



Upper School Course Offerings 2019-2020

The Mission of Thayer Academy is to inspire a diverse community of students to moral, intellectual, aesthetic, and physical excellence so that each may rise to honorable achievement and contribute to the common good.

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Course Offerings manual. This packet contains all the information about Thayer Academy's Upper School academic program. Selecting courses is perhaps the most important aspect of designing the high school student experience. Be sure to pay close attention to Thayer Academy's graduation requirements (and NCAA Eligibility requirements for aspiring Division I/II athletes); select courses that offer the appropriate level of challenge to ensure positive intellectual and personal growth; balance the core academic courses with interesting and meaningful electives, while also considering the extra-curricular commitments students have. There are a wide variety of courses available, so students should think carefully with input from parents and advisors – about what they choose.

For planning purposes, this year's manual contains the following five sections:

1. The Academic Program and Graduation Requirements

This section describes the different levels of courses we offer, the course load required each semester, the credits awarded for courses, and the graduation requirements. All students must meet the requirements listed in this section in order to receive a Thayer Academy Diploma unless they have received prior approval from the Upper School Director and the Director of Studies. (page 3)

2. Description of the Global Scholars Program

Some students may elect to participate in this program, which fosters greater awareness and engagement in global issues. (page 4)

3. What's New in 2019-2020?

This is a quick reference to anything different or new that we are offering in 2019-2020. These items include new or re-introduced courses and an explanation. (page 5)

4. Course Descriptions

The listing and description of every course we are offering in the Upper School in 2019-2020 can be found in this section. Courses are listed by department and generally organized from ninth grade/introductory level courses to twelfth grade/more advanced courses. At the end of this section, you can find a list of all of our course offerings. (pages 6-24)

5. Upper School Academic Planning Guide

The Upper School Academic Planning Guide can be used to map out a multi-year academic plan. While students only select courses one year at a time, this chart will help students see “the big picture” of their entire Upper School academic experience. It might be helpful for students to work with their advisors, parents, grade deans, and/or college counselor as they use the guide. (page 27)

If students or parents have questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

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THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The Upper School academic program emphasizes the skills and concepts necessary for successful college work. Many courses are offered at various levels: an AP designation indicates an Advanced Placement college level course related to specific curricula developed by the College Board; Honors indicates an accelerated or advanced class; no designation indicates a competitive college preparatory class; and Fundamentals indicates a regularly paced college preparatory class. Students are scheduled in courses that best suit their background and ability, and it is not unusual for students to have an academic schedule that includes courses from different levels.

Credit values for courses depend upon the number of times a course meets per week and how many semesters a course runs. For example:

- 1 credit for full-year core courses
- ½ credit for courses that meet four or more periods per week for one semester
- ½ credit for courses that meet two or three times per week for a full year
- Thayer Academy does not award credits less than ½
- Credits earned at other institutions may be approved on an individual basis.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from Thayer Academy, all students must successfully meet the requirements stated in each of the five areas cited below:

Earned Credits Requirement: To receive a diploma, a student must accumulate a minimum of 20 credits.

Credit Distribution Requirement: The following credit distribution is required:

4 credits of English, with a minimum of one credit in English each year

3 credits of mathematics (Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry are required)

3 credits of foreign language (students are required to complete the third level of a language and should take 3 years of the same language in the Upper School)

3 credits of science

3 credits of history, including one year of Modern European History and one year of United States History

1 credit of arts (1/2 of which is the Freshman requirement, Freshman Arts)

3 credits electives

Health & Wellness: Freshman requirement - Freshman Health & Wellness and Fitness Concepts, Sophomore requirement - Sophomore Health & Wellness, Junior requirement - Decisions, Senior requirement - Senior CPR Certification

Course Load Requirement: Students must carry five core courses each semester (English, mathematics, science, history, foreign language). No more than two may be in the same discipline. If a student would like to take a sixth core course, he/she will need prior approval from the appropriate Department Head, the Director of Studies, and the Upper School Director.


Physical Activity Requirement: Students must participate in school-sponsored physical activities for two seasons each year. Freshmen and sophomores must participate in two interscholastic sports; juniors must compete for at least one interscholastic team but can substitute one school-approved activity for a team sport; and seniors must participate in two seasons of either interscholastic team sports or school-approved activities.

Senior Year Requirements: Students are required to be enrolled at Thayer Academy for their entire senior year. Seniors are required to successfully complete an approved independent project during the last four weeks of the spring semester. Projects must have an academic, career, or community service orientation, and all projects include a research component. Each student's project is monitored and supported by a Thayer faculty member.

The Upper School Director and the Director of Studies must approve any deviation from these requirements.

GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Global Scholars Program aims to develop a deeper understanding and greater awareness, interest, and engagement in global issues. Students will combine the following curricular and co-curricular elements in order to be recognized as Global Scholars:


- a. Enrollment and high achievement in certain Thayer courses with a global perspective: foreign language, literature, history, and environmental science. These courses are denoted with a 
- b. An international immersion experience and/or a service project that requires direct encounters with individuals from other countries or cultures
- c. Active participation in a globally or culturally focused club
- d. Attending global speakers, film events, exhibits, concerts, and lectures
- e. Completion of a Global Scholars Capstone course incorporating research, development and completion of an independent project, and a community presentation

Students would make a commitment to the program by the end of their junior year, so some members of the Class of 2020 may already qualify. The various curricular and extra-curricular requirements of the program would be met over the course of a student's sophomore, junior, and senior years. Seniors in the Global Scholars Program in the first semester will be enrolled in the Global Scholars II course in the second semester. Students who complete the program would earn a Global Scholars certificate and be recognized at graduation. If interested in this program, students should see the Upper School Director of Studies.

WHAT'S NEW IN 2019-2020?

HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Current Issues:

In this first semester course, students will investigate topics, uncover differing views and experiences, form their own opinions, and propose solutions to today's issues. Guided by student interest, topics will be inspired by current news and by issues that rarely make the headlines. Topics will be national and international. Examples could include politics, climate change, immigration, civil rights, global conflicts, and human rights. In the investigation process, students will tackle big questions, such as, how did this issue begin, and what is our individual and collective role in addressing major issues in our changing world? **Meets 4 times per week.** 

Film and History:

This second semester senior course delves into the questions of how movies explore and reflect the ideas, values, and conflicts of their era. Students will examine the intersection of film history and major historical moments, treating film as a resource that helps us understand culture and society. Topics may include: the Great Depression; the Nazi regime's use of film propaganda and the U.S. film industry's own cinematic propaganda during World War II; the House on Anti-American Activities and the Hollywood Blacklist; Civil Rights and the black power movement; women's rights and the Me Too movement. Students will be exposed to a variety of film genres from a wide span of film history, including comedy, drama, documentary, science fiction, and the western. **Meets 4 times per week.**

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Students must earn one full credit in the arts. However, most students take advantage of the department's wide range of electives by studying music, fine arts, dance, or theater at advanced levels.

Freshman Arts: This year-long creative course forms the substructure of the arts curriculum. In each trimester, students explore one aspect of the arts: music, visual arts, or theater. In theater class, students begin to train as actors through exploration of public speaking, voice, movement, sensory awareness, and improvisation. In visual art class, students develop basic drawing and painting skills. In music class, students use an ears-and-minds-open approach as they learn to analyze the construction of all modern forms of music. **Freshman requirement, full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

VISUAL ARTS ELECTIVES

Graphic Design I: Using the Mac laptop computer as a design tool, students will use a variety of apps, including: Adobe Ideas, to create a digital sketchbook that will be used in the classroom and home; Wasabi Paint, a digital painting app that looks and feels like real paint; Colourize, to recolor digital photos; and Photo Wall, to create photo collages. In addition, students will learn how to use Adobe Creative Cloud applications: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, and Corel Painter 12, used by professional graphic and web designers worldwide. Design Assignments include Optical Illusions, Kaleidoscopes, Poster Design, Color Theory, Logo Design, Chinese Symbols, Illuminated Letters, Print Advertisements, and The Wacom Drawing and Painting Tablet. Craft Projects include Mouse Pads, Magnets, Fabric Design of tote bags and aprons, and t-shirts. Emerging trends and styles of design are studied utilizing online databases from the National Cooper Hewitt Design Museum and the American Institute of Graphic Arts in New York City. Students will learn critiquing skills that will help them improve their work; this includes both for technical and aesthetic aspects of their designs. Student print designs are displayed in the annual student art show in Thayer's Gallery and on Thayer's website. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

Graphic Design II, III: Using the Mac laptop computer as a design tool, students will use a variety of apps, including: Adobe Ideas, to create a digital sketchbook that will be used in the classroom and home; Wasabi Paint, a digital painting app that looks and feels like real paint; Colourize, to recolor digital photos; and Photo Wall, to create photo collages. Students will learn more in-depth skills about essential graphic design tools used for print and multimedia artwork. More advanced skills are taught to create design portfolios. Design Assignments include: Designers at Work, International Design, 3Dimensional Packaging Design, Fabric Design, Digital Painting using the Wacom Drawing and Painting Tablet, Commercial Printing Techniques and Paper for Fine Art Digital Printing. Craft Projects include Mouse Pads, Magnets, Fabric Design of tote bags and aprons, and t-shirts. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Prerequisite: Graphic Design I or permission of the instructor.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

Web Design: In this introductory class to web design, students begin by learning web design basics including color, formatting, and page layout for web pages. Students will build and publish webpages using WordPress and iWeb '11 for a variety of industries. Students will learn how businesses use websites to establish credibility as part of their advertising campaign, and how web 2.0 technology is utilized for internet marketing. Web design is more than just creating functional, eye-pleasing web pages; it's using technical and design skills to create complete digital experiences that drive so many industries. The internet isn't just on our desktop computers; it's always with us on our various mobile devices. Understanding how to create media for the ever-changing internet means you can make your ideas reach more people, anywhere in the world — just what today's companies need. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

Painting and Drawing I, II, III: This full-year course includes a wide exploration of both drawing and painting methods and materials using real and imaginary subject matter. Students are introduced to varied techniques and processes of drawing and painting including composition, the elements and principles of design, the use of color, and pertinent aspects of art history and self-expression. As students progress, they are free to explore a more independent voice in both their choice of materials and subject matter. Media options include graphite, ink, charcoal, conte crayon, pastel, watercolor, and acrylics as well as mixed media. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.*

Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit or 4 times per week for 1 credit.

Photography I: In this course students will learn fundamental photographic techniques, including use of 35mm digital SLR cameras in manual mode, downloading, organizing, and editing of images. All assignments will be done using Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Lightroom. Students will learn basics of composition and become proficient in Adobe Lightroom by the end of the year. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

Photography II: This course is a review of the technical aspects of photography as well as development of students' ability to communicate an idea effectively. Use of Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom to manipulate images is a major component of this course. Students will learn basic retouching techniques as well as advanced montaging skills. All assignments will make use of digital cameras and Photoshop. *This course is open to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: Photography I or permission of the instructor.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

Photography III: Third-year students are expected to have a working knowledge of digital SLR cameras, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom. The emphasis of this class will be on the student's ability to develop his or her personal vision. Advanced Photoshop and Lightroom techniques will be explored in order for students to create a cohesive body of work. *This course is open to seniors. Prerequisite: Photography II or permission of the instructor. Limited enrollment - students with prior photography experience will be scheduled first.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

Pottery I: An introduction to basic clay working: hand-building and wheel-throwing, decoration, glazing and firing techniques, introduction to basic glaze preparation. Stoneware, raku, and smoke firing are explored. Emphasis is on obtaining comfort and confidence with these techniques through the production of a body of work. Students experiment with functional, non-functional, and sculptural concepts. Pottery history and culture is presented through examples and discussion. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit or 4 times per week for 1 credit.**

Pottery II, III: This course is a continuation of Pottery I: Advanced techniques in clay working, introduction to basic glaze calculation and formulation. Alternative firing methods and experimental projects are introduced. Students may explore areas of their own choosing. A variety of clays and firing processes including raku, smoke firing, porcelain, and cone 10 reduction are available. Independent exploration is encouraged. Pottery history and culture is presented through examples and discussion. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: Pottery I or permission of the instructor.*

Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit or 4 times per week for 1 credit.

Film I, II, III: Students learn about film pre-production, production, and post-production by participating in hands-on activities while creating short films. They work both in small groups and individually in a well-equipped film/video studio. Additionally, students discuss and critique classic, contemporary, and student films while developing their understanding of what makes successful scripts, camerawork, lighting, and sound design. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.*

Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.

THEATER ELECTIVES

Advanced Acting: This course offers students the opportunity to explore various styles of acting in an open and positive environment. Drawing upon a variety of techniques, including vocal and physical warm-ups, theater games, and dramatic improvisation, students develop their individualized acting technique and stage presence. Students will develop successful strategies for approaching cold readings, improvised scenes, interviews, and other oral presentations. Emphasis is placed on developing self-confidence in front of an audience with projects and class assignments individualized to each student's interest and experience level. *This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.**

DANCE/MOVEMENT ELECTIVES

Dance Styles/Movement: This course will focus on learning the techniques of a variety of different styles of dance. Classes will cover dance styles such as American hip hop, contemporary and lyrical dance, Broadway jazz, tap, modern, Latin dance, swing dance, and a variety of ethnic dance styles. Students will work on stretching, flexibility, technique, and “stage presence” as well as learning and performing complete dance numbers to be performed at the winter and spring dance concerts.

This course is open to all students. Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.

Dancing for Dudes: Meet Thayer Academy’s next “dance crew”... the first ever all-guys dance class. We will focus on learning dance styles, athletic moves, increasing flexibility and strength as well as techniques (and tricks!) for dance suited for men. There will be performances in all dance concerts! *This course is open to all students.*

Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

Concert Choir: This choral ensemble welcomes students of all abilities who enjoy singing. This ensemble provides students with the experience of performing songs in 3- and 4-part harmony from a variety of musical styles. Students in Concert Choir give several performances during the year. No audition is necessary. *This course is open to all students.*

Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.

Instrumental Ensemble: This ensemble will offer a wide range of playing and performance experiences. The group consists of brass, woodwinds, strings, percussion, and electric bass. The students will play a variety of musical literature and styles, from traditional to modern to movie soundtracks. The students have input into the music they study. No audition is necessary.

This course is open to all students. Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.

Jazz Combos: These instrumental/vocal groups will play and perform jazz, fusion, and rock-influenced styles of music. Students have input into the music that is learned and performed. Basic chord theory, form arranging, improvised solos, and chord structure will be taught. *This course is open to all students. Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.*

Private Lessons: Lessons in voice and most instruments, depending on the sign-up, can be arranged for individual students during their free time or after school. It is strongly recommended that private lesson students are also members of one of the Thayer Academy music groups.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Certain word processing, spreadsheet, and online research skills are developed within the curriculum of the major academic disciplines. The Computer Science Department focuses on the study of computer programming as well as the theory and the algorithmic approaches that form the core of programming.

Foundations of Learning: This first-semester course is required for all freshmen and newly accepted sophomores. These classes provide students with the foundations for learning online. Topics include the acceptable use of Thayer Academy’s 1-to-1 student laptop program, the use and application of various academic software applications (Google Apps for Education, Gmail, TigerCloud storage, and Thayer Academy’s Learning Management System “Blackbaud”), the proper use of digital media to create positive experiences as digital citizens, and digital safety and identity. Students also participate in Hour of Code to learn about the basics of coding: telling a computer how to perform a complex task or run a mechanical device.

Freshman and transfer sophomore requirement, Semester 1, meets 1 time per week.


Programming I (C++): Students with experience, motivation, and high intellectual ability may be admitted to this full-year course which covers the fundamental algorithmic and flowcharting skills, logic development, control structures, functions, and data types which lead to advanced topics in computer science. Additional topics include searching and sorting algorithms, file management processes, and hardware and operating system proficiency. **Meets 3 times per week.**

AP Computer Science (Java): The focus of this full-year course will be the curriculum set forth by the Advanced Placement (AP) Committee in Computer Science. In addition to regular course work, students will be required to participate in all contests of the American Computer Science League. *Prerequisites: Programming I and permission of the instructor.*

Meets 4 times per week.

Data Structures in Java Honors: This full-year course will begin with a very intense review geared to the topics taught in the AP Computer Science course. The focus of this course will be on advanced data structures (linked lists, stacks, queues, and binary trees), data files, and the major algorithms of sorting and searching. The other essential component of this course will be the development of an in-depth approach to graphical programming in Java. In addition to regular course work, students will be required to participate in all contests of the American Computer Science League. *Prerequisites: Programming I, AP Computer Science, and permission of the instructor.* **Meets 3 times per week.**

ENGLISH

In English students develop an understanding of themselves and others through reading and writing while honing their communication skills for success in college and beyond. Four years of English are required for graduation. Honors sections (English IH, IIH, Senior Seminar H, Advanced Composition) are offered to freshmen, sophomores, and first-semester seniors with outstanding verbal abilities, as evidenced by past performance and standardized test scores (seniors in Advanced Composition must also submit an application in order to be considered). Advanced Placement sections - English III AP: Literature and Composition and English III AP: Language and Composition - are offered in the junior year to qualified students. Second-semester seniors choose one English course from the spring semester's electives. A number of the senior courses are designated Global Scholars Program courses. They are marked with a .

GRADES 9 & 10

English I and English I Honors: During the freshmen year, students receive a foundation in literature by reading a variety of ancient, classic, and contemporary novels, plays, and poetry. They explore literary traditions, especially the hero's journey, and the ways that fiction reflects the human condition across time. Freshmen also develop their analytical and creative writing skills, express their ideas through research and reflection, practice public speaking, build extensive vocabulary, and hone their grammar and mechanics skills. **Meets 4 times per week.**

English I Workshop: This course, scheduled with two extra class periods each week, is designed for freshmen who need to develop their reading, writing, and study skills to gain the proficiency necessary for success in their next three years of English. The extra periods provide students with additional guided reading, writing, and study skills opportunities. English I Workshop follows the same curriculum as English I, and students move on to English II the following year. The course teacher is also a Hale Learning Center instructor. **Meets 6 times per week.**

English II and English II Honors: During the sophomore year, students focus on storytelling by exploring the ways authors reveal stories and discovering how they can employ the same techniques in their own writing. The guiding premise is that nothing in fiction is an accident. During the first semester, students focus on reading and writing short fiction and creative nonfiction. They experiment with a variety of styles and techniques while pushing themselves to make every word count. During the second semester, the focus shifts from creating fiction and nonfiction to analyzing novels, plays, and poetry. Throughout the year, students work to expand their vocabulary, master grammar, and refine sentence structure. **Meets 4 times per week.**

GRADE 11

English: Language and Style (First Semester): In this course, students study the creative and controlled uses of language in poetry and prose through the close analysis of excerpts from great writers. Writing assignments are, for the most part, imitative rather than analytical. Students develop more flexibility, precision, and control in their writing, a greater awareness of "voice" (their own and others), and a new appreciation for the elements of style. **Meets 4 times per week.**


English: American Masterworks (Second Semester): Through reading representative works of the best American writing, students gain a richer understanding of the self and society. They explore a variety of genres, including novels, short stories, plays, and poems, and continue to work on their critical reading and analytical writing. *NOTE: With additional outside study, some students who take Language and Style and American Masterworks will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Language and Composition in May.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

AP English Literature and Composition: This full-year course is designed for a select group of juniors who have demonstrated a mature commitment to reading literature as well as a sophisticated mastery of grammar and composition. Through intense study of the elements of fiction, poetry, and drama, students will prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam in Literature and Composition. They will examine a broad spectrum of readings drawn from American and world literature – from the classics to the avant-garde – and will sharpen their skills of critical evaluation and deepen their appreciation of the persuasive and artistic power of the written word. **Meets 4 times per week.**

AP English Language and Composition: This full-year course prepares a select group of juniors for the Advanced Placement Exam in Language and Composition. Students read a variety of fiction and nonfiction to develop their understanding and appreciation of how writers use style, literary devices, and rhetorical strategies to write persuasively. Assignments range from creative imitation and personal essay to literary analysis and argument. Authors studied include Nathaniel Hawthorne, F. Scott Fitzgerald, George Orwell, Ernest Hemingway, Zora Neale Hurston, Joan Didion, Sherman Alexie, Brent Staples, Barbara Ehrenreich, and David Foster Wallace. **Meets 4 times per week.**

GRADE 12

FIRST SEMESTER

English: Senior Seminar and Senior Seminar Honors: Albert Einstein wrote, “Someone who reads only newspapers and books of contemporary authors looks to me like an extremely nearsighted person who scorns eyeglasses. He is completely dependent on the prejudices and fashions of his times, since he never gets to see or hear anything else.” Students will examine some masterpieces of drama, fiction, and poetry, encountering diverse perspectives on humanity’s universal experience. They’ll build on their skills in writing, critical thinking, and reading comprehension while enhancing appreciation for the role of great storytelling in Mankind’s search for meaning. *All seniors except for those enrolled in Advanced Composition will take this course.* **Meets 4 times per week.** 

English: Advanced Composition: Student writers learn best by writing for real audiences, and students in this course will both write and handle a variety of editing responsibilities for *Voice*, a news and literary magazine serving the entire Thayer community. These students will automatically have a staff position on the publication and will continue to edit the magazine second semester after the course ends. Students will be selected on the basis of their demonstrated writing skill, ability to handle responsibility and the pressures of publication time constraints, and commitment to excellence in their work. They will need to proofread accurately as well as write creatively, take constructive criticism in stride and offer it with tact, and be ready and willing to work some evenings when production deadlines loom. **Meets 4 times per week.**

SECOND SEMESTER


English: Crossing Borders: Growing Up: This section of Crossing Borders explores coming-of-age narratives as expressed through memoir, poetry, fiction, film, and music. The idea of “coming-of-age” literature began formally with the Bildungsroman, a type of novel that focused on moral growth and the development of the self. As a genre, coming-of-age tales engage a wide range of topics and themes concerned with the process of growing up. What happens when we pass from innocence to knowledge, childhood to adulthood? How do personal identities take shape in adolescence? Students will explore how artists evoke the experience of childhood and how society understands the concept – and pursue opportunities to reflect on their own lives as they cross the border into adulthood and prepare to leave Thayer and home. **Meets 4 times per week.**

English: Crossing Borders: Journeys and Transformations: Where is our place in the world? How long must we search for it? Is “arrival” the goal or a pitstop along some greater way? Is the danger *here* in what we know or out *there* in what we don’t? As technology and globalization shrink the world, our challenge more than ever is to nurture “unity in diversity,” without sacrificing one for the other. Writers, poets, and documentary filmmakers are well placed to show us: how do we cross the borders of age, gender, class, race, and culture along the way? Examining their own experience in light of the experience of others, students will broaden their perspectives and deepen their awareness. **Meets 4 times per week.**

English: Crossing Borders: Global Journeys: Thich Nhat Hanh, the widely respected Buddhist writer and teacher from Vietnam, describes our challenge as human beings this way: “We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness.” This section of Crossing Borders will have much in common with the content and objectives of other Crossing Borders sections but will offer more of an international, multicultural focus in the readings and films studied.

Meets 4 times per week. 

English: Rag and Bone Shop: A Reading and Writing Workshop in Poetry: This course will explore and illuminate the poetic process and the poetic tradition. The writing of poetry in the workshop will emerge from its twin activity: namely, the study of a wide range of schools and forms of poetry. As students begin to appreciate poetry as an alternative, but visceral, form of expression, they will apply this understanding both to their own compositions and to their critiquing of the poetry presented in the workshop. **Meets 4 times per week.**

English: Scene to Screen: Like literature, film is an artistic medium with its own conventions, aesthetic values, and techniques. Its perspectives on and insight into the human condition are as varied as the films and directors themselves. In this class, we will examine the techniques used by contemporary directors to manage the complexity of adapting the written word to film and study how this medium explores the depths of our emotions and the motivations for and consequences of our actions. Students will use concepts of cinematic analysis such as genre, narrative structure, and point of view as an entryway into discussions of intent, impact, and audience response. Students will be encouraged to formulate their own critical responses to the works and reflect on what these interpretations reveal, both personally and socially. The inclusion of international films and texts will also reveal a perspective that transcends immediate culture and examines those global responsibilities and universal experiences we all share. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

English: Newsworthy: Does news matter? Should we bother to read it, especially in the age of “fake news”? These are the questions students will wrestle with in this course, and the only logical way to answer them is to delve into the free press. Students will get in the habit of reading and discussing headline news from a variety of sources - right, left, and center. They will consider how United States citizens, can benefit from becoming savvy news consumers. They will also gain a greater appreciation for the challenges journalists face by crafting their own news stories, editorials, interviews, and feature articles. For a culminating activity, each student will research a current event and showcase a thorough understanding of the chosen topic by producing a short publication featuring several styles of writing. All materials will be accessed online. **Meets 4 times per week.**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Students must take three years of the same foreign language and complete level III in order to meet the Foreign Language graduation requirement. Students are placed in a course according to interest, ability, preparation, and prior language background. Sections designated IV or V provide preparation for the SAT Subject Tests. It is expected that all students enrolled in AP Language courses will register for the Advanced Placement Examination.

The foreign language department offers Latin, French, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. In Latin, classes prepare students to read and translate classic works, explore the verbal and rhetorical connection to English, and appreciate the history and culture of the Ancient World. In French, Spanish, and Chinese, the goals range from students being able to have basic conversations to being able to read and discuss major works in the target language. Reading, writing, and conversational skills are all stressed and developed throughout the course of study.


The department also strongly urges students to travel to a country where the target language is spoken, or to somehow use the language outside the classroom in order to broaden their experience and ability in the language. To that end, the department organizes trips to Spain, France, Canada, Italy, Peru, and China.

CHINESE

Mandarin Chinese I: This course is for students who have no previous or limited experience with Mandarin Chinese. Students will learn the basic communication skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. In addition to the Pinyin Romanization system, the traditional Mandarin Phonetic Symbols are introduced with the four tones. Students will learn to write the basic characters from 214 radicals in correct stroke-order, and learn to use a traditional Chinese dictionary. Students will learn four songs and eight lessons. Basic grammar and sentence structure are introduced. The curriculum addresses cultural topics via movies, projects, and other activities, including Chinese food, calligraphy, and field trips. Materials include: *Let's Learn the Mandarin Alphabet*, *Let's Learn Chinese Characters through 214 Radicals*, *Far East Chinese-English Dictionary*, as well as a character-practice workbook. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Mandarin Chinese II: The course is designed to provide students with skills for more practical and complex situations, to expand vocabulary, and to improve listening and speaking skills through online and language lab activities. Basic grammar is reviewed, and more complicated structures are introduced. Through extensive practice in speaking and writing, students will improve their ability to express themselves in the language. Basic writing skills are developed and practiced. They are able to write a short essay using Chinese word processing. The curriculum focuses on aspects of Chinese culture that are different from life in the United States. Materials include: *Conversational Mandarin Chinese I*, *Learn Mandarin through Chinese Children's Songs*. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Mandarin Chinese III: In Chinese III, students build upon the skills developed in Chinese I and II. Students continue to expand their vocabulary and comprehension skills by reading short articles and singing songs. The course will focus on oral proficiency and writing. The students are engaged in more spontaneous conversations and in addressing various aspects of Chinese culture. Students will be able to use a traditional dictionary to translate readings into English. They will learn to write a note, a letter, and a short story. Research projects and presentations increase students' control of Chinese grammatical structures. Materials include: *Conversational Mandarin Chinese I*, *Life and Death in Shanghai*. **Meets 4 times per week.**


Mandarin Chinese IV: The course includes frequent oral presentations and written assignments. Students continue to hone their speaking and listening skills and improve their reading and writing abilities. Through the reading and discussion of Chinese newspaper and magazine articles, students solidify previously learned grammatical structures and expression. Extensive readings provide the basis for vocabulary-building and class discussion. Selective movies and clips are to be viewed to deepen students' knowledge and understanding of Chinese culture and traditions. Materials include *Conversational Mandarin Chinese I*. **Meets 4 times per week.** 


FRENCH


French I: French I is the initial course of study for students of French language, literature, and culture. A thorough preparation in the basics of French grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation is provided, and emphasis is placed on equipping the student with the skills for continued language study. To this end, the class is conducted, as much as is viable, in the French language. **Meets 4 times per week.**


French II and II Honors: In French II, the skills and activities of French I are reinforced and broadened, enabling students to become more sophisticated and proficient in expression. Reading abridged works of fiction and writing short reports and detailed narratives are integral parts of the course. The primary goal of the second-year curriculum is to enhance students' proficiency in the four basic language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing in order to prepare them for advanced study in French. French II Honors is an accelerated class. **Meets 4 times per week.**


French III and III Honors: In the third year of study, the emphasis is on the understanding of advanced grammar and vocabulary and its application in written and oral reports. Reports are longer and more sophisticated, and involve both narrative and expository situations; students are expected both to become relatively fluent in the language and to keep a journal in French. Unabridged listening and written material from the Francophone world are used to enhance comprehension and appreciation of culture. Readings in French literature consist of excerpts of poetry and the novel genre chosen to enhance and improve the students' reading comprehension. French III Honors is an accelerated class. **Meets 4 times per week.**

French IV: A focus of this course is to enable students to become proficient in the French world and to expand their reading and listening comprehension skills via authentic materials. Students engage in refining a variety of study skills and techniques that seek to elicit creative and imaginative responses in the target language. Reading selections vary according to the ability and interest level of the class. Class discussions are conducted in French. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

French IV Honors: This is a course for advanced students who are highly proficient in all aspects of the French language. Widening the lens to explore Francophone culture, history, and current events, a wide variety of written and spoken sources are used to hone all language skills. Written expression focuses on the ability to synthesize sources, develop thoughtful ideas, and write with a command of grammar and idiomatic expression. There is increased potential for intellectual and creative pursuits, independent study, cooperative learning, and more student involvement in preparation of class materials. While most grammar is studied “en contexte,” students review all aspects of advanced grammar, idioms, and vocabulary. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

French V: This class is for students wishing to continue their French studies, typically in their senior year. The emphasis is on the honing of all skills, with a view to keeping them active in preparation for continued study in college. Students explore French culture and literature, both in France and in Francophone countries throughout the world. The sweep is wide, with everything from cinema, music, and cuisine to politics and current events fair game for study here. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

French AP Language and Culture: This course prepares advanced students for the AP examination in French Language and Culture using a wide variety of text and audio sources. A holistic approach is taken that more than ever accents communicative and cultural proficiency while developing interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational skills. Students explore global, cultural issues in both contemporary and historical contexts. They develop the ability to make comparisons among cultures, with particular emphasis on the Francophone world, and their exploration is thematically structured. Written and oral expression focuses on the ability to synthesize sources, develop thoughtful ideas, and communicate with a command of grammar and idiomatic expression. **Meets 4 times per week.** 


Advanced French Language and Culture: This class is for students who have already taken the AP course in French Language and Culture. Drawing on a wide range of authentic sources from the Francophone world that delve into global and cultural issues, students will extend all four language skills. A high degree of proficiency and critical acumen will be required, and class will be conducted entirely in French. **Meets 4 times per week.** 


LATIN


Latin I: Using the *Latina Lingua: Familia Romana* and *Ecce Romani I* texts, students learn to read, write, and speak Latin. Instruction is given primarily in Latin and stresses both fluent reading and detailed syntax analysis. The course addresses both English and Latin grammatical structure. Students examine the history and culture of the Roman Monarchy, Republic, and Empire. Various handouts are used and projects are assigned throughout the year to complement grammar with myth, culture, and history. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Latin II and II Honors: After reviewing the concepts of the *Ecce Romani I* text, students delve into an investigation of *Ecce Romani II* (chapters 28 through 54 in the series). This intensive study virtually completes the textual study of grammar, leaving the succeeding years for literature and grammar study through reading and composition. Further study of key elements of the history and culture during both the Republic and Empire are explored. Various handouts are used and projects are assigned throughout the year to complement grammar with myth, culture, and history. While both Latin II and Latin II Honors operate from a similar syllabus, students in Latin II Honors move at a more rigorous pace as they continue a path leading toward study in advanced literature courses in the coming years. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Latin III and III Honors: This course embarks upon the study of *Ecce Romani III* and introduces students to the works of the Roman historian Eutropius. After foundational work in historical readings, students translate, analyze, and discuss prose selections from Julius Caesar, Cicero, Asconius, and Augustus. Students are further introduced to the poetry of Catullus, Horace, Ovid, and Vergil, as time permits. Latin III Honors is an accelerated class and is considered to be the first in a two-year language cycle that prepares students for study in the Advanced Placement Latin course. Students must show a sound understanding of Latin grammar and syntax and must display a high proficiency in vocabulary in order to proceed to Latin IV Honors. Various handouts are used throughout the year to complement grammar and literature with myth, culture, and history. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Latin IV Honors: Students read and discuss selections such as Caesar’s *Commentaries* and Ovid’s *Amores*, *Metamorphoses*, and *Ars Amatoria*. Emphasis is placed on greater depth of understanding and greater sophistication in literary analysis. In the spring, students begin some study of Vergil’s *Aeneid* and dactylic hexameter as well as read *The Aeneid* in English in order to get an introduction for AP Latin. Latin IV Honors moves at a pace appropriate for preparing students for the work of AP Latin -- Vergil and Caesar in the following year. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

Latin IV and Latin V: This class focuses on Latin literature and on connecting contemporary life, literature, and media to Classical Greece and Rome. Students read the literature of Caesar, Cicero, Vergil, Ovid, Pliny, depending on the year. (Each year teacher alternates syllabus to accommodate students who are in Latin V.) To heighten understanding of this literature, history, and culture, students read novels in English; do research projects; do creative projects. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

AP Latin (Vergil, Caesar): The required syllabus includes readings in Latin and English from Vergil's *Aeneid* and Caesar's *Commentaries of the Gallic War*. Reading articles and essays, as well as certain parts of the Vergil and the Caesar texts, and doing research projects help students identify significant themes, central characters, and key ideas in the Latin passages; students also explore the context of the writings. To develop students' ability to read Latin at sight, students will read authors such as Nepos, Cicero (but not his letters), Livy, Pliny the Younger, and Seneca the Younger rather than Tacitus or Sallust. Verse authors include Ovid, Martial, Tibullus, and Catullus rather than Horace, Juvenal, or Lucan. **Meets 4 times a week.** 


SPANISH


Spanish I: In the first year of Spanish, students are encouraged to speak the language from the first day of class. Throughout the year, emphasis is placed on the acquisition of oral and aural proficiency as well as the development of writing skills. Students will learn and review grammar that is appropriate for a first-year language course. **Meets 4 times per week.**


Spanish II and II Honors: After a complete review of grammar from Spanish I, students progress through the structure of the language, including some uses of the subjunctive. The concentration on aural-oral skills continues with focus on oral proficiency. Written work becomes longer and more sophisticated, and reading assignments are used to introduce students to cultural topics as well as more complex language. The focus is both Spain and Latin America. The inherent goal of the second-year language program is preparation for more advanced study in the language, where classes are conducted solely in Spanish. **Meets 4 times per week.**


Spanish III: By the end of third year, Spanish students have seen and practiced most elements of the Spanish language, including all of the indicative tenses, grammatical concepts, and many topics within the subjunctive. Students work on expanding their vocabulary and using idiomatic language in "authentic" classroom situations. Students study the history and culture of Mexico through literature, lecture, and slide shows. Aural-oral skills, as well as continued progress and development in reading and writing in the target language, continue to be of major importance. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Spanish III Honors: This course includes a comprehensive review of grammar and structure with a focus on improving students' speaking and writing. First-semester readings focus on Mexican culture and history, which are studied in great depth. During the second semester students read a variety of articles on topics including science and technology, the environment, history, politics, education, sports, the arts, etc. Essay writing includes cultural analysis, compare and contrast, and argumentative essays. Authentic language materials are used from a wide variety of sources. Speaking activities are done daily, and students regularly give oral presentations of 3-5 minutes. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Spanish IV: Students in this course undertake a comprehensive review of Spanish grammar with a view to taking the SAT Subject Test. The focus of this course is to enable students to become more proficient in using the target language and to expand their auditory comprehension via authentic materials and use of the language laboratory. Students refine their writing and reading skills through a survey of Spanish and Latin American literature as well as Hispanic writers in the United States. **Meets 4 times per week.** 


Spanish IV Honors: Students in this course undertake a comprehensive review of Spanish grammar with a view to taking the SAT Subject Test. In addition, students begin to focus specifically on the topics and skills required by the AP examination which students will take the following year. The focus of this course is to enable students to not only become more proficient in using the target language but to also broaden their knowledge of the social and political landscape of the Hispanic world. In addition, students expand their auditory comprehension via authentic materials and use of the language laboratory. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

Spanish V: This course is a survey of Hispanic literature, including a review of all grammar topics as well as small group and paired activities to improve speaking skills. Oral presentations of 3-10 minutes are given frequently. Fragments from longer works and complete short stories from authors such as Borges, Marquez, Neruda, and Allende expose students to the panorama of the Hispanic world. A variety of Latin American cultural themes are examined in depth. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

AP Spanish Language and Culture: This course develops advanced Spanish language skills as we focus on Latin American and Spanish culture, history, and current events. A wide variety of written and spoken sources are used to develop the speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills necessary to meet success on the AP examination. Grammar study flows naturally from work on writing and speaking. Essay writing focuses on the ability to synthesize sources, create a thesis statement, and write cleanly. The goal of speaking activities is to express ideas clearly in idiomatic Spanish, both in a conversation and presentation format. AP examination practice is ongoing throughout the year as students work to master the exam requirements. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

ELECTIVE COURSE

Prerequisite: second year of any language

Hispanic History and Culture I and II: The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding and appreciation of Hispanic people, history, culture, and literature. Sources will include books, internet sources, newspapers, guest speakers, and movies. Many topics will be examined including literature, politics, race, foods, religion, values, music, art, family, social classes, sports, and holidays. This course will be offered in two parts, one during each semester. You may sign up for both semesters or take only one or the other. It may be combined with a History semester course to make one major for the year. Semester 1 will begin with Spain's prehistory and go through the age of exploration and conquest. Semester 2 will cover the colonization and later independence movements in Latin America as well as modern art movements. *This course is open to juniors and seniors. This course may satisfy the third-year language requirement, with permission of the department head. This course satisfies the requirements for the Global Scholars Program if the student has already completed Level III of a foreign language.* **Meets 4 times per week.** 

HISTORY

The graduation requirement for the study of history is three years. Students should take World History during their freshman year. All students are required to complete Modern European History, generally taken during the sophomore year, and United States History, generally taken during the junior year. Electives for seniors explore particular historical subjects in depth, promote global understanding, and introduce social science concepts. With rare exceptions, students are not eligible to take these electives until they have completed Modern European History and United States History. World and Modern European courses offer honors sections, and United States History students can take AP history to prepare for the Advanced Placement test. Honors and AP sections of senior electives are also available. Students are placed in these sections on the basis of past performance, standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, and, when necessary, department-designed applications.

World History (and World History Honors): This course features three case studies in modern world history, focusing on the links between the past and the present and between Western and non-Western worlds. Past areas of focus have included South Africa, Cuba, China, and the Middle East, which allow students to trace themes of revolution and reform in a variety of contexts. Each unit includes its own specific research project to develop research skills, analytical thinking, and thesis-driven writing. A variety of materials and approaches are used in teaching this course, with careful attention given to developing strong writing and study skills. Use of secondary sources, primary sources, maps, literature, and videos helps students gain knowledge and stimulates curiosity about the past. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Modern European History (and Modern European History Honors): This course emphasizes major themes in modern European history. By reading both textbook and primary sources, students learn to think about major historical issues. Students are introduced to political, economic, cultural, and intellectual history and focus on how these forces have shaped the modern world. Students hone their research, analytic, and writing skills through a variety of assignments and activities. **Meets 4 times per week.**

United States History (and AP United States History): The major focus of this course is the development of the American nation as its population has diversified, its economy has matured, and its responsibilities have multiplied. The course emphasizes the analysis and interpretation of historical information. Students read primary documents as well as a basic textbook. Class discussions, lectures, and films help students integrate and appreciate what they are reading; additionally, they learn to synthesize ideas and facts by writing a major research paper. The Advanced Placement curriculum stresses various interpretations of American history and requires students to complete a substantial amount of college-level reading and writing. *Prerequisite for AP United States History: Modern European History.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Law and Society: The purpose of this class is twofold: First, to use historical and literary resources to explore the role of law in American society, and second, to prepare for participation in the annual statewide mock trial competition sponsored by the Mass Bar Association. Readings, discussions, films, and other resources will support the study of specific court cases in history and literature and will provide an introduction to legal issues prominent at different times in American history. Additionally, the mock trial portion of the class will offer a hands-on opportunity to learn about legal methods and the legal process.

This course is open to all students. This course does not count toward the graduation requirement for history.


Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit.


YEARLONG SENIOR ELECTIVE

AP United States Government and Politics: This course is a college-level introduction to politics and government in the United States and seeks to prepare students for active, informed participation in civic life. We will examine the historical and philosophical origins of the U.S. Constitution and trace the ways that government institutions, laws, and political culture have changed over time as we grapple with modern political dilemmas. Students can expect to read and discuss a wide variety of “texts,” from the Federalist Papers and Supreme Court decisions to public opinion polling data and cable news clips. We will also learn to account for bias as we interpret data and develop evidence-based arguments about political issues of personal importance to each of us. *Prerequisite: U.S. History and teacher permission.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

FIRST SEMESTER SENIOR ELECTIVES

Global Scholars Capstone I: This course is required for students interested in gaining recognition as a Thayer Academy Global Scholar. The course will encourage students to consider the meaning of “global citizenship” as we explore the role of national, multinational, and non-governmental organizations and assess their efforts in the areas of global health, education, human rights, and economic development. Together we will examine the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and evaluate the status of those rights in the world today; we will connect with Thayer graduates and discuss their experiences as “global citizens”; we will consider the limitations and the promise of NGOs as they set goals and try to improve our world; and with the support of the course teacher or another faculty mentor, students will develop an independent project to be completed in the second semester and to be presented to the community in the spring. *Application required.*

Meets 4 times per week. 

Current Issues: In this first-semester course, students will investigate topics, uncover differing views and experiences, form their own opinions, and propose solutions to today’s issues. Guided by student interest, topics will be inspired by current news and by issues that rarely make the headlines. Topics will be national and international. Examples could include politics, climate change, immigration, civil rights, global conflicts, and human rights. In the investigation process, students will tackle big questions, such as, “How did this issue begin?” and “What is our individual and collective role in addressing major issues in our changing world?” **Meets 4 times per week.** 


Economics: By introducing basic economic theory and examining both micro and macro concepts, this course provides students with an understanding of the many ways economics affects people’s lives. These theories are examined under the critical eye of the main economic ideologies, an approach designed to give students a perspective on the differences of opinion that dominate current economic discussions regarding inflation, unemployment, military spending, and consumer protection.

Meets 4 times per week.


Introduction to Psychology: In this psychology course, we will learn about some of the major areas of psychology (scientific research in psychology, learning and cognition, cognitive and social development over the lifespan, sleep and hypnosis, memory, motivation, personality, the treatment of psychological disorders) and topics in social psychology (attitudes, prejudice, conformity, obedience, attraction, antisocial behavior, prosocial behavior, etc.). Our exploration of the field will rely on nightly reading assignments, discussion, and review of both current and classic research in the field. Students will learn to be critical consumers of research studies and to understand the components involved in designing a good research study. If you are interested in gaining a more scientific and objective understanding of why we humans act the way we do, particularly in relationship to one another and in groups (the social context), this course will interest you. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Modern American Culture: This course is designed to study American Pop Culture (music, television, advertising, fashion, etc.) since 1950. Students will use a specific form of analysis called semiotics to look at various signs and symbols of American culture, with particular emphasis on race, class, and gender issues, to gain a greater understanding of each era and of cultural trends across the decades. Students will use a mixture of research, analysis, reasoning, and thoughtfulness to learn about American Pop Culture and to complete a variety of individual and group projects and papers. **Meets 4 times per week.**


SECOND SEMESTER SENIOR ELECTIVES

Global Scholars Capstone II: This course is required for students interested in gaining recognition as a Thayer Academy Global Scholar. Building upon the work undertaken in the fall component of the course, and with the support of the course teacher or another faculty mentor, students will develop an independent project to be completed in the second semester and to be presented to the community in the spring. *Application required.* **Meets 4 times per week.** 

African History and the Afro-American Experience: This course emphasizes the social, economic, and cultural history of Africa from ancient to modern time. The study of representative events and issues from selected areas of Africa enables students to develop an understanding of the complexities of African history and provides the background to study effectively the Afro-American experience. The latter portion of the course concentrates on nineteenth- and twentieth-century figures, events, and issues. Use is made of novels, biographies, monographs, and films. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Art History: This course introduces students to the history of world art and architecture from Ancient Art through Impressionism. The course will include the study of materials and production. In addition, we will address issues such as gender, culture, identity, power, religion, and the reception of the art (both ancient and modern). We will examine the purpose of art in different cultures and the increasing emphasis placed on art's critical function in society, both culturally and politically. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

Introduction to Psychology: In this psychology course, we will learn about some of the major areas of psychology (scientific research in psychology, learning and cognition, cognitive and social development over the lifespan, sleep and hypnosis, memory, motivation, personality, the treatment of psychological disorders) and topics in social psychology (attitudes, prejudice, conformity, obedience, attraction, antisocial behavior, prosocial behavior, etc.). Our exploration of the field will rely on nightly reading assignments, discussion, and review of both current and classic research in the field. Students will learn to be critical consumers of research studies and to understand the components involved in designing a good research study. If you are interested in gaining a more scientific and objective understanding of why we humans act the way we do, particularly in relationship to one another and in groups (the social context), this course will interest you. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Resolving Global Conflicts: Should the United States intervene in Ukraine? How should the U.S. respond to the threat of ISIS? What role does the UN or the United States have when a group like Boko Haram kidnaps students in Nigeria? What can we learn from past crises, and how can we apply historical lessons to current global conflicts? In this course, we will examine how leaders and organizations have tried to resolve global issues in the past and apply these lessons to current global conflicts. By using a case study approach, students will learn about the historical roots of conflicts and will assess the challenges in resolving them in today's world. Depending on current events next spring, topics might include war, religion, economics, the environment, healthcare, gender, or children. Our examinations will rely upon a variety of sources, such as readings, films, and the internet. **Meets 4 times per week.** 

Sports and Society: In this course, students will explore the relationship between sports and society in the United States. Students will consider the importance of sports to local, regional, and national identity; the concepts of the hero, antihero, and role model; issues of racial and gender equality; positive and negative values promoted through sports; and connections among sports, religion, and politics. The course will depend upon a wide range of sources, including excerpts, articles, feature films, documentaries, and works of fiction. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Film and History: This second semester senior course delves into the questions of how movies explore and reflect the ideas, values, and conflicts of their era. Students will examine the intersection of film history and major historical moments, treating film as a resource that helps us understand culture and society. Topics may include: the Great Depression; the Nazi regime's use of film propaganda and the U.S. film industry's own cinematic propaganda during World War II; the House on Anti-American Activities and the Hollywood Blacklist; Civil Rights and the black power movement; women's rights and the Me Too movement. Students will be exposed to a variety of film genres from a wide span of film history, including comedy, drama, documentary, science fiction, and the western. **Meets 4 times per week.**

MATHEMATICS

Three years of mathematics are required for graduation. Students who have successfully completed Algebra I in the eighth grade complete PreCalculus in the junior year and then are eligible for the study of Calculus during their senior year. Students who take Pre-Algebra in the eighth grade will complete two years of Algebra and one year of Geometry by the end of the junior year. The department offers courses at different levels of difficulty, including Advanced Placement, so that each student receives a course of study suited to his or her background, interest, and ability. There are significant differences in the presentation, pace, content, and amount of independent work required in the different levels of each course. Therefore, it is important that students (with the advice and recommendation of the Math Department) carefully select the proper level of each course. The use of technology, especially the graphing calculator, will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the four-year program, especially in the PreCalculus and Calculus courses.

REQUIRED COURSES

Algebra I and Algebra I Fundamentals: Algebra I involves the study of the Real Number System. The properties and the basic operations of real numbers are introduced early in the curriculum, and the solution of linear equations is emphasized. In the latter half of the year, functions and relations are introduced, and the solution of rational equations and systems of equations are studied. If time permits, the solution of quadratic and radical equations is included. **Algebra I meets 4 times per week; Algebra I Fundamentals meets 5 times per week.**

Algebra II Honors: Algebra II includes the study of linear equations in two and three variables, an introduction to functions, linear inequalities in two variables, polynomial operations, factoring of higher order polynomials, laws of exponents, radicals, solving quadratic equations and quadratic systems, complex numbers, conics, exponential and logarithmic functions, and an introduction to sequences and series. *Prerequisite: Algebra I.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Algebra II: Algebra II includes the study of linear equations in two and three variables, an introduction to functions, linear and quadratic functions, linear inequalities in two variables, polynomial operations, rational expressions and functions, factoring of higher order polynomials, laws of exponents, radicals, solving quadratic equations and quadratic systems, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices, and an introduction to sequences and series. *Prerequisite: Algebra I.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Algebra II Fundamentals: Algebra II Fundamentals includes the study of linear equations in two and three variables, systems of equations, matrices, an introduction to functions, quadratic functions, linear inequalities in one and two variables, absolute value equations and inequalities, laws of exponents, polynomial operations, factoring of higher order polynomials, rational expressions and equations, radical expressions and equations, solving quadratic equations, logarithms, and sequences and series. *This course is not recommended for those students who wish to take PreCalculus during their junior or senior years. Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra I Fundamentals.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Geometry Honors, Geometry, and Geometry Fundamentals: This course provides a thorough study of the main topics of plane and solid Euclidean geometry. Three-dimensional concepts are included in the curriculum. The course also emphasizes the meaning and use of deductive reasoning and the formal requirements of writing a logical geometric proof. In addition, numerical application problems from such topics as areas and volumes, measurement of angles and arcs, and proportions are studied. Upon completion of two years of algebra and one year of geometry, students will be prepared to take the SAT Subject Test, Math Level 1. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II recommended.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

ELECTIVE COURSES

Foundations of PreCalculus: This course is designed for students who wish to continue their study of mathematics and plan to study math or math-related disciplines in college. The curriculum includes: linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions, a thorough introduction to trigonometry (including right triangle and circle trigonometry), trigonometric equations, fundamental trigonometric identities, the Law of Sines, the Law of Cosines, and operations on complex numbers. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Functions and Statistics: This course is designed to strengthen students' algebraic background while, at the same time, introducing or extending the core functions of PreCalculus: linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Interspersed with the development of these functions will be an introduction to some of the major ideas of statistics, providing a head start to students who may be required to take a Statistics course in college. This course will introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Topics will include experimental design, sampling, graphing, summarizing data, and an introduction to probability. **Meets 4 times per week.**

PreCalculus: This full-year course is intended for interested math students who may study introductory Calculus during their senior year or in college. The curriculum covers the elementary functions and their properties and a comprehensive study of trigonometry. In this course, students develop the tools that are necessary to succeed in a Calculus course. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II Honors or Algebra II, and Geometry.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

PreCalculus Honors: This course is intended for students who have demonstrated an aptitude and interest in mathematics and who are likely to study AP Calculus during the senior year. Since the concept of a function is crucial to the further study of mathematics, functions and their properties form part of the core curriculum. Polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric equations and their applications, geometric sequences and series, and an introduction to differential Calculus complete the core. In addition, some or all of the following topics are included: polar coordinates and complex numbers, combinations, probability, and review for SAT Subject Tests, Math Level 2. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

AP Statistics: This course follows the recommendations of the Committee on Mathematics of the Advanced Placement Program. It introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. First-semester topics include interpreting, summarizing, comparing, and exploring distributions of data and methods of data collection such as surveys, experimental study, and observational study. Second semester topics explore statistical inference through confidence intervals and tests of significance. Course supplements include newspaper and magazine articles. Students are challenged to think beyond the equations to justify, explain, interpret, and infer from data and subsequently communicate an appropriate and complete conclusion. Students are prepared to take the Advanced Placement exam. *This course is open to seniors. Prerequisites: Must have completed any level of PreCalculus or be concurrently enrolled in PreCalculus or higher. Must have strong reading/writing skills and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Topics in Calculus: This course is intended for students who have successfully completed the Foundations of Precalculus course. It does not prepare students for either of the Calculus AP exams. It is appropriate for those who plan to continue the study of Calculus in college and/or who may need this background for courses in applied sciences. This course starts with a focused review of the major functions and concepts of Precalculus and then branches into the curriculum of the Calculus course (delineated below). The amount of the Calculus curriculum covered by this course in a given year will depend on the strength of the class in that year. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Foundations of PreCalculus, and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Calculus: This course is intended for students who have successfully completed the Precalculus course. It does not prepare students for either of the Calculus AP exams. It is appropriate for those who plan to continue the study of Calculus in college and/or who may need this background for courses in applied sciences. The curriculum introduces the fundamental concepts of Calculus, including the ideas of functions, limits, continuity and standard differentiation formulas and their applications. Other topics covered are the derivatives of trigonometric functions, the natural logarithm, the exponential functions, and basic methods of integration. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, PreCalculus, and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

AP Calculus AB: This course follows the recommendations of the Committee on Mathematics of the Advanced Placement Program. The ideas of intervals, neighborhoods, functions, and limits are carefully explored leading to rigorous development of the standard differentiation formulas. Through applications of derivatives to problems in maxima and minima, the student gains experience in the power of calculus. Students are prepared to take the Advanced Placement exam. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, PreCalculus, and permission of the department.* **Meets 5 times per week.**

AP Calculus BC: This course follows the recommendations of the Committee on Mathematics of the Advanced Placement program. This course covers all of the topics taught in the AP Calculus AB course as well as the following additional topics: parametric, polar and vector functions (and their derivatives), slope fields, Euler's method, convergence of improper integrals and series, applications of integrals, and Taylor and Maclaurin series. *Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, PreCalculus, and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Multivariable Calculus: This course is intended for students who have successfully completed AP Calculus BC. Taught at an undergraduate college level, this full-year course provides a thorough study of the calculus of functions of several variables. Topics include lines, planes and surfaces in \mathbf{R}^3 , vector-valued functions and TNB frame, partial differentiation, Clairaut's Theorem, gradients, Lagrange multipliers, cylindrical and spherical coordinates, double and triple integrals and applications. The course continues with vector fields, line integrals, surface integrals, Green's Theorem, Stokes' Theorem and the Divergence Theorem. An introduction to Linear Algebra may also be included as time permits. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Calculus BC and permission of the department.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

SCIENCE

All students are required to take three years of science. The program of studies is designed to offer an organized sequence of experiences that will help students develop an understanding and appreciation of the physical world of which they are a part. Full-year courses are offered in Integrated Science, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics at different levels of difficulty so that each student receives a course of study that is commensurate with his or her background, ability, and interest. Advanced Placement courses in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, and Physics are offered for students with a strong interest and ability in science, and electives are offered in interdisciplinary areas.

Integrated Science I: This full-year course introduces ninth grade students to concepts in science with an emphasis on hands-on projects and data analysis through a theme-based approach. Topics covered are in biology, physics, and chemistry. It is a skill-building course that is the introduction to the laboratory sciences. **Meets 4 times per week.**

Integrated Science I Honors: This full-year course introduces ninth grade students to concepts in science with an emphasis on hands-on projects and data analysis through a theme-based approach. Topics covered are in biology, physics, and chemistry. It is a skill-building course that is the introduction to the laboratory sciences. It is more mathematically rigorous and goes at a faster pace than the Integrated Science I course. *Students are accepted into the Honors level based on placement in Algebra II - Honors.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

Integrated Science II: This full-year course is a continuation of Integrated Science I. Students will work with scientific concepts through a theme-based approach. Emphasis will be on modeling and data analysis. It is an application of the skills of scientific inquiry. **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

Integrated Science II Honors: This full-year course is a continuation of Integrated Science I. Students will work with scientific concepts through a theme-based approach. Emphasis will be on modeling and data analysis. It is an application of the skills of scientific inquiry. It is more mathematically rigorous and goes at a faster pace than the Integrated Science II course. *Students are accepted into the Honors level based on previous performance in science courses and teacher recommendation.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

Biology: This full-year course is designed to meet the needs of college preparatory work in biology and acquaint students with the diverse world of living organisms and their interrelation. The course combines lectures, demonstrations, and weekly laboratory work. *This course is open to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra II.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

Quantitative Chemistry: This full-year course offers a rigorous college preparatory background in chemistry. The emphasis is on a thorough introduction to inorganic chemistry with a mathematical description. Lectures and discussion sessions are supplemented with laboratory exercises and demonstrations. *This course is open to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra II.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

Physics: This full-year course introduces students to the basic concepts in physics. Although introduced conceptually, this course is mathematically intensive. Students will study simple harmonic motion, waves, sound, light, geometric optics, electricity and magnetism, and mechanics. The course consists of lectures, class demonstrations, and weekly laboratory exercises. *This course is open to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra II.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

ELECTIVE COURSES

Grades 10-12

Robotics I: This full-year course introduces students to basic concepts of robotics. Students will focus on the specific programming skill sets required to engineer a working robot: project management, mechanical design, and programming. Students will also develop skills in problem-solving, novel idea generation, and communications. *This course does not fulfill the science requirement for graduation.* **Meets 2 times per week.**

Robotics II, III: This full-year course continues with the themes of Robotics I while incorporating more engineering design ideas with robotics. Students will expand on the programming and design required for a variety of robotic tasks. *Prerequisite: Students must have completed Robotics I for II and II for III. This course does not fulfill the science requirement for graduation.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Collaborative Design Lab: This one semester or full-year course introduces students to group work in problem-solving and independent thinking. Small teams of students will be assigned a variety of tasks where they will have to determine the best course of action to accomplish their goal. Using a variety of tools and materials, teams will strategize, create, design, invent, and learn. *This course does not fulfill the science requirement for graduation. It is a pass/fail course.* **Meets 2 times per week.**

Independent Summer Research: This class introduces students to actual research in scientific laboratories in the Boston area with the goal of working in a lab for six to eight weeks during the summer. Students will meet 2 times per week to review and present current research from periodicals and work on research projects at school. Eight times through the year students will visit labs in and around Boston. By May, they will apply to work as an intern with one of the labs for the summer. *This course is an elective for juniors. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Integrated Science I and Integrated Science II, and/or permission from department head. This course does not fulfill the science requirement for graduation. It is a pass/fail course.* **Meets 2 times per week.**

Grades 11-12

Anatomy and Physiology: Most of us have a natural curiosity about our bodies. This full-year course strives to answer some of these questions using readings, discussions, and activities. The emphasis will be on the structure and function of body systems and their relationships to one another. *This course is open to juniors and seniors, but seniors take precedence over junior applicants.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Astronomy: This class will help students gain a greater appreciation for the night sky and the evolution of planets, stars, and galaxies. Students will be introduced to ancient methods of observation and also utilize some of the most modern techniques. A weekly lab held at the Cahall Observatory provides a practical appreciation for observing and studying the Cosmos. Topics include comparative planetology, the sun, star formation, supernovae, black holes, and the origin of the universe. *This course is open to juniors and seniors, but seniors take precedence over junior applicants.* **Meets 4 times per week, 3 days/week in classroom and one evening/week at the Cahall Observatory.**

Astrophotography: This class will help students explore astronomy, science, and the art of photography. Students will learn the process that goes into astrophotography, including planning, taking, and post-processing of images through software. Subjects will be based on seasonal conditions and student interest. These may include, for example, landscape Milky Way photography, creating star-trails, planetary and lunar imaging, sunspots, and deep sky objects such as galaxies or nebulae through the use of Cahall Observatory's telescopes. Students should be prepared to spend some class time at night both at the observatory and other off-campus locations. *This course does not fulfill the science requirement for graduation.*

Meets 2 times per week.

Earth Science: The Physics of Natural Phenomena. The purpose of this full-year course is to help students develop an appreciation and understanding of How Earth Works. We will study major topics in Geology and Meteorology including mapping, minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, mountain building, erosion, weather, and climate. We'll explore, in depth, the cause and effect of natural hazards including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, floods, landslides, hurricanes, tornadoes, and climate change. The teacher also hopes to introduce students to enough beautiful places (e.g., National Parks and Forests) that they can't wait to go out and visit some of them! This course is designed to be very "visual" (extensive use of media) and features plenty of hands-on projects and activities. *This course is open to juniors and seniors, but seniors take precedence over junior applicants.* **Meets 4 times per week.**


Marine Science: This full-year course explores the world of water through a variety of lectures, labs, papers, and numerous other activities. We look at the biological, chemical, physical, and geological interactions of every aspect of life on our planet, from tide pools to the deep abyss. Units of study include biology, chemistry, geology, current events, navigation, exploration, deep sea, aquaculture, and more. *This course is open to juniors and seniors, but seniors take precedence over junior applicants.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Organic Chemistry: This course is a unique opportunity for students to be introduced to the basics of organic chemistry. Organic substances include biochemical molecules that make up all living things, materials such as wood, plastics, Styrofoam and rubber, gasoline, oil, tires, natural and synthetic fibers, and medicines. The topics covered in this course will focus on the classification, structure, and function of organic compounds. Students will learn to use organic nomenclature, analyze structures for isomers, observe different physical and chemical properties, and study chemical reactions and mechanisms. Substantial time will be spent working in the laboratory, building models, and running experiments. *This course is open to juniors and seniors, but seniors take precedence over junior applicants.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

Systems and Structures: This full-year course is designed to delve more deeply into a variety of physical and human systems through inquiry and the Engineering Design Process. Two key aspects of this course will be designing and building large-scale projects and the leadership and management involved in a team environment. Students interested in this course should possess strong quantitative skills, a creative bent, the desire and ability to solve problems in groups, and a keen interest in the physical sciences. Many of the class activities are team-based projects; therefore, good attendance is essential and will constitute a significant portion of the student's grade. *This course is open to juniors and seniors, but seniors take precedence over junior applicants.* **Meets 4 times per week.**

AP Biology: This full-year course covers the topics in the AP curriculum and includes advanced studies of biochemistry, cell structure and function, cellular energy, genetics with a strong emphasis on the molecular biology of the gene, evolution, and taxonomic classification. This class will prepare students for the AP Exam in Biology in May. Students are expected to take this exam as the culmination of the course. *Students must fill out an application for acceptance into AP Biology. Some summer preparation is expected as well.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

AP Chemistry: This full-year course covers the topics in the AP curriculum and prepares students for the AP Exam in May. Topics include basic atomic structure with quantum theory of the atom, chemical reactions, thermochemistry molecular geometry, reaction types - acid/base, oxidation/reduction, precipitations - stoichiometry and equilibrium, kinetics, and thermodynamics. Students are expected to take the Chemistry AP Exam as the culmination of the course. *Students must fill out an application for acceptance into AP Chemistry. Some summer preparation is expected as well.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.**

AP Environmental Science: Serious environmental problems face the next generation of decision makers and will probably force us to make drastic changes in the decades to come. The goal of this full-year course is to use the students' knowledge of biology, chemistry, and physics to deepen their understanding of current environmental issues. The course will also develop the critical thinking and analytical skills that are necessary to weigh the socioeconomic costs and benefits of this type of decision-making. Research and data collection will be a large part of the class and students' own interests will be explored. This class prepares students for the AP Exam in Environmental Science in May. Students are expected to take this exam as the culmination of the course. *Students must fill out an application for acceptance into AP Environmental Science. Some summer preparation is expected as well.* **Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.** 

AP Physics C - Mechanics: This course is a rigorous lab and calculus-based physics course that covers the Mechanics portion for the AP Exam. Topics include: kinematics, Newton's laws, energy, momentum, rotational motion, simple harmonic motion, and gravity. Students are expected to take the AP Exam as the culmination of the course. *Students must fill out an application for acceptance into AP Physics C - Mechanics. Some summer preparation is expected as well.*

Meets 4 times per week with one double-period lab.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Health and Wellness curriculum is an integral part of the total Thayer experience. The program is designed to give students the informational background they need to make responsible decisions when it comes to living a healthy, active, safe and productive lifestyle. The Health and Wellness Department provides each student with an opportunity to be exposed to and experience an array of health and fitness related courses.

Health and Wellness Courses Required for Graduation:

Freshman: Freshman Health & Wellness, Fitness Concepts (both required, full-year)

Sophomore: Sophomore Health & Wellness (required, full-year)

Junior: Decisions (required, first or second semester)

Senior: Senior CPR Certification (required, first semester)

HEALTH & WELLNESS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Freshman Health and Wellness: This course is designed to provide updated health-related information, which will help guide students in making positive and informed decisions regarding their present and future well-being. A variety of topics are presented and typically fall under three components: Unhealthy and Risky Behaviors, Human Sexuality and Healthy Relationships, Mental and Emotional Health. The class format is discussion-based with media presentations, outside speakers, group presentations, and activities. **Freshman requirement, full-year, meets 1 time per week.**

Freshman Fitness Concepts: Students learn how one's body responds to various types of exercise by participating in fitness circuits that focus on muscular fitness, cardiovascular capacity, and flexibility. Students discuss the importance of proper technique and following basic principles in order to achieve maximum benefits. Throughout the year, students will work together and participate in various team-building activities and team games. These activities provide students with an opportunity to work on communication skills, decision-making, cooperation, problem-solving, patience, and learning to support and encourage.

Freshman requirement, full-year, meets 1 time per week.

Sophomore Health and Wellness: Lifetime Skills and Activities: This course introduces students to a variety of topics and experiences that will demonstrate how to live a sustainable, balanced lifestyle. Topics include but are not limited to: Nutrition basics, evaluating individual dietary needs, making informed decisions, and hands-on cooking; moral and physical decision making; discussing complicated issues that teens are faced with – consent, underage drinking, vaping, social media, etc. Physical lifetime activities; archery, racquet sports, golf, yard games, and volleyball, among others.

Sophomore requirement, full-year, meets 1 time per week.

Junior Decisions: The objective of this course is twofold: First, it is to provide juniors with critical information so they can better anticipate consequences, evaluate risk, and make informed decisions. At the end of the junior year, students will hopefully have a better understanding of themselves – on both a personal level and within the constructs of our society. We will explore and discuss topics that include mindfulness, morality, consent, sexual assault, relationships, constructions of gender and sexual identity, sexual health, mental health, alcohol, and drugs. Second, it is to prepare juniors for the college process. They will meet with their college counselors in the spring during scheduled class time.

Junior requirement, first or second semester, meets 1 time per week.

Senior CPR Certification: Seniors participate in an American Red Cross class where they will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the course. At the time the course is offered, students already certified in Adult & Pediatric CPR/AED and Basic First Aid will be exempt. **Senior requirement, first semester, meets 1 time per week.**

ELECTIVE COURSES

Grades 11-12

Sports Medicine: The course will include classwork and hands-on application in the areas of prevention, evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation of sports injuries. Students learn the essential components of an effective sports medicine program and the different career options available. Students will utilize video analysis and simulation in order to learn event preparation and emergency management of common injuries. Students will have an overview of anatomy, physiology, and kinetics as they apply to the science of sports medicine. **Full-year, meets 2 times per week.**

Sports Management: Provides an overview of management and administration pertaining to all levels of athletics. Focuses on basic theories of management and administration in athletic organizations. Addresses planning, sports marketing, scheduling, SWOT Analysis, Corporate Social Responsibility, and coaching philosophies required to run a successful athletics program. Offers students an opportunity to learn and to develop communication management skills with an emphasis placed on decision-making. **First semester, meets 1 time per week.**

SPECIAL INTEREST

Yearbook Publication, Journalism and Design: In this full year class, students plan, design, create, and publish the *Black & Orange*, Thayer Academy's yearbook. Students are assigned various tasks, such as designing page layouts using a software program similar to Adobe InDesign; writing stories and captions for photos; selecting photos; and interviewing students, teachers, coaches, staff, and administrators. Yearbook staff photographers attend school events and take photos specifically for the book. In this class, students will gain journalistic experience and have a chance to delve into their creative side. Students also will learn how to make editorial decisions and selections based on the book's theme -- always seeking to report the life of the school as accurately as possible. The end product, which is essentially a record of a year in the life of our school, is placed in the archives as a permanent record in Thayer's history. *This course is an Elective, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.* **Full-year, meets 2 times per week for 1/2 credit or 4 times per week for 1 credit.**

Thayer Academy Upper School Course Offerings 2019-2020

Arts

Freshman Arts
Graphic Design I, II, III
Web Design
Painting and Drawing I, II, III
Photography I, II, III
Pottery I, II, III
Film I, II, III
Advanced Acting
Dance Styles/Movement
Dancing for Dudes
Concert Choir
Instrumental Ensemble
Jazz Combos
Private Lessons

Computer Science

Foundations of Learning
Programming I (C++)
AP Computer Science (Java)
Data Structures in Java Honors

English

English I, I Honors
English I Workshop
English II, II Honors
Language and Style
American Masterworks
AP English: Literature and Composition
AP English: Language and Composition
Senior Seminar and Senior Seminar Honors*
Advanced Composition/*Voice*
Crossing Borders: Growing Up
Crossing Borders: Journeys and Transformations
Crossing Borders: Global Journeys*
Rag and Bone Shop: Poetry
Scene to Screen*
Newsworthy

Foreign Language

Mandarin Chinese I, II, III
Mandarin Chinese IV*
French I
French II, II Honors
French III, III Honors
French IV, IV Honors*
French V*
AP French Language and Culture*
Advanced French Language and Culture*
Latin I
Latin II, II Honors
Latin III, III Honors
Latin IV, IV Honors*
Latin V*
AP Latin (Vergil, Caesar)*
Spanish I
Spanish II, II Honors
Spanish III, III Honors
Spanish IV, IV Honors*
Spanish V*
AP Spanish Language and Culture*
Hispanic History and Culture I, II**

History

World History, World History Honors
Modern European History, Modern European History Honors
United States History
AP United States History
Law and Society
AP United States Government and Politics
Global Scholars Capstone I*
Current Issues*
Economics
Introduction to Psychology
Modern American Culture
Global Scholars Capstone II*
African History and the Afro-American Experience
Art History*
Resolving Global Conflicts*
Sports and Society
Film and History

*Course satisfies the Global Scholars Program requirement. 

** Course satisfies the Global Scholars Program requirement if student has completed Level III of a Foreign Language. 

Mathematics

Algebra I
Algebra I Fundamentals
Algebra II, II Honors
Algebra II Fundamentals
Geometry, Geometry Honors
Geometry Fundamentals
Foundations of PreCalculus
Functions and Statistics
PreCalculus, PreCalculus Honors
AP Statistics
Topics in Calculus
Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
Multivariable Calculus

Science

Integrated Science I, I Honors
Integrated Science II, II Honors
Biology
Quantitative Chemistry
Physics
Robotics I, II, III
Collaborative Design Lab
Independent Summer Research
Anatomy and Physiology
Astronomy
Astrophotography
Earth Science
Marine Science
Organic Chemistry
Systems and Structures
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental Science*
AP Physics C - Mechanics

Health & Wellness

Freshman Health and Wellness
Freshman Fitness Concepts
Sophomore Health and Wellness
Junior Decisions
Senior CPR Certification
Sports Medicine
Sports Management

Special Interest

Yearbook Publication, Journalism and Design

*Course satisfies the Global Scholars Program requirement. 

NAME: _____ ADVISOR: _____

UPPER SCHOOL PLANNING GUIDE

20 Credits Req. for Grad. Credits Req.	ENG.	LANG.	HIST.	MATH	SCI.	ARTS	ELEC.	H&W	TOTAL
	4	3	3	3	3	1	3	5 courses	
	Courses	Cr.	Courses	Cr.	Courses	Cr.	Courses	Cr.	
9								Health ____ PE ____	
10								Nutr./CI/LA ____	
11								Decisions ____	
12								CPR ____	
Total Credits									