

# **NP<sup>3</sup> Course Catalogue**

## **2018-2019**

## High School Graduation & A-G Requirements

A-G courses are the requirements needed to be eligible for admission to a UC or CSU

### A. HISTORY / SOCIAL SCIENCE

**40 Credits for Graduation Requirement / 20 Credits for UC/CSU A-G Requirement**

9 <sup>th</sup> : World History 1: Foundations of Law	10 <sup>th</sup> : World History 2 10 <sup>th</sup> : AP World History	11 <sup>th</sup> : U.S History 11 <sup>th</sup> : AP U.S History	12 <sup>th</sup> : American Government 12 <sup>th</sup> : AP U.S. Government / AP Government Comparative
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### B. ENGLISH

**40 Credits for Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements**

9 <sup>th</sup> : English 9	10 <sup>th</sup> : English 10 10 <sup>th</sup> : English 10 Honors (weighted)	11 <sup>th</sup> : English 11 11 <sup>th</sup> : AP English Lang. & Comp	12 <sup>th</sup> : Many Voices, One People 12 <sup>th</sup> : Perception & Reality <sup>s</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> : AP English Lit. & Composition
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### C. MATHEMATICS

**30 Credits for Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements (must complete Algebra 2 for A-G)**

Algebra A & Algebra B Algebra 1	Geometry Algebra 2	Statistics Pre-Calculus	Calculus CP AP Calculus AB
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### D. LABORATORY SCIENCE

**20 Credits – 10 Life and 10 Physical for Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements (30 credits recommended)**

<b>Life Sciences:</b> Biology Anatomy and Physiology AP Biology	<b>Physical Sciences:</b> Earth Science (CSU Only) Experimental Science Chemistry Physics
	AP Physics 1 AP Physics 2 AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science

### E. LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH

**20 Credits for Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements (30 credits recommended for A-G)**

Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Spanish 3	Spanish 4 AP Spanish Language & Culture
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### F. VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

**10 Credits for Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements**

Art 1 Art 2	AP Studio Art: Drawing Beginning Guitar	Choir Drama	Music Appreciation Painting 1 TV & Media Production
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### G. COLLEGE-PREPARATORY ELECTIVE

**10 Credits for Graduation and UC/CSU A-G Requirements**

(Any course that exceeds the requirement in Categories "A-F" will also count as a "G" Elective)

AP Seminar <sup>s</sup> Creative Writing Cultural Studies	Forensic Science Fundamentals of Engineering <sup>s</sup> Gender Studies	Humanities Intro to Philosophy Psychology	Intro to Sociology Speech & Debate
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### H. ELECTIVE

**40 Credits for Graduation Requirements**

Any course that exceeds the minimum subject requirement will count as Elective credit

Academic Support Advisory (5 credits per year) (must pass Advisory senior year)	Computer Literacy (5 credits) Computer Programming Health (5 credits) Internship	Peer Court Peer Tutor Public Health Issues	Student Government Study Skills TA / Office Assistant Yearbook (after school)
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### I. LAW

**30 Credits for Graduation Requirements**

10 <sup>th</sup> : Criminal Law*
11 <sup>th</sup> : Constitutional Law* <b>OR</b> Honors Constitutional Law* (weighted)
12 <sup>th</sup> : Micro/Macro Economics & Civil Law*

### J. PE

**20 Credits for Graduation Requirements**

PE or Pilates - Year 1	PE or Pilates - Year 2
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## Minimum 260 Credits for Graduation Requirement

Grade of at least a "C" required for credit toward graduation or A-G requirement

\* Course meets "G"-College-Preparatory Elective requirement

<sup>s</sup> Course has been submitted for A-G approval in subject area or to be recognized as a weighted Honors course

## Academics at NP<sup>3</sup>

- Students are enrolled in a rigorous college preparatory curriculum including **eight** courses each year, four per term in a modified four-by-four block schedule.
- In grades 9-11, English and Social Studies, students are in class for 87 minutes per day, with these subjects alternating days for the entire school year. In all other subjects, students spend 85 minutes per day, five days per week, for eighteen weeks in each 10 credit class. Advisory Class meets every day, and includes a college awareness and readiness program.
- Grades are A, B, C, and NC (No Credit). D grades do not exist at NP3. A= 4 points, B= 3 points, C= 2 points, No Credit = 0 points (calculated into GPA).
- AP Weighted GPA is on a 5.0 scale, with AP courses gaining one grade point. The GPA on the transcript is the un-weighted GPA.
- Class Rank: Rank is reported by decile, and based on 9th –12th weighted grade point average. It is not reported on the transcript, but is included in college recommendations.
- Depending on demand, some courses are offered alternate years.
- Students are encouraged to meet their A-G requirements, including passing Algebra 2. If a student reaches their 30 credits of Math for graduation requirements, but still has not attempted Algebra 2, they will be expected to continue enrolling in math until they attempt Algebra 2.

## Electives

- In addition to our courses listed as electives students may take college prep or AP courses in their areas of interest/strength for credit towards elective requirements.
- Students **must** take 20 credits of PE and/or Pilates for NP<sup>3</sup> graduation.

## Advanced Education Opportunities

NP<sup>3</sup> students in good academic standing who demonstrated exemplary academic achievement and hold a GPA of 2.7 or higher are eligible to take courses at our local Los Rios Community Colleges after term 2 of their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year. Courses may be transferable to your NP<sup>3</sup> transcript. Visit the Los Rios Advanced Education website below and talk to your school counselor for more information.

<http://www.scc.losrios.edu/admissionsrecords/advanced-education-high-school-students/>

**Please note the UC/CSU A-G “minimum requirements” listed on the other side of this paper are simply the minimum requirements to be eligible to apply.**

When it comes time to apply to college, you want to make sure you meet or exceed the admission criteria for ALL colleges in which you are interested. In reality you should prepare yourself by exceeding the minimum requirements and consider completing all “recommended” courses for the specific colleges you are interested in attending.

**Entrance requirements vary between colleges. Be sure you understand each college’s requirements to prepare yourself appropriately.**

## NP<sup>3</sup> COURSE OFFERINGS (Listed by UC “A-G” category)

### A. HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCES

#### **World History 1: Foundations of Law** (A/B with English 9 CP)

Grade 9

This required 9<sup>th</sup> grade world history class is designed to help students develop a greater understanding of the development of global processes and the interactions among the different societies in our world. Students will see how historical developments contributed to the development of governments and legal systems which are in place in our world. This understanding is expanded through the acquisition of factual knowledge and the appropriate and necessary analytical skills. Through the study of historical individuals, ideas and events, students will gain a deeper awareness of the world in which they live. The course highlights the nature of global historical changes, causes and consequences of these changes, and comparisons of important historical events and eras.

*UC approved “A” course*

#### **World History 2 CP** (A/B with English 10CP)

Grade 10

This required 10<sup>th</sup> grade world history provides a rigorous study of History and Cultures from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century through the present, focusing on the content areas designated by the CA State Standards for World History. This course is designed to further the students understanding of the development of global processes and the interactions among different societies around the world. Through the study of historical individuals, ideas and events, students gain a deeper awareness of the world in which they lived. This understanding is expanded through a combination of factual knowledge and necessary analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of global historical changes; causes and consequences of these changes; and comparisons of important historical events and eras.

*UC approved “A” course.*

#### **AP World History**

Grade 10

**Prerequisite:** Grade of “A” in World History 1: Foundations of Law and Successful Completion of Summer Reading & Writing Assignments, **or instructor approval.** NOTE: Students in this class will take Honors English 10 in the A/B schedule. AP World History is a college level course which examines the history of the world from Prehistoric times through the twentieth century. Students are assessed through reading, homework and class discussions, research projects, teacher-made tests and released College Board multiple choice and document-based exams. To receive AP Credit, students take the AP World History Exam in May, also having the opportunity to earn college units by doing so. This course replaces World History 2 for graduation.

*UC approved “A” course.*

#### **United States History CP**

Grade 11

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher grade in World History 2CP

This required U.S. History class includes a short review of Early American History, then focuses on historical developments following the U.S. Civil War. The majority of the course is occupied with an in-depth study of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century America, including the changes in foreign, domestic and social policy over time. The class includes lectures, group work, discussions, debates, and historical simulations.

*UC approved “A” course.*

#### **AP United States History**

Grade 11

**Prerequisite:** “B” or higher grade in AP World History or “A” in World History 2CP, Completion of Summer Reading & Writing Assignments, **or Instructor approval.** AP U.S. History is the curriculum prescribed by the College Board in preparation for the AP U.S. History Exam. It is a college level survey of American history from exploration through the twentieth century. Readings in the textbook, as well as primary source readings are required. Exams include retired AP multiple-choice exams as well as document based essay questions. To receive AP credit, the student must take the AP Exam, and thus also has the opportunity to receive college credit for this course. This course replaces U.S. History CP for graduation.

*UC approved “A” course.*

**American Government / International Relations and Public Policy**

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher grade in U.S. History.

This required government course examines in detail the structure, power and policies of the Federal Government, and its relation to state governments. Students will discuss and debate the ways in which their lives are affected by the government. Students will develop an awareness of the rights and responsibilities inherent in living in a democratic society. The International Relations portion of this course examines relationships between and among countries, including developing an understanding of different forms of government and the role this plays in these relationships. It also examines U.S. foreign policy and public policy in light of relations with other countries, i.e. human rights, poverty, terrorism, military action, nuclear power, commerce involving natural resources and manufactured goods, and world health issues.

*UC approved "A" course.***AP U.S. Government and Politics**

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher grade in AP U.S. History or "A" in U.S. History CP, and completion of Summer Reading & Writing assignments; or teacher approval.**Corequisite:** AP Government and Politics Comparative

AP Government: U.S. follows the College Board prescribed curriculum, a college level American Government class.

Assessment is based on research projects as well as exams released by the College Board, both multiple choice and document-based essay questions.

*UC approved "A" course***AP Comparative Government and Politics**

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher grade in AP U.S. History or "A" in U.S. History CP, and completion of Summer Reading & Writing assignments; or teacher approval.**Corequisite:** AP U.S. Government and Politics

In the Comparative Government course, students focus on 4 individual countries with different types of government structures. Assessment is based on research projects as well as exams released by the College Board, both multiple choice and document-based essay questions. This A/B class replaces the required American Government/International Relations & Public Policy course. Students must take the AP Exam to receive AP credit.

*UC approved "A" course*

## B. ENGLISH

### English 9 CP

Grade 9

English 9 is a required course for all 9th grade students. This course focuses on enhancing student proficiency in basic English language conventions through active reading, writing, teamwork, whole-class discussion, critical analysis, speaking and listening skills. The goal is mastery of the CA State Standards in the Language Arts, and the enjoyment of reading, writing and spoken communication. NOTE: Students in this course take World History 1: Foundations of Law in the A/B schedule.

*UC approved "B" course.*

### English 10 CP

Grade 10

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in English 9

English 10 CP is a required course for all 10th grade students unless they are enrolled in English 10 HCP. This course is designed to provide students with the thinking skills and background in literature and writing necessary to succeed in high school, and continue to build their skills for college. Students read and respond both orally and in writing to a variety of literary works by numerous authors, including women and minorities. NOTE: Students in this course take World History 2 in the A/B schedule.

*UC approved "B" course*

### English 10 Honors

Grade 10

**Prerequisite:** "A" in English 9 CP, or instructor approval.

NOTE: Students in this class take AP World History in the A/B Schedule.

English 10 HCP is designed to provide students with the thinking skills and extensive background in literature and writing necessary to succeed in AP English courses in high school, and continue to build their skills for college. Students read and respond both orally and in writing to a variety of literary works by numerous authors, including women and minorities.

*UC approved "B" course with UC Honors (weighted)*

### English 11 CP

Grade 11

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in English 10 CP or HCP

English 11 CP is a required course for all 11th grade students unless they are enrolled in AP English Language & Composition. This course is designated to engage students in becoming skilled readers and writers of various forms of American literature.

It means deriving meaning, making personal connections, and creating new knowledge. By reading, writing, listening, viewing, and presenting, each student will have the opportunity to expand viewpoints, share opinions, and develop the critical thinking skills necessary to make sense of our world.

*UC approved "B" course.*

### AP English Language & Composition

Grade 11

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher grade in English 10 HCP or "A" in English 10 CP and successful completion of the Summer Reading and Writing Assignments, or teacher approval. AP English Language & Composition is a writing and reading intensive college level course which focuses on American Literature and college level essay writing and analysis. Students are assessed by teacher-made tests and released College Board exams, and are encouraged to take the AP exam in the spring. This course replaces English 11 for graduation. Students must take the AP Exam to receive AP credit.

*UC approved "B" course.*

### English 12- Many Voices, One People: Creating Acceptance in an Intolerable World

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in English 11 CP or AP English Language & Composition.

Whose voice represents truth? Can voice even objectively represent truth? What does one's voice have to do with power? of being heard? About access? Equality? This course will seek to address those questions within the framework of literature and literary theory. What if truth is not a singular voice at all, but rather poly vocal; a chorus all belting out their own tune? The course will examine the voices of those traditionally underrepresented, of the those long told to be silent. The course will re-examine the traditional notion of text, by studying art, film, and social media. Secondly, the course will look to historical

and genealogical tracing of how culture(s) make and shift meaning--the idea of how we see ourselves, others, and how values and ethics are developed, challenged and restructured.

**English 12- Perception & Reality: Finding and Making Meaning**

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher in English 11 CP or AP English Language & Composition.

In this course students are introduced to the concept of *perspective* and are asked to consider how one’s perception determines their interpretation of the world. A corollary of this fact is the idea that one’s perception of reality is often filtered through various values, prejudices, and attitudes. Students will learn about and apply multiple literary theories (Gender, Marxism, Psychological, Colonialism) as filters in order to have deeper and richer ways to think about, interpret, and critique literature and life. Literary theory is presented to introduce the idea that the world is full of ideologies, theories, and biases through which students construct an understanding of their own as well as others’ experiences. Studying theory is a means to make students aware of competing visions of truth that they will examine and define from multiple perspectives.

**AP English Literature & Composition**

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** “B” or higher in AP English Language & Composition or “A” in English 11 CP, 75 or higher grade on the Summer Reading and Writing Assignments, and the desire to actively participate in this college level class. AP English Literature & Composition is the standard college level AP course, and follows the College Board course standards, including a focus on British Literature. Students read the textbook as well as primary sources including Shakespeare and other recommended authors. Assessment is by essay and discussion, as well as by College Board released AP multiple choice exams and documents-based questions. This course replaces English 12 for graduation. Students must take the AP Exam to receive AP credit.

*UC approved “B” course.*

## C. MATHEMATICS

### Algebra A CP

**Prerequisite:** Qualifying grade in Math 8 or successful completion of Transitions to Algebra course.

This is the first 10 credit class of a two year Algebra I course which develops student's reasoning and calculation skills with the use of symbols. Students will develop an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and science. Algebraic skills and concepts will be further developed and used in a wide variety of problem solving situations. The primary content for this course involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations. Systems of two equations and two unknown is included along with the study of monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratio, and proportion. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring, completing the square, graphing, and using the Quadratic formula. All are applied in problem-solving situations.

*UC approved "C" course (one-half of the Algebra 1 requirement)*

### Algebra B CP

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in Algebra A

This course is the second term of a college prep Algebra I course, further developing reasoning and calculation skills with the use of symbols. Students will develop an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and science. Algebraic skills and concepts will be further developed and used in a wide variety of problem solving situations. The primary content for this course involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations. Systems of two equations and two unknowns are included along with the study of monomial and polynomial expressions, factoring, completing the square, graphing, and using the Quadratic formula. All are applied in problem-solving situations. Upon completion, students will be prepared for Geometry and Algebra II.

*UC approved "C" course.*

### Algebra 1 CP

**Prerequisite:** Qualifying grade in Math 8

This course combines the standards from Algebra A and Algebra B into a single Term class. Students will develop an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and science. Algebraic skills and concepts will be further developed and used in a wide variety of problem solving situations. The primary content for this course involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations. Systems of two equations and two unknown is included along with the study of monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratio, and proportion. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring, completing the square, graphing, and using the Quadratic formula. All are applied in problem-solving situations. Upon completion, students will be prepared for Geometry and Algebra II.

*UC approved "C" course.*

### Geometry CP

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in Algebra 1 or Algebra B.

Geometry is required by the University of California and the CSU system. Students will develop their ability to construct formal, logical arguments primary in planar Euclidean Geometry as described by the California State Standards for Geometry. In addition to Euclidean Geometry, other topics to be included are: Coordinate Geometry, Geometric Constructions, Pythagorean Theorem, along with perimeter, area, and volume of 2- and 3- dimensional figures.

*UC approved "C" course.*

### Algebra 2 CP

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in Algebra 1 and Geometry.

This courses reviews and extends the concepts of elementary algebra with an emphasis on problem solving. Topics which are reviewed and extended include linear and quadratic equations, factoring polynomials, rational expressions, exponents, radicals, graphing, and system of equations. New topics include graphs and their translations and reflections, functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, graphs of quadratic and polynomial functions, nonlinear systems of equations, polynomial and rational inequalities, and an introduction to conic sections.

*UC approved "C" course.*

**Statistics CP**

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher in Algebra 2 CP, or teacher approval.

This course will introduce basic concepts of probability and statistics, including the analysis of data, probability, distributions, test of hypothesis, estimation, regression and correlation, and analysis of variance. Related applications to psychology, social science, natural science, business, and engineering will be explored. A scientific calculator that has a statistics package is required.

*UC approved “C” course.*

**Pre-Calculus**

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher grade in Algebra 2, or teacher approval.

Pre-Calculus is the study of advanced algebraic and trigonometric concepts as they relate to Calculus and Post-Calculus classes. The major topics addressed are systems of linear equation, concepts of Sequence and Series, Conic Sections and analytical interpretation of Polynomial, Rational and Exponential Functions and their graphs. Because the class focuses on the analytical aspect of Calculus as presented in Algebra 2, the application aspect of this class is highly theoretical.\* Due to the nature of the class all students are required to have a graphing calculator. This course includes Trigonometry and a scientific graphing calculator is required; TI Nspire CX CAS is recommended.

*UC approved “C” course*

**Calculus CP**

**Prerequisite:** “B” or higher in Pre-Calculus, or teacher approval and the desire to take a college-level math course.

This course presents an introduction to Calculus with the primary focus on these major areas: functions, graphs, and limits, and derivatives. Topics in functions, graphs, and limits include the analysis of graphs of functions with an emphasis on the connection between the analytic and geometric information, the use of calculus to predict and explain both local and global behavior of functions, limits of functions, asymptotes and unbounded behavior, and continuity of functions. Topics of derivative include the graphical, numerical, and analytical understanding of the derivative, using the derivative to describe the graphs of functions, rate of change, and tangent lines, and using the first and second derivative of a function to sketch the graph of the function.

*UC approved “C” course*

**AP Calculus**

**Prerequisite:** “B” or higher in Calculus CP, or teacher approval and the desire to take a college-level math class. This course builds upon what has been learned in Calculus CP, and follows the College Board’s AP Calculus AB curriculum.

Topics include the applications of derivatives in such concepts as optimization, related rates, and implicit differentiation, the use of derivatives in exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and inverse functions, the interpretation and properties of definite and indefinite integrals, and applications of integrals and anti-differentiation. Students will be well-prepared to take the AP exam at the end of the course, a requirement to earn AP credit.

*UC approved “C” course*

## D. LABORATORY SCIENCE

### Earth Science

**Prerequisite:** Concurrent enrollment or “C” or higher in Algebra A, Algebra B or Algebra 1

This lab science course covers the sciences of astronomy, geology, meteorology, and oceanography. Topics include the formation and evolution of the universe, stars, galaxies, solar system, and earth; plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes, rocks and minerals, weather and climate, energy in the Earth system, and the physical properties of the oceans.

Investigation, reading, writing, and critical thinking are emphasized through experimentation, computer simulations, individual and cooperative activities, and student projects.

*UC approved “G” course; CSU approved “D” course, meets CSU requirement for Physical Science.*

### Experimental Science

**Prerequisite:** Concurrent enrollment or “C” or higher in Algebra A, Algebra B or Algebra 1

This introduction to high school science will help prepare students for chemistry, physics and biology courses. The course will be a project-based course, which provides essential math, measurement, and laboratory skills through a series of activities on various topics, including Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, and Biology.

*UC approved “D” course*

### Biology CP

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher in Algebra 1 or Algebra B and/or concurrent enrollment in Geometry.

Biology is the study of the science of life. It includes in-depth study of the cells, ecosystems, ecology, organs of animals and the human body, and how animals and humans have evolved. Labs play a key role in this course as students prepare for further study in the sciences.

*UC approved “D” course.*

### Chemistry CP

**Prerequisites:** “C” or higher in Algebra 1, Geometry and Biology.

This is an introductory college prep course in chemistry. It will be primarily descriptive and qualitative with a quantitative component to demonstrate the ability to predict measurable properties. Students will gain an appreciation for chemicals, chemistry, the benefits and hazards encountered in everyday life. This course will provide a foundation for further study in science and mathematics by requiring students to develop a high-level problem solving skills, experimental design, scientific observation and measurement, and analytical skills. There is emphasis on the structure of atoms, solutions and equilibrium, periodic properties, bonding and common reactions, and oxidation-reduction reactions, quantum mechanics, nuclear chemistry, and Stoichiometry. The macroscopic properties of matter and their relationship to the microscopic properties of matters constituent particles will be explored. Students will discover the elegance, beauty, and mystery of material properties, transformations, interactions, and the periodic table.

*UC approved “D” course.*

### Physics CP

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher in Algebra 1, Geometry, and in Biology or Earth Science

This is an introductory course studying the basic principles of our mechanical universe including: mechanics and dynamics, energy, heat, sound, light, optics and electrical applications, magnetism and nuclear physics. Concepts and practical application are emphasized with intensive lab activity.

*UC approved “D” course.*

### Anatomy and Physiology

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** “C” or higher in Algebra 2, Biology and Chemistry.

**Anatomy and Physiology is a foundational course for AP Biology.**

This course in physiology allows for a more complete understanding of the basic principles of one’s own body and its functions. This course will cover the major body systems such as the skeletal, digestive, and nervous systems. Students who are interested in a profession in the medical field such as dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician, physical education, and public health are encouraged to take this course.

*UC approved “D” course.*

**AP Biology**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisites:** “B” or higher in Biology, Chemistry and Algebra 2. “C” or higher in Anatomy and Physiology

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes — energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. Students must take the AP Exam to receive AP credit.

*UC approved “D” course.*

**AP Chemistry**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** “B” or higher in Biology, Chemistry and Algebra 2

The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium.

*UC approved “D” course.*

**AP Environmental Science / Honors Environmental Law & Public Policy**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisites:** “B” or higher in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 2. Earth Science is recommended, but not required.

The AP Environmental Science course is the equivalent of an introductory college Environmental Science course. It will provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methods required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems, the risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science includes knowledge from a wide variety of disciplines, including geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. Our course also includes Environmental Law and Public Policy issues. The class will also focus on several specific cases including: water rights in California, radon, global warming, lead, and hazardous wastes. There will be extensive labs, some field trips, and guest speakers from a variety of environmental areas (scientists, environmentalists, lobbyists on various sides of environmental issues, including but not limited to air quality, fresh and ocean water purity, water rights in California, biodiversity, deforestation, pollution, and global warming) AP Environmental Science is a

*UC approved “D” course.*

**AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisites:** “B” or higher in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 2.

***Students are advised to enroll in both AP Physics 1 & AP Physics 2 in the same school year.***

AP Physics 1 is the equivalent to a first semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics, including rotational dynamics and mechanical momentum; work, energy and power; mechanical waves and sound; and an introduction to electric circuits.

*UC approved “D” course.*

**AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based**

Grades

11-12

**Prerequisite:** “B” or higher in AP Physics 1 or CP Physics, with teacher approval

***Students are advised to enroll in both AP Physics 1 & AP Physics 2 in the same school year.***

AP Physics 2 is the equivalent to a second semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers fluid dynamics, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism; optics; and atomic and nuclear physics.

*UC approved “D” course..*

## **E. LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH**

### **Spanish 1**

This is an introductory college prep Spanish course. Students will learn Spanish pronunciation, proper conjugation, distinguishing between regular and irregular verb patterns, and grammar usage. Students will also build, use and expand a vocabulary in Spanish, have conversations in Spanish, comprehend and analyze written passages, and recognize and understand practices, and products of the different cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

*UC approved "E" course.*

### **Spanish 2**

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in Spanish 1.

This is an introductory college prep Spanish course. Students will learn Spanish pronunciation, proper conjugation, distinguishing between regular and irregular verb patterns, and grammar usage. Students will also build, use and expand a vocabulary in Spanish, have conversations in Spanish, comprehend and analyze written passages, and recognize and understand practices, and products of the different cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

*UC approved "E" course.*

### **Spanish 3**

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher in Spanish 2, or teacher approval.

Spanish 3 builds on the grammar, conversation, and reading skills and cultural knowledge gained in Spanish 2. Advanced grammar, literature and writing are emphasized in Spanish 3.

*UC approved "E" course.*

### **Spanish 4**

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher in Spanish 3, or teacher approval.

Spanish 4 focuses on advanced grammar, literature and writing in preparation for AP Spanish Language.

*UC approved "E" course.*

### **AP Spanish Language**

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher in Spanish 4, or teacher approval, and the desire to actively participate in this college level class.

The AP Spanish Language course prepares students to demonstrate their level of Spanish proficiency across three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational), and the five goal areas outlined in Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). Students must take the AP Exam to receive AP credit.

*UC approved "E" course.*

## F. VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

### Art 1

Grades 9-12

Art 1 is an **introductory** Fine Arts course which includes instruction in drawing and painting, as well as the study of art in its historical contexts and a survey of careers in the arts world. No previous art experience is required. Students will complete a portfolio as well as a research project in Art History and/or Careers in Art.

*UC approved "F" course.*

### Art 2

Grades 10-12

**Prerequisite:** "B" grade or higher in Art 1

An advanced level course in drawing and painting with an emphasis on developing a greater depth of understanding of art and application of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design to their work in a variety of media. The course will also expand on basic competencies from Art I and Painting, preparing the students for Advanced Placement Studio Art course. Studio experiences include drawing, painting, and illustration projects. Each student will demonstrate progress over time by developing a body of work and organizing a portfolio. This will result in students having larger repertoires of responses for solving creative problems and having a greater understanding and appreciation of the visual arts. Media in this course includes ink, pastel, tempera/acrylic paint, charcoal, scratchboard, and graphite.

*UC approved "F" course.*

### AP Studio Art: Drawing

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** "B" or higher grade in Art 2, "C" or higher in Painting or instructor approval

AP Studio Art is designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. AP Studio Art sets a national standard for performance in the visual arts that contributes to the significant role the arts play in academic environments. This College Board program provides the only national standard for performance in the visual arts that allows students to earn college credit and/or advanced placement while still in high school.

*UC approved "F" course.*

### Beginning Choir

Grades 9-12

Entry-level choir course for students interested in vocal musical performance. It is an outlet for students who enjoy singing for pleasure. Musical skills and learning goals for ensemble singing include but are not limited to: proper breathing, blend and balance, expansion of range, intonation, ear training, sight reading, fundamentals of music theory and notation, exploration of musical genres, and performance techniques. Class requirements include practicing outside of class and student participation in performances (twice independently in front of the class, once with the ensemble at the end of the term).

*UC approved "F" course.*

### Beginning Guitar

Grades 9-12

In this beginning course, students will study the many styles and techniques that are found in guitar playing. Students will learn how to read music notation, guitar tablature, play chords, accompany other musicians, as well as improvise. Students will also learn applicable music theory that accompanies being a successful guitarist. The course will also present the history of the guitar, its significance in the music world, and how the instrument is featured in many of the music cultures around the world. There will also be a strong songwriting and recording component. Students will be able to further grow and explore through the guitar curriculum by performing in small ensembles that are relevant to the guitar player.

*UC approved "F" course.*

### Drama

Grades 9-12

This introductory drama course is based on the CA State Standards in the arts, and introduces students to all areas of theater. It is designed to educate students in the disciplines and appreciation of theatre arts and provide a general understanding of the cultural value of the arts in our community. Activities include production and presentation of several short plays including works from the ABA Fairytale Series, Teaching Tolerance, Mock Trial and Moot Court.

*UC approved "F" course.*

**Music Appreciation**

Grades 9-12

Music Appreciation is a one-term class in which students learn how to listen to and appreciate a variety of musical styles. Students will learn how music works physically and how people relate to music individually and as a society. Students will listen to music from many historical periods as well as a variety of cultures. Included will be classical, jazz, blues, musical theater, and world music, and how these have influenced modern popular music. Students will learn to understand creativity and the role it plays in the development of music and in life. The emphasis in this class is learning about music from the listener's perspective, including its history and literature. This is an academic class where students will listen, evaluate, compare, contrast, discuss, write about – and ENJOY a wide variety of music. In addition to daily/weekly work, one major project will be required.

*UC approved "F" course.*

**Painting 1**

Grades 10-12

**Prerequisite:** "C" grade or higher in Art 1

This course introduces students to classical and contemporary painting, techniques and concepts, with emphasis on the understanding of its formal language and the fundamentals of artistic expression. This is a painting class that uses watercolor, acrylic paint, pastels, and tempera paint to explore creative expression, artistic and intellectual discovery in using the Principles of Design and Elements of Art learned in Art I. Painting from still-life, landscape, and from observation will be geared towards realism; at the same time, various other painting styles could be explored. We will study and research major painting styles and movements in historical context. Students will use this global approach to develop a "critical eye" in evaluation of contemporary painting. Demonstrations, videos, PowerPoint lectures, group and individual critiques will be given throughout the course.

*UC approved "F" course.*

**TV and Media Production**

Grades 10-12

This course will introduce students to the elements of 21st century audio-visual media, including production techniques, camera operation, newscasting, broadcast writing, typography, and graphic design. Students will write, develop, film, and publish visual media projects using modern digital media equipment, including distributing broadcast presentations via a schoolwide TV program.

*UC approved "F" course.*

## G. COLLEGE-PREPARATORY ELECTIVES

### AP Seminar

Grades 10-11

**Prerequisite:** 10<sup>th</sup>: Grade of "A" in World History 1: Foundations of Law and English 9 11<sup>th</sup>: Grade of "A" in English 10 and World History 2, or Grade of "B" or higher in AP World History and Honors English 10 OR teacher approval

AP Seminar is a course that has students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives. Students learn to synthesize information from different sources, develop their own lines of reasoning in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. This is the first of two AP Capstone courses. Students will need to enroll in AP Research following completion of AP Seminar in order to qualify for the AP Capstone Certificate. The AP Capstone Diploma is awarded to students who pass AP Seminar, AP Research, and four other AP course exams with a 3 or higher. Students must take the AP Exam to receive AP credit for this course.

*UC "G" approval pending.*

### Computer Programming

Grades 10-12

**Prerequisite:** Completion of Algebra 1 with a "C" or higher and a good understanding of functions.

An introduction to the theory and practice of computer programming, the emphasis of this course is on techniques of program development within the object-oriented paradigm. Topics include control structures, objects, classes, inheritance, simple data structures, and basic concepts of software development. Currently, Java is the programming language used in the course.

*UC approved "G" course*

### Constitutional Law in American History

Grade 11

**Prerequisite:** Concurrent enrollment in U.S. History CP

Required of all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students, "Con Law" is an in-depth study of the judicial leaders and the court cases which have had a major impact on American history and our society. Students study, consider and research cases in the context of the era in which they were decided as well as the lasting impact of the decisions. They also examine and analyze these cases in light of contemporary issues in the United States.

*UC approved "G" course.*

### Constitutional Law in American History Honors

Grade 11

**Prerequisite:** Concurrent enrollment in AP U.S. History

An in-depth study of the judicial leaders and the court cases which have had a major impact on American history and our society. Students study, consider and research cases in the context of the era in which they were decided as well as the lasting impact of the decisions. They also examine and analyze these cases in light of contemporary issues in the United States.

*UC approved "G" course with UC Honors (weighted)*

### Creative Writing:

Grades 10-12

Creative Writing is designed for students who wish to experiment in self-expression through writing. Writing emphasis is placed on imitating models, pre-writing techniques, examining various publishing venues and exploring different forms. Students will study advanced writers, along with a collection of contemporary writers and poets.

*UC approved "G" course*

### Criminal Law

Grades 10-12

Required of all 10<sup>th</sup> grade students, this course examines and analyzes the elements of crime, the defense of the accused, criminal procedures, rights of the accused, the processes of investigation and prosecution, arrest, arraignment, court trials, the role of the prosecution, defense, jury, judge and courtroom staff.

*UC approved "G" course*

**Cultural Studies**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher in previous English and History courses.

This course aims to educate students to be politically, socially, and economically conscious about their personal connections to local and global histories. By studying the histories of race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, and religion, students will cultivate respect and empathy for individuals and solidarity with groups of people locally, nationally and globally so as to foster active social engagement and community building. Honoring the historical legacy of social movements and mass struggles against injustice, including the establishment of cultural studies programs in public schools and university curricula, this course aims to provide an education that will inspire students to critically engage in self-determination and seek social justice for all.

*UC approved "G" course.***Forensic Science**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 1 and Geometry with grade of "C" or higher or instructor approval.

Forensic Science is laboratory-based introduction to the analysis of crime scenes, by the collecting and analyzing physical evidence. This course integrates core scientific disciplines which are used in modern forensic investigations. The multidisciplinary approach includes investigations in DNA, genetics, anatomy, biology, chemistry, botany, and entomology. Ethical, legal and social concerns surrounding forensic science will be studied and discussed. Through these investigations, students will also enhance their knowledge in the fields of earth science, mathematics, medicine, technology and sociology.

*UC approved "G" course***Fundamentals of Engineering**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisites:** Passed or concurrently enrolled in Pre-calculus or teacher permission.

Problem solving skills needed in all careers. Exposure to the different areas of engineering, and understanding of the relationship between them. Students will work in teams and complete hands-on engineering laboratory experiments and projects. Development of effective communication skills by presenting periodic oral and written reports. Computers will be used throughout.

*Sacramento State ACE class that is in the process of submitting and approval.***Gender and Women's Studies**

Grades 11-12

Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary field that focuses on the complex interaction of gender with other identity markers such as race, ethnicity, nation, and religion. This course incorporates academic areas such as English, sociology, history, psychology, popular culture, literary criticism, and anthropology, that cross and blends the boundaries of traditional disciplines. Given our current popular culture, we've witnessed and experienced new ways to view gender, gender binaries, and our social construction beginning at birth, many have questions about what it means to be masculine and/or feminine in the 21st century.

*UC approved "G" course.***Humanities**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** "C" or higher grade in previous English and History courses.

Through great literature, this interdisciplinary course examines four distinct, yet inevitably interrelated subjects which have had a profound impact on the shaping of western culture: Music, Religion, Philosophy and Art. The focus will be on how truth is understood in each of these subjects and how it has shaped humanity. While this is not the sole focus of our investigation, this theme will be the optic from which to explore the various subjects and as a common thread to hold the course together.

*UC approved "G" course.***Introduction to Philosophy**

Grades 11-12

How do we know what we know? How do we trust what we know? Are there different kinds of knowledge? Why do societies prefer one type of knowledge over another? These are some of the questions that the course will look to answer using philosophy, logic, religion, and ethnography, among others. The course will examine similarities and differences among opinion, belief, faith, and truth and the relation of each to knowledge. The course will utilize Socratic questioning, texts, both primary and secondary sources, and film.

*UC approved "G" course.*

**Introduction to Sociology**

Grades 11-12

Sociology is the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Since most human behavior is social, the subject matter of sociology ranges from the intimate family to the internet; from organized crime to religious traditions; and from the divisions of race, gender and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture. Sociology is concerned with topics of particular interest to teenagers, such as peer groups, group identities, romantic relationships, deviance and conformity, and substance abuse. Students will use scientific thinking and consider how it might help address social issues.

*UC approved "G" course*

**Macro & Micro Economics and Civil Law**

Grade 12

Required of all 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, this course helps to prepare students to live as adults in American society, and includes exploration of economic concepts, personal, local, national and global, as well as the different rights and responsibilities of individuals. Major themes throughout the class will be how social change and social issues are related to economics, and how these issues are addressed in our country. The students study torts, liability, public policy, as well as consumer and housing law. They will also explore the different career paths related to economics and civil law, i.e. economist, journalist, government official, politician, professor, civil attorney.

*UC approved "G" course*

**Psychology**

Grades 11-12

This course introduces students to the scientific study of human development, learning, motivation, and personality. Students will develop a working understanding of the basic concepts of psychology and a historical perspective of psychology as a field of study. The class will focus on theory, research, and making connections with students' everyday lives. Psychology careers in the field of education, research and social services will also be discussed.

*UC approved "G" course.*

## GENERAL ELECTIVE COURSES

### Computer Literacy

Grade 9

Required of all 9th grade students, this course provides an introduction to the most important Google applications for school and the workplace as well as some basic but important computer shortcuts. Specific coverage includes Google Drive, Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets, Google Forms, Google Calendar, Google Classroom, Gmail, and Google Sites. Through the use of these programs, students will also improve their research skills, presentation skills, and mastery of the MLA essay format. This course is half of one term (5 credits) and switches with Health.

### Health

Grade 9

Required of all 9th grade students the Health education course focuses on one's individual health while guiding students through health promotion, disease prevention, and risk reduction. The units of study include: A Healthy Foundation, Nutrition Principles, Mental Health Awareness, Substance Abuse and Use, and Family Life Education. This course is half of one term (5 credits) and switches with Computer Literacy.

### Internship

Grade 12

**Prerequisite:** *Internship Coordinator's approval* and UC eligible or on-track to be UC eligible.

In order to earn credit, all internships must be approved by the Np<sup>3</sup> Internship Coordinator and Administration. An internship may be for 0, 5, 10 or 20 credits, depending on the placement and time spent on-site. For all internships, there is an on-campus classroom component, The classroom component varies by career area. Students must specify their area of interest on the Course Selection Sheet. Current internships exist in the following fields: Arts & Entertainment, Business, Education, Environment/Wildlife, Health Sciences, and Law & Public Policy. *Internship Coordinator's signature required.*

### Peer Court

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** Criminal Law with grade of "C" or higher and approval by the Advisory Teacher and the Principal.

Peer Court is designed to allow students to experience a judicial-type process and to take ownership in the consequences students receive for disrupting the harmony of the school setting. Whether a court participant or an offender, Peer Court reinforces lessons learned in school and life and provides practical experience in and knowledge of the values and procedures of the American judicial system. The intent of Peer Court is to provide a more meaningful discipline process by allowing a peer jury to determine and enforce an offender's consequence.

*It is not a responsibility of Peer Court to determine guilt or innocence. Peer Court is designed, rather, to decide upon suitable consequences, and only for school rule violations.*

### Peer Tutor

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** **2.5 GPA, Supervising Teacher's approval,** and the desire to help other students

The peer tutor program offers a valuable opportunity for building leadership skills, professional experience, and college application/resume material. Peer Tutors will be chosen based on their academic performance, self-motivation, and communication skills they have demonstrated in past classes. The peer-tutoring experience is designed to give each peer-tutor direct responsibility for one or more students. Peer tutors will be responsible for assisting students with organization, time-management, classroom focus, reading comprehension, vocabulary development, writing skills, record-keeping, and other student specific needs. Each peer-tutor will be provided with ongoing coaching and feedback from the supervising teacher. A successful stint as a Peer Tutor affords a student with professional Letters of Recommendation, documented experience, and a great class to have on their transcript for college applications.

### Physical Education

Grades 9-12

This course includes units in athletics, including but not limited to, Basketball, Golf, Jogging, and Soccer. All students are required to take 2 terms (20 credits) of PE and/or Pilates for high school graduation requirements.

**Pilates**

Grades 9-12

This is an alternate course to Physical Education that students can take for PE credit. In this class, students will learn the basic principles and techniques that form the framework of all the Pilates exercises, helping them to focus and engage the proper abdominal muscles for maximum results. This mat-based workout is designed to help participants develop longer, leaner-looking muscles, establish core strength and stability, improve coordination, balance, posture and flexibility, and heighten body-mind awareness. Students will also learn lifelong meditation routines for combatting stress.

**Public Health Issues**

Grades 11-12

Public Health Issues class will focus on what Public Health is and how organized community efforts prevent disease and promote the health of various populations. Students will be asked to identify causes of health problems in communities and develop interventions to improve community health using various sciences such as epidemiology, biomedical science, environmental health science, and social and behavioral sciences. Those interested in a health related career should consider taking this course.

**Student Government**

Grades 9–12

**Prerequisites:** 2.5 GPA; 3.0 GPA to run for office; Must be willing to work hard, be outgoing, and able to attend most Student Government events. The students in this class plan, prepare and produce the myriad of events sponsored by Student Activities. School officers and class delegates are required to enroll in this class. Other students who are interested in active participation in the process are welcome, as space allows.

**Study Skills**

Grades 9-12

The class is based on strategies designed to create successful students. The class will focus students' development in skill areas such as Note-taking, creation of and utilizing study outlines and guidelines; study strategies, development of thinking skills based on effective reading strategies for textbooks, nonfiction and fiction. Students learn to read and study effectively in order to create appropriate responses to homework assignments, as well as test-taking strategies, use and preparation of study space for effective studying practices.

**TA/Office Assistant**

Grades 11-12

**Prerequisite:** Teacher approval for TA; Administrative Approval for Office Assistant

**Yearbook**

Grades 10-12

**Prerequisites:** Must be hard working, motivated, able to work independently and with others, work under pressure to meet deadlines. This class creates the NP<sup>3</sup> Yearbook.