



Ivywood Classical Academy
Upper School Course Catalog
2024–2025 Academic Year

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Middle School Progression (6th–8th Grades)

Scholars enter middle school starting in 6th grade—a transition year in which scholars begin to rotate teachers according to subject area. Starting in 7th grade, scholars can select an elective class. But all scholars begin taking Latin in 6th grade. In 6th and 7th grade, Latin I is spread over two years (i.e., Latin IA and IB) to allow for a strong foundation. Latin II—offered in 8th grade—is faster paced and is completed in one year. Latin II also constitutes one of the two high school credits offered to 8th graders.

6th Grade

Literature

Grammar and Composition
History and Geography 6th
Grade Mathematics Science
Physical Education
Fine Arts
Latin IA

7th Grade

Literature

Grammar and Composition
History and Geography 7th
Grade Mathematics Science
Physical Education
Fine Arts
Latin IA/Latin IB

8th Grade

Literature

Grammar and Composition
History and Geography
Algebra 1 (*HS Credit: 1*)
Science
Physical Education
Fine Arts
Latin I/Latin II (*HS Credit: 1*)

Elective Courses

Art History
Music Theory
Band
Choir

High School Progression (9th–12th Grades)

Ivywood Classical Academy has a core curriculum that all scholars will complete while enrolled. Scholars will not be able to supplement these classes with any online virtual or dual enrollment courses. Each of the courses below will not only describe the classes scholars will take, but also designate the grade level, credits, and whether it is a core or elective class.

Literature

❖ *Ancient Literature*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course introduces scholars to the foundations of Western Civilization through the epic poetry of *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, and *The Aeneid*. These epic narratives elevate human struggles and conflicts to cosmic significance and offer their listeners an all-encompassing portrait of divinity, humanity, nature, and a common cultural identity. Scholars will learn the language of epic poetry and wrestle with ancient questions about transcendent greatness, heroism, the centrality of the family, and the nature of the good life. To complement these works, scholars will read tragedies by Sophocles and William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*.

❖ *British Literature*

Grade Level: 10

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course continues the study of great works of literature that began with the Ancients, tracing the influence of the classical tradition on representative works of Medieval and British literature such as *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Paradise Lost*, *Macbeth*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *A Tale of Two Cities*. By engaging with the beauty, originality, and wisdom of these texts, scholars will come to reflect deeply upon questions concerning man's place in the cosmos, the struggle between good and evil, moral virtue, human freedom, and the dynamic interplay between love and reason in the pursuit of happiness. Throughout this course, scholars will be expected to read analytically, paying particular attention to the relationship between literary form and content, and they will develop strong habits of memorization, argumentation, and written composition.

❖ *American Literature*

Grade Level: 11

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course introduces scholars to some of the greatest works of American literature, including *The Scarlet Letter*, *Moby Dick*, and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, as well as short stories and poems by Bradstreet, Eliot, Emerson, Faulkner, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, O'Connor, and more. By engaging with the works of great American minds, scholars will develop a deeper understanding of the culture and spirit of the American people as they wrestle with questions concerning freedom, friendship, the relationship between the individual and society, the nature of art, and the meaning of suffering. Throughout this course, scholars will continue to develop their skills in literary analysis, Socratic discussion, and logical and eloquent written composition.

❖ *Modern Literature*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course concludes the literature sequence with two main objectives. The first is to complete scholars training in oral and written rhetoric, which also culminates in the successful presentation of the Senior Thesis. The second objective is to introduce scholars to modern literature in the context of the classical tradition. Modern literature, and modernism in particular, often challenges readers' notions of what a work of art is and its relationship to reality. To that end, scholars will expand their understanding of literary form and mimesis by reading works including *The Metamorphosis*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Hamlet*, and *Crime and Punishment*, as well as modern short stories and poems by Auden, Chekhov, Hopkins, Pound, Stevens, Yeats, and more.

❖ *Senior Thesis*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

The Senior Thesis project requires scholars to choose one or more texts that have made a significant contribution to the development of knowledge and culture in Western civilization, and then to craft a lengthy argumentative essay that proposes an answer to real problems raised in those texts concerning human nature, the human good, and the natural order. The essay-writing process culminates in the oral presentation and defense of the thesis in front of a faculty panel and an audience of family members and friends. The senior thesis project is considered the capstone of a scholar's entire classical K-12 education, insofar as it requires them to demonstrate their mastery over the liberal arts of grammar, logic, and rhetoric. In addition to being a capstone project, the senior thesis also represents a first step into a life of public discourse and civic virtue.

Reading, Writing, and Speaking

❖ *Composition*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This course is designed for students who have not taken the 7th and 8th grade Grammar and Composition classes or for students who need additional practice in grammar and composition skills. The purpose of this course is to improve students' ability to write by reviewing basic grammar and focusing on the essentials of the writing and editing process. Knowledge of grammar provides students with the building blocks of the English language, and, in this way, helps them to become better thinkers and better writers. The semester will begin by reviewing the parts of speech, the process of sentence diagramming, and the basics of punctuation. Students will then be introduced to the invention, organization, style, and revision necessary for good composition.

❖ *Formal Logic (Prerequisite: 8th Grade Grammar and Composition)*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: .5

Core Course

This course introduces scholars to the fundamental principles and rules of logic as first formulated in Aristotle's *Organon* and as further developed and systematized by ancient and medieval commentators. In addition, it introduces scholars to the philosophical principles that underlie traditional logic; therefore, it contains both a theoretical component as "the rational science" and a practical component as "the art of reasoning." The course proceeds according to the natural order of the three acts traditionally ascribed to the intellect: simple apprehension, judgment, and reasoning. Upon completion of this course, scholars will be able to demonstrate: 1) an understanding of the traditional theory of human knowing; 2) the ability to implement this theory in determining the order and method proper to the various arts and sciences; and 3) the ability to analyze arguments for logical validity and to construct logical demonstrations.

❖ *Rhetoric*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: .5

Core Course

Among the marks of a well-educated person is the ability to articulate his or her thoughts clearly and concisely. While this is often emphasized in one's writing, this same ability is no less important in spoken discourse. Rhetoric aims to train scholars in the art of speaking well. Scholars will learn to identify and utilize the different modes of persuasion, craft superior speeches through the five canons of rhetoric, and judge speeches for their logical merit. Scholars will encounter and

understand excellent examples of rhetoric through the study of historical speeches. Additionally, scholars will compose and deliver their speeches, developing their powers of composition and public speaking.

❖ *Guided Reading*

Grade Level: 11-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

An upper level, semester-long elective course designed to develop reading and writing skills by carefully working through a classical primary text selected by the teacher. The selected text may vary from semester to semester, but sample texts include works such as Augustine's *Confessions*, Boethius' *The Consolation of Philosophy*, Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, Dante's *Divine Comedy*, Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*, Plato's *Republic*, Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, and more.

Mathematics

- ❖ *Algebra I (Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra. Although Hillsdale College recommends that Algebra I be taken in 8th grade, this course is included in the 9-12 Course Catalog because it counts for high school credit.)*

Grade Level: 8

HS Credits:1

Core Course

This course is a study of the fundamental ideas and processes of elementary algebra, with emphasis placed on the structure of mathematics. This structure provides a mental framework on which more complicated ideas can be built and helps scholars understand that mathematics is a unified and connected body of knowledge. This course will help to lay the foundation needed in subsequent mathematics courses and in other subjects by helping the scholar develop logical thinking and reasoning skills. Major topics include properties and sets of numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, quadratic equations, and functions.

- ❖ *Geometry (Prerequisite: Algebra I)*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course introduces scholars to Euclidean Geometry as a demonstrative discipline through proofs of geometrical propositions from certain and self-evident principles. In addition to exploring the foundations of geometrical knowledge, scholars are taught how to apply that knowledge to concrete problems and how to integrate pure geometry with algebraic reasoning and expression. This course places a special emphasis on the nature of demonstrative knowledge, the development of logical thinking skills, and the arts of analytic and synthetic

reasoning. Major topics include lines and angles, triangles, polygons, quadrilaterals, circles, ratio and proportion, coordinates, and spheres.

❖ *Algebra II (Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry)*

Grade Level: 10

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course enables scholars to continue to build upon and unify their knowledge of algebra and geometry through the study of analytic geometry, while it also provides the mathematical foundation necessary for more advanced courses and higher-order math. The course aims to strengthen scholars' conceptual understanding of mathematics and numbers, in addition to their logical and spatial reasoning, and it will continue to build scholars' mathematical intuition. Major topics covered include polynomials; linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, and systems; properties and graphs of functions; linear functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; quadratic functions; and circles and their equations. The end of the course includes a brief introduction to trigonometry to emphasize the unity of algebraic and geometric procedures.

❖ *Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus (Prerequisite: Algebra II and Geometry)*

Grade Level: 11

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

Pre-Calculus, as its name suggests, helps to prepare scholars for Calculus, but it also builds extensively on ideas from Algebra II and Geometry. The course will review and dig deeper into major concepts from Algebra II before moving on to an in-depth study of Trigonometry, which is one of the most widely applicable topics in mathematics. The course ends with an introduction to Calculus and Discrete Mathematics, to prepare scholars for the highest-level math courses they will take in high school. The primary goals of the course are to solidify a foundation in algebra and trigonometry, to prepare scholars for calculus, business calculus, and finite mathematics, and to develop problem-solving skills that can be applied to the real world.

❖ *Calculus (Prerequisite: Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus)*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

Calculus is a tremendous and beautiful human accomplishment that also plays an important practical role in science, engineering, economics, and computer science. This introductory calculus course, which is roughly equivalent to a first-semester course in college calculus, is devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. Upon successful completion of Calculus, scholars will understand three primary fundamental concepts, along with some of their most common applications: 1) that the Derivative represents the rate of change and is computed as a limit of ratios; 2) that the Integral represents a sum and is computed as a limit of Riemann sums;

and 3) that the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus connects the Derivative and the Integral. Calculus is an elective math class.

History and Civics

❖ *Ancient World to A.D. 500*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course explores the foundations of Western civilization from the first cities in Mesopotamia to the end of the Western Roman Empire. While the teacher and secondary sources will help to provide narrative history and explanations, the course readings will often let these ancient civilizations speak for themselves through the study of primary sources and artifacts. Major topics will include histories of the Mediterranean and Near East; the Hebrews; Ancient Greek culture, wars, and philosophy; Republican and Imperial Rome; Christianity and the early church; and the crisis and division of Rome. Scholars should leave this course with a working knowledge of the origins of Western civilization in the ideas, people, and institutions of the Greek, Hebrew, and Roman worlds and of early Christian history.

❖ *Europe: 500-1815*

Grade Level: 10

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course spans the arch of European history from the fall of Rome through the exile of Napoleon Bonaparte, covering the various revolutions in theology, philosophy, law, and politics leading from the ancient world to the dawn of modern Europe. In due course, scholars encounter the Early, High, and Late Middle Ages, followed by the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Age of Exploration, the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the French Revolution. As with other upper school history classes, this course will privilege the use of primary texts—an approach that better allows scholars to engage with the ideas, personalities, and cultures of the past. The teacher and supplementary secondary sources will help to guide scholars by providing a narrative background and analysis.

❖ *American History: 1607-Present*

Grade Level: 11

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course covers American history from the European Age of Exploration to the present day. Scholars will engage with the major persons, events, and ideas in important periods throughout American history. Most scholars will already have a working familiarity with American history from grades 7 and 8, enabling the class to move quickly through narrative history and biography with extra time and attention spent on primary sources and discussions of important and controversial

ideas. This class will build upon Western and European history from Grades 9 and 10 while helping to prepare scholars for the 12th-grade class in American Government. Scholars completing this course should have a good sense of their country through knowledge of its history, ideas, and conflicts.

❖ *Modern World*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This history course picks up where the Western Civilization II course finished by covering the political, economic, and philosophic history of modern Europe from Napoleon to the present day. As much of this history overlaps with the 11th-grade course in American History, scholars will have the opportunity to revisit many of these historical events from a fresh angle. Scholars will encounter the Revolutions of the 19th Century, Industrialization, Late Modern Philosophies, World Wars I and II, the rise and fall of Communism in Russia, the Disintegration of the British Empire, the Cold War, and the ideas and institutions of Europe in the post-Cold War era. As scholars' final course in history, graduates of this class should be prepared for post-secondary education in history, and—much more importantly—have sufficient background to understand and engage with the ideas and events of the contemporary Western world.

❖ *American Government & Politics*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

The purpose of this course is to provide scholars with the knowledge necessary to become responsible, prudent citizens. This task requires us to figure out the meaning of the American regime and the way of life it promotes. Scholars will acquire a serious understanding of the moral vision of the American Founding and the structure and purposes of the Constitution, and they will also study the most important ways in which our constitutional order has changed throughout our history. After exploring the very best arguments about American government and politics made by statesmen and political thinkers, scholars will be in a better position to judge what in our regime is worth preserving and what is worth changing. Authors studied include the American Founders, Abraham Lincoln, the Progressives and their successors, and Alexis de Tocqueville.

❖ *Economics*

Grade Level: 10

HS Credits: 0.5

Core Course

This course will help young Americans appreciate and understand our free market system. Its primary goal is to introduce scholars to the economic way of thinking and to help develop mental tools that they can use to understand the complex interactions of a commercial society. The course begins by introducing scholars to

the language of economics and teaches them to apply its principles and postulates to see conditions in a free market and to compare these conditions to alternative arrangements. After learning the basic foundations and uniqueness of the free market system, scholars will next study fundamental concepts of economics—including supply and demand, economizing actions, marginal decisions, opportunity costs, coordinating the actions of economizers, and market interventions—that will allow them to see the basic actions and interactions within the market. Finally, scholars will learn about the Keynesian model of macroeconomics to help them understand current fiscal and monetary policy.

❖ *Intro to Moral and Political Philosophy*

Grade Level: 10

HS Credits: 0.5

Core Course

This course introduces scholars to major themes in moral and political thought through a study of literature. Its emphasis on dystopian literature allows scholars to consider the greatest problems and dangers confronting the modern world. They will study how various modern developments—including the rise of ideology and utopianism, the unleashing of scientific and technological progress, and the spread of moral relativism—could contribute to tyranny, totalitarianism, and the degradation of the human soul. Scholars should leave the course with a deep appreciation of the importance of both philosophy and politics. They should see why we need a genuine philosophy that guides us to the truth about human nature and nature as a whole, and they should see why we must work hard to defend self-government, the rule of law, and healthy politics that protects liberty and promotes virtue. Authors studied include Jonathan Swift, Arthur Koestler, George Orwell, Aldous Huxley, and C.S. Lewis.

❖ *Moral and Political Philosophy*

Grade Level: 11

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

The primary purpose of this course is to confront some of the most important philosophical, moral, and political questions that have troubled thoughtful people in all times and places. Scholars will learn to reflect deeply on human nature and the human good; the character of morality, justice, and freedom; the nature of politics and good government; and the place of human beings in the broader natural universe. They will do this by reading works written by some of the greatest minds ever to have reflected on these matters, and especially Aristotle, who will be their principal guide. This course will also help scholars better understand the intellectual foundations of the contemporary world, and it will help prepare them for prudent, responsible citizenship. Authors studied include Aristotle, Niccolò Machiavelli, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and Karl Marx.

Natural Sciences

❖ *Biology*

Grade Level: 9

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course is a comprehensive survey of the science of biology. The course begins with a study of the basic chemical processes important to biology and then works its way through the study of the cell, genetics, organisms, and the classification of organisms. The course then moves into a study of the human body and concludes with an introduction to environmental science and the interaction of biological communities and their ecosystems. In-class presentations and discussions are complemented by laboratory experiments that teach scholars the processes of science and data interpretations, while they also reinforce the factual content of the curriculum.

❖ *Chemistry (Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II)*

Grade Level: 10

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course offers a survey of major theories, models, laws, and concepts of modern chemistry. Through rigorous experimentation, measurement, data interpretation, and modeling, scholars will inquire about the nature and properties of matter, substance, substantial change, alteration, and material composition. Major units of study include modern atomic theory, chemical elements, chemical bonding and formulas, stoichiometry, acid-base reactions, kinetics and chemical equilibrium, and states of matter and gas laws. Throughout this course, a special emphasis is placed on understanding and applying the scientific method, acquiring rigorous habits of observation and experimentation, and learning how to use measurements of matter to inquire into the nature of matter.

❖ *Physics (Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus)*

Grade Level: 11

HS Credits: 1

Core Course

This course provides an overview of the fundamentals of classical physics. Scholars will concentrate on understanding the physical reality of their everyday experiences of matter and motion and they will learn how to express these concepts through mathematical models and equations. Frequent discussions and lab-based inquiries about the principles of nature and physical phenomena will broaden and deepen scholars' realms of experience and knowledge. After completing this course, scholars will exhibit proficiency in explaining and applying the principles of kinematics, force, work and energy, gravitation and oscillation, light and sound, and electromagnetism. Scholars will also become more adept at examining evidence,

identifying and manipulating variables, and testing their hypotheses in a laboratory setting.

❖ *Biology II (Prerequisite: Biology)*

Grade Level: 11

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

A continuation and advancement of the content covered in the first Biology course. Topics for this course include: Chemistry of Life; The Cell; Genetics; Mechanism of Evolution; Biological Diversity; Angiosperms; Mammals; Ecology.

❖ *Astronomy (Prerequisite: Physics)*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

This course provides an overview of every major topic in modern astronomy. The course progresses from a consideration of the celestial objects that are most easily observable to those that can be known only through advanced instruments or by mathematical theory alone. At each stage scholars will consider celestial bodies 1) in terms of their relative motions as expressed through mathematical physics; 2) in terms of their observable properties; and 3) in terms of their formation and evolution. Throughout the course, a special emphasis will be placed on understanding physical cosmology as the theoretical basis of the natural sciences.

❖ *Chemistry II (Prerequisite: Chemistry)*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

A continuation and advancement of the content covered in the first Chemistry course. Topics for this course include: Foundations of Chemistry; Atomic Theory and Structure; Stoichiometry; Aqueous Reactions; Chemical Bonding and Molecular Geometry; Gases; Thermochemistry; Condensed States; Kinetics; Acids and Bases.

❖ *Physics II (Prerequisite: Physics)*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

A full description of this course is forthcoming.

Foreign Language

Latin Class by Grade Level

		6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
First Year of Latin	6th	1A	1B	2	3	4		
	7th		1A	1	2	3	4 (elective)	
	8th			1	2	3	4 (elective)	
	9th				1	2	3	4 (elective)
	10th					1	2	3

All new high school scholars will be placed in Latin I

❖ *Latin I*

HS Credits: 1

Latin 1 covers all of Latin 1A and Latin 1B. Latin IA introduces scholars to the study of Latin and cultivates in them habits and skills that will be essential to their successful learning of the language. The course covers the first eight chapters of *Wheelock's Latin* along with Roman cultural studies. Major concepts that will be taught include Latin study skills; vocabulary; inflection; basic English grammar; how to read, parse, and diagram; verb and noun formation; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd conjugation verbs in the imperfect, present, and future tenses; subject-verb agreement; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd declension nouns; and 1st/2nd declension adjectives. Latin IB reinforces for scholars the concepts they learned in Latin IA as well as the habits and skills that are essential to continued success in learning the language. The course covers chapters 9-17 of *Wheelock's Latin* along with Roman cultural studies. Major concepts that will be taught include 3rd and 4th conjugation verbs; pluperfect, perfect, and future perfect tenses in the active voice; number; and 3rd declension adjectives.

❖ *Latin II (Prerequisite: Latin I)*

HS Credits: 1

This course continues the study of the Latin language and Roman culture and civilization begun in Latin I, covering chapters 18-27 of *Wheelock's Latin*. The primary focus is given to translating increasingly more complex adaptations of texts written by various Roman authors. Within each chapter, scholars learn new points of morphology and syntax, comparing Latin grammar and syntax to English. Major

concepts that will be taught include the passive voice; 5th declension nouns; participles; the passive periphrastic; infinitives and indirect statements; and comparative and superlative adjectives.

❖ *Latin III (Prerequisite: Latin II)*

HS Credits: 1

Latin III reinforces concepts that scholars learned in Latin I-II and continues to build upon their skills in translation, their knowledge of linguistics, and their understanding of Roman culture. Additionally, this course enables scholars to begin reading more extended passages reworded from authentic Roman stories, as well as excerpts from authentic Latin texts. The course covers chapters 28-40 of *Wheelock's Latin*, together with readings from *Ritchie's Fabulae Faciles*. Major concepts that will be taught include the subjunctive mood; indirect questions and sequence of tenses; *cum* clauses; conditions; and the gerund and gerundive.

❖ *Latin IV (Prerequisite: Latin III)*

HS Credits: 1

The chief purpose of the Latin IV course is to cultivate a leisured enjoyment in reading authentic Latin literature. To that end, this course will focus on enabling scholars to appreciate the beautiful content and style of original Latin texts. Nevertheless, grammatical concepts and constructions will continue to be reviewed, reinforced, and refined, and scholars will develop a deeper and more extensive understanding of Latin rhetorical devices and poetic conventions. Traditionally, the first authentic work of Latin literature that scholars read after completing the introductory grammar sequence is Julius Caesar's *Gallic War (De Bello Gallico)*. This is typically followed by Virgil's *Aeneid* and then selected orations from Cicero.

❖ *Modern Foreign Language*

Grade Level: 12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

Hillsdale College recommends two years of a modern foreign language elective. While most affiliate schools offer French, Spanish, or German, the track selected can be based upon the school's faculty talent or student preference.

Fine Arts

❖ *Vocal Ensemble (Concert Choir)*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

This group is the top-performing choir at the school. The Concert Choir is composed mostly of HS students who successfully completed MS Choir in seventh and eighth grade. There are students that join each year that have not participated in choir before, but have a desire to do so now. The students in the Concert Choir work on continually refining and improving skills they have already mastered, along with learning more complex ones. This group regularly sings 3 to 4 Part Harmony (SAB, SATB), so students are continually working to become more independent vocally. Students involved in the choir program will have opportunities during the year to perform and travel to hear and work with professional musicians in the area. Students in Concert Choir have an interest in music, and need to devote a minimum of two hours of practice a week. Private lessons are, of course, helpful and recommended. The Concert Choir performs at two to three concerts during the year. Members of the Concert Choir have the opportunity to participate at other festivals and competitions.

❖ *Band Ensemble (Symphonic Band)*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

This group is the top-performing band at the school. The Symphonic Band is composed of HS students who successfully completed MS Concert (JV) Band in seventh and eighth grade. The students in the Symphonic Band work on continually refining and improving skills they have already mastered, along with learning more complex ones. Students involved in the band program will have opportunities during the year to perform and travel to hear and work with professional musicians in the area. Students in Symphonic Band have an interest in music, and need to devote a minimum of two hours of practice a week. Private lessons are, of course, helpful and recommended. The Symphonic Band performs at two to three concerts during the year. Members of the Symphonic Band have the opportunity to participate in MSBOA District 12 Solo and Ensemble. As a full band, they will also perform at other festivals and competitions.

❖ *Music Theory*

Grade Level: 11-12

HS Credits: 1

Elective Course

A full description of this course is forthcoming.

❖ *Drawing I*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This introductory course invites high school scholars to explore the foundational principles and techniques of classical drawing. Suitable for scholars of all skill levels, this class emphasizes traditional drawing methods and the development of essential artistic skills. Scholars explore basic form, light and shadow, cast drawing, drapery studies, figure studies and still life while incorporating the basic elements of art (line, shape, color, form, etc.) as well as the principles of design (proportion, balance, movement, emphasis, etc.).

❖ *Drawing II (Prerequisite: Drawing I)*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This advanced course builds upon the foundational principles and techniques learned in *Drawing I*, offering high school scholars the opportunity to further refine their drawing skills. Scholars will deepen their mastery of traditional classical drawing methods, with a focus on advanced techniques such as complex figure studies, detailed still life compositions, and intricate drapery studies. The course emphasizes the continued exploration of light and shadow, proportion, and perspective, while encouraging the development of a personal artistic style. Scholars will incorporate the elements of art (line, shape, form, space, value, and texture) and principles of design (proportion, balance, movement, rhythm, and emphasis) into more sophisticated works, pushing their technical and conceptual boundaries.

❖ *Painting I*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This introductory course is designed for high school scholars interested in exploring the rich traditions of classical painting. Suitable for scholars at all skill levels, this class focuses on the techniques and principles that have shaped classical art through the ages. Scholars explore painting materials, techniques and color theory while incorporating the basic elements of art (line, shape, color, form, etc.) as well as the principles of design (proportion, balance, movement, emphasis, etc.).

❖ *Painting II (Prerequisite: Painting I)*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This advanced course builds upon the skills and techniques introduced in *Painting I*, offering high school scholars an opportunity to deepen their exploration of classical painting methods. Scholars will refine their understanding of traditional painting practices, focusing on advanced techniques such as multi-layered glazing,

complex color mixing, and detailed texture work. Emphasis will be placed on developing a sophisticated approach to composition, light and shadow, and the portrayal of form and space. Scholars will continue to work with classical materials and methods while pushing their technical and conceptual boundaries. The course encourages personal artistic development through advanced projects that incorporate the elements of art (line, shape, color, form, space, value, and texture) and principles of design (proportion, balance, movement, emphasis, rhythm, and unity).

❖ *Sculpture I*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

In this course, scholars will learn about the world of three-dimensional art, offering scholars the opportunity to explore various techniques and materials used in creating sculptural and architectural works. Designed for scholars of all skill levels, this class focuses on developing spatial awareness and creative problem-solving skills while incorporating the basic elements of art (line, shape, color, form, etc.) as well as the principles of design (proportion, balance, movement, emphasis, etc.).

❖ *Sculpture II (Prerequisite: Sculpture I)*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This advanced course builds on the foundational skills learned in *Sculpture I*, offering high school scholars the opportunity to deepen their understanding of three-dimensional art. Scholars will refine their technical abilities and conceptual approaches as they work with a variety of sculptural techniques and materials. The course emphasizes advanced problem-solving, spatial reasoning, and the development of a personal artistic voice. Scholars will continue to explore the elements of art (line, shape, form, etc.) and the principles of design (proportion, balance, movement, emphasis, etc.), with a focus on mastering complex sculptural forms. Projects will challenge scholars to push the boundaries of traditional sculpture and engage in critical thinking about form, space, and meaning in three-dimensional art.

❖ *Art History*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

This introductory course is designed for high school scholars interested in exploring the broad scope of art history, from ancient civilizations to contemporary movements. Suitable for scholars at all skill levels, this class provides a chronological overview of major artistic periods, styles, and influential artists. Scholars will learn to analyze and interpret works of art by exploring the social, political, and cultural contexts in which they were created. Emphasis is placed on

the visual elements of art (line, shape, color, form, space, value, and texture) and the principles of design (balance, contrast, unity, emphasis, etc.) to enhance students' understanding of art across different cultures and historical periods.

Physical Education

❖ *High School Physical Education*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

Physical Education at the high school level prepares students for lifelong fitness by putting the onus on physical growth and discipline on the individual student. The teacher will facilitate students' personal workout regimes by giving lessons on different workout plans, proper use of the weight room, and nutrition and sleep needs of the body. Students will then create workout plans, set goals, and log progress over the course of the year. The instructor will also help to group students with similar workout plans to provide them with additional motivation to excel.

❖ *High School Health*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Core Course

The Michigan Model for Health (MMH) curriculum teaches grades PreK to 12th grade students the knowledge and skills they need to build and maintain healthy behaviors and lifestyles. Age-appropriate and sequential lessons focus on the most serious health challenges school-aged children face.

❖ *Self-Defense*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

A full description of this course is forthcoming.

❖ *Weight Training*

Grade Level: 9-12

HS Credits: .5

Elective Course

A full description of this course is forthcoming.