

WILLOWS ACADEMY
2021-22
**HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE GUIDE**



WILLOWS
ACADEMY

**Course offerings are subject to change based on enrollment, staffing, or other needs of the school.*



Willows Academy exists for one purpose: to help cooperating parents form the characters of their daughters so that the girls grow up to become competent, responsible professional women, who raise strong families, and live by Christian moral principles as taught by the Catholic Church. Every aspect of the school is devoted to this end.

Willows Academy is an Independent College Prep School for girls inspired by the teachings of the Catholic Church and the spirituality of Opus Dei.

In collaboration with parents, Willows aims to educate the whole person. We weave together an all honors liberal arts curriculum, character development, one on one mentoring, and an ideal of service, to create a vibrant environment that graduates confident young women who will make a difference in the world.

Our graduate:

- Possesses a well-formed conscience rooted in the natural moral law, and for those who choose to do so, in the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Displays moral and ethical behavior in all aspects of daily life.
- Is confident and disciplined.
- Shows proficiency in all academic areas to enter and succeed in college.
- Possesses knowledge and skills in the arts and athletics.
- Utilizes technology effectively to solve problems.
- Works cooperatively and successfully with others.
- Communicates effectively, thinks creatively, and is a life-long learner.
- Adjusts to a changing world and works through obstacles.
- Treats every individual as a person created in the image and likeness of God.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Curriculum Overview	4
High School Course of Study	4
High School Graduation Requirements	5
English	7
Fine Arts	9
Music	9
Visual Art	10
History	12
Mathematics.....	14
Physical Education	16
Science	17
Technology.....	18
Theology & Philosophy	19
World Languages	21

	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
English	Honors Intro to Literary Studies & Writing	Honors World Literature & Writing	Honors American Literature & Writing	Honors British Literature & Writing
			Accelerated American Literature & Writing	AP English Literature & Composition
Journalism (Elective)				
World Languages	Honors Spanish I Honors Spanish II	Honors Spanish II	Honors Spanish III	Honors Spanish IV or AP Spanish IV
	Honors French II		Honors French III	Honors French IV or AP French IV
Science	Honors Biology	Honors Chemistry	Honors Physics	Honors Anatomy & Physiology
				AP Chemistry
History	Honors Global Civilizations	Honors Contemporary Issues & Intro to Economics	American Studies	Honors European History
			AP U.S. History	AP European History
Theology & Philosophy	Honors Faith and Revelation	Honors Blessed Trinity & the Blessed Virgin Mary, The Sacraments	Honors Moral Theology	Honors Theology 12: <i>Mulieris Fortis</i>
				Philosophy (Elective)
Physical Education	PE 9	High School Physical Education		
Fine Arts Electives	Art I	Art II	Honors Art III	Honors Art IV
	Voice/Music Theory	Advanced Art		
	Digital Photography			
	High School Choir			
	Chamber Choir			
	Handbells			
	Instrumental Ensemble			
College Prep	High School Skills 9	Health 10	Junior Seminar (Sem 2)	Senior Seminar

Math	Freshman	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
<i>Honors I</i>	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	PreCalculus AP Statistics
<i>Honors II</i>	Geometry	Algebra II	PreCalculus	AP Calculus AB or BC AP Statistics
<i>Accelerated</i>	Algebra II	PreCalculus	AP Calculus BC	AP Statistics
AP Computer Science Principles (Elective or Senior Math Credit)				

Math placements for each ensuing year are based upon the combination of course grades, standardized & placement tests, teacher recommendations, and department policies. For a student to move into a different course sequence, and/or for a student to enter or remain in AP courses, she must meet all criteria, expectations, and policy set by the Willows math department. Summer school may be used for a student to advance into a different course sequence if all criteria are met and prior approval before enrollment; summer school courses do not count towards the 4-year course requirement.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Department	Courses
English	4
Foreign Language	4
Mathematics	4
Social Studies	4
Science	4
Theology/Philosophy	4
Physical Education	1
Electives (Art, Music, Tech)	1 elective required each semester

*Classes must be taken at Willows in order to receive credit. A school administrator must approve, in advance, of special circumstances, e.g. study abroad.

*The Administration may choose to allow a High School student who has earned a failing semester grade in a course to recover credit up to three times (a maximum of 1.5 credits) at an approved institution.

After her fourth failing semester grade (in any subject or combination of subjects), a High School Student's academic progress will be reviewed by the Administration to determine whether she will be eligible to enroll for the next semester. Willows reserves the right to dismiss a student with four failing semester grades either at the end of the semester or at the end of that academic year.

Additional Requirements

Constitution Tests:	In order to graduate, students are required by the State of Illinois to pass tests on the Constitution of the United States and on the Constitution of Illinois.
Economics:	Topics required by the State of Illinois are covered in the math and history curricula.
Civics:	Topics required by the State of Illinois are covered in the english and history curricula.
Health:	Students must complete the required work in science and P.E. classes to meet the state requirement for graduation.
Service:	Fifteen hours of service per year are required.
Summer Reading:	Four units of summer reading are required for graduation. One unit is earned each summer by successfully completing that year's summer reading assignment.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS BY DEPARTMENT

Course descriptions include a list of texts used in each course, the level at which the course is offered (i.e. honors, accelerated, AP), the course weight, and the grade multiplier for weighted GPAs (weighted GPAs are on transcripts only).

Weight:

Weight is used to determine a student's grade point average (GPA). Courses that meet five days a week are at the standard weight of 1.0; courses that do not meet daily may have a weight of 0.75, 0.25, or 0.125.

Grade Multiplier:

The grade multiplier is used to generate a "weighted GPA"; it is the number used to multiply each semester grade. The purpose of the grade multiplier is to give students a numerical advantage for grades earned in higher-level courses or more challenging learning experiences. The grade multiplier is only used to determine the weighted GPA found on a student's transcript. The following multiplier is used:

Honors courses: 1.025

Accelerated courses: 1.05

AP courses: 1.10

Transcript:

A transcript is an official record of the classes, grades, credits and weighted GPA that a student earned at The Willows Academy.

English

The curriculum of the English Department is designed to expose students to a comprehensive collection of literature in its various forms, including poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction, essays, historical documents, and speeches. During the course of their studies students 1) refine reading and comprehension skills; 2) analyze literature for style, technique and themes; 3) connect literature to themselves and contemporary society; and 4) recognize the importance of those pieces of literature throughout the ages.

We are able to accomplish these goals also by creating a curriculum where the study of writing begins in sixth grade and progresses through twelfth grade. By setting specific goals to be reached by the end of each year, the students will develop necessary skills in a logical sequence. From descriptive paragraphs to analytical essays, the students will be able to write adequately in all modes.

Honors Introduction to Literary Studies & Writing

9th Grade

Introduction to Literary Studies exposes the student to various types of literature, specifically drama, short story, poetry, novel, and epic poetry. Students learn to improve their critical thinking through crafting interpretative and expository essays, poetry, persuasive essays, and personal narratives. The course also provides opportunities for students to develop their formal speaking abilities.

Textbook: Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*. Penguin Classics, 2002.
Homer. *The Odyssey*. Trans. Robert Fitzgerald. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1998.
Lee, Harper. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Grand Central Publishing, 1988.
Shakespeare, William. *Romeo and Juliet*. Folger Shakespeare Library, 1996.
Prentice Hall Literature (Gold Level). Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors World Literature & Writing

10th Grade

World Literature is a survey course which traces the chronological development of literature in the western and eastern hemispheres spanning from ancient times to the twenty-first century. The course includes a review of essential grammatical principles, essay writing, and vocabulary improvement drills. Additionally, students will decipher subtext and engage in active text interpretation. Students further explore the art of persuasive, comparative, narrative, and research essays.

Textbook: *The Language of Literature: World Literature*. McDougal Littell, 2007.
Alighieri, Dante. *The Divine Comedy: The Inferno*. Penguin Books, Inc., 1999.
Orczy, Baroness Emmuska. *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.
Remarque, Erich Maria. *All Quiet on the Western Front*. Ballantine, 1987
Shakespeare, William. *Macbeth*. Folgers Shakespeare Library, 1996..
Vergil. *The Aeneid*. Bantam Classics, 1981.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors American Literature & Writing

11th Grade

Students in Honors American Literature study literary criticism and rhetoric while tracing the development of American literature from the colonial period through the twentieth century. Drawing on works of fiction, poetry, drama, and autobiographical accounts, students examine the cultural and historical roots of American Literature. They consider the conflicts and complementarities between freedom and responsibility, friendship and solitude, and the individual and the natural world. Frequent analytical writing assignments, based on close reading of texts, encourage students to examine the issues which link the works of the course. Scaffolded assignments help students focus on core writing skills while considering the essential questions of the course. Students develop sound research practices and learn to create scholarly and well-researched arguments that

effectively integrate evidence. Writing workshops, seminar discussions, and public speaking assignments are key features of this course.

Textbook: *The Practical Writer*. Heinle, 2002.
Prentice Hall Literature: The American Experience. Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007.
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*. Scribner, 2004
Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Scarlett Letter*. Penguin Books, USA, 1999.
Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.
Twain, Mark. *Huckleberry Finn*.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Accelerated American Literature & Writing

11th Grade

Accelerated American Literature offers students accelerated training in literary criticism and rhetoric. They trace the development of American literature from the colonial period through the twentieth century while writing, discussing, and presenting connections between this literature and their lives. Drawing on works of fiction, poetry, drama, and autobiographical accounts, students examine the cultural and historical roots of American Literature. They consider the conflicts and complementarities between freedom and responsibility, friendship and solitude, and the individual and the natural world. Frequent analytical writing assignments, based on close reading of texts, encourage students to examine the issues which link the works of the course. Students also develop sound research practices and learn to create scholarly and well-researched arguments that effectively integrate evidence. Writing workshops, seminar discussions, and public speaking assignments are key features of this course. The course offers a review of essential grammatical principles and essay writing skills that will prepare students to take the AP English Language and Composition exam if they so choose.

Textbook: *The Practical Writer*. Heinle, 2002.
Prentice Hall Literature: The American Experience. Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007.
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*. Scribner, 2004
Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Scarlett Letter*. Penguin Books, USA, 1999.
Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.
Twain, Mark. *Huckleberry Finn*.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.05

Honors British Literature & Writing

12th Grade

In Honors British Literature, students explore the transformative power of the written word as they trace the development of British Literature from the heroic tradition of the Anglo-Saxons to contemporary works. Students develop an understanding of what distinguishes the British literary tradition, and they have opportunities to draw cross-Atlantic connections within the broader Anglo-American literary culture. Students receive direct instruction in writing, grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary. Assignments include analytical essays, personal narratives, poetry imitations, and other creative pieces. Writing workshops provide frequent opportunities for students to improve the clarity and precision of their work.

Textbooks: *Prentice Hall Literature: The British Tradition*. Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012.
Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Canterbury Tales*. Penguin Classics, 2003.
Dickens, Charles. *A Tale of Two Cities*.
Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*. Penguin Books, USA Inc., 1999.
Shakespeare, William. *Twelfth Night*. Signet Classics, 1998.
Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. Oxford UP, 2009.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

AP English Literature and Composition

12th Grade

In AP English Literature and Composition, students explore the transformative power of the written word as they read and analyze key works of British Literature. This year-long college level course prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Exam in May. Writing assignments include analytical, expository, and argumentative essays, as well as letters, narratives, poetry imitations, and other creative pieces. Direct instruction in grammar and vocabulary is complemented by teacher feedback and writing workshops that target improving sentence structure and the increasing the fluency with which students integrate new vocabulary words into their writing. Students should expect to read approximately 30 pages of literature a night to prepare for class. Students are expected to register and sit for the AP Exam in May 2022.

Textbooks: *Prentice Hall Literature: The British Tradition*. Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012.
The Practical Writer. Heinle, 2002.
Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*
Dickens, Charles. *A Tale of Two Cities*.
Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*. Penguin Books, USA Inc., 1999.
Shakespeare, William. *Twelfth Night*. Signet Classics, 1998.
Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. Oxford UP, 2009.
Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Preswick Press, 2005.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

Journalism

9th-12th Grades

This high school-level elective is designed to give students an understanding and basic competency in media writing. Students will learn the basic skills, practices that journalists employ. They will gather, write and edit news stories. Through this survey course, students will have the chance to consider what it means to be a journalist and the role of truth in communication. Together the students will work to develop a quarterly student paper - being responsible for the entire process from story ideas to design. Students will write, on average, one article a week. This will be a pass/fail class.

Weight: 0.25

FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts department provides students the opportunity to experience art and music according to their interest level. We offer performance, technique, and academic classes that allow students to develop skills ranging from those needed for lifelong enjoyment to those for professional careers in the field. We believe that by developing a deeper and broader aesthetic awareness and understanding in students, we help them to think creatively and encourage a transfer of that into other subjects. Service through sharing talents with The Willows and the general community is also stressed.

MUSIC

High School Choir

9th-12th Grades

The High School Choir is open to all high school students. Students will perform music in a wide variety of styles and representing a number of musical eras. Emphasis is on good vocal production, ensemble singing and performance. Students prepare repertoire for performance in concerts and at area churches and other venues. Sight singing and memorization are required of all students. This choir performs at Willows Christmas and Spring Concerts (performance at concerts are mandatory to pass the class).

Textbook: Individual octavos provided by The Willows Academy
The University Sight-Singer. Masterworks Press

Weight: 0.25

Chamber Choir

9th-12th Grades

This Willows Academy Chamber Choir is open to high school students by audition only. This small choir sings a cappella music from a variety of eras and maintains a very active performance schedule at The Willows and in the community. The season begins with a summer rehearsal. This course will be weighted as an Accelerated class. Performance tours in the United States and Europe are scheduled every three years. The Chamber Choir is a time-honored Willows tradition that requires commitment. **REQUIREMENTS:** Chamber Choir students must be enrolled in High School Choir and must attend Chamber Choir during the Bonus Period (3:05-3:35pm) on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Textbook: Octavos provided by The Willows Academy
Weight: 0.25
Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.05

High School Handbell Choirs

9th – 12th Grades

High School Handbell Choirs perform complex rhythms and advanced music.. Music reading skills and knowledge of musical terminology are developed as part of this course. The bell choirs perform at Willows Christmas and Spring Concerts (performance at concerts are mandatory to pass the class).

Textbook: Octavos provided by The Willows Academy
Weight: 0.125

Voice/Music Theory

9thGrade

Course description will become available in August 2021.

Instrumental Ensemble

6th – 12th Grades

Instrumental Ensemble is open to any experienced instrumentalist who are simultaneously enrolled in private instruction. The members of the class will be assigned pieces to play in small groups or with the class. They will perform for school events and outside of The Willows. (performance at Christmas and Spring Concerts are mandatory to pass the class). Approval of the instructor is required for taking this class. Audition may be required.

Textbook: Sheet music provided by The Willows Academy
Weight: 0.25

VISUAL ART

Art I

9th Grade

Art I is designed for students experiencing art for the first time at the high school level. Students will create original art by exploring a variety of materials and developing skills. The course will encompass principles and elements of art. Students will be exposed to a variety of studio art projects, art appreciation, art history, and aesthetics. A focus is given to self portraiture, 3 & 4 point perspective, balance and color theory. This instruction enables students to attain a higher understanding of the world, as well as, increased levels of critical thinking.

Weight: 0.25

Art II

10th Grade

Students will be presented a variety of experiences that will foster self-expression and communication through the visual arts. Students will experiment with different techniques to give a visual vocabulary and sensitivity

to subject matter. Students will be exposed to a variety of studio art projects, art appreciation, art history, and aesthetics. A focus is given to color theory, co-curricular assignments, and ink drawing
Weight: 0.25

Honors Art III

11th Grade

The emphasis in Art III is on a more technical plane. Students will create projects with emphasis on teamwork and community-building. Fostering learning that shares, dares, inquires, respects, and creates new growth within the community. A focus will be placed on collaborative drawing projects and watercolor painting.
Weight: 0.25

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Art IV

12th Grade

The emphasis in Art IV is on independence, original creativity, and emotional expression. Students will create projects with major emphasis on individual skills and techniques. This will provide the chance for full involvement and self-motivation by the student in the area/areas she is most interested in exploring. The main focus in Art IV is personal identity and original creativity. By students learning to be creators with integrity about themselves and their own identities, they will be better able to understand, empathize, and respect the efforts of those other than themselves. All areas will be explored with emphasis placed on self-driven projects, printmaking, artist journaling, and oil painting. Permission from the instructor is required to enroll in this course.

Weight: 0.25

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Advanced Art

11-12th Grade

Advanced Art is geared toward the student that will pursue a career in the arts. Students will further their exploration of art through independent self-driven projects as well as in-class projects. A focus will be given to written and verbal critiques, short essays, artist statements, and resumes. Through the process of critiquing art, students will increase their vocabulary, writing ability, and language skills. Students are required to attend the National Portfolio Day (Fall) to present their portfolio of artwork to prospective colleges. Students are also required to take a summer course in their field of study. Advanced Art is run as a semester based class. Advanced Art is offered as a two semester course for Junior students, and a first semester course for Senior students. Permission from the instructor is required to enroll in this course. This course will be weighted as an Accelerated class. **REQUIREMENT:** Must attend Advanced Art during the Bonus Period (3:05-3:35pm) on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Weight: 0.50

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.05

Digital Photography 1

11th -12th Grade

Digital Photography is a semester long course that focuses on understanding the basic operations and functions of a digital SLR- single lens reflex camera. Students will develop and expand their skills in producing artistic photographs using digital DSLR cameras and equipment. Students learn to take artistic digital photos following rules of composition, light, exposure, elements of art and principles of design. Students will learn how to manage and creatively alter digital images as well as critically analyze the use of visual media as a means of communication in our society today. They will be provided a greater level of autonomy, expected to pursue their own interests and develop an individual voice.

Weight: 0.25

History

The Willows Academy History Department challenges students to become critical thinkers and readers, and provides a foundation for understanding the issues of the rapidly changing 21st century. Our curriculum seeks to develop an appreciation of the world's cultural diversity and the commonality of human aspirations, and to cultivate an understanding of American history and a sense of civic responsibility. In all courses, attention is given to helping students improve their skills of critical reading, analytical thinking, and effective writing.

Honors Global Civilizations

9th Grade

This class is broad in nature and will cover basic and specific history from the onset of time. Students will study the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome as well as selected civilizations of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, emphasizing the historical context of current global conflicts and issues. In addition, we will be exploring the geography, religions, ideas and inventions, political systems, and economies of all of these regions. This course will also examine all of these aspects as a way to understand the story of each of these regions. Students will focus on a variety of skills including reading comprehension, essay organization and argument development, all of which are required in the study of history throughout high school. Students begin to build the skills to enable and empower them to enroll in Advanced Placement courses later in their high school career.

Textbook: *World History: The Early Ages*. McGraw Hill, 2001.
Additional supplementary material provided by teacher.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Contemporary Issues & Introduction to Economics

10th Grade

This course serves as an introduction to significant events in the 19th through 21st centuries. A principal aim of the course is for students to develop a better understanding of how societies responded to the impact of modernization and industrialization since the 19th century. It begins examining industrialization, imperialism and the development of communism and fascism in the 19th/20th centuries. Students will discuss contemporary problems that originated in the 19th/20th centuries that demand creative and thoughtful solutions. Analytical skills, synthesis of conflicting viewpoints, conducting research, and writing historical essays are all emphasized in this course. This course will also include an exploration of fundamental economic concepts, such as supply, demand, and elasticity, with the aim of understanding the interaction of economic systems. The background in economics will serve as a useful tool as we continue to study contemporary social, political, and economic issues around the world.

Textbook: *World History: The Modern Era*. Mc-Graw Hill, 2001.
Additional supplementary material provided by teacher.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

American Studies

11th Grade

American Studies takes an in-depth look at United States history and culture from the colonial period through the 20th century. Though the course material will proceed in a chronological manner, the emphasis is on understanding and evaluating the dynamic quality of American political identity, social identity, and cultural identity. The aim of the course is to develop historical analysis and evaluation skills through a study of primary sources, secondary sources, music and film. Emphasis is placed on classroom discussions, historical argumentation, and writing.

Textbook: *United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination*. Amsco School Publications, 2015.

Additional course readings and materials will be provided by instructor.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

AP U. S. History

11th Grade

Advanced Placement United States History is a challenging course that is meant to be the equivalent of a freshman college course. It is a two-semester survey of American history from the age of exploration and discovery to the present. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote a considerable time to homework and study, are necessary to succeed. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, and interpretation of original documents. At the end of the course, students are required to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by taking the advanced placement exam. In addition, a unit on the U.S. Constitution is presented in order to assist our students in becoming better and more informed citizens prepared to more intelligently participate in the political process. Students must pass U.S. and IL Constitution test as graduation requirement.

Textbook: *The American Pageant*. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2006.

United States History: Preparing for the Advanced Placement Examination. Amsco School Publications, 2015.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

Honors European History

12th Grade

Honors European History is designed to prepare students for a freshman college course in a high school setting. It is a year-long survey of modern European history from the Renaissance to the Cold War with an emphasis on critical thinking skills, historical argumentation, essay organization, and interpretation of various primary source documents. Students will explore the evolution of political powers, social structures, religious policies, economic systems, and diplomacy that shaped Europe from the 15th -20th centuries. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study, are necessary to succeed.

Textbook: *The Western Experience, Volume II*. McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Western Civilization Volume II: Renaissance to the Present. McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

AP European History

12th Grade

AP European History is a challenging course that is designed to be the equivalent of a freshman college course in a high school setting. This course will cover the period 1450-present, surveying major developments in society, politics, ideas, culture, economics, and technology. Your mastery of content is important, but you will also develop the skills of: 1) study and research, 2) critical reading of primary and secondary sources, 3) constructing and evaluating historical interpretations, 4) empathizing with the past, and 5) using historical knowledge as a guide to present understanding and action. Students will complete a writing workshop that will prepare them for the AP style essays: Short Answer Question, Long Essay Question and Document Based Question. Any advanced placement class requires hard work, mature writing skills, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to personal growth. All students are expected to dedicate themselves to the goals of AP European History and to take the AP exam at the end of the year.

Textbook: *The Western Experience, Volume II*. McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Western Civilization Volume II: Renaissance to the Present. McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

Mathematics

The Willows mathematics program provides all students with a rigorous curriculum designed to develop students' mathematical dispositions. The course sequence exposes students to the foundations of math and how concepts relate to each other, while making connections between prior content and new information. Students develop the ability to organize an argument, defend a solution, and communicate the process using math concepts and academic language, both verbally and in writing. Coursework is designed to help students develop and maintain curiosity and exploration with a persistence that allows students to persevere through difficult problems. Students cultivate self-sufficiency as they solve problems and answer questions utilizing modern tools and technology, while recognizing when they need help and articulate specific questions.

	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Honors I	Math Foundations	Math Applications	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus AP Statistics
Honors II	Math Foundations	Math Applications	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics
Accelerated	Math Applications	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC	AP Calculus BC AP Statistics
					AP Computer Science Principles (Elective or Senior Math Credit)		

Placements for each ensuing year are based upon the combination of course grades, standardized & placement tests, teacher recommendations, and department policies. For a student to move into a different course sequence, and/or for a student to enter or remain in AP courses, she must meet all criteria, expectations, and policy set by the Willows math department. Summer school may be used for a student to advance into a different course sequence if all criteria are met and prior approval before enrollment; summer school courses do not count towards the 4-year course requirement.

Honors Algebra I

8th-9th Grades

This is a first year algebra course in which students will learn specific mathematical terminology and the skills for developing and applying mathematical properties and relationships. They will gain facility with basic properties and operations with real numbers; develop skill in carrying out various algorithms; acquire proficiency in the areas of equations (linear and quadratic), inequalities, and graphs; and apply mathematics in real-life situations. Students will also strengthen their reading skills and improve their ability to think logically and organize material. The course material is delivered through lectures, guided practice, and individual and group work. Placement of 8th graders into Algebra I is made by the Mathematics Department.

Textbook: *Algebra 1*. Prentice Hall, 2004.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Algebra I

8th – 9th Grades

This is a first year algebra course in which students will learn specific mathematical terminology and the skills for developing and applying mathematical properties and relationships. They will gain facility with basic properties and operations with real numbers; develop skill in carrying out various algorithms; acquire proficiency in the areas of equations (linear and quadratic), inequalities, and graphs; and apply mathematics

in real-life situations. Students will also strengthen their reading skills and improve their ability to think logically and organize material. The course material is delivered through lectures, guided practice, and individual and group work. Placement of 8th graders into Algebra I is made by the Mathematics Department.

Textbook: *Algebra 1*. Prentice Hall, 2004.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only for 9th graders): 1.025

Honors Geometry

9th-10th Grades

In this course, students will strengthen their algebraic skills as well as improve their understanding of geometric terminology and deductive reasoning. They will study Euclidean and coordinate geometry in two and three dimensions with an emphasis on analyzing a problem, drawing diagrams, and setting up proofs successfully. In taking this course, students will also reinforce their organization, note taking, and critical thinking skills that are applicable to all fields of study. Students will also recognize the importance of close reading in noting not only the broad outlines of a reading passage but also an attention to detail. The course material is delivered through lectures, guided practice, and individual and group work.

Textbook: *Geometry*. Glencoe, McGraw Hill, 2004.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Algebra II

10th – 11th Grades

In this course, students learn about algebraic expressions and forms, powers and roots, and functions based on these concepts. Students gain proficiency in the areas of polynomial operations, sequences and series, logarithms, trigonometry, graphs of functions, inequalities, and other special functions, both for their abstract properties and as tools for modeling real-world situations. They verify and interpret results with respect to original problems and also use technology as a tool for problem solving. The course material is delivered through lectures, guided practice, and individual and group work.

Textbook: *Algebra and Trigonometry, Structure and Method*. McDougal Littell, 2000.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Pre-Calculus

11th – 12th Grades

Students strengthen and synthesize their algebra, geometry, and trigonometry skills while investigating the underlying concepts of calculus. Major topics include logic, limits, rational equations, trigonometric equations, polar coordinates, complex numbers, conics, matrices, sequences and series, and introductory derivatives and integrals. The course material is delivered through lectures, guided practice, and individual and group work.

Textbook: *Precalculus*. Sullivan and Sullivan.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

AP Statistics

12th Grade

AP Statistics is an introductory college-level statistics course that introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students cultivate their understanding of statistics using technology, problem-solving, and writing as they explore concepts like variation and distribution; patterns and uncertainty; and data-based predictions, decisions, and conclusions. A considerable amount of reading and writing is required. Statistics is not a typical math course that focusses on formulas and equations. Rather, it is a course in analyzing, thinking, and writing clearly.

Textbook: *The Practice of Statistics, Sixth Edition*, Bedford, Freeman & Worth High School Publishers, 2020.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

AP Calculus AB

12th Grade

Students learn about differential and integral calculus with applications. The major topics they study include limits, continuity, basic differentiation, implicit differentiation, related rates, optimization, Riemann sums, indefinite and definite integrals, differential equations, area, volume and applications of integration. The course material is delivered through lectures, guided practice, and individual and group work. Students are expected to register and sit for the AP Calculus AB Exam in May 2022.

Textbook: *Calculus*. Larson, Hostetler, & Edwards, 1998.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

AP Calculus BC

12th Grade

Students learn all of the content in AP Calculus AB plus several additional units: parametric equations, polar coordinates, vector valued- functions, and infinite sequences and series. The course moves at a faster pace than AP Calculus AB because of the additional content. Students are expected to register and sit for the AP Calculus BC Exam in May 2022.

Textbook: *Calculus*. Larson, Hostetler, & Edwards, 1998.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

AP Computer Science Principles

10th - 12th Grades

Computer Science Principles introduces the foundations of modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing. This course is not a tour of current events and technologies. Rather, it seeks to provide students with a “future proof” foundation in computing principles so that they are adequately prepared with both the knowledge and skills to live and meaningfully participate in our increasingly digital society, economy, and culture. The course requires no prior knowledge of computing and will require a significant amount of expository writing. Students should have completed Geometry and have current math teacher approval. Computer Science can fulfill one credit towards the math graduation requirement (4 credits) or count as an elective course for a 5th math credit. Students are expected to register and sit for the AP Exam in May 2022.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education is a part of the total educational system of The Willows that will provide experiences for our students through physical activity. The Physical Education curriculum provides students the opportunity to learn about and develop sport skills, cooperation, and teamwork, as well as understand and appreciate overall fitness and recreational games. The Physical Education program teaches students how to work cooperatively with others to achieve group goals in competitive and non competitive situations.

P.E. 9

9th Grade

In ninth grade P.E., students will be expected to develop higher level skills especially the fundamentals skills associated with team sports. Students will also receive instruction on hands only CPR & AED training.

Weight: 0.25

Health

10th Grade

Health is a course designed to expose students to a broad range of health-related topics which include the physical, mental, environmental, and emotional aspects. Topics such as the immune system, nutrition, the brain, mental health, addictions, the musculoskeletal system, exercise, and sport injuries will be explored. Students will develop skills needed to understand health prevention and promotion techniques. Students will also become health literate in making positive and healthy decisions.

Textbook: *Fitness for Life*, Human Kinetics, 2007.

Weight: 0.125

High School PE

1 0th-12th Grade

This course is designed to promote physical fitness and regular activity. The emphasis is on team sports and the skills associated with each individual sport. The class is graded on knowledge of skills, effort, and mastery of skills.

Weight: 0.25

Science

The primary goal of the Science Department is to help students use critical thinking, rational observation, and measurement to develop an understanding of and appreciation for the elegance, intricacies, and beauty of the natural world. The science program stresses the processes of science and scientific method. The curriculum covers in depth the life, chemical and physical sciences at both the middle and high school levels. Courses include both traditional and multimedia lecture and hands-on lab work.

Honors Biology

9th Grade

This initial course is designed to spark an interest in science by exploring essential topics related to *Life!* Laboratory work is a key component for developing skills used by all scientists. Through analysis of data, class discussions, and lecture students examine common characteristics shared by all organisms: interdependence, the relationship between structure and function at the micro and macro levels, similarities and diversity within and across various Taxa, and evidence of evolution over time., Course highlights include forensic electrophoresis and fetal pig dissection to review all body systems. The deepest purpose of this course is to develop in the student a sensitive perspective that places the human person at the center and solution of all ecological concerns.

Textbook: *Biology: Exploring Life*. Prentice Hall, 2007.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Chemistry

10th Grade

Chemistry is the study of the structure and properties of matter, and how matter changes. Topics covered include atomic structure, nuclear chemistry, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, the states of matter, and thermochemistry. Problem-solving skills and insights into chemical concepts are gained through laboratory experiments. Self-assessment of laboratory results and analyses of recent news articles provide students with the experience of applying scientific thinking both in the lab and in everyday life. This course is offered at honors and accelerated levels. Accelerated students will cover more topics to better prepare them for success in a senior AP science course.

Textbook: *Modern Chemistry*. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2006.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025 for honors, 1.05 for accelerated

Honors Physics

11th Grade

Physics studies relationships between matter and energy. By designing and executing experiments students begin by forming mathematical models for mechanical systems. The knowledge gained is then applied to all forms of energy with an emphasis on electricity and magnetism. Special topics include driving safety, natural disasters, building design, balance and posture, astronomy and special relativity. Students are required to demonstrate principles and solve problems daily in front of the class. The underlying philosophy that knowledge and understanding of the principles of physics not only leads to a profound understanding of the physical world, but also supplies the student with the insight and tools to develop new and innovative ideas drives this course

Textbook: *Physics*. Holt, Reinhart and Winston, 2006.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

AP Chemistry

12th Grade

Advanced Placement Chemistry is a laboratory-based course that is designed to be equivalent to a general chemistry course taken during the first year of college. This course focuses on these topics: states and structure of matter, chemical thermodynamics, physical behavior of gases, chemical equilibrium and kinetics, and the qualitative and quantitative nature of chemical reactions. Laboratory work emphasizes increased competency in solving chemical calculations and problems, as well as the ability to troubleshoot laboratory methods, and analyze and propose explanations for unexpected results. Upon completion of the course, students will have a deeper understanding of chemistry fundamentals, be comfortable using technology to analyze and present laboratory findings, and be prepared to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry exam. This is a foundation course for those interested in life science, pre-medicine, engineering, and applied science.

Textbook: *Chemistry: The Central Science*. Brown, LeMay and Bursten. Prentice Hall. 2015, 13th Edition

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

Honors Anatomy & Physiology

12th Grade

This course surveys the human body from the molecular to the systems level. Building on the close relationship between structure and function, students develop an extensive vocabulary to describe normal and diseased conditions. Recent discoveries, and ethical, personal and public health challenges enrich the textbook material. Laboratory activities are balanced between microscopic and macroscopic anatomical examination of fresh and preserved organs and organisms and physiological experimentation on their own bodies. Projects include poster presentation of a skin pathology, nutritional controversy research, pharmacological characterization of a well-known drug, shadowing of a health professional, and presentation of a final project. A series of health professionals assist as guest speakers to bring the lessons to life and to answer career-based questions.

Textbook: *Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory Manual*, Marieb and Mitchell, Pearson, 10th Ed.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Technology

At Willows, we believe technology is a tool to be directed towards the true good of humanity. Our program seeks to nurture human capacities in a digital world and develop technological competencies. We want our graduates to be person-centered, principled users, seekers and spreaders of truth, and empowered creators who engage the challenges of life. The Willows technology philosophy is lived out in our classrooms as well as through our partnerships with parents, advising, seminar talks, student life, and our school policies. The Willows technology curriculum is addressed in technology and skills classes and integrated into academic

courses. Our goal is to refine and expand our technology course offerings, while more clearly articulating features of the curriculum that integrate technology.

AP Computer Science Principles

11th - 12th Grades

Computer Science Principles introduces the foundations of modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing. This course is not a tour of current events and technologies. Rather, it seeks to provide students with a “future proof” foundation in computing principles so that they are adequately prepared with both the knowledge and skills to live and meaningfully participate in our increasingly digital society, economy, and culture. The course requires no prior knowledge of computing and will require a significant amount of expository writing. Students should have completed Geometry and have current math teacher approval. Computer Science can fulfill one credit towards the math graduation requirement (4 credits) or count as an elective course for a 5th math credit.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1

Theology & Philosophy

The Theology & Philosophy Department offers a seven year curriculum in theology. The program is designed to provide a comprehensive study of the Roman Catholic faith, sacramental life, and morals. In doing so, the students will receive a progressively deeper understanding of the reasonableness of these teachings, as befitting an academic level equivalent to their other studies. In addition to coursework, students are provided with opportunities to develop their life of piety, to frequent the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Penance, and receive spiritual counseling. The Department also offers a curriculum in Philosophy students can study if they choose not to study Theology or along with their study of Theology.

Honors Theology 9

9th Grade

Semester I: Faith and Revelation

Students will examine God’s saving action in history through a careful reading and analysis of Sacred Scripture. They will learn about our Jewish forefathers and Covenantal Theology as a way to prepare them for second semester’s course on the universal covenant in Christ. The class will look closely at the Biblical figures of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, as well as the great merciful love of God.

Semester II: The Life of Christ

Students will study the life of Jesus Christ in his historical, geographic, and cultural framework and in his mission as redeemer of the world. Through a survey of the Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah as well as an in-depth study of Matthew’s Gospel they will draw correlations between the Old Testament and Christ’s life. The class will endeavor to get to know the person of Christ and how to have a relationship with Him. The semester will conclude with a look at Natural Theology and the 5 philosophical proofs for the existence of God.

Textbook: The Didache Bible, Ignatius Bible Edition, 2015

Resources: Faith and Revelation. Didache Semester Series. MTF, 2010.

Understanding the Scriptures. Didache Semester Series. MTF, 2010.

The Mystery of Redemption. Didache Semester Series, MTF 2010.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Theology 10

10th Grade

Semester I: The Blessed Trinity and the Church.

This will be an in-depth study of the Unity of God, as well as of each of the Three Divine Persons: The Father as creator, provident in our relationship with him as his daughters; the Son Incarnate, Jesus Christ, in his divine

and human natures and historical presence; the Holy Spirit and his presence in the soul in grace and the Church as it is willed by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Textbook: *The Blessed Trinity*, Didache Semester Series, MTF 2010

Semester II: *The Sacraments*

The seven sacraments will be studied as they were revealed to mankind, foreshadowed in the Old Testament and completed in the New Testament. The course contains a Bible study of the Book of Revelation to deepen our understanding of the Holy Mass as the Culmination of the Christian Life and concludes with an examination of vocations under the light of the Personal philosophy of St. John Paul II.

Textbook: *The Sacraments: Source of our Lives in Christ*, Didache Parish Series, MTF 2012

Resources: *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, USCCB, 2000
The Holy Bible, Ignatius Press

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Theology 11: Moral Theology

11th Grade

Semester I: What is man?

This class provides a thorough study of moral theology. Students begin with a look at metaphysics so that they are better able to understand philosophical concepts about man and his final end, and then relate them to theological principles. The first semester continues with a careful study of freedom, grace, conscience, law, natural law and virtue.

Semester II: The Moral Law

The second half of the course will carefully consider the 10 Commandments and the Beatitudes so that students know well their moral obligations and how to uphold them. As a whole, this course endeavors to provide a framework for a moral life and give the students the confidence and terminology to be able to articulate their beliefs.

Textbook: *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, USCCB, 2000
Our Moral Life in Christ. Didache Semester Series, MTF 2010.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Theology 12: *Mulieris Fortis*

12th Grade

This course is designed as a college seminar course with a heavy emphasis on readings and class discussion. The year will begin with a study of logic in order to understand how to form solid arguments and notice errors in reasoning. After that, we will spend the rest of the first semester and the first two months of the second semester working through ten Christian Anthropology topics. Students will be required to read a short passage each night and be ready for discussion the following day. Readings include excerpts from philosophy, theology and literature. Topics that will be covered include man is rational, man is corporeal and spiritual, man is temporal, and man is a worker. The second half of our second semester will be dedicated to the Capstone Project, a writing and presentation project that serves to synthesize each student's learning to persevere in acquiring in-depth knowledge of a current cultural phenomenon in light of the human experience and moral truth. While the Capstone is something students will begin working on in the early fall, the majority of the writing will take place in March, followed by the individual presentations and corresponding discussions in April and May.

Textbook: To be distributed by instructor at the start of the year.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

What and who is the human person? What makes for human excellence or flourishing? What are the qualities of true leaders? We will examine these and other questions from a philosophical standpoint, that is, reason reflecting upon reality. We will consider and discuss works of Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, Jane Austen, Josef Pieper, J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Pixar Films, and others. This course is designed as an elective course for grades 9-12. Non-Catholic students requesting to taking Philosophy for a Theology credit must meet with the Head of School.

Elective Weight: 0.25

Independent Study Weight: 1.0

Independent Study Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

World Languages

The World Languages Department offers modern romance languages. (French and Spanish). As students master second language skills, they acquire grammar, pronunciation, reading and writing skills, and an awareness of cultural nuances that will allow them to successfully communicate in a globally connected world. Students will develop an understanding of and appreciation for different cultures while examining their own social and cultural milieus with a fresh perspective. The study of a world language is a progressive experience and implies progressive acquisition of/linguistic skills. Reading, writing, speaking, and listening are emphasized.

Willows Academy Language Course Selection Criteria for Heritage Speakers

The Willows World Language program is designed to offer high school students a rigorous, four-year curriculum in a foreign language, either French or Spanish. Heritage learners are students who have been exposed to French or Spanish in their homes or communities from a young age. As a consequence of that early exposure, they can understand and/or speak the language and have a personal connection to it.

Definition of a Heritage Speaker: “a student who is raised in a home where a non-English language is spoken, who speaks or merely understands the heritage language and who is to some degree bilingual in English and the heritage language” (Valdés, 2000)

Heritage language speakers usually possess a level of foreign language competence that far exceeds the level of typical students learning a foreign language for the first time.

- Heritage speakers who have some oral proficiency and have internalized basic grammatical structures have mastered the focus of the Level I and II language courses.
- Heritage language speakers who have had formal schooling in their heritage language have usually mastered the advanced vocabulary and grammar taught in in the Level III courses.
- Heritage speakers can usually benefit from the Advanced Placement curriculum focused on language and culture.

Therefore:

9th grade Spanish Heritage Speakers should register for Honors French II or Honors Spanish II.

9th grade French Heritage speakers should register for Honors Spanish I.

The ultimate decision for language course selection is under the discretion and approval of the administration and the World Language Department Head.

Honors French II

9th – 10th Grade

In French II students continue to review and build upon the basic knowledge gained French I and to reinforce the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis is placed on perfecting pronunciation,

mastering basic grammatical structures and increased communicative proficiency. Functional vocabulary is expanded. Students are exposed to the past, future, and conditional tenses, and the subjunctive mood, and will be expected to apply these to their writing and speaking. As in French I frequent quizzes and chapter tests provide ongoing assessment of progress.

Textbook: Discovering French Nouveau II McDougal Littell

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors French III

11th Grade

French III introduces all of the major tenses as well as new vocabulary, grammatical structures and expressions. Authentic readings are discussed and written about or dramatized, and students become familiar with some of the most important moments in French history, art, music and literature. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing continue to be stressed, complemented by an extensive listening component that accompanies the textbook. Students expand their vocabulary range and work to include more sophisticated terms, advanced language expressions, verb tenses and grammatical concepts such as the pluperfect and the subjunctive mood. Students will research and present different cultural aspects of Francophone culture.

Textbook: *Discovering French Nouveau III* McDougal Littell. 2007
French-English Dictionary required.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors French IV

12th Grade

Honors French IV is intended as an advanced course in French language and culture. The goal in this class is to increase proficiency in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing using Francophone literature, film excerpts, podcasts, and video clips as a springboard for practice and cultural enrichment. All verb tenses are reviewed, and more complex grammatical structures (sequences of tenses) are expected to be used by students in oral and written discourse at this level. French is used for all class activities, including multiple oral presentations.

Textbook: *Allons Au-delà*. Pearson, 2012.
Trésors du temps. Glencoe McGraw Hill, 1997.
French English (college level) dictionary is required.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

AP French IV

12th Grade

The AP French Language and Culture course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies and cultural awareness. Students learn language structures in context and use them to convey meaning. Students who enroll should already have an intermediate knowledge of French language and Francophone culture, and should have attained fluency in using the language. This course will help prepare students to demonstrate their level of French proficiency across three communicative modes (interpersonal [interactive communication], Interpretive [receptive communication], and presentational [productive communication]). The goal in this class is to increase proficiency, fluency and accuracy in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing using Francophone literature, film excerpts, podcasts, and video clips as a springboard for practice and cultural enrichment. This course will also engage students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. Class is conducted in French; students are expected to speak French at all times. Ample practice time specific to the AP examination will be provided.

Textbook: *Allons Au-delà*. Pearson, 2012.
AP French. Pearson, 2012.
Apprenons 2nd Edition Wayside Publishing 2015

French English (college level) dictionary is required.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Spanish I

9th Grade

Spanish I is a communicative beginning level course which introduces Spanish language and the cultural diversity of the Spanish speaking world. Students begin to develop proficiency through extensive interaction in the target language. Each unit of the textbook includes a variety of interactive activities and cultural notes. The activities help build competency in each of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students acquire functional vocabulary and grammar. They are exposed to the present and past tense, to stem changing verbs, reflexive verbs, and the use of *gustar*.

Textbook: *¡Buen Viaje! Spanish I*. Glencoe/McGraw-Hill 2003.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Spanish II

9th and 10th Grade

Spanish II builds upon knowledge gained in Spanish I. This course continues to reinforce the skills learned in Spanish I: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis is placed on perfecting pronunciation, mastery of the basic grammatical structures, and increased communicative proficiency. Functional vocabulary is expanded. Students are exposed to the past, present perfect, future and conditional tenses and the subjunctive mood. They are expected to apply them to their writing and speaking.

Textbook: *¡Buen Viaje! Spanish 2*. Glencoe/McGraw-Hill 2003.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Spanish III

11th Grade

Spanish III is a continuation and elaboration of the knowledge and skills gained in Spanish I and II, as well as an introduction to new vocabulary, grammatical structures and expressions. Emphasis is placed on increased opportunities to use the language through speaking, writing, reading and listening. Students will expand their vocabulary range to include more sophisticated terms, advanced language expressions, verb tenses and grammatical concepts such as the pluperfect and the subjunctive mood. Students will research and present different cultural aspects of Spain and Latin-American countries. S

Textbook: *¡Buen Viaje! Spanish 3*. Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2002.

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

Honors Spanish IV

12th Grade

Spanish IV is intended as an advanced course in Spanish language and culture. Students will learn to communicate in and understand advanced Spanish through literary texts, oral presentations and grammatical exercises. Students are expected to learn and contextualize a more sophisticated vocabulary. All verb tenses are reviewed, and more complex grammatical structures (sequence of tenses) are applied by students in oral and written discourse at this level.

Textbook: *Galería de Arte y Vida* (nivel avanzado). Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 1997.
Spanish – English dictionary (College level)

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.025

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies and cultural awareness. Students learn language structures in context and use them to convey meaning. Students who enroll should already have an intermediate knowledge of the language and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world and should have attained fluency. This course will help prepare students to demonstrate their level of Spanish proficiency across three communicative modes (interpersonal [interactive communication], Interpretive [receptive communication], and presentational [productive communication]). The goal in this class is to increase proficiency and accuracy in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, using literature, film excerpts, podcasts and video clips in Spanish as a springboard for practice and cultural enrichment. The course will also engage students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. Class is conducted in Spanish; students are expected to speak Spanish at all times. Ample practice specific to the AP Spanish Language examination will be given.

Textbook: *Triangulo Aprobado* 5th edition
 Avance, Segunda Edición Intermediate Spanish McGraw-Hill, 2008
 AP Spanish Preparing for the Language and Culture Examination, Fourth Edition Pearson
 Prentice Hall 2014

Weight: 1.0

Grade Multiplier for Weighted GPA (on transcripts only): 1.1