes informational texts inviting students to consider the historical, social, and literary context of the main texts they study. The range of texts includes canonical authors such as William Shakespeare, Franz Kafka, and Elie Wiesel, as well as writers from diverse backgrounds, such as Alice Walker, Li-Young Lee, and Robert Lake-Thom (Medicine Grizzlybear).

English 10

The focus of the English 10 course is the writing process. Three writing applications guide the curriculum: persuasive, expository, and narrative writing. Each lesson culminates in a written assignment that lets students demonstrate their developing skill in one of these applications. English 10 also continues to develop students' reading, listening, and speaking skills. Readings include poems, stories, speeches, plays, and a graphic novel, as well as a variety of informational texts. The readings represent a wide variety of purposes and cultural perspectives, ranging from the Indian epic The Ramayana to accounts of Hurricane Katrina told through different media.

English 11

In the English 11 course, students examine the belief systems, events, and literature that have shaped the United States. They begin by studying the language of independence and the system of government developed by Thomas Jefferson and other enlightened thinkers. Next, they explore how the Romantics and Transcendentalists emphasized the power and responsibility of the individual in both supporting and questioning the government. Students consider whether the American Dream is still achievable and examine the Modernists' disillusionment with the idea that America is a "land of opportunity." Reading the words of Frederick Douglass and the text of the Civil Rights Act, students look carefully at the experience of African Americans and their struggle to achieve equal rights. Students explore how individuals cope with the influence of war and cultural tensions while trying to build and secure their own personal identity. Finally, students examine how technology is affecting our contemporary experience of freedom: Will we eventually change our beliefs about what it means to be an independent human being?

English 12

The English 12 course asks students to closely analyze British literature and world literature and consider how we humans define and interact with the unknown, the monstrous, and the heroic. In the epic poems The Odyssey, Beowulf, and The Inferno, in Shakespeare's Tempest, in the satire of Swift, and in the rhetoric of World War II, students examine how the ideas of "heroic" and "monstrous" have been defined across cultures and time periods and how the treatment of the "other" can make monsters or heroes of us all. Reading Frankenstein and works from those who experienced the imperialism of the British Empire, students explore the notion of inner monstrosity and consider how the dominant culture can be seen as monstrous in its ostensibly heroic goal of enlightening the world.

Middle School Journalism[1]

In Middle School Journalism: Tell Your Story, students learn how ask the right questions, look for the details, and find the story in any situation. Students learn how to gather information effectively, find the key facts, organize ideas, format stories for media production, and edit articles. By writing stories in a way that makes it easy for others to read, students will develop the skills to be a true journalist.

Creative Writing[1]

Prerequisite: English 10

Creative Writing focuses on the exploration of short fiction and poetry, culminating in a written portfolio that includes a revised short story and three to five polished poems. Elements of fiction writing explored in this course include attention to detail, observation, character development, setting, plot, and point of view. In addition to applying literary craft elements in guided creative writing exercises, students engage in critical reading activities designed to illustrate the writing craft of a diverse group of authors.

Media Literacy[1]

Media Literacy teaches students how to build the critical thinking, writing, and reading skills required in a media-rich and increasingly technocentric world. A major topic in the course is non-traditional media reading skills, including how to approach, analyze, and respond to advertisements, blogs, websites, social media, news media, and wikis. Students also engage in a variety of writing activities in non-traditional media genres, such as blogging and podcast scripting. Students consider their positions as consumers of media and explore ways to use non-traditional media to become more active and thoughtful citizens.

Mythology and Folklore

Mythology and Folklore: Legendary Tales takes students back in time to learn the stories of angry gods, harrowing journeys, cunning animals, horrible beasts, and the mighty heroes who vanquished them. Mythology and folklore have provided a way for these colorful stories to spring to life for thousands of years. This course will illustrate how these famous anecdotes have helped humans make sense of the world. Beginning with an overview of mythology and different types of folklore, students will journey with age-old heroes as they slay dragons, outwit gods, defy fate, fight endless battles, and outwit clever monsters with strength and courage. Students will explore the universality and social significance of myths and folklore and see how these powerful tales continue to shape society even today.

Math

Math 6

Math 6 introduces students to the order of operations, negative numbers, absolute value, and inequalities. They learn factoring fraction and decimal operations, ratio and percents. Students demonstrate knowledge through mathematical investigations, projects and problem sets.

Math 7

Math 7 focuses on integer operations, rates, ration & proportion, one-step and multi-step equations. Students complete a statistics project using box and whisker plots. The also undertake a unit rate project to determine best value at the grocery story. Problem sets and mathematical investigations are incorporated throughout the course.

Math 8: Introductory Algebra

Introductory Algebra provides a curriculum focused on foundational concepts that prepare students for success in Algebra I. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice"-based exploration students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include the language of algebra; solving equations with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; fractions and decimals; measurement; exponents; solving equations with roots and powers; multi-step equations; and linear equations.

Algebra I

Prerequisite: Introductory Algebra

Algebra I offers students the opportunity to develop and apply their algebraic understanding to solve increasingly complex problems. Students become familiar with exponents, roots, and radicals in the context of manipulating and factoring polynomials. They learn to write and solve systems of equations as a strategy for solving word problems. Students evaluate rational expressions, and graph, solve, and apply linear equations and inequalities. They also explore problems of probability.

Algebra I-A

Algebra I-A is the first year of the two-year course sequence designed for students who are not prepared for the academic challenges of the traditional one-year Algebra I curriculum. Focusing on review of pre-algebra skills and introductory algebra content, Algebra I-A allows students to deepen their understanding of real numbers in their various forms and then extend their knowledge to linear equations in one and two variables. Algebra I-A features ample opportunity for students to hone their computational skills by working through practice problem sets before moving on to formal assessment.

Algebra I-B

Algebra I-B is second year of the two-year course sequence designed for students who are not prepared for the academic challenges of the traditional one-year Algebra I curriculum. Algebra I-B course topics include a review of introductory algebra; measurement; graphing data; linear equations; systems of linear equations; polynomials; factoring of polynomials; factoring of quadratic functions; rational expressions; and radical expressions. Algebra I-B features ample opportunity for students to hone their computational skills by working through practice problem sets before moving on to formal assessment.

Geometry

Recommended: Algebra I or Integrated Math I

Geometry builds upon students' command of geometric relationships and formulating mathematical arguments. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.Course topics include reasoning, proof, and the creation of sound mathematical arguments; points, lines, and angles; triangles and trigonometry; quadrilaterals and other polygons; circles; congruence, similarity, transformations, and constructions; coordinate geometry; three-dimensional solids; and applications of probability.This course supports all students as they develop computational fluency and deepen conceptual understanding. Students begin each lesson by discovering new concepts through guided instruction, and then confirm their understanding in an interactive, feedback-rich environment. Modeling activities equip students with tools for analyzing a variety of real-world scenarios and mathematical ideas. Journaling activities allow students to reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct arguments, critique reasoning, and communicate precisely. Performance tasks prepare students to synthesize their knowledge in novel, real-world scenarios and require that they make sense of multifaceted problems and persevere in solving them.

Algebra II

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry or Integrated Math I

Algebra II introduces students to powerful algebraic tools and problem-solving strategies. Students learn strategies for simplifying and solving equations and inequalities containing radical expressions. Students explore multiple techniques for solving systems of equations and are introduced to matrices. The quadratic formula and other methods of solving quadratic equations are introduced and applied. Students explore connections between algebra and geometry as they graph the equations of conic sections: parabolas, circles, ellipses, and hyperbolas. This course also includes an introduction to the concepts of trigonometry and an investigation of discrete mathematics and probability.

Integrated Math I

Integrated Math I provides a first-year integrated math curriculum that combines material traditionally covered in high school algebra, geometry, and statistics courses. Within the course, a balance is struck between task-based discovery and focused development of skills and conceptual understanding. Course topics include function families, propositional logic, polynomials and factoring, similarity and congruence properties of triangles, introductory probability and statistics, square roots, rational expressions, and coordinate geometry.

Integrated Math II

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Integrated Math I

Integrated Math II provides a second-year integrated math curriculum that combines material traditionally covered in high school algebra, geometry, and precalculus courses. The course develops rigorous mathematical skills while emphasizing real-world applications. Course topics include complex numbers, step and piecewise functions, exponential functions, quadratic functions, inverse functions, right triangles, trigonometric functions, and circles, as well as data analysis and modeling.

Integrated Math III

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Integrated Math II

Integrated Math III introduces students to powerful algebraic tools and problem-solving strategies. Students learn strategies for simplifying and solving equations and inequalities containing radical expressions. Students explore multiple techniques for solving systems of equations and are introduced to matrices. The quadratic formula and other methods of solving quadratic equations are introduced and applied. Students explore connections between algebra and geometry as they graph the equations of conic sections: parabolas, circles, ellipses, and hyperbolas. This course also includes an introduction to the concepts of trigonometry and an investigation of discrete mathematics and probability.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Integrated Math III

Pre-Calculus is a course that combines reviews of algebra, geometry, and functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The course focuses on the mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses. The first semester includes linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions, as well as systems of equations and conic sections. The second semester covers trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; applications of trigonometry, including vectors and the laws of sines and cosines; polar functions and notation; and arithmetic of complex numbers.

Calculus

Prerequisite: Pre-calculus; for students who want to advance their skills but do not want to take AP Calculus.

In Calculus students learn to understand change geometrically and visually (by studying graphs of curves), analytically (by studying and working with mathematical formulas), numerically (by seeing patterns in sets of numbers), and verbally. Students will further develop problem solving skills by applying Calculus ideas and concepts to real-world situations, and breaking down and simplifying complex problems. Calculus helps scientists, engineers, and financial analysts understand the complex relationships behind real-world phenomena.

Probability and Statistics

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Integrated Math III

Probability and Statistics provides a curriculum focused on understanding key data analysis and probabilistic concepts, calculations, and relevance to real-world applications. This course covers topics such as types of data, common methods used to collect data, and the various representations of data, including histograms, bar graphs, box plots, and scatterplots. Students learn to work with data by analyzing and employing methods of extending results, specifically involving samples, populations, distributions, summary statistics, regression analysis, transformations, simulations, experimental design, and confidence intervals. Students explore the relationship between probability and data analysis.

Mathematics of Personal Finance

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry or their equivalents

Mathematics of Personal Finance focuses on real-world financial literacy, personal finance, and business

subjects. Students apply what they learned in Algebra I and Geometry to topics such as personal income, taxes, checking and savings accounts, credit, loans and payments, car leasing and purchasing, home mortgages, stocks, insurance, and retirement planning. Students also extend their investigations using more advanced mathematics, such as systems of equations when studying cost and profit issues and exponential functions when calculating interest problems.

Liberal Arts Mathematics II

Liberal Arts Mathematics II addresses the need for a course that meets graduation requirements and focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Mathematics II starts with a review of algebraic concepts before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, statistical and probability concepts. Throughout the course, students hone their computational skills and extend their knowledge through problem solving and real-world applications.

Course topics include analysis of quadratic, polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions, arithmetic and geometric sequences, trigonometry and trigonometric functions, coordinate geometry and proofs, statistical analysis, experimental design and applications of probability.

Within each Liberal Arts Mathematics II lesson, students are supplied with a scaffolded note-taking guide, called a Study Sheet, and are given ample opportunity to practice computations in low-stakes Checkup activities before moving on to formal assessment. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to formulate and justify conclusions as they extend and apply concepts through printable exercises and "in-your-own-words" interactive activities.

To assist students for whom language presents a barrier to learning or who are not reading at grade level, Liberal Arts Math II includes audio resources in English.

Financial Literacy[1]

Financial Literacy helps students recognize and develop vital skills that connect life and career goals with personalized strategies and milestone-based action plans. Students explore concepts and work toward mastery of personal finance skills, deepening their understanding of key ideas and extending their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include career planning; income, taxation, and budgeting; savings accounts, checking accounts, and electronic banking; interest, investments, and stocks; cash, debit, credit, and credit scores; insurance; and consumer advice on how to buy a car or a house, including buying, renting, and leasing options.

Science

Science 6: Life Science

Middle School Life Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts including the relationship between structure and function, the flow of energy and matter through living systems, heredity, and the diversity of life.

Science 7: Physical Science

Middle School Physical Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts including the interactions of matter; motion and stability; waves and their technological applications; and energy.

Science 8: Earth and Space Science

Middle School Earth and Space Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts including Earth's systems, engineering design, the nature of the universe, and the interaction between humans and the environment.

Physical Science

Physical Science offers a focused curriculum designed around the understanding of critical physical science concepts, including the nature and structure of matter, the characteristics of energy, and the mastery of critical scientific skills.Course topics include an introduction to kinematics, including gravity and two-dimensional motion; force; momentum; waves; electricity; atoms; the periodic table of elements; molecular bonding; chemical reactivity; gases; and an introduction to nuclear energy. Teacher-scored labs encourage students to apply the scientific method.

Biology

Students enrolled in Biology study the physical structures and functions of plants, animals, and humans. They explore cell structure, the processes of mitosis and meiosis, plant anatomy, human anatomy, genetics, and the theory of evolution. In addition to conducting experiments using microscopes, students dissect a virtual pig and look closely at internal human anatomy through the use of interactive software. Students present a final paper or project upon completion of the course.

Chemistry

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Integrated Math I; Recommended: Algebra II or Integrated Math II

Chemistry offers students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the physical world and to apply their mathematical skills to solving chemical equations. Students are introduced to atomic structure and weights, the periodic table, chemical bonding, the mole concept, gases, solids, liquids, solutions, chemical equilibrium, acids, and bases. They learn to calculate molecular and formulaic weights and to balance chemical equations. The course concludes with a final presentation of a research paper or project.

Physics

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Integrated Math I; Recommended: Algebra II or Integrated Math II

In this Physics course, students examine force and its effects, light and sound, electricity and magnetism, energy resources, the solar system, and gravity. Students conduct hands-on experiments and complete virtual labs to enhance their understanding of gravity, acceleration, optics, and circuits.

Psychology[1]

Psychology provides an overview of the field's major domains: methods, biopsychology, cognitive and developmental psychology, and variations in individual and group behavior. By focusing on significant scientific research and on the questions that are most important to psychologists, students see psychology as an evolving science. Each topic clusters around challenge questions, such as "What is happiness?" Students answer these questions before, during, and after they interact with direct instruction.

Environmental Science

Environmental Science explores the biological, physical, and sociological principles related to the environment in which organisms live on Earth, the biosphere. Course topics include natural systems on Earth, biogeochemical cycles, the nature of matter and energy, the flow of matter and energy through living systems, populations, communities, ecosystems, ecological pyramids, renewable and non-renewable natural resources, land use, biodiversity, pollution, conservation, sustainability, and human impacts on the environment.

Astronomy

This course will introduce students to the study of astronomy, including its history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Additional topics include the origin of the universe, the Milky Way, and other galaxies and stars.

Marine Science

In Marine Science students will begin to better understand the aquatic cycles, structures, and processes that generate and sustain life in the sea. Through the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, and problem solving, students will conduct various scientific procedures that will lead to an increased level of knowledge about Marine Science. Students will also have the opportunity to use technology and laboratory instruments in an academic setting. By recognizing the inherent ethics and safety procedures necessary in advanced experiments, students will become progressively more confident in their abilities as a capable marine scientist.

Veterinary Science

Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals will show students how to care for domestic, farm, and wild animals and diagnose their common diseases and ailments. This course delves into how different veterinary treatments are used and developed to improve the lives of animals and, as a result, the lives of those people who treasure them. Students step into the wild side of veterinary medicine and learn more about the care of furry, scaly and feathered creatures.

Social Studies

Social Studies 6: World History

Middle School World History delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of world history, from the Neolithic Revolution through the Middle Ages. By constantly honing their ability to analyze history, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test.

Social Studies 7: Civics

Middle School Civics delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' understanding of the political and governmental systems of the United States and the roles played by citizens. By honing their ability to analyze civic life, political practices, and government structures, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test.

Social Studies 8: U.S. History

Middle School U.S. History delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of U.S. history, from the peopling of North America through the era of Reconstruction. Students engage with the subject matter in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through standards-aligned content. By constantly honing their ability to analyze history, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test.

World History

World History offers students the opportunity to explore ancient cultures, Europe, Asia, South America, the Middle East, and Africa. Students use a variety of resources to understand the complexity of the world in which we live. Students also study geography and its impact on human history. They complete research papers on topics of their choice throughout the course.

U.S. History

It is important to understand the past in order to make sound decisions for the future. In U.S. History, students are challenged to look at key events in our nation's history and how they affect us today. Students use textbooks, library resources, and the Internet, and conclude their study with a presentation of a historical timeline and two research papers or projects.

U.S. Government and Politics[1]

Prerequisite: U.S. History is recommended, but not required

This is an introductory course designed to familiarize students with the foundations of the U.S. government, the fundamentals of citizenship, and the United States' relations with, and responsibilities to, the rest of the world. Students complete a Constitution project, a research paper on a government career, and one appropriate essay topic of the student's choice.

U.S. and Global Economics[1]

Prerequisite: U.S. Government and Politics is recommended, but not required

U.S. and Global Economics provides an introduction to key economic principles and covers fundamental properties of economics. Topics include an examination of markets from both historical and current

perspectives; the basics of supply and demand; the theories of early economic philosophers; theories of value; the concept of money and how it evolved; the role of banks, investment houses, and the Federal Reserve; Keynesian economics; the productivity, wages, investment, and growth involved in capitalism; unemployment; inflations; and the national debt. The course also includes a survey of markets in areas such as China, Europe, and the Middle East.

Geography and World Cultures

Geography and World Cultures enables students to explore how geographic features, human relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts have developed and influenced life in countries around the world. In this course, students are given rigorous instruction on how to read and create maps, charts, and graphs. The course develops note-taking skills, teaches the basic elements of analytic writing, and introduces students to the close examination of primary documents.

Multicultural Studies[1]

Multicultural Studies is a course that examines the United States as a multicultural nation. It emphasizes the perspectives of minority groups while allowing students from all backgrounds to better understand and appreciate how race, culture, ethnicity, and identity contribute to their experiences. Major topics in the course include identity, immigration, assimilation and distinctiveness, power and oppression, struggles for rights, regionalism, culture and the media, and the formation of new cultures.

Psychology[1]

Psychology provides a solid overview of the field's major domains: methods, biopsychology, cognitive and developmental psychology, and variations in individual and group behavior.By focusing on significant scientific research and on the questions that are most important to psychologists, students see psychology as an evolving science. Each topic clusters around challenge questions, such as "What is happiness?" Students answer these questions before, during, and after they interact with direct instruction.

Sociology[1]

Sociology examines why people think and behave as they do in relationships, groups, institutions, and societies. Major course topics include individual and group identity, social structures and institutions, social change, social stratification, social dynamics in recent and current events, the effects of social change on individuals, and the research methods used by social scientists.

Minnesota State History (Middle School)[1]

Surveys the history of Minnesota from the Ice Age through the end of the twentieth century, with "Investigations" which encourage the examination of primary source documents and use of proper historical methods.

Washington State History[1]

Washington State History covers civics, history, geography and economics. The state's historical events are placed in the larger context of our nation's history. Using an integrated and customized approach, students learn about Washington's landforms, American Indians, expansion, government, and economy. They explore the state's growth and development by creating a timeline and a research paper on a topic of their choice.

World Languages

American Sign Language 1

American Sign Language 1a: Introduction covers vocabulary and simple sentences, so students can start communicating right away. Importantly, students will explore Deaf culture – social beliefs, traditions, history, values and communities influenced by deafness. American Sign Language 1b: Learn to Sign introduces more of the language and grammatical structures. Students explore interesting topics like Deaf education and Deaf arts and culture.

American Sign Language 2

Prerequisite: American Sign Language 1

Building upon the prior prerequisite course, emphasis in American Sign Language 2 is placed upon comprehension and signing. Students will also continue to establish their communication skills and foster their understanding of deaf culture. In addition to learning classifiers, glossing, and mouth morphemes, students will explore vocabulary for descriptions, directions, shopping, making purchases, and dealing with emergencies. Students will increase their proficiency by learning about sequencing, transitions, role-shifts, and future tenses. Students will learn how to tell a story and ask questions, benefiting with greater exposure to deaf culture. Speed, conversations, signing skills, and cultural awareness are characteristic of this course.

French I

French I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as sports, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms to describe school subjects, parts of the body, and people, as well as idiomatic phrases. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes the verb system, adjective agreement, formal and informal address, reflexive verbs, and past tense. Students also gain an understanding of the cultures of French-speaking countries and regions within and outside Europe, as well as insight into Francophone culture and people.

French II

Prerequisite: French I or equivalent

French II teaches students to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives - both in formal and informal address. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms in cooking, geography, and architecture. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes present- and past-tense verb forms and uses, negation, and direct and indirect objects. Students deepen their knowledge of French-speaking regions and cultures by learning about history, literature, culture, and contemporary issues.

Spanish I

Spanish I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as home life, occupations, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms to describe school subjects, parts of the body, and people, as well as idiomatic phrases. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes the structures and uses of present-tense verb forms, imperatives, adjective agreement, impersonal constructions, formal and informal address, and reflexive verbs. Students explore

words used in different Spanish-speaking regions and learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions within and outside Europe.

Spanish II

Prerequisite: Spanish I or equivalent

Building on Spanish I concepts, Spanish II students learn to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives - both in formal and informal situations. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Students expand their vocabulary in topics such as cooking, ecology, geography, and architecture. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes a review of present-tense verb forms, an introduction to the past tense, the conditional mood, imperatives, impersonal constructions, and reported speech. Students deepen their knowledge of Spanish-speaking regions and cultures by learning about history, literature, culture, and contemporary issues.

Spanish II Cultures

Prerequisite: Spanish I or equivalent

Spanish II Cultures builds upon the foundation of Spanish I to expand communication skills in this foreign language. The course includes the components of grammar, reading comprehension, listening comprehension, and written expression, similar to a traditional Spanish II curriculum, but also includes an extensive cultural research component that allows students to focus intensively on a Spanish-speaking country. As this course covers less vocabulary than might be included in a typical Spanish II course, students should consult with the instructor to determine whether their next course placement should be Spanish II or Spanish III.

Spanish III

Prerequisites: Spanish II or equivalent

In Spanish III, students build upon the skills and knowledge they acquired in Spanish I and II. The course presents new vocabulary and grammatical concepts in context while providing students with ample opportunities to review and expand upon the material they have learned previously.

Students read and listen to authentic materials from newspapers, magazines, and television. The content is focused on contemporary and relevant topics such as urbanization and population growth in Latin American countries, global health concerns, jobs of the future, and scientific advancements. The materials engage students as they improve their command of Spanish.

Students review the formation and use of regular and irregular verbs in the present and future tenses, as well as the use of reflexive particles and infinitives. They also expand their understanding of noun and adjective agreement, the comparative and superlative degree of adjectives, and the placement and use of direct and indirect objects and pronouns. Students expand their vocabulary through exposure to word roots and families, popular slang, the correct use of words that are often confused for one another, and review of concepts such as proper placement of accents and stress.

Presentation of new materials is always followed by several interactive, online exercises, allowing students to master the material as they learn it. Teacher-scored activities provide students with opportunities to use their new Spanish skills both orally and in writing. Discussion activities allow students to interact with their peers in the target language.

Spanish IV

Prerequisite: Spanish III; *For students who want to advance their skills past Spanish III but do not want to take AP Spanish.*

The objective of this course is to enhance students' language usage skills by solidifying previously-learned grammar concepts; continuing to build vocabulary; and practicing reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. This course differs from previous Spanish classes because it covers less new content. Instead, it encourages students to apply their foundational grammar and vocabulary skills in order to communicate (to understand and produce Spanish in new and challenging contexts).

Fine Arts

Middle School Photography[1]

In Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light, students will learn how to take those excellent, jaw-dropping photographs that are seen in magazines and on popular social media sites. They will learn the basics of using a camera, best practices, and how to avoid common photography mistakes. At the end of the course, students will know the fundamentals about choosing a subject, framing composition, creating depth, and editing to create captivating photos.

Art Appreciation[1]

Art Appreciation is a survey of the history of Western visual arts, with a primary focus on painting. Students begin with an introduction to the basic principles of painting and learn how to critique and compare works of art. While Western art is the course's primary focus, students also study artistic traditions from Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas. Coverage of each artistic movement highlights historical context and introduces students to key artists who represent a variety of geographical locations. Throughout the course, students apply what they have learned about critiquing to analyze and evaluate both individual artists and individual works of art.

Digital Photography

Digital Photography 1a: Introduction covers how to take great photographs that capture the moment. Students gain a better understanding of photography and camera functions, including aperture, shutter speed, natural vs. artificial lighting, and elements of composition. They also explore how an image is created as well as study the history of photography and advances in camera technology over the last several centuries.

In Digital Photography 1b: Creating Images with Impact! students learn the skills and techniques used by professional photographers to improve their photo taking skills of a wide array of subjects. Students build on the composition techniques and camera functions they learned in Digital Photography 1a to create a portfolio of a variety of images. Students learn the special techniques that will help them shoot quality portraits, action shots, and landscapes. They also explore sports, pet, and wildlife photography and discover various career paths in the field.

Music Appreciation[1]

Music Appreciation introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music, from the most primitive surviving examples, through classical, to the most contemporary music in the world at large. The course covers primitive musical forms, classical music, and American jazz, and also presents rich modern traditions, including gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop. Students explore the interface of music and social movements and examine how the emergent global society and the Internet are bringing musical forms together in new ways.

Theater, Cinema & Film Production

This course will introduce students to the enchanting world of live theater and its fascinating relationship to the silver screen. Students will learn about the basics of lighting, sound, wardrobe, and camerawork for both film and theater settings. The course also explores the glamorous history of film and theater and the tremendous influence these industries have had on society and culture. Students will discuss, analyze, and critique three of the most famous American dramas of all time, Casablanca, Singin' in the Rain, and The Wizard of Oz.

Health

Health[1]

Health consists of units on nutrition, exercise, addiction, disease, the human body, reproduction, decision-making, and conflict resolution. Students explore concepts through assigned fiction and nonfiction readings, research, and discussion. The American Red Cross provides CPR instruction and certification.

Nutrition and Wellness

In Nutrition and Wellness, students will learn the essential skills needed to pursue a healthy, informed lifestyle. Key to maintaining a healthy physical body is making positive decisions around diet and food preparation. At the end of this course, students will know how to locate, buy, and prepare fresh delicious food that will lead to better well-being and nourishment.

Physical Education[1]

Physical Education combines the best of online instruction with actual student participation in weekly cardiovascular, aerobic, and muscle toning activities. The course promotes a keen understanding of the value of physical fitness and aims to motivate students to participate in physical activities throughout their lives.

Specific areas of study include: Cardiovascular exercise and care, safe exercising, building muscle strength and endurance, injury prevention, fitness skills and FITT benchmarks, goal setting, nutrition and diet (vitamins and minerals, food labels, evaluation product claims), and stress management. The course requires routine participation in adult-supervised physical activities. Successful completion of this course will require parent/legal guardian sign-off on student-selected physical activities and on weekly participation reports to verify the student is meeting his or her requirements and responsibilities.

Physical Education is aligned to national and state standards and the Presidential Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Life Skills

Middle School Career Exploration

Middle School Career Exploration gives students the opportunity to explore careers in a variety of fields and disciplines and understand the necessary skills and education needed to choose a future path. Students will discover careers including business and finance, manufacturing, engineering, and many more! Detailed information on the required education and training options for each are included.

College and Career Preparation

In College and Career Preparation I, students obtain a deeper understanding of what it means to be ready for college, including the college application process, what it takes to be a successful college student, and how to begin thinking about their careers. Students learn about the importance of high school performance in college admissions, how to prepare for college testing, and the types of schools and degrees they may choose to pursue after high school. They also gain exposure to the financial resources available that can make college attainable. Students come away from this course understanding how smart preparation and skill development in high school can lead to expansive career opportunities after they have completed their education and are ready for the working world.

College and Career Preparation II builds on the lessons and skills in College and Career Preparation I and provides a step-by-step guide to choosing a college. It walks students through the process of filling out an application (with opportunities to practice) and takes an in-depth look at the various college admission tests and assessments, as well financial aid options. The course also instructs students in interviewing techniques and provides career guidance. Students explore valuable career-preparation opportunities such as job shadowing and internships. (College and Career Preparation I is not a prerequisite.)

Life Skills

The Life Skills course will encourage students to learn more about themselves and help them to prepare for the future. Students are given the tools to answer difficult questions like “What do I want out of life?” and “How do I achieve my dreams for the future?” This course engages students in goal setting and decision making, and provides information about surviving college and career. Students will also discover how to become a valuable contributing member of society.

Experience-Based Credit[1]

Students complete 75 hours of non-work experience for a half credit. Examples include art, music, driver’s education, sports, and physical education. Students maintain a log which is signed off by an adult who oversees the activity (excluding parents and Brightmont staff). Limit one experience/work credit per school year. Student earns a pass/fail grade.

Work-Based Credit[1]

Students complete 200 hours of paid work experience for a half credit. Students maintain a log which is signed off by a manager. Limit one experience/work credit per school year. Student earns a pass/fail grade.

Foundations

English Foundations

English Foundations focuses on skill building and strategy development in reading and writing. Semester one is a reading program designed to help struggling readers develop mastery in the areas of reading comprehension, vocabulary building, study skills, and media literacy. Semester two is a writing program which builds confidence in composition fundamentals by focusing on the areas of composing, grammar, style, and media literacy.

Math Foundations

The Math Foundations course covers foundational concepts and skills — including basic vocabulary — to build or strengthen a base on which to develop understanding of more difficult mathematical concepts in future courses. Topics include basic number concepts such as whole numbers, counting, and place value; advanced number concepts such as rounding, exponents, and negative numbers; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division; fractions and operations with fractions; decimals, percents, and ratios; estimation; problem solving; basic concepts in geometry; and measuring shapes. This course includes audio resources in both English and Spanish to assist students with language, reading, or other learning difficulties.

Reading Skills and Strategies

Reading Skills and Strategies is designed for special education students and for students unable to enroll in an appropriate grade-level course. Students enrolling in this course demonstrate significant deficits on entrance assessments. The focus of this remedial class is to build basic skills. Upon completion of the course, the student should show at least one year's growth on an exit assessment; however, the student may still demonstrate skills significantly below grade level.

Science Foundations

Prerequisite: Middle school/junior high physical science

Science Foundations provides students with opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, and strategies necessary for success in rigorous high school science courses. The course is appropriate for use as remediation at the high school level or as a bridge to high school.

Writing Skills and Strategies

The Writing Skills and Strategies course is designed for special education students and for students unable to enroll in an appropriate grade-level course. Students enrolled in this class have demonstrated significant deficits on entrance assessments; the focus of this remedial class is to build basic skills. Upon completion of the course, the student should show at least one year's growth on an exit assessment; however, the student may still demonstrate skills significantly below grade level.

Fundamental Math

Fundamental Math explores foundational concepts in math. Students master basic skills and extend their knowledge as they prepare for more advanced work. Topics include basic number concepts such as whole numbers, counting, place value, rounding, exponents, and negative numbers; addition and subtraction; and multiplication and division. The course also covers fractions, operations with fractions, decimals, percents, ratios, problem solving, basic concepts in geometry, and measuring shapes.

Career and Technical Education

Computer Applications[1]

Prerequisite: Information Technology Applications is recommended, but not required

Computer Applications provides an introduction to software applications that prepares students to succeed in the workplace and beyond. Students will develop an understanding of professional communications and leadership skills while gaining proficiency with word processing, email, and presentation management software. Students will also be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study web publishing and design, spreadsheets and database software.

This course allows students to explore careers in the fields of business and information technology while learning skills applicable to any professional setting. Through a series of hands-on activities, students will create, analyze, and critique reports, letters, project plans, presentations, and other professional communications. Regular engagement in active learning ensures students can continually refine the skills necessary to prepare them for work. In addition, students will evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers so they can identify opportunities that are of interest to them.

Computer Applications is an introductory level Career and Technical Education course applicable to programs of study in Business Management and Administration, Information Technology, and other career clusters. This course is built to state and national standards.

Entrepreneurship

The Entrepreneurship: Starting Your Business course will give students a head start in learning about what it takes to own and operate a successful business. Students will discover the ins and outs of creating a business plan, generating financing, pricing products and services, marketing services and managing employees. For students who have ever dreamed about being a true entrepreneur but feel daunted by the prospect, this course will provide the information to gain confidence about being their very own boss.

Human Resources Principles

Human Resources Principles examines the main functions of human resources management, including planning, recruitment, selection, training, development, compensation, and evaluation. In so doing, the course provides students with the tools to hire, manage, and fire employees. Students will also explore the unique role of human resources in the larger organization.

This course allows students to explore careers in business while learning skills applicable to any professional setting. Through a series of hands-on activities, students will create a recruiting plan, develop a strategy to promote a positive organizational culture, and analyze the impact of globalization on the human resources. Regular engagement in active learning ensures students can continually refine the skills necessary to prepare them for work. In addition, students will evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers so they can identify opportunities of interest to them.

This course is built to state and national standards. Students who successfully complete the course will be prepared to pursue certifications such as Associate Professional in Human ResourcesTM, Certified Administrative Manager, or Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)®.

Information Technology Applications[1]

Information Technology Applications prepares students to work in the field of Information Technology.

Students will be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study of computer hardware, operating systems, networking, the Internet, web publishing, spreadsheets and database software. Through a series of hand-on activities, students will learn what to expect in the field of Information Technology and begin exploring career options in the field.

Information Technology Applications is an introductory level Career and Technical Education course applicable to programs of study in information technology as well as other career clusters. This course is aligned with state and national standards. Students who successfully complete the course will be prepared to pursue the Microsoft® Office Specialist certifications in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access, as well as IC3 certification.

Legal Environment of Business

Legal Environment of Business examines the role of the law on all aspects of business ownership and management. Throughout the course, students focus on legal ethics, court procedures, torts, contracts, consumer law, property law, employment law, environmental law, and international law. Students also explore the impact of laws, regulations, and judicial decisions on society at large.

This course allows students to explore careers in business while learning skills applicable to any professional setting. Through a series of hands-on activities, students will prepare legal documents, create a compliance plan, and research consumer protection issues. Regular engagement in active learning ensures students can continually refine the skills necessary to prepare them for work. In addition, students will evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers so they can identify opportunities of interest to them.

Legal Environment of Business is a full-year intermediate or capstone Career and Technical Education course applicable to programs of study in the Business, Management and Administration career cluster. This course is built to state and national standards. Students who successfully complete the course will be prepared to pursue certifications such as Accredited Legal Professional, Certified Administrative Manager, or Certified Associate in Project Management®.

Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance

Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance provides the knowledge and skills students need for careers in business and marketing. Students begin exploring roles and functions that business and marketing play in a global society, develop an understanding of the market place, as well as understanding product placement and promotion.Students analyze the impact of government, legal systems, and organized labor on business; develop an understanding of business communications and management; and explore legal, ethical, and financial issues in business and marketing. Furthermore, students delve into basic economic concepts including personal finance, economic systems, cost-profit relationships, and economic indicators and trends. Using hands-on activities, students reinforce, apply and transfer academic knowledge and skills to a variety of interesting and relevant real-world inspired scenarios. This course focuses on developing knowledge and skills around marketing, pricing, distribution and management, while also focusing on economics and interpersonal skills. This course also addresses exploring career options in business and marketing as well as securing and keeping a job.Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance is a full-year Career and Technical course for programs of study in Business Administration and Management. This course is built to state and national standards.

Principles of Health Science

Principles of Health Science provides knowledge and skills students need for careers in health care. Students

explore the services, structure, and professions of the health care system and get guidance on choosing a specific career path in health services, including career paths in emergency medicine, nutrition, and alternative medicine.Students focus on day-to-day skills and expectations for health professionals, which include promoting wellness, maintaining a safe environment, creating medical records, and practicing good communication, collaboration, and leadership. In addition, students will expand their understanding of health and safety systems, how to address emergency situations, and deal with infection control issues. Students will also explore topics in medical science, terminology, procedures, and regulations - including an overview of physiology and medical measurements.Using real-life scenarios and application-driven activities, students learn the responsibilities and challenges of being health care professionals and deepen their knowledge of various career options. In addition to building their understanding of technical concepts and skills, students evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers and develop personal career plans to pursue work in the health care industry and extend their knowledge of oral and written communication in health science.Principles of Health Science is a full-year Career and Technical Education course for programs of study in health sciences. This course is built to state and national standards.

Renewable Technologies

Renewable Technologies introduces students to the cutting-edge field of renewable energy and the development of exciting new technologies that are making it possible. With concerns about climate change and growing population's effects on traditional energy supplies, scientists, governments, and societies are increasingly turning to renewable and innovative energy sources. Students explore how recent approaches to generating, storing, and creating this precious resource have evolved. The course also covers the environmental and social effects of renewable technologies and examines how people's energy decisions can lead to a safer, cleaner, more enduring world.

Advanced Placement

These Advanced Placement® (AP®) courses have been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. These courses meet the higher-education expectations of college-level courses and prepare students to demonstrate achievement through success on the AP exams.

English

AP® English Language and Composition

Prerequisites: Two years of high school English

In AP® English Language and Composition, students learn to understand and analyze complex styles of writing by reading works from a variety of authors. They'll explore the richness of language, including syntax, imitation, word choice, and tone. They'll also learn about their own composition style and process, starting with exploration, planning, and writing, and continuing through editing, peer review, rewriting, polishing, and applying what they learn to a breadth of academic, personal, and professional contexts. The equivalent of an introductory-level college class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in communications, creative writing, journalism, literature, and composition.

AP® English Literature and Composition

Prerequisites: Three years of high school English

AP® English Literature and Composition immerses students in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students will read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and class discussions to assess and improve their skills and knowledge. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. The equivalent of an introductory-college level class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in creative writing, communications, journalism, literature, and composition.

Math

AP® Calculus AB

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus

In AP® Calculus AB, students learn to understand change geometrically and visually (by studying graphs of curves), analytically (by studying and working with mathematical formulas), numerically (by seeing patterns in sets of numbers), and verbally. Instead of simply getting the right answer, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions and to apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models. Calculus helps scientists, engineers, and financial analysts understand the complex relationships behind real-world phenomena. The equivalent of an introductory-level college calculus course, AP Calculus AB prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, engineering, and mathematics.

AP® Statistics

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Integrated Math III

AP® Statistics gives students hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting real-world data. They will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real

research. The next time they hear the results from another poll or study, they will know whether the results are valid. As the art of drawing conclusions from imperfect data and the science of real-world uncertainties, statistics plays an important role in many fields. The equivalent of an introductory-level college course, AP Statistics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, sociology, medicine, engineering, political science, geography, and business.

Science

AP® Biology

Prerequisite: Biology

AP® Biology builds students' understanding of biology on both the micro and macro scales. After studying cell biology, students move on to understand how evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. Students will examine how living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information and the processes used by organisms to utilize free energy. The equivalent of an introductory-level college biology course, AP Biology prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, and engineering.

AP® Chemistry

Prerequisite: Chemistry and Algebra II or Integrated Math III

AP® Chemistry builds students' understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying the structure of atoms, molecules, and ions, students move on to solve quantitative chemical problems and explore how molecular structure relates to chemical and physical properties. Students will examine the molecular composition of common substances and learn to predictably transform them through chemical reactions. The equivalent of an introductory-level college chemistry course, AP Chemistry prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, and engineering.

AP® Environmental Science

Prerequisites: Two years of high school laboratory science (one year of life science and one year of physical science), and one year of algebra

AP® Environmental Science provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The course draws upon various disciplines, including geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography in order to explore a variety of environmental topics. Topics explored include natural systems on Earth; biogeochemical cycles; the nature of matter and energy; the flow of matter and energy through living systems; populations; communities; ecosystems; ecological pyramids; renewable and nonrenewable resources; land use; biodiversity; pollution; conservation; sustainability; and human impacts on the environment. The equivalent of an introductory college-level science course, AP Environmental Science prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, or engineering.

AP® Psychology[1]

Prerequisite: Biology

AP® Psychology provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. Students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal human reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human

aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection. They'll study core psychological concepts, such as the brain and sense functions, and learn to gauge human reactions, gather information, and form meaningful syntheses. Along the way, students will also investigate relevant concepts like study skills and information retention. The equivalent of an introductory-level college course, AP Psychology prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in psychology and life sciences.

Social Studies

AP® Macroeconomics[1]

In AP® Macroeconomics, students learn why and how the world economy can change from month to month, how to identify trends in our economy, and how to use those trends to develop performance measures and predictors of economic growth or decline. They'll also examine how individuals, institutions, and influences affect people, and how those factors can impact everyone's life through employment rates, government spending, inflation, taxes, and production. The equivalent of an introductory-level college class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, political science and history.

AP® Microeconomics[1]

AP® Microeconomics studies the behavior of individuals and businesses as they exchange goods and services in the marketplace. Students will learn why the same product costs different amounts at different stores, in different cities, at different times. They'll also learn to spot patterns in economic behavior and how to use those patterns to explain buyer and seller behavior under various conditions. Microeconomics studies the economic way of thinking, understanding the nature and function of markets, the role of scarcity and competition, the influence of factors such as interest rates on business decisions, and the role of government in promoting a healthy economy. The equivalent an introductory-level college course, AP Microeconomics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, history, and political science.

AP® U.S. Government and Politics[1]

AP® U.S. Government and Politics studies the operations and structure of the U.S. government and the behavior of the electorate and politicians. Students will gain the analytic perspective necessary to critically evaluate political data, hypotheses, concepts, opinions, and processes. Along the way, they'll learn how to gather data about political behavior and develop their own theoretical analysis of American politics. They'll also build the skills they need to examine general propositions about government and politics, and to analyze the specific relationships between political, social, and economic institutions. The equivalent of an introductory-level college course, AP U.S. Government and Politics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in political science, law, education, business, and history.

AP® U.S. History

AP® U.S. History analyzes and explores the economic, political, and social changes in America since Columbus. Students master historical knowledge and critical analysis, build reading, writing, and communication skills, and discover how historical events have contributed to American culture. In the process, they'll learn how decisions and events of the past continue to have profound effects on the world today and how knowledge of

the causes behind past events can influence future decisions. By the end of the course, students will be ready to put their factual knowledge to work by weighing evidence and interpreting problems presented by historians. The equivalent of an introductory-level college course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law.

World Languages

AP® Spanish Language

Prerequisite: Spanish III or equivalent native fluency

In AP® Spanish Language students perfect their Spanish speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing skills. They study the vocabulary, grammar, and cultural aspects of the language, and then apply what they've learned in extensive written and spoken exercises. By the end of the course, students will have an expansive vocabulary and a solid, working knowledge of all verb forms and tenses. The equivalent of a college-level language course, AP Spanish Language prepares students for the AP exam and for further study of Spanish language, culture, or literature.

Honors

English 9

Honors English 9 is an overview of exemplar selections of literature in fiction and nonfiction genres. Students read short stories, poems, a full-length novel, and a full-length Shakespeare play, analyzing the use of elements of literature in developing character, plot, and theme. Each unit includes informational texts inviting students to consider the historical, social, and literary context of the main texts they study. The range of texts includes canonical authors such as William Shakespeare, Franz Kafka, and Elie Wiesel, as well as writers from diverse backgrounds, such as Alice Walker, Li-Young Lee, and Robert Lake-Thom (Medicine Grizzlybear). Opportunities for self-directed study, including outside readings, open-ended journal entries, and free-form projects, challenge Honors students to use their creativity and critical thinking skills to gain independent mastery of reading and writing.

English 10

The focus of the Honors English 10 course is the writing process. Three writing applications guide the curriculum: persuasive, expository, and narrative writing. Each lesson culminates in a written assignment that lets students demonstrate their developing skill in one of these applications. English 10 also continues to develop students' reading, listening, and speaking skills. Readings include poems, stories, speeches, plays, and a graphic novel, as well as a variety of informational texts. The readings represent a wide variety of purposes and cultural perspectives, ranging from the Indian epic The Ramayana to accounts of Hurricane Katrina told through different media. Opportunities for self-directed study, including outside readings, open-ended journal entries, and free-form projects, challenge Honors students to use their creativity and critical thinking skills to gain independent mastery of reading and writing.

English 11

In the Honors English 11 course, students examine the belief systems, events, and literature that have shaped the United States. They begin by studying the language of independence and the system of government developed by Thomas Jefferson and other enlightened thinkers. Next, they explore how the Romantics and Transcendentalists emphasized the power and responsibility of the individual in both supporting and questioning the government. Students consider whether the American Dream is still achievable and examine the Modernists' disillusionment with the idea that America is a "land of opportunity." Reading the words of Frederick Douglass and the text of the Civil Rights Act, students look carefully at the experience of African Americans and their struggle to achieve equal rights. Students explore how individuals cope with the influence of war and cultural tensions while trying to build and secure their own personal identity. Finally, students examine how technology is affecting our contemporary experience of freedom: Will we eventually change our beliefs about what it means to be an independent human being? Opportunities for self-directed study, including outside readings, open-ended journal entries, and free-form projects, challenge Honors students to use their creativity and critical thinking skills to gain independent mastery of reading and writing.

English 12

The Honors English 12 course asks students to closely analyze British literature and world literature and consider how we humans define and interact with the unknown, the monstrous, and the heroic. In the epic poems The Odyssey, Beowulf, and The Inferno, in Shakespeare's Tempest, in the satire of Swift, and in the rhetoric of World War II, students examine how the ideas of "heroic" and "monstrous" have been defined across cultures and time periods and how the treatment of the "other" can make monsters or heroes of us all.

Reading Frankenstein and works from those who experienced the imperialism of the British Empire, students explore the notion of inner monstrosity and consider how the dominant culture can be seen as monstrous in its ostensibly heroic goal of enlightening the world.

Algebra I

Prerequisite: Introductory Algebra

Honors Algebra I offers students the opportunity to develop and apply their algebraic understanding to solve increasingly complex problems. Students become familiar with exponents, roots, and radicals in the context of manipulating and factoring polynomials. They learn to write and solve systems of equations as a strategy for solving word problems. Students evaluate rational expressions, and graph, solve, and apply linear equations and inequalities. They also explore problems of probability. Additional items require Honors students to extend their understanding by answering "what if" questions, thinking abstractly about the mathematics involved, and analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the model as a reflection of the real-world situation.

Algebra II

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry or Integrated Math I

Honors Algebra II introduces students to powerful algebraic tools and problem-solving strategies. Students learn strategies for simplifying and solving equations and inequalities containing radical expressions. Students explore multiple techniques for solving systems of equations and are introduced to matrices. The quadratic formula and other methods of solving quadratic equations are introduced and applied. Students explore connections between algebra and geometry as they graph the equations of conic sections: parabolas, circles, ellipses, and hyperbolas. This course also includes an introduction to the concepts of trigonometry and an investigation of discrete mathematics and probability. Additional items require Honors students to extend their understanding by answering "what if" questions, thinking abstractly about the mathematics involved, and analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the model as a reflection of the real-world situation.

Geometry

Recommended: Algebra I or Integrated Math I

Honors Geometry builds upon students' command of geometric relationships and formulating mathematical arguments. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.Course topics include reasoning, proof, and the creation of sound mathematical arguments; points, lines, and angles; triangles and trigonometry; quadrilaterals and other polygons; circles; congruence, similarity, transformations, and constructions; coordinate geometry; three-dimensional solids; and applications of probability.This course supports all students as they develop computational fluency and deepen conceptual understanding. Students begin each lesson by discovering new concepts through guided instruction, and then confirm their understanding in an interactive, feedback-rich environment. Modeling activities equip students with tools for analyzing a variety of real-world scenarios and mathematical ideas. Journaling activities allow students to reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct arguments, critique reasoning, and communicate precisely. Performance tasks prepare students to synthesize their knowledge in novel, real-world scenarios and require that they make sense of multifaceted problems and persevere in solving them. Additional items require Honors students to extend their understanding by answering "what if" questions, thinking abstractly about the mathematics involved, and analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the model as a reflection of the real-world situation.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Integrated Math III

The Honors Pre-Calculus course combines reviews of algebra, geometry, and functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The course focuses on the mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses. The first semester includes linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions, as well as systems of equations and conic sections. The second semester covers trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; applications of trigonometry, including vectors and the laws of sines and cosines; polar functions and notation; and arithmetic of complex numbers. Additionally, connections are made throughout the Precalculus course to calculus, art, history, and a variety of other fields related to mathematics.

World History

Honors World History offers students the opportunity to explore ancient cultures, Europe, Asia, South America, the Middle East, and Africa. Students use a variety of resources to understand the complexity of the world in which we live. Students also study geography and its impact on human history. They complete two independent research projects on topics of their choice.

U.S. History

It is important to understand the past in order to make sound decisions for the future. In Honors U.S. History, students are challenged to look at key events in our nation's history and how they affect us today. They use a variety of resources for historical analysis including textbooks, the library, and the Internet. Honors students perfect their ability to use logic and evidence to create persuasive written arguments in five-paragraph essays, two independent research projects, and shorter exercises such as document-based questions and analytic discussions.

U.S. Government and Politics[1]

Prerequisite: U.S. History is recommended, but not required

Honors U.S. Government and Politics provides students an introduction to the foundations of the U.S. government, the fundamentals of citizenship, and the United States' relations with, and responsibilities to, the rest of the world. Students independently complete a Constitution project, a research paper on a government career, and one appropriate essay topic of the student's choice.

Biology

Students enrolled in Honors Biology study the physical structures and functions of plants, animals, and humans. They explore cell structure, the processes of mitosis and meiosis, plant anatomy, human anatomy, genetics, and the theory of evolution. In addition to conducting experiments using microscopes, students dissect a virtual pig and look closely at internal human anatomy through the use of interactive software. Biology students are frequently asked to respond to scientific problems and issues via written assignments. Activities challenge Honors students to deconstruct scientific claims, analyze scientific articles, and suggest follow-up experiments or topics for further research. Honors students use scientific process skills to delve deeper into topics.

Chemistry

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Integrated Math I; Recommended: Algebra II or Integrated Math II

Honors Chemistry offers students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the physical world and to apply their mathematical skills to solving chemical equations. Students are introduced to atomic structure and weights, the periodic table, chemical bonding, the mole concept, gases, solids, liquids, solutions, chemical equilibrium, acids, and bases. They learn to calculate molecular and formulaic weights and to balance chemical equations. Activities challenge Honors students to deconstruct scientific claims, analyze scientific articles, and suggest follow-up experiments or topics for further research. Honors students use scientific process skills to delve deeper into topics. The course concludes with a final presentation of a research paper or project.

Physics

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Integrated Math I; Recommended: Algebra II or Integrated Math II

In this Honors Physics course, students examine force and its effects, light and sound, electricity and magnetism, energy resources, the solar system, and gravity. Students conduct hands-on experiments and complete virtual labs to enhance their understanding of gravity, acceleration, optics, and circuits. Activities challenge Honors students to deconstruct scientific claims, analyze scientific articles, and suggest follow-up experiments or topics for further research. Honors students use scientific process skills to delve deeper into topics.

NCAA

Brightmont Academy has more than 50 NCAA-approved courses. Visit the NCAA High School Portal website and enter Brightmont Academy as the High School Name to view a full list of approved courses.

[1] 0.5 credit course

Brightmont Academy is an accredited private school offering flexible one-to-one instruction and tutoring for students in grades 6-12. Founded in 1999, we have helped thousands of young people find alternative paths to becoming successful students, and have 16 campuses in the states of Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Washington.

Brightmont Academy is accredited by Cognia (formerly AdvancED).