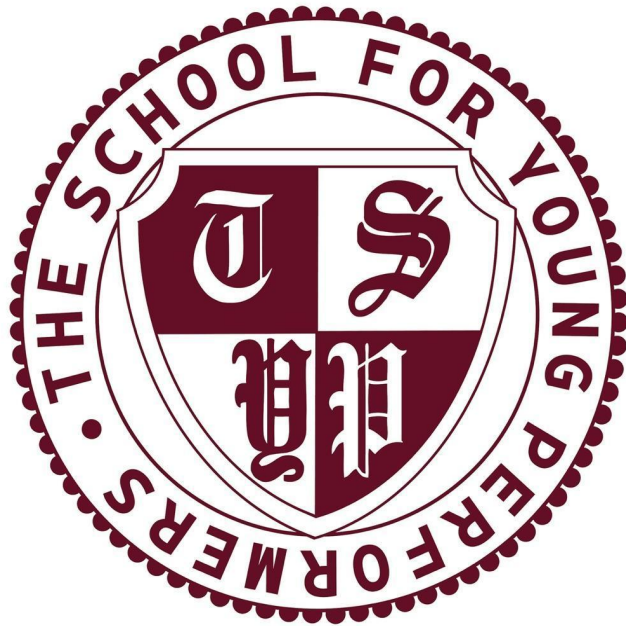


The School for Young Performers



High School
Course Catalog
2025-2026

Language Arts

AP English Language & Composition

AP Language and Composition is a rigorous, college level curriculum with the primary objectives of teaching students to become skilled, actively engaged readers of prose written in a variety of historical periods and rhetorical contexts and thoughtful, organized writers able to compose essays that demonstrate awareness of purpose, audience, rhetorical structure, and language conventions. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

AP English Literature & Composition

AP English Literature and Composition is a rigorous study of major works of literature and major literary structures and themes. Students will be expected to read, write, listen, and speak, both formally and informally, about literature from a variety of contexts. The goal will be to learn how to go beyond summary when reading a text: looking at subtexts, rhetorical strategies, use of language, imagery, symbolism, and tone, and themes both gross and subtle and learning how to use these techniques in our own writing, both creative and expository. Students will be studying major works of fiction, drama, and poetry, including some recent and experimental works. They will learn the basics of literary criticism and practice constructing arguments about literary texts that draw upon the text, a critical theory, and/or the social, cultural, and historical context of that work, and/or of their own lives. Students will also learn how to revise and rewrite their work until it has fully met expectations for high-level writing about literature. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

American Literature

In American Literature, students read primary documents, short stories, novels, drama, and poetry. Through the examination of these works, students explore the social, economic, and political climates that shaped early American culture. Students continue to develop compositional skills through comparative essays, critical analysis, and creative writing. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English

Black Authors

This course surveys the work of Black authors, focusing on the 19th and 20th centuries. Students examine specific issues via individual texts, essays, poems and informational pieces as well as those with a more global perspective. This course can be taken concurrently with American Literature. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English

British Literature

British Literature focuses on the works of British authors from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 20th Century. Approaching literary works as part of a cultural tradition rather than as isolated texts, students explore the literature of the British Isles within a social context. (0.5 to 1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English

Comparative Literature

Comparative Literature explores the similarity in themes, characters, and political theories in both new and classical works from around the world. This course focuses on critical thought and writing skills by encouraging students to develop the ability to identify, analyze, and interpret major literary components. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 3 Credits of High School English

Creative Writing

Creative Writing emphasizes the process and discipline of creative expression. Students shape ideas into a variety of literary forms including fiction, poetry, drama, and personal narratives. Literature is used as both example and stimulus. This course focuses on the development of strategies for generating ideas, revising and editing, and creating a fluent style of writing. (0.5 credit)

Fantasy Fiction

Fantasy Fiction focuses on one of the fastest growing genres for young adults. Students will examine the evolution of the fantasy genre through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries focusing on how it reflects the changes in status of young adults in society. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English

Fundamentals of Composition

Fundamentals of Composition will review and refine basic writing techniques in order to promote effective written communication. This course will emphasize the development and strengthening of grammar skills and mechanics necessary to become a proficient writer. Students will explore many different kinds of writing, and will complete the class with a portfolio of varied writing samples (0.5 credit)

Fundamentals of Composition: Advanced Writing

Fundamentals of Composition: Advanced Writing will further review and refine basic writing techniques in order to promote effective communication and writing skills. This course will emphasize the development and strengthening of the grammar, mechanics, and writing skills while developing the student's voice as a writer and orator. This course is in preparation for the expectations of college level expository writing and research. (0.5 to 1 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

Greek Mythology

Greek Mythology focuses on the Trojan War cycle of myths and its greatest heroes in order to understand how the ancient Greeks explored important aspects of their society through literature that ostensibly presents mythological events and characters. (0.5 credit)

Honors American Literature

Honors American Literature presents a comprehensive study of American literature through examination of short stories, novels, drama, and poetry. Students expand their compositional skills by presenting literary criticism and analysis based on the social climate of the United States as reflected in the literature. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

Honors British Literature

Honors British Literature takes an in-depth view of British literature and culture. This course contains more reading material than British Literature, giving the student the opportunity for greater understanding of literature and time periods. Students continue to improve their creative and analytical writing styles while learning to understand and appreciate classical works. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

Honors Comparative Literature

Honors Comparative Literature offers a more in-depth study of material covered in regular Comparative Literature. This course strongly advances critical thought and writing skills by encouraging students to develop the ability to identify, analyze, and interpret major literary components. Honors students are challenged with additional reading materials and more intense writing assignments. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: 3 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

Honors World Literature

Honors World Literature explores strategies for reading across different cultures. Beginning with ancient writings, this course focuses on literature's role in reflecting the socio-economic, political, and cultural aspects of societies. By exploring mythology, poetry, short stories, and novels, students acquire a broad base of knowledge in cultural writings. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Latin American Literature of the 20th and 21st Centuries

This course surveys the works of Latin American authors of the 20th and 21st centuries. Students examine literary genres through specific texts: short stories, essays, poems, anti-memories, plays, novels and films. The course also will focus on the social-historical context in which the works were produced. The works will be taught in Spanish and/or English, thus fluency in reading Spanish is required.

Prerequisite: 3 Credits of High School Spanish, 2 Credits of High School English, and Teacher Recommendation

Modern and Contemporary American Literature

This course is designed to examine modern and contemporary American literature within the context of history and through the lens of the arts. Students will read primary documents, short stories, novels, drama, and poetry. Through the exploration of these works, students will explore the social, economic, and political climates that have shaped American culture. Students will continue to develop compositional skills through comparative essays, critical analysis and creative writing.

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English

Science Fiction

In this course, students will examine the historical and theoretical development of the genre of science fiction, from its early precursors in the late nineteenth century to the "Space Opera" of the 1920s and the 1930s and the "Golden Age" of the late 1940s and 1950s, and from the "New Wave" of the 1960s and the 1970s to the "Cyberpunk" of the modern day. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English

Shakespeare

This course explores the works of William Shakespeare through the reading and discussion of a selection of his comedies and tragedies, as well as some sonnets. Students examine and reflect on the plays' defining moments from both theatrical and literary perspectives. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 1 Credit of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

World Literature

World Literature explores strategies for reading through the ages and focuses on literature's role in reflecting the socio-economic, political, and cultural aspects of societies. By exploring poetry, short stories, and novels, students acquire a broad base of knowledge in cultural writings. (1.0 credit)

World Mythology

World Mythology provides an overview of mythology and its relationship to ancient and current cultures. Students will study the purposes and types of myths, the development of myths and mythological characters, the common elements of mythological structures, and the predominant characteristics of deities and heroes in myth. (0.5 credit)

Writing for the Screen

Writing for the Screen is an introductory course designed to help students develop a narrative screenplay. Students will learn the basics of script format, character development, dramatic construction, dialogue & other storytelling skills. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and/or Teacher Recommendation

Writing for the Stage

Writing for the Stage presents the basic elements of writing for the stage through writing and critical analysis of original scenes and one-act plays and through analysis of dramatic technique in selected works by professional playwrights. Students explore the playwriting process, the elements of drama, the psychology of human perception, and different approaches to structuring a work for the stage. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School English and Teacher Recommendation

Mathematics

Algebra I

Algebra I emphasizes linear and non-linear functions. Students explore the real number system, solving first-degree sentences in one variable, order of operations, systems of linear equations in two variables, inequalities, quadratics, exponentials, trigonometry of right triangles, and problem solving. (1.0 credit)

Algebra II

Algebra II develops an understanding of exponential, polynomial, rational, logarithmic, and periodic functions. In relation to these functions, students learn equivalent forms of expressions and how to form inverses. Mathematical modeling is investigated to help students analyze and describe their world. This course also increases students understanding of the links between probability, statistics, and algebra. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus AB is a university-level course in calculus equivalent to one or more semesters of Calculus. This class is an exploration of the world of advanced mathematics at rigorous pace. Students gain a comprehensive introduction to differential and integral calculus with emphasis on problem solving and applications. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus (B+ and above) and Teacher Recommendation

AP Statistics

AP Statistics is a university-level course in statistics equivalent to one semester of Statistics. This class aims to develop students' understanding of statistical concepts and their applications. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II (B+ and above) and Teacher Recommendation

Business Math

Beginning with skill-building sections on whole numbers and decimals and acting as a guide through fractions, percent, statistics, and equations, Business Math solidifies students' mathematical framework. By focusing on specifics of business-related mathematics applications, students will learn essential math skills for real life. Basic accounting and statistic techniques are also covered. (0.5 credit)

Geometry

Geometry is designed to offer a comprehensive study of both plane and solid geometry. Beginning with simple logic and deductive reasoning, students will learn how to problem solve using both paragraph and two-column proofs. Mastery of required postulates, axioms, and theorems will help students develop clear logical thinking skills. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I

Honors Algebra I

Honors Algebra I emphasizes linear and non-linear functions at a faster and more comprehensive pace than the regular course. Students explore the real number system, solving first-degree sentences in one variable, the fundamental order of operations, systems of linear

equations in two variables, inequalities, quadratics, exponentials, trigonometry of right triangles, and problem solving. This course is for advanced 8th Grade students for high school credit. Upon completion, students may continue onto Honors Geometry. (1.0 credit)

Honors Algebra II

Honors Algebra II is designed for dedicated math students and presents an excellent in-depth exploration of mathematical concepts. It also fully prepares pupils for Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus, and the rigorous pace covers topics with a focus on applications and connections. Upon successful completion, students may continue onto Honors Pre-Calculus or Statistics. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Honors Geometry

Honors Calculus

Honors Calculus explores the world of advanced mathematics. Students gain a comprehensive introduction to differential and integral calculus with emphasis on problem solving and applications. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus (B+ and above) and Teacher Recommendation

Honors Geometry

Honors Geometry is a fast-paced and comprehensive study of both plane and solid geometry. Beginning with simple logic and deductive reasoning, students will learn how to problem solve using both paragraph and two-column proofs. Mastery of the required postulates, axioms, and theorems will help students develop clear and logical thinking skills. Upon successful completion, students may continue onto Honors Algebra II. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I (B+ and above)

Honors Pre-Calculus

Honors Pre-Calculus is an advanced and challenging course designed for dedicated math students who have mastered the fundamentals of Algebra and Geometry. Great emphasis is placed on the creation, analysis, and application of graphs. Pre-Calculus also prepares students for advanced level mathematics courses. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Algebra II & Teacher Recommendation

Pre-Calculus

Pre-Calculus is an advanced math class for students who have mastered the fundamentals of Algebra and Geometry. This course places great emphasis on the creation, analysis, and application of graphs. Pre-Calculus prepares students for advanced level mathematics courses including Statistics and Honors Calculus. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II

Statistics

Statistics is an introductory course looking at statistics and probability. This class aims to develop students' understanding of statistical concepts and real-world application. A research project is required for completion of the course. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II

Science

AP Environmental Science

AP Environmental Science is a rigorous lab-based course that explores the interaction between organisms and their environments. Students explore the ways in which the environment shapes living communities, the impact of human activities on the earth, and current issues in environmental protection and habitat destruction. AP Environmental Science provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to studying natural resources, while focusing on scientific laws, principles, and concepts at a high level. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and Teacher Recommendation

Biology

Biology provides students with a working knowledge of the fundamentals of life science. By examining topics in cellular and molecular biology, genetics, origins of life, organic biology, and ecology, students obtain a solid framework for comprehending complex biological issues. Through a combination of hands-on multimedia, and on-line activities, students actively investigate biological questions using the scientific method of problem solving. Biology has a mandatory lab component specifically modified for SYP students. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Chemistry

Chemistry students learn about composition, properties, and changes associated with matter. By combining theories and concepts of chemistry with practical applications, students develop an understanding of atomic structure, chemical formulas, balancing equations, matter-energy relationships, moles, chemical equilibrium, and the periodic table. Through virtual laboratory experiences and modified hands-on experiments, students research the nature of matter based on observation, data collection, and analysis. Chemistry has a mandatory lab component specifically designed for SYP students. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Environmental Science

Environmental Science explores the interaction between organisms and their environments. Students explore the ways in which the environment shapes living communities, the impact of human activities on the earth, and current issues in environmental protection and habitat destruction. Environmental Science provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to studying natural resources, while focusing on basic scientific laws, principles, and concepts. Environmental Science has a lab component specifically designed for SYP students. (1.0 credit)

Field Studies

Field Studies is an immersion science class offered once a year and taking place for one or two weeks on location. Past field studies have included sea turtle studies in Costa Rica and entomology in the Peruvian Amazon Rainforest. Students taking field studies excursions are required to do pre-trip preparations, documentation journaling, and a post-trip paper on their experience. Field Studies destinations are discussed and planned early in the fall, and trips are generally scheduled for late spring or early summer; consequently, this is generally a spring term course. (0.5 credit)

Forensic Science

Forensic Science introduces students to the field of criminalistics. Students learn how to collect evidence, gather data, and analyze a crime scene. This laboratory-based class is built around hands-on activities designed for SYP students. Students focus on the exploration of current issues in criminalistics. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science, Biology, and Chemistry

Honors Anatomy and Physiology

Honors Anatomy and Physiology teaches students to understand the structure and function of their bodies on both a microscopic and macroscopic level. Students investigate the independence and interrelationships of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems. This class has a laboratory component specifically designed for SYP students. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science, Biology, and Teacher Recommendation

Honors Biology

Honors Biology is an in-depth biology class for students with a strong interest in life science. This honors course takes students through the same topics found in its non-honors counterpart but presents students with a faster pace of study and further analysis of the intricacies of the subject. Student taking Honors Biology must also complete the mandatory Biology Laboratory. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Honors Chemistry

Honors Chemistry is an in-depth chemistry class for students with a strong interest in chemical science. This honors course takes students through the same topics found in its non-honors counterpart but presents students with a faster pace of study and further analysis of the intricacies of the subject. Students taking Honors Chemistry must also complete the mandatory Chemistry Laboratory. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science and Teacher Recommendation

Honors Physics

Honors Physics is an in-depth physics class for students with a strong interest in physical science. This honors course takes students through the same topics found in its non-honors counterpart but presents students with a faster pace of study and further analysis of the intricacies of the subject. Students taking Honors Physics must also complete the mandatory Physics Laboratory. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science, Chemistry, and Teacher Recommendation

Human Biology

Human Biology is an introductory anatomy and physiology course. By focusing on wellness, students learn about the structure and function of organ systems and their independence and interdependence. Beginning with the organization and control of the body and investigating maintenance, growth, and reproduction, this course culminates with current topics in biotechnology, evolution, and human ecology. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science and Biology

Physical Science

Physical Science is an introduction to the scientific study of physics, chemistry, and earth sciences. Designed to provide students with a solid foundation in the physical sciences, this course emphasizes the mathematical skills necessary for advanced scientific investigation. This class can be completed in 8th grade for high school credit and has a mandatory lab component. (1.0 credit)

Physics

Physics explores concepts, theories, and laws governing the interaction of matter and energy. Through in-depth study of mechanics, thermodynamics, wave energy, currents, and modern physics, students apply scientific thought and mathematical analysis to problem solving. Physics has a mandatory lab component. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Analytical Thinking in Science and Beyond

This science/humanities elective empowers students to develop essential critical thinking and leadership skills that are crucial for navigating today's complex world. Through engaging with real-world challenges, unsolved mysteries, and current events, students will learn to approach problems with logic, creativity, and confidence.

The course will present thought-provoking scenarios—spanning science, politics, and philosophy—where multiple solutions exist, encouraging students to analyze and evaluate from diverse perspectives. Students will connect these lessons to practical applications in leadership, decision-making, scientific research, and everyday life.

By enhancing their analytical abilities and ability to navigate uncertainty, students will be better prepared for academic success, future careers, and leadership roles. This course will give students the tools to excel in an ever-evolving world, fostering innovative thinking, resilience, and strategic problem-solving that will benefit them long after graduation. (0.5 credit)

Social Science

Ancient Civilizations

Ancient Civilizations examines the political, social, economic, and religious forces that gave rise to civilizations and empires in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. Emphasizing the relationship between geography and conquest, students study the major events and prominent figures of these cultures. (0.5 credit)

Anthropology

This course explores central questions in study of social organization and customs of various cultures. The impact of Westernization and modernization on traditional cultures is considered, with particular reference to American conventions and values. Course will enhance students' own understanding of their own social and cultural lives. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: World History and one other full year high school history course

AP European History

This course is a rigorous analysis of European History from 1450 to the present, following the plan of the AP European History curriculum. Students will be expected to read and analyze both primary and secondary sources and to engage in high-level discussion about the social, political, economic, intellectual, and cultural history of Europe from the Early Modern period onward. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: World History and Teacher Recommendation

AP Seminar

AP Seminar is the first compulsory course of the AP Capstone, focusing on developing critical thinking, research, and communication skills through the inquiry-based analysis of academic and real-world problems. Students learn to analyze complex topics from a multitude of perspectives, synthesize information from diverse sources, and craft evidence-based arguments through a combination of individual research, team projects, and an end-of-course exam. The course uses a "QUEST" (Question, Understand, Evaluate, Synthesize, Transform) framework to guide students through the research process. This SYP course is delivered in small group format.

Prerequisite: Completion of 9th Grade with B+ GPA and Teacher Recommendation

Art History (also available as an AP Course)

This course is a survey of art history, covering art from the caves of Lascaux to the trends within Post-Modernism. Students will be exposed to a multitude of art movements and will be required to write a research paper as part of their final grade. Field trips to museums, galleries and/or art fairs are also incorporated in the curriculum as are art charrettes to increase students' understanding of artists' techniques and development. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: World History

Business

Students enrolled in Business will examine and gain an understanding of the various types of business organizations. In addition, students will discuss the management and marketing functions, business ethics, accounting concepts, quality management, investments, and successful entrepreneurship. (0.5 credit)

Civics

This is an introductory class designed to give an overview of civics: the study of the interrelationship among American government, politics, and economics.

Contemporary World History: The World at War (1st Semester), The Contemporary World: Conflict and Diplomacy (2nd Semester)

Contemporary World History is a two-part world history course. The first semester, “The World at War”, focuses on the late 19th century through World War II, and the second semester, “ TCW: Conflict and Diplomacy”, focuses on global conflicts and developments from 1945 to present. Students will experience a deep dive into the political and cultural interactions that have shaped the world we have come to know but, perhaps, do not fully understand. Students will also become knowledgeable about the historic, economic, political, geographical, and cultural similarities and differences within the global community.

Prerequisite: Ancient Civilizations and/or World History

Economics

Introduction to Economics provides students with basic foundations of microeconomic and macroeconomic theory. By focusing on the economy of the United States and its development, students gain the framework for analysis of economic systems of the world. (0.5 credit)

Foundations of Entrepreneurship

This course offers a framework for understanding the entrepreneurial process and exposes the student to challenges, problems, and issues faced by entrepreneurs who start new ventures. Students will learn how to identify and evaluate business opportunities, develop a business concept and marketing plan, assess and obtain the required resources, and manage the growth of new ventures. (0.5 credit)

Futures 101

Futures 101 is an interdisciplinary course that investigates the complex intersection of cryptocurrency, artificial intelligence (AI), and the global economy. It moves beyond a purely technological perspective to critically analyze the social, ethical, and economic consequences of these emerging technologies, focusing specifically on their potential for reinforcing and creating new forms of predatory behavior. Students will also do a deep dive into the benefits of AI, cryptocurrency and/or the growth of global markets and share their research in presentation format at the end of term. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Government

Government introduces the structure, function, and composition of the American Government. By examining the fundamentals of government, governmental organization, democracy, communism, socialism, and international politics, students become familiar with how familiar with how the U.S. government works. (0.5 credit)

Greco-Roman World and the Arts

The Greco-Roman World and the Arts examines the political, social, economic, religious, and arts of Ancient Greece and Rome. Students will study the major events and prominent figures of these early Empires, the growth of the arts in relation to Greco-Roman deities and the birth of Democracy. (0.5 to 1.0 credit)

History of American Music

Students enrolled in this class will study the multicultural sources of American folk, popular, and art music traditions. This course concentrates on listening to, reading about, and writing on American music from literary, historical, cultural, and musical perspectives. (0.5 credit)

History of Film

This class introduces students to the study of film, stylistic tendencies and narrative strategies, genres, and theoretical approaches. This course spans silent and sound eras and offers examples from both the Hollywood motion picture industry and diverse national cinemas. (0.5 to 1 credit)

History of Musical Theater

This class will examine theatrical and musical trends that have developed during the century. The course features a study of the music and books of selected landmark musicals as well as a review of famous companies, producers, directors, and stars. (0.5 credit)

History of Rock and Roll

The History of Rock and Roll is a survey course that traces the roots of rock 'n roll from its origins in blues and rockabilly through to present day styles. In addition to the musical styles, the course will also look at the cultural, economic and social influences that shaped this American musical phenomenon. (0.5 credit)

History of Theater

History of Theater provides an overview of the development of theater since its origins in Ancient Greece. Students will learn about the development and changes in theater over time and throughout the world, while reading selections of play indicative of the period. An emphasis will be placed on Ancient Greece, the Middle Ages, the English and French Renaissance, Russian Theater, and Theater in the 20th century. (0.5 credit)

Honors United States History (also available as an AP Course)

Honors United States History is an intensive history class designed to cover U.S. History in one year. Beginning with the study of Colonial America, students investigate the evolution of the American Nation through modern times. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: World History and Teacher Recommendation

Honors World History (also available as an AP Course)

Honors World History is an intensive world studies course examining the evolution of civilization from the ancient world through modern times. By thorough study of the political, social, economic, and religious forces that gave rise to the civilizations and empires in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas, students gain knowledge in the historic, economic, political, geographical, and cultural similarities and differences among the world's communities. This course places heavy emphasis on the relationship between geography and conquest. (1.0 credit)

Introduction to Law

Introduction to Law gives students a basic background in the fundamental concepts and procedures of state and federal legal systems. Through assigned readings and discussions, reports and research papers, students gain an understanding of the framework of the legal system. (0.5 credit)

Modern World History

Modern World History provides an overview of the political and cultural interactions that have shaped the world since the Middle Ages. Students gain knowledge of the historic, economic, political, geographical, and cultural similarities and differences among the world's communities. (1.0 credit)

Political Thought

This course examines major texts in the history of political thought and the questions they raise about the design of the political and social order. It considers the ways in which such thinkers such as Plato, Rousseau, and Machiavelli have responded to the political problems of their day, and the ways in which they contribute to a broader conversation about human goods and needs, justice, democracy, and the relationship of the individual to the state. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: World History, American History, and 2 credits of High School English

Psychology (also available as an AP course)

Psychology is an introductory course to familiarize students with the biological and social motivations behind behavior, learning, emotions, and intelligence. This interdisciplinary class integrates life science, social science, and mathematics to help students appreciate the theories of human behavior and the self. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School History

Sociology

Sociology students study the nature of culture, socialization, groups, institutions, communications, cultural development, and change. Sociology helps students understand the impact of media on groups, analyze forms of propaganda techniques, and understand the impact of science and technology upon people and culture. (0.5 credit)

Prerequisite: 2 Credits of High School History

United States History

United States History focuses on the economic, social, and political issues throughout the development of the United States. Great emphasis will be placed on the development of the American nation and current issues in American culture. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: World History

World History: Imperialism and Colonialism

World History: Imperialism and Colonialism is a two-part world history course that examines how global empires formed, the methods by which they controlled territories and diverse ethnic groups, and the lasting economic, social and political legacies for both the colonizers and the colonized. Students will experience a deep dive into the global political, geographical and cultural interactions that shaped the modern world, with a keen eye at how history repeats itself and how some of the present is a reflection of the past. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Ancient Civilizations, World History, Part I and/or Teacher Recommendation (for advanced 9th graders)

World Religions

This course will introduce students to a variety of religions and their traditions. Students will learn about the basic foundations and beliefs of Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. (0.5 credit)

Arts

Applied Vocal Performance (AVP)

Applied Vocal Performance (AVP) is designed to support students' aspirations toward professional musical pursuits. In this course, there is a combination of voice lessons and instrumental (typically piano or guitar). Advanced students can request to incorporate a songwriting element. This can be administered through a qualified SYP teacher or an identified professional arts specialist. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Dance

Students may receive one credit for dance through private instruction. Credit is awarded by submission and verification of a portfolio in which students document 100 hours of private lessons or supervised rehearsal and performances. Dance can be applied to Physical Education requirements if the student has satisfied the Arts credit minimum. (1.0 credit)

Digital Photography

Students in Digital Photography will learn digital photography while working at their own skill level. Using the digital camera of their choice, they will explore lighting, color, texture, composition, and other subject matter to achieve a solid grounding in both technical and creative photographic processes. (0.5 credit)

Drama/Theatre

Students may receive one credit for skill development in the area of drama through a qualified SYP instructor, private lessons and/or performance. Credit is awarded by verification of approved lessons, dramatic performance, grade reporting, and submission of documentation of hours. (0.5 or 1.0 credit)

Graphic Design

This class is an introduction to graphic design and focuses on the basics of typography, layout design and branding. Students will be given specific projects to complete and must create a portfolio as part of their final grade. This can be administered through a qualified SYP teacher or a class at an accredited college or university. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Honors Senior Acting Workshop

This rigorous arts class is designed to support students' aspirations toward studying acting at the collegiate level and/or straight into the professional world of theatre, film and/or television. Specific focus is given to monologue development for auditions and/or pre-screens for the arts college admissions process. Additional support in artist statement development and arts writing supplements can be provided. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Introduction to Drawing and Painting

Students may receive one credit through an introductory course on drawing and painting. This can be administered through qualified SYP teachers or a class at an approved program or accredited college. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Introduction to Fashion Design

Introduction to Fashion Design will take students through the process of fashion design: conceptualizing, pattern-making, draping, professional construction, and merchandising. Students will learn about sourcing materials, production of apparel, retail guidelines, and fashion merchandising. (0.5 credit)

Introduction to Film

This class introduces students to the study of film, stylistic tendencies and narrative strategies, genres, and theoretical approaches. This course spans silent and sound eras and offers examples from both the Hollywood motion picture industry and diverse national cinemas. Students are expected to develop and execute at least one by the end of the semester. (0.5 credit)

Life Drawing/Observation

Upon completion of Introduction to Drawing and Painting, students may receive one credit for skill development in life drawing and observational projects. This course requires exposure to the following genres: life drawing (nude and/or clothed model), portraiture (including a self-portrait), still life and perspective. This can be administered through qualified SYP teachers or a class at an approved program or accredited college. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Music

Students may receive one credit for skill development in the area of music through private instrumental or voice lessons and/or performance. Credit is awarded by verification of approved musical activity and/or submission of documentation of hours. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Music Composition/Production

This is a project-based class in which students will use different instruments and/or software applications to create and arrange music. Students will learn how to manipulate music by creating medley mixes, music re-arranging, and, in most cases, exploring the digital world of music. (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Website Design

Website Design focuses on the basics of designing and developing a web site. Students will examine design issues specific to web-based presentations, learn web page layout, effective navigation, and delve into the design process. Students are required to have their own computers with proper software. Although not required, SYP recommends taking **Graphic Design** as a prerequisite to this course. (0.5 credit)

World Languages

World languages are offered on a variety of levels, including honors and AP. The following languages are offered regularly; however, additional languages may be available on request. A minimum of 2 credits in 1 world language is required for graduation.

French
German
Hebrew
Italian
Latin

Mandarin Chinese
Russian
Spanish
Portuguese
American Sign Language

Computer Science & Technology

Intro to Computer Science

Intro to Computer Science is an introductory course into the world of coding. Students will learn about different coding languages (Python, Java, etc) and being to learn how to code in one or more computing languages. A project is required as part of the course completion (0.5 credit or 1.0 credit)

Honors Java

Honors Java is an introductory college-level computer science course. Students cultivate their understanding of coding through analyzing, writing, and testing code as they explore concepts like modularity, variables, and control structures. The focus is on Java and requires consistent coding work; there is a culminating project at the end of term. (1.0 credit)

Prerequisite: Intro to Computer Science and Teacher Recommendation

Physical Education & Health

Physical Education

SYP students may receive credit for skill development in specific activities that focus on exercise and wellness through private lessons or professional training and/or performance. Credit is awarded by verification of approved physical activities and/or submission of documentation of hours. (2 credits necessary for graduation)

Health

Health is a required half credit course designed to educate students about the benefits of fitness, nutrition, and overall wellness. This course will guide students towards developing the life management skills needed to make sound health decisions and take positive actions for healthy and effective living. Beginning with physical and emotional growth, numerous topics will be covered, such as nutrition, exercise, safety, alcohol and drug use, disease prevention, violence/bullying, and fire/arson prevention. (0.5 credit)

Auxiliary Electives

Driver's Education

Driver's Education teaches the basic skills and laws that pertain to driving. The material covered in this course will prepare students for the written permit test within their particular state. (0.25 credit)

Keyboarding

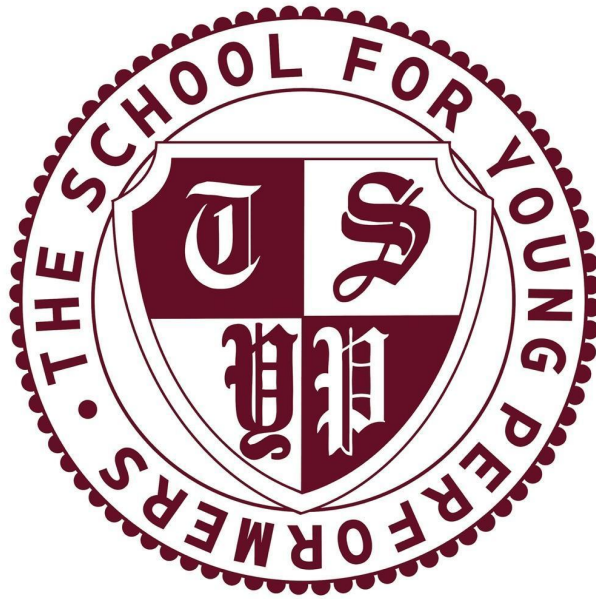
This course increases keyboarding skills through drill practice and reinforcement of correct techniques. Students will use word processing software to create, format, and edit personal and business documents & must have a computer. (0.5 credit)

Summer Internship

Summer Internship is a guided program that takes place for a minimum of four weeks, preferably in July and/or August. Students will choose their main course of study in various arenas such as music, fashion, sports, advertising, and event planning. In some cases, students will be recommended to pursue courses for college credit courses at post-secondary institutions that align with their post-secondary and/or vocational aspirations. (0.5 to 2 credits)

Testing Technique

Testing Techniques focuses on the skills needed to do well on standardized exams. From how to study, to designing a study schedule, to specific techniques for each section; student will be well prepared to sit for the SAT or ACT exams. Students should plan to take this class the quarter before their scheduled exam. (0.25 credit)



The School for Young Performers
New York, NY
212.663.3921

www.schoolforyoungperformers.org