2021-2022
Course Offerings
(subject to change)

ENGLISH

English 9 (Year-Long)
English 9 is a foundational course that will prepare students for learning in high school and beyond. In this course, students will develop critical thinking skills and deep reading strategies as they analyze literature from multiple genres, periods, and cultures. Students will also gain experience with the writing process through a variety of writing exercises, both formal (paragraphs, essays, reading responses, research projects) and informal (creative writing, journals, blogs). A partial list of literary works to be examined include The Odyssey, Pride and Prejudice, and Fahrenheit 451, along with various short stories, essays, and poetry.

English 10 (Year-Long)
English 10 is a literature-based course designed to develop reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills. Grammar, usage, vocabulary acquisition, and spelling are a necessary focus as students learn to examine and respond to various genres of literature. Oral communication skills are practiced in group discussions, Socratic seminars, group projects, and persuasive speeches. A partial list of literary works to be examined include Hamlet, 1984, and The Great Gatsby, along with various short stories, essays, and poetry.

AP Language and Composition (Year-Long) (Optional AP Exam costs $94)
AP English Language and Composition is an introductory college-level composition course. Students cultivate their understanding of writing and rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style.

Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy (Year-Long)
In this class we do all the things you've wanted to do since reading that last Science Fiction novel or finishing that last Fantasy series on Netflix: write Science Fiction and Fantasy of your own. If you like making up stories and like stories that push the boundaries of logic then this class is for you. Students will learn to write like the greats, but more importantly, students will leave this class with a finished work of Fiction: either a novel or a collection of shorter works.

Journalism (Year-Long)
Humans think in narratives. It is how we make sense of reality. With the vast amount of information we must sift through on a daily basis, it is a useful skill to be able to craft a clear, compelling story based on important facts and key details. In this course, we will learn the basics of media literacy, develop strategies for effective information gathering, practice research and interview skills, explore the elements of an effective narrative, and craft stories in a variety of media. You will express our voice in weekly periodicals, broadcasts, and eventually the school yearbook. Along the way, you will have the opportunity to interview professional journalists and documentarians to get a sense of how a journalist thinks, the difficult creative and ethical decisions they have to make, and what a career in journalism looks like.

Senior Thesis (Year-Long)
This course serves as the capstone to your career at Vanguard Classical School, and is designed to help you showcase your knowledge, your critical thinking abilities, and your rhetorical prowess. During the first quarter of your senior year, we will review the trivium—the model of a liberal arts education that we provide at VCS. We will put these disciplines into practice by evaluating arguments from a number of different sources—letters and op-ed articles published in newspapers, classical and contemporary essays, and even arguments produced by your classmates. Throughout the course we will spend a considerable amount of time focusing on concrete matters regarding how to write academic papers. You will demonstrate your mastery of the trivium by writing a 12-18 page persuasive paper on a topic that you choose in consultation with the teacher and chosen mentor. Your paper must be adequately researched, well-written, and must follow all of the conventions that are expected of a high-quality work of academic writing. In May, toward the culmination of your senior year, you will present your work to a panel in a public presentation, to be attended by students, teachers, and family members.

Creative Writing (Year-Long)
In this class we will cover the beginner's essentials to different forms of creative writing, namely: Flash Fiction, Short Stories, Novella, Novel, Poetry, ScreenWriting, and the like. Creative Writing will be a course dedicated to introducing students to all these types of writing, after which students will work on a project in one of these categories. This is meant to be a beginner/intermediate course, while the other creative writing class, Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy, is considered more advanced. Therefore, if you are new or somewhat new, or just want to explore many different types of creative writing, then this class is for you.

Debate (Semester 1)
This semester-long course offered in the fall serves as an introduction to interscholastic debate. Students will learn the basics of argumentation, in-depth topic research, constructive speaking, cross-examination, and rebuttal. Additionally, the course will emphasize evidence comparison, cost-benefit analysis, note-taking and more. Students will be required to participate in a minimum number of debate tournaments, research assignments, and practices. While competition is required students will not be graded on wins and losses.

Shakespeare (Year-Long)
This course will examine many of the major works for which Shakespeare is famous. Our objectives will be to acquire an in-depth knowledge of Shakespeare's language, works, and themes; to develop an appreciation of his importance; to examine tragedy and comedy as genres; to learn about Shakespeare's time period and his lasting cultural legacy; and to examine the many ways that his works have been adapted through the years, specifically in film. Works used in this class may be Othello, King Lear, Macbeth, The Merchant of Venice, Love's Labor's Lost, and The Taming of the Shrew, among others.

MATH

Pre-Algebra (Year-Long)
This course will help students develop essential skills needed for algebra and problem-solving strategy for real world problems. It is designed for students who need additional math preparation before taking Algebra I. Topics will include real numbers, algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, ratios, proportions, percents, functions, systems of equations, linear equations, introduction to geometry, area and volume, probability and statistics.

Algebra I (Year-Long)
This course is designed to bring together past experiences in algebraic concepts and extend these experiences through the real number system. The course stresses understanding of the structure of different number systems and learning to appreciate the need for precision of language. Topics include the real number system, first degree equations and inequalities, polynomials, functions, relations, graphs, and quadratic equations and inequalities. Students will master algebraic skills essential for the study of higher mathematics.

Algebra II (Year-Long)
This course is designed for students to continue the study of the real number system with an introduction to the complex number system. This course allows the student to develop a mastery of algebraic techniques and a thorough knowledge of elementary functions and the graphs of these functions. Topics studied include properties of the real number system, polynomial and exponential functions, and conic sections.

Geometry (Year-Long)
This course is designed to provide students the opportunity to learn about the nature of geometric shapes and their applications to the real world. Students will learn how to reason and communicate logically and develop arguments both deductively and inductively. Additionally, students will extend their knowledge of algebraic concepts through the study of geometric relationships. Topics include work with congruence and similarity of polygons, polygon characteristics, right triangle relationships, properties of circles, properties of parallel lines, and the area and volume of polygons.

Precalculus (Year-Long)
This course is designed for students who plan to continue their study of mathematics with Calculus or other courses at the college level. Topics for the course include properties of the real numbers, circular functions, trigonometric functions, applications of trigonometry, sequences and series, limits, basic functions and their transformations, and vectors.

Calculus I (Year-Long)
Prerequisite: C or better in Precalculus OR approval from Algebra II instructor
Calculus is one of the most advanced math classes taken in high school, but it is well worth it. Learning new operations like derivatives and integrals allows us to apply math to physics, chemistry, biology, sociology, and geography. Studying calculus improves your knowledge and abilities in trigonometry, algebraic manipulation, and graphing. Major topics covered include limits, derivatives, applications of derivatives, and the definite integral, all leading to the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Statistics (Semester 1 or 2)
Students are introduced to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. College-bound students who plan to enter such fields as economics, business, journalism, education, research, psychology, sociology, biology, and medicine, may benefit from this course. Topics for this course include exploring data, experimental design, probability and simulation, and statistical inference.

SAT Prep (Semester 1 or 2)
SAT Prep is designed to help prepare students for the SAT test. In addition to reviewing the basic verbal and mathematical skills assessed on the SAT test, students learn test-taking strategies specific to the exam. Although all sections of the SAT will be covered, emphasis will be placed on mathematics. Material includes samples with explanations, grading rubrics for peer and self-assessment, practice tests with complete multiple-choice assessments, essays prompts, and study resources. Independent practice is followed by guided collaborative review. Upon successful completion, students will possess the tools necessary to complete the SAT to the best of their ability.

Financial Math (Year-Long)
This course is designed to empower students to become more responsible adults and to prepare them to be financially successful in the years ahead. This course will cover checking basics, savings basics, types of credit, managing credit, paying for college, alternative post high school paths, budgeting basics, investing basics, financial pitfalls and career basics.

Accounting (Year-Long)
This course integrates managerial and financial accounting to show how accounting facilitates business and narrates a company's inner workings through its financial statements. This course introduces managerial and financial accounting, challenges students to think critically, incorporates Excel/Google Sheets, and teaches the language of business.

SCIENCE

Astronomy (Year-Long)
In this course we will discuss the fundamentals of the science of Astronomy. The course will address the history of Astronomy from being a philosophy to becoming a science. Also, the students will learn about the tools used in the study of Astronomy and the influence that these have had in its development. Other topics such as the theories about the formation of the universe, deep space objects such as galaxies, black holes, neutron stars, the Solar System, and space exploration will be discussed. The students will also learn how to read the night sky and how to identify stars, planets, constellations, galaxies, and other objects as seen from Earth. Spectroscopy will be taught as a way to study stars and galaxies and an introduction to Astrobiology will be discussed as the way to study the effort of the scientists' community in the search for life in the universe.

Biology (Year-Long)
This course includes the study of living organisms and vital processes. Themes that will be covered in this course include scientific skills, ecology, molecular biology, cellular processes, genetics, evolution, classification of organisms, as well as plant and human body systems. Students will even get to do their own scientific experiment for the science fair.

Chemistry (Year-Long)
Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra I OR enrollment in Geometry
Chemistry is the science of the composition, structure, and properties of matter. By understanding chemistry thoroughly, a master of the subject can answer many questions about the world around them. More importantly, a student of chemistry will learn how to ask questions so that they may be answerable. This course will focus on chemistry content as well as the safe practice of chemistry in the laboratory. Students will read modern scientific articles, study the works of previous chemists, and perform their own explorations in chemistry.

Environmental Science (Year-Long)
The Environmental Science course will provide curious learners with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

Gardening Science (Year-Long)
Gardening can be a fun and interesting way to help students learn about sustainability gardening techniques, horticulture, and botany. School gardens are more beneficial and sustainable when they are incorporated into the school curriculum and classroom activities. This course is not only about developing a school garden, it is about teaching students to succeed in school, the community, and in life. Gardening provides an excellent way for students to apply scientific theory and to better retain and understand that theory. The gardening curriculum is designed based on teaching these concepts.

Physics (Year-Long)
Prerequisite: C or better in Geometry AND/OR enrollment in Algebra II
This Physics course is designed to prepare students to take physics college courses. In this course, the basics about Newtonian physics as well as the basics of modern physics are discussed. Topics such as mechanics, energy, electricity, magnetism, waves, and heat transfer are discussed are part of the course development. In addition, an introduction to modern physics principles such particle physics will be presented to students. This course will be delivered by using a conceptual approach in combination with mathematical and analytical applications addressed to solve physics problems. Labs and hands-on activities are vital for this course.

Food Science (Semester 1)
This course is designed to look at cooking from a scientific basis. Each week we will do an edible experiment and look at the science behind how it all works. The focus of this course is on how temperature affects food, including a detailed study of the Maillard reaction, food preservation methods, and the nature of temperature. Not only will chemical principles be examined, but also concepts in biochemistry, biology, and microbiology.

Kitchen Chemistry (Semester 2)
This course is a continuation of the Food Science class but may be taken without the other. This course is designed to look at cooking from a scientific basis. Students will learn how to apply science in the kitchen through a variety of methods including research, reading, cooking, and recording data. This course will focus on water and the effect of water in food including food preservation techniques and colligative properties.

Oceanography (Semester 1)
This course focuses on ways in which oceans function and interact with earth systems. Consideration is given to ocean currents and vertical mixing, water chemistry, heat and energy transfer, seafloor geology, and coastal processes. We will also focus on the role people have on impacting the ocean and what this means for the future.

Meteorology (Semester 2)
This class investigates the structure, components and processes of the earth's atmosphere. Global circulation patterns, precipitation, tropical systems, severe weather events, and air pollution issues are all studied. Understanding how to analyze and produce weather forecasts will be emphasized.

SOCIAL STUDIES

World History (Year-Long)
This year-long course guides students through the history of global development from ancient civilizations to the late eighteen hundreds. Content will emphasize development of cultures, civic ideals, science and technology, economic production, the interconnectedness of global communities and more. Students will be expected to display acquisition of historical skills including issue analysis, historical comprehension, daya analysis, and chronological thinking.

U.S. History (Year-Long)
U.S. History is a year-long course which serves as a high school level overview of the history of our country. In this course, students will explore major events in America such as the Colonial Period, the Revolutionary War, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. They will also develop reading, writing, and argumentation skills. This is a required course to graduate.

Advanced Placement United States History (Year-Long) (Optional AP Exam costs $94)
AP U.S. History is an introductory college-level U.S. history course. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. history from c. 1491 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures. Upon completion of this course, students will be prepared to complete the AP U.S. History exam. A passing score on the exam can lead to college credit for U.S. History.

Advanced Placement Comparative Government (Year-Long) (Optional AP Exam costs $94)
The AP course in Comparative Government and Politics introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. Six countries form the core of the AP Comparative Government and Politics course: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. This course can provide college credit if the student passes the optional AP exam at the end of the year.

U.S. Government (Semester 1)
This course is set up so that students may acquire the knowledge of the intricacies of the American Government. As a class, we will be analyzing the structure of the government including the systems of checks and balances and the changes to the law and government that have happened throughout American history. This course allows students to directly study the country around us as it is today, rather than simply an historical account of events. There may be discussion of controversial issues in this class, because this is a class that is based on current events, government, and politics.

Introduction to Economics (Semester 1)
Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra I
This semester-long course is an introductory course in economics. In this course, students will examine basic economic principles and theories. They will examine how scarcity drives the economy, how economic decisions are made on both national and individual levels, and how supply and demand help the economy function.

Ethnic Studies (Semester 2)
This semester-long course offered in the spring engages students and builds empathy about basic concepts and theories centering American culture, communities, and identity. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach, topics in the course cover historical and contemporary issues, law, economics, and cultural production. Long term transferable skills emphasized throughout the course include critical thinking, research and analysis, and effective writing.

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (Semester 2)
What are rights? What rights should we have as citizens? What rights should we have as humans? What rights do we actually have, both guaranteed by the constitution and by the law? How are these rights decided on a case by case basis? These are the questions we will answer during this course. We will analyze the Constitution and the law, right by right, to gain a better understanding of what freedoms we are guaranteed.

History of Propaganda (Semester 2)
In this semester-long course, students learn about propaganda and its use throughout history. Students will examine how nations use propaganda to encourage behavior. By taking this course, students will be able to identify how propaganda shapes people's minds, and even be able to identify propaganda around them.

FINE ARTS -- Art, Music, Technology

Art I: Drawing and Painting (Semester 1)
Drawing is an essential step in the creation of visual arts. This semester course will focus on the Elements and Principles of Art, especially the role of value in terms of light and dark and line play in creating shape, form, structure and space. Students will practice their skills in a variety of mediums that may include graphite, colored pencil, watercolor, colored ink, and acrylic paint. We will discuss current and historic art pieces and artists as they relate to the techniques we practice. Students may retake this course as projects will vary each year.

Art II: Ceramics and 3D materials (Semester 2)
Ceramics is used in both functional and nonfunctional works. This class will focus on the basic ceramic techniques including wedging, coil structures, slab structure, throwing, and a variety of glazing techniques. Students will also have opportunities to work in alternative 3D materials that may include cardboard, foam, paper, and recycled materials. Students may retake this course as projects will vary each year.

Design Thinking/Advanced Art Studies (Semester 1 or 2)
Prerequisite: C or better in Art I/Art II or approval from art teacher
This is an advanced practice course. Students will work in groups and individually to design and create new works of art. Emphasis will be placed on the experimentation and honing in on a personal style. Students will work in a variety of mediums of their choice.

Design Thinking/Advanced Art Studies (Semester 2)
Prerequisite: C or better in Art I/Art II or approval from art teacher
This is an advanced practice course. Students will work in groups and individually to design and create new works of art. Emphasis will be placed on the creative process, personal style, and critique. Students will work in a variety of mediums of their choice.

Fiber Arts (Semester 2)
Before art there was craft. Craftsmen and women were responsible for creating everyday functional and decorative items. In this class students will learn the history of crafts and folk art made around the world and use a variety of materials to create functional and decorative pieces. Students may learn skills like hand sewing, embroidery weaving, paper making, fabric dying.

Concert Band (Year-Long)
Concert Band is a performance-based class where you will learn to play wind or percussion instruments as a soloist and in an ensemble. You will learn music history and music theory as well. This class can be taken each year, and new and more difficult concepts will be covered as you advance as a musician. Each year, you will perform in three or four concerts.

Orchestra (Year-Long)
Orchestra is a performance-based class where you will learn to play string instruments as a soloist and in an ensemble. You will learn music history and music theory, as well. This class can be taken each year, and new and more difficult concepts will be covered as you advance as a musician. Each year, you will perform in three or four concerts.

Beginning Choir (Year-Long)
Are you curious about how to use your voice? Do you have the slightest interest in music? If so, we welcome you to choir! In Beginning Choir, we build a strong foundation of music literacy and vocal pedagogy. From Ave Verum Corpus to 80s power ballads to Billie Eilish we sing and learn it all! Students in choir will learn the skills to become a well-rounded musician including studying music history, music theory, and performance skills. Beginning choir is a performance-based class, with at least 2 community concerts and other performances throughout the year.

Advanced Choir (Year-Long)
Prerequisite: Beginning Choir or approval from choir instructor
Advanced Choir is a year-long class designed to further enhance the musical knowledge, pedagogy, and performance experience with vocal music. Students will continue to develop advanced levels of understanding in music theory and ear training, music history, vocal performance techniques, exploration of 3 to 4 part music from around the world, as well as participate in high-level performance opportunities. Students must have completed at least 1 year in beginning high school choir or show levels of music understanding to be successful in the class. This is an application-based class, which requires strong levels of participation.

Guitar (Semester 1 or 2)
Guitar is a course covering the basics of the instrument and an application of essential music fundamentals. Students will learn the basics of playing guitar at a beginning level through studying music notation, chord symbols, and peer modeling. A brief history of the guitar along with a study of its respective musical styles will also be covered in this course.

Piano/Keyboard (Semester 1 or 2)
This course is designed for students who are interested and want to learn how to play the piano. In this course, we learn piano pedagogy, music theory, and performance skills. Students will study pieces of music from great historic composers, all the way to learning how to play chord accompaniments of pop music. This is a performance and participation-based class, which offers opportunities to perform in one or two recitals/concerts.

World Music (Semester 1)
In this class we will explore music that lives outside Western tradition. From the music of indigenous tribes, African cultures to Tibetan throat singing we will dedicate this class to learning, listening, and engaging with styles of music that we don't get to focus on in other music classes. Students will gain an appreciation for other cultures as well as explore the role that music can have in different societies.

HS Dance (Semester 1 or 2)
Dance will include learning dance routines of varying difficulty and performance skills. Dance styles will vary throughout the semester. This class fulfills a physical education, fine arts, or elective graduation requirement.

Principles of Computer Science (Year-Long)
This course is based on learning computer science concepts and using Java programming code. Concepts may include keyboarding skills, Google suite application, internet protocol, programming, Java development, algorithms, and data analysis.

Business Applications (Semester 2)
In this class students will create advanced projects that would apply in the business world, such as business presentations, financial spreadsheets, resumes, budgets, annotations, essays, cover letters, and web design. Students will also get to know a wide range of google applications through project-based learning for real-world business application.

Programming I (Semester 1)
This course is designed for high school students to understand basic concepts of programming by learning the foundations and concepts behind programming. They will begin with HTML/CSS in coding and creating web page designs. Then, they will move on to Javascript using syntax, variables, strings, numbers work, and eventually game creation.

Programming II (Semester 2)
This course will give students the fundamentals of Javascript programming to the more advanced usage of the language. We will be studying operations, strings, functions, blocks, conditionals, comparison, logic, and loops. Through game creation and a variety of projects, students will explore different areas of Javascript. Students will see the range of the program's abilities.

Digital Art I: Photo Art and Design (Semester 1)
Digital Art I class is designed to give students a beginner's awareness and exposure to different aspects of digital art and design. We will be working with GIMP, a 2D photo design software like photoshop. GIMP provides the tools needed for high quality image manipulation including cartooning, photo editing, graphic effects, and animation. You are only limited by your imagination!

Digital Art II: 3D Art and Design (Semester 2)
Digital Art II class is designed to give students an advance awareness of other aspects in 3D digital art and design. We will be using TinkerCAD(Computer Aided Design Software) for 3D art and design, and we will have the ability to use the 3D printer to show the real life applications.

PHILOSOPHY ELECTIVES

Moral Philosophy (Semester 1)
This class is an investigation of morality. We will be critically examining different perspectives on some important questions, such as: What is a good life? What's the difference between right and wrong behavior? Where does morality come from? We will utilize a problem-based approach, which means that you will spend much of the semester engaged in attempts to solve some big problems that the world currently faces. Along the way, we will explore the answers that various philosophers have given to these big questions. Our study of these issues will serve as an introduction to philosophical reasoning. You must take and pass this class in order to graduate.

Eastern Philosophy (Semester 2)
In this course, students will explore various tenets of four of the major philosophical traditions of the East, and use them to analyze and address issues in their own lives. They will learn the story of the Buddha and apply the Four Noble Truths to their own lives, will read Lao Tzu's Taoist text the "Tao Te Ching", will discuss the "Analects" of Confucius, and will determine how their interpretations of the "Bhagavad Gita" can serve them in thinking about their own path from a new perspective.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

HS Dance (Semester 1 or 2)
Dance will include learning dance routines of varying difficulty and performance skills. Dance styles will vary throughout the semester. This class fulfills a physical education, fine arts, or elective graduation requirement.

HS Health (Semester 1 or 2)
This course covers a variety of topics related to leading and keeping a healthy lifestyle. This class is about self-reflection and how to apply health topics to your personal life. You must take and pass this class in order to graduate.

HS Physical Education (Semester 1 or 2)
P.E. includes learning life-long activities and sports. The class will involve a variety of team sports and fitness. Active participation is required.

Personal Fitness (Semester 1)
The purpose of this class is to focus on a variety of group fitness and personal fitness activities. Throughout the course, students will work on personal fitness goals and learn a variety of ways to stay active for a lifetime.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Latin I (Year-Long)
This is a year-long world language credit course following the Oxford Latin Course textbook series. Students will learn vocabulary, simple grammar, and follow the life of the Roman poet Quintus Horatius Flaccus. Culture units include Roman life, foods, holidays, education, festivals, religion, the Trojan War, and mythology. Students have the option to attend an overnight Latin Convention in the Spring, register for and take the National Latin Exam, and participate in 3 Roman holidays (including the winter feast, Saturnalia).

Latin II (Year-Long)
This is a year-long world language credit course following the Oxford Latin Course textbook series. Students will expand their vocabulary, master complex grammar, and follow the life of the Roman poet Quintus Horatius Flaccus as he moves to Rome. Students will follow cultural units about Roman city life, Roman baths, politics, Civil War, and Julius Caesar. Students have the option to attend an overnight Latin Convention in the Spring, register for and take the National Latin Exam, and participate in 3 Roman events (including a traditional Roman Wedding).

Latin III (Year-Long)
This is a year-long world language credit course following the Oxford Latin Course textbook series. Students will expand their vocabulary, master complex grammar, and follow the life of the Roman poet Quintus Horatius Flaccus as he joins Brutus' army in Greece and eventually returns to Rome to become a renowned poet. Cultural units include Roman Poetry, travel, life and death, Civil War, and careers in the ancient world. Students have the option to attend an overnight Latin Convention in the Spring, register for and take the National Latin Exam, and participate in 3 Roman events (including a Symposium).

AP Latin (Year-Long)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin I-III or approval from the Latin instructor
In AP Latin, students will work toward translating original Latin texts including Vergil's Aeneid and Caesar's De Bello Gallico. This is a rigorous, college-level course with a heavy emphasis on analysis and translation of texts, and quality timed analytical essay-writing skills. Students have the option to attend an overnight Latin Convention in the Spring, register for and take the National Latin Exam, and register and take the AP Latin exam.

Spanish I (Year-Long)
This introductory course is designed for students with little or no previous study of Spanish. This course teaches basic language patterns and vocabulary. Repetition and comprehensible input are important components of this course. Focus is on all four language skills listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Culture is an integral part of the course and is introduced through the use of games, adapted readings, and class discussions. In addition to written tests and quizzes, students may also be assessed by means of aural conversations. This class fulfills a world language or elective graduation requirement.

Spanish II (Year-Long)
Spanish II builds upon the skills learned in Spanish I: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis is on perfecting pronunciation, mastery of the basic grammatical structures, and increased communicative proficiency. Students will be exposed to the past tenses, future, conditional and subjunctive mood, and will apply them in their writing and speaking. This class fulfills a world language or elective graduation requirement.

Spanish III (Year-Long)
This class provides a rich content for new vocabulary and language structures. Students will be exposed to a variety of literary materials that will give them practice in forming different types of sentences, using different structures, and working with a variety of ways to connect ideas. Reading literature also promotes oral work and strengthens writing skills. This class fulfills a world language or elective graduation requirement.