

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **AEROSPACE 1 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Must be 16yrs old, Instructor recommendation

Private pilots course. This is a two-semester high school science elective ground and flight training course that provides the foundation and prepares the student to pass the FAA check ride, oral exam and written for a Private Pilot certificate. This is a valid license for flying in good weather conditions.

### **AEROSPACE 2**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Completion of Aerospace 1 Honors and completion of Private Pilot Certification; Instructor recommendation

Instrument Rating. This is a two-semester high school science elective ground and flight training course that provides the foundation and prepares the student to pass the FAA check ride, oral and written exam for an Instrument Rating. This is a valid license for flying in less than visual meteorological weather conditions.

### **BAND 1**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Instructor recommendation

Introduction to Band. Cadets will learn basic instrument fundamentals and technique as well as counting rhythms and reading music. This class is for Cadets who have played a band woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **BAND 2**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Introduction to Band

Performing Band/Marching Band. Cadets will receive a foundation in musical literacy and instrument proficiency. This is a performance group for concerts, parades, and ceremonies representing Marine Military Academy with an emphasis on musical excellence. There are extra rehearsals after school. This course is for cadets who have at least one year of playing experience on band woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments.

### **BUSINESS COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (BCA)**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: None

In this course Cadets apply the proper touch-system technique to input data when using the computer. Cadets apply word processing technology to format and print documents such as personal and business letters, memos, and short reports.

### **COMPUTER LITERACY**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: none

This full-year course introduces students to essential concepts in digital technology, computer systems, and online communication. Aligned with Texas TEKS for *Principles of Information Technology* and *Digital Literacy*, the course builds foundational knowledge and skills for success in high school, college, and career pathways in information technology.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students explore computer hardware and software, operating systems, file management, and troubleshooting. They develop digital communication and collaboration skills through activities using productivity software, such as word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentations. The curriculum also covers computer networks, internet safety, cybersecurity, ethics, and intellectual property.

Hands-on projects introduce students to web design (HTML, CSS), social media literacy, digital citizenship, and basic programming and logic using block-based environments. Students engage in collaborative projects emphasizing teamwork, project management, and professional skills.

By the end of the course, students will be able to apply safe, responsible, and effective technology practices and demonstrate proficiency in digital productivity and communication tools.

### **BUSINESS COMPUTER PROGRAMMING 1 (BCP 1)**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: Computer Literacy

This advanced course builds on prior programming knowledge, focusing on database development and management using Microsoft Access. Students design, create, and maintain relational databases to organize, analyze, and report business data effectively.

Topics include relational database concepts, data normalization, table design, queries, forms, reports, macros, and Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) programming. Students develop custom database solutions that automate business processes, integrate with other Microsoft Office applications, and support informed decision-making.

Through hands-on projects, students apply advanced problem-solving, project management, and documentation skills to simulate real-world business information systems. Emphasis is placed on professional standards, data integrity, collaboration, and the ethical use of data.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **BUSINESS COMPUTER PROGRAMMING 2 (BCP 2)**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: BCP 1

This course provides students with foundational skills in computer programming using Microsoft Visual Basic within a business context. Students learn to design, code, test, and debug applications that solve real-world business problems through event-driven programming and graphical user interfaces.

Key topics include variables, data types, decision structures, loops, procedures, file handling, arrays, and object-oriented programming concepts. Students also explore how Visual Basic integrates with databases and Microsoft Office applications to automate and enhance business processes.

Hands-on projects guide students in developing practical applications such as inventory systems, financial calculators, and data-tracking tools. Emphasis is placed on logical thinking, documentation, teamwork, and professional practices relevant to the business and information technology fields.

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE – JAVA (AP)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra 1, BCP 1 & 2

This college-level course introduces students to advanced computer science concepts through the Java programming language. Students design, implement, and analyze programs to solve real-world problems, emphasizing algorithm development, data structures, and object-oriented programming principles.

Core topics include classes and objects, inheritance, polymorphism, arrays and ArrayLists, recursion, and file input/output. Students also explore program efficiency, software design practices, and the ethical and social implications of computing.

Hands-on projects and labs reinforce logical reasoning, problem-solving, and collaboration while preparing students for the AP Computer Science A Exam.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **DESKTOP PUBLISHING**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This course provides students with hands-on experience in desktop publishing and journalistic production through the creation of the school yearbook and related digital media. Students apply principles of design, layout, photography, writing, and editing while using professional publishing software to produce high-quality print and digital publications.

Emphasis is placed on teamwork, project management, meeting deadlines, and effective communication. Students learn to plan themes, write feature stories and captions, edit photos, and apply typographic and graphic design techniques that reflect professional publishing standards.

By the end of the course, students will demonstrate skills in digital design, media ethics, and creative collaboration while producing a lasting record of the school year.

### **FOUNDATIONS OF LEADERSHIP H/DE**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: 3.0 GPA or above preferred

This course examines leadership theories in varying contexts to allow the student to develop a broad understanding of leadership and its complexities. Traditional and emerging theories of leadership are addressed within the underlying framework of how they apply to individuals, groups, organizations, and society. Additionally, students begin exploring their thinking of leadership and how it relates to their emerging leadership philosophy. This course does not satisfy core curriculum requirements; rather, it serves as an elective for college credit.

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

## INTRODUCTION TO CYBER SECURITY

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: None

This introductory-level course provides a comprehensive overview of computer and network security concepts, emphasizing the identification and prevention of digital threats. Students learn how to recognize and defend against common cyberattacks while implementing essential protection measures for devices, data, and networks.

Course topics include malware, hacking techniques, denial-of-service (DoS) attacks, encryption, industrial espionage, cyber terrorism, and information warfare. Students also explore ethical and legal issues in cybersecurity, digital forensics, and the use of scanning tools to identify system vulnerabilities.

Through lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on labs, students develop practical skills in analyzing threats, applying security technologies, and implementing security policies. Emphasis is placed on ethical behavior, responsible digital citizenship, and collaboration in simulated real-world cybersecurity environments.

## INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL FORENSICS

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Intro to Cyber Security preferred

Knowing how to install, configure, and troubleshoot a computer network is a highly marketable and exciting skill. This course first introduces the fundamental building blocks that form a modern network, such as protocols, topologies, hardware, and network operating systems. It then provides in-depth coverage of the most important concepts in contemporary networking, such as TCP/IP, Ethernet, wireless transmission, and security. The course will prepare you to select the best network design, hardware, and software for your environment. You will also have the skills to build a network from scratch and maintain, upgrade, and troubleshoot an existing network. Finally, you will be well prepared to pass CompTIA's (the Computing Technology Industry Association's) Network+ certification exam.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **ETHICAL HACKING**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Completion of Information to Fundamentals of Security or Completion of Intro to Networking

This course introduces students to ethical hacking and cybersecurity principles, emphasizing both defensive and offensive techniques in safe, controlled environments. Students will learn network security, vulnerability assessment, system hardening, web and wireless security, social engineering, penetration testing, and professional reporting using tools such as Kali Linux, Wireshark, Nmap, and DVWA. Through lectures, labs, simulations, and projects, students will explore how hackers exploit vulnerabilities, how defenders respond, and the ethical and legal responsibilities of cybersecurity professionals. The course culminates in a capstone project where students perform a simulated penetration test and produce a written report and presentation of findings.

### **MUSIC APPRECIATION**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the elements of music, including melody, harmony, rhythm, and form, while exploring the historical and cultural contributions of musicians and composers from the Middle Ages to the 21st century. Students will develop listening, analysis, and critical thinking skills to understand and evaluate diverse musical styles, preparing them to be informed and appreciative consumers of music.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **HEALTH**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: None

Cadets learn essential information and skills to promote lifelong health and make safe choices. The course emphasizes seeking guidance from parents, understanding factors that influence health, recognizing and using reliable health information, and developing personal and interpersonal skills to support individual, family, and community well-being. Cadets explore behaviors that protect their health, gain knowledge about puberty and reproduction, and examine environmental and community factors that affect overall health.

### **PHOTOJOURNALISM**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Photojournalism students learn to plan, interpret, and critique visual media, developing skills for effective journalistic photography. They study media laws and ethical considerations while analyzing both professional and peer work to enhance communication and storytelling. Using technology and visual media tools, students create, refine, and produce photographs for print, digital, or online publication, becoming both skilled creators and critical consumers of media.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **MILITARY SCIENCE-JROTC**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Conduct & Military Science / JROTC Program: Cadets are required to participate in the JROTC program, advancing in level each year. Activities include daily morning runs, sports, after-school activities, marching, strength training, and other physical training. JROTC is recognized by Texas public and private schools as equivalent to PE credit; when a cadet transfers, this credit is applied as PE. Grades in Military Science are based on Conduct (25%), Drill Instructor Evaluation (25%), and Leadership Education (50%). Conduct grades are influenced by disciplinary actions: one Drill Instructor Office Hour limits the grade to 84, two to 75, and more than two to 70; Commandant Office Hours or Cadet Review Board appearances may further lower the maximum grade. Drill Instructor Evaluation reflects daily performance and interactions, while Leadership Education grades are based on participation in the USMC JROTC Leadership Education Program. Cadets in 7th and 8th grade participate at the Basic JROTC level. Right Guide 311. 1-5 Conduct & Military Science Grades page 33

### **PSYCHOLOGY (H/DE)**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 10-11

Credit: 0.5

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: None

This dual-enrollment course provides high school students with college-level rigor while introducing the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Students examine how biological, cognitive, and environmental factors influence thought, emotion, and behavior. Key topics include motivation, emotions, intelligence, sensory processes, perception, learning, thinking, mental health, and psychotherapy. Through lectures, discussions, and assignments, students will develop a foundational understanding of psychology and its real-world applications. Access to technology and a personal Tarleton State University Canvas account is

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

required, and students must adhere to academic integrity policies when completing all course components

### **COLLEGE READINESS**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course prepares students for college readiness through a combination of direct instruction, computer-based practice, and individualized exercises. Students' complete placement tests, vocabulary study, and follow-up drills while creating a personal portfolio that includes a resume, autobiography, college essay, and information charts for universities of interest. The course also provides opportunities for one-on-one counseling sessions with the college placement office and visits to the college resources center. This course is a PWC (pass with credit) or FNC (failed no credit) graded course. There is no quality points assigned to this course.

### **PERSONAL FINANCE H/DE**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: none

The course introduces the concepts and methods of personal financial planning. It will enable students to develop financial literacy, create a personal financial plan, and, more importantly, develop the confidence and skills to make wise lifetime financial decisions. Students will also gain an understanding of social & behavioral science methods, concepts, and theories as they relate to individual money management. Students will research and study the complexity of human experience and increase their awareness of the variety of human behaviors related to dealing with scarce financial resources and institutions created to direct and organize human behavior. Freshmen entering 2025–26 school year, will be required to take at least one-half credit in personal financial literacy course. This dual enrollment course meets the course requirement and aligns with the Foundation Graduation Plan.

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **STUDY HALL**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: none

This one-semester course provides students with structured time to work independently on assignments from other classes, supporting long-term academic success. The course is graded on a pass-with-credit (PWC) or fail-no-credit (FNC) basis and does not earn quality points.

### **STUDY SKILLS**

Length: 1 semester

Grade Level: 7-12

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: none

This course helps students develop effective study habits and learning strategies to reinforce concepts and assignments from their general education classes. The study skills teacher collaborates with regular classroom teachers to provide individualized support, with an emphasis on academic success in core subjects

# ENGLISH

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **LANGUAGE ARTS 7th**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 7

Credit: not a course for high school credit

Prerequisite: None

Not a high school credited course. This course develops students' skills in reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking through the study of authentic literature, diverse genres, and reflective writing. Students will analyze author's craft, expand academic vocabulary, practice fluent communication, and engage in the writing process while conducting inquiry and research. By year's end, students will be prepared to read critically, write effectively, and communicate confidently across academic subjects.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS 8th**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 8

Credit: not a course for high school credit

Prerequisite: None

Not a high school credited course. This course deepens students' literacy and communication skills through the study of increasingly complex texts and genres. Students will analyze how themes, characters, and structures shape meaning, evaluate author's craft and rhetorical choices, and build academic vocabulary. Writing will include literary, informational, and argumentative forms, along with research and inquiry-based projects to prepare students for the rigor of high school English.

### **ENGLISH 1**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

English I strengthens reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills through the study of diverse and increasingly complex texts. Students will analyze literary elements and rhetorical strategies across genres including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and digital media. Writing focuses on literary, informational, and

## ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

argumentative forms, with emphasis on inquiry and research. By the end of this course, students will be prepared for the challenges of advanced high school English.

### **ENGLISH 1 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

This honors-level course offers an enriched and rigorous study of literature, language, and composition. Students will engage with complex texts from diverse cultures and time periods, analyzing advanced literary and rhetorical techniques. Writing instruction includes analytical essays, research-based argumentation, and original compositions, with emphasis on style, structure, and academic vocabulary. Class discussions and projects promote critical thinking and collaboration, preparing students for future advanced coursework.

### **ENGLISH 2**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English 1

English II develops students' analytical and communication skills through the study of a wide range of literary and informational texts. Students will explore author's purpose and craft, conduct structured research, and write in literary, informational, and argumentative modes. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary development, collaborative discourse, and advanced writing to prepare students for success in upper-level English courses.

### **ENGLISH 2 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

English II Honors challenges students through a deeper exploration of global literature and nonfiction. The course emphasizes critical inquiry, rhetorical analysis,

## ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

and advanced writing, including research-based and argumentative compositions. Students will produce sophisticated oral and written work and participate in academic discussions to develop independent thinking and scholarly communication skills.

### **ENGLISH 3**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English 2

English 3 emphasizes critical reading, advanced writing, and effective communication through the study of American literature and a variety of texts. Students analyze themes, literary elements, and rhetorical strategies, and produce complex written, oral, and multimodal responses. The course promotes research, inquiry, and independent analysis to prepare students for college-level literacy and expression.

### **ENGLISH 3 (H/DE) ENGL 1301 COMPOSITION I**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This introductory college writing course focuses on academic composition and critical response to texts. Students will explore various genres, develop analytical thinking, and write for diverse audiences and purposes. Emphasis is placed on the writing process, including invention, organization, drafting, revision, and style, as students prepare for further academic writing tasks.

# ENGLISH

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **ENGLISH 3 (H/DE) ENGL 2326 AMERICAN LITERATURE**

Length: Spring Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; English 2 Honors preferred

This survey course explores American literature from early exploration to the present, examining works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Students analyze texts in historical and cultural context, focusing on how literature reflects and shapes the evolving American identity. Selected authors represent diverse voices and literary movements.

### **ENGLISH 4**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English 3

English 4 focuses on advanced reading and writing skills through the study of British literature and global texts. Students will analyze literary elements, thematic development, and rhetorical techniques. Writing includes literary analysis, research-based arguments, and real-world communication tasks. The course prepares students for the expectations of college, careers, and responsible global citizenship.

### **ENGLISH 4 (H/DE) ENGL 1302 COMPOSITION II**

Length: Fall Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: ENGLISH 3 (H/DE) ENGL 1301 COMPOSITION I or AP English Language & Composition exam score 3 or better

This college-level course builds on Composition I by introducing students to research methods and writing in academic contexts. Students will conduct independent research, evaluate sources, and compose documented essays across genres. Emphasis is placed on inquiry, synthesis, argumentation, and ethical use of information.

## ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **ENGLISH 4 (H/DE) ENGL 2321 BRITISH LITERATURE)**

Length: Spring Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: ENGLISH 3 (H/DE) ENGL 1301 COMPOSITION I or AP English Language & Composition exam score 3 or better

This course surveys British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present, exploring major literary works across genres and eras. Students analyze texts in relation to historical, linguistic, and cultural contexts, with emphasis on major movements, authors, and thematic developments.

### **SPEECH**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 9–12

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: None

This course develops students' oral communication, presentation, and critical thinking skills. Students will learn speech organization, delivery techniques, and audience analysis. Emphasis is placed on persuasive, informative, and impromptu speaking, as well as collaboration and evaluation in a variety of speaking contexts.

### **ENGLISH COMPOSITION**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 10–12

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: None

Composition prepares students for the demands of college-level writing by developing skills in analysis, research, and structured writing. Students practice thesis development, logical organization, argumentation, and proper citation. The course includes opportunities for peer review, revision, and real-world writing tasks to build clarity, style, and academic confidence.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTION

## CHINESE 1

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: No native speakers will be allowed to take this course

No native speakers will be allowed to take this course. This beginner-level course introduces students to Mandarin Chinese using *Huanying: An Invitation to Chinese, Volume 1*. Students will develop foundational skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, while learning essential vocabulary, basic grammar, and sentence structures. The course includes cultural exploration, pronunciation practice, and interactive activities to build confidence in everyday communication. By the end of the course, students will be able to engage in basic conversations, recognize and write common Chinese characters, and gain insight into Chinese traditions and customs.

## CHINESE 2

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Chinese 1, No native speakers will be allowed to take this course

This intermediate-level course builds on the foundational skills learned in Chinese I using *Huanying: An Invitation to Chinese, Volume 2*. Students will expand their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of Chinese grammar and sentence structures. The course focuses on enhancing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing through real-world topics such as travel, food, and shopping. Cultural exploration continues with authentic materials and activities that promote greater cross-cultural understanding. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate more confidently in varied situations and engage with more complex Chinese texts and conversations.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **CHINESE 3 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Chinese 2, Teacher recommendation

This advanced-level course continues the development of Mandarin Chinese proficiency using *Huanying: An Invitation to Chinese, Volume 3*. Students will deepen their mastery of vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structures while engaging with complex topics such as Chinese literature, history, and philosophy. Emphasis is placed on refining listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through authentic materials and cultural exploration. By the end of the course, students will be able to participate in sophisticated conversations, analyze complex texts, and demonstrate a strong understanding of Chinese language and culture.

### **SPANISH 1**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: No native speakers will be allowed to take this course

This beginner-level course is designed for English-speaking students with no prior knowledge of Spanish. Students will acquire basic vocabulary and begin forming simple sentences to communicate in everyday situations. Key topics include the Spanish alphabet, numbers, telling time, school subjects, food, and leisure activities. Grammar instruction covers subject pronouns, noun forms, and present-tense verbs. Students will develop foundational listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, while also gaining an introduction to Spanish-speaking cultures.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTION

## **SPANISH 2**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 8-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Spanish 1, No native speakers will be allowed to take this course  
Spanish 2 builds upon the foundational skills developed in Spanish I, further developing students' ability to communicate in Spanish across the four domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will expand their vocabulary and apply more complex grammatical structures, such as irregular verbs, past tenses, and object pronouns. Communication focuses on real-world topics including greetings, classroom and academic life, family, pastimes, travel, vacation, clothing and shopping. Cultural understanding is deepened through exploration of customs, traditions, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking countries. The course emphasizes continued development of conversational fluency, reading comprehension, and written expression.

## **SPANISH 2 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 8-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Spanish 1, Teacher recommendation

Spanish 2 Honors is an accelerated course designed for motivated students who have demonstrated strong proficiency in Spanish I. This course offers a deeper and more rigorous exploration of language skills, emphasizing more advanced grammatical structures, enriched vocabulary, and greater accuracy in communication. Students will engage in extended speaking and writing activities, read authentic texts, including Mexican legends and explore more complex cultural topics from Spanish-speaking regions. Listening and speaking tasks are designed to challenge students to use Spanish more independently and spontaneously. This course prepares students for upper-level honors or AP Spanish coursework.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTION

## **SPANISH 3 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Spanish 2, Spanish 2 H, Teacher recommendation

Spanish 3 Honors is an advanced language course designed to refine students' proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. Students will engage in more spontaneous conversation, write more complex sentences structures, understand more complex spoken Spanish, read and analyze authentic literary texts including Spanish legends and cultural texts that builds understanding of societies and traditions of the Spanish-speaking world. The course emphasizes fluency, accuracy, and cultural literacy, with continued development of grammar, vocabulary, and idiomatic expressions. Topics covered in class are: daily routine, food, parties and celebrations, health and medical terms, technology and housing. Instruction is conducted to immerse students in the language and prepare them for AP Spanish Language and Culture or dual credit coursework.

## **SPANISH 4 (HONORS)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Spanish 3 H, Teacher recommendation

Spanish 4 Honors is an advanced course designed to elevate students' command of the Spanish language through immersion in complex texts, advanced grammar, and in-depth cultural study. Students will refine their interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational communication skills across all four language domains—listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Course content includes nature, city life, health and wellbeing, the workplace, the arts, movies and television, current events, politics, and historical perspectives from the Spanish-speaking world. Students will engage in meaningful conversations, write about topics ranging from personal experiences to complex cultural and literary themes tied to the lesson, read Latin American legends and develop a sophisticated understanding of grammar, vocabulary, and idiomatic

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTION**

language. This course serves as strong preparation for AP Spanish Language and Culture or university-level Spanish study.

# MATH

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **FUNDAMENTALS OF MATH**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7-9

Credit: not a course for high school credit

Prerequisite: none

This course is not a high school credited course. This course provides a comprehensive review of essential math concepts to support students who need to strengthen foundational skills before entering Algebra I. Topics include whole number operations, fractions, decimals, percentages, exponents, order of operations, and basic problem-solving strategies. Emphasis is placed on building numerical fluency, confidence, and mathematical reasoning. Fundamentals of Math prepares students for success in Pre-Algebra and the high school math sequence.

### **PRE-ALGEBRA**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 7-9

Credit: not a course for high school credit

Prerequisite: None

This course is not a high school credited course. Pre-Algebra is a foundational math course designed to prepare students for Algebra I. The course introduces key concepts such as integers, one-step equations and inequalities, ratios, rates, proportions, percentages, and basic probability. Students will explore properties of arithmetic, factors and multiples, fractions, decimals, negative numbers, and coordinate graphing. Additional topics include interpreting data, measurement, and basic functions. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving, logical reasoning, and the development of mathematical fluency across multiple strands.

# MATH

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### ALGEBRA 1

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 7–10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra preferred

Algebra 1 introduces students to the fundamental concepts and structure of algebra. Topics include sets, real numbers, linear equations, inequalities, and graphing. The course builds upon the natural number system to develop a deeper understanding of algebraic operations and relationships. This course provides essential skills and knowledge to prepare students for advanced mathematics studies.

### ALGEBRA 1 (HONORS)

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 7–10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Algebra 1 (Honors) provides an in-depth study of algebraic concepts including sets, linear equations, inequalities, and graphing. Building on the real number system, this course covers topics with greater rigor and complexity, challenging students to solve more advanced problems. Designed for motivated learners, the honors curriculum prepares students for higher-level mathematics courses through enhanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

### ALGEBRA 2

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 8–12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Algebra II continues the study of algebraic concepts, focusing on fundamental properties and operations, signed numbers, and algebraic expressions and equations. Key topics include quadratic functions and relations, exponents, irrational numbers, logarithms, sequences, series, and progressions. This course builds a strong foundation for advanced mathematics and problem-solving skills.

## MATH COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **ALGEBRA 2 (H/DE) COLLEGE ALGEBRA MATH 1314**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Algebra 1 Honors preferred

This course is structured so that high school students receive the rigor of college courses while also meeting requirements for their high school course. This course will include an in-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations using matrices which will satisfy the core curriculum requirement for MATH 1314. This course will also include linear functions, absolute functions, and data analysis and modeling which will satisfy the Texas requirements for Algebra 2.

### **COLLEGE ALGEBRA (H/DE) MATH 1314**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Algebra 1, Algebra 2 and Geometry

This course is structured so that high school students receive the rigor of college courses while also meeting requirements for their high school course. This course will include an in-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations using matrices which will satisfy the core curriculum requirement for MATH 1314. This course will also include linear functions, absolute functions, and data analysis and modeling which will satisfy the Texas requirements for Algebra 2.

## MATH COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **GEOMETRY**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 8–12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This course covers the study of geometric principles including plane, solid, and coordinate geometry. Students will develop skills in reasoning and problem-solving through geometric proofs involving congruence, similarity, and equality. Symbolic logic is also introduced to support formal proof construction and analytical thinking.

### **PRE-CALCULUS**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 10–12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 & 2 with a grade of 85 or higher

This course provides a thorough study of fundamental mathematical concepts including elementary analysis, trigonometry, and analytical geometry. Emphasis is placed on mastering the basics of these topics to prepare students for calculus and advanced mathematics.

### **PRE-CALCULUS (H/DE) MATH 2412**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and/or Precalculus with an 85 or higher; Teacher recommendation

This course is designed to provide high school students with the rigor of college-level mathematics while fulfilling high school graduation requirements. It focuses on the application of algebra and trigonometry to the study of elementary functions and their graphs, including polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Additional topics may include analytical geometry, mathematical induction, sequences, and series.

## MATH COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course meets core curriculum requirements for Tarleton State University and other universities.

### **CALCULUS (AP)**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Precalculus, Precalculus H/DE; Teacher Recommendation

This Advanced Placement Calculus course covers fundamental topics including limits and continuity, derivatives and their applications, definite integrals, and applications of integrals. The curriculum follows the guidelines set by the College Board and is designed to prepare students for the AP Calculus exam, providing a strong foundation for college-level calculus.

### **STATISTICS (H/DE) ELEMENTARY STATISTICS MATH 1342**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 required, Algebra 2 recommended, Calculus AP

This dual-enrollment course offers high school students a college-level experience in statistics, focusing on data collection, analysis, interpretation, and probability.

Students will explore descriptive statistics, correlation and regression, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing, with appropriate use of technology integrated throughout. By the end of the course, students will understand how to use data and statistical methods to draw reasonable conclusions. They will learn to present and interpret data, calculate probabilities, analyze sampling distributions, compute confidence intervals, and apply hypothesis testing. This course prepares students for advanced study and real-world application of statistical reasoning.

## MATH COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **SPECIAL MATH TOPICS**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

This course provides targeted remediation in mathematical foundational skills, designed for students who require reinforcement of prior learning to succeed in higher-level mathematics. Students will focus on key gap areas—such as algebraic reasoning, number sense, operations with real numbers, proportional reasoning, and introductory functions—in order to build the competencies necessary for success in Algebra 1/2, Geometry or other advanced math courses. Emphasis will be placed on individualized pacing, diagnostics, guided practice, frequent formative assessments, and development of study and problem-solving skills.

# SCIENCE

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **LIFE SCIENCE**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 7

Credit: not a course for high school credit

Prerequisite: None

Not a high school credited course. In Life Science, students explore the characteristics of living organisms through hands-on inquiry and scientific practices. The course covers plant and animal cell structures; the distinctions between unicellular and multicellular life; fundamentals of genetics; classification systems; and the structure and function of human cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems. Foundational plant biology is also included. Throughout, students engage with recurring themes like form and function, systems, and organization, and employ scientific methods such as modeling, investigation, and data analysis to deepen understanding.

### **INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY (IPC)**

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0

Grade Level: 8-11

Prerequisite: None

Not a college preparatory course. Integrated Physics and Chemistry fosters students' understanding of the physical world through exploration of force, motion, energy, and matter. Topics include kinematics, force and momentum, waves, atomic structure, the organization of the periodic table, molecular bonding, chemical reactions, electricity, and nuclear energy. Emphasis is placed on applying scientific and engineering practices—such as experimental design, data interpretation, and quantitative reasoning—and on recurrent themes including energy transformation and matter conservation.

# SCIENCE

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **BIOLOGY**

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0

Grade Level: 8-10

Prerequisite: None

Students in Biology focus on patterns, processes, and relationships of living organisms through four main concepts: biological structures, functions, and processes; mechanisms of genetics; biological evolution; and interdependence within environmental systems. Inquiry-based learning, modeling, and evaluation of evidence are embedded throughout. Recurring themes such as systems, interdependence, structure and function, and energy and matter are consistently highlighted.

### **BIOLOGY (HONORS)**

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0

Grade Level: 8-10

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

Biology Honors covers the same core content as Biology—including diversity, heredity, evolution, ecological interdependence, and organizational systems—but at an accelerated and enriched level. With time devoted to laboratory investigation and scientific practices, the course challenges students to think critically, engage in deeper inquiry, and apply recurring themes more intensively in preparation for advanced study.

### **CHEMISTRY**

Length: 2 semesters

Credit: 1.0

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Chemistry is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental principles of chemistry that include characteristics of Periodic Table, development of the atomic theory, chemical bonding, chemical quantities, gas

## SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTION

laws, solutions, acid-base chemistry, and thermochemistry. Chemistry I builds upon Algebra II to explore mathematical and scientific concepts underpinning atomic theory, periodic trends, and properties of matter and their transformations. Through structured inquiry and quantitative reasoning—including mathematical modeling and data analysis—students learn to articulate chemical principles clearly. Recurring themes such as structure–function relationships and matter and energy interactions are woven throughout.

### **ANIMAL SCIENCE H/DE (ANSC 1319 General Animal Science Lecture)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours

Prerequisite: Integrated Physics and Chemistry and/or Biology

ANSC 1319 General Animal Science Lecture. This course introduces students to the science of animal agriculture, focusing on livestock such as cattle, swine, goats, sheep, and horses. Students gain foundational knowledge and hands-on experience in areas including animal management, breeding, genetics, nutrition, and reproduction. They will study livestock health, disease prevention, and basic immune system function. The course also covers market classes, quality, and yield grading of animals and carcasses. Students will apply classroom knowledge to real-world animal care decisions, develop written communication and data analysis skills, and participate in group work to solve common challenges in animal production. This course lays the groundwork for future studies or careers in agriculture and animal science.

### **CHEMISTRY (AP)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus and Chemistry required; Physics preferred but not required, Teacher recommendation

Double period with lab. AP Chemistry is the equivalent of a first-year college chemistry course, delivered over two class periods to accommodate extended laboratory experiences. Students gain a deep understanding of chemical principles

## SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTION

while developing reasoning, analytical, and communication skills in scientific contexts. Structured inquiry, lab investigation, and recurring themes—such as matter and energy conservation, structure–function, and systems—are integral to the curriculum.

### **PHYSICS**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Chemistry, Algebra 2

In Physics, students build a conceptual and analytical foundation in motion, forces, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, and energy through the lens of scientific and engineering practices. Emphasis is placed on modeling, quantitative analysis, and evidence-based reasoning. Recurring themes—such as cause and effect, energy transfer, and structure/function—thread through all units, preparing students to apply physics principles in real-world contexts.

### **PHYSICS (AP)**

Length: 2 semesters

Grade Level: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: Chemistry and Precalculus, Teacher recommendation

Double period with lab. AP Physics is an advanced, two-period course with an enriched laboratory component. Content includes classical mechanics, waves, electricity and magnetism, and modern physics, supported by scientific inquiry, mathematical modeling, and laboratory investigation. Students engage deeply with practices and recurring themes—including systems and energy transformations—to develop analytical rigor and readiness for college-level science.

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **CIVICS**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 7

Credit: not a course for high school credit

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the foundations of citizenship and civic responsibility. Topics include the principles of democracy, the structure and functions of government, and the rights and responsibilities of individuals in a democratic society. Students will explore how laws are made and enforced, how citizens can participate in government, and the importance of civic engagement at the local, state, and national levels. The course promotes critical thinking and encourages students to become informed, responsible members of their communities.

### **WORLD GEOGRAPHY**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 8-12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

World Geography introduces students to the relationships between people, places, and environments across the globe. This course emphasizes the physical and cultural characteristics of world regions, examining how landforms, climates, and natural resources influence human activity and development. Students will explore topics such as political structures, economic systems, cultural traditions, and the impact of historical events on current global issues. Additional focus will be placed on urban development, population trends, and the responsible use of natural resources. Students will develop geographic literacy and critical thinking through map analysis, writing, and class discussions. The course also emphasizes how physical features of the earth vary by region and change over time.

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **WORLD HISTORY**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 9–10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

World History is a comprehensive study of global civilizations and events from ancient times to the present. Students will examine key historical periods, including early civilizations, classical empires, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, the Age of Exploration, major revolutions, world conflicts, and contemporary global developments. The course emphasizes the influence of social, political, economic, and technological changes on societies over time. Through reading, discussion, writing assignments, and multimedia presentations, students will strengthen their historical understanding and critical thinking skills. World History encourages students to make connections between past and present and to understand how different cultures have shaped the modern world.

### **WORLD HISTORY (AP)**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 9–10

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

AP World History is a college-level course that offers an in-depth study of global historical developments from ancient times to the modern era. While covering the same general time periods as a standard World History course, this class places greater emphasis on historical analysis, comparative themes, and interpretation of primary and secondary sources. Students will explore patterns of continuity and change across different regions and time periods, engage in advanced reading and research, and develop skills in historical argumentation and evidence-based writing. This course is designed to challenge students academically and prepare them for the AP World History Exam.

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **U.S. HISTORY**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 10–11

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

U.S. History examines major political, social, economic, and cultural developments in the United States from the end of the Civil War (1865) to the present day. Students will study the nation's reconstruction and recovery following the Civil War, westward expansion, and the dramatic changes brought by industrialization, immigration, and urban growth. The course explores significant events and movements that shaped modern America, including the civil rights movement, participation in global conflicts, shifts in political leadership, and technological advancement. Emphasis is placed on understanding the ongoing development of American democracy, societal challenges, and the nation's evolving role in a global context. Students will engage in critical thinking through reading, discussion, and writing to better understand the historical foundations of contemporary issues.

### **U.S. HISTORY 1 & 2 (HIST 1301 & HIST 1302) (H/DE)**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 10–12

Credit: 1.0

DE Credit: 3.0 hours (1301) & 3.00 hours (1302)

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This dual credit course sequence offers high school students the opportunity to earn college credit while completing a comprehensive survey of United States history. The first semester (HIST 1301) covers the period from early European exploration through the end of Reconstruction, focusing on the development of American political institutions, cultural identity, economic foundations, and social structures. The second semester (HIST 1302) continues through modern times, examining the transformation of the United States through industrialization, global conflicts, civil rights movements, and contemporary issues. Throughout both semesters, students will engage in historical analysis, critical reading, academic writing, and class discussion to deepen their understanding of the events and ideas that have shaped

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTION

the nation. This course mirrors the rigor and expectations of a college-level U.S. History curriculum.

### **U.S. GOVERNMENT**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: U.S. History

This course provides an overview of the structure and functions of the United States government at the national, state, and local levels. Students will examine the roles of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, as well as the principles that guide the Constitution and American political systems. Topics include the electoral process, political parties, interest groups, and the influence of public opinion on policy-making. The course also explores U.S. foreign policy, national security, and the responsibilities of citizenship. Emphasis is placed on developing an informed understanding of civic life and democratic participation.

### **U.S. GOVERNMENT AP**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: U.S. History, Teacher recommendation

This course provides an in-depth study of the origins, structure, and functions of the U.S. government, with emphasis on the Constitution, federalism, civil rights and liberties, political participation, and public policy. Students analyze the roles of the three branches, political parties, interest groups, and the media in shaping government and society.

Through discussion, research, and analysis of historical and contemporary issues, students develop civic knowledge and critical thinking skills essential for active citizenship.

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **ECONOMICS**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: U.S. History

This course introduces students to fundamental economic principles and how they impact individual and national decision-making. Topics include production, savings, investment, insurance, national income, and economic indicators. Students will also explore the roles of labor and business organizations in the economy. The course is designed to help students better understand economic systems, develop financial literacy, and evaluate the economic forces that influence their daily lives and future planning.

### **ECONOMICS AP**

Length: 1 Semester

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: U.S. History

This course examines the principles of economics with an emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits. Students study fundamental concepts such as scarcity, opportunity cost, supply and demand, market structures, and the role of government in the economy. They analyze how individuals, businesses, and nations make economic choices and how these decisions affect resource allocation and standard of living.

The course also addresses personal financial literacy—budgeting, saving, investing, credit, and risk management—and explores the relationship between the U.S., Texas, and the global economy. Critical thinking, research, and communication skills are emphasized through analysis of economic data and real-world case studies.

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTION

### **MILITARY HISTORY**

Length: 2 Semesters

Grade Level: 11–12

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Completion of all Social Studies credit requirements preferred

Military History is a survey course that examines the evolution of warfare from ancient times to the modern era. Students will explore major military conflicts, strategies, and technologies, as well as the political and cultural contexts in which they occurred. Key topics include tactics, leadership, ethics, military innovation, and the impact of war on societies. The course encourages analysis of military decision-making, the role of professional armed forces, and the relationship between military policy and national interests.