

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART 041 Fine Arts Seminar

(Grades 9-12)

Prerequisite: None

Recommended for college-interested students. This is a two-semester course designed to provide an integrated overview of visual art, music, theater, film and dance. The student will acquire an understanding of the arts from many cultures and the effect of the arts on societies both past and present. *UC and CSU*

ART 007 Art 1

(Grades 9-12)

Prerequisite: None

This class is designed as an entry-level high school art class. Students will be challenged with both two- and three-dimensional projects using materials and concepts that will further their understanding of the visual arts. Projects will help the student in developing an awareness of how these concepts apply to past, present and future cultures. Realistic and abstract drawing styles, painting, sculpture, printmaking, weaving, paper maché and architecture are some of the areas investigated. *Full year of this course meets TUSD graduation art requirement; UC and CSU*

ART Ceramics

(Grades 11-12)

Prerequisite: None

This course develops creativity through the medium of clay. Students learn terminology and techniques for hand building, the potter's wheel, and glazing. First semester students will learn the basics of pinch, coil, slab, casting and wheel throw construction. Second semester students will further develop all these techniques with an emphasis on form and sculpture. Each semester will investigate ceramic's relevance through history, science, culture, and contemporary applications. Ceramics 1A may not be taken for more than two semesters. *UC and CSU*

ECO 511 Economics

(Grade 12)

Prerequisite: None

This survey class will look at the major forces that shape the American Economic system. A comprehensive look at micro and macroeconomics will aid the students in acquiring a knowledge of the structure and functions of the institutions and concepts underlying the American economic system. The position and influence of the United States in world economy are studied.

ENG 127 Creative Writing

(Grades 10-12)

Prerequisite: None

This is a student-centered, literature-rich language arts course which allows students to develop their writing skills and styles by examining fiction, poetry, drama and nonfiction by learning to use their own experiences, observations, and judgments as sources for their writing. Students may have the opportunity to publish their original work. *This course meets UC/CSU elective requirement*

ENG Research Methods

(Grades 9-10)

Prerequisite: None

This class is designed to provide students with an understanding of research methodology. The class will cover reference resources, data collection strategies, and refinement in the use of quotations, summary, paraphrase, as well as logical reasoning and argumentation to support clearly defined thesis statements.

ENG Reader's Writing Workshop

(Grades 9-10)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to help students develop the reading and writing skills necessary to be successful in high school academic classes. Emphasis will be placed on the improvement of writing skills, including grammar and sentence structure, punctuation, paragraph and short essay development.

HED 235 Health

(Grades 9-12)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to help students understand and develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors that are critical to healthy living. Includes guest speaker for various topics concerning teenage health. *This course is required for graduation.*

HIS 477 World History

(Grade 10)

Prerequisite: None

In this course, students examine major turning points in the shaping of the modern world, from the late eighteenth century to the present. The year begins with a focus on study skills, methodology used at the high school level. It continues with a connecting phase to rise of democratic ideals and reviews past learning (ancient civilization, Middle Ages, etc.) The major thrust of the course, however, is world history, culture and geography from 1789 to the present (with emphasis on the 20th century). Close attention will be paid to the expansion of the west and the growing interdependence of people and cultures throughout the world. *UC and CSU*

HIS 506 **U.S. History**
(Grade 11) Prerequisite: None

The course begins with a linking phase to review past learning's (i.e. American Revolution, Constitution, Civil War, and Reconstruction). The major thrust of the course, however, begins with the Progressive era at the turn of the twentieth century. It will focus on the changing role of the United States in the global community, on the impact the twentieth century had upon American institutions and attitudes as well as the impact of the United State's growth as a super power in the world. The study of the twentieth century includes an integration of history and geography, literature, and cultural diversity. *UC and CSU*

MTH 306 **Algebra 2**
(Grades 10-12) Prerequisite: A grade of "C" or higher in both Algebra 1 and Geometry is recommended

This course covers the more advanced phases of factoring, ratio, proportion and variation, and graphs; connects algebra and geometry to solve problems; solves systems of equations, series and logarithms. Teaching methodology includes lectures/class discussion, small group investigations, and individual drill work. *UC and CSU*

MTH 315 **Geometry**
(Grades 9-12) Prerequisite: A grade of "C" or higher in Algebra 1

This course is a study of lines, angles, polygons, circles, arcs, solids, and coordinate geometry. Geometry stresses the concepts of logic, formal proofs, and problem solving, combining geometric concepts with algebraic fundamentals. Teaching methodology includes lecture/class discussion, small group investigations, and individual drill work. *UC and CSU*

MTH 300 **Trigonometry**
(Grades 10-12) Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or higher in Algebra 2

This year-long course is designed for students who have already passed Algebra 2 with a grade "C" but are not ready for the rigors of Pre-Calculus. The course embeds prerequisite Algebra 2 concepts while complementing and expanding the mathematical content and concepts of geometry as they relate to the study of trigonometry. Emphasis is on abstract thinking skills, the function concept, and the solution of problems in various content areas. Successful completion of this course will allow students to move on to either Pre-Calculus or Probability and Statistics.

MTH 319 **Pre-Calculus**
(Grades 10-12) Prerequisite: A grade of "C" or higher in Geometry and Algebra 2

This is an advanced course, which provides preparation for calculus.

POL 521 **Government**
(Grade 12) Prerequisite: None

This course offers a study of basic principles, functions, organization and purposes of government in the United States. Emphasis is on the federal system and national government, the legislative process, the executive function, the role of the judiciary, and the responsibilities and rights of the citizenry in a free society.

SCI 409 **Biology**
(Grades 9-12) Prerequisite: Geometry or higher math class concurrently

This is a one-year course, which includes biological principles, vertebrate and invertebrate systems; microorganisms; genetics; plant and animal cell systems; evolution; and ecology. The investigative approach is emphasized and laboratory techniques are used. *This course satisfies one year of the two-year science graduation requirement for TUSD and meets one year of the University requirements as a lab science.*

SCI 417 **Chemistry**
(Grades 9-12) Prerequisite: Science 1 and Science 2 or Biology with a grade "C" or better is recommended and Algebra 2 or higher math class concurrently

Course content includes the study of the fundamental laws and principles of chemistry, including related laboratory experiences and problem solving. A strong background in mathematics is recommended. *Successful completion of chemistry is an entrance requirement for many colleges and recommended by all colleges. It is a laboratory science, which meets requirements for college entrance.*

SCI 403 **Integrated Science 2**
(Grade 10) Prerequisite: Completion of Integrated Science 1 with a grade "C" or higher

In this course, students are instructed within a thematic approach, which integrates Biology, Earth Science, Chemistry, and Physics through demonstrations, laboratory techniques, and experiments. *This class along with successful completion of Integrated Science 1 is designed to meet the graduation requirements of the State of California and the Torrance Unified School District. Only one course counts toward the UC Science "D" requirement.*

SPA 218**Spanish 1***(Grades 9-12)**Prerequisite: None*

This course involves periods of intensive oral drill and practice intended to develop the ability to learn language sounds accurately and to imitate them without distortion. The student learns to carry on simple conversations and to understand directions concerning the classroom and its activities. The student studies vocabulary and grammar by reading, writing, listening and speaking, and learns sentence patterns through practice drills in the classroom. *UC and CSU*

SPA 220**Spanish 2***(Grades 9-12)**Prerequisite: A score of 70% or better on Spanish 1 Exit Exam*

This course provides experience to increase speaking, understanding, reading, and writing ability in the language as it is used in its culture. The life and customs of the people are studied, and increased knowledge of language structure is emphasized. *UC and CSU*