

UPPER SCHOOL

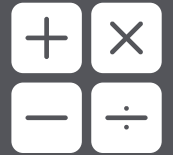
COURSE SELECTION GUIDE

2022-2023

Explored



Hola | Bonjour
Salve | 你好



$$A^2 + B^2 = C^2$$



Table of Contents

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.....	3
NEW COURSE OFFERINGS.....	4
COMPUTER SCIENCE.....	5
ENGLISH.....	9
HISTORY.....	15
FINE ARTS.....	21
MATHEMATICS.....	29
PHYSICAL EDUCATION.....	35
RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY.....	37
SCIENCE.....	39
WORLD LANGUAGES.....	45
INTERDISCIPLINARY.....	55
THE APPEAL PROCESS.....	56
PG ENGAGE.....	57
UPPER SCHOOL COURSE LISTING.....	58
COURSE SELECTION CALENDAR.....	64
UPPER SCHOOL CURRICULUM.....	65

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

(1 credit = successful completion of a year-long course)

(½ credit = successful completion of a semester course)

These requirements are a minimum set for Porter-Gaud graduation. It is our expectation that students will work toward excellence by demanding more of themselves than this minimum, particularly in the academic disciplines for which they have a passionate interest.

In addition, students must pass all of their Upper School courses with a grade of 60 or better in order to receive a Porter-Gaud diploma.

Students in grades 9 - 11 are strongly encouraged to enroll in six courses, five of which must be Core Courses. Students in 12th grade must be enrolled in a minimum of five academic Core Courses. Core Courses fall within the following departments: English, History, Mathematics, Science, World Language (includes AP Studio Art and Honors Computer Science IV). A student who fails to meet course credit requirements risks meeting the requirements for graduation.

Department	Credits	Course Specifics
English	4	including surveys of British and American literature
World Language	3	completion of the same language through Level III.
History	3.5	including World History and US History plus ½ credit course in US Gov't & Civics
Mathematics	4	from the sequenced courses Algebra I through AP offerings
Science	3	one year each of Biology, Chemistry, Physics
Fine Arts	1	Public Speaking + ½ additional credit
Physical Education	1	P.E. / Health + ½ additional credit; Participation on an approved Porter-Gaud J.V. or Varsity team will earn ½ credit
Computer Science	0.5	credit in Computer Science 104
Religion & Philosophy	0.5	credit in New Testament and Ethics
Total Departmental Graduation Credits	20.5	
Additional Required Credits	3.5	Additional credits can be from both core and elective courses
Total Credits Required for Graduation	24.0	
PG Engage Graduation Requirement	12	The PG Engage program (ADV-PG Engage) requires each student to complete experiential activities (3 per year) connecting classroom learning to their local community. This requirement is not included in the GPA. Twelve (12) total credits must be earned in order to graduate.

NEW COURSES

UPPER SCHOOL | 2022-2023

CREATIVE WRITING: POETRY

This course offers the opportunity for students to study various kinds and schools of poetry with an eye towards composing their own poems on whatever subjects they'd like. No familiarity with writing poetry necessary.

Semester Course
11th and 12th Grades

HONORS ART HISTORY

This course offers students the opportunity to explore, in depth, the history of art from ancient times to the present, including both European and non-European cultures.

Yearlong Course
11th and 12th Grades

THE PROBLEM OF EVIL

Students will investigate and reflect upon humanity's various efforts to understand, to explain, and ultimately to endure suffering. It includes responses to the "problem of evil" from a broad range of sources including Eastern and Western religion and philosophy, sociology, psychology, etc.

Semester Course
11th and 12th Grades

FITNESS & WELLNESS

This course will kick start a lifestyle journey by introducing students to the basics of exercise, stress management techniques, and healthy nutrition habits. Students will learn the squat, push, pull and hinge movement patterns, through individualized daily workouts.

Semester Course
10th, 11th and 12th Grades

YOGA, MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION

This course is designed to build healthy physical and emotional habits while learning restorative techniques. Expect to learn yoga postures, encouraging a mindful connection back to the physical body to improve concentration and help balance emotions.

Semester Course
11th and 12th Grades

HEALTHY LIFE SKILLS

This course reviews current research and data on a variety of healthy life skill issues and strategies for improvement while students explore their physical and emotional well-being.

Semester Course
11th and 12th Grades

CHINESE V: CULTURE

Students will study a broad variety of Chinese films and read literacy selections and articles that pertain to Chinese history and culture. Discussion of Chinese cinema and literature will enable students to improve their understanding of many aspects of Chinese culture.

Yearlong Course
11th and 12th Grades

DIGITAL DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY

Students will explore the use of digital mediums for visual communication and artistic expression through the use of products such as the Adobe Creative Suite: (InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator) Canva, and Procreate.

Semester Course
10th, 11th and 12th Grades

INNOVATION/DESIGN THINKING

The course is designed to guide students towards a better understanding of themselves while developing skills to address problems in the community. The direction of the course will be dictated by the interests of the class.

Semester Course
11th and 12th Grades

HON BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

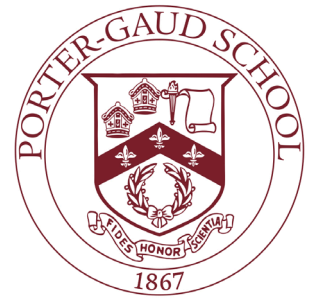
Students will complete independent, hands-on research and gain fundamental skills in the field of genetic engineering. Each student will assemble gene constructs that contain potential drug targets for an infectious pathogen and will collaborate with off-campus researchers to characterize the gene's function.

Yearlong Course
11th and 12th Grades

CARDIORESPIRATORY FITNESS

This course focuses on cardiorespiratory fitness using treadmills, stationary bicycles, stair climbers, rowing machines, elliptical trainers and walking/jogging around the track and spaces around our school. Focus is placed on general endurance of the respiratory and circulatory system, and providing knowledge in safe workout principles.

Semester Course
10th, 11th and 12th Grades



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MALONE SCHOOL ONLINE NETWORK

2022 - 2023 Courses

World Languages:

- + Ancient Greek I (yearlong)
- + Arabic I (yearlong)
- + German I (yearlong)

Humanities and Social Sciences:

- + Diversity in a Global Comparative Perspective (Fall)
- + Environmental Bioethics- Exploring the Challenges of Local and Global Choices (Spring)
- + The Fiction of James Joyce (Spring)
- + Global Voices of Oppression: Literature for Social Justice (Fall)
- + Making Ethical Medical Choices in a Diverse World (Fall)
- + A Nation Divided: The Literature of Civil Rights (Spring)
- + Think Global, Debate Local (Fall)

STEM:

- + Cancer (Fall)
- + Data Structures and Design Patterns (yearlong)
- + A Mathematical Modeling Approach to Social Justice (Spring)

*MSON courses are available for highly motivated 11th and 12th grade students. Courses are offered at the end of the school day. Approval process through Ms. Davis.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS BY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

2022 - 2023

Criteria for admission into Honors/AP courses are listed by department before course descriptions.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Porter-Gaud School CS program aims to engage students in Computer Science and give them a passion for the subject area. This is largely achieved through project based learning, where students learn through the creation of their own CS projects (Apps, Games, Robots etc). Part of our project based approach is to give our students choices in the projects they do, which drives engagement and investment in those projects. We believe in doing "deep dives" into big projects and supporting student learning along the way, rather than "front-loading" CS concepts and principles. While this is different from more traditional approaches, we have found it maximizes student learning and engagement. It is very much hands-on, with the focus being cutting edge tech (VR is a current example) and physical computing whenever possible. Students learn to program through their projects, but the aim is not necessarily to produce amazing coders by the end of 4 years, although many students do become very competent programmers. We aim to produce students with a CS toolkit and mindset that will allow them to address and solve problems in their chosen industries.

Our four-year Computer Science (CS) program in the Upper School is the only one of its kind in the state. It is designed to attract, recruit, and engage students in the world of computer science. The 360° approach empowers students to explore and learn not only the programming behind a technology or topic, but also study the job market, ethics, current events, related technologies, and real-world application. Computer Science is a required course for Ninth Grade. The accelerated program is selective for 10th-12th grades.

Course Offerings:

Computer Science I
Accelerated Computer Science II

Accelerated Computer Science III
Honors Computer Science IV

Hon Advanced Computer Science

Computer Science Department Accelerated Admissions Criteria

Students must have proven Computer Science and Math performance. In addition, students should:

- Be a self-starter, ambitious, eager, and self-motivated.
- Be willing to work hard and commit to class
- Be willing to explore new unknown technologies
- Enjoy challenging assignments using leading-edge devices and software
- Demonstrate clear leadership in technological skills, work ethic, and achievement throughout the 9th grade

Computer Science I students need to:

- Manage multiple simultaneous projects.
- Manage projects that span weeks or even months.
- Collaborate well with classmates
- Be extremely resourceful
- Enjoy the challenge of figuring things by experimenting

Accelerated Computer Science II:

Application, interview, and approval from Computer Science Department Chair

Accelerated Computer Science III:

Recommendation and approval from Computer Science Department Chair

Honors Computer Science IV:

Recommendation and approval from Computer Science Department Chair

COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES

Computer Science I | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course is a required course for all 9th graders. Students will explore advanced concepts of problem solving, programming, and software design using a variety of languages and engaging contexts. This is a technology immersion class and is project-oriented: Robotics, Game Programming, app development, and hardware will be explored.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: None

Accelerated Computer Science II | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course is the second in a series of 4 classes in the Accelerated Computer Science program. It is the first elective class in our CS program, so students will move far beyond the introductory level of code from CS 1. The class will introduce the next level of problem solving, computation, algorithm, and software development skills as we explore a variety of creative projects in a variety of different technologies. Students will be working on two large projects.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Computer Science I

Accelerated Computer Science III (Fall/Spring) | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course is the third of a series of 4 classes in the Computer Science program. The class will continue to develop problem solving, computation, algorithm, and software development skills as we explore a variety of creative projects using a variety of different technologies. Students will be working on a single project that is larger in scope, complexity, and technology.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Computer Science I, II

Honors Computer Science IV | Yearlong Course

This is the culminating course of the Computer Science program. The class will continue to build upon problem solving, computation, algorithm, and software development skills as students study even higher levels of Object Oriented Programming, algorithms, logic, and data structures through a variety of technologies and languages. The final section of class includes a major capstone project.

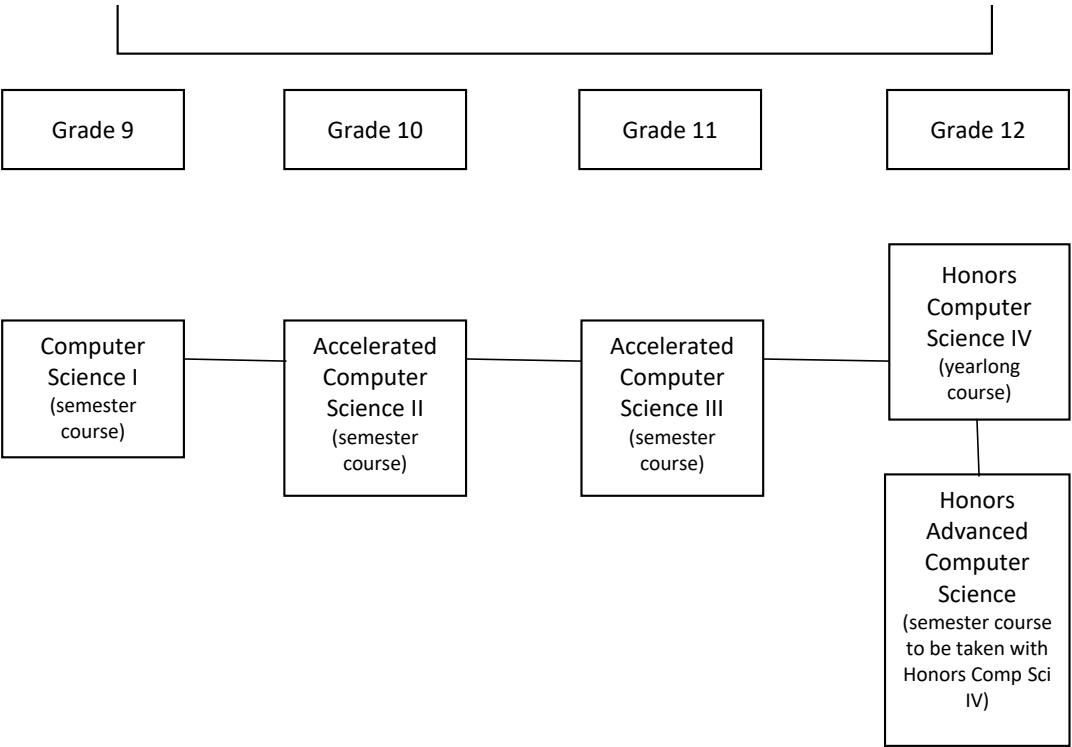
Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Computer Science I, II, III

Honors Advanced Computer Science | Semester Course

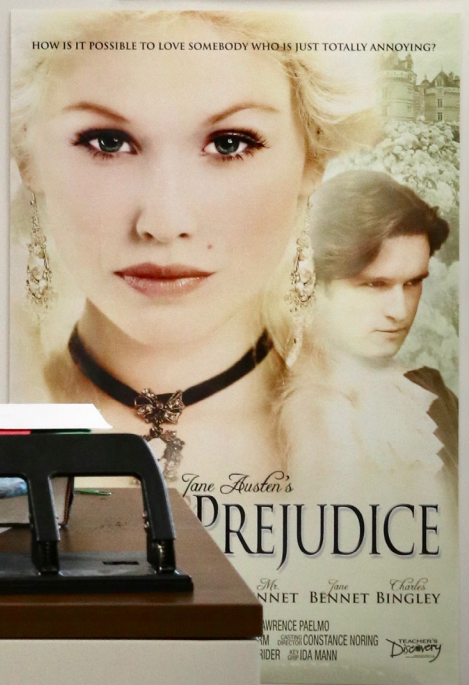
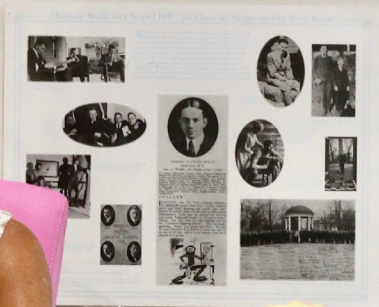
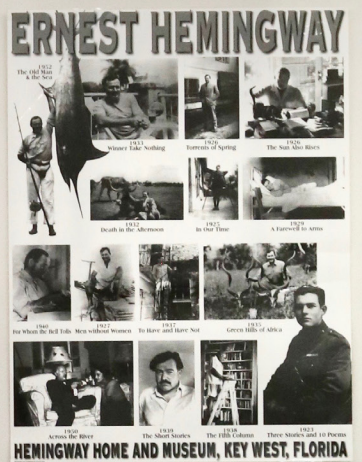
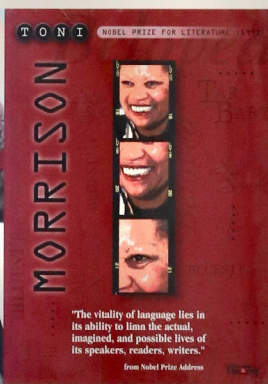
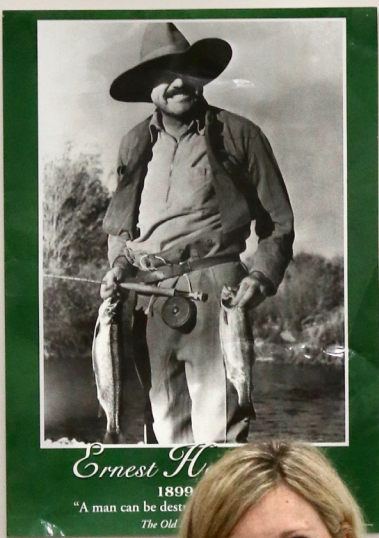
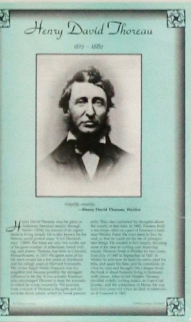
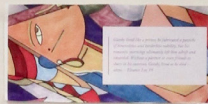
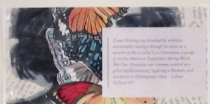
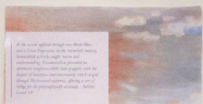
This course challenges each student with creating their own unique project from start to finish in one semester. It is for those students who really want to push themselves in Computer Science. Students will be challenged to problem solve, be independent learners, display their creativity and manage their own time. During the semester, grades will be based on check-ins (with varying requirements) and the amount of progress made between them. Finally, each student must present their project to a panel of judges for their final grade. This course will run in semester 2 and students on it will be expected to also do Honors Computer Science IV alongside it. Students who wish to apply for this class must submit a project proposal/presentation and demonstrate sufficient experience with the tools necessary to create their project. This must be submitted before the end of their junior year. The proposal should include details on an industry expert they have contacted who has agreed to be their mentor during the course of the project. Students must demonstrate some prior knowledge of the technology and/or coding language that they plan to use or convince the department of a plan to get proficient with it before semester 2.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Computer Science I, II, III | Co-requisite: Honors Computer Science IV

COMPUTER SCIENCE SEQUENCE



READ



The mission of the Porter-Gaud Upper School English Department is to engender in every student two crucial skills: critical close reading and fluid, articulate writing, both in a variety of genres, styles, and voices. In terms of reading, we believe our students' minds and souls are best served by reading from an expansive literary canon that includes diverse voices and retains classic elements of the Western tradition. Literature demands slow, contemplative attention, and we believe that such meditation helps students to become not only careful students but also more considerate people; to that end, our classes promote depth over breadth, always asking students to engage in the critical-thinking skills of inferring, synthesizing, and connecting. In terms of writing, we see composition as equally demanding, and as such we require students at every grade level to complete eight formal essays, all with drafts to solicit feedback, to hone their craft in terms of what we traditionally call "content" (argument, analysis, idea) and "form" (voice, style, mechanics). In fact, we believe that writing, like reading, is thinking, such that even separating form from content is a false choice--that who we are is inextricably linked to how we say things. Ultimately, our hope is that in their various future spaces--their dorms, their classrooms, their careers--PG writers are the thinkers and craftspeople to whom everyone turns for guidance and wisdom.

Course Offerings:

English I

English II / H English II

English III

English IV

AP English Language

AP English Literature

Creative Writing: Poetry

WATCH Magazine

Yearbook

English Department Honors/AP Admissions Criteria

Theoretically, any student can take an Honors/AP English course if there is room; however, historically, more students apply than there are spaces. If that is the case, the spaces are filled in the following order:

Honors English II: British Literature: Ideally, applicants will meet the following criteria for admission:

Their current teacher's recommendation (mandatory)

Completion of an application for the course

9th grade averages of 94+

8th grade averages of 94+

AP English Language: (Honors English II is not a prerequisite.) Ideally, applicants will meet the following criteria for admission:

Their current teacher's recommendation (mandatory)

Completion of an application for the course

10th grade averages of 94+ in a non-Honors course or a 90+ average in an Honors course

92+ average for English I

Satisfactory performance on Pre-ACT English & Reading Comprehension sections

AP English Literature: (AP English Language is not a prerequisite.) Ideally, applicants will meet the following criteria:

Their current teacher's recommendation (mandatory)

Completion of an application for the course

11th grade averages of 90+ in an AP course or 94+ in a non-AP course

10th grade averages of 90+ in an Honors course or 94+ in a non-Honors course

PSAT verbal score of 600

A PSAT verbal score below 500 precludes acceptance in the course.*

ENGLISH COURSE SELECTIONS

English I - Introduction to Genres | Yearlong Course

In this course, students study short stories, poems, two plays, and two novels to continue the development of their skills in the close reading and understanding of literature. Student discussion focuses on basic literary elements of the different genres. Compositions include narrative, analytical, and argumentative genres, and students write at least eight formal compositions, all of which include drafts; in order for students to better understand the narrative forms they are reading, particular emphasis is placed on the narrative form, as students focus on selection and development of precise setting detail, unity, transition, indirect characterization, point-of-view, and use of sensory images. Students continue their vocabulary development and practice grammatical and usage conventions as appropriate to their composition development.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th

English II – British Literature - Major British Writers | Yearlong Course

This survey course is traditionally offered after the 9th grade for students who are not yet considering Advanced Placement English courses. While the literature component includes a survey of major British writers, the course is designed for sophomores who would benefit from further focused instruction in skills of critical reading and writing. Instruction and student practice include vocabulary development with emphasis on contextual meanings, literal and inferential reading comprehension, review of grammar, usage, and mechanics, as well as specific PSAT- and SAT-tested verbal skills. Composition instruction covers exposition, analysis, and argument; the primary focus shifts to exposition, with practice in types of coherent organizational patterns, development of ideas through detail and example, and refinement of stylistic techniques. As in the ninth grade, students write a minimum of eight formal, graded essays, all of which include drafts. Major writers may include, but are not limited to, the Beowulf poet, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Austen, the Romantic poets, Shelley, Orwell, and Conrad.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th | Prerequisite: English I at Porter-Gaud

Honors English II: British Literature - Major British Writers | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for sophomores with strong skills in both writing and critical reading who are considering Advanced Placement English courses. Although Honors English is NOT a prerequisite for taking AP English courses, the class is fast-paced for students serious about advanced level instruction. The literature component of this course is a survey of Western literary heritage, emphasizing major writers of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the 20th century. Composition instruction and practice emphasize acquiring the expository techniques and methods utilized in college English courses. Course objectives also include vocabulary development, grammar review, and practice in specific PSAT and SAT skills. Major writers may include, but are not limited to, the Beowulf poet, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Austen, the Romantic poets, Shelley, Orwell, and Conrad.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: English I at Porter-Gaud

English III | Yearlong Course

The first semester focuses on American Romanticism. This course follows the great flowering of American literature from ~1820 until ~1890 and may include the works of Washington Irving, James Fenimore Cooper, Henry David Thoreau, Ralph Waldo Emerson, E.A. Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Emily Dickinson, and Walt Whitman, among others. Students explore various themes of the movement, including the veneration of nature, bi-racial friendships, the gothic, mock gothic, and individualism. Compositions include both narrative and analysis, culminating with a short research paper on *The Scarlet Letter*.

The second semester focuses on 20th-Century American Literature. In the second semester, students examine the differing faces of the individual as expressed in literature during the dynamic growth of the United States between 1900 and 2000. Particular attention is paid to the elements of race, gender, and class and the shifting tensions that have existed between them. Topics and works may include the Harlem Renaissance; *The Great Gatsby*; the poetry of Pound, Stevens, Williams, Frost, and Ginsberg; the plays of Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams; and various short

stories. Compositions focus on literary analysis, including a research paper on a student-selected poet (prerequisite American Romanticism).

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Prerequisite: English I, English II

AP English Language | Yearlong Course

This course combines the objectives of the American literature survey course with a college-level writing option. Students strengthen their skills in reading non-fiction prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. AP Juniors develop their composition skills in expository writing, focusing on how the conventions and resources of language contribute to effective and persuasive prose. The objective is for students to write effectively and confidently in their college courses across the curriculum as well as in their professional and personal lives. With rare exception, the May AP test is required for all students to earn credit for the course.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: English I, English II

AP English Literature | Yearlong Course

This course involves seniors in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Students develop their understanding of how writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure to their readers and learn to analyze and interpret literature through various critical perspectives. They practice careful observation of textual detail, establishing connections among their observations and drawing inferences from those connections. Writing instruction focuses on the critical analysis of literature, improving student abilities to explain clearly and cogently their understanding and interpretation of the literary works that they read, and students are required to complete at least eight essays with rough drafts. Texts may include, but are not limited to, Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, two William Shakespeare tragedies, Herman Melville's *Billy Budd*, Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, and the short stories of Flannery O'Connor. With rare exception, the May AP test is required for all students to earn credit for the course.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: English I, English II, English III or AP English Language

English IV: Approaches to World Literature Through Teacher-Led Close Reading | Yearlong Course

This course involves seniors in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Students develop their understanding of how writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure to their readers and learn to analyze and interpret literature through various critical perspectives. They practice careful observation of textual detail, establishing connections among their observations and drawing inferences from those connections. Writing instruction focuses on the critical analysis of literature, improving student abilities to explain clearly and cogently their understanding and interpretation of the literary works that they read, and students are required to complete at least eight essays with rough drafts. Texts may include but are not limited to Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, William Shakespeare's *Othello* and *Hamlet*, Franz Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*, and the short stories of Flannery O'Connor.

This particular section approaches the literature largely through teacher-led close reading and discussion. Students who consider themselves individual learners who enjoy and learn best when a teacher frames the essential questions in a literary discussion and largely guides student learning would be a good fit for this course.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Prerequisite: English I, English II, English III

English IV: Approaches to World Literature Through Group Work & Projects | Yearlong Course

This course involves seniors in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Students develop their understanding of how writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure to their readers and learn to analyze and interpret literature through various critical perspectives. They practice careful observation of textual detail, establishing connections among their observations and drawing inferences from those connections. Writing instruction focuses on the critical analysis of literature, improving student abilities to explain clearly and cogently their understanding and interpretation of the literary works that they read, and students are required to complete at least eight essays with rough drafts. Texts may include but are not limited to Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*,

William Shakespeare's Othello and Hamlet, Franz Kafka's Metamorphosis, Toni Morrison's Beloved, Tim O'Brien's The Things They Carried, and the short stories of Flannery O'Connor.

This particular section approaches the literature largely through group work and projects, which is to say that students will work together for much of the course to forge presentations, lead discussions and debates, and present their work in a collaborative fashion. Students who learn best through small group work and cooperating with others would be a good fit for this course.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Prerequisite: English I, English II, English III

ENGLISH ELECTIVE COURSES – These offerings do not meet the English graduation requirement.

Creative Writing: Poetry

Time was when legions of high-school students wrote their own poetry, from the dark and angsty to the buoyant and celebratory, as a means for self expression in a difficult-to-navigate world. The world seems harder than ever to navigate, and so poetry seems as relevant as ever as a means of personal response to it. This course, then, aims to have students study various kinds and schools of poetry with an eye towards composing their own poems on whatever subjects they'd like. Since poems come from other poems, we will read--and learn how to read--all sorts of poets and poems to help us express ourselves as precisely and richly as possible. On a daily basis, students will read and discuss poetry from the 16th to the 21st century; on a weekly basis, students will create individual poems to share and workshop with their fellow poets. Open to juniors and seniors; no familiarity with writing poetry necessary. The only prerequisites are an interest in self expression and a love for words.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th & 12th | Prerequisite: English I, English II

Publications: Polygon Yearbook | Yearlong Course

The Yearbook class covers all facets of publishing a yearbook, including copywriting, theme development, photography, and layout design. Students learn to use an online publishing program as they cover the events of the school year for the yearbook. Each student is responsible for a minimum of eight pages of the Polygon and will receive one half of an English elective credit for each year in the class.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th | Course level: Pass/Fail | Prerequisite: none

Publications: WATCH Magazine | Yearlong Course

Born out of a marriage between The Porter Grits newspaper and the school's elder WATCH Literary Magazine, WATCH Magazine is designed to incorporate the best of both of these publications into a newer form that features editorials, interviews, news stories, literary works, and visual art from throughout the campus. Applicants making the small staff will be expected next year to attend class and meetings on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 3:20 until 4:05 and to adhere to all deadlines with careful, polished work. Staff members will earn one half of an English elective credit for each year that they remain on the staff.

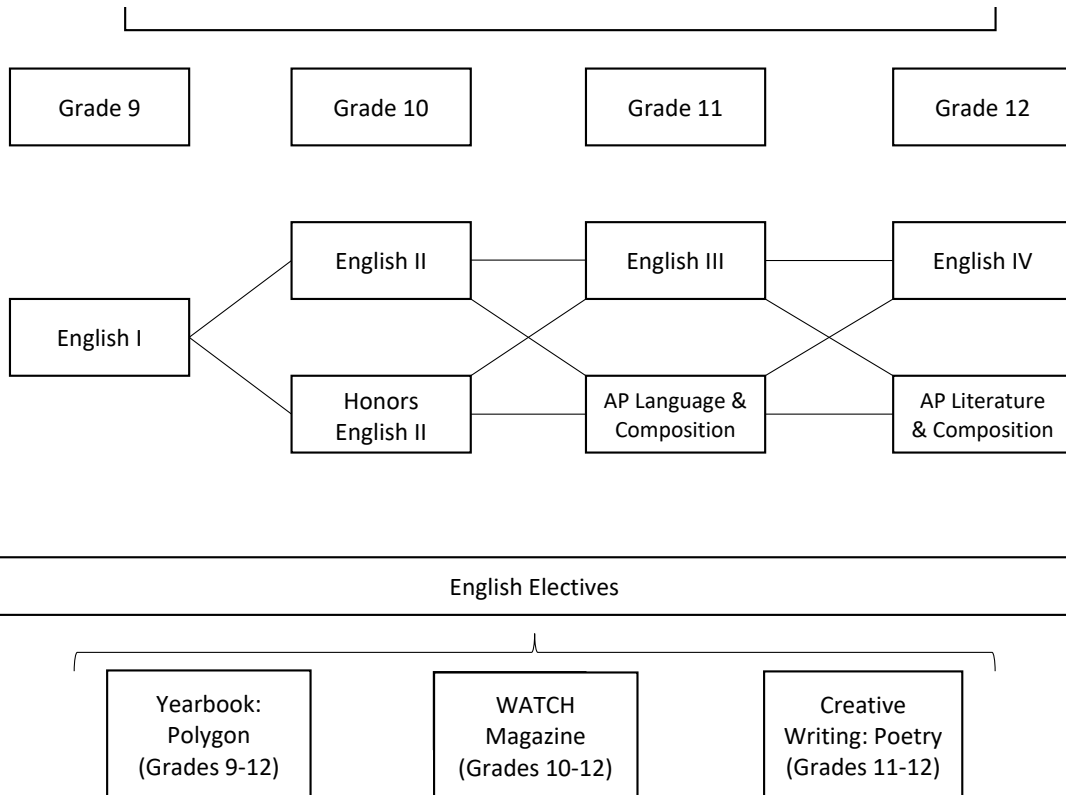
Eligible Grade Level: 10th, 11th, 12th | Course level: Pass/Fail | Prerequisite: none

ENGLISH NON-CREDIT COURSES – This offering does not meet the English graduation requirement and is not officially scheduled for any credit.

Individual Literary Exploration – The independent study through the department is offered in special cases for those students in the Upper School who are independently pursuing an English-based passion project (a novel, a series of poems or short fiction works, a longer, dissertation-like investigation). Students who wish to pursue such a project must submit a proposal to the Department that outlines their project and interest and exhibits their commitment towards meeting with an individual faculty member bimonthly for discussion, review, and critique of their work. Instruction takes place during the school day at the convenience of the instructor and the student.

PLEASE NOTE: This course does not receive a grade or an official transcript designation.

ENGLISH SEQUENCE



Arsenal of Democracy
ian Principles



HISTORY

"The study of history requires investigation, imagination, empathy, and respect," said Jill Lepore.

Featured on some of Porter-Gaud's history class bulletin boards or websites, quotations like Prof. Lepore's reflect the History Department's emphasis on the deeper significance of the discipline beyond "knowing" what happened in the past. Studying history means trying to make sense of causes and effects of major historical developments that have social, cultural, political, and economic implications for the world. Studying history means experiencing history, which includes empathy for and understanding of historic cultures and societies, as well as individuals of every sociopolitical stratum. Studying history means demonstrating a broader comprehension of the world and its inhabitants, while being able to think and write critically through the evaluation of evidence, both subjective and objective, in order to formulate clear positions that require analysis, synthesis, contextualization, and historical "literacy."

Consequently, the History Department places a greater emphasis on thematic history and the interrelationship of events over "memorization of facts," challenging students to focus more on the "how" and "why," rather than the "names" and "dates." The department also emphasizes the instructional goal of empowering students to personalize history while appreciating the achievements and sacrifices of those who came before them. History, ultimately, is a complicated story that requires critical analysis to comprehend, and our goal is to guide students through this complex narrative in order to be more prepared to make educated decisions in a diverse and shifting world that has been forged by decisions and developments of the past. Our students will become leaders in this world, and they will have the tools necessary to manage and understand their role within it through their coursework here at Porter-Gaud.

In the words of David McCullough, "history is who we are and why we are the way we are." If we can share our own enthusiasm and value for the discipline as a medium to better understand our world and life itself, we will be contributing to a more promising future.

Course Offerings:

World History I / Honors	Honors History of Western Thought:	AP World History
World History II	Philosophy	AP U.S. History
U.S. History	AP Comparative Government	AP U.S. Gov't and Politics
U.S. Gov't/Civics & Economics	AP Microeconomics	
Honors History of World Religions	AP Macroeconomics	

History Department Honors/AP Admissions Criteria

The following criteria are considered for admission into the 9th grade Honors course:

- Grade in 8th grade history: 93 minimum
- Recommendation of current history teacher
- Writing sample

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely | Meet 0 – Not Approved

The following criteria are considered for admission into an Honors or AP History course:

- Grade in current history course (90 for non-AP, 86 for Honors, 83 for AP)
- Recommendation of current history teacher
- PSAT critical reading score of 530 or above (for rising eleventh and twelfth graders)

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely | Meet 0 – Not Approved

The following criteria are considered for admission into the AP Microeconomics/AP Macroeconomics courses:

- Grade in current history course (90 for non-AP, 83 for AP)
- Recommendation of current history teacher
- PSAT verbal score of 530 or above; PSAT math score of 530 or above

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely | Meet 0 – Not Approved

HISTORY COURSE SELECTIONS

World History I: Ancient & Non-Western World History | Yearlong Course

In World History I, students study human societies from the Neolithic era through the European Renaissance. This course relies on a combination of factual knowledge and appropriate analytical and writing skills. It also highlights the nature of change in an international framework as well as a comparison between and among civilizations.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

Honors World History I: Ancient & Non-Western World History | Yearlong Course

In World History I, students study human societies from the Neolithic era through the European Renaissance. This course relies on a combination of factual knowledge and appropriate analytical and writing skills. It also highlights the nature of change in an international framework as well as a comparison between and among civilizations. The honors-level course is designed to establish a foundation for continued advanced coursework in the History Department and is reading and writing intensive.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: none

World History II: Modern World History | Yearlong Course

In World History II, students gain a broad understanding of the political, economic, social, and cultural attributes of world societies from 1500 to the present. Through examination of the significant characteristics of past societies and historical movements, students develop an appreciation for the impact of ideologies, conflict, and globalization on the contemporary world. In addition to exploring the nature of world societies, this curriculum is designed to develop critical reading, writing, research, and thinking skills.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th | Prerequisite: World History I

AP World History | Yearlong Course

Students in AP World History undertake a comparative study of human societies within prescribed historical periods, from the foundations of history to the present, in order to identify the broad patterns and processes that explain change and continuity over time. Organized around specific themes of World History, the course is designed both to provide relevant factual knowledge and to foster analytical and interpretive skills. Together, these attributes will empower students to derive informed conclusions about complex historical themes. Congruent with the AP Curriculum, this class culminates in the May AP Exam for potential college credit.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: World History I

US History | Yearlong Course

This survey course will cover United States history beginning with the colonial period and stretching into the 1980s. The course will stress American political, social, cultural, and economic history. Intellectually, this course should be a good preparation for the demands of college work, as it will require students to think critically about readings, hone their skills in writing and research, and strengthen their ability to vary perspective and challenge interpretations of events, while analyzing the context of America's contemporary structure.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Prerequisite: World History I and II

AP US History | Yearlong Course

This intensive survey expands American historical literacy by way of thematic conceptualization of key historical trends and analysis of instrumental changes over time that have shaped the American identity. The course objectives are to improve each student's analytical and critical-thinking skills, writing skills, study skills, knowledge of significant major events and individuals in U.S. history, including various interpretations of these events, knowledge of geography, research skills, and public speaking skills. Congruent with the AP Curriculum, this class culminates in the May AP Exam for potential college credit.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: World History I and II

History elective courses:

AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, US Government and Civics, and Economics may be taken separately as semester courses. AP US Government, AP Comparative Government, US Government, Economics, Honors History of Western Thought/Philosophy, and Honors World Religions are upperclassmen history electives that may not be used to fulfill the 3rd year United States history requirement. In addition to three years of history, all students must graduate with a semester or yearlong passing grade in a government course [US Government and Civics; AP US Government and Politics; AP Comparative Government and Politics].

AP US Government and Politics | Yearlong Course

AP Government challenges students to explore the fundamental institutions that make up American government. The course analyzes how these institutions influence public policy decision-making and fosters the abilities and knowledge necessary to affect change in American Government. This course also analyzes the various influences on American government and helps students wrestle with contemporary topics and issues that require government involvement. Congruent with the AP Curriculum, this class culminates in the May AP Exam for potential college credit.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

AP Comparative Government and Politics | Yearlong Course

Comparative Government challenges students to compare the governments and political structures and policies of the following nations: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. Students will focus on understanding the political, social, and economic challenges within the selected countries and gain a stronger understanding of their socio-political conditions and how they cope with global issues. Through this course, students will develop a broader vision of international politics while expanding their ability to consider different worldviews through analysis of unique political systems outside the United States. Congruent with the AP Curriculum, this class culminates in the May AP Exam for potential college credit.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

US Government and Civics | Fall/Spring Semester Course

US Government and Civics introduces students to the fundamental structure of the U.S. government, including analysis of each of the three branches of government and their relationship with each other and state and municipal laws. Students will also study essential Supreme Court cases that ground Americans' civil liberties and civil rights, while deepening their understanding of American citizenship. This course will help students navigate the complex institutions that affect government and politics, such as interest groups, media, and political parties.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

****This course cannot be taken simultaneously with AP United States Government and Politics or after a student has already passed AP United States Government and Politics**

Economics and Personal Finance | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course introduces students to the fundamental economic question faced by individuals and society: how do we best utilize our scarce resources? Students will explore core concepts such as opportunity cost, supply and demand, and marginal analysis, in order to make sound individual level decisions. Students will explore the economy as a whole, learning to evaluate national economic health through the study of economic indicators. They will also learn how the government uses fiscal and monetary policy to intervene in order to spur growth or control inflation. The second half of the course focuses on Personal Finance, including decisions they will have to make as adults regarding topics including home mortgages, credit cards, investments, insurance, and budgeting. The course will include several projects and simulations in order to assess student learning.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

****This course cannot be taken simultaneously with AP Microeconomics/AP Macroeconomics or after a student has already passed AP Microeconomics/AP Macroeconomics**

AP Macroeconomics | Fall Semester Course

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college course that holistically analyzes economic conditions in the United States and evaluates government responses to those conditions. In particular, it considers how fiscal and monetary policy is used to impact changes in aggregate demand and inflation. There is an emphasis on the construction and analysis of graphs to demonstrate how decisions are made, and favors quantitatively inclined students who think more conceptually. Congruent with the AP Curriculum, this class culminates in the May AP Exam for potential college credit.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

[Enrolling in this course assumes paired enrollment in AP Microeconomics]

AP Microeconomics | Spring Semester Course

AP Microeconomics is an introductory college course that explores the nature of individual and business decision making in the marketplace. Students will investigate various market conditions that influence such decisions as how much of a good should be produced, and at what price it will be sold. There is particular emphasis on the construction and analysis of graphs to demonstrate how these decisions are made and favors quantitatively inclined students who think more concretely. Congruent with the AP Curriculum, this class culminates in the May AP Exam for potential college credit.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

[Enrolling in this course assumes paired enrollment in AP Macroeconomics]

Honors History of Western Thought: Philosophy | Yearlong Course

Beginning with the pre-Socratics, the first semester concludes with Descartes; the second semester continues the philosophical survey through Wittgenstein in the early 20th century. This survey course includes lectures on the chronology and contributions of major thinkers, but its greater emphasis features intensive discussion of primary source material, which spans the fields of mathematics, science, theology, aesthetics, political theory, and ethics. This honors-level elective is reading and writing intensive.

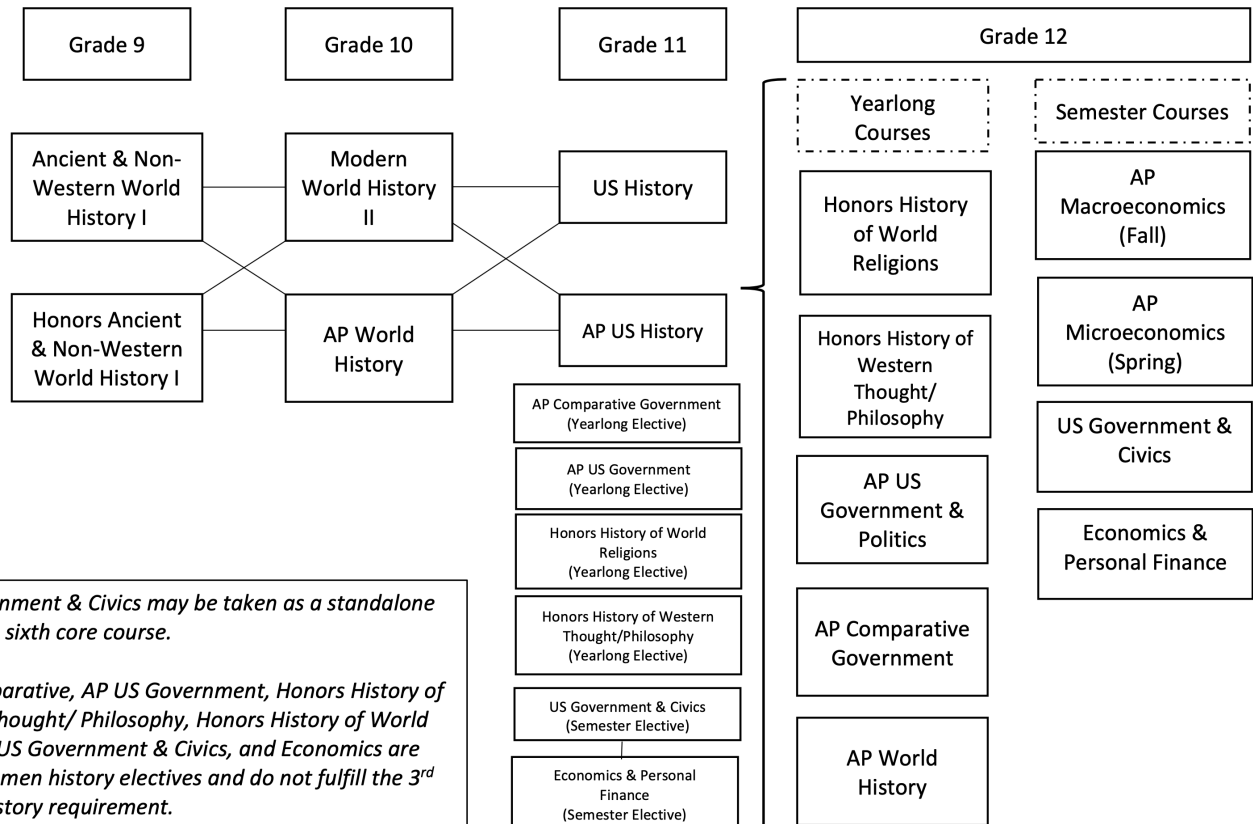
Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

Honors History of World Religions | Yearlong Course

This honors-level survey of World Religions aspires to challenge students' preconceptions regarding religion as a historical and cultural phenomenon. Study begins with an examination of the critique of the religious foundation, writ large. With a focus on reading the world's great religious scriptures as primary sources, the principal tenets of the major world religions will be explored in greater detail to rebuild an informed religious edifice. The course culminates with students better apprised of the diverse iterations of human religious experience, more capable of reconstructing his or her emerging definition of Religion in the format of a final project. This elective is reading and writing intensive.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: World History I and II | Corequisite: US History/AP US History

HISTORY SEQUENCE





FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts Department offers students a variety of courses throughout the year to prepare them for a career in the arts, an appreciation of the arts or even an opportunity to explore something out of their comfort zone.

Students are able to create a path for themselves through music, drama, dance or visual art that will enable them to cultivate a better understanding of their aspirations.

They will gain their voice in 10th grade Public Speaking class, embark upon a musical journey in choir, jazz band or music theory and explore their artistic creativity with different mediums in the art studio. There are more opportunities for students interested in drama, music and dance to further their interest in performance, technical theatre or stage crew.

Course Offerings:

Public Speaking	Digital Design & Photography	AP Music Theory
Debate	Intro to Dance	Intro to Costume Design
Studio Art I, II	Dance II, III	Chamber Singers
Honors Studio Art III	Intro to Music	Performance Choir
AP Studio Art	Instrumental Music: Piano	Handbells
Honors Art History	Honors Music Theory	Jazz Ensemble

Fine Arts Department Honors/AP Admissions Criteria

AP Studio Art

- +Students must have taken the prerequisite courses Studio Art I and Studio Art II, earning a grade of 93 or higher.
- +Courses in Studio Art III and/or Honors Art History are strongly recommended.
- +Completed projects from Studio Art II and III will be evaluated to determine if the student is a candidate for AP Studio Art.
- +Teacher recommendation is required.

Meet all 4 criteria: Approved | Meet 3 of 4 criteria: Approval likely | Meet 2 of 4: Approval unlikely | Meet 1 of 4: Not Approved

AP Music Theory

- +Students must have taken the prerequisite courses: Honors Music Theory, and earned a grade of 93% or better.
- +Students must audition to show the ability to sing on pitch
- +All students must take a music literacy and skills assessment to determine whether or not the student has a working knowledge of basic music theory.
- +A teacher recommendation is required.

Meet all 4 criteria – Approved | Meet 3 of 4 – Approval likely | Meet 2 of 4 – Approval unlikely | Meet 0 or 1 – Not Approved

Theatre and Dance Course Admission Criteria

Dance II

- +Grades 10-12
- +Introduction to Dance
- +Students must be willing to try new things, perform in front of an audience (large or small)
- +Be willing to learn and execute dance steps and movement techniques
- +Be willing to observe and criticize one another's work
- +Conversation with and recommendation from current instructor

Dance III

- +Grades 10-12
- +Introduction to Dance, Dance II
- +Students must be willing to try new things, perform in front of an audience (large or small)
- +Be willing to learn and execute dance steps and movement techniques
- +Be willing to observe and criticize one another's work
- +Conversation with and recommendation from current instructor

FINE ARTS COURSE SELECTIONS

AP Studio Art | Yearlong Course

This course continues the development of pieces for the breadth while extending and expanding on the study of a chosen concentration. It is designed for students who are not only seriously interested in the study of art but also, and more importantly, willing to put in a substantial amount of time in developing mastery of the concept, composition, and execution of their artwork. This course's ultimate purpose is to facilitate the completion of a successful Portfolio of work to be submitted for one of the three AP Portfolios (2-D Design, 3-D Design, or Drawing)

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisites: Studio Art I and Studio Art II

Honors Art History | Yearlong Course

This course roughly parallels the content of a college freshman year Art History course. This course offers students the opportunity to explore, in depth the history of art from ancient times to the present, including both European and non-European cultures. Through textbook (Jansen's Art History for Young People) readings, research, power points, videos, DVD's, students will view significant artworks from around the world. Writing skills will be important in the description, analysis, and comparison of these works. Students are encouraged to keep a notebook to record class discussion on significant historical events, art periods/styles, specific artworks, and issues/themes that connect these artworks.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | No prerequisite is needed. However, Studio Art I & II is recommended.

DESIGN AND HUMANITIES SEMESTER COURSE OFFERINGS

Studio Art I | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This introductory art course teaches students the building blocks (aka "the RULES") needed to create successful pieces of artwork. To do this, students will develop an understanding of the Elements of Design: Line, Shape, Form, Value, Color, Space, Texture, learn how to use these elements to portray the Principles of Design: Balance, Unity, Contrast, Emphasis, Pattern, Movement, Rhythm in their work, and work with a variety of introductory materials including charcoal, pencil, pen and ink, colored pencils, pastels, and acrylics.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th

Prerequisites: none

Studio Art II | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This developmental art course builds upon the foundation laid in Studio Art I while teaching students how to use the rules to guide their personal creativity. This course also introduces students to more advanced materials and techniques while fine-tuning their use of the basic skills previously learned.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Studio Art I

Honors Studio Art III | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This advanced art course gives students the time and instruction needed to begin to develop successful pieces that represent the Breadth of his or her artistic knowledge. Through varied explorative assignments students will discover an assortment of artistic problems to solve. Students will also keep a sketchbook in which they can begin to explore options for a Concentration. This course will prepare students to move forward successfully into the AP Studio Art course.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisites: Studio Art I and Studio Art II

Digital Design & Photography | Fall/Spring Semester Course

Digital Design & Photography is an introductory, project-based course that explores the use of digital mediums for visual communication and artistic expression. Through the use of products such as the Adobe Creative Suite: (InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator) Canva, and Procreate, students will hone skills in digital design. Principles of art and design and fundamental photography techniques will be applied to create visually appealing art, logos, digital patterns, and presentation images.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisites: none

PRESENTATION SPEAKING

Public Speaking | Fall/Spring Semester Course

The course objective is to train the student in practical methods for development and delivery of the informative and persuasive public speech, including theoretical bases for speech development, composition and delivery. Exercises and applications include extemporaneous and impromptu speaking; information, persuasion, and introduction speeches; and speeches with visual aids. Students will be evaluated by the instructor as well as by other students. Discussions cover topics such as listening, contemporary speechmakers, and proper audience behavior. Skills required for development of the public speech, such as expository writing style and research methods, have cross applications to other core courses. In addition, speaking before an audience prepares the student for collegiate and business presentations.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisites: none | Required for all Sophomores

Debate | Fall/Spring Semester Course

An introductory course, Debate covers a variety of styles of public speaking and formal debate. Through research and practice students will become familiar with these styles through instruction, research, and practice. Students will prepare for Debate competitions when applicable and attend conferences when the timing works with the PG calendar.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisites: none

PERFORMING ARTS: THEATRE, DANCE, MUSIC

Intro to Music | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course will expose students to a variety of musical styles and genres. A heavy emphasis will be placed on the use of recording technology via Garageband. Students will use this platform to create original song projects in a variety of genres. Students will study the birth of rock and roll, jazz and classical music. No previous music experience is required.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisites: none

Honors Music Theory | Yearlong Course

Honors Music Theory covers topics such as note and rhythm reading, meter, chords, scales, inversions, and 4 part writing. Students will engage in ear training and sight singing exercises as well. Some basic musical knowledge is required and that can be determined by a skills assessment.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisites: none

AP Music Theory | Yearlong Course

AP Music Theory prepares students for the demands of the AP Theory exam. A skills assessment can determine AP readiness. In addition to all that is covered in Honors Music Theory, AP students will do melodic and harmonic dictations, realize figured bass lines, and harmonize given melodies.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Honors Music Theory unless the student has significant prior knowledge

Instrumental Music: Piano 101 | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This class teaches the student how to play the piano and no previous experience is necessary. Students will learn note reading, rhythms, scales, chords, and chord progressions. The students will have the skills demonstrated to them and then will have their own keyboard/piano to practice on. The final exam consists of learning and memorizing a piece of music.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisites: none

THEATRE AND DANCE COURSE OFFERINGS

Introduction to Costume Design | Spring Semester Course

This course meets from 3:20 – 4:05 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the purpose of this course is to cover the basic elements of costume design, including character/script analysis, collaboration, research, visual design ideas and techniques, budgeting and time management as well as creation and execution of costumes for production. Period research, design and rendering skills will be fostered through practical exercises and projects.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

Introduction to Dance (Fall/Spring) | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course is designed to expose students to a variety of dance forms and techniques while encouraging self-discipline and confidence. The students will develop body control and coordination while learning dance steps, terminology, combinations, and dances. The dancers will experiment with creative movement and be introduced to choreographic principles and processes. As the students learn stage movement concepts and musical theatre styles of dance, it will tie into their stage movement and performance. There will be elements of Jazz, tap and ballet involved in all of the theatre movements and dance as well as LMA (Laban Movement Analysis). Movement for the athlete will also be incorporated into the dance program. This will include strength training, stretching, coordination skills, and drills to improve quickness.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

Dance II (Fall) | Fall Semester Course

Dance II is a continuation of Dance I. In Dance I a strong foundation of dance basics, stretching and movement techniques were taught. In Dance II the student will be able to expand that basic knowledge and move towards a level involving performance, more difficult choreography, and a better understanding of different styles of dance. The students will be able to move right into this next level with the structure they have been taught in Dance I. Movement for the athlete will also be incorporated into the Dance II program. This will include strength training, stretching, coordination skills, and drills to improve quickness. Drills and exercises that are currently in the College of Charleston Athletic dance curriculum will be used for the athletes at Porter-Gaud.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Introduction to Dance

Dance III (Fall/Spring) | Fall/Spring Semester Course

Dance III is a continuation of Dance II. In Dance II a strong foundation of dance basics, stretching and movement techniques were taught. In Dance III the student will be able to expand that basic knowledge and move towards a level involving performance, more difficult choreography and a better understanding of different styles of dance. The students will be able to move right into this next level with the structure they have been taught in Dance II. They will also now have the studio space to really expand their training in the new dance studio.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisites: Introduction to Dance; Dance II

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE GROUPS

Please note the Choir, Jazz Ensemble, and Handbells are graded on a pass – fail basis.

Choir | Yearlong Course

Students will learn the discipline, skill, and vocal performance within a group. The chorus will study basic techniques of singing while preparing numerous concert selections of various musical styles and periods. All students, who wish to sing, are welcome to join our chorus. Students are required to participate in all dress rehearsals and concerts. Rehearsal attendance, basic choral theory knowledge, effort, class participation, and music preparation at home will be the determining factors of the student's grade. In the event of an excused or non-excused absence, students missing a concert and/or dress rehearsal must complete an alternate assignment. Chorus meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 3:20 until 4:05. Uniform Concert Dress is required and must be purchased by the student.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th; 11th; 12th | Course level: Pass/Fail | Prerequisites: none

Jazz Ensemble | Yearlong Course

Students will learn the basic techniques of jazz ensemble playing. Students must have a knowledge of their instrument and should have taken or are presently taking private lessons. The Jazz Ensemble meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays before school from 7:15 to 7:55. All students will be required to participate at all concerts. Uniform Concert Dress is required.

Director: Hugh Knight

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th; 11th; 12th | Course level: Pass/Fail | Prerequisites: knowledge of their instrument and should have taken or are presently taking private lessons

Handbell Choir | Yearlong Course

Students will learn the basic techniques of handbell ensemble playing. The Chamber Handbell Choir, comprised of the most experienced ringers, meets before school on Monday and Friday from 7:15 to 7:55. All students are required to participate at all concerts. The Developmental Handbell Choir is open to 9th and 10th grade students and meets before school on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:15 to 7:55. Uniform Concert Dress is required.

Director: Hugh Knight

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th; 11th; 12th | Course level: Pass/Fail | Prerequisites: none

Chamber Singers | Yearlong Course

This select ensemble provides advanced singing experience for mixed voices in a small group setting. This ensemble performs several times during the year, including Founder's Day, Lessons and Carols, Spring Concert, Baccalaureate, and other community performances. There is potential for group travel. All students are required to participate in all concerts. Students in this ensemble will also have the opportunity to audition for PorterBellas, our a cappella group. Students in Chamber Singers are required to perform with the Upper School Choir.

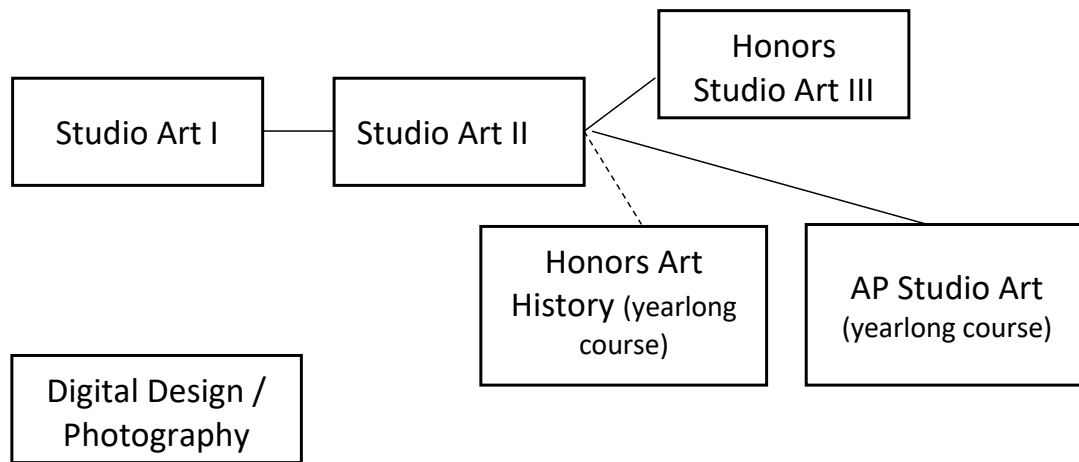
Director: Brink Norton | Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th; 11th; 12th | Course level: Pass/Fail

Prerequisites: Audition or prior participation in Chamber Singers

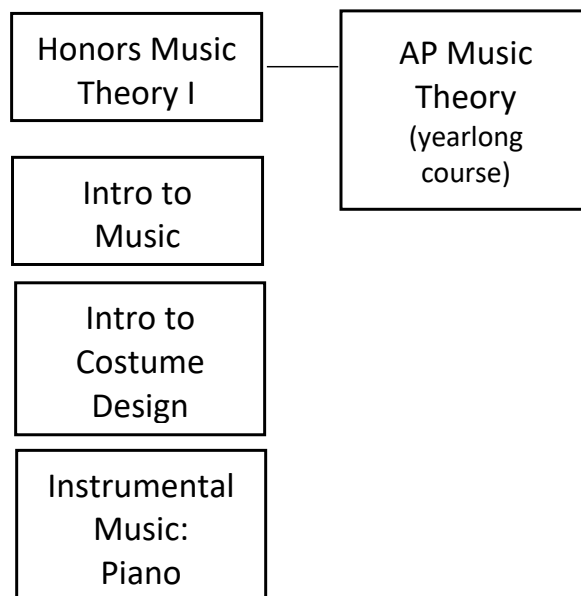
**This is a non-credit ensemble and will not be scheduled by the Scheduler. Students will sign up for this with the Director.

FINE ARTS SEQUENCE

FINE ARTS COURSE SEQUENCE – HUMANITIES & DESIGN



PERFORMING ARTS COURSE SEQUENCE – MUSIC



FINE ARTS SEQUENCE 2

PERFORMING ARTS COURSE SEQUENCE – PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public Speaking

Debate

PERFORMING ARTS COURSE SEQUENCE – DANCE

Introduction
to Dance

Dance II

Dance III

PERFORMING ARTS COURSE OFFERINGS – MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

Performance
Choir
(yearlong
course)

Jazz
Ensemble
(yearlong
course)

Handbell
Choir
(yearlong
course)

Chamber
Singers
(yearlong
course)



MATHEMATICS

We strive to lead students in their development of a solid foundation in the mathematical concepts and critical thinking skills that will make them 21st century problem-solvers and innovators. Our students are not only building the foundation related to content but they are also building the skills needed for students to be successful independent learners of math. Teachers of all grade levels strive to put students in situations where they have the opportunity to hone their problem solving and critical thinking skills. These opportunities are scaffolded by grade level and course. The guiding principles of every lesson are driven by the mission of the school and vision of the Porter-Gaud graduate.

Course Offerings:

Algebra I	Honors Precalculus AB	AP Calculus AB
Geometry / Honors	Honors Precalculus BC	AP Calculus BC
Algebra II	College Algebra / Prob & Stats	Multivariable Calc /Linear Algebra
Honors Algebra II & Trigonometry	Advanced Algebra w Financial Apps	
Functions, Stats, and Trigonometry	AP Statistics	

Math Department Honors/AP Admissions Criteria

It is the goal of the Porter Gaud mathematics department to provide every Porter Gaud student with an opportunity to be successful in their study of mathematics while simultaneously being challenged to reach the highest level of expertise possible. A student's placement in the correct course is extremely important.

Honors and AP Mathematics students are self-motivated, critical thinkers who enjoy exploration, problem solving, and learning mathematics. Invitation for enrollment in Honors and AP math courses are made by the math department as a whole, and are based on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- +Overall grade in all prior math courses
- +Honors Geometry – 90 or better in Honors Algebra I; 96 or better in Algebra 1
- +Honors Algebra II – 90 or better in Honors Geometry; 96 or better in Geometry
- +Honors Precalculus AB – 80 or better in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry; 85 or better in Algebra II
- +Honors Precalculus BC– 90 or better in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry
- +AP Calculus AB – 80 or better in Honors Precalculus BC; 85 or better in Honors Precalculus AB
- +AP Calculus BC – 90 or better in Honors Precalculus BC
- +AP Statistics – 85 or better in Honors Algebra II, Honors Precalculus AB or BC; 93 or better in FST or Algebra II
- +Recommendations of current and previous math teachers
- +Midterm and Final exam grades in prior math courses
- +Strong work ethic
- +Standardized test scores (ERB, PSAT, ACT, or SAT)

****Some placements may require additional preparation/summer work by students to ensure that they are prepared to succeed in the course they seek to take.**

****Should a student's performance in his/her current math course change significantly in the second semester, the math department reserves the right to amend their initial recommendation in order to best serve the students of Porter Gaud.**

Appeal policy:

Students who did not receive an initial recommendation for an Honors or AP level class for next year fell short in meeting this department's criteria for admission. However, a formal process of appeal exists for students interested in pursuing admission into an Honors or AP course.

The following two steps must be followed:

- +Request an appeal's form from the department chair;
- +Fully complete by yourself the form and return it to the department chair by the specified deadline. Forms will not be accepted after the published deadline.

Once a student has submitted the request, the following steps will occur:

- +The appeal will be reviewed by the department chair and department members;
- +Students will be notified by the department chair of the department's decision;
- +Notification could be made anytime up to the end of the year if the department wishes to review final grades and the final exam.

MATHEMATICS COURSE SELECTIONS

Algebra I | Yearlong Course

This course is the foundation for Upper School mathematics. Students are first introduced to the language of algebra and functions. Students learn to read, write, and evaluate algebraic expressions. Next, students learn how to work with fundamental operations of polynomials, linear equations, and linear inequalities. The second semester covers linear systems, quadratic expressions and equations, factoring, rational equations, radicals, and radical equations. Graphing calculators are introduced and problem solving is emphasized throughout this course.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Geometry | Yearlong Course

This course in Euclidean Geometry focuses on reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and solids. Students discover theorems dealing with congruence, similarity, right triangles, area, and volume for geometric figures. Coordinate geometry, algebra skills, and problem solving are reinforced throughout the year. The geometry course requires fundamental algebra skills and aids in the reinforcement and enrichment of those skills in preparation for Algebra II.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Prerequisite: Algebra I

Honors Geometry | Yearlong Course

This course in Euclidean Geometry focuses on reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and solids. Students discover theorems dealing with congruence, similarity, right triangles, area, and volume for geometric figures. Coordinate geometry, algebra skills, and problem solving are reinforced throughout the year. Problems in Honors Geometry are more abstract and challenging, and topics are covered at a faster pace. The course requires fundamental algebra skills and aids in the reinforcement and enrichment of those skills in preparation for Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors Algebra I and invitation by the math department

Algebra II | Yearlong Course

Algebra II is designed to reinforce and extend the concepts introduced in Algebra I and Geometry and to thoroughly cover the standard topics of intermediate algebra. The concept of functions, specifically linear and quadratic functions, is more fully developed. New functions such as absolute value, exponential, logarithmic, radical, rational and

polynomial functions are then explored. The studies of conic sections, sequences, series, probability, and/or elementary trigonometry complete the course. Problem solving is emphasized throughout this course, and graphing calculators are essential.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry | Yearlong Course

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry is a rigorous fast paced course designed to reinforce and extend the concepts introduced in Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry, and to thoroughly cover the standard topics of intermediate algebra. The concept of functions, specifically linear and quadratic functions, is more fully developed. New functions such as absolute value, exponential, logarithmic, radical, rational and polynomial functions are then explored. The trigonometric and circular functions are thoroughly covered in this course in addition to the algebra concepts. Problem solving is emphasized throughout this course, and graphing calculators are essential.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th; 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors Algebra I; Honors Geometry; invitation by the math department

Functions, Statistics, and Trigonometry (FST) | Yearlong Course

This course is an alternative to Precalculus and is designed for students who intend to take college algebra or elementary statistics in college. Students will explore function theory, statistics, and trigonometry in depth. Topics include data analysis, probability and simulation, normal distributions, sequences and series, trigonometric functions, exponential and log functions, and function transformations. Students will learn the statistical analysis program fathom and Microsoft Excel to aid in their mastery of univariate and bivariate data analysis. Graphing calculators are essential in this course.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II

Honors Precalculus AB | Yearlong Course

This course builds on the skills and concepts cultivated in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. It is designed to be the first year of a two-year program that concludes with the study of AP Calculus (AB). The course begins by continuing the study of linear, quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, and other functions. Composite and inverse functions are also examined. The trigonometric and circular functions are also introduced in this course. The second semester studies trigonometric equations and identities, non-right triangle trigonometry, conic sections, complex numbers, sequences and series, probability, and vectors.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II, invitation by the math department

Honors Precalculus BC | Yearlong Course

This course is a fast-paced and rigorous introduction to Precalculus. It is designed to be the first year of a two-year program that concludes with the study of AP Calculus (BC). This course is open only to students who have been invited by the mathematics department. The syllabus includes a thorough review of trigonometry as well as standard topics in advanced algebra, including exponential and logarithmic functions, vectors, polar coordinates, and sequences and series. During the second semester, students will be introduced to basic topics of differential calculus such as limits, continuity, the limit definition of the derivative, and techniques of differentiation.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry; invitation by the math department

Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications | Yearlong Course

Advanced Algebra with Financial Applications is a mathematical modeling course that is algebra-based, applications-oriented, and technology-dependent. The course addresses banking, investing, credit, employment and income taxes, automobile ownership, independent living, retirement planning and household budgeting. Students are encouraged to use a variety of problem-solving skills and strategies in real-world contexts, and to question outcomes using mathematical analysis and data to support their findings.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th

Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II

Elementary Probability and Statistics | Fall Semester Course

Students develop the skills to collect, analyze and interpret data, as well as develop proficiency in the use of Microsoft Excel. We are inundated by numbers that communicate powerful messages. As a citizen in today's society, one must be able to interpret the "real" story behind the numbers. Likewise, given the overwhelming amount of data available to us, we must also be able to make sense of the data – to tell its story. This is a course focused on building analytic skills and writing stories about data.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II | Must be paired with College Algebra

College Algebra | Spring Semester Course

This course serves as a building block for students planning to excel in or test out of their first college mathematics class. The topics covered include fundamental algebraic operations, radicals, systems of equations, higher order degree equations, inequalities, absolute value, logarithms, matrices, and binomial theorem.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th

Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II; Elementary Probability and Statistics | Must be paired with Elementary Probability and Statistics

AP Calculus AB | Yearlong Course

AP Calculus AB follows the advanced placement syllabus and concentrates on the skills, concepts, and applications of differential and integral calculus. This is a college level course. It requires deep thinking and problem solving as well as reading and writing. There is a strong emphasis on student responsibility for learning. All students are expected to take the Advanced Placement AB exam in the spring.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th

Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II; H Precalculus AB; invitation by the math department

AP Calculus BC | Yearlong Course

AP Calculus BC follows the advanced placement syllabus by covering all the material in the AB course, extending the study of some of those topics, and thoroughly covering Taylor series. This is a college level course. It requires deep thinking and problem solving as well as reading and writing. There is a strong emphasis on student responsibility for learning. All students are expected to take the Advanced Placement BC exam in the spring.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th

Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II; H Precalculus BC; invitation by the math department

AP Statistics | Yearlong Course

AP Statistics follows the advanced placement syllabus and includes data analysis, experimental design, probability, and statistical inference. This course is a college level course. It requires deep thinking and problem solving as well as reading and writing. There is a strong emphasis on student responsibility for learning. All students are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam in the spring.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th

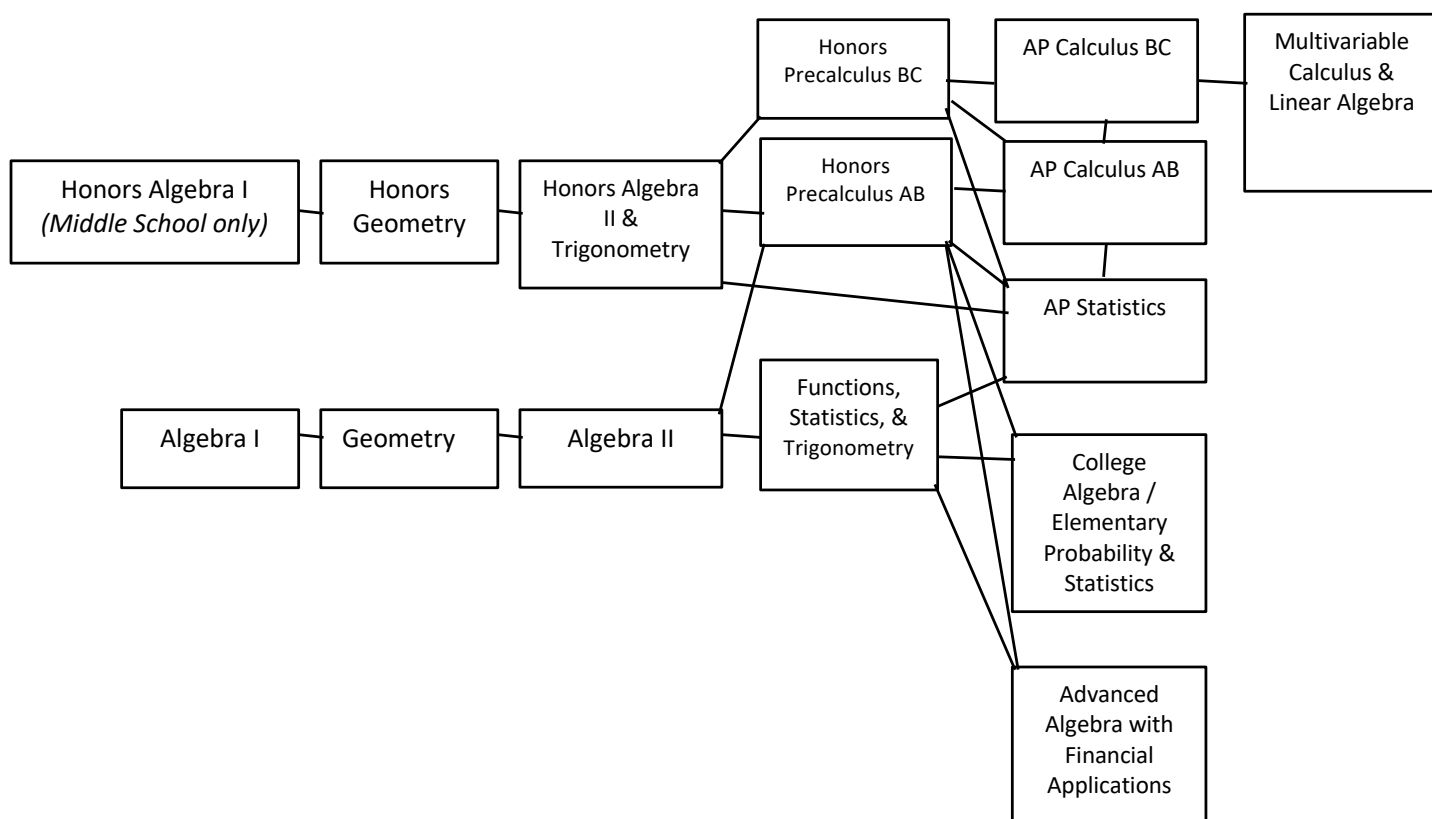
Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II; invitation by the math department. FST or Precalculus strongly encouraged but not required.

Multivariable Calculus and Linear Algebra | Yearlong Course

This course has a prerequisite of AP Calculus BC. Students will continue their study of calculus with the following topics: vectors and matrices, partial derivatives, double and triple integrals, and vector calculus in 2 and 3-space in the first semester. Students will also study matrix theory as it relates to linear algebraic systems.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Algebra I; Geometry; Honors Algebra II; H Precalculus BC; AP Calculus BC; invitation by the math department

MATHEMATICS SEQUENCE





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Porter-Gaud Physical Education program is designed to develop each student's physical, emotional, and social growth. Physical Education in Upper School is focused on continuing to build on the knowledge and understanding of health-related physical fitness through exercise and organized game play. Students will learn through team games the importance of working together for a common goal, being great teammates and displaying great sportsmanship. The curriculum strives to promote students' self-confidence by cultivating a positive environment through sports activities as well as building on their base knowledge of fitness that the students can carry with them throughout their lives.

Course Offerings:

PE / Health

Fitness and Wellness

Yoga, Mindfulness & Meditation

Healthy Life Skills

Cardiorespiratory Fitness

PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE SELECTIONS

Health & PE 9 | Fall/Spring Semester Course

Health and PE 9 is a required course for all students that must be completed in the 9th grade. This is a gender specific course with the objective to help students develop a positive attitude towards health and fitness. The physical education activities will continue to build upon the physical, teamwork, and leadership skills introduced in the Middle School PE curriculum. Through team sports, an emphasis will be placed on active participation and sportsmanship. In the process, the students will develop physical skills, strength, and stamina; and an appreciation of the value of physical exercise and fitness as a lifestyle choice. In health education, students cover topics such as personal fitness, nutrition, alcohol and drug abuse, healthy interpersonal relationships, stress management, and some aspects of physical, mental, and social health for total wellness. Each student will also be taught First Aid and CPR through the American Heart Association program.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

Fitness and Wellness | Fall/Spring Semester Course

Lifelong wellness and fitness are skills that must be learned and developed earlier in life. Wellness and Fitness is a course that will kickstart this lifestyle journey by introducing students to the basics of exercise, stress management techniques, and healthy nutrition habits. Students will learn the squat, push, pull and hinge movement patterns, along with other exercise variations, through individualized daily workouts. The stress management and the nutrition portions of the course will be group activity and discussion based.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

Yoga, Mindfulness & Meditation | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course is designed to build healthy physical and emotional habits while learning restorative techniques. Expect to learn yoga postures, encouraging a mindful connection back to the physical body to improve concentration and help balance emotions. Students will learn tools they can use to maintain focus, lower stress levels, increase flexibility, increase self-awareness and self-care.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th, 11th, 12th | Prerequisite: none

Healthy Life Skills | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course reviews current research and data on a variety of healthy life skill issues and strategies for improvement while students explore their physical and emotional well-being. Students will take personality assessments to learn about what makes them "tick" in all the areas of their lives. This class will offer flexible and varied activities to help develop students' awareness and knowledge of healthy behaviors and habits such as organizational, project and time management.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th, 11th, 12th | Prerequisite: none



PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE SELECTIONS

Cardiorespiratory Fitness | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course focuses on cardiorespiratory fitness using treadmills, stationary bicycles, stair climbers, rowing machines, elliptical trainers and walking/jogging around the track and spaces around our school. Focus is placed on general endurance of the respiratory and circulatory system, and providing knowledge in safe workout principles.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th, 11th, 12th | Prerequisite: none

RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY

The Religion & Philosophy Department exists to serve the mission of the Porter-Gaud School by educating students in the questions and pursuits of ultimate concern. As an Episcopal school, the Department of Religion & Philosophy engages students in the story of Israel in the Hebrew Scriptures and the person of Jesus in the Gospels, examining their virtues, morals, and ethics, and in the tenets of other world religions through respectful, inclusive, and age-appropriate ways so that graduates understand and appreciate the global diversity of world views. As we seek to educate students in the questions and pursuits of ultimate concern, the Religion & Philosophy Department values its work as an academic department. Thus, it is distinctly separate from Chapel, pastoral care, Versty, and all other forms of ministry and/or discipleship.

Course Offerings:

New Testament / Ethics

The Problem of Evil

RELIGION & PHILOSOPHY COURSE SELECTIONS

New Testament/Ethics | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This semester-length course engages students with the Judeo-Christian tradition as well as the dominant competing worldviews of our culture. All the while, it aims to provide students an understanding of these worldviews and their impact on the development of a cohesive pursuit of "the good life." Towards this end, we shall (1) explore the concept of worldview and its impact upon ethical considerations, (2) study Theism, Deism, Naturalism, Nihilism, Existentialism, Eastern Pantheistic Monism, and Postmodernism, (3) discuss and debate various classic and contemporary ethical concerns, as well as (4) cover an overview of the Hebrew Scriptures and a survey the New Testament with a particular emphasis on the Gospel of John.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

The Problem of Evil | Fall/Spring Semester Course

"If there is a meaning in life at all, then there must be a meaning in suffering. Suffering is an eradicable part of life, even as fate and death. Without suffering and death, human life cannot be complete." These words were offered by Victor Frankl shortly after his liberation from the concentration camps of Nazi Germany. They represent the experiences of a man who endured and witnessed some of the gravest occurrences and darkest moments in recorded history as well as a man who nevertheless sought meaning and purpose therein. Frankl's experiences of suffering - of evil (perhaps no other word suffices) - are of course unique in their particularities. They are, however, also universal in that they reflect the experiences of every human being. As Frankl observed, suffering is indeed ubiquitous, and there exists no culture, no religion, no philosophy worthy of the name that has not sought to make sense of it. In this course, we shall investigate and reflect upon humanity's various efforts to understand, to explain, and ultimately to endure suffering. This shall include responses to the "problem of evil" from a broad range of sources including Eastern and Western religion and philosophy, sociology, psychology, etc. Ultimately, we will together seek a broader and deeper understanding of the human experience - that of others as well as ourselves.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none



SCIENCE

One of the most important things in life is to never stop questioning. Understanding how the world works, from the smallest subatomic particles to the largest features of space, leads our students to a deeper appreciation for our place in the universe. The faculty and science curriculum at Porter-Gaud strive to develop learners who will leave our classrooms continuing to question and learn about the world around them.

Course Offerings:

Biology / Honors Biology
Chemistry / Honors Chemistry
Physics / Honors Physics
Advanced Topics in Biology
Honors Biotechnology Research

Oceanography
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics C: Mechanics
AP Environmental Science

Human Biology
Wildlife Zoology
Forensic Science
Psychology

Science Department Honors/AP Admissions Criteria

Honors Biology

- +Grade of 92 or above in 8th grade science and recommendation from 8th grade Science teacher
- +English Requirement. Must meet one of the following:
 - +ERB Reading Comprehension score of at least 7
 - +8th grade English grade of at least 90
 - +Recommendation from 8th grade English teacher
- +Math Requirement. Must meet one of the following:
 - +ERB Math combined average of at least 7
 - +8th grade Math grade of at least 90
 - +Recommendation from 8th grade Math teacher

Honors Chemistry

- +Rising Sophomores
- +Grade of 90 or above in Algebra I
- +Recommendation from current math and science teachers
- +Standardized test scores on ERB of a stanine 6 or above
- +Rising Juniors
- +Grade of 88 or above in Algebra II
- +Recommendation from current math and science teachers
- +PSAT math score of 600 or above or PreACT STEM score of 26 or above

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely

Honors Physics

- +Rising Juniors and Rising Seniors
- +PSAT Math score of 600 or above or PreACT STEM score of 26 or above
- +Algebra II average of 90 or above (88 in Honors Algebra II)
- +Strong teacher recommendations from current math and science teachers

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely

AP Chemistry

- +Grade of 88 or above in all math and science courses
- +Recommendation from current math and science teachers
- +PSAT math score of 630 or above or PreACT STEM score of 26 or above

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely

AP Biology

- +Grade of 88 or above in all math and science courses
- +Recommendation from current math and science teachers
- +PSAT math score of 630 or above or PreACT STEM score of 26 or above

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely | Meet 0 – Not Approved

AP Environmental Science

- +Senior Requirement: Average Science Grades > 90
- +Junior Requirements: Average Science Grades > 90 (with at least one Honors Science class)
- +SENIORS who do not meet initial requirements can petition to take the class based on interest
- +Approval of teacher and department chair

AP Physics C: Mechanics

- +Rising Seniors (with the Honors Physics or Physics course taken in Junior year)
- +PSAT Math score of 630 or above or PreACT STEM score of 26 or above
- +Grade average in math and science of 90 or above
- +Strong teacher recommendations from math and science teachers

Meet all 3 criteria – Approved | Meet 2 of 3 – Approval likely | Meet 1 of 3 – Approval unlikely | Meet 0 – Not Approved

Honors Biotechnology Research

Prerequisite of Honors Chemistry

Application process and approval from department

SCIENCE COURSE SELECTIONS

Biology | Yearlong Course

Biology provides students with a comprehensive view of fundamental and emerging topics in life science by exploring the interrelationships of organisms within our biosphere. Beginning with the molecular basis for life and biochemical processes, students will investigate energy systems and continue with the study of cell biology, genetics, evolution, and ecology. Laboratory activities are designed to develop students' skills in making observations, generating hypotheses, and critically analyzing data in support of the various concepts studied throughout the course.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

Honors Biology | Yearlong Course

Honors Biology is an introductory course covering the concepts and skills previously described in the Biology course; however the class moves more rapidly and is intended for students who have demonstrated both a strong aptitude and keen interest in the sciences. Honors Biology will challenge students to further analyze and apply information and complete additional research. Laboratories and activities are used to reinforce concepts throughout.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: none

Chemistry | Yearlong Course

Chemistry surveys the core topics found in an introductory chemistry course, from the nature of atoms to chemical reactions. Teachers nurture the abstract reasoning and mathematical skills that lead to independent scientific thought. Hands-on laboratory exercises reinforce the theoretical foundation while training students to work with others in a safe, productive, and scientific fashion.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th | Co-requisite: Concurrently in Algebra II or higher.

Honors Chemistry | Yearlong Course

Honors Chemistry is an in-depth investigation of matter, structure, reactions, and energy's role in these changes. The class moves through the concepts more rapidly than the previously described Chemistry course and is intended for students who have demonstrated both a strong aptitude and keen interest in the sciences or who may be interested in a career that requires substantial scientific preparation. Laboratories, projects, and activities are used to reinforce concepts throughout.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th | Course level: Honors | Co-requisite: Concurrently in Algebra II or higher.

Physics | Yearlong Course

The purpose of this course is to develop a solid capability in physical reasoning at a level of mathematics usage consistent with college bound non-science majors. Emphasis will be placed on in-class activities and demonstrations, software programs, labs, and media presentations to cultivate the student's interest in the sciences and to motivate the student to consider enrolling in introductory science courses in college. Students placed in this laboratory science course will place more emphasis on basic concepts of physics and less emphasis on mathematical applications.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Prerequisite: Algebra II

Honors Physics | Yearlong Course

This is an introductory course covering topics normally found in a rigorous first-year physics curriculum. The class moves through the concepts more rapidly than the previously described Physics course and is intended for students who have demonstrated both a strong aptitude and keen interest in science or who may be interested in a career that requires substantial scientific preparation. Laboratories and activities are used to reinforce concepts throughout.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Algebra II

AP Biology | Yearlong Course

AP Biology is a college-level, molecular-based course which examines energetics and metabolism, classical Mendelian and molecular genetics, the diversity and evolutionary development of organisms, population dynamics, and interactions within ecosystems. Laboratory sessions covering topics such as enzyme kinetics, human genetics, cellular respiration/photosynthesis are included in preparation for the AP Biology exam. At the conclusion of this course, students will take the AP Biology exam.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Any level of Biology and Chemistry

AP Chemistry | Yearlong Course

The goal of AP Chemistry is not only to prepare students to perform at their maximum potential on the AP exam, but also to learn more about the integral role of chemistry in life and in our universe. The course involves the application of mathematics and physics concepts and builds analytical and critical reasoning skills in students. Laboratory experiments allow for hands-on practice of topics discussed in class and prepare students for future lab work on the secondary or university level.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Algebra II and any level of Chemistry

AP Environmental Science | Yearlong Course

AP Environmental science is a college-level course that introduces students to the science behind many controversial and relevant topics today. An informed citizen must discern between media hype and scientific evidence, between biased agendas and positive solutions. This class will give students the scientific background they need to make informed decisions and the information necessary to form opinions on topics related to current environmental issues and the world in which we live. Students will be challenged to identify and analyze problems, as well as examine options for solving them. Each student should leave this course with a strong understanding of current environmental issues, the science background necessary to support that understanding and the critical thinking skills necessary to make informed decisions as a responsible citizen.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Any level of Biology and Chemistry

AP Physics C: Mechanics | Yearlong Course

AP Physics C: Mechanics is a second-year elective physics course for students interested in continuing studying the STEM fields in college and beyond. Students will explore concepts such as kinematics; Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; rotation; oscillations; and gravitation. Students will do hands-on laboratory work and in-class activities to investigate phenomena and use calculus to solve problems. This course is the equivalent to a semester-long, introductory calculus-based college course in physics.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Any level of Physics | Co-requisite: Any level of Calculus or higher

SCIENCE FULL-YEAR ELECTIVE COURSES

Advanced Topics in Biology | Yearlong Course

This course will provide students who are interested in health sciences, research, and ethics with an opportunity to apply their knowledge in basic sciences and to gain further understanding of advanced topics within biology and current biomedical research. The class will explore topics including but not limited to infectious diseases, the genetic basis of diseases, biotechnology, cognitive neuroscience, anatomy, and physiology. Throughout the year, students will participate in practical labs, dissections, case studies, and independent projects to gain hands-on experience within each of these fields and how they are applicable to our everyday lives.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Any level of Biology

Honors Biotechnology Research | Yearlong Course

Honors Biotechnology Research provides students interested in biotechnology and bioengineering the opportunity to conduct hands-on, independent research in drug-target discovery. Students collaborate with off-campus researchers to engineer DNA plasmids that contain the sequence of genes essential for the metabolism of *Trypanosoma brucei*. From this work, they will determine where their selected proteins are located in the cell and learn more about their function while evaluating their potential as a drug target for African Sleeping Sickness. Through this work, students develop skills transferable to any biotechnology lab including PCR, restriction digestion, electrophoresis, bacterial transformations, DNA isolation, and DNA ligation.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry

Oceanography | Yearlong Course

Oceanography is a multi-disciplinary course which explores the Earth's oceans. It will familiarize students with the physical (waves, tides, and currents), chemical (properties of seawater), and biological (marine biology and ecology) aspects of the ocean ecosystems. Students will explore each of these systems using laboratory experiments, a variety of field trips, and hands-on research. The end of the year will primarily focus on the environmental concerns for our oceans. Students will independently research a marine environmental topic of their choice and work on developing solutions. They will be encouraged to become civically engaged throughout the year as well.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Any level of Biology

SCIENCE SEMESTER ELECTIVE COURSES (LIMITED TO JUNIORS AND SENIORS)

Human Biology | Fall Semester Course

This course surveys the basics of human anatomy and physiology, with cursory investigations into each of the 11 human body systems. Real life topics will also be addressed, including the controversies of fetal stem cell research, genetic diseases, diseases such as cancer, HIV, herpes, the latest in heart disease and prevention, the power of the brain and hormones, the immune system, the effects of alcohol and marijuana, and the stages of pregnancy and fetal development. A student-derived project will culminate the semester.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

Wildlife Zoology | Spring Semester Course

Zoology is the branch of biology that focuses on the study of animals, from the sponge to the elephant. Zoologists study everything from the single cell to the entire organism and population of any given species. They also take into consideration the larger environmental conditions in which animals live. From the rainforest, to the ocean or the desert, zoologists study the development and interrelationships between all life on Earth. The class will integrate hands-on experiences in our local ecosystem with native wildlife, while utilizing an investigative worldwide text. The class will be project based and heavy in field and laboratory investigations/assessments. A student derived project will culminate the semester.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

Forensic Science | Fall/Spring Semester Course

Forensic Science is designed to introduce interested students to the many aspects of forensics incorporating their previously acquired knowledge of biology, chemistry and physics. The course focus is hands-on activities and labs. A selection of activities includes fingerprint analysis, blood spatter studies, fiber and hair analysis, DNA analysis, forensic entomology, and forensic anthropology. Videos and films are used to enhance the student's knowledge of a number of topics. Assessment for this course includes, but is not limited to, a book report and a final cumulative project.

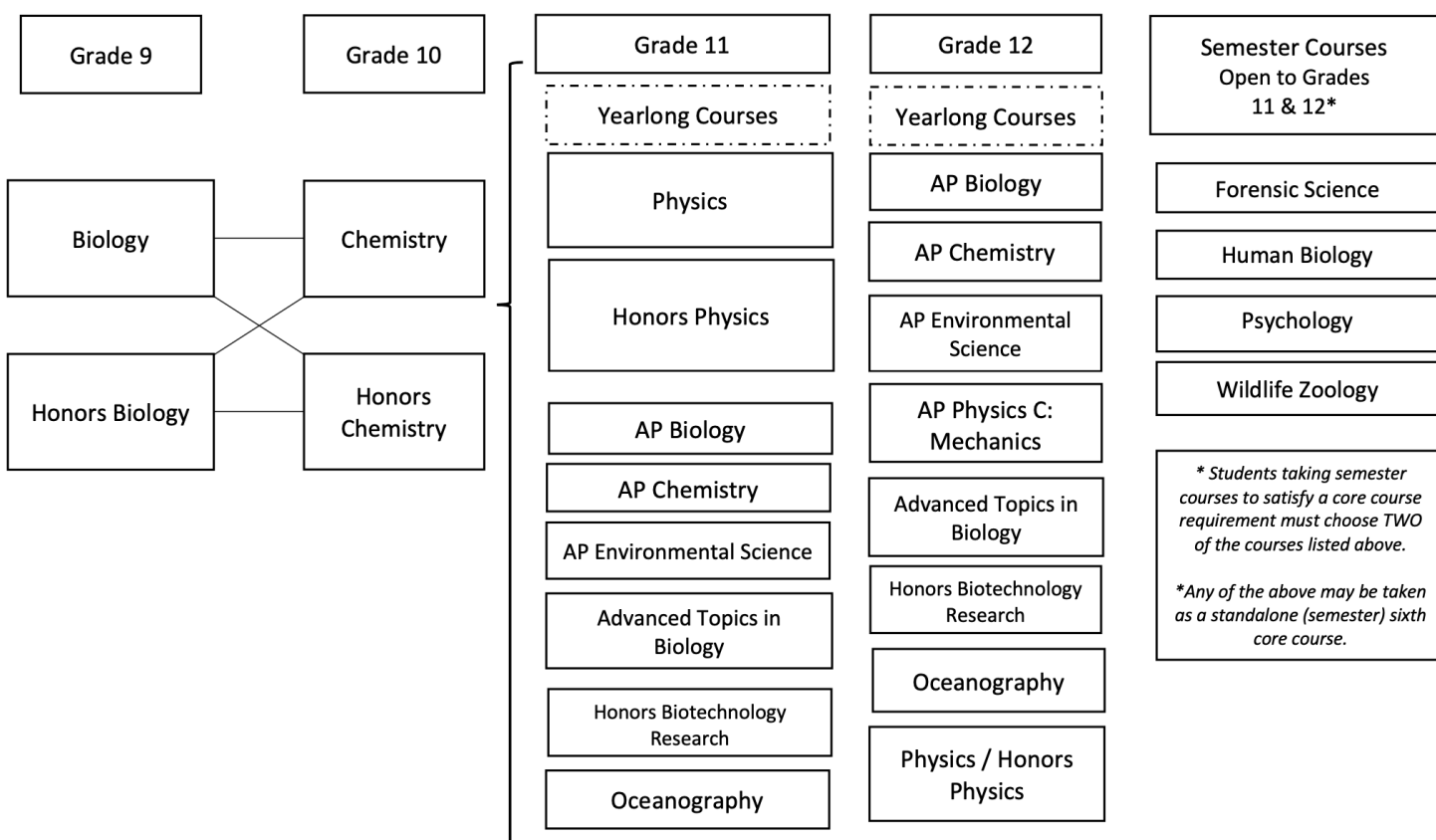
Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Biology; Chemistry

Psychology | Fall/Spring Semester Course

This course is a project-based, introspective overview of the science of the human mind and behavior. Major emphasis will be placed on research methods, stages in childhood and adolescence, how the brain works, altered states of consciousness, psychological testing, and psychological disorders.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Biology; Chemistry

SCIENCE SEQUENCE





WORLD LANGUAGES

Becoming proficient in another language and learning about other cultures are vital in today's global community and the Porter-Gaud World Language program. Our curriculum provides students with the opportunity to participate in a multilingual and multicultural environment and to learn to connect and communicate with speakers of other languages. In addition to working toward acquiring the languages, students will be introduced to the practices and perspectives of these global cultures.

In all languages - Spanish, French, Latin, and Mandarin Chinese - our department faculty utilize engaging resources including developmentally appropriate content, rich stories, authentic texts, computer applications and audio and video resources to facilitate learning to communicate, interpret the language and bring the targeted cultures to life.

Course Offerings:

Chinese I, II, III, IV, V

Honors Chinese II, III, IV

AP Chinese

Independent Study in Chinese

French I, II, III, IV, V

Honors French II, III, IV

AP French Language

Honors Advanced French Studies

Latin I, II, III, IV

Honors Latin II, III, IV

AP Latin

Spanish I, II, III, IV, V

Honors Spanish II, III, IV

AP Spanish Language

Honors Advanced Spanish Studies

*Course offerings may vary from year-to-year and are dependent upon student enrollment.

World Language Department Honors/AP Admissions Criteria

Honors Level II Languages Classes

+An average of 93 or better in level I and the recommendation of the teacher are required.

Honors Level III Language Classes

+An average of 90 or better in honors level II and the recommendation of the teacher are required.

Honors Level IV Language Classes

+An average of 90 or better in honors level III and the recommendation of the teacher are required.

AP Language Classes

+An average of 90 or better in honors level IV and the recommendation of the teacher are required. In certain cases for students with proficiency scores above the class average, an average of 90 or better in honors level III and teacher recommendation will be considered for promotion directly to the AP level.

Honors Advanced French Studies

+An average of 88 or better in AP French and the recommendation of the teacher are required.

Honors Advanced Spanish Studies- An average of 88 or better in AP Spanish Language and the recommendation of the teacher are required.

*If an honors level course was not offered in a particular language, then an average of 93 or better in the standard course and the recommendation of the teacher are required for promotion to the next level honors course.

*Each student's proficiency level will also be taken into consideration for placement purposes.

Because of the sequential nature of language learning and in an effort to ensure that our students have the best foundation for success in their chosen language, the World Languages Department will use the following guidelines in student placement:

If at the end of the year a student's final average falls between 65 and 69, it is strongly recommended that the student either seek remediation before advancing to the next level or repeat the course.

If at the end of the year a student's final average falls between 60 and 64, it is required that the student repeat the course.

WORLD LANGUAGES COURSE SELECTIONS

Chinese I | Yearlong Course

This course provides an introduction to the Chinese language and culture. It is an accelerated version of the middle school curriculum and serves as the foundation for subsequent study. With a focus on using the language in real-world situations, and the goal of beginning their journey on the path to proficiency, students will build a basic vocabulary and learn the grammatical structures needed to perform basic communicative functions related to their daily lives. Through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources, students will develop their skills in all modes of communication.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

Chinese II | Yearlong Course

In the second level of Chinese, students will continue on the path to proficiency by expanding the topics on which they are able to communicate and increasing the level of sophistication with which they can express their ideas and understand others. Through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources, students will develop their skills in all modes of communication in addition to continuing their study of Chinese culture.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Prerequisite: Chinese I

Honors Chinese II | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the Chinese language. In Honors Chinese II, students will continue to study Chinese culture and to develop proficiency in all four modes of communication (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources. They will expand the topics on which they are able to communicate and increase the level of sophistication with which they can express their ideas and understand others while working at an accelerated pace. Students in this course are being prepared to eventually take the AP Chinese Language course.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Chinese I

Chinese III | Yearlong Course

In the third level of Chinese, students continue to further their proficiency by expanding their vocabulary and incorporating more sophisticated grammatical constructions into their communication. Students will be expected to participate actively using the target language to narrate events in various time frames in oral and written form, and to interpret more advanced print and audio texts. Authentic resources will continue to be used as a means of developing proficiency as well as a greater appreciation for and understanding of Chinese culture.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Prerequisite: Chinese II

Honors Chinese III | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the Chinese language. Honors Chinese III will be conducted primarily in Chinese. Students will enhance their proficiency through reading comprehension, listening, speaking and writing tasks and study more sophisticated vocabulary and grammar topics in an accelerated manner. Honors Chinese III will prepare students for Honors Chinese IV and AP Chinese. Authentic resources will continue to be used as a means of furthering proficiency as well as a greater appreciation for and understanding of Chinese culture.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Chinese II

Chinese IV | Yearlong Course

In the fourth level of Chinese, students will continue to increase their proficiency by adding more precise vocabulary to their repertoire and working to refine their language skills. Through authentic readings and videos in Chinese, students will elevate their interpretive skills and continue to foster a greater appreciation for Chinese history and culture. They will continue to elevate the level of sophistication with which they are able to express themselves both orally and in the written word through classroom discussions, conversations, presentations and compositions. Students will focus on a variety of topics beyond those related to their present daily lives but extending to past experiences, future and hypothetical situations and more abstract topics.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Chinese III

Honors Chinese IV | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and high level of proficiency in the Chinese language and prepares students for the AP Chinese course. This intensive course focuses further development of communicative competence in the areas of speaking, writing, listening, and reading. The course is taught almost exclusively in Chinese, and students are expected to use the language for general conversation, intense discussion, and other aspects of study of the language and culture. Students will be asked to prepare various presentations on prepared and spontaneous topics as well as to write extensively developed compositions in Chinese.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors Chinese III

Chinese V: Conversation and Culture | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for motivated 12th graders who are interested in further developing their proficiency in the Chinese language at an advanced level. The students will study a broad variety of Chinese films and read literacy selections and articles that pertain to Chinese history and culture. Discussion of Chinese cinema and literature will enable students to improve their understanding of many aspects of Chinese culture. They are expected to use the target language exclusively in formal and informal writing assignments and compositions, and to discuss issues in a variety of forums including informal conversations, improvisational dialogues, roundtable discussions, debates, and presentations.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Chinese IV or Honors Chinese IV

AP Chinese | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and ability in the Chinese language and would like to take the AP Chinese test in May. The college-preparatory curriculum is designed to reinforce and sharpen communicative skills with the goal of achieving a high level of proficiency in Chinese (as defined by the College Board's AP Chinese Course Description). This course is taught exclusively in Chinese, will include advanced conversation and discussion, composition, intensive reading of texts of various genres, and interpretation of audio passages from various source types.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Honors Chinese III/Honors Chinese IV

Independent Study in Chinese | Yearlong Course

This course is for students who have completed AP Chinese and wish to continue their studies. It is designed to continue moving students toward a higher level of proficiency in the language and further advance their cultural knowledge and awareness through the lens of literature, news, films, etc. The course will be conducted entirely in Chinese and students will be expected to provide insightful opinions, analyze, predict, hypothesize, and compare and contrast as they communicate in oral and written discourse.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: AP Chinese

French I | Yearlong Course

This course provides an introduction to the French language and Francophone culture. It is an accelerated version of the middle school curriculum and serves as the foundation for subsequent study. With a focus on using the language in real-world situations, and the goal of beginning the journey on the path to proficiency, students will build a basic vocabulary and learn the grammatical structures needed to perform basic communicative functions related to their daily lives. Through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources, students will develop their skills in all modes of communication.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

French II | Yearlong Course

In the second level of French, students will continue on the path to proficiency by expanding the topics on which they are able to communicate and increasing the level of sophistication with which they can express their ideas and understand others. Through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources, students will develop their skills in all modes of communication in addition to continuing their study of Francophone culture.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Prerequisite: French I

Honors French II | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the French language. In Honors French II, students will continue to study the Francophone culture and to develop proficiency in all four modes of communication (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources. They will expand the topics on which they are able to communicate and increase the level of sophistication with which they can express their ideas and understand others while working at an accelerated pace. Students in this course are being prepared to eventually take the AP French Language course.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: French I

French III | Yearlong Course

In the third level of French, students continue to further their proficiency by expanding their vocabulary and incorporating more sophisticated grammatical constructions into their communication. Students will be expected to participate actively using the target language to narrate events in various time frames in oral and written form, and to interpret more advanced print and audio texts. Authentic resources will continue to be used as a means of developing proficiency as well as a greater appreciation for and understanding of Francophone culture.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Prerequisite: French II

Honors French III | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the French language. Honors French III will be conducted primarily in French. Students will enhance their proficiency through reading comprehension, listening, speaking and writing tasks and study more sophisticated vocabulary and grammar topics in an accelerated manner. Honors French III will prepare students for Honors French IV and AP French. Authentic resources will continue to be used as a means of furthering proficiency as well as a greater appreciation for and understanding of the Francophone culture.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors French II

French IV | Yearlong Course

In the fourth level of French, students will continue to increase their proficiency by adding more precise vocabulary to their repertoire and working to refine their language skills. Through authentic readings and videos in French, students will elevate their interpretive skills and continue to foster a greater appreciation for Francophone history and culture.

They will continue to elevate the level of sophistication with which they are able to express themselves both orally and in the written word through classroom discussions, conversations, presentations and compositions. Students will focus on a variety of topics beyond those related to their present daily lives but extending to past experiences, future and hypothetical situations and more abstract topics.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: French III

Honors French IV | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and high level of proficiency in the French language and prepares students for the AP French course. This intensive course focuses on further development of communicative competence in the areas of speaking, writing, listening, and reading. The course is taught almost exclusively in French, and students are expected to use the language for general conversation, intense discussion, and other aspects of study of the language and culture. Students will be asked to prepare various presentations on prepared and spontaneous topics as well as to write extensively developed compositions in French.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors French III

French V | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for motivated 12th graders who are interested in further developing their proficiency in the French language at a higher level of proficiency. The students will add to their repertoire of vocabulary at an upper level and study grammar topics in context. They will read literary selections and articles in French that pertain to both the historical and contemporary issues in Francophone countries as well as other cultural practices and perspectives and watch television shows and short and long films and documentaries in French. They are expected to use the target language almost exclusively in formal and informal writing assignments and compositions and to discuss issues in a variety of forums including informal conversation, improvisational dialogues, roundtable discussions, debates, and presentations.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Prerequisite: French IV or Honors French IV

AP French Language | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and ability in the French language and would like to take the AP French Language Test in May. The college-preparatory curriculum is designed to reinforce and sharpen these skills with the goal of achieving a high level of proficiency in French (as defined by the College Board's AP French Language Course Description.). The course, taught exclusively in French, will include advanced conversation and discussion, composition, and intensive reading of texts of various genres, and interpretation of audio passages from various source types.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Honors French III and Department Chair approval/Honors French IV

Honors Advanced French Studies | Yearlong Course

This course is for students who have completed AP French and wish to continue their studies. It is designed to continue moving students toward a higher level of proficiency in the language and further advance their cultural knowledge and awareness through the lens of literature and films from the twentieth century to modern day. Themes and works from diverse Francophone cultures will be presented, thus students will increase their intercultural competence as well. The course will be conducted entirely in French and students will be expected to provide insightful opinions, analyze, predict, hypothesize, and compare and contrast as they communicate in oral and written discourse.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: AP French Language

Latin I | Yearlong Course

This course provides an introduction to the Latin language and to the culture and history of Rome and mythology. It is an accelerated version of the middle school Latin curriculum and serves as the foundation for subsequent study. Essential grammar and vocabulary are introduced, including case endings, verb tenses, conjugations and sentence structure as students begin to learn how to interpret the written word.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

Latin II | Yearlong Course

In the second level of Latin, students are expected to have a firm understanding of the basics of Latin sentence structure and word formation, including all noun declensions and regular verb conjugations. Students will continue a survey of more sophisticated Latin grammar, including participles, indirect statement, and the subjunctive mood, as well as expand their vocabulary knowledge in both English and Latin. Students will continue to enhance their translation skills, study the lives of famous Romans such as Cicero and Vergil, and take a more detailed survey of the Roman world.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Prerequisite: Latin I

Honors Latin II | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the Latin language. In Honors Latin II, students are expected to have a firm understanding of the basics of Latin sentence structure and word formation, including all noun declensions and regular verb conjugations. Students will continue a survey of more sophisticated Latin grammar including all of the same topics as the standard Latin II course, while working at an accelerated pace and taking a deeper dive into their exploration of the language and historical topics of the Roman world. Students in this course are being prepared to eventually take the AP Latin course.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Latin I

Latin III | Yearlong Course

In the third level of Latin, students will explore the connections and contrasts between the Roman world and modern day. Advanced topics in grammar and prosody will be introduced. Translation will be enriched by readings in English. Cultural topics considered will include the Classical tradition in epic and satire, as well as the historical and mythological framework for Latin literature.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Prerequisite: Latin II

Honors Latin III | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the Latin language. Just as in the standard Latin III course, students will explore the connections and contrasts between the Roman world and modern day. Advanced topics in grammar and prosody will be introduced. Translation will be enriched by reading in English. However, students will move at an accelerated pace and will take a deeper dive into the study of both the language and the historical culture of the Roman world. This course will prepare students for Honors Latin IV and eventually the AP Latin course.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Honors Latin II/Latin II

Latin IV | Yearlong Course

In the fourth level of Latin, students will focus on readings in Caesar's *Bellum Gallicum* and Vergil's *Aeneid*, which are mandatory selections for the AP exam. However, this course will also cover Latin literature beyond the range of the test, including Cicero's *De Re Publica*, selections of Catullus' poetry, and Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Throughout the course, students will be presented with opportunities to understand the influence that Latin vocabulary and literature play in our lives today.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Latin III

Honors Latin IV | Yearlong Course

This course is a challenging course for highly motivated Latin students who have a strong interest and proficiency in the Language. Students finalize and refine their understanding of Latin grammar and extend their vocabulary through word studies and translation of ancient authors, including Cicero and Catullus. In addition, students become familiar with important mythological and historical topics in preparation for the AP Latin course. Applicants to this course should demonstrate a firm grasp of earlier Latin concepts as well as a commitment to an accelerated reading pace.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Latin III/Honors Latin III

AP Latin | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and ability in Latin and would like to take the AP Latin Test in May. Students in AP Latin will focus on readings in Caesar's *Bellum Gallicum* and Vergil's *Aeneid*, which are mandatory selections for the AP exam. The college-preparatory curriculum is designed to reinforce and sharpen these skills with the goal of achieving mastery in the skills of Latin (as defined by the College Board's AP Latin Course Description.).

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Honors Latin III and Department Chair approval/Honors Latin IV

Spanish I | Yearlong Course

This course provides an introduction to the Spanish language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. It is an accelerated version of the middle school curriculum and serves as the foundation for subsequent study. With a focus on using the language in real-world situations, and the goal of beginning their journey on the path to proficiency, students will build a basic vocabulary and learn the grammatical structures needed to perform basic communicative functions related to their daily lives. Through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources, students will develop their skills in all modes of communication.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th | Prerequisite: none

Spanish II | Yearlong Course

In the second level of Spanish, students will continue on the path to proficiency by expanding the topics on which they are able to communicate and increasing the level of sophistication with which they can express their ideas and understand others. Through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources, students will develop their skills in all modes of communication in addition to continuing their study of the culture of the Spanish-speaking world.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Prerequisite: Spanish I

Honors Spanish II | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the Spanish language. In Honors Spanish II, students will continue to study the culture of the Spanish-speaking world and to develop proficiency in all four modes of communication (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) through the use of readings, listening exercises, videos, internet/computer activities and other authentic resources. They will expand the topics on which they are able to communicate and increase the level of sophistication with which they can express their ideas and understand others while working at an accelerated pace. Students in this course are being prepared to eventually take the AP Spanish Language course.

Eligible Grade Level: 9th; 10th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Spanish I

Spanish III | Yearlong Course

In the third level of Spanish, students continue to further their proficiency by expanding their vocabulary and incorporating more sophisticated grammatical constructions into their communication. Students will be expected to participate actively using the target language, to narrate events in various time frames in oral and written form, and to interpret more advanced print and audio texts. Authentic resources will continue to be used as a means of developing proficiency as well as a greater appreciation for and understanding of the culture of the Spanish-speaking world.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Prerequisite: Spanish II

Honors Spanish III | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for the student who is committed to pursuing a more intense study of the Spanish language. Honors Spanish III will be conducted primarily in Spanish. Students will enhance their proficiency through reading comprehension, listening, speaking and writing tasks and study more sophisticated vocabulary and grammar topics in an accelerated manner. Honors Spanish III will prepare students for Honors Spanish IV and AP Spanish. Authentic resources will continue to be used as a means of furthering proficiency as well as a greater appreciation for and understanding of the culture of the Spanish-speaking world.

Eligible Grade Level: 10th; 11th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Spanish II/Honors Spanish II

Spanish IV | Yearlong Course

In the fourth level of Spanish, students will continue to increase their proficiency by adding more precise vocabulary to their repertoire and working to refine their language skills. Through authentic readings and videos in Spanish, students will elevate their interpretive skills and continue to foster a greater appreciation for the history and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. They will continue to elevate the level of sophistication with which they are able to express themselves both orally and in the written word through classroom discussions, conversations, presentations and compositions. Students will focus on a variety of topics beyond those related to their present daily lives but extending to past experiences, future and hypothetical situations and more abstract topics.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: Spanish III

Honors Spanish IV | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and high level of proficiency in the Spanish language and is a prerequisite for the AP Spanish Language course. This grammar intensive course focuses on the use of that grammar in the areas of speaking, writing, listening, and reading. The course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish, and students are expected to use the language for general conversation, intense discussion, and grammar review. Students will be asked to prepare various presentations on prepared and spontaneous topics as well as to write extensively developed compositions in Spanish.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: Spanish III/Honors Spanish III

Spanish V | Yearlong Course

This course is designed for motivated 12th graders who are interested in further developing their proficiency in the Spanish language at a higher level of proficiency. The students will add to their repertoire of vocabulary at an upper level and study grammar topics in context. They will read literary selections and articles in Spanish that pertain to both historical and contemporary issues in Spanish-speaking countries as well as other cultural practices and perspectives and watch television shows and short and long Spanish and Latin American films and documentaries in the target language. They are expected to use the target language exclusively in formal and informal writing assignments and compositions and to discuss issues in a variety of forums including informal conversation, improvisational dialogues, roundtable discussions, debates, and presentations.

Eligible Grade Level: 12 | Prerequisite: Spanish IV/Honors Spanish IV

AP Spanish Language | Yearlong Course

This course is for highly motivated students who have a strong interest and ability in the Spanish language and would like to take the AP Spanish Language test in May. The college-preparatory curriculum is designed to reinforce and sharpen these skills with the goal of achieving a high level of proficiency in Spanish (as defined by the College Board's AP Spanish Language Course Description). The course, taught exclusively in Spanish, will include advanced conversation and discussion, composition, and intensive reading of texts of various genres, and interpretation of audio passages from various source types.

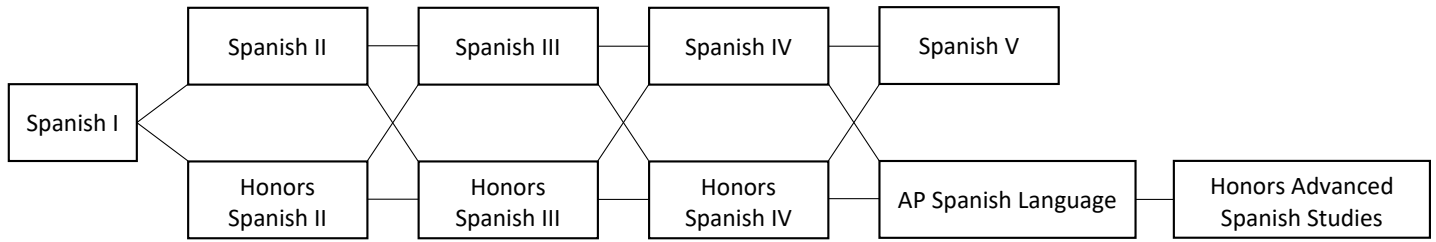
Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Course level: AP | Prerequisite: Honors Spanish III and Department Chair approval/Spanish IV/Honors Spanish IV

Honors Advanced Spanish Studies | Yearlong Course

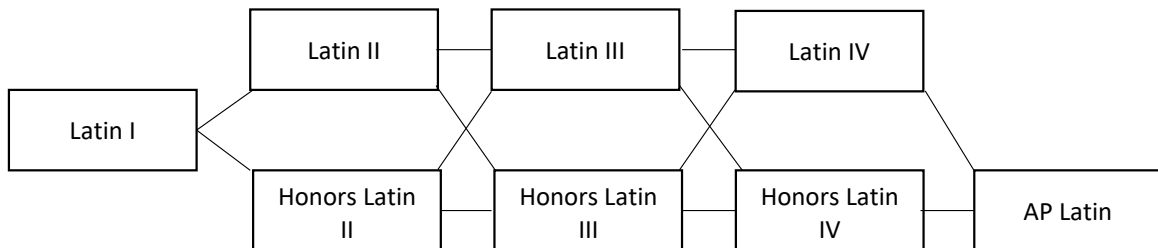
This course is for students who have completed AP Spanish and wish to continue their studies. It is designed to continue moving students toward a higher level of proficiency in the language and further advance their cultural knowledge and awareness through the lens of literature and films from the twentieth century to modern day. Themes and works from diverse Spanish-speaking cultures will be presented, thus students will increase their intercultural competence as well. The course will be conducted entirely in Spanish and students will be expected to provide insightful opinions, analyze, predict, hypothesize, and compare and contrast as they communicate in oral and written discourse.

Eligible Grade Level: 12th | Course level: Honors | Prerequisite: AP Spanish Language

SPANISH & FRENCH SEQUENCE



LATIN & CHINESE SEQUENCE





INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

All Porter-Gaud students should have an educational experience that prepares them to be effective lifelong learners and contributors to our global community. Now more than ever, the Porter-Gaud experience must not only provide for the acquisition of rigorous academic content, but it must also be more intentional about fostering critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity, and other forward-looking skills our young people need to thrive in this complex, rapidly changing world. As all of our coursework is guided by the Vision of a Learner, our Interdisciplinary Studies courses allow students to engage in coursework which fully embraces and is overtly centered around the belief that one must exercise certain competencies to apply skills and knowledge in real-world situations.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE OFFERINGS

Innovation and Design Thinking | Semester Course

The course is designed to guide students towards a better understanding of themselves while developing skills to address problems in the Porter-Gaud Community, the greater Charleston community, and the world. Students will work to address challenges and will study the ways that others are addressing the challenges faced by modern civilization. The course will focus on six core concepts of Problem-Solving, Intellectual Risk-Taking, Empathy, Self-Awareness, Collaboration, and Reflection. Students will study these six core concepts by analyzing innovative approaches across scientific, technological, and societal fields. Students will learn the Design Thinking process and utilize Design Thinking principles to seek their own solutions to on-campus and community problems. The direction of the course will be dictated by the interests of the class and topics may include entrepreneurship, cutting edge technology, and the exploration of the challenges facing modern society as well as discussions of current events.

Eligible Grade Level: 11th; 12th | Prerequisite: none

MALONE SCHOOLS ONLINE NETWORK

The Malone Schools Online Network (MSON) provides highly motivated 11th and 12th grade students with a variety of academically challenging courses that enhance each member school's existing curriculum. These interactive seminars bring students together from across the country with dedicated teachers in real time. MSN joins the best of independent school education with the latest video conferencing technology to chart new territory in online learning.

- +Students who are interested in taking an MSN course should apply through Mrs. Davis.
- +For more information on the following MSN courses, please access the MSN Curriculum Guide.
- +All courses listed below meet after school (3:35 - 4:35 and 4:40 - 5:40)

World Languages

Ancient Greek I (yearlong)
Arabic I (yearlong)
German I (yearlong)

Humanities and Social Sciences

Diversity in a Global Comparative Perspective (Fall)
Environmental Bioethics - Exploring the Challenges of Local and Global Choices (Spring)

The Fiction of James Joyce (Spring)
Global Voices of Oppression: Literature for Social Justice (Fall)
Making Ethical Medical Choices in a Diverse World (Fall)
A Nation Divided: The Literature of Civil Rights (Spring)
Think Global, Debate Local (Fall)

STEM

Cancer (Fall)
Data Structures and Design Patterns (yearlong)
A Mathematical Modeling Approach to Social Justice (Spring)

THE APPEAL PROCESS

Appeal Policy for Honors/Advanced Placement Classes

Students who did not receive an initial recommendation for an Honors or AP level class for the next academic year failed to meet the department's criteria for admission. However, a formal process of appeal exists for students interested in pursuing admission into an Honors or Advanced Placement course.

The following two steps must be followed by the student:

- Request from the Department Chair an Appeals Form;

- Fully complete the form and return it to the Department Chair by the specified deadline. Forms will not be accepted after the published deadline.

Once a student has submitted the request, the following steps will occur:

- The appeal will be reviewed by the Department Chair and department members;

- Students may be asked to sit for and submit a writing sample;

- Students will be notified by the Department Chair of the department's decision;

- Notification could be made anytime up to the end of the school year, if the department wishes to review final grades and the final exam.

Adding/Dropping or Changing Courses

The deadlines for changing courses for 2022-2023 are as follows:

- Friday, September 9, 2022: deadline for dropping a first semester-only course;

- Friday, September 9, 2022: deadline for changing a year-long English course;

- Friday, September 9, 2022: deadline for adding a year-long core course;

- Friday, September 19, 2022: deadline for adding a first semester-only course; requires permission of the department head and Upper School Head;

- Friday, September 23, 2022: deadline for dropping a year-long course;

- Friday, January 20, 2023: deadline for dropping a second semester-only course

- Friday, January 20, 2023: deadline for adding a second semester-only course; requires permission of the department head and Upper School Head;

In general, after the four or six week period, a student cannot drop a subject and switch into another discipline (i.e. drop a year-long math course and move into a year-long science course).

A student who drops from an AP or Honors level course to the non-AP, non-honors course will have added to the grade-to-date 3 points across all assignments in the new class at the time of the student transfer.

In special, extenuating circumstances involving documented physical or emotional health issues, a student may be permitted to drop a class after the designated deadline; however, the student must fulfill all Porter-Gaud department and credit requirements needed for graduation. Any request to drop a course for health-related issues will be reviewed by the Head of School and the Upper School Head on a case by case basis and will require medical documentation. In the case of any course change within the same department, all grades will be transferred.

PORTER-GAUD ENGAGE

Each Upper School student will participate in activities anchored in the Charleston community and continue each successive year through graduation. Students will be required to earn three credits per year by attending events in the community and/or completing activities in various themes based on grade-level requirements. Details of the Engage Program requirements for each grade can be found on the Porter-Gaud website. Program requirements and opportunities are also communicated throughout the year through study halls, morning meetings and announcements. Periodically throughout the school year, the Engage Program will sponsor "Marquee Events," with subsidized tickets and organized travel.

Students will be required to complete 12 cultural credits (3 credits per year enrolled in P-G US) in order to graduate
Student privileges will be tied to completion of required credits within specific school years
Credit completion will be reflected on student transcripts

In order to receive credit for attending an approved event or completing an approved activity, students will provide to their advisor:

Proof of attendance in the form of a receipt or ticket stub if attending an event OR activity requirement as specified AND
A completed reflection form (provided on the Porter-Gaud website).

Advisors track student credits in Blackbaud, which can be accessed throughout the year to monitor progress. Credits also appear on student report cards and final transcripts. In addition, advisors keep the student's reflections on file for future reference. These reflections will help students reflect on their time at PG when they begin the college application process.

Events/activities must:

Appear on the approved list of events or be pre-approved by Engage Program coordinators

Occur in Charleston (students may not fulfill credits during travel)

Not be an event that qualifies for service hours or any other school credit.

Not be a P-G school wide activity other than the US Play or Musical (student participation in the play or musical does not count because students earn a fine arts credit)

	Primary intended grade level(s):				Requires Placement	Yearlong Course	Semester Course	NCAA Approved
	9	10	11	12				
English	4 credits							
English I	•					•		•
English II		•				•		•
Honors English II		•			•	•		•
English III			•			•		•
English IV				•		•		•
AP English Language			•		•	•		•
AP English Literature				•	•	•		•
Creative Writing: Poetry			•	•			•	
Watch Magazine (1/2 credit)		•	•	•		•		
Yearbook (1/2 credit)	•	•	•	•		•		
History	3.5 credits World His. I and II, US His., US Govt required							
World History I	•					•		•
Honors World History I	•				•	•		•
World History II		•				•		•
AP World History		•		•	•	•		•
U.S. History			•			•		•
AP U.S. History			•		•	•		•
U.S. Government & Civics			•	•			•	•
Economics			•	•			•	•
Hst. W. Religions H			•	•	•	•		•
Honors Philosophy			•	•	•	•		•
AP Comparative Government			•	•	•	•		•
AP Macroeconomics			•	•	•		•	•

	Primary intended grade level(s):				Requires Placement	Yearlong Course	Semester Course	NCAA Approved
	9	10	11	12				
AP Microeconomics			•	•	•		•	•
AP U.S. Gov.& Pol.			•	•	•	•		•
World Languages	3 credits 3 consecutive years of the same language							
Chinese I	•					•		•
Chinese II	•	•				•		•
Honors Chinese II	•	•			•	•		•
Chinese III		•	•			•		•
Honors Chinese III		•	•		•	•		•
Chinese IV			•	•		•		•
Honors Chinese IV			•	•	•	•		•
Chinese V: Conversation & Culture			•	•		•		•
AP Chinese			•	•	•	•		•
Independent Study in Chinese			•	•	•	•		
French I	•					•		•
French II	•	•				•		•
Honors French II	•	•			•	•		•
French III		•	•			•		•
Honors French III		•	•		•	•		•
French IV			•	•		•		•
Honors French IV			•	•	•	•		•
French V				•		•		•
AP French Language			•	•	•	•		•
Hon Advanced French Studies				•	•	•		•
Latin I	•					•		•
Latin II	•	•				•		•

60 UPPER SCHOOL COURSE LISTING

	Primary intended grade level(s):				Requires Placement	Yearlong Course	Semester Course	NCAA Approved
	9	10	11	12				
Honors Latin II	•	•			•	•		•
Latin III		•	•			•		•
Honors Latin III		•	•		•	•		•
Latin IV			•	•		•		•
Honors Latin IV			•	•	•	•		•
AP Latin			•	•	•	•		•
Spanish I	•					•		•
Spanish II	•	•				•		•
Honors Spanish II	•	•			•	•		•
Spanish III		•	•			•		•
Honors Spanish III		•	•		•	•		•
Spanish IV			•	•		•		•
Honors Spanish IV			•	•	•	•		•
Spanish V				•		•		•
AP Spanish Language			•	•	•	•		•
Hon Advanced Spanish Studies				•	•	•		•
Mathematics	4 credits <i>Alg I and II, Geo, plus 1 credit beyond Alg II</i>							
Algebra I	•					•		•
Geometry	•	•				•		•
Honors Geometry	•	•			•	•		•
Algebra II	•	•	•			•		•
Honors Alg II /Trig	•	•	•		•	•		•
Adv Algebra w Financial App				•		•		•
College Alg / Elem. Prob & Stats		•	•	•		•		•
Functions, Stats & Trig			•	•		•		•

	Primary intended grade level(s):				Requires Placement	Yearlong Course	Semester Course	NCAA Approved
	9	10	11	12				
Honors Precalculus AB		•	•	•	•	•		•
Honors Precalculus BC		•	•	•	•	•		•
AP Calculus AB			•	•	•	•		•
AP Calculus BC			•	•	•	•		•
AP Statistics			•	•	•	•		•
Multivariable Calc / Linear Alg				•	•	•		•
Science	3 credits Biology, Chemistry, Physics required							
Biology	•					•		•
Honors Biology	•				•	•		•
Chemistry		•				•		•
Honors Chemistry		•			•	•		•
Physics			•			•		•
Honors Physics			•		•	•		•
AP Biology			•	•	•	•		•
AP Chemistry			•	•	•	•		•
AP Environmental Science			•	•	•	•		•
AP Physics C: Mechanics				•	•	•		•
Advanced Topics in Biology			•	•		•		•
Honors Biotechnology Research			•	•	•	•		•
Oceanography			•	•		•		•
Forensic Science			•	•			•	•
Psychology			•	•			•	•
Human Biology			•	•			•	•
Wildlife Zoology			•	•			•	•

UPPER SCHOOL COURSE LISTING

	Primary intended grade level(s):				Requires Placement	Yearlong Course	Semester Course	NCAA Approved
	9	10	11	12				
Computer	0.5 credit Computer Science I required							
Computer Science I	•						•	
Acc. Comp. Sci. II		•			•		•	
Acc. Comp. Sci. III			•		•		•	
Hon. Computer IV				•	•	•		
Hon Advanced Computer Science				•	•		•	
Fine Arts	1 credit Public Speaking required							
Public Speaking		•	•	•			•	
Studio Art I		•	•	•			•	
Studio Art II		•	•	•			•	
Honors Studio Art III		•	•	•	•		•	
AP Studio Art			•	•	•	•		
Digital Design & Photography		•	•	•			•	
Honors Art History			•	•		•		
Intro to Dance		•	•	•			•	
Dance II		•	•	•			•	
Dance III			•	•			•	
Debate		•	•	•			•	
Instrumental Music: Piano 101		•	•	•			•	
Intro to Music		•	•	•			•	
Honors Music Theory		•	•	•	•	•		
AP Music Theory				•	•	•		
Introduction to Costume Design		•	•	•			•	
C. Handbells (1/2 credit)	•	•	•	•		•		

	Primary intended grade level(s):				Requires Placement	Yearlong Course	Semester Course	NCAA Approved
	9	10	11	12				
Chamber Singers (1/2 credit)	•	•	•	•		•		
Jazz Ensemble (1/2 credit)	•	•	•	•		•		
Perf. Choir (1/2 credit)	•	•	•	•		•		
Physical Education	1 credit PE/Health required							
PE/Health	•						•	
Fitness and Wellness		•	•	•			•	
Yoga, Mindfulness & Meditation		•	•	•			•	
Healthy Life Skills		•	•	•			•	
Cardiorespiratory Fitness		•	•	•			•	
Religion & Philosophy	0.5 credit New Testament / Ethics required							
N.Test./Ethics			•	•			•	
The Problem of Evil			•	•			•	
Interdisciplinary Studies								
Innovation and Design Thinking			•	•			•	
* The School reserves the right to cancel any course for which there is insufficient enrollment.								

Course Registration Calendar

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 8 th , 9 th , 10 th , 11 th grade Student Meetings	17 8 th grade Parent Meetings	18	19
20	21	22 Class of 2023 Parent Coffee	23 Class of 2024 & 2025 Parent Coffee	24	25 US Advisor/ Advisee Meetings	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 US Advisor/ Advisee Meetings	5	6	7 Parent Conferences	8	9
10	11 US Student Course Selection Sheets Due to Advisors	12	13 Appeal forms available to students	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Deadline for Student Appeals	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Updated 2/24/22	English	History	Math	Science	World Languages	Fine & Performing Arts	Computer Science	Physical Education	Religion & Philosophy	Inter-Disciplinary	PG Engage
9 th Grade	4 Credits English I English II English III/AP Lang English IV/AP Lit	3 ½ Credits World History I World History II US History US Gov & Civics	4 Credits chosen from Algebra I and beyond	3 Credits Biology Chemistry Physics	3 Credits in one World Language	1 Credit Public Speaking (½ Credit) and One Additional Elective	½ Credit Computer Science I	1 Credit PE/Health 9 (1/2 Credit) + 1 Elective or US Sports part.	½ Credit New Testament / Ethics		12 Credits 3 Credits per Year
	-English I: Intro to Genres Elective: -Yearbook	-World History I -Honors World History I	-Algebra I -Geometry -Honors Geometry -Algebra II -Hon Algebra II / Trig	-Biology -Honors Biology	-French I, II -Hon French II -Spanish I, II -Hon Spanish II -Latin I, II -Hon Latin II -Chinese I, II -Hon Chin II	-Jazz Band -Choir -Chamber Singers	-Computer Science I (required)	-PE/Health 9 (required)			<i>Students attend & reflect on community events related to...</i> ___ Culture ___ Citizenship ___ Speaker
10 th Grade	-English II: -Honors English II: British Literature Electives: -Yearbook -Watch	-World History II *AP Option: -World History	-Geometry -Hon Geo -Algebra II -Hon Algebra II / Trig -FST -Honors Precalculus AB -Honors Precalculus BC	-Chemistry -Honors Chemistry	-French II, III -Hon French II, III -Spanish II, III -Hon Spanish II, III -Latin II, III -Hon Latin II, III -Chinese II, III -Hon Chin II, III	-Public Speaking (required) -Debate -Digital Design/ Photography (new) -Jazz Band -Choir -Chamber Singers -Handbells -Costume Design -Art Electives -Music Electives -Dance Electives	-Accelerated Computer Science II	-Fitness & Wellness (new)			<i>Students attend & reflect on community events related to...</i> ___ Mindfulness & Health ___ Perspective & Communication ___ Nature & The Environment
	-English III: American Romanticism & 20 th Century American Lit *AP Option: -English Language Electives: -Yearbook -Watch -Creative Writing: Poetry (new)	-US History *AP Option: -US History Electives: -Economics & Personal Finance -US Gov & Civics -AP Comp Gov -AP US Gov -Honors History of World Religions -Honors History of Western Thought / Philosophy	-Algebra II -Hon Algebra II / Trig -FST -College Algebra / Probability & Stats -Hon Pre-Calc AB or BC *AP Options: -AB Calc -BC Calc -Statistics	-Physics -Honors Physics -Advanced Topics in Bio -Forensic Science -Honors Biotechnology (new) -Human Biology -Oceanography -Psychology -Wildlife Zoology *AP Options: -Biology -Chemistry -Environmental Science	-French III, IV -Hon French III, IV -Spanish III, IV -Hon Spanish III, IV -Latin III, IV -Hon Latin III, IV -Chinese III, IV -Hon Chinese III & IV *AP Options: -French Lang -Spanish Lang -Chinese	-Debate -Digital Design/ Photography (new) -Jazz Band -Choir -Chamber Singers -Handbells -Costume Design -Honors Music Theory (new) -Honors Art History -Art Electives -Music Electives -Dance Electives *AP Options: -Studio Art	-Accelerated Computer Science III	-Fitness & Wellness (new)	-New Testament & Ethics (required) The Problem of Evil (new)	Innovation & Design (new)	<i>Students choose a theme and find...</i> ___ Local, national, & global connections via events, activities, or research in the Charleston area. Reflection & synthesis statement ensure engagement with selected theme.
12 th Grade	-English IV: World Literature through -Close Reading (or) -Group Work *AP Option: -English Literature Electives: -Yearbook -Watch -Creative Writing: Poetry (new)	*AP Options: -Comparative Gov -US Government -Microeconomics -Macroeconomics -World History Electives: -Economics & Personal Finance -US Gov & Civics -Honors History of World Religions -Honors History of Western Thought / Philosophy	-FST -Hon Pre-Calc AB or BC -Advanced Algebra with Financial Apps -College Algebra / Probability & Stats *AP Options: -AB Calc -BC Calc -Statistics * Advanced Math Option: -Multivariable Calc & Linear Algebra	-Advanced Topics in Bio -Forensic Science -Human Biology -Honors Biotechnology (new) -Oceanography -Physics/ Honors -Psychology -Wildlife Zoology *AP Options: -Biology -Chemistry -Physics C (new) -Environmental Science	-French IV, V -Hon French IV -Spanish IV, V -Hon Span IV -Latin IV -Hon Latin IV -Hon Chinese IV -Chinese IV and V (new) *AP Options: -French Lang -Spanish Lang -Latin -Chinese - Honors Advanced French Studies -Honors Advanced Spanish Studies -Independent Study in Chinese	-Debate -Digital Design/ Photography (new) -Jazz Band -Choir -Chamber Singers -Handbells -Costume Design -Honors Music Theory (new) -Honors Art History -Art Electives -Music Electives -Dance Electives *AP Options: -Studio Art -Music Theory	-Honors Computer Science IV -Honors Advanced Computer Science	-Fitness & Wellness (new)	The Problem of Evil (new)	Innovation & Design (new)	<i>Senior year, students create and present a project with the theme from junior year.</i> The purpose of the project is to educate and create awareness, advocate for change, or provide a solution.

