

# SOUTHWEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2020-2021

Grades 9-12

### BIBLE

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

#### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The goal of the Bible Department at Southwest Christian School is to encourage students in Learning God's Word, Loving God's Word, and Living God's Word in an effort to grow and strengthen our relationship with Jesus Christ.

*"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

Philippians 3:14

#### **BIBLE I – CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS and CHRISTIAN ETHICS**

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Christian Relationships help students understand the nature of relationships, why humans are naturally relational beings, the types of relationships we need, and how to live those out from the perspective of the Bible.

Christian Ethics is a course designed to help students think about the critical issues that they will come in contact with as they move from high school into college, and beyond. They will learn to deal with these issues based on what the Bible teaches and how to apply those lessons to life.

#### **BIBLE II – STUDY METHODS & BELIEFS and CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP**

*Grade Level: 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is an in-depth look into the essential doctrines of the Christian faith that detail what it means to be a Christian and what is distinctive about Christian living in the world. The study of the key doctrines will be aided by considering various Bible study methods that will serve students as they strive to understand the Bible, its teachings, and how to put them into practice. Thus, this foundations course emphasizes both the theory and teachings of Christianity and the practice of those teachings.

The leadership class will be a class centered on our mission at SCS to equip students to be Christian leaders in the world. The Bible tells us the true essence of leadership is service to others and it is our goal to grow a spirit in our students of service to families, school, community, country, and the rest of the world. It will challenge students to step outside of what they are comfortable with and find ways to effectively meet the needs of those around them. This course will also help students develop public speaking and communication skills to meet the speech requirement.

## **BIBLE III– LIFE CALLING and UNDERSTANDING WORLDVIEWS**

*Grade Level: 11*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The Life Calling course focuses on students developing an understanding of the concept of life calling and the discovery of one's God-given design as a basis for this calling. Students are led to understand how work and individual leadership is best understood from this life calling perspective. Students will evaluate their foundational values, unique design, and personal mission as a part of God's plan. All of this is done through the lens of the Bible: learning how God's Word increases their understanding of their life calling. Continuing to nurture their love for God's Word through the examples of Biblical leaders, students will see how to live God's Word in a modern application they can relate to in their lives.

Understanding Worldviews is a comparative survey of six contemporary philosophical worldviews (Christianity, Islam, Marxism, Humanism, New Age, and Postmodernism) in the following various areas: theology, philosophy, ethics, science, psychology, sociology, political science, economics, law, and history. The goal is to help Christian students to recognize and navigate influential ideas and values prevalent in our society today.

## **BIBLE IV – APOLOGETICS and WORLD RELIGIONS**

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Apologetics is designed to help students understand that Christianity is a reasonable and intelligent faith grounded in objective, verifiable evidence. It teaches students techniques of how to answer some of life's toughest faith questions.

The World Religions course is designed to be an overview of the various major world religions and sects found in the United States and around the world. The purpose of this course is to compare these beliefs with Christianity. Through the study of the various world religions and sects, the student will be equipped to evaluate their own faith and share it with others.

# ENGLISH

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The English Department of Southwest Christian School is Christ-centered, and as such, the faculty seeks to assist students in their discovery of God's Truth in the language of literature. Students will be empowered linguistically to succeed not only at the university level but also will receive the foundation that will enable them to serve as Christian leaders throughout the world.

*“Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.”*

Deuteronomy 32:2

## **ENGLISH I**

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

English I includes an emphasis on writing about literature and exploring various genres of literature through readings of novels, short stories, drama, and poetry. Students also learn and practice the application of the principles of research. Greek and Latin roots along with grammar and mechanical conventions are also addressed.

## **ENGLISH I – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

English I Honors explores a variety of ancient and modern texts with a focus on novels and drama. Students hone writing and thinking skills by composing responses and research relevant to a text. In addition, grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary skills are addressed. The course includes active discussion and evaluation that are essay-based.

## **ENGLISH II**

*Grade Level: 9, 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The English II course includes analysis and evaluation of selected readings in genre, including short story, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and humor. Students will have many opportunities to write about literature and hone their grammar, vocabulary, and research skills.

## **ENGLISH II – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The English II Honors course is an advanced class that challenges students to explore further depths of expression, more independent thought, and higher thinking skills. Writing assignments expect a high level of vocabulary usage, grammar proficiency, and insight. Testing and quizzing are often more open-ended, expecting a deeper level of understanding.

## **ENGLISH III**

*Grade Level: 11*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is a chronological survey of American Literature, beginning with Native American and Colonial texts, continuing with canonical poetry, novels, short stories, and drama from the 19th and 20th centuries, and culminating with contemporary poetry and non-fiction. Activities and assessments emphasize writing: personal expression, researched synthesis, and literary analysis.

## **ENGLISH III - HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is a chronological study of the American literary canon which introduces students to major authors and influential texts while analyzing the role of historical events and literary movements. Students will practice active reading strategies and develop their critical voices through seminars and writing assignments to prepare for future study in Dual Credit or Advanced Placement courses.

## **ENGLISH IV**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

English IV examines British literature from Anglo-Saxon writers to contemporary authors. By reading drama, poetry, satire, novels, and other genres, students will refine their reading comprehension, style analysis, and rhetorical insight. Additionally, students will mature as writers, researchers, speakers, listeners, and critical thinkers.

## **ENGLISH COMPOSITION & RHETORIC – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*3.0 hours college credit for ENG 102*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

Designed to encourage critical reading and thinking, this course establishes the components of the writing process, familiarizes students with basic rhetorical vocabulary, introduces elements of the various discourse communities and their conventions, and introduces students to the role of technology in research and writing. In order to succeed, students must demonstrate proficiency in word processing and computer searches.

## **INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*3.0 hours college credit for ENG 201*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

*Prerequisite for Dual Credit: ENG 102*

Building on rhetorical principles, this course further explores the role of the writer as a critical reader by focusing on the dominant genres of literature: fiction, poetry, drama, and essays. Students gain a better understanding of composition by writing explications and analyses as they learn to establish researched critical positions.

## **AMERICAN LITERATURE – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*3.0 hours college credit for ENG 203*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

*Prerequisite for Dual Credit: ENG 102, ENG 201*

This course introduces students to the American literary heritage through an exploration of significant works and the ways in which these works reflect cultural and aesthetic values. Emphasizes critical reading, writing, and thinking.

## **BRITISH LITERATURE – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*3.0 hours college credit for ENG 204*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

*Prerequisite for Dual Credit: ENG 102, ENG 201*

This course introduces students to the British literary heritage through an exploration of significant works and the ways in which these works reflect cultural and aesthetic values. Emphasizes critical reading, writing, and thinking.

## **AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

## **AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION**

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.

# MATHEMATICS

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

First, students will be guided to understand the order of the universe and realize how God reveals His order through the universal language of mathematics. Second, students will acquire a solid understanding of mathematics and the ability to apply it effectively. Thirdly, we will strive to develop students' abilities to reason logically with analysis while strengthening their critical thinking skills. Finally, it is our desire to equip our students with the tools and strategies necessary to be lifelong learners and Christian leaders in the world.

## **ALGEBRA I**

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Students build a foundation for solving linear equations and inequalities, graphing linear equations, and solving systems of linear equations. Other topics include adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing polynomials; factoring, solving, and graphing quadratics; and exploring rational and radical expressions and equations.

## **GEOMETRY**

*Grade Level: 9, 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course provides students an opportunity to study zero-, one-, two-, and three-dimensional geometry, to use geometric models, to apply the properties of figures in problem-solving situations, and to use appropriate technology to solve geometric problems.

## **GEOMETRY – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course provides students an opportunity to study zero-, one-, two- and three-dimensional geometry, to use geometric models, to apply the properties of figures in problem-solving situations, and to use appropriate technology to solve geometric problems.

## **MATHEMATICAL REASONING**

*Grade Level: 10, 11*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Mathematical Reasoning builds on the concepts from Algebra I and Geometry. It covers equations, inequalities of functions, graphing of functions, systems of equations, and multidimensional geometry. This course cannot be taken after Algebra II.

## **ALGEBRA II**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

In this course, students build upon previous algebraic skills. Topics include the properties of quadratic, square root, rational, logarithmic and exponential functions. Applications to problem situations and appropriate use of technology are emphasized.

## **ALGEBRA II – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

This course uses a college-level text and includes all of the objectives of Algebra II with extensions, both independent and guided, in the areas of probability, trigonometry functions, triangle problems, and arithmetic sequences.

## **COLLEGE ALGEBRA – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*3.0 hours college credit for MAT 111*  
*available through Colorado Christian University*  
*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II,*  
*approval of Math and Guidance Departments*

This course provides students the opportunity to study set theory, real and complex number systems, quadratic equations, the quadratic formula, equations involving radicals, inequalities, graphs of quadratic and rational functions, logarithmic functions, exponential functions, the theory of equations, matrices and determinants, and mathematical induction.

## **FINANCIAL ALGEBRA**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*Prerequisite: Algebra II*

Financial Algebra combines algebraic thinking with practical business and personal finance applications. The course will allow students to succeed by offering applications based learning including topics from Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. The mathematical structure, consistency, and precision of financial topics are characteristic of the creative works of God. Biblical principles will be addressed as students apply mathematical ideas to their everyday lives.

## **PRE-CALCULUS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*Prerequisite: Algebra II*

This course provides opportunities to study real numbers, functions and their graphs, trigonometric relationship, parametric representations, and sequences and series.

## **PRE-CALCULUS – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*3.0 hours college credit for MAT 1303*

*available through LeTourneau University*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II,  
approval of Math and Guidance Departments*

This college-level curriculum includes all regular Pre-calculus course studies with extensions, both guided and independent, in the areas of symbolic logic, linear programming, and applications of polar coordinates, as well as topics from discrete mathematics.

## **PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS DUAL CREDIT/HONORS AP STATISTICS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*3.0 hours college credit for MAT 212*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II,  
approval of Math and Guidance Departments*

An introduction to statistical analysis. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: Exploring Data- Describing patterns and departures from patterns; Sampling and Experimentation- Planning and conducting a study; Anticipating Patterns- Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation; Statistical Inference- Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses.

## **CALCULUS I – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS AP CALCULUS AB**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*3.0 hours college credit for MAT 141*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus,  
approval of Math and Guidance Departments*

This college-level course builds foundational skills with the development of number systems and the use of variables. Students will work with polynomials, quadratics, radicals, systems, rational expressions and graphing. Lessons will begin at the knowledge level but will be extended into higher levels of thinking and application.

# SCIENCE

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of the science department at Southwest Christian School is two-fold: to lead students towards a greater understanding of God's creation through inquiry, analysis, experimentation, and mathematical manipulations; and to prepare students for success in college by utilizing state-of-the-art technology, providing differentiated learning experiences, and maintaining high expectations.

*...speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the head, that is, Christ. From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

Ephesians 4:15-16

## **BIOLOGY I**

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is a comprehensive survey of the science of living things taught from a cellular/molecular approach. Building upon the foundations of the activities in the cells, the students learn to describe larger situations, behaviors, or organisms. Critical thinking, application skills, making predictions, and drawing conclusions are all emphasized. Laboratory investigations are a vital component of the entire curriculum. Throughout the course, students are continually shown the majesty and complexity of God's creations.

## **BIOLOGY I – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is a comprehensive survey of the science of living things taught from a cellular/molecular approach. Building upon the foundations of the activities in the cells, the students learn to describe larger situations, behaviors, or organisms. Critical thinking, application skills, prediction, and experimental design are all emphasized. Laboratory investigations are a vital component of the entire curriculum. Throughout the course, students are continually shown the majesty and complexity of God's creations. This course is conducted at a faster pace and incorporates some advanced topics not introduced in the College Prep Biology I class.

## **CHEMISTRY I**

*Grade Level: 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Using the periodic table as a foundation, this course emphasizes descriptive chemistry and problem-solving. Chemical nomenclature, energy transformations, stoichiometry, bonding, quantum theory, acids/bases, and properties of gases, liquids, and solids will be studied from a Christian worldview, emphasizing God's wisdom and divine order. Laboratory work introduces and extends classroom concepts. Semester projects focus on research and creativity.

## **CHEMISTRY I – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is taught at an accelerated pace with increased responsibilities and expectations. Chemical principles are studied from a Christian worldview, emphasizing God's wisdom and divine order. Students learn to explain chemical phenomena using their own chemical intuition, inquiry skills, and experimental data. Proficiency in foundational computations allows students to engage in higher-order problem-solving needed for success with integrative problems. Topics include quantum theory, bonding theories, oxidation-reduction reactions, advanced stoichiometry, thermodynamics, kinetics, gas laws, acid-base theories, and solution equilibrium. Many opportunities are provided for the development of higher-order cognitive skills and the utilization of technology in order to prepare students for AP Chemistry. Hands-on instruction activities are present in every unit, and a great emphasis is placed on laboratory investigations and inquiry.

## **PHYSICS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Physics is the study of those laws that govern certain types of physical phenomena in God's creation. The areas covered in this course include mechanics (the study of motion and its causes); light, sound and waves; electricity and magnetism; and thermodynamics. An appreciation for the majesty and order evident in God's creation will be stressed. Emphasis is placed on understanding concepts, derivation of the mathematical expression of the laws, and solution of concrete problems. This is accomplished through classroom and laboratory exercises. Requires successful completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II.

## **AP PHYSICS 1**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

AP Physics 1 is an Algebra-Based course that focuses on the big ideas typically included in the first semester of an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics sequence and provides students with enduring understandings to support future advanced work in the sciences. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills as defined by the AP Science Practices. This course builds upon foundational scientific and mathematical skills mastered in previous courses and is taught at an accelerated pace. Topics include algebra-based kinematics and forces; circular motion and universal law of gravitation; simple harmonic motion and mechanical waves; work and energy; linear momentum; rotational motion; and electrostatics with electricity and magnetism. It emphasizes the discovery of physical laws and God's unique order, the correlation between physics concepts and their mathematical and graphical applications, experimental inquiry and design, problem-solving skills, and computer-based data collection/analysis. Requires successful completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II.

## **ENGINEERING DESIGN**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is an introduction to the engineering world while concurrently developing secondary level knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, and technology. Engineering Design practices the use of activities-based, project-based, and problem-based learning (APPB-learning) as a way to increase student learning. This class will provide students with the tools, knowledge, and skills necessary to investigate engineering and high tech careers, as well as provide them with the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of science and mathematical concepts fundamental for engineering and engineering-related fields.

## **ENGINEERING DESIGN- DUAL CREDIT**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*3.0 hours college credit for ES 301 Engineering Design and Problem Solving*  
*available through the University of Texas*

This course is an introduction to the engineering world while concurrently developing secondary level knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, and technology. Engineering Design practices the use of activities-based, project-based, and problem-based learning (APPB-learning) as a way to increase student learning. This class will provide students with the tools, knowledge, and skills necessary to investigate engineering and high tech careers, as well as provide them with the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of science and mathematical concepts fundamental for engineering and engineering-related fields.

## **FORENSIC SCIENCE**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 1 semester*

In this course, students apply deductive reasoning to the investigation and solving of crimes. Students will use an impressive range of cross-curricular skills and a Biblical Worldview to follow evidence and make inferences from given evidence. Basic lab techniques essential to the field of forensic science will be used, such as hair and fiber analysis, toxicology, analysis of skeletal remains, and blood spatter analysis.

## **MICROBIOLOGY**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 1 semester*

The purpose of this course is to study the taxonomy, morphology, and physiology of microorganisms, emphasizing their relation to medicine, industry, and agriculture. Critical thinking, application skills, prediction, and experimental design are all emphasized. Laboratory investigations are a vital component of the entire curriculum. This course will introduce basic microbiology lab techniques essential to microbiology. Throughout the course, students are continually shown the majesty and complexity of God's creations. Students will be expected to write lab reports to enhance scientific writing skills for college science classes. In this upper-level science class, students can expect a large amount of personal responsibility and higher-level thinking.

## **ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*4.0 hours college credit for BIO 201 / 211*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

This course will prepare students to successfully enter college-level A&P classes. The first-year content is taught from a Christian world-view, with a strong emphasis on the structure and function of the human body. Inquiry methods, problem-based learning activities, technology, Biblical integration, and differentiated instruction and assessments are incorporated into the curriculum to meet different learning styles.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*4.0 hours college credit for PHY 105/106*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

This course consists of an overview of the environment, which includes basic principles of ecology, relationships of humans to the environment, and solutions to local, regional, and global environmental problems. Special emphasis is placed on having stewardship over the environment and all of God's creation. Lab investigations are inquiry-oriented and build on the experimental design practices from previous courses. Students perform independent lab investigations and written research papers throughout the semester.

## **LIFE SCIENCE – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*4.0 hours college credit for BIO 101/111*

*available through Colorado Christian University*

This is a concepts-oriented course for non-science majors, which includes the study of the major areas of biology including cell biology, energetics, genetics, natural selection, diversity, plant and animal systems, and ecology. Emphasis is placed on understanding God's creation and the necessities for life to happen. Lab investigations are inquiry-oriented and build on the experimental design practices from previous courses. Students perform independent lab investigations and written research papers throughout the semester.

## **AP CHEMISTRY II**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course utilizes a college-level text and follows the AP syllabus to provide a college-level, science major's first-year chemistry course. Topics that include quantitative and qualitative analysis, kinetics, equilibrium, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, reaction predicting, organic chemistry, and coordination chemistry are explored with the use of technology, experimental inquiry, and differentiated-instruction techniques, and emphasize God's wisdom and divine order. The use of primary literature and sophisticated lab techniques prepare students for upper-level college courses. This course is offered in alternating years with AP Biology II.

## **AP BIOLOGY II**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This class is designed to be the equivalent of a college freshman biology course taken by biology majors. Four Big Ideas drive the curriculum allowing students to develop an understanding of life through advanced lab experiments, essay writing, lecture/discussion sessions, and hands-on manipulatives. Students will learn to search for connections, weaving together a view of science that has room for the contributions of other scientists and provides a mechanism to pause and reflect on the validity of their own findings. The diversity among organisms is taught from a Christian perspective; mechanisms of evolution, the theory of natural selection, and so on, are included for study, but always with the knowledge of who created us and the world we live in. However, overarching concepts of increasing complexity, emergent properties, and phylogenetic trees are discussed at every level as we study interrelationships between organisms and compare/contrast adaptations and successful characteristics. The scientific process, critical thinking, sophisticated lab techniques, use of primary literature, and essay writing are emphasized to prepare students for the AP test and upper-level college courses. This course is offered in alternating years with AP Chemistry II.

## **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*Prerequisite: Robotics I or instructor approval*

Computer Science Principles is a year-long high school course that fully addresses the seven "Big Ideas" of computer science and six "Computational Thinking Practices", as specified by the College Board's AP Computer Science Principles curriculum framework. The lessons and materials used throughout this course incorporate Project-Based Learning (PBL), a pedagogical approach that actively engages students in the educational process and develops problem-solving, critical thinking, and group communication skills. Through this collaborative, learner-centric approach, students are encouraged to explore the advantages and societal impact of computational technology while developing their own programming and computational thinking skills. Students will explore the coding process through the context of two different programming environments – Scratch and Processing. Each of these platforms has been designed to provide beginning students with a simplified and novice-friendly interface with which to write their first dynamic and highly engaging programs. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to sit for the AP Computer Science Principles exam. This course may satisfy a science or elective credit.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of this Social Studies Department is to equip students, through critical thinking, challenging assessments, and respectful discourse, to participate in God's global mission to love and serve the world.

*God began by making one person, and from Him came all the different people who live everywhere in the world. God decided exactly when and where they must live. God wanted them to look for Him and perhaps search all around for Him and find Him, though He is not far from any of us: 'We live in Him. We walk in Him. We are in Him'... 'For we are His children.'*

Acts 17:25-28

## **WORLD HISTORY**

*Grade Level: 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is an overview of World History from Prehistoric Man to the Modern World. Students will analyze and interpret important documents, dates, figures, and events that shaped World History politically, socially, and economically. Students will also analyze the connections between major developments in science and technology and the growth of industrial economies and use the process of historical inquiry to research, interpret, and use multiple sources of evidence. Students have the opportunity to apply a thoughtful, Christian perspective to the evaluation of persons, policies, and events that have shaped our history.

## **WORLD HISTORY – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This honors course is an overview of World History from Prehistoric Man to the Modern World. Students will develop skills in critical reading, research, document evaluation, and essay writing in order to analyze and interpret events that shaped World History. Class activities provide opportunities for exploration of topics through independent research and allow for a creative expression of student learning. Outside reading and projects will be required. Writing assignments and assessments feature a focus on depth, use of sources, and sophistication. Students have the opportunity to apply a thoughtful, Christian perspective to the evaluation of persons, policies, and events that have shaped our history.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

United States History is the second component of a two-year study of our nation's history that begins in the seventh grade. While the two weeks of this course focuses mainly on the review and reinforcement of those earlier concepts, the remainder of this course focuses on historical events that have shaped the United States from the post-Civil War period to the 21st Century. Extensive attention is paid to how various historical events are interconnected and interrelated and how those events continue to influence the cultures, politics, economics, arts, and religion of the United States today. The content of this course is viewed through the Biblical lens of how God's redemptive plan for humanity has unfolded historically as well as how humanity, in its sinful nature, has fallen short of that plan. Content for the course is delivered through project-based learning, student research, primary source analysis, debate and discussion, lecture, and independent student readings.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY– DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*  
*6.0 hours college credit for HIS 2113 and 2123*  
*available through LeTourneau University*

This college-level survey of United States history from the Age of Exploration to the present gives students a rare opportunity to analyze and evaluate the entire American experience. In addition to the lecture, learning strategies include directed discussion seminars and independent and collaborative research using both secondary and primary research and writing.

## **ADVANCED WORLD CULTURES**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Advanced World Cultures is a class that explores the physical geography, politics, economics, and cultures of selected civilizations of the non-Western world. The first semester of the course covers Russia and Eastern Europe, East Asia, and Southern Asia while the second semester focuses on the Middle East, Latin America, and Africa. The course aims to enhance students' knowledge of other cultures, providing them a global perspective. Much of the class incorporates discussion-based analysis in which students compare and evaluate their own opinions and knowledge with those of their peers on topics regarding the ideas, beliefs, and practices of different cultures.

## **ADVANCED WORLD CULTURES – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*6.0 hours college credit for HIS 201 and HIS 185  
available through Colorado Christian University*

This course explores the history of the non-Western world from the ancient period to modern-day with an overlaying perspective emphasizing the impact of history on modern globalization. Advanced World Cultures will focus on examining the comparisons and contrasts of the development of governments, philosophies, and peoples with the primary emphasis on non-Western cultures. This course is designed to encourage a global consciousness in student thinking and aid in assisting students in applying Christian assessments to different cultures, events, and trends. Advanced World Cultures uses a variety of learning and assessment tools to enable students to articulate their beliefs. Therefore, students will be expected to participate in seminars and informal discussions as well as be responsible for standard methods of assessment.

## **UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

This one-semester course examines the legal foundations of our local, state, and national governments. Topics include the constitutional framework, the branches of government, policy formation, political parties, interest groups, civil rights and liberties, political participation, and the formation of public opinion. Students review from a Christian perspective the founding principles of our government, learn how government affects their lives, and determine how they can function responsibly as Christian citizens.

## **UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*3.0 hours college credit for POL 207  
available through Colorado Christian University*

This one-semester course examines the legal foundations of our local, state, and national governments. Topics include the constitutional framework, the branches of government, policy formation, political parties, interest groups, civil rights and liberties, political participation, and the formation of public opinion. Students review from a Christian perspective the founding principles of our government, learn how government affects their lives, and determine how they can function responsibly as Christian citizens. In addition, the Honors course adds significant content, teaching strategies, and assessments and concepts that are relevant for future study in a college environment.

## **ECONOMICS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

This course introduces the economic analysis of employment, income, and prices. Topics include but are not limited to: various schools of economic thought, supply and demand, consumer behavior, market structures, unemployment, inflation, monetary and fiscal policy, aggregate supply and demand, money and banking, and international trade. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to evaluate national economic components, conditions, and alternatives for achieving economic goals.

## **ECONOMICS – DUAL CREDIT/HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

*3.0 hours college credit for ECO 212*

*available through Colorado Christian University (pending)*

This course is designed to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price determination, and also develops student familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics.

# WORLD LANGUAGE

REQUIRED CREDITS: 3

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

God loves all of humanity, no matter the race, nation, language, or culture and wants all people to be reconciled to Him. The mission of the World Language Department is to develop students' abilities to communicate in languages other than English, to understand other cultures, and to share the Word of God in those languages being in communion with Great Commission:

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Matthew 28:18-20

## **CHINESE I**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course in Mandarin Chinese is designed for students who have little or no prior exposure to the Chinese language and is based upon the "Five Cs" principles of the National Standards for Foreign Language Education: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). The emphasis in this course is to develop the student's fundamental listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as the understanding of Chinese culture through a Christian lens. This course will also introduce Chinese basic radical words, phonetic system (Pinyin) as well as the common knowledge about Chinese geography, history, philosophy, customs, and festivals. Chinese characters and phrases will be taught through an authentic cultural context.

## **CHINESE I HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This is an Honors elementary Chinese language and culture course and is designed for motivated students who have little knowledge of Chinese language and culture. The emphasis of this course is to develop students' understanding of Chinese culture through Chinese language learning. Students will be introduced to basic knowledge concerning Chinese culture. Besides the cultural aspect, this course will also cover the Chinese phonetic system (*Pin-yin*), basic Chinese characters, mini-stories, as well as basic conversational and writing skills. The course will cover an introduction to Chinese geography, history, philosophy, and festivals. This course will be taught within an authentic cultural context, through a Christian lens.

## **CHINESE II**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The purpose of this course is to expand on the knowledge that students obtained in Chinese I. This course continues the acquisition of Chinese characters while developing students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in Chinese, all within an authentic cultural context and through a Christian lens. Students will be aiming at the five goals delineated by the National Standards for Foreign Language Education (Five C's - Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities) while being challenged across three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretative, and Presentational). This course will boost students' confidence in their Chinese abilities by granting them fluent comprehension as well as extended cultural knowledge.

## **CHINESE II – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course focuses mainly on the acquisition of Chinese characters while developing students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in Chinese, all within an authentic cultural context and through a Christian lens. Students will be aiming at the five goals delineated by the National Standards for Foreign Language Education (Five C's – Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, Communities) while being challenged across three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretative, and Presentational). This course will boost students' confidence in their Chinese abilities by granting them fluent comprehension as well as extended cultural knowledge.

## **CHINESE III**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The purpose of this course is to expand on the knowledge that students obtained in Chinese II. This course continues the acquisition of Chinese characters while developing students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in Chinese, all within an authentic cultural context and through a Christian lens. Students will be aiming at the five goals delineated by the National Standards for Foreign Language Education (Five C's -Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities) while being challenged across three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretative, and Presentational). This course will boost students' confidence in their Chinese abilities by granting them fluent comprehension as well as extended cultural knowledge.

## **CHINESE III – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course focuses mainly on the acquisition of Chinese characters while developing students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in Chinese, all within an authentic cultural context and through a Christian lens. Students will be aiming at the five goals delineated by the National Standards for Foreign Language Education (Five C's – Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, Communities) while being challenged across three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretative, and Presentational). This course will boost students' confidence in their Chinese abilities by granting them fluent comprehension as well as extended cultural knowledge.

## **ELEMENTARY CHINESE– DUAL CREDIT CHINESE IV – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*6.0 hours college credit for CHIN 1113 and 1123  
available through LeTourneau University*

This course is based upon the “Five Cs” principles of the National Standards for Foreign Language Education: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. This course continues introducing Chinese pronunciation, grammar, characters, and Chinese computing to students. The emphasis in this course is to develop the student’s elementary levels of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as a deeper understanding of Chinese culture through a Christian lens. This course will also cover the elements of Chinese geography, history, philosophy, customs, festivals, and traditions.

## **INTERMEDIATE CHINESE – DUAL CREDIT CHINESE V – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*6.0 hours college credit for CHIN 2113 and 2123  
available through LeTourneau University  
prerequisite for dual credit: CHIN 1113 and 1123*

This course will enable students to develop ACTEL’s intermediate-level proficiency in Chinese. This course continues introducing advanced levels of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students will also develop a better understanding of Chinese culture, religion, history, and traditions in order to heighten their awareness of culture and people of the world through a Christian lens. Chinese computing skill is well established and highly used in this course.

## **SPANISH I**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

In this course, students will learn new grammar points and vocabulary essential for effective communication in Spanish while improving their ability to speak, read, write, and understand the language in order to heighten their awareness of culture and people of the world through a Christian lens. The course will be taught mainly in Spanish to maximize contact with the oral language. Speaking and listening proficiency will be strengthened using a variety of communicative activities including small group work.

## **SPANISH I – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

In this course, students will learn new grammar points and vocabulary essential for effective communication in Spanish while improving their ability to speak, read, write, and understand the language in order to heighten their awareness of culture and people of the world through a Christian lens. The course will be taught in Spanish to

maximize contact with the oral language. Speaking and listening proficiency will be strengthened using a variety of communicative activities including small group work.

## **SPANISH II**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The purpose of this course is to expand on the knowledge that students obtained in Spanish I. Students will continue to develop communication skills of speaking, listening, writing, and reading in Spanish with more complex vocabulary and grammar. Students will strengthen their proficiency through continuous reinforcement and recycling of vocabulary. Students will continue to expand their view of the Spanish world with heightened cultural awareness and enriched cultural knowledge in order to enhance their understanding of people of the world through a Christian lens.

## **SPANISH II – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

In this course, students will learn new grammar points and vocabulary essential for effective communication in Spanish while improving their ability to speak, read, write, and understand the language in order to heighten their awareness of culture and people of the world through a Christian lens. At the same time, students will polish and enhance structures and vocabulary acquired in previous Spanish courses. The course will be taught in Spanish to maximize contact with the oral language. Speaking and listening proficiency will be strengthened using a variety of communicative activities including small group work.

## **SPANISH III**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The purpose of this course is to expand on the knowledge that students obtained in Spanish II. Students will continue to develop communication skills of speaking, listening, writing, and reading in Spanish with more complete vocabulary and grammar. Students will strengthen their proficiency with continuous reinforcement and recycling of vocabulary. Students will continue to expand their view of the Spanish world with heightened cultural awareness and enriched cultural knowledge in order to enhance their understanding of people of the world through a Christian lens.

## **SPANISH III – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

In this course, students will learn new grammar points and vocabulary essential for effective communication in Spanish while improving their ability to speak, read, write, and understand the language in order to heighten their awareness of culture and people of the world through a Christian lens. At the same time, students will polish and enhance structures and vocabulary acquired in previous Spanish courses. The course will be taught in Spanish to maximize contact with the oral language. Speaking and listening proficiency will be strengthened using a variety of communicative activities including small group work.



**ELEMENTARY SPANISH – DUAL CREDIT  
SPANISH IV – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*6.0 hours college credit for SPAN 1113 and 1123  
available through LeTourneau University*

In this course, students will learn new grammar points and vocabulary essential for effective communication in Spanish while improving their ability to speak, read, write, and understand the language in order to intensify their appreciation of culture and people in the world through a Christian lens. At the same time, students will polish and enhance structures and vocabulary acquired in previous Spanish courses. The course will be taught in Spanish to maximize contact with the oral language. Speaking and listening proficiency will be strengthened using a variety of communicative activities including small group work. The course provides an introduction to language through the development of language skills and structural analysis and includes an introduction to Spanish and Latin American culture.

**INTERMEDIATE SPANISH – DUAL CREDIT  
SPANISH V – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

*6.0 hours college credit for SPAN 2113 and 2223  
available through LeTourneau University*

*Prerequisite for Dual Credit: SPAN 1113 and 1123*

In this course, students will learn new grammar points and vocabulary essential for effective communication in Spanish while improving their ability to speak, read, write, and understand the language, in order to intensify their appreciation of culture and people in the world through a Christian lens. At the same time, students will polish and enhance structures and vocabulary acquired in previous Spanish courses. The course will be taught in Spanish to maximize contact with the oral language. Speaking and listening proficiency will be strengthened using a variety of communicative activities including small group work. An emphasis is placed on the continued development of language skills.

# FINE ARTS

REQUIRED CREDITS: 1

## MISSION STATEMENT:

The Southwest Christian School Fine Arts Department develops an appreciation of the arts from process to product. We seek to awaken students to the God-given talents in them, educate them in the disciplines of the arts, and build on our legacy of excellence with Christ at our center.

## HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

SCS Preparatory Theatre produces 4 Mainstage productions annually, an improvisation night, and a new works exploratory piece. In high school, the International Thespian Society troupe #6868 is an active core of the theatre department in service and performance, ending every production season with an induction of a new class of thespians.

## TECHNICAL THEATRE

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This course is designed to educate students in the disciplines and appreciation of theatre arts and to provide an in-depth understanding of the “art of a production” and all its moving parts in a way that honors God. This is a technical practicum based class.

## THEATRE I

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Theatre I is designed to educate students in the disciplines and appreciation of Theatre Arts, providing a backdrop understanding of the impact of all Fine Arts on our culture, our personal lives, and our relationships with God. This class is built upon individual participation, the process of the class as an ensemble and an overall standard of integrity in production and performance.

## HONORS ADVANCED ACTING (II/III/IV)

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This is an Honors course designed to educate students in the disciplines and appreciation of theatre arts and to provide an in-depth understanding of performance in the world as the student learns to “play their part” in a way that honors God. This is an advanced performance-based class with a focus on literary and production analysis of dramatic works.

## HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC

SCS Music produces 3 Concerts annually, a music recital, supports the musical spirit of our SCS Athletic teams and competes in the Texas Private School Music Educators Association Event and Texas Private and Parochial Schools Music Competition. In the high school, the Tri-M Music Honor Society is an active core of the music department in service and performance, with an induction of a new class of honor musicians in the spring.

### **BAND**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

High School Band is an advanced-level band class designed to utilize all basic music skills learned in Beginning and Intermediate Band. Students who have no prior band experience may join High School Band upon director's approval. Students will be challenged to further develop their God-given talents and abilities to create a high level of musical achievement. Multiple performance opportunities will be provided throughout the year, including concerts, recitals, pep rallies, and the annual SCS musical production.

### **BAND – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Honors High School Band is an advanced-level within the Band, which is designed to further equip High School Band students with advanced applied music theory, musicianship and leadership skills. This course is designed to prepare the student for successful entry into any major college or university music program or ensemble. Students will prepare and audition for a variety of state-level honor bands, as well as solo or small ensemble opportunities throughout the year.

### **CHOIR**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

High School Choir is an advanced level choir class, designed to utilize and build upon music skills learned in previous SCS music programs. Students are expected to read music using solfege, blend in harmony with each other, and use professional musicianship in performance. Students are highly encouraged to practice and show improvement in the forms of solo, small ensemble, and large ensemble material. Students will be expected to perform in multiple concerts and small performances both at SCS and in other venues.

### **CHOIR – HONORS**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

SCS Honor Choir is an auditioned based advanced-level course, available to choir students who have completed one year of SCS choir. This class is designed to prepare advanced students for university-level music study, including music theory, leadership, musicianship, and performance. Students will be expected to perform in multiple concerts and small performances both at SCS and in other venues, as well as audition for All State Choir first semester and Solo & Ensemble second semester.



## **HIGH SCHOOL ART**

SCS Art produces two featured White Box Gallery exhibits annually, the annual Art Event, and competitive works of art for Visual Arts Scholastic Event, Texas Private and Parochial Schools Art Competition, and Association of Texas Photography Instructors. In the high school, the National Art Honor Society is an active core of the art department in service and in art production.

### **ART I**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The foundation of the Art I course consists of understanding artistic tools by applying the elements of art. These elements define all levels of the visual arts and are an anchor to a student's understanding of the visual arts. This course also explores the techniques of developing a variety of works of art by utilizing various forms of media and artistic instruments. The course further explores some of history's note-worthy visual art contributors and investigates their impact not only in the world of art but in all of humanity.

### **ART II**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The foundation of the Art II course explores artistic style by using an advanced study of the elements of art as well as the principles of design. These elements and principles define all levels of the visual arts and are imperative to a student's expression of thought and ideas as they develop a sense of artistic style. Through exploring a variety of art media and surface materials, students formulate multiple plans and solutions in the creation of art. This creation relates to visual themes and ideas. By formulating parallels between an artistic concept and a completed creation, students develop and apply design skills to communicate their artistic point of view. The course further explores some of history's note-worthy visual art contributors and investigates their impact not only in the world of art but in all of humanity.

### **ART III – ADVANCED ART**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The foundation of the Advanced Art course develops an artistic design by using an advanced study of the elements of art and the principles of design. These elements and principles define all levels of the visual arts and are fundamental to a student's expression of thought and ideas as they design. This course allows students to develop studio art practices and independent artistic skills. It entails disciplined, production-driven work. The course is driven through the lens of a finished piece of art and depends on inter-disciplinary studies of other art forms to create a design. The course draws from various academic understandings in History, Humanities, Literature, Science, and Religion to shape a story and communicate ideas. The course explores endless mediums to communicate these ideas in an artful way. This is a cross-curricular course that draws from all areas of the arts.

## **ART IV – ADVANCED ART**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The Advanced Art course develops an artistic design by using an advanced study of the elements of art and the principles of design. These elements and principles define all levels of the visual arts and are fundamental to a student's expression of thought and ideas as they design. This course allows students to develop studio art practices and independent artistic skills needed to be successful in AP Art. It entails disciplined, production-driven work. The course is driven through the lens of a finished piece of art and depends on inter-disciplinary studies of other art forms to create a design. The course draws from various academic understandings in History, Humanities, Literature, Science, and Religion to shape a story and communicate ideas. The course explores endless mediums to communicate these ideas in an artful way. This is a cross-curricular course that draws from all areas of the arts.

## **AP ART**

*Grade Level: 11, 12*  
*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This is an Honors Art Course. The Advanced Placement Art course develops an artistic design by using an advanced study of the elements of art and the principles of design. These elements and principles define all levels of the visual arts and are fundamental to a student's expression of thought and ideas as they design. This course allows students to develop studio art practices and independent artistic skills. It entails disciplined, production-driven work. The course is driven through the lens of a finished piece of art and depends on inter-disciplinary studies of other art forms to create a design. The course draws from various academic understandings in History, Humanities, Literature, Science, and Religion to shape a story and communicate ideas. The course explores endless mediums to communicate these ideas in an artful way. This is a cross-curricular course that draws from all areas of the arts.

The AP Studio Art Course consists of investigation in two sections of the AP Portfolio: Sustained Investigation and Selected Works. Portfolio development is an ongoing process in which students are expected to use informed and critical decision-making to develop their work. Students are expected to develop mastery in concept, composition, and execution of ideas. Students will work on individual portfolios which will show an accumulation of works in their area of study. Students enrolled in the course must research their ideas for their independent projects and regularly document this in their sketchbooks and digital media. Students will be guided in setting challenging but attainable creative goals for their projects and will utilize a set of established benchmarks so they can gauge their progress.

# ANCILLARY ARTS

## **PRAISE BAND**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

This is a music course designed to teach students the fundamentals of theory and music as well as leadership development through praise and worship. Students in this course have a practicum in what they are learning through weekly performances in SCS chapel praise and worship.

## **DRUMLINE**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

Drumline is designed to teach basic, intermediate, and advanced drumming techniques. Major emphasis will be given to a wide variety of musical rhythms that demand a high degree of hand/eye/feet coordination. Time will be spent learning varied drum cadences, marching drills, and building a coordinated ensemble that is intended to entertain, provide school spirit, and compete at a very high level. Auditions are held each spring semester, and a major time commitment is needed during the fall and even summer months. This ensemble meets after school two to three days a week and ends in Quarter 2 of the school year.

## **JAZZ BAND**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

High School Jazz Band is an advanced-level jazz band class designed to utilize all of the basic musical skills learned in Intermediate Jazz Band. Students who have no prior jazz band experience may join High School Jazz Band upon the director's approval. Students will further develop their jazz skill set through a variety of musical styles, including Swing, Blues, Latin, Funk, Ballad, and Rock. Students will also further develop their improvisational skills through level-appropriate music literature and performance opportunities. Membership in the High School Band is a requirement for High School Jazz Band. This ensemble begins in Quarter 2 of the school year and meets before school two to three days a week.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

REQUIRED CREDITS: 1

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of Southwest Christian Athletics is to advance the Kingdom by glorifying God through sport and competition. We feel that when athletics is kept in the right perspective, our student-athletes are allowed to develop without fear of failure and push to reach their full potential. It is without that fear, a learned push for excellence, and a heart for service that they become equipped to grow into young men and women who live fully for God in a rapidly-changing world.

## **ATHLETICS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The SCS Athletics course specifically comes with the opportunity to participate in an array of activities with programming that includes 18 different sub-varsity and varsity level sports that often compete at the championship level. The course also may be taken as a Physical Education credit.

## **DANCE TEAM**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The SCS High School Dance Team is a precision dance team that performs mostly jazz, novelty, hip hop, and pom style routines. The purpose of the SCS High School Dance Team is to promote school spirit through dance performances at SCS Athletic events. The Dance Team performs at pep rallies, home football games, home basketball games, and competes during the spring semester. The course may also be taken for Physical Education credit.

## **CHEER TEAM**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The SCS High School Cheer Team consists of three teams: Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Competition Team. Through the development of spirit and cheer technique, leadership, cooperation, self-discipline, and sportsmanship in each individual athlete, the SCS cheerleaders will encourage their student body and their community through the promotion of athletic events and activities which will inspire the athletes to perform to the best of their ability. In addition to performing at all pep rallies, the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams cheer at the following events: home and away varsity football games, home junior varsity football games, and home and away basketball games. The Competition Team competes at the state TAPPS competition.

# TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTIVES

REQUIRED CREDITS: 1

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

To develop students' ability to use technology in a way that both honors God and furthers their academic and professional pursuits. We strive to build students' awareness of digital citizenship issues as well as their ability to use technology efficiently in many different contexts through the use of hands-on training, project-based learning, and critical thinking.

## **MULTIMEDIA DESIGN**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Multimedia Design will focus on a wide variety of audio, visual, and application media designs including but not limited to: game design, mobile application design, audio mixing, and podcasting. This course will serve as a basic survey of different types of multimedia design and creation. The course will be designed around the project-based learning concept where all assessments are based on authentic products demonstrating mastery of the subject. Within the course, collaboration, time management, project management, and digital citizenship will be highly emphasized.

## **WEB DESIGN**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Web Design is designed to introduce high school students to various skills, methods, and techniques related to basic web design, including web 2.0, HTML hand coding, CSS (cascading style sheets), image optimization, basic animations, rollovers, and Adobe Dreamweaver. Students will be required to utilize a number of learned web design skills as well as real-life aptitudes such as reading, writing, imagination, self-expression, problem-solving, attention to detail, work ethic, follow-through, and communication skills. The main focuses of this class will be production (the actual creation of web pages and web sites), and design (the organization or structure of formal elements in a composition/the combination of details or features of a composition).

## **VIDEO PRODUCTION**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Video Production is designed to introduce students at Southwest Christian School to the world of audio/video production and digital video editing. This is a team-oriented class where students work together to complete high-quality video productions. Students will be graded on individual work assignments and have the opportunity to shoot and edit video productions. Students will be required to demonstrate competency in camera operation, scriptwriting, lighting, audio recording, and video editing. Students will have the opportunity to create video projects for their entire class, and sometimes even the whole school community, for observation and entertainment.

## **ROBOTICS I**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Robotics is a project-based course in which students explore the design, programming, and fabrication of robotics equipment and technology. Students will explore the applications of robots in industry and understand the implications of robotics in society. Students will study and build the basic systems that make up robots using “VEX” Robotics Systems. Students will study mechanics, programming, electronics, and the design and applications of each system in robotics design. Students will research a cutting-edge application of robotics technology in industry and present their findings in a professional presentation. Students will use their knowledge and skills in the design and production of a robot to compete in an end-of-semester class Robotics Challenge.

## **ROBOTICS II**

*Grade Level: 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Robotics II is a project-based course in which students expand on Robotics I by building competition robots, exploring more complex programming, and serving as mentors for Robotics I students as necessary. Students will continue with advanced study and building of systems based on “VEX” Robotics Systems and programming language Robot C. Students will study mechanics, programming, electronics, and the design and applications of each system in both guided and autonomous robotics design. Students will research a cutting-edge application of robotics technology in industry and present their findings in a professional presentation. Students will use their knowledge and skills in the design and production of a robot to compete in various robotics competitions.

## **YEARBOOK/YEARBOOK HONORS**

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Yearbook is a challenging course in which students have the unique opportunity to produce a publication for printing, run a small business, and record history. This course is designed to provide students the opportunity to work with advanced technology, strengthen their analytical and problem-solving skills, improve their communication skills, and manage responsibility, all within a professional environment. *The Retrospect* is a student-produced account of clubs, sports, academics, student life, and the people of Southwest Christian School. Staffers work under the guidance of the faculty adviser to produce a book that is held in high regard by students, parents, and members of the SCS community. Students will use Adobe CS4 to design and produce the yearbook. Yearbook students practice the fundamentals of journalistic writing, photojournalism, graphic design, advertising sales, and time management. Students will also develop their abilities to work as a team as they produce the yearbook. Students are eligible for the honors class starting in 10<sup>th</sup> grade based upon teacher recommendation.

## SERVICE LEARNING

*Grade Level: 12*

*Length of Course: 1 semester*

The aim of this course is to support the faith and leadership development of students through community-based service-learning experiences. To that end, this course will focus on the impact of integrating personal faith through building relationships between students and various people groups served by specific social agencies. Students will identify an area of interest, partner with a local, non-profit community service organization, and complete a designated number of service hours with that organization. For a final project, students will create a presentation that illustrates the significance of the issue within our community as well as reflects the faith and leadership development as a result of the service opportunity. Students will deliver their presentations to a panel of teachers and administrators at the conclusion of the course.

# ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

## READING I, II, III, AND IV

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

Reading courses provide support and reinforcement for the skills taught in the academic curricula through enrollment into SCS Learning Lab. Students explore personal academic strengths and weaknesses, learning styles, and strategies for academic success. Topics include organization, time management, listening and note-taking, active reading, test preparation and anxiety, and effective research skills. One credit in World Language may be waived for students taking Reading throughout high school. An additional fee is required.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING I, II, III, IV

*Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The ELL courses are designed to encourage and support international students during their time at SCS by providing academic support and instruction on American culture. These courses are also designed to support international students' understanding of Christianity and how it is integrated throughout our school. An additional fee is required.

## INTEGRATED ACADEMIC SERVICES

*Grade Level: 9*

*Length of Course: 2 semesters*

The Integrated Academic Studies course is designed to help students successfully maneuver the transition between middle school and high school. It is designed to teach freshmen the skills and practices that can help them be successful independent learners. Students will be encouraged to take a growth mindset to their academic endeavors, understanding that God has blessed them with unique strengths and that through earnest application of skills and practice, they can honor Him with their work. Throughout the course, students will feel supported in their freshman year journey while learning how to be responsible for their own learning.