KAPLAN COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

2011

Summer Course Catalog

Kaplan College Preparatory School

Summer School Courses

May 1, 2011

KAPLAN COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Below are the summer and credit recovery courses being offered for Summer School 2011.

High School – Summer Courses

Language Arts

- English 1
- English 1 Honors
- English 2
- English 2 Honors
- English 3
- English 3 Honors
- English 4
- English 4 Honors

Mathematics

- Pre-Algebra
- Algebra 1
- Algebra 1 Honors
- Algebra 2
- Algebra 2 Honors
- Geometry
- Geometry Honors

Foreign Language

- Spanish 1
- Spanish 2

Science

- Biology
- Biology Honors
- Earth Space Science
- Earth Space Science Honors
- Physical Science
- Marine Science
- Environmental Science
- Chemistry
- Chemistry Honors
- Physics

Social Studies

- American History
- American History Honors
- World History
- World History Honors
- Economics*
- Economics Honors
- American Government*
- American Government Honors

General Electives

- Art History
- Journalism
- Psychology
- Personal Fitness
- Physical Education 1 & 2
- Health
- Digital Photography and Graphics
- Web Design KomPozer
- Digital Video Production
- Green Design and Technology
- SAT Prep
- ACT Prep

Middle School – Summer Courses

Core Courses

- Language Arts 6
- Language Arts 7
- Language Arts 8
- Mathematics 6
- Mathematics 7
- Mathematics 8
- Science 6
- Science 7
- Science 8
- World Geography 6
- World Cultures 7
- US History 8

General Electives

- Art Appreciation 6
- Art Appreciation 7
- Art Appreciation 8
- Music Appreciation 6
- Music Appreciation 7
- Music Appreciation 8

Summer School Course Descriptions

Below is a list of the Summer School Course descriptions. These courses are designed for students who want to get ahead. Any non KCPS or KHS student should verify with his or her school before enrolling to verify whether or not the credits earned will transfer.

High School Core Courses

English 1, Survey of Literature

1 credit

Description:
Students investigate the connections between literature, culture, and their own life experiences, and learn to clearly express their ideas and opinions. Reading selections include novels, short stories, and poetry representing a broad cross-section of American subcultures and literary traditions. The course also builds fundamental writing and communication skills as it introduces students to the writing process and the basic principles of academic research. The course gives students the tools to read and communicate with deep understanding, clarity, and conviction.

English 1 Honors, Survey of Literature

1 credit

Description:
Students investigate the connections between literature, culture, and their own life experiences, and learn to clearly express their ideas and opinions. Reading selections include novels, short stories, and poetry representing a broad cross-section of American subcultures and literary traditions. The course also builds fundamental writing and communication skills as it introduces students to the writing process and the basic principles of academic research. The course gives students the tools to read and communicate with deep understanding, clarity, and conviction.

English 2, World Literature

1 credit

Description:
This course introduces students to major literary traditions from all corners of the globe. Reading selections include novels, short stories, epic poetry, drama, and mythology spanning the millennia of human history. In addition to evaluating the plots and characters of well-known writers, students learn to identify themes, create dialogue, and appeal to emotions. They study various forms of communication including oral, visual, electronic, and textual. As students explore various eras and cultures through literature, they also build proficiency in writing, literary analysis, and critical thinking. Students learn to communicate their own dreams, goals, and aspirations with clarity and conviction.

English 2 Honors, World Literature

1 credit

Description:
This course introduces students to major literary traditions from all corners of the globe. Reading selections

include novels, short stories, epic poetry, drama, and mythology spanning the millennia of human history. In addition to evaluating the plots and characters of well-known writers, students learn to identify themes, create dialogue, and appeal to emotions. They study various forms of communication including oral, visual, electronic, and textual. As students explore various eras and cultures through literature, they also build proficiency in writing, literary analysis, and critical thinking. Students learn to communicate their own dreams, goals, and aspirations with clarity and conviction.

English 3, American Literature

1 credit

Description:
Is there a better way to learn about literature than going right to the source? The Virtual Times is a newspaper delivered straight from the American past to students' doorstep (or computer screen). Organized around the theme of this virtual paper, the course delivers novels, drama, poetry, short films, and nonfiction that students analyze in terms of theme, literary devices, historical context, and point of view. Students learn to appreciate audience and purpose in what they read and write, as well as draw inferences. They produce a variety of writings, including journals, creative pieces, and analytic, expository, persuasive, and research essays. Students expand their vocabulary, demonstrate advanced research skills, and improve their oral communications skills. As virtual reporters investigating classic works of literature, students gain exposure to American authors and learn to appreciate what literature teaches about the time in which it was written.

English 3 Honors, American Literature

1 credit

Description:
Is there a better way to learn about literature than going right to the source? The Virtual Times is a newspaper delivered straight from the American past to students' doorstep (or computer screen). Organized around the theme of this virtual paper, the course delivers novels, drama, poetry, short films, and nonfiction that students analyze in terms of theme, literary devices, historical context, and point of view. Students learn to appreciate audience and purpose in what they read and write, as well as draw inferences. They produce a variety of writings, including journals, creative pieces, and analytic, expository, persuasive, and research essays. Students expand their vocabulary, demonstrate advanced research skills, and improve their oral communications skills. As virtual reporters investigating classic works of literature, students gain exposure to American authors and learn to appreciate what literature teaches about the time in which it was written.

English 4, Interacting with Literature

1 credit

Description:
In English 4, students master the literary and reading skills needed for success in college or career. Students select the literature of most interest to them in the genres of novels, short stories, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. They learn to analyze literary works with a critical eye, forming opinions based on evidence and persuasively expressing their own ideas. Students produce a variety of writings, gaining the vocabulary, literary techniques, and research skills to communicate effectively. Students also explore options for the future, and build a project around their chosen path that provides them with a plan to achieve their post-high school goals.

English 4 Honors, Interacting with Literature

1 credit

Description:
In English 4, students master the literary and reading skills needed for success in college or career. Students select the literature of most interest to them in the genres of novels, short stories, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. They learn to analyze literary works with a critical eye, forming opinions based on evidence and persuasively expressing their own ideas. Students produce a variety of writings, gaining the vocabulary, literary techniques, and research skills to communicate effectively. Students also explore options for the future, and build a project around their chosen path that provides them with a plan to achieve their post-high school goals.

Pre-Algebra

1 credit

Description:
This course builds upon the essential skills of arithmetic as they apply to algebra. Topics include real numbers and linear equations, linear inequalities, exponents, functions, graphing, and some elements of geometry. Students gain a background in algebra that gives them the skills and confidence to be successful in high school mathematics courses.

Algebra 1

1 credit

Description:
Students gain the knowledge needed for success in their high school mathematics courses. The course emphasizes the use of algebra in everyday life—in sports, travel, business, and health—and students practice using algebra to solve real world problems. The course presents algebra concepts in a user-friendly manner and gives students hands-on practice through animations, graphics, audio components, and interactive graphs. Students see problems solved step by step on their computer screens, while engaging labs make numbers, graphs, and equations come alive. This course gives students the skills, strategies, and confidence to solve all kinds of mathematical problems.

Algebra 1 Honors

1 credit

Description:
Students gain the knowledge needed for success in their high school mathematics courses. The course emphasizes the use of algebra in everyday life—in sports, travel, business, and health—and students practice using algebra to solve real world problems. The course presents algebra concepts in a user-friendly manner and gives students hands-on practice through animations, graphics, audio components, and interactive graphs. Students see problems solved step by step on their computer screens, while engaging labs make numbers, graphs, and equations come alive. This course gives students the skills, strategies, and confidence to solve all kinds of mathematical problems.

Algebra 2

1 credit

Description:
Students continue to build skills and confidence in algebra. The course includes hands-on activities, applications, group interactions, and cutting-edge technology that keep students engaged. After a review of basic algebra, students learn how to work with polynomials, quadratic equations, exponential and logarithmic relations, probability, and statistics. To learn how algebra is used in the real world, students jump into roles as employees of a fictional corporation, working their way up the corporate ladder with each successful assignment. In Algebra 2, students gain the algebra needed for success in school and career.

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1 credit

Description:
Students continue to build skills and confidence in algebra. The course includes hands-on activities, applications, group interactions, and cutting-edge technology that keep students engaged. After a review of basic algebra, students learn how to work with polynomials, quadratic equations, exponential and logarithmic relations, probability, and statistics. To learn how algebra is used in the real world, students jump into roles as employees of a fictional corporation, working their way up the corporate ladder with each successful assignment. In Algebra 2, students gain the algebra needed for success in school and career.

Geometry

1 credit

Description:
This course takes students on a mathematical highway illuminated by spatial relationships, reasoning, connections, and problem solving. Students develop geometric skills, learn geometry concepts, and practice constructing formal logical arguments and proofs. Through exploration of real-world examples, students see that geometry is all around them—engineers use it to bank highways and build bridges, artists use it to create perspective in their paintings, and mapmakers help travelers find locations using the points located on a geometric grid. The course provides students with basic tools for understanding and solving problems in the real world.

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Biology

1 credit

Description:
Students discover the nature of life through a study of matter, energy, chemical processes, genetics, DNA, and cells. They learn the scientific method and examine the traits and classifications of organisms from viruses and bacteria to plants and animals. Hands-on and virtual laboratory investigations enhance students' understanding of living things. The course covers some of the fastest growing areas of research in the biological sciences. By the end of the course, students will have developed a working definition of what constitutes life on Earth.

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Chemistry

1 credit

Description:
Students embark on a virtual tour to see chemistry in action. They visit such places as a petroleum refinery, a water treatment plant, a hospital, and even a scuba dive shop. From the largest nuclear power plant to the tiniest atom, students learn the basic ways that chemistry works and how scientists use it to make our lives better. Stressing the practical application of chemistry and its everyday uses, the course shows students how atoms, molecules, and elements join to make the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the gas that powers our cars. Hands-on laboratory investigations make concepts come alive and give students the chance to think like scientists.

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Physics

1 credit

Description:
In this course, students enter "Physics World," inhabited by great minds like Galileo, Newton, and Einstein. Students witness how physics has progressed over time due to the observation, experimentation, and insights of these scientific geniuses. Students learn the concepts, theories, and laws that govern the interaction of matter, energy, and forces. From tiny atoms to galaxies with millions of stars, students observe the universal laws of physics and learn to apply such laws. Using laboratory activities, videos, software, and websites, students follow in the footsteps of some of the world's greatest thinkers.

Earth Space Science

1 credit

Description:
Students explore the world and the universe. They journey from the sun and the moon across the oceans and continents down to the rocks and minerals and inside volcanoes and earthquakes. Students discover the history of the Earth, including fossils, the ice age, and glaciers. They learn about the weather and atmosphere and how winds and fronts work. Students explore space and the solar system and learn all about the Earth's water. The course engages students through hands-on activities, in which they gather data from their surrounding and interpret results like real scientists.

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Physical Science

1 credit

Description:
Students enter the world of physical science. They journey from deep in the center of an atom to right outside their window, where the laws of physics dictate the behavior of cars and airplanes, light and music, and the planets themselves. This course introduces students to the concepts of matter, energy, electricity, and magnetism and how they apply to everyday life. Laboratory investigations incorporate the use of measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus, safety procedures, and experimental procedures and enable students to see concepts come to life before their very eyes.

Marine Science

1 credit

Description:
Marine Science is a blend of biology and physical science. It incorporates topics such as ecology, chemistry, geology, technology, zoology, meteorology, botany, oceanography, and marine biology. Throughout this course, students explore the classification, anatomy, and physiology of organism in the marine environment, as well as the ecological function of these organisms as members of complex biological communities. As students delve deeper into marine science, they understand the origin of the oceans, the geological aspects of the marine environment, and the ecology of various sea zones. Students also analyze characteristics of marine ecosystems while understanding and appreciating the relationship between people and the oceans.

Environmental Science

1 credit

Description:
In this course, students learn about the environment and environmental issues. By studying the ecological interactions between living things and the environment, students learn how pollution, the carbon cycle, and the food chain alter the Earth's processes. In addition, the systematic study of global realms such as the atmosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere provides an understanding of natural processes. Students also learn about the various interest groups that influence government and policy and understand why environmental issues are so hotly debated today. Finally, students look to the future of energy resources, exploring farming, biofuels, and alternative energy sources.

American History

1 credit

Description:
Students investigate the history of the United States from the era of slavery to the present. The course takes students through a series of court cases that illuminate critical turning points and issues in American history. Students conduct research focused on the historical era in which the case occurred, and use primary and secondary sources to build persuasive arguments. As students consider questions about slavery, rights, regulation of business, religious freedom, and maintaining a stable world order, they begin to appreciate the complexity of the American story. The course also challenges students to apply their knowledge and perspective of history to interpret the events of today.

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World History

1 credit

Description:
Whether they lived 3,000 or 100 years ago, people are always making history. It does not matter if they lived in medieval Europe or ancient Egypt, the people who came before us are responsible for nearly all that we have today. In this course, you will have the job of curator of the Windows of the World Museum. You'll also have the job of creating exhibits that tell the story of our ancestors. Artifacts are evidence of human activity. These activities relate to endeavors such as art, commerce, politics, religion, and science. Your exhibits will highlight these activities. You will show how these activities define a stream of ideas and events that flows from the past to the present, and lights the way to the future.

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Economics

0.5 credit

Description:
In Economics, students learn how what people want and what they need influence the development of societies. They explore the limits that time, money, energy, and resources place upon satisfying the diverse needs and wants of a society. Students discover how economic systems manage these limitations by developing systems of exchange and balancing the use of scarce resources. Students also examine the local and global consequences of economic decisions, the role of technology in economics, and the function of government in shaping economic policy.

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American Government

0.5 credit

Description:
From Washington and Jefferson to Obama and Bush, students explore the fascinating story of government in the United States. This in-depth study of the American political and legal systems begins with an examination of the U.S. Constitution and the intentions of the Founding Fathers. Students analyze the pivotal roles of legislative bodies, executive officials, and the courts in governmental decision making. Students also explore the influence of political parties, public opinion, interest groups, and foreign governments upon American governmental processes.

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Spanish 1

1 credit

Description:
Students embark on a whirlwind virtual tour of Spain, Cuba, Colombia, and Argentina. As they explore the unique characteristics and culture of each place, students learn to communicate in practical and useful ways. They learn basic vocabulary and grammar, and are able to introduce themselves and talk about their homes, families, schools, and communities. They also learn to converse about shopping, weather, sports, entertainment, and hobbies. New words and phrases are introduced with text, pictures, and audio clips that demonstrate proper pronunciation. Interactive games and activities provide students with engaging opportunities to practice the language. In Spanish 1, students acquire the skills to read, write, understand, and speak Spanish with a basic foundation in grammar.

Spanish 2

1 credit

Description:
The adventure continues in Spanish 2, as students travel through Central America and the Caribbean, spending time in museums, traffic jams, and even in the hospital. They also encounter Spanish-speaking people from different parts of the United States. Throughout the course, students expand their vocabulary and knowledge of grammar, improving their ability to speak, write, listen, and read in Spanish. They also learn several new verb tenses, including the preterite, imperfect, future, present progressive, and past progressive. By experiencing the beauty and expressiveness of the Spanish language, students improve their skills in a language shared by many different people and cultures throughout the world.

High School General Electives

Journalism

1 credit

Description:
In the first semester, students learn the guidelines of good journalism and the skills necessary for brainstorming, researching, reporting, and publishing three types of stories (news, features, and sports) in an online newspaper. In the second semester, students study the evolution of American journalism from yellow journalism to today's multimedia journalism and its effect on war, politics, and American lifestyles. In addition, students brainstorm, research, report, and publish two types of stories (reviews and opinions or op-eds). The last unit of the course provides opportunities and directions for editors to publish an online newspaper.

Art History

1 credit

Description:
Students explore the role of art in the history of humankind and the development of culture. This course covers the elements, principles, disciplines, media, and processes of visual art. Students study everything from pottery and paintings to sculpture and architecture. As art critics, students take into account the viewpoints of historians while expressing their own opinions. The course includes prehistoric art, art of ancient Egypt and Greece, and Classical and Hellenistic styles. Students learn how the sensory qualities of art and its subject matter work together to give artwork its own unique expression. Finally, students consider the issue of society's ownership of art.

Psychology

0.5 credit

Description:
Students learn about the relationship between feelings, thoughts, and actions. They explore why they learn the way they do, how they forget, and what makes them remember. The course examines mental disorders and the traditional and non-traditional therapies used to treat them. Students learn more about themselves, including how to break habits and cope with stress. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the subfields of psychology. This engaging course includes experimentation, role-playing, and dream interpretations.

Personal Fitness

0.5 credit

Description:
With a rise in both teenage obesity and eating disorders, an awareness of and responsibility for personal health and fitness is more important than ever. In this course, students study all elements of physical fitness, as well as a variety of health-related topics including nutrition, dieting, exercise, and the human body. Students learn good eating and exercise habits, and understand how to assess their own fitness levels.

Physical Education 1

0.5 credit

Description:
Students learn a variety of physical skills, performing activities and completing written evaluations to demonstrate what they learn. The course covers aerobic and anaerobic fitness, as well as individual and team sports and other exercise routines that will help students maintain fitness throughout life. Topics include flexibility and strength training, yoga and racquet sports, and sports such as soccer and volleyball.

Physical Education 2

0.5 credit

Description:
In this course, students acquire physical skills and strategies for fitness. Students perform activities and complete written evaluations to demonstrate what they learn. The course covers aerobic and anaerobic fitness, as well as individual and team sports and other exercise routines that will help students maintain fitness throughout life. Topics include cardio and weight training, Pilates and dance, and sports such as swimming, basketball, baseball, and even ultimate Frisbee.

Health

0.5 credit

Description:
This course empowers students to make good, educated life decisions. The course covers issues that are critical in the lives of high school students. Topics include health and nutrition, mental health and stress, relationships and conflict resolution, and alcohol and drug use. Students learn skills to make personal decisions that support their health and wellbeing.

ACT Prep

0.5 credit

Description:
This course provides Web-based, adaptive instruction based on individual learning that helps students successfully prepare for the ACT. Data-driven, dynamic lesson plans personalize the curriculum according to students' specific needs. Cutting edge instruction includes multimedia activities and videos featuring expert instructors introducing new skills and strategies. Students benefit from two full length practice tests and hundreds of practice questions. They complete assignments in each of the exam areas (Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing) and acquire problem-solving and test-taking strategies. Custom reports tell students how they are doing and analyze their strengths and weaknesses. The combination of direct video instruction, guided and independent practice, individualized feedback, and online support materials gives students the knowledge and confidence they need for success on the ACT.

SAT Prep

0.5 credit

Description:
This course provides Web-based, adaptive instruction based on individual learning that helps students successfully prepare for the SAT. Data-driven, dynamic lesson plans personalize the curriculum according to

students' specific needs. Cutting edge instruction includes multimedia activities and videos featuring expert instructors introducing new skills and strategies. Students benefit from two full length practice tests and hundreds of practice questions. They complete assignments in each of the exam areas (Mathematics, Reading, Science, and Writing) and acquire problem-solving and test-taking strategies. Custom reports tell students how they are doing and analyze their strengths and weaknesses. The combination of direct video instruction, guided and independent practice, individualized feedback, and online support materials gives students the knowledge and confidence they need for success on the SAT.

Digital Photography and Graphics

0.5 credit

Description:
In this course, students master the fundamentals of GIMP, the world's most popular open source (free) software for editing digital photos and creating digital art. Using GIMP, students create stunning composite photos, captivating images, and even convincing photo hoaxes with brush and filter effects. This course is the perfect introduction to digital media tools; students can ask questions, get feedback, and share work with classmates. By the end of the course, students will have a collection of projects for their digital portfolios.

Web Design: KompoZer

0.5 credit

Description:
This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the essentials of Web design, from creating page layouts to coding with CSS and JavaScript to building a complete website. Through real-world design scenarios and hands-on projects, students create compelling, functioning websites using KompoZer, one of the Web's most user-friendly open-source (free) editing tools.

Green Design and Technology

0.5 credit

Description:
This course examines the impact of human activities on sustainability and explores the basic principles and technologies that support sustainable design. Students learn about the potential for emerging energy technologies like water, wind, and solar power. They discover how today's businesses are adapting to the increased demand for sustainable products and services. By the end of this course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of this fast-growing field.

Digital Video Production

0.5 credit

Description:
This course is an excellent introduction to the exciting field of digital video production. It touches on all phases of video production, from storyboarding scenes to creating shot lists to editing a finished, professional product. Throughout the course, students complete hands-on projects to master the essentials of recording, capturing, and editing video. By the end of the course, students will have two completed films for their portfolios.

Middle School Core Courses

Language Arts 1 – 6th Grade

1 credit

Description:
In Language Arts 1, students encounter exciting stories, folktales, and heroic adventures from the past and present. They read short stories and novels, listen to music, read newspapers, and even interview their parents. Information about vocabulary, grammar, and punctuation helps improve students' writing skills. Students are encouraged to use their imaginations and be creative as they explore the language arts.

Language Arts 2 – 7th Grade

1 credit

Description:
In Language Arts 1, students encounter exciting stories, folktales, and heroic adventures from the past and present. They read short stories and novels, listen to music, read newspapers, and even interview their parents. Information about vocabulary, grammar, and punctuation helps improve students' writing skills. Students are encouraged to use their imaginations and be creative as they explore the language arts.

Language Arts 3 – 8th Grade

1 credit

Description:
This course challenges students to define and describe their place in a changing world. Students build the reading comprehension, writing, listening, and speaking skills to communicate effectively. The course also covers topics such as conducting research, managing time, setting goals, and exploring career options. At the end of the course, students will have a portfolio containing all of their writing.

Mathematics 1 – 6th Grade

1 credit

Description:
In this engaging and interactive course, students learn how to apply the mathematics learned in previous courses. They learn about numbers, fractions, percentages, and data analysis and see how geometry and algebra can help solve the types of problems students encounter every day. Games and activities reinforce the skills students learn, providing them with many hands-on practice opportunities. Trivia and other fun-filled facts ensure that students stay engaged. The mathematical concepts and processes learned in this course help students in all academic areas, and they gain critical thinking and problem-solving skills that can be applied both in and out of school.

Mathematics 2 – 7th Grade

1 credit

Description:
This course takes students on a mathematical journey that illuminates how mathematics relates to real life. Students demonstrate acquired knowledge as they use mathematics skills to solve practical problems. They learn how to estimate and measure quantities, describe graphs and algebraic equations, and use statistics to

make predictions. Full of animations, applications, videos, games, and real-world scenarios, the course keeps students engaged and actively applying learned skills.

Mathematics 3 – 8th Grade

1 credit

Description:
This is a hands-on mathematics course full of animations, applications, videos, and games. Students learn concepts like systems of equations, central tendencies, and the basics of algebra and geometry in an engaging, interactive setting. The course focuses on showing students how to apply mathematics concepts such as scientific notation, the Pythagorean Theorem, and graphs to real-world scenarios, making mathematics easier to understand and apply in both school and life.

Science 1 – 6th Grade

1 credit

Description:
This course introduces students to the exciting world of science. The mysteries of the universe start to unravel as students learn topics like energy, force, weather, climate, the Earth's systems, and the living world. Students explore science through everyday examples and experiences, and they participate in activities and online laboratory experiences to apply what they have learned. Some topics are explored in depth while others serve as building blocks for Science 2 and 3.

Science 2 – 7th Grade

1 credit

Description:
Students take a tour of planet Earth. They virtually visit six continents to see science in action all over the world. On their trip, students explore the history of the Earth, its features, and its internal and external structures and how they change. They continue to dig into the foundations of science, learning about energy, genetics, heredity, living things, and the organization of the living world. Some topics are introduced and serve as a foundation for Science 3 while others are discussed in detail. Students learn through real-world examples and participate in activities and online laboratory experiences to apply what they have learned.

Science 3 – 8th Grade

1 credit

Description:
Into space, around the galaxies, and back to life on Earth, as the science adventure continues. Students learn about the nature of science, Earth and space science, properties of matter, changes in matter, and the flow of energy in the living world. Through real-world examples and participation in activities and online laboratory experiments, students are able to apply what they learn. The course introduces new information and reviews some basics of science to prepare students for high school science coursework.

World Geography – 6th Grade

1 credit

Description:
Students embark on a global fact-finding mission through Europe, the Middle East, Asia, North and South America, and the countries around the Pacific Rim. They research the cultural and natural landscapes of these regions, developing a multicultural understanding of the world's diverse people and places. Students gain the knowledge of geography that is increasingly important as communications and transportation bring distant parts of our world closer together. As they explore places around the world, students design their own "Global Village Theme Park" in which they can use their imagination to represent the world and its people in the parks they create.

World Cultures – 7th Grade

1 credit

Description:
Students embark on a global fact-finding mission through Europe, the Middle East, Asia, North and South America, and the countries around the Pacific Rim. They research the cultural and natural landscapes of these regions, developing a multicultural understanding of the world's diverse people and places. Students gain the knowledge of geography that is increasingly important as communications and transportation bring distant parts of our world closer together. As they explore places around the world, students design their own "Global Village Theme Park" in which they can use their imagination to represent the world and its people in the parks they create.

US History – 8th Grade

1 credit

Description:
Students unravel the story of America's past to discover that history is full of compelling adventures, colorful characters, and complex plots. From the earliest prehistoric inhabitants to the citizens of today, America's inhabitants have always had big dreams for themselves and for their land. This course invites students to examine these dreams in light of historical facts. Students look at important questions about war, civil rights, nation building, and national spirit. They explore how the past connects with the present to give the people of the United States a sense of identity as Americans.

Art Appreciation – 6th Grade

0.5 credit

Description:
What is "art"? Students journey through time to find out. They explore world regions and the unique artifacts and works of architecture that define ancient civilizations. They go from Mesopotamia, the world's first civilization, to the Roman streets of Pompeii, making stops along the way in ancient China, Japan, Greece, and the Americas. Through hands-on and virtual activities, students learn the fundamental concepts of art, how to look at and evaluate art, and the purpose of natural history museums.

Art Appreciation – 7th Grade

0.5 credit

Description:
What is "art"? Students journey through time to find out. They explore world regions and the unique artifacts and works of architecture that define ancient civilizations. They go from Mesopotamia, the world's first civilization, to the Roman streets of Pompeii, making stops along the way in ancient China, Japan, Greece, and the Americas. Through hands-on and virtual activities, students learn the fundamental concepts of art, how to look at and evaluate art, and the purpose of natural history museums.

Art Appreciation – 8th Grade

0.5 credit

Description:
Students embark on a journey to Asia and Africa and explore a rich artistic heritage. They make stops along the way to view European art since the 19th century, and take a tour of the United States to check out 20th-century masterpieces. Students explore world regions and the unique art and architecture that define modern-day civilizations. From Picasso to Hiroshige, students learn the fundamental concepts of art, as well as how to look at and evaluate works of art. They also learn more about careers in art and how to prepare for such careers. Hands-on and virtual activities enhance students' appreciation of various art forms.

Music Appreciation – 6th Grade

0.5 credit

Description:
In this course, students enter the world of music, exploring the evolution of music from the medieval ages to today. They learn important musical vocabulary terms and understand concepts like rhythm and pitch. Music comes alive through interactive projects—students listen to samples of music from all over the world, write their own raps or poems, and act as music critics. Students learn foundational skills such as performing, listening, analyzing, and responding to music. After completion of this course, students will be able to describe and analyze musical sound; demonstrate musical artistry; read and write music notation; create and arrange music within specified guidelines; and relate music to history, society, and culture.

Music Appreciation – 7th Grade

0.5 credit

Description:
Students explore the evolution of music from Mozart to Elvis. They learn about music fundamentals and rhythm essentials. Music comes alive through interactive activities and students listen to samples of music from ragtime and the blues to early rock and roll. Students learn foundational skills such as performing, listening, analyzing, and responding to music.

Music Appreciation – 8th Grade

0.5 credit

Description:

Rap, classical, hard rock, or pop—whatever their musical tastes, this course gives students the ability to interpret and appreciate all types of music. Students learn foundational skills such as performing, listening, analyzing, and responding to music. They develop a sense of self-esteem by accomplishing activities that require higher critical-thinking skills especially developed for their grade level. The course enhances students' overall musicianship; after completing it, students will be able to reflect on musical periods and styles, understand music's role in history, analyze and evaluate music, and make critical judgments and informed musical choices.