



UPPER SCHOOL

2019-2020 Course Description Booklet

*Trinity Valley School Trinity Valley
School Trinity Valley School Trinity
Valley School Trinity Valley School
Trinity Valley School Trinity Valley
School Trinity Valley School Trinity
Valley School Trinity Valley School*

The contents of this book are subject to change without written notification. Course offerings may be subject to change based on student enrollment and faculty availability.

TVS Mission

Trinity Valley School has four main objectives for its students: Fine scholarship with its fulfillment at college; the development of wide constructive interests; intelligent citizenship; and spiritual and moral development which promotes lasting values.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Helpful excerpts from the TVS Student Handbook](#) (page 3)
[Community Service](#) (page 9)
[Activity Credits](#) (page 13)
[English](#) (page 16)
[Fine Arts/Electives](#) (page 22)
[Mathematics and Computer Science](#) (page 29)
[Science](#) (page 40)
[Social Studies](#) (page 47)
[World Languages](#) (page 57)
[Cross-Departmental Electives](#) (page 64)
[Appendix](#) (page 66)

HELPFUL EXCERPTS FROM THE TVS STUDENT HANDBOOK

UPPER SCHOOL SCHEDULE

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

T-period	8 - 8:45 a.m.
1st period	8:45 - 9:30 a.m.
2nd period	9:35 - 10:20 a.m.
FLEX	10:25 - 10:50 a.m.
3rd period	10:55 - 11:40 a.m.
4th period	11:45 - 12:30 p.m.
LUNCH	12:30 - 1:15 p.m.
5th period	1:20 - 2:05 p.m.
6th period	2:10 - 2:55 p.m.
7th period	3 - 3:45 p.m.

SPECIAL BELL SCHEDULE

T-period	8 - 8:45 a.m.
1st period	8:45 - 9:25 a.m.
2nd period	9:30 - 10:10 a.m.
3rd period	10:15 - 10:55 a.m.
ASSEMBLY	11 - 11:55 a.m.
FLEX	11:55 - 12:15 p.m.
LUNCH	12:15 - 12:45 p.m.
4th period	12:50 - 1:30 p.m.
5th period	1:35 - 2:15 p.m.
6th period	2:20 - 3 p.m.
7th period	3:05 - 3:45 p.m.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

To be eligible for graduation, students must successfully complete the following requirements. Furthermore, students must take a minimum of five classes each semester while enrolled in Upper School. Students who wish to take seven classes must obtain approval from the division head.

(1 credit = 1 year)

English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	3 credits**
World Language	3 credits
Social Studies	4 credits
Fine Arts	1 credit
Physical Education/Activity	10 credits***
Community Service	60 hours

**The Texas Recommended High School Program, guidelines used by many colleges and universities in the State of Texas for admission and certain types of need-based financial aid, requires four years of science. If a student is interested in applying to schools such as The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, or Baylor University, it will be advantageous to complete a fourth science course. In addition to the Texas Recommended High School Program, data seems to suggest that admission offices at colleges and universities around the country are considering or in the process of implementing a four year science requirement for admission.

***The physical education/activity requirement for graduation for the Class of 2020 is six seasons of participation in an approved physical education activity. A summary of these requirements can be found in the "Physical Education/Activity Credit" section of this booklet.

ACADEMIC REPORTING

The TVS semester grading system is listed below:

A+ 97%-100%	A 93%-96%	A- 90%-92%
B+ 87%-89%	B 83%-86%	B- 80%-82%
C+ 77%-79%	C 73%-76%	C- 70%-72%
D+ 67%-69%	D 63%-66%	D- 60%-62%
		F below 60%

Note: While only alpha grades are used to report final course results, it is up to the discretion of individual teachers whether to grade quizzes, test, projects, etc. using alpha, numeric, or other scales.

In computing a student's GPA based on the four-point system, the following conversion is used for the Classes of 2020 and 2021:

A+, A, A- = 4.0	B+, B, B- = 3.0	C+, C, C- = 2.0	D+, D, D- = 1.0	F = 0.0
-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	---------

In the case of accelerated, advanced and Advanced Placement (AP) courses, an additional .5 will be added to the semester letter grade value. In computing a student's Grade Point Average, the following conversion will be used for these courses:

A+, A, A- = 4.5	B+, B, B- = 3.5	C+, C, C- = 2.5	D+, D, D- = 1.5	F = 0.0
-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	---------

In computing a student's GPA based on the four-point system, the following conversion is used for the classes of 2022 and 2023. This change was made in collaboration with College Counseling, Technology, and the Head of School. You will note that the .5 GPA bump will still apply to appropriate Advanced and AP courses, therefore, the highest grade that a student may achieve is a 4.8.

A+=4.3 (96.5 -)	B+=3.3 (86.5 - 89.4)	C+=2.3 (76.5 - 79.4)	D+=1.3 (66.5 - 69.4)
A=4.0 (92.5 - 96.4)	B=3.0 (82.5 - 86.4)	C=2.0 (72.5 - 76.4)	D=1.0 (62.5 - 66.4)
A-=3.7 (89.5 - 92.4)	B-=2.7 (79.5 - 82.4)	C-=1.7 (69.5 - 72.4)	D-=.7 (59.5 - 62.4)
			F=0.0. (59.4 and below)

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN AFTER-SCHOOL EVENTS

Students in grades 9-12 must be in school for **four academic classes** on the same day to participate in any extracurricular activity (including sports practices, games, and plays).

UPPER SCHOOL T-PERIOD

The primary purpose of T-period is to provide academic support for students. While optional, T-period offers an opportunity for students to study, do research, complete assignments, make-up work, and work directly with teachers. While students generally have the responsibility of determining the best use of this time, there may be occasions when faculty will require students to attend T-period help sessions or complete make-up work. In these cases, **academic work will take precedence over clubs, athletics or other student activities.**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND THE HONOR CODE

Students at Trinity Valley School are dedicated to the achievement of academic excellence while meeting the highest standards of personal, ethical and moral conduct. These standards require strong personal integrity, a commitment to honesty without compromise and truthfulness with no exception. Indeed, an essential part of the Trinity Valley experience is the development of authentic scholarship, passionate curiosity, disciplined work habits, and ethical and moral conduct. Academic integrity is an integral component of each of these aims. Therefore, Trinity Valley School students are held to the highest standards with respect to honor. In addition to fostering personal integrity, the School endeavors to help students understand the impact their decisions and actions have on the full community.

DROPPING OR ADDING A COURSE

Dropping a Full-Year Course

1. If a student drops a full year course at or before the start of the second quarter, no entry for that course will be made on the transcript.
2. If a student drops a full year course during the second quarter, an entry of "WP" (Withdraw Passing) or "WF" (Withdraw Failing) will be made on the transcript for that course.
3. If a student drops a full year course between the end of the first semester and the end of the first week of the second semester, no entry will be made on the transcript for the second semester. The first semester grade will be recorded on the transcript.
4. If a student drops a full year course after the first week of the second semester, an entry of "WP" (Withdraw Passing) or "WF" (Withdraw Failing) will be made on the transcript for that course. The first semester grade will be recorded on the transcript.

Dropping a Semester Course

1. If a student drops a semester course before the end of the first (or third) quarter, no entry will be made on the transcript for that course.
-

2. If a student drops a semester course during the second (or fourth) quarter, an entry of “WP” (Withdraw Passing) or “WF” (Withdraw Failing) will be made on the transcript for that course.

Adding a Course

To add a course at any time, a student must obtain the permission of the teacher, department chair, and assistant Upper School head.

NOTE: All requests for schedule changes are made by completing the Schedule Change Request form.

UPPER SCHOOL INTERIM REPORTS

During grades 9-12 students should strive to become more independent and self-reliant with respect to their academic and personal growth. Our goal is to provide students and parents with accurate data about student academic standing to support the development of our students' autonomy. To best support student growth, we provide students with constant access to their grades so that they can make informed decisions about their studies. Students can access their detailed grade reports for all current TVS classes at all times during each semester through their school e-mail accounts.

In order to engage parents in their child's academic experience while concurrently encouraging each child to ultimately assume personal responsibility for his/her own success, parents are given periodic access to grade reports. However, parents may also request daily access to this information by contacting the Upper School Registrar.

When parents have questions or concerns outside of the defined progress reports, they are invited to contact teachers, advisors, or administrators by phone or e-mail to discuss their child's development.

SEMESTER EXAMS/SEMESTER ASSESSMENTS

Semester exams/assessments make up 20 percent of the final semester grade in grades 9-12. Seniors in the spring semester who have an 80 percent course average or higher will be exempt from taking a final exam.

TRANSCRIPTS

Semester grades, along with term and cumulative GPAs, are included on the transcript and transmitted directly to colleges and universities when requested. Current students should contact their College Counselor to request an official transcript be sent to a college or university. To ensure accuracy and authenticity, official transcripts are not given to current students, their parents, or TVS alumni. However, unofficial copies of transcripts can be made available to students and/or their families at any time from the Registrar or College Counselors.

ONLINE CLASSES AT TVS

The skills of creating personal learning networks, using 21st century technologies, becoming independent learners and forging positive relationships with other learners across traditional geographic boundaries are important parts of the developmental program at Trinity Valley School. The TVS Online Course Program is one way in which students may gain these important skills. We strive to provide the best online courses available to our students. To that end, we partner with several course providers to provide each student a solution which meets his/her needs.

When may students take online courses?

Online courses are offered primarily to juniors/seniors. It is our belief that when possible, our students should receive the full benefit of the extraordinary TVS upper school faculty. In the junior and senior years, however, it is appropriate that students be exposed to different types of learning experiences in order to be fully prepared for college and beyond. Permission to take an online course is required from the Assistant Head.

Who will fund the online courses?

In situations in which a student takes an online course in addition to the traditional load of six courses, or takes the course in the summer, the student's family will be responsible for the course fees. When a student takes an online course as one of the six TVS courses, TVS will be responsible for the enrollment fees. If a student drops an online course after the online provider's deadlines (these dates are different from the TVS add/drop dates) then the student's family will be responsible for payment of course fees if this is the sixth course.

How will TVS represent online coursework?

In cases in which TVS has entered into a formal partnership with an online provider, the online courses will be represented on the TVS transcript, and the grade earned in an online course will be calculated in the TVS GPA according to the traditional weighted scale at TVS. In some cases, TVS may approve an online course for a student through an online provider that is not a formal partner with TVS. In these cases, the online provider will be named as the credit-bearing institution. While the course title and grade will not be included on the TVS transcript, the college counseling office will include the transcript from the credit-bearing institution as part of the student's profile. Students are encouraged to discuss possible enrollment with the Head of Upper School and the Online Learning Coordinator. Students interested in taking online courses can look at the Virtual High School website: <https://vhslearning.org/>.

What happens if a student drops an online course?

If a student drops an online course after the TVS drop/add deadline, a WP (Withdraw-Passing) or WF (Withdraw-Failing) will appear on the transcript.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

Trinity Valley School's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program is designed to help students develop the digital literacy and computer skills needed for their rapidly-changing, complex, global, and technology rich future. The school's BYOD model enables students to use a device that they are most comfortable using to enhance their learning.

The upper school curriculum is designed leverage technology in ways that help each student develop a range of skills to create, evaluate, and share information clearly, efficiently, and effectively. The following specifications only apply to students who will be attending the upper school for the first time during the 2019-2020 school year.

Please provide your child with one of the types of computing devices shown below. Other devices including iPads, Chromebooks, Smartphones and e-readers, such as Kindles, do not meet our minimum specifications.

Minimum System Specifications

	PC Laptop or Tablet	Mac Laptop
Storage	128 GB HD, SSD drives are highly recommended	128 GB HD
RAM	8GB	8GB
OS	Windows 10, Intel Core i5 or m3 processor (or AMD equivalent)	macOS Mojave 10.14
Min Battery Life	6 hours	6 hours
Wireless Internet Connectivity	(802.11n or 802.11ac)	(802.11n or 802.11ac)
Ports	A USB type A port or an adapter that allows for USB type A connectivity	A USB type A port or an adapter that allows for USB type A connectivity
Required Accessories	Protective case/cover, headphones, current anti-virus protection	Protective case/cover, headphones, current anti-virus protection

COMMUNITY SERVICE

REQUIRED HOURS: 60

DIRECTOR: JENNIFER COOKE
cookej@trinityvalleyschool.org

DIRECTOR: DANIELLE SELLERS
sellers@trinityvalleyschool.org

The completion of 60 hours of volunteer service is one of the graduation requirements and must be fulfilled before senior privileges are fully granted in the spring semester. Community service may accrue beginning with the summer prior to the ninth grade year. Students new to the school in ninth grade are required to accumulate 60 hours; in the tenth grade, 45; in the eleventh grade, 30 hours; and in the twelfth grade, 15 hours.

Community service furthers the TVS mission by helping students to:

- Connect lessons learned at TVS with the community at large;
- Build communication and decision-making skills;
- Broaden horizons with new experiences;
- Heighten a sense of civic duty; and
- Cultivate a heart for service.

THE TVS VOLUNTEER

The Community Service Program at TVS was founded in 1987. Its purpose embodies the school's mission with the goal of preparing each student to become a responsible, active citizen. To that end, the program strives to instill in each student an awareness of the multiple needs in our community, a sense of moral obligation to help those less fortunate than oneself, and the desire to make one's community a better place.

What is Community Service?

Performed outside of our school community, this service betters the world at large in an inclusive fashion. Community service can be performed in one's own neighborhood, the surrounding metroplex, or while traveling the globe. Students may not earn credit for more than eight hours of service per day (except under special circumstances, approved by the CS Directors).

Examples of potential community service activities:

- Working for a non-profit organization (NPO)
- Scouting service projects
- Summer youth programs and camps
- Church outreach activities (example: trunk or treat)

Examples of activities that DO NOT count as community service:

- Worshipping at church (including Sunday school and helping with services)
 - Hours spent sleeping while on a service trip
 - Travel to and from community service destinations
 - Helping a friend or family member with a personal project
 - Working at a for-profit institution (filing, office work, etc.) – this is more like an internship than community service
-

What is School Service?

Performed within our school community, this service enhances student life, builds connections across divisions, and assists in helping on-campus activities run smoothly for all. It is essential for students to participate in school service. Upper School Students should take personal ownership of, show loyalty to, and gratitude for the programs that have served them well over the years. Students may not earn credit for more than 8 hours of service per day (except under special circumstances, approved by the CS Directors).

Examples of potential school service activities:

- Attending a TOE trip as a student chaperone/volunteer for a lower grade
- Upper school students helping with middle school drama productions
- Upper school students helping with summer sports camps or programs on campus for younger students
- Upper school students volunteering to help with middle school bingo or the fall festival

Examples of on-campus activities that DO NOT count as school service:

- Playing on a TVS athletic team
- Performing in a TVS production
- Club membership activities (unless the club specifically sponsors an approved community service activity)
- Attending on-campus events

Special Exceptions

Some hours spent at on-campus events may qualify for community service, rather than school service. Each event offered in X2VOL will specify what type of service it may qualify for. These hours may only count towards one category of service (no double-dipping). STUDENTS MAY EARN UP TO 15 OF THEIR REQUIRED 60 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FROM THESE EVENTS.

Examples of Special Exceptions:

- Some community service club events, like the canned food drive
- Some summer XPLORE Camps
- Other events hosted by TVS on behalf of non-profit organizations
- Some sports tournaments, like the TVS Basketball shootout
- Working the TVS concession stand at any sporting event

*Note: please see the community service directors to determine whether a particular activity qualifies for required community service or school service hours to avoid confusion. The community service directors and head of upper school oversee the approval process.

WHEN REPRESENTING TVS...

BE COURTEOUS

Know the requirements of the organization that you are serving.

- Be a few minutes early and don't quit until you have finished your shift/assignment.
 - Wear attire that is appropriate, functional and safe. Some organizations have specific requirements, such as closed-toe shoes, or identifying t-shirts or nametags.
 - In the event of free choice in dressing for your assignment, clothing that is in good taste and positively promotes our school, such as a TVS t-shirt, would be a good choice. Clothing with offensive logos, images or phrases would be a poor choice.
-

BE RESPECTFUL

Students must respect each organization's needs and our school's image in the greater community.

- Do not cancel at the last minute, unless there is a real emergency.
- Repeated cancellations reflect poorly on the individual and our school. Please do not sign up for opportunities without the sincere intention of following through.
- While having a mobile phone is a necessity in today's world, students must focus on the work at hand. Put recreational electronics away while working.
- Monetary compensation or gifts not essential to job performance (some organizations issue t-shirts, for example) are not to be accepted for volunteer service.

BEHAVE

Organizations, both on-campus and off, will report back to TVS in the event of poor behavior or work ethic on the job. While representing TVS in a service capacity, students are expected to adhere to all school policies. Students who misbehave while performing service hours will be subject to disciplinary action at the administrators' discretion.

COMMUNITY SERVICE POLICIES and REQUIREMENTS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All TVS students are required, at minimum, to perform 60 hours of community service. Students are encouraged to accumulate at least 40 hours of school service during their 4 years in upper school.

- No more than 8 hours per day will be awarded
- No more than 50% (30 hours) of the community service hours required for graduation can be completed with the same organization, though additional hours are encouraged and will be documented. [In other words, you can accumulate 500 hours (for example) with one organization, but you will need 30 more from other organizations in order to graduate. In short, we want you to work at 2 or more locations.]

Recommended Pace:

Grade 9: 15 hours community service, 10 hours school service

Grade 10*: 15 hours community service, 10 hours school service

Grade 11*: 15 hours community service, 10 hours school service

Grade 12*: 15 hours community service, 10 hours school service

*Students who transfer in to TVS after Grade 9 will be expected to accumulate hours as shown above for each grade level during their enrollment.

**Students must complete and submit all required community service hours by May 1 of the senior year.

***Students may begin accumulating service hours during the summer prior to their 9th grade year

GRADUATION RECOGNITIONS

To be recognized for these awards, hours must be approved by April 15 of the senior year.

- Centenary Society - Students earning over 100 hours of community service gain membership in this society, and will receive special recognition upon graduation.
-

-
- School Service Award - Students earning over 60 hours of school service gain membership in this society, and will receive special recognition upon graduation.
 - The Navin Narayan Community Service Award - Established in memory of Navin Narayan, valedictorian of the TVS class of 1995. This award honors the graduating senior who has exceeded the community service requirement of 60 hours and has demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication in volunteerism.

SUPERVISION

Any chaperone attending a TVS-sponsored service event must either be an employee of the school or a school volunteer who has completed the TVS background check process. While TVS does offer some school-sponsored, chaperoned community service events (such as those sponsored by the community service club), TVS chaperones are not usually present for student service hours. Most organizations have their own leadership/chaperones in place already and it is up to the discretion of the parents to determine where students may work within the parameters of our community service policies.

TRANSPORTATION

TVS does not typically provide transportation to community service opportunities, except for the Upper School Day of Service or select Community Service Club events. Hours spent traveling to/from service opportunities do not count towards graduation requirements.

FINDING OPPORTUNITIES

Community Service and School Service opportunities will be updated regularly on the X2VOL Service Tracking Platform, which you can log into directly (www.x2vol.com) or through Naviance (once your account is set up). Personal projects may be uploaded – please check with the Community Service Directors in advance to determine if you are unsure if your opportunity will qualify for service hour credit. If you know of an opportunity that TVS students might benefit from, please share. We can always add new opportunities.

DOCUMENTING HOURS SERVED

Students must upload and document hours to X2VOL within 30 days of the service opportunity. Contact information must include a phone number and e-mail contact.

If the contact has not verified the student's hours within 90 days of service performed, then the hours will be invalid and will not count towards the graduation goal. It is the student's responsibility to have correct contact information and to follow up when there is a delay in verification.

Incoming freshmen and new students must upload hours from the prior summer by September 15 of their first year in upper school.

The details of service submitted (including hours, dates, location and contact information) should be truthful. Information submitted will be audited for accuracy. If inaccuracies are discovered, the student may be removed from x2VOL and additional consequences will be imposed by school administrators.

QUESTIONS? We welcome all questions regarding community service, as we are here to help you! Please e-mail the Co-Directors of community service, Mrs. Cooke and Ms. Sellers.

ACTIVITY CREDITS

REQUIRED: 10 CREDITS

POINT OF CONTACT: JOHN O'REILLY

oreillyj@trinityvalleyschool.org

ACTIVITY GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The updated graduation requirements will begin with freshmen starting in the fall of 2017 and include:

- Successful completion of ten credits, including:
- One health and wellness class (built into their schedule);
- At least four credits with a physical component and at least one per year;
- Five additional credits earned at large;
- No more than four credits can be earned in any one category, i.e. baseball, musical, dance, debate, etcetera. (The exceptions would be trimester dance, or Fall/Winter Cheerleading);
- The only way to earn credit outside of school (independent credit) is to be involved at a high level in a sport, or acting or performing experience approved by a committee to include Athletic Director, Head of Upper School and the Head of School; and
- A greater amount of customization as the options are limitless, customizable, and enrich the programs Trinity Valley School has committed to institutionally and support through the annual operating budget, with campus facilities, and through faculty supervision.

Activity credits available with a physical component:

- Sports (TVS currently offers 23)
- Fitness-based physical education
- Tech Theater (after-school)
- Musical
- Dance (Fall, Winter, Spring)**
- Drumline

*** Students may not participate in dance for activity or academic credit at the same time as participating in a TVS sport that practices or competes during or after the regular school day, Monday – Friday.*

Activity credits available without a physical component include:

- Drama
- Debate
- Choir (1 semester = 1 credit)
- 7 TOE Evenings outside of those required as a participant or leader

We are excited for the opportunity that these updated graduation requirements give us to support each student in a unique way, provide them with information they need to make healthy choices, and intentionally encourage physical fitness throughout one's upper school experience.

TROJAN FITNESS AND WELLNESS *(Formerly known as US PE)*

Dates for Trojan Fitness and Wellness will coincide with the SPC calendar dates of Fall, Winter, and Spring. Prior to each season, the Athletic Department will communicate with students the specific

days the course will begin and end. Participating Upper School students will have the ability to shift their workouts each day to better meet the needs of their busy schedules. On any given day, a student may choose to attend the before school session, the session during his/her free period (if applicable), or the after school session, with the following parameters: Before school PE is only offered Tuesday and Thursday in the FALL. It will be offered Monday - Thursday in the winter and spring. After school PE is only offered Monday-Thursday, in the fall and spring only. During school PE will be offered Monday-Friday, year round.

The course is offered in three sections aligning with the sports seasons (Fall, Winter, & Spring). Parents and students can expect that the class will focus on Strength Training, Cardio Fitness, and Flexibility to enhance individual lifetime fitness development.

The core requirements of Trojan Fitness and Wellness are:

- Participation four days a week;
- Check in and out daily with the assigned member of the Athletic Department; and,
- Appropriate athletic attire (Cross Trainer style tennis shoe, shorts, & t-shirt).

SAMPLE TROJAN FITNESS AND WELLNESS SCHEDULE

TIME	FALL SEASON	WINTER SEASON	SPRING SEASON
Before School	7:25 - 8:05 a.m. (Underwood)	7:25 - 8:05 a.m. (Mattox)	7:25 - 8:05 a.m. (Underwood)
T-period	N/A	N/A	N/A
1st period	8:45 - 9:30 a.m. (Mattox)	8:45 - 9:30 a.m. (Mattox)	8:45 - 9:30 a.m. (Mattox)
2nd period	9:35 - 10:20 a.m. (Mattox)	9:35 - 10:20 a.m. (Mattox)	9:35 - 10:20 a.m. (Mattox)
AM Flex	N/A	N/A	N/A
3rd Period	10:55 - 11:40 a.m. (Mattox)	10:55 - 11:40 a.m. (Mattox)	10:55 - 11:40 a.m. (Mattox)
4th Period	11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Mattox)	11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Mattox)	11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Mattox)
Lunch	N/A	N/A	N/A
5th period	1:20 - 2:05 p.m. (Mattox)	1:20 - 2:05 p.m. (Mattox)	1:20 - 2:05 p.m. (Mattox)
6th period	2:10 - 2:55 p.m. (Mattox)	2:10 - 2:55 p.m. (Mattox)	2:10 - 2:55 p.m. (TBA)
7th period	3 - 3:45 p.m. (Mattox)	N/A	3 - 3:45 p.m. (Mattox)

ENGLISH

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: MONICA GONZALEZ

gonzalezm@trinityvalleyschool.org

The English Department's goal is to inspire in students a love of literature and a facility for the English language, through working on their own writing and through rhetorical and literary analysis of notable texts. Each year of study enables students to build on their close reading skills and to develop their own abilities to write with clarity, precision, passion, and elegance. Students will analyze increasingly complex texts, both as singular units and in comparison with other seminal works so that they may think and write more logically. Students will practice these skills in both class discussion and in essay composition. Students will gain insight into voice and audience and be comfortable with various types of writing, both persuasive and creative.

Students are required to take a TVS English course on campus every year. These courses address areas of reading, composition, grammar, vocabulary, speaking, and listening, leading to an option to take writing and literature classes at the Advanced Placement level. However, English instruction at TVS also aims to give students insights into human behavior, different cultures, and ways of being, thus supporting TVS's mission of moral development which promotes lasting values.

Rising 11th graders may apply to take Advanced Placement (AP) Language and Composition; the appropriate placement will be determined based on a student's prior performance in English courses and the student's application materials (including written work). Rising 12th graders, whether they have taken the AP course or the college-prep course during the 11th grade year, may apply to take Advanced Placement (AP) Literature and Composition; the appropriate placement will be determined based on a student's prior performance in English courses and the student's application materials (including written work).

Beginning in the fall of 2019, juniors may enroll in an English elective to earn an additional ½ credit in English over and above the courses required for graduation. This option provides our junior students the opportunity to embark on a more extensive study of a specific topic or genre of interest.

In the senior year, all students must take two semesters of English. AP students will take two semesters of AP Literature, and if the schedule allows, AP students may take an additional English elective. However, seniors enrolled in the college-prep (non AP) English IV course must select a second-semester elective to fulfill the second half of their English course requirement.

All courses taken to satisfy English requirements must be taken at Trinity Valley School.

ENGLISH COURSE OFFERINGS		
	REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES*
GRADE 9	<i>Grade 9 English</i>	
GRADE 10	<i>Grade 10 English</i>	<i>Creative Writing, The Bible As Lit, Girl Talk</i>
GRADE 11	<i>College Prep Eng 11; AP Eng Lang & Comp</i>	<i>Creative Writing, The Bible As Lit, Girl Talk, Gothic Lit, A Focus in Shakespeare, To Infinity and Beyond</i>
GRADE 12	<i>College Prep Eng 12; AP Eng Lit</i>	<i>Creative Writing, The Bible As Lit, Girl Talk, Gothic Lit, A Focus in Shakespeare, To Infinity and Beyond</i> *some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions

ENGLISH COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
GRADE 9 ENGLISH	9	FULL YEAR	--	--

The ninth-grade course is unique in its dual-goals: to introduce students to high-school-level language arts (grammar, diction, style, rhetoric) as well as to introduce students to upper level literary analysis (character development, themes, symbols). As such, students will spend one semester studying Language Arts (including SAT prep) and one semester that will cover literary arts. The class serves to create a foundation for the college preparatory work students will do as readers, writers, thinkers, speakers, and listeners during their time in the TVS Upper School. Students will build on the writing process they learned in middle school and will hone their communication skills in class discussions. Both semesters will introduce students to literary classics as well as to more contemporary works. Texts may include among others: excerpts from Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*, *The Iliad*, and *Gilgamesh* as well as selected readings from the Genesis and Exodus (to assist students with recognizing biblical allusions). Students will also read *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Oedipus Rex* among other books. Summer reading will be assigned for core English courses.

GRADE 10 ENGLISH	10	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>Expanding on the work done in ninth grade, tenth grade English acquaints readers with additional classical texts. Students will read canonical works including but not limited to: <i>The Psalms</i>, <i>the Book of Job</i>, <i>Macbeth</i>, <i>The Odyssey</i>, <i>Dante's Inferno</i>, <i>Frankenstein</i> and <i>Brave New World</i>. This class promotes critical reflection on and investigation of the texts through essay writing, Socratic style seminars, and class discussion. Writing assignments emphasize conception and composition but also stress revision. Students will continue to study vocabulary sophomore year in preparation for the SAT. Students' daily reading assignments will vary in length. Summer reading will be assigned.</p>				

COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 11	11	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>Students who are enrolled in Eleventh Grade College Preparatory English will explore American literature, multi-genre writing, and critical thinking at a pace and level of rigor comparable to a university classroom. Students will read both canonical works from the American literary tradition as well as newer works by American authors, which focus on race, class, gender and place. Immersing themselves in novels, nonfiction books, poetry and drama, students will also intensively engage in persuasive, expository, descriptive and reflective writing with an emphasis on developing a writing voice appropriate for a variety of audiences and purposes. Texts may include but are not limited to: <i>The Great Gatsby</i>, <i>Of Mice and Men</i>, <i>The House on Mango Street</i> and selections from Hawthorne, Twain and Poe. Summer reading will be assigned for core English courses.</p>				

COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH 12	12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	SENIOR YEAR
<p>In Senior College Preparatory English, students will turn their gaze to the global literary landscape. They will delve into multi-genre works written by American and British authors as well as by authors in translation in order to gain a preliminary understanding of various worldviews and philosophies. Students will be introduced to literary theory critical lenses (feminism, Marxism, Jungian) that will prepare them to meet and exceed the demands of the college classroom. A majority of grades will come from student writings, be they in-class personal responses to a particular piece or a longer analysis derived from book length text. Students will focus on analytical reading and writing skills to express their ideas about the reading. Texts may include but are not limited to: <i>Hamlet</i>, <i>The Color Purple</i>, <i>1984</i>, and <i>Chronicle of a Death Foretold</i>. Summer reading will be assigned.</p>				

ENGLISH COURSE OFFERINGS – ADVANCED PLACEMENT

AP ENGLISH LANG & COMP	11	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>With a primary goal of undertaking intensive rhetorical-analysis work and a secondary goal of taking the English AP exam, students will focus on the relationship between content and form, dealing specifically with close reading, literary and rhetorical analysis, and compositional skills. In addition, a study of American literature seeks to understand our literary heritage. Texts may include but are not limited to: <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>, <i>Scarlet Letter</i>, <i>The Great Gatsby</i>, <i>Catcher in the Rye</i>, and <i>Beloved</i>. The spring semester will focus largely on analyzing rhetoric in speeches, advertising and journalism. Students will write at least 5 out-of-class essays and 12 in-class essays among other writing and testing. Admission to the course is determined by performance in prior English courses and by additional application materials. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Summer Reading: <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> by Nathaniel Hawthorne. There will also be a reading guide posted on the library Web site.</p>				

AP ENGLISH LIT	12	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>AP English Literature and Composition is an intensive, college-level course. Students work towards developing the following skills and knowledge: critical interpretation and evaluation of information and ideas; effective communication of ideas with others; a coherent and personal writing style; an understanding of the cultural and social values presented in the literature we study; an understanding of the various writing devices, techniques and modes; and an appreciation for literature. Texts include but are not limited to: "A Modest Proposal," <i>Hamlet</i>, <i>All The Pretty Horses</i>, 1984, <i>The Color Purple</i>, <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> and Kafka's <i>Metamorphosis</i>. Students will write at least 5 out-of-class essays and 12 in-class essays among other writing and testing. Admission to the class is determined by a student's prior performance in English courses and other application materials. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Summer reading will be assigned for core English courses.</p>				

ENGLISH COURSE ELECTIVES

INTRO TO CREATIVE WRITING	10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	--
<p>This one-semester course will explore three genres of writing: Poetry, Fiction and Creative Nonfiction. Through lecture, discussion, writing exercises, and assigned readings, students will examine elements of literary creation. As the course progresses, students will produce one creative nonfiction essay, 4-5 poems, and elements of fictional stories. This course uses the workshop method, with student and teacher critiques on individual work. In addition, this course allows exclusive access to various Visiting Writers. The final portfolio will showcase the students' understanding of revision, which is essential to the writing process. Summer reading includes <i>Wild</i> by Cheryl Strayed.</p>				

GOTHIC LITERATURE AND FILM	11,12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	--
----------------------------------	-------	------------	--------	----

WARNING: Enter if you dare! This course examines monsters and vampires; ghosts and ghouls; madmen and madwomen. By exploring Gothic Literature from its origin to its contemporary manifestations, we will relentlessly explore the dark side of humanity. To this end, we will read authors such as Poe, Hawthorne, Stevenson and King. Further, as we seek to understand the genre more fully, we will analyze the elements presented in films by legends such as Alfred Hitchcock and Stephen King. If you scare easily, this course may not be for you. This course also contains some mature themes.

A FOCUS IN SHAKESPEARE	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	--
---------------------------	-------	------------	----------------	----

This course will combine reading and analyzing Shakespeare's plays and poetry with aspects of history and performance for a holistic experience of Shakespeare's works. We will place emphasis on studying Shakespeare "on our feet" as much as or more than "in our seat" and explore plays that are not normally read in the school curriculum, including selected comedies, histories, and tragedies. We will also sample Shakespeare's poetic technique through the study of selected sonnets from his sonnet sequence. The students who take this class will also enjoy community service opportunities in partnering with other schools to experience Shakespeare's works and receive coaching in monologue performance to help those who wish it to participate in Shakespeare monologue competitions both at our school and in other venues.

THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE: A SURVEY	10, 11, 12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	--
---	------------	------------	------	----

This fall elective course, available to all students from 9th to 12th grade, will provide a survey of the Hebrew Bible and New Testament from a scholarly and literary, non-sectarian perspective, with the goal of familiarizing students with the text of the most significant work in the Western literary tradition. Students should expect no fewer than two analytical essays over course of this semester-long elective course, as well as reading quizzes and opportunities for project-based learning.

GIRL TALK: COMING OF AGE NARRATIVES IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE	10, 11, 12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	--
---	------------	------------	--------	----

In this course, we will explore themes relating to girls growing up in America who face adversity which arises from issues relating to culture and assimilation. The fundamental question driving our reading will be: How does culture affect one's growth to womanhood in America? In each reading, we will seek to find understanding, empathy, and inspiration for our own journeys as human beings. In this course, we will read a variety of genres. In fiction, possible readings might be: *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward, and *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver. We will also read selections of non-fiction and poetry. Understanding will be evaluated through creative projects and micro essays.

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND: A SURVEY OF GENRE FICTION	11, 12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	--
--	--------	------------	--------	----

Any visit to a local Barnes and Noble or Half-Price Books will reveal a division in the American literary landscape: in the center of these stores sits a large section of books labeled "Fiction," the walled garden of Literature-with-a-capital-L, while, surrounding them like barbarians at the gates, crowd a number of other books that, while no less fictional, are labelled differently: "Westerns," "Horror," "Fantasy," or "Science Fiction." Together, these "lesser" categories make up the ghetto of "Genre Fiction." In this spring elective, we will step outside the hallowed halls of "Literature" to examine some of its less-critically-acclaimed cousins in Genre Fiction. Together we will explore the concerns of these texts in order to understand what they offer that more traditional literature, by definition, cannot, and see if we can't begin to chip away at Literature's garden wall by introducing it to some new texts. Students should expect no fewer than two analytical essays over course of this semester-long elective course, as well as reading quizzes and opportunities for project-based learning.

FINE ARTS

REQUIRED CREDITS: 2 SEMESTERS

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Marcy Roten
rotenm@trinityvalleyschool.org

The Fine Arts play a critical role in the development of all students at Trinity Valley School. There is a consistent K-12 exposure in classes including field trips to world-class museums. Students are engaged in a wide range of hands-on techniques and approaches. They develop analytical and creative problem-solving abilities as they are provided significant curricular opportunities in Music, Theater, the Visual Arts and Dance. Students are exposed to creative endeavors that are essential to pre-college development for those who will engage in Fine Arts studies after graduation.

The Upper School Visual Arts classes begin with an introductory art curriculum that will enable them to choose from a number of advanced studio options in ceramics, photography, and traditional visual media. Trinity Valley School maintains a gallery for both student and guest artist exhibitions in the Upper and Middle School Library.

Students wishing to pursue Performing Arts are provided with many opportunities to learn and grow. Both introductory and advanced theater classes are offered which focus on all aspects of theatrical production. Additionally, there are three scheduled Upper School productions each year, one of which is a musical.

Choral classes offer multiple levels of music study, with numerous high-level performance and competition opportunities.

Dance students study and explore multiple dance forms to instill proper technique and alignment, enhance strength and flexibility, and heighten rhythm and musicality. Upper School Dance participants also engage in performance and leadership opportunities throughout the school year.

All courses taken to satisfy the Fine Arts requirement must be taken at TVS.

		ART COURSE OFFERINGS	
		REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES*
GRADE 9			Art I; Stage Acting I; Stage Acting II; Tech Theatre I; Tech Theatre II; Improvisation; Choir; Dance I
GRADE 10		<i>One full year (2 semesters) of fine arts must be taken at some time during high school for graduation from TVS.</i>	Art I; Art II; Photography I; Studies in Glass; 3-D Studies (ceramics); Stage Acting I; Stage Acting II; Tech Theatre I; Tech Theatre II; Improvisation; Choir; Honor Choir; Dance I, Dance II
GRADE 11		<i>This requirement may be fulfilled by taking one full year or two, one-semester courses.</i> <i>Introductory classes that fulfill this requirement include: Art I, Stage Acting, Improvisation, Tech Theatre, Choir and Dance.</i>	Art I; Art II; Art III; Photography I; Photography II; Studies in Glass; 3-D Studies (ceramics); Stage Acting I; Stage Acting II; Tech Theatre I; Tech Theatre II; Improvisation; Choir; Honor Choir; Dance I, Dance II, Dance III
GRADE 12		<i>Art I is a prerequisite for Photography and all advanced visual arts classes.</i>	Art I; Art II; Art III; Senior Portfolios; Photography I; Photography II; Advanced Photography; Studies in Glass; 3-D Studies (ceramics); Stage Acting I; Stage Acting II; Tech Theatre I; Tech Theatre II; Theatre Directing; Improvisation; Choir; Honor Choir; Dance I, Dance II, Dance III <small>*some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions</small>

ART COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
ART I	9,10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	--

Art I is a year-long course that will introduce students to the fundamental elements and principles of design, production oriented problem solving, and aesthetics with connections to art history. Students will explore introductory technical skills in drawing, design, painting and printmaking. Grades achieved in this class are determined by the student's efforts, self-discipline, and motivation, not talent. Art I is prerequisite for all upper-level, visual art classes.

ART II	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ART I
--------	----------	-----------	----	-------

This course expands on the experiences learned in Art I. Students will be engaged in creating work that demonstrates a higher degree of technical proficiency in several media. Emphasis is placed on presentation as well as production and there will be an opportunity to begin developing their portfolios for college application purposes.

ART III	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ART II
---------	-------	-----------	----	--------

Art III is an advanced class that provides students more in-depth opportunity to strengthen their technical abilities and explore the possibilities in art making. The focus is on both new and familiar media. In this course students must demonstrate a strong commitment to production and presentation. They will continue to develop, organize and maintain portfolios in preparation for college applications.

SENIOR PORTFOLIOS	12	FULL YEAR	--	ART I, ART II
-------------------	----	-----------	----	---------------

Senior Portfolios is a class for serious art students who want to experience a college-level studio class. Students will engage in developing strong creative thinking, problem-solving, critical analysis and an expanded technical proficiency. It is important for students to demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-discipline and effort as they develop more sophisticated ideas in their art-making. Portfolio development and organization is a major focus in this class as students prepare for college applications. This course will culminate in a gallery exhibition. Each student participating will be required to be involved and fully participate in the process of creating the art exhibition. Prerequisites for this course include Art I, Art II and a portfolio review with the instructor by appointment. This review and approval are required before enrollment into this class.

PHOTOGRAPHY I	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ART I
---------------	----------	-----------	----	-------

Photography is a year-long course studying the digital camera as an art making tool. The year starts with studying the mechanics of the camera and shooting assignments that are technically driven. As the year moves along, students are expected to bring creative and original thinking to their approaches. The first semester ends with a self-assignment, a personally designed set of photos. The second semester studies alternative printing methods such as cyanotypes and developing a portfolio. Equipment is provided. Students should be prepared to shoot photos approximately four hours a week or more outside of class, which includes some weekend work. The school may be able to offer this course at an advanced level, as well. Students interested in this option should contact the Chair of the Fine Arts Department.

PHOTOGRAPHY II	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ART I, PHOTOGRAPHY I
----------------	-------	-----------	----	-------------------------

Students should be able to demonstrate a technical proficiency of the use of a digital SLR camera and Photoshop as previously taught in Photography I. This is a year-long course studying the digital camera as an art-making tool. The students are expected to bring creative and original thinking to assignments that are designed by the student and teacher together. Students are encouraged to explore more in-depth techniques in photography including, but not limited to, natural and studio lighting, the history of photography and photographers, and Photoshop. Students will leave the class with a professional-looking portfolio of their work. Students should be prepared to photograph assignments outside of class approximately 4-6 hours per week, including weekends. Students are required to have their own camera equipment (digital SLR & tripod).

STUDIES IN GLASS	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ART I
------------------	----------	-----------	----	-------

Studies in glass is a two-semester class. Students will study the art of mosaics, stained glass and fused glass. They will learn various techniques to create a mosaic window panel, stained glass pieces and decorative and functional pieces by fusing glass in a kiln. Student will spend the year fabricating their own designs and patterns, developing ideas to make work that is production oriented. Emphasis will be placed on producing work that is technically well crafted. Students should be able to produce solutions to technical problems and communicate their ideas both visually and verbally throughout the year.

THREE-D STUDIES (CERAMICS)	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ART I
----------------------------------	----------	-----------	----	-------

Three-D Studies is a two-semester studio course with a strong emphasis on ceramics. The first semester is focused on hand building, design concepts and developing strong technical skills. More advanced techniques in ceramics such as using clay to make sculpture and wheel-throwing are taught during the second semester. Emphasis will be on technique and production skills. Students should be able to produce solutions to technical problems and communicate their ideas both visually and verbally.

STAGE ACTING I	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	--
----------------	------------	------------	------	----

Stage Acting is a semester course offered in the fall. Students will use theatre games and exercises to develop the mind, body and voice -- the three tools of the actor. Basic pantomime and improvisation skills will be taught and students will perform short scenes and monologues with emphasis on character development and script analysis.

STAGE ACTING II	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	STAGE ACTING I
-----------------	------------	------------	--------	----------------

Stage Acting II is a semester course, offered second semester. It is a more in-depth study and practice of acting for the stage. The methods of various famous acting teachers (including Stanislavski and Meisner) will be studied and students will be given the opportunity to practice these in a longer monologue as well as more complex duet and group scenes.

TECH THEATRE I	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	--
----------------	------------	------------	------	----

Technical Theatre I is a one-semester course. It is an overview of all the technical elements involved in producing a show. This course will cover the history of theatre, the design process, safety, tools of the industry, materials, scenic construction, scenic art, rigging and knots, lighting and electrics, costumes, props, makeup and wigs, and sound. Participation is a large part of student success in this course. During the semester, students will work on TVS productions during class and are strongly encouraged to volunteer for after-school work calls. Class is limited to 8 students per semester and meets daily in the Black Box Theater.

TECH THEATRE II	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	TECH THEATRE I
-----------------	------------	------------	--------	----------------

Technical Theatre II is a one-semester course. Class size is limited to eight students. The course offers an in-depth look at script analysis as it pertains to the technical elements of a production. Students are required to submit projects during the semester related to each of these elements. Publicity and poster design will also be taught. The course will culminate with students' applying basic design and production concepts learned in class to a TVS production.

THEATRE DIRECTING	12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	STAGE ACTING I
----------------------	----	------------	------	----------------

This semester course is designed to help students consider the potential power of theatre to affect positive change in the world. Moving from the theoretical to the practical, students will learn the basics of directing for the stage through the process of coordinating the various elements of theatre to create a unified production. The course will conclude with students casting and directing a short one-act of their own choosing. Prerequisites include one semester of Stage Acting or special permission from the instructor.

IMPROVISATION	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	--
---------------	------------	------------	----------------	----

This one-semester course will focus on the fundamental elements of theatrical improvisation. Through games, exercises, and short scenes students will learn and practice the skills needed to create successful improvised performances. This is an especially helpful course for the actor who wants to improve concentration and focus. It is also recommended for anyone who wants to have fun while learning how to be more creative and spontaneous. Some basic pantomime and movement will also be taught.

CHOIR	9,10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	--
-------	------------	-----------	----	----

The choir course is designed to provide experience in and appreciation of music through the applied discipline of singing. The course covers four main areas: vocal technique, ear training, score reading and the performance of many styles of music.

HONOR CHOIR, T-PERIOD	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	TEACHER APPROVAL
--------------------------	----------	-----------	----	---------------------

Meeting three to four times per week, depending on the speed and accuracy of part-learning, singers with advanced sight-reading skills will prepare the Upper School Choir repertoire and additional chamber choir music and perform in all scheduled choir concerts. Admission to this choir is based on part-singing and vocal skills, determined by the teacher, and requires extra musical preparation outside of rehearsals. This full-year course will receive ½ credit on Fine Arts. NOTE: Two years in Honor Choir equals one Fine Arts credit.

DANCE I	9,10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	TEACHER APPROVAL
---------	------------	-----------	----	------------------

This course introduces students to multiple dance forms including ballet, jazz, lyrical, and hip hop. Ballet is the essential foundation of dance training and instruction follows American Ballet Theatre's National Training Curriculum to instill proper technique and alignment while enhancing strength and flexibility. Other prominent dance forms serve to develop the dancer's range of style and expression, connection of movement and form, and heighten rhythm and musicality. Students participate in performance and leadership opportunities throughout the year. For an additional fee, interested students may choose to participate in the competitive performance program and attend area dance conventions.

DANCE II	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	DANCE I
----------	----------	-----------	----	---------

This course expands on the curriculum presented in Dance I. Students further develop their technique, strength, and flexibility through the continued study of ballet (ABT's National Training Curriculum), jazz, lyrical, and hip hop. Increased emphasis is placed on proper alignment, style and expression, connection of movement, and musicality. Students participate in performance and leadership opportunities throughout the year. For an additional fee, interested students may choose to participate in the competitive performance program and attend area dance conventions.

DANCE III	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	DANCE II
-----------	-------	-----------	----	----------

Dance III is an advanced course that provides elite-level training to experienced dancers. Students must demonstrate a strong work ethic and commitment to improving their technique at the advanced level. Students focus on the mastery of advanced elements, performance quality, improvisation and audition skills as they continue to study ballet (ABT's National Training Curriculum), jazz, lyrical and hip hop. Students participate in performance and leadership opportunities throughout the year. For an additional fee, interested students may choose to participate in the competitive performance program and attend area dance conventions.

MATHEMATICS

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: DEB DEVORE

devore@trinityvalleyschool.org

The Mathematics Department of Trinity Valley believes in a strong, curricular presence as well as cross-disciplinary support to other departments, particularly science. All students in the Upper School take at least one math course every semester of all four years, completing the sequences in math at a minimum through Precalculus and more often through AP course offerings.

The mathematical curriculum encompasses both AP and non-AP tracks, with the opportunity to study continuous and discrete perspectives. Students can begin to accelerate mathematics as early as the seventh grade. By the senior year, students have AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB or BC, and applied probability and linear algebra options. Teachers and students have the opportunity to use technology as a tool to develop their mathematics. Building a grounded, comprehensive mathematical framework allows the focused to delve into mathematical analysis and the liberal arts student to train the mind to think logically and critically. Admission to honors and AP courses will be determined by the mentioned course prerequisites and teacher recommendations with a final determination to be made by the mathematics department faculty.

In addition to computer software, students use graphing calculators to explore, to discover, and to confirm mathematics. The mathematics department requires a uniform calculator for students to have in mathematics courses starting in Algebra II, and it is recommended for students to have in Geometry. The TI-89 Titanium ® graphing calculator will be the required calculator for students to have in all levels of Algebra II, precalculus, statistics, and calculus. The graphing capabilities of the TI 89 Titanium ® aid students tremendously in providing numerical and visual perspectives. The computer algebra systems of the TI-89 Titanium ® give students the opportunity to develop mathematics inductively and carry out mathematical processes efficiently in order to focus on problem solving. Exams in these courses will often have non-calculator and calculator sections to provide a balance between building skills and problem solving. This calculator is approved for use of the SAT and on all AP mathematics and science exams. In Algebra I and Geometry courses, students will need access to a scientific calculator if they do not yet have a TI 89 Titanium ®. In addition to calculator work, some graphing and statistical experiences will be explored with computer software.

Courses to be taken at TVS: Algebra I, Geometry/Honors Geometry, Algebra II/Honors Algebra II, Precal/Honors Precal/Accelerated Precal, AP Calc AB, Advanced Calc, AP Calc BC, AP Stats, AP Computer Science.

MATHEMATICS COURSE OFFERINGS		
	REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES*
GRADE 9	<i>Algebra I; Algebra II; Algebra II Honors; Geometry; Geometry Honors</i>	
GRADE 10	<i>Algebra II; Algebra II Honors; Geometry; Geometry Honors; Precalculus; Precalculus Honors</i>	<i>Accelerated Precalculus/Calculus</i>
GRADE 11	<i>Algebra II; Algebra II Honors; Precalculus; Precalculus Honors; Intro to Calculus; Intro to Statistics</i>	<i>Accelerated Precalculus/Calculus; AP Calculus AB; AP Calculus BC; AP Statistics</i>
GRADE 12	<i>Precalculus; Precalculus Honors; Intro to Calculus; Intro to Statistics</i>	<i>AP Calculus AB; Accelerated AP Calculus BC; AP Calculus BC; AP Statistics; Advanced Topics in Math</i> <i>*some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions</i>

COMPUTER SCIENCE ELECTIVES*	
<i>*some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions</i>	
GRADE 9	<i>Intro To Graphics Programming I, Intro to Graphics Programming II; Mechatronics: Foundations of Robotics</i>
GRADE 10	<i>Intro To Graphics Programming I, Intro to Graphics Programming II; Mechatronics: Foundations of Robotics</i>
GRADE 11	<i>Intro To Graphics Programming I, Intro to Graphics Programming II; Mechatronics: Foundations of Robotics; AP Computer Science A</i>
GRADE 12	<i>Intro To Graphics Programming I, Intro to Graphics Programming II; Mechatronics: Foundations of Robotics; AP Computer Science A</i>

MATH COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
ALGEBRA I	9	FULL YEAR	--	--

Students in this course develop algebraic skills and thinking. The following topics are explored in depth: operations with integers and rational numbers, solving linear equations and inequalities, working with exponents and polynomials, factoring polynomials, graphing linear and quadratic equations, solving systems of equations, rational equations, radical equations, and quadratic equations. Relations and the concept of function are embedded throughout the curriculum. Students receive considerable support due to small class size.

GEOMETRY	9,10	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA I
----------	------	-----------	----	-----------

The geometry course at TVS emphasizes written mathematical communication, (i.e. logical and clear presentation of work, arguments, and explanations), reading for meaning, following directions accurately, organization, and a continuation of the process of “learning how to learn!” Algebra concepts will be reviewed, reinforced, and extended. Whenever possible, this will be done in the context of studying geometrical concepts. The following topics will be covered: Basic geometry terminology and postulates; Coordinate geometry; Angles and Parallel Lines; Triangles (Congruency, similarity, inequalities, points of concurrency); Quadrilaterals (classification, characteristics, congruency, similarity); Other Polygons; The Right Triangle (“Solving” right triangles, the Pythagorean Theorem, trigonometry); Circles; Area, Surface Area, Volume; and Transformations.

GEOMETRY HONORS WITH DYNAMIC APPLICATIONS	9,10	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA I (SEE BELOW)
--	------	-----------	----	--------------------------

Geometry Honors with Dynamic Applications is a course designed for motivated students who excel in mathematics. Through the platform of the dynamic geometry software The Geometer's Sketchpad, the course encourages students to explore the following curricular topics: Properties of polygons, circles, and circular regions and applying these properties algebraically; Deductive Proof; Right Triangle Properties (The Pythagorean Theorem, special right triangles, introduction to the unit circle and right triangle trigonometry); 2-D Perspectives of Area and 3-D Perspectives of Volume ; and, Transformations of geometric figures and how these transformations connect to transformations of the graphs of functions that will be studied in subsequent algebraic mathematics courses. Assessments will consist of a combination of traditional quizzes, traditional exams, and computer labs. These assessments will require students to develop mathematics multi-representationally, as encouraged by College Board in preparation for AP Calculus and AP Statistics. Because of the dynamic geometry component, a **laptop computer** is required for the course. Students will be required to complete a summer computing assignment to prepare them for computer explorations on day one of the course. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. Prerequisite: One credit of Algebra I, with semester averages of at least 85.

ALGEBRA II	9,10,11	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA I AND GEOMETRY
------------	---------	-----------	----	---------------------------

This course is designed to review the basic concepts and mechanics of Algebra at a more advanced level. Then students will explore applications of linear functions and systems, matrices, and complex numbers. The students will also study algebraic manipulations, transformations, and applications of different types of functions, including quadratic, polynomial, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and rational. Building on their work with quadratics, the students will explore quadratic relations and conic sections. Technology is used throughout the course to help the students make connections analytically and graphically. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. Prerequisite: one credit of Algebra I and one credit of Geometry.

ALGEBRA II HONORS	9,10,11	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA I AND GEOMETRY (SEE BELOW)
----------------------	---------	-----------	----	--

Algebra II Honors is designed for students who excel in mathematics and are ready to tackle the comprehensive study of algebra topics, functions, and analytic geometry. The course begins with a quick review of topics from Algebra I before students explore linear systems, matrices, and complex numbers. Then the course focuses extensively on the study of various functions including quadratic, polynomial, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and rational. Specific algebraic manipulations and transformations are emphasized when appropriate. Building from work with quadratic functions and transformations, the course concludes with a study of conic sections. Application problems are developed throughout the course requiring students to interpret mathematics graphically, analytically, numerically, and verbally. Technology is interwoven into the curriculum to provide students an opportunity to explore numerous topics and develop a deeper understanding of the mathematical concepts. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. This course is honors level. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. Prerequisite: One credit of Algebra I and one credit of Honors Geometry with semester grades of at least “B’s” in both courses; or one credit of Algebra I with semester grades of at least “B’s” in the course and one credit of Geometry with semester grades of at least “A’s” in the course; or one credit of Algebra I with semester grades of at least “A’s” in the course and taking Algebra II Honors concurrently with Honors Geometry.

PRECALCULUS	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA II
-------------	----------	-----------	----	------------

This course is designed to provide the background for an introductory course in Calculus and Analytic Geometry. It covers linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, circular, trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions, complex numbers, vectors, sequences and series, mathematical induction, and average rates of change of algebraic functions. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed upon the ability to analyze and solve problems of varying difficulty. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®.

PRECALCULUS HONORS	10,11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA II (SEE BELOW)
-----------------------	----------	-----------	----	---------------------------

Students develop, describe, investigate, and apply general function properties and use them to develop trigonometric and circular functions, recursive relationships, and parametric equations. Students examine and apply conic sections, polar representations, and vectors to a variety of mathematical and real-world contexts. Application problems are developed throughout the course that require students to explore mathematics graphically, analytically, verbally, and numerically. This course is an honors course and will provide a solid groundwork for the rigor of AP Calculus. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. Prerequisite: One credit of Algebra II Honors, with semester grades of at least a B in the course or one credit of Algebra II, with semester grades of an A in the course.

INTRO TO STATISTICS	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	PRECALCULUS
---------------------	-------	------------	----------------	-------------

In a world that is increasingly driven by technology, students are constantly presented with data. In this course, students will learn to design surveys and experiments; explore, summarize, and display data; use probability to understand random behavior; and, make inferences regarding populations and the effect of treatments. Gaining an understanding of the basic concepts of statistics and practicing making informed decisions regarding real data will allow the students to be more equipped to intelligently operate within this extremely quantitative world. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®.

INTRO TO CALCULUS	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	PRECALCULUS
-------------------	-------	------------	----------------	-------------

Students in this course revisit and further explore concepts from previous mathematics courses including rates of change, asymptotic behavior, optimization, area, volume, and accumulation, with an emphasis on how these concepts are connected to the basic foundations of calculus. Developing the concepts of differentiation and integration analytically, graphically, numerically, and verbally through the study of polynomial, rational, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions, the curriculum will include exploration of differentiation and integration techniques and the basic applications of derivatives and definite integrals. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®.

MATHEMATICS COURSE ELECTIVES – ACCELERATED & ADVANCED PLACEMENT

ACCELERATED PRECALCULUS/ CALCULUS	10,11	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA II HONORS (SEE BELOW)
--------------------------------------	-------	-----------	----	----------------------------------

This course is designed for students who plan to give extra attention and time to mathematics study. Its accelerated nature consists of the course covering a yearlong Honors Pre-calculus course in one semester. Students begin studying calculus the second semester with the study of limits and their properties, differentiation, applications of differentiation, and basic integration. These topics shall lead to developing The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus at the end of the course. After students complete the Accelerated Pre-calculus/Accelerated Calculus yearlong sequence, they will be ready for AP BC Calculus study the following school year. The course is open to students who might not have been tracked in middle school to complete upper school BC Calculus or to students who want to learn mathematics beyond BC topics during their upper school experience. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. Students may be advised out of the course after the first year based on assessment of effort and performance by the teacher and review by the department chair. The required graphing calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. Prerequisite: One credit of Honors Algebra II, with semester grades of at least “B’s” in the course.

AP CALCULUS AB	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	HONORS PRECALCULUS/ PRECALCULUS (SEE BELOW)
<p>The AP Calculus AB course is equivalent to a freshman level college calculus course. The course covers the “AB” topics of the AP Calculus curriculum including limits; derivatives of algebraic, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions and their applications; differentials and implicit differentiation; the Mean Value Theorem; Riemann sums; indefinite and definite integrals and the techniques of integration; the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus; and applications of integration and differential equations. Students use computer algebra systems to explore calculus concepts throughout the course. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. This course is AP level. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Prerequisite: One credit of Precalculus Honors with semester grades of at least “B’s” in the course; or one credit of Precalculus with semester grades of at least “A’s” in the course.</p>				

ACCELERATED AP CALCULUS BC	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ACCELERATED PRECALCULUS/ CALCULUS (SEE BELOW)
<p>The AP Calculus BC [FTC and Beyond] is for students who have completed Accelerated Pre-Calculus/Accelerated Calculus. The first semester begins with revisiting The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Students then review integration, explore the calculus of logarithmic, exponential and other transcendental functions, numerical approximations, differential equations, and the applications of integration. The second semester is dedicated to subject matter unique to the Calculus BC Curriculum (advanced integration techniques and applications, l’Hopital’s Rule, Improper Integrals, Series, Parametric, Polar, and Vector perspectives of calculus). The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. The required graphing calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. This course is AP Level. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Prerequisite: One credit of Accelerated Precalculus/Calculus, with semester grades of least “B’s” in the course.</p>				

AP CALCULUS BC	12	FULL YEAR	--	AP CALCULUS AP AB (SEE BELOW)
----------------	----	-----------	----	----------------------------------

The AP Calculus BC course continues where the AP Calculus AB course ends. Hence, the course has a prerequisite of AP Calculus AB. The course includes an extensive study of the topics unique to the BC curriculum (including advanced integration techniques and applications; Euler's method and logistic differential equations; improper integrals; series; and the parametric, polar and vector perspectives of calculus). Extended study of AB topics and additional advanced topics, applications in engineering, and mathematical modeling are integrated throughout the course. Computer algebra investigations allow students to continually explore various topics and develop a deeper understanding of the calculus concepts. The required calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. This course is AP level. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Prerequisite: One credit of AP Calculus AB with semester grades of at least "B's" in the course.

ADVANCED TOPICS IN MATH	12	2 SEMESTERS	--	ACCELERATED AP CALCULUS BC
----------------------------	----	-------------	----	-------------------------------

This year-long course introduces students to applied probability and linear algebra. During one semester of the year, students will explore the applied probability component. The other semester of the year students will delve into the linear algebra component. This course is advanced level and will be taught using a college model. Class will meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with the expectation students will complete added readings and assignments on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The required graphing calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium®. Descriptions of each component follow: Advanced Topics I, Applied Probability – The Mathematics of Games and Games of Chance Component (Fall Semester): In this course, student will learn the important and beautiful elementary mathematics needed for rational analysis of various games and gambling activities. Among the games there will be analysis of poker, backgammon, roulette, craps, horse racing and lotteries. Students with a good understanding of algebraic perspectives and an interest in games of chance are prime candidates for this course. Advanced Topics II, Introduction to Linear Algebra (Spring Semester): In this course, students will explore the theory and application of linear systems of equations, matrices, determinants, vector spaces, inner product spaces, eigenvalues and eigenvectors. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class.

AP STATISTICS	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	PRECALCULUS (SEE BELOW)
---------------	-------	-----------	----	----------------------------

The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: 1. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns; 2. Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study; 3. Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability; and, 4. Statistical inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. The mathematics department will make recommendations for students to take this class. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. The required graphing calculator for this course is the TI 89 Titanium ®. Prerequisite: One credit of Precalculus, with semester grades of at least “B’s” in the course.

COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE ELECTIVES

INTRO TO GRAPHICS PROGRAMMING I	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL, SPRING	--
---------------------------------------	------------	------------	--------------	----

This course is an introduction to computer programming. Students will learn the basics of the Java language in the context of creating visualizations and 2D sprite-based games with animation. Projects emphasize the role of mathematics in video game design. Students will use the Processing development environment from MIT Media labs. Computer science topics include data types, using objects, declaring variables, assignment, arithmetic operators, branching structures, loops, random functions, methods, parameters, event-processing, state concepts, scope rules, and user interaction. The course is structured as a hands-on workshop centered on programming projects that emphasize computer science and mathematics principles as they apply to areas of art, visual design, games, science, and special effects. (NOTE: Formerly listed as DIGITAL IMAGES AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS I. The course is the same. Students with credit for Digital Images I may not receive credit for both.)

INTRO TO GRAPHICS PROGRAMMING II	9,10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	INTRO TO GRAPHICS PROGRAMMING II
<p>This course builds on Digital Images and Computer Graphics I with emphasis on techniques used in 3D computer graphics while continuing to write increasingly complex code. Students will strengthen programming skills in Java and be introduced to mathematics for 3D graphics. Topics include object-oriented programming, arrays, vertices, polygons, texture mapping, 3D transformations, articulated motion, polar coordinates, and parametric equations. The course is styled as a hands on workshop with a flexible schedule that allows students to explore various optional computer science topics such as microcontroller programming using Arduino, basic electronic circuits, Java basics, or image processing. Students are expected to participate in occasional cross-divisional coding experiences as peer mentors. Prerequisite: One credit of Intro to Graphics Programming I or one credit of Computer Science: Graphics Programming I. (NOTE: Formerly listed as DIGITAL IMAGES AND COMPUTER GRAPHICS II. The course is the same. Students with credit for Digital Images II may not receive credit for both.)</p>				

MECHATRONICS: FOUNDATIONS OF ROBOTICS	9, 10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL, SPRING	INTRO TO GRAPHICS PROGRAMMING I, co-requisite of APCS.
<p>This project-based lab course is for students wishing to get a project-based experience using a variety of modern digital tools that crossover between the digital and physical worlds and form the basic Sense-Compute-Act model that defines modern robotics. Students will have access to microcontrollers, sensors, actuators, 3D printer, laser cutter, soldering equipment and other emerging technologies. Students will build circuits and control them using Arduino and the C programming language. Students will build mechanisms with motors and linkages. Students will have a set of required projects to master basic skills and explore devices. Then, students have the opportunity to develop projects of personal interest and apply robotic concepts in a variety of creative applications. Prerequisites: Intro To Graphics Programming I, co-requisite of APCS. This course was formerly offered as (Computation, Fabrication and Facilitation). Students may not get credit for both. (NOTE: This course was formerly offered as (Computation, Fabrication and Facilitation). Students may not get credit for both.)</p>				

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	ALGEBRA II (SEE BELOW)
<p>This course is a college level introduction to computer programming in the Java language. Topics include data types, control structures, algorithms, methods and parameters, object-oriented design, inheritance, polymorphism, data structures, sorting, recursion and data representation. At completion of the course, students will take the AP Computer Science A exam that corresponds to a 1-semester college course. Senior students who have a credit in an AP Calculus class can take this course and have it count toward a mathematics graduation requirement. A student who has a credit from an AP Calculus course may opt to take AP Computer Science his/her senior year to fulfill the mathematics requirement. Prerequisite: One credit of Algebra II, with semester grades of at least "B's" in the course, and junior standing.</p>				

SCIENCE

REQUIRED CREDITS: 3

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: PAUL PRICE

pricep@trinityvalleyschool.org

The Upper School science program at Trinity Valley reflects several objectives for our students that focus on developing critical thinking skills while stimulating interest and excitement in the natural sciences. At its heart, the science sequence fosters both an understanding of and appreciation for the processes of scientific inquiry.

To instill in graduates the wide-ranging scientific literacy intimately tied to making critical decisions in a society oriented toward science and technology, all students are required to complete three yearlong laboratory classes in the natural sciences. The mandatory science sequence of biology, chemistry, and physics emphasizes both content knowledge and the ability to develop the problem solving skills necessary to understand and to solve interesting questions. Honors classes, which allow students to explore each of the core scientific disciplines with greater rigor, are available to the interested student.

Interwoven into each course are numerous hands-on laboratory activities that allow students to develop experiments and to learn techniques. As students move in AP courses, they perform laboratory work equivalent to what is done at the college level. In order to ensure that students have sufficient time to complete this work, AP Biology and AP Chemistry will meet 7 periods a week. This double blocking of these two AP science courses will place extra demands on student time, particularly for those individuals taking a six-course load. Students interested in AP science courses should have thoughtful discussions with their teachers and advisors to discuss the consequences of this extra time commitment.

Please note: The Texas Recommended High School Program, guidelines used by many colleges and universities in Texas for admission and certain types of need-based financial aid such as the Texas Grant, requires four years of science. If a student is interested in applying to schools such as The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, or Baylor University, it may be advantageous to complete a fourth science course. In addition to the Texas Recommended High School Program, data seems to suggest that other

admission offices at colleges around the country are considering or in the process of implementing a requirement of four years of science.

Science Courses to be taken at TVS: All three of the core classes Biology, Chemistry, and Physics and AP courses should be done in residence.

	SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS	
	REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES*
GRADE 9	Biology, Honors Biology	
GRADE 10	Chemistry, Honors Chemistry	
GRADE 11	Physics, Honors Physics	AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Environmental Science, Astronomy, Meteorology
GRADE 12		AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics C Mechanics, AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism, Astronomy, Meteorology, Environmental Science *some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions

SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
BIOLOGY	9	FULL YEAR	--	--

The ninth-grade Biology course at TVS is designed to transform students into biologically literate citizens through the study of living systems. The course covers modern biological concepts ranging from the molecular and cellular level to the organismal and population level. Major topics include cellular and molecular biology, genetics, biotechnology, evolution, human anatomy and physiology, and human health and nutrition. Laboratory work is a fundamental part of the curriculum.

HONORS BIOLOGY	9	FULL YEAR	--	PLACEMENT EXAM
<p>Honors Biology is designed for students who excel in the sciences and are interested in taking AP science courses in the future. The origin of life on earth and evolutionary theory are integrated into class discussions throughout the year. In addition to the topics covered in the non-honors course, this class will emphasize the following: 1.) Controlled experiments (special emphasis is placed on inquiry using the scientific method including the use of probeware, microscopy, dissection and cutting-edge biotechnology equipment); 2.) Human Disease Pathology (including infectious disease, genetic disease, cancer, and substance abuse); 3.) Book excerpts and Selections from current popular journals (Time, National Geographic, etc.) – including assigned writing work related to these readings; and 4.) CPR and First-Aid Training. Eighth grade students interested in taking Honors Biology must apply for admission to the class during the course selection process. This application, coupled with a critical thinking assessment administered during the spring of the eighth grade year, will be used by the science department for placement into the course.</p>				

CHEMISTRY	10	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>In this introductory course, students investigate the structure and properties of matter. Classroom lectures are complemented by associated laboratory activities, which allow students to collect data, analyze it, and reach a meaningful conclusion. Students become familiar with the basic aspects of nomenclature, structure, bonding, periodicity, and elementary reactions of inorganic chemistry.</p>				

HONORS CHEMISTRY	10	FULL YEAR	--	ENROLLED IN ALG II
<p>Honors Chemistry expands upon the chemistry offering at Trinity Valley in several ways. Although the topics covered in both courses are similar (atomic and molecular structure and nomenclature, stoichiometry, quantitative analysis of the states of matter, basic thermodynamics, and the major classes of reactions of inorganic chemistry), the Honors course examines each topic in greater mathematical depth as well as spending significant time helping students to build useful mental models of molecular phenomena. Students also learn the importance of clear, concise writing in demonstrating conceptual understanding of chemical and physical principles. Finally, the course considers the interdisciplinary nature of chemistry, using nonfiction readings to demonstrate the critical importance of chemical discoveries in a cultural context. Students interested in enrolling in Honors Chemistry should speak both to their current biology teacher and to the Honors Chemistry instructor as teacher recommendations by a student's current math and biology instructors will be used by the science department for placement into the course.</p>				

PHYSICS	11	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>This introductory course is the culmination of the three-year science requirement, providing a strong background for later college courses in physics, chemistry, biology, and engineering. Major concepts and principles discussed leverage skills learned in algebra, geometry, and precalculus. The topics covered include mechanics, gravity, electricity, optics, and sound. Emphasis is placed on investigative laboratory work and the development of problem solving skills. Precalculus is a co-requisite. Students must complete physics in the junior year unless they an AP science course in the junior year or must take Algebra II in the junior year.</p>				

HONORS PHYSICS	11	FULL YEAR	--	ENROLLED IN HONORS PRECALCULUS
<p>While the Honors Physics course explores the same topics encountered in the standard physics class, the pace of the course is significantly quicker, and all subjects are investigated in more depth. Additionally, content including rotational dynamics, magnetism, and modern physics is integrated into the course. Emphasis is placed on comprehensive laboratory activities and an intense development of problem solving skills. A student must be enrolled in the honors precalculus course or higher to be considered for the class. Students must have taken Honors Physics or AP Physics C Mechanics in order to subsequently enroll in AP Physics C E&M. Students must enroll in a physics course in the junior year unless they enroll in an AP science course in grade 11 or are taking Algebra II in the junior year. Students interested in enrolling in Honors Physics should speak both to their current chemistry teacher and to the Honors Physics instructor as teacher recommendations by a student's current math and chemistry instructors will be used by the department chair for placement into the course.</p>				

SCIENCE COURSE ELECTIVES

ASTRONOMY	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	--
<p>In this introductory course, students study astronomy in civilization, patterns in the sky, our place in space, our solar system, the nature of stars and galaxies, cosmology, and space exploration. Students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving.</p>				

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	--
--------------------------	-------	------------	----------------	----

The Environmental Science elective at Trinity Valley is a semester long course open to juniors and seniors for the fall and the spring semesters. The course is offered to students wishing to use scientific methodology to objectively explore environmental issues. The course will provide students with a conceptual framework to better understand the complex and dynamic interrelationships of Earth's natural systems, and consequences of changes to these systems, both natural and human-induced. Themes explored throughout the course include Earth Systems and Resources, the Living World, Population Dynamics and Land and Water Use. For each theme, students will be able to critically assess how human value systems influence decision-making associated with environmental problems. They will also be expected to participate in laboratory and field investigations and "real-world" project-based assignments, both of which are integral to the course.

METEOROLOGY	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	--
-------------	-------	------------	----------------	----

In this one-semester course, students investigate basic meteorological principles in order to understand the climate phenomena that affect our daily lives. By studying the aspects of the physical environment that we collectively call weather, such as forms of condensation and precipitation, air pressure and winds, weather patterns and severe weather, students develop an appreciation for the way that climate changes impact their daily lives as well as the planet as a whole.

SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS - ADVANCED PLACEMENT

AP BIOLOGY	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	BIOLOGY; CHEMISTRY
------------	-------	-----------	----	-----------------------

This is a second-year course taken by students who have had a year of chemistry, a year of biology, have shown some special interest in life sciences, and are inclined to pursue science in college. It is the equivalent of first year, introductory college biology for science majors. Main topics include biochemistry, cellular structure, energetics of metabolism, biosynthesis, histology, heredity, evolution, anatomy and physiology, biodiversity (including botany and zoology), and global ecology. Major themes include science as a process, homeostasis, energy transfer, the relationship of structure to function, health, disease pathology, evolutionary theory, and the interrelationship of biology and society. Special emphasis is placed on advanced laboratory work, including PCR, gel electrophoresis, DNA Fingerprinting and the use of computerized probeware. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May. **Note that AP Biology meets 7 periods per week, meaning that students will utilize their free period twice a week to complete work in AP Biology. Students should carefully consider the added time commitment of the course when planning their academic schedules.**

AP CHEMISTRY	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	CHEMISTRY
<p>Students who have done above average work in first-year chemistry have the opportunity to take AP Chemistry as a second-year course. It is taught at the level of freshman college chemistry, and all assessments mirror the best practices of the finest college courses throughout the country. Many of the topics covered are the same as those presented in the first-year course, but the level of sophistication is much higher. Additional concepts covered in AP Chemistry include reaction kinetics, thermodynamics, and all aspects of chemical equilibria. The associated lab activities mirror the college lab experience and emphasize detailed lab work requiring students to record and analyze data while reinforcing chemical principles with extensive time devoted to developing skills in technical writing. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Students should expect 30 minutes to 1 hour of homework each night in the class. Note that AP Chemistry meets 7 periods per week, meaning that students will utilize their free period twice a week to complete work in AP Chemistry. Students should carefully consider the added time commitment of the course when planning their academic schedules.</p>				

AP PHYSICS C MECHANICS	11, 12	FULL YEAR	--	ENROLLED IN AP CALCULUS OR HIGHER
<p>The Advanced Placement Physics C Mechanics course is meant to provide students with a modern, in-depth introduction to college-level work in classical mechanics. Students will thoroughly explore the fundamental principles of classical mechanics, including Newton's Laws, linear momentum, energy, and angular momentum. All students take the AP Physics C Mechanics exam at the conclusion of the course. Extensive laboratory work and introductory computer modeling using the python programming language (no programming experience necessary) are integral to the course. This course can be taken after the completion of Honors Physics or, in select cases, can fulfill the physics requirement for graduation. Students interested in using AP Physics C Mechanics to fulfill the physics graduation requirement must be enrolled in or have taken BC Calculus and petition the science department chair for admission. Students taking AP Physics C Mechanics after Honors Physics need only concurrent enrollment or to have taken AB Calculus. Students should expect 30 minutes to one hour of homework each night in the class.</p>				

AP PHYSICS C ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM	12	FULL YEAR	--	ENROLLED IN AP CALCULUS BC OR HIGHER / HONORS PHYSICS
---	----	-----------	----	--

The Advanced Placement Physics C Electricity and Magnetism (E&M) course is meant to provide students with a modern, in-depth introduction to college-level work in electricity and magnetism. Students will thoroughly explore the fundamental principles of electrostatics, electrodynamics, magnetism, and electromagnetic radiation from an atomic perspective, allowing students to leverage skills learned in chemistry and physics. All students take the AP Physics C E&M exam at the conclusion of the course. Extensive laboratory work is integral to the course, giving students practical training in circuits and introductory computer modeling using the python programming language. Because of the advanced mathematics needed for the class, students must be concurrently enrolled in AP Calculus BC or higher to take the class. In addition, a student must have completed the Honors Physics or the AP Physics C Mechanics class as an additional prerequisite for the course. Students should expect 30 minutes to one hour of homework each night in the class.

SOCIAL STUDIES

REQUIRED CREDITS: 4

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: DAVE OSTROFF

ostroffd@trinityvalleyschool.org

The Social Studies curriculum is designed to help students develop critical thinking and analysis skills and abilities to express their insight both verbally and in writing. Students study physical and human geography, micro and macro economics, World, Modern European, Asian, and United States History. Reading, researching, and writing appropriate to grade level and ability are taught in a sequential way so that by the senior year students are well prepared to confront the complexities of the world and the nation. They are also prepared for analysis, critical thinking, research, and writing skills that are required in the more rigorous college curricula.

Students in the Upper School experience a minimum of four credits in history, with select electives offered as well. Advanced Placement courses exist in at least three areas, and college bound essay writing is emphasized throughout the student's high school experience.

** New for 2019/2020: Elective Options for Grade 10 **

Great learning happens at the intersection of students' curiosity and teachers' research interests. At course selection, students will rank order their preferences from a list of electives designed by members of the Social Studies Department. Though course content will vary, all students will share a vigorous experience in essential skills, critical and analytical thinking, essential question formation and research design, and cogent communication for a variety of purposes and audiences.

Social Studies Courses to be taken at TVS: World History or Honors World History (9th grade), selection of History electives (current 10th grade), United States History or AP United States History (11th grade).

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS		
	REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES*
GRADE 9	<i>World History; Honors World History</i>	
GRADE 10	<i>Selection of History Electives</i>	<i>Selection of History Electives</i>
GRADE 11	<i>Economics; Honors Economics; Government; US History</i>	<i>AP Government and Politics; AP US History</i>
GRADE 12	<i>Economics; Advanced Economics; Government</i>	<i>AP European History; AP Government and Politics; AP Psychology; British History; Religion in Culture, Modern Asia, Contemporary Problems In Constitutional Law</i> *some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
WORLD HISTORY; HONORS WORLD HISTORY	9	FULL YEAR	--	--

World History traces the development of civilization from the year 1200 to the modern age. This full year course is designed to teach students the necessary, and transferable, skills of a modern historian, while also uncovering the shared story of our humanity by investigating the common challenges and experiences of the human past. Topics pursued in class will surround major patterns of world civilization, but in a way that integrates the distinctive character and development of individual cultures in society. Organization around major themes help link events together in a comparative and global framework, and aid students in viewing history and the contemporary world in a meaningful context. Students will learn politics, economics, social, religious, intellectual, cultural and military history by examining emerging civilizations and the rise of empires, expansion of and cultural diffusion in medieval civilizations, world reorganization following the age of exploration, the onset of modernity via industrialism, nationalism, and imperialism, and the pursuit of a global civilization. Through extensive reading and writing exercises, students will develop historical skills such as critical and historical thinking, chronological reasoning, comparing, sourcing, contextualization, argumentation, interpretation, and synthesis for global trends. While the provided textbook is a valuable secondary source, examination of primary sources is a fundamental part of exploring not only the periods, themes, and topics under examination, but also in gaining the valuable skills that historical inquiry can impart. It is therefore expected that all students complete assigned readings before attending class. ***The honors option is for motivated students who acknowledge that there will be additional reading and writing assignments throughout the year. Placement will be based on teacher recommendation, self-selection, and review by the Upper School History Department.***

US HISTORY	11	FULL YEAR	--	--
------------	----	-----------	----	----

United States History is a survey of the American experience from the Colonial period to the present. The course covers significant events in detail and concentrates on helping students develop good analytical skills. Students receive direction on essay writing, oral presentations, and research.

WORLD CONFLICTS SINCE NAPOLEON	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL: 1815 - 1914 SPRING: 1914 - PRESENT	--
---	-------	------------	--	----

Examining the impact of industrialization on weapons and warfare, the Opium War, the Crimean War, Minié Ball, the American Civil War, Repeating Weapons, Wars of Colonialism, Alfred Nobel's inventions, Spanish-American War, Boer War, Philippine War, Mexican Revolution, World War I, Aerial Advances, World War II, Nuclear Age, Korea, Vietnam, Arab-Israeli Wars, Iran-Iraq War, Technology, Desert Storm, War on Terror, current transnational conflict. Reading from primary source materials and current political/military journals.

CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW	12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
--	----	------------	--------	-------------------------------

The course provides an in-depth study into the work of Supreme Court Justices throughout the last 75 years in the area of civil liberties. Judicial interpretation of the Bill of Rights and the significance of the 14th amendment are central to the discussion. Students will study areas of law by reading both majority and dissenting opinions from an assortment of court cases. Students will also participate in several moot court exercises. Admission to the course will be determined by the social studies department faculty.

ECONOMICS	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL OR SPRING	--
-----------	-------	------------	----------------	----

Economics provides an introduction to the study of the principal ideas, concepts, and theories of macroeconomics. Students should develop an understanding of what the economy is and how various economic policies impact the overall economy. The course will examine the global economy and how it affects the economy of the United States. The European Union, NAFTA, and the emergence of China and India as major participants in world trade will also be investigated. The course is designed to prepare students to become financially literate adults. Students should understand how to become financially responsible citizens with regard to the use of credit cards and through investment opportunities in the financial markets.

ADVANCED ECONOMICS	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	--
-----------------------	-------	-----------	----	----

Honors Economics is a rigorous course blending traditional lecture and project based learning. Throughout the year, students will be introduced to the major theories of macroeconomics and microeconomics, entrepreneurship, finance (personal and business), business law, current economic trends (to include international trade), and human centered design/design thinking. Students will be encouraged to develop a mindset for innovation. The course will utilize traditional examinations and alternate assessments. The course has a summer assignment, the details of which will follow.

GOVERNMENT	11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL AND SPRING	--
------------	-------	------------	--------------------	----

A junior/senior level one-semester course, Government emphasizes the history and meaning of the U.S. Constitution and the workings of the American government. Political theory, Constitutional debates, the court system, Congress, the Presidency, and civil rights are major topics of consideration. Discussions will also focus on current affairs and contemporary issues.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS – ADVANCED PLACEMENT ELECTIVES

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
AP UNITED STATES HISTORY	11	FULL YEAR	--	--

AP United States History is a chronological and interpretive study of the subject from its pre-Columbian backgrounds to the present. Students study the methods and meanings of history in general and the major political, economic, diplomatic, social/cultural, and constitutional trends and themes in United States history in particular. Attention is given to historiography and to the analysis and interpretation of historical documents. Students are expected to develop skills in writing critical essays, drawing conclusions from primary sources, and answering analytical multiple choice questions—all skills that must be exhibited on the AP exam. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Admission to the course will be determined by the Social Studies Department faculty. The course has a summer assignment, the details of which will follow.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY	12	FULL YEAR	--	--
------------------------	----	-----------	----	----

This is the College Board course covering the history of Europe from 1450 to the present. There are significant portions of textbook reading, along with examination of primary source material. Mastery of document-based questions and analytical multiple choice will be components of instruction. Higher level thinking skills are required to do well on the College Board's Advanced Placement European exam. Students are required to take the May examination. Topics include: Renaissance, Reformation, Age of Exploration through Philip II of Spain, Tudors and Stuarts of England, French Wars of the 1500s, Germany in the Thirty Years War, Russia from 1468 to the present, France of Louis XIV, Georgian England, Hohenzollern Germany, Scientific Revolution, French Enlightenment through Napoleon, Industrial Revolution, Romanticism, Victorian England, Metternich Europe, Nationalism, Second Empire France, Unification of Italy and Germany, Imperialism and Colonialism, World War I, Depression, Rise of Dictators, World War II, Cold War, European Union, Multicultural Europe, Nationalism again, Russia, Brexit. Summer reading includes: John Scott's *Behind the Urals* and Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations* (Abridged).

AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	--
----------------------------------	-------	-----------	----	----

AP Government is a full-year course open to juniors and seniors. It furthers the TVS mission to develop wide constructive interests and intelligent citizenship. Understanding and appreciation of the U.S. Constitution, its history and principles, are a major focus. Students are introduced to trends and data analysis related to such topics as voter behavior, election results, focus groups, long term political and social trends, demographic composition, and public policy. Data are presented in the form of graphs, charts, and tables to provide experience in analyzing and interpreting political trends. Current affairs and interaction among the three branches of government, the bureaucracy, and the press are analyzed. The court system and civil rights are topics receiving major consideration. Admission to the course will be determined by the Social Studies Department faculty. For required summer reading assignment, please see Mr. Kenny. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. Summer Reading: *Four Days In November: The Assassination Of President John F. Kennedy* by Vincent Bugliosi.

AP PSYCHOLOGY	12	FULL YEAR	--	--
---------------	----	-----------	----	----

The objective of Psychology is for students to understand the methods used by psychologists in their practice and in scientific study. The course is designed to introduce students to the history of psychology as a science, research methods used by psychologists, biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, cognition, learning, motivation and emotion, developmental psychology, personality, intelligence testing, abnormal psychology, and social psychology. Special emphasis is placed on psychological experiments of the twentieth century in order to discover the role of ethics in psychology. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE ELECTIVES

HONORS MODERN WORLD HISTORY	10	FULL YEAR	--	--
--------------------------------------	----	-----------	----	----

This course will parallel the Advanced Placement World History curriculum, an intensive program that covers all regions and continents for the last eight hundred years. Students will be required to read from the top College Board Advanced Placement World History texts, while examining primary source documents throughout the year. Students will learn how to write Documents-Based-Questions to the latest College Board standard, while practicing higher-level, analytical essay questions, short answers, and complex multiple-choice questions. Comparative themes are a constant element in this course (i.e. Sun King France and Early Qing China, Stuart Britain's power in Europe and Meiji Japan's power in Asia, independence of Haiti and independence of India), stimulating the higher level thinking and analytical components students will encounter in the May exam. Students are not required to take the College Board's May Advanced Placement exam, if the significant amount of extra reading required to do well on the exam is not manageable because of co-curricular activities. The summer reading includes: Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*; and Charles Dickens's *Tale of Two Cities*.

HONORS COMPARATIVE REVOLUTIONS: 18TH-20TH CENTURIES	10	1 SEMESTER	TBD	--
---	----	------------	-----	----

This course will study the definition and implications of "revolution", what ingredients are involved in their making, and if patterns exist between revolutionary episodes. We will study the eighteenth-century rebellions in America and France through the explosive changes of the twentieth century. We will trace the changing face of revolution and its relationship to war while underscoring the crucial role such events will play in the future.

HONORS WAYS OF KNOWING	10	1 SEMESTER	TBD	--
---------------------------	----	------------	-----	----

As a thoughtful and purposeful inquiry into different kinds of knowledge, Ways of Knowing is composed almost entirely of questions. The most central of these is "How do we know?", while other questions include: What counts as evidence for X? How do we judge which is the best model of Y? What does theory Z mean in the real world? Through discussions of these and other questions, students gain greater awareness of their personal and ideological assumptions, as well as developing an appreciation of the diversity and richness of cultural perspectives.

HONORS THE HISTORY OF THINGS	10	1 SEMESTER	TBD	--
------------------------------------	----	------------	-----	----

Imagine that an historian four hundred years from now is looking back on our society. What would they figure out about us based on the stuff and things we leave behind? How can objects teach us history? Using the joint BBC Radio 4 and British Museum project, *A History of the World in 100 Objects*, students will explore world history through material culture. By starting with a small object, through strategized questioning students can understand the wider culture, economy, religious beliefs, political and social systems that the object represents to a particular society or civilization. By proceeding chronologically, students will first encounter objects that define early humanity, the creation of civilizations, the emergence of religions and philosophies, the conquest of empires, the formation of world economies, the development of social hierarchies and status, the advancement of new intellectual movements, industrialization, and the modern era. The essential text for this course will be Neil MacGregor's *A History of the World in 100 Objects*. Students will also need to be able to access and play podcasts from the British Museum's *A History of the World in 100 Objects Omnibus*.

HONORS WOMEN'S HISTORY	10	1 SEMESTER	TBD	--
------------------------------	----	------------	-----	----

"Well-behaved women seldom make history." -Laurel Thatcher Ulrich
 This line, penned in 1976, invigorated the pursuit of discovering how women contributed to world history. This course will learn about the women who made the world history books, but also we will try to discover what life was like for the average, ordinary woman across different historical periods and regions. Virginia Woolf's quipped, "For most of history, anonymous was a woman." The lives of anonymous women can be uncovered through thematic studies of religion, social structures, family, work, and the quest for rights. Women make up half the world's population; this class allows students to view history through the lens of herstory. The essential texts for this course will be *Women in the World History* series, a primary source collection, with excerpts pulled from Merry Weisner-Hanks's *Gender in History: Global Perspectives 2nd ed.*

HONORS 200 YEARS OF WORLD CONFLICT	10	1 SEMESTER	FALL: 1815 - 1914 SPRING: 1914 - PRESENT	--
---	----	------------	--	----

International relations from the Concert of Europe era through the present as impacted by internal violence and external conflict. Students will examine primary source materials and secondary treatments, along with being tested and writing on these major themes: Latin American independence movements, European nationalist movements, European military technology enabling impositions on Asia and Africa, the Crimean War and Russia, the American Civil War, weapons innovations of the late 1800s, Age of Imperialism, Social Darwinism, Jim Crow America, Spanish American War, Boer War, Mexican War, World War I, Great Depression, Socialism, Fascism, Nazism, sobering comparisons between Nazi Nuremberg Laws and American Jim Crow, World War II, Nuclear Weapons, Cold War, Korea, Vietnam, post-Colonial Africa, Middle Eastern conflicts, modern terrorism and international flash points.

HONORS RELIGION IN CULTURE	10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	--
----------------------------------	----------	------------	--------	----

Religions play a formidable role in cultures throughout the world. This is a one-semester elective for grades 10-12 that focuses on the academic study of religion and its many manifestations. Students will be introduced to religious traditions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. At the center of this course, however, are discussions surrounding effects that religions have had on contemporary and past celebrations, conflicts, social movements, political systems, and much more. Ultimately, we will discover that religions vary per culture and that Students will further their research, writing, and presentation skills by working in groups and independently on projects to explore fundamental—but by no means obvious—questions like “what is religion?” and “how can it be studied academically?” An academic understanding of religion in general will provide a critical and necessary jumping off point for in-depth investigations of the role of religious traditions, practices, and beliefs in a variety of contemporary cultural contexts. This is a non-traditional course; most weeks, students will be required to meet 2-3 times/week in person, and they will do independent & group work and use our Course Blog for discussions the other 2-3 times/week. Students will help decide topics we cover, readings, and the overall daily structure of the course.

HONORS MODERN ASIA	10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	FALL	--
-----------------------	----------	------------	------	----

Today Chinese, Indians, and Japanese make up approximately 38% of the world’s population and control approximately 25% of the global economy. China and India are the world’s two fastest growing economies, and some predict that India will outpace China in 2030 and the U.S. in 2040. However, both countries have significant social issues to address before such economic growth can be sustained, and Japan has the world’s third largest economy. Geopolitical events in the regions also make these countries vital to understand for our future. “Modern Asia” is a new one-semester course for 10th-12th graders that invites students to explore the strengths and weaknesses of this region, applying a socio-historical approach to learning about 20th and 21st century China, India, and Japan. Students will be asked to create their own deep-learning experiences on specific historical events in modern Asia. Their guided and independent research will culminate in projects to show how much they have learned and to teach the other students in the class. As a class and independently, students will examine major socio-historical events, people, places, and the effects they have had on a global scale. While the focus of the course is on these three historically influential nations, students may also examine recent histories of other East and South Asian nations. This is a student-driven, non-traditional course; most weeks, students will be required to meet 2-3 times/week in person, and they will do independent & group work and use our Course Blog for discussions the other 2-3 times/week. Students will help decide topics we cover, readings, and the overall daily structure of the course.

HONORS BRITISH HISTORY	10, 11, 12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	--
------------------------------	------------	------------	--------	----

The extraordinary history and legacy of the peoples of the British archipelago are explored in this one-semester elective. From Paleolithic geography, which created a sense of unique separateness, to the modern ramifications of BREXIT, this course spans two millennia of British development. Periods under consideration may include the Roman conquest, the Middle Ages, the Tudor and Stuart eras, formation of the United Kingdom and British empire, the Industrial Revolution, Victorian age, the World Wars, 20th century imperial decline, and issues of European Union. Students will learn about monarchical dynasties, dynamics between London and the shires, the rich cultures, key events, and people who shaped the political, religious, economic, and intellectual histories of the United Kingdom and Ireland.

WORLD LANGUAGES

REQUIRED CREDITS: 3

DEPARTMENT CHAIR: FRANCES DODSON

dodsonf@trinityvalleyschool.org

The study of world languages at Trinity Valley School reaffirms the school's mission to develop intelligent citizenship as the students strive to become leaders of the future. As the global community becomes closer, the study of Chinese, French, Latin and Spanish each contribute to the development of a student who understands other peoples.

The TVS World Language offerings give modern language students an opportunity to communicate with other members of the global community. As all TVS students have studied Latin in seventh and eighth grades, some choose to fulfill their graduation requirement in Upper school by further mastering the Latin classics, works that underlie the school's historic humanities curriculum. All students develop an appreciation of diverse cultures through reading and through a variety of field trips and cultural explorations as they progress through three years of the same language in Upper School. The study of multiple languages is possible.

Spanish is taught four days a week in grades K through six. Exploratory Chinese is taught at the elementary level once a week. At the seventh grade level students may choose Chinese or Spanish. Latin is a requirement in seventh and eighth grades. In grades nine through twelve the student is required to study Chinese, French, Latin or Spanish for three years.

World Language Courses to be taken at TVS: While students are not encouraged to do summer work to advance to the next level of a World Language, they may take a pre-approved, online course during the summer. These students will be required to take the TVS final exam to determine if they may advance to the next level. The summer work will not be given a credit. The student must complete three years of the same World Language at TVS.

WORLD LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS		
	REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES*
GRADE 9	<i>Chinese I, Chinese II, French I, French II, Latin I, Latin II, Spanish I, Spanish II</i>	
GRADE 10	<i>Chinese III, French II, French III, Latin III, Spanish III</i>	
GRADE 11	<i>Chinese IV, French III, Latin IV, Spanish IV</i>	
GRADE 12		<i>AP Chinese, AP French, French IV/Independent Study, AP Latin, AP Spanish</i> *some course titles may have been abbreviated for space restrictions

WORLD LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
CHINESE I	9	FULL YEAR	--	--

An introductory Chinese course is offered for the student who has had no previous experience with the language. Students learn basic communicative functions while listening, speaking and Chinese characters are emphasized. The school's ability to offer this course may be contingent on the prevalence of student interest. Students who have completed 8th-grade Chinese or Chinese I may not enroll in this course without recommendation from the Head of Upper School and the World Language Department Chair. From year to year, TVS will reevaluate the viability of offering Chinese 1 in Upper School based on student interest and staffing priorities. TVS students who have been enrolled in the middle school Chinese program will matriculate to Chinese 2 in the Upper School. Rising 9th graders are welcome to demonstrate an interest in an upper school offering of Chinese 1 so that the Language Department and Upper School Administration can make the most informed decision, but students may need to enroll in a second preference for their language study or upper school students who are just beginning their study of Chinese may need to be willing to take Chinese 1 through an online partner.

CHINESE II	9	FULL YEAR	--	CHINESE I OR 8TH-GRADE CHINESE
------------	---	-----------	----	--------------------------------------

Students who have completed 8th Grade Chinese or Chinese I will continue their study of Chinese in this course. Students will complete the basics of listening, speaking, reading, writing, typing and culture.

CHINESE III	10	FULL YEAR	--	CHINESE II
-------------	----	-----------	----	------------

In this course students develop their listening, speaking, reading, writing and typing skills at the intermediate level through exposure to Chinese arts, history and society. Students will work toward oral proficiency through conversation, discussion and oral presentations.

CHINESE IV	11	FULL YEAR	--	CHINESE III
------------	----	-----------	----	-------------

Chinese IV is designed for students who have taken Chinese III. The goal of this course is to improve and enhance students' skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing with an emphasis on developing their communicative skills in order to have conversations on a range of topics relating to daily life. Through various projects and activities the students will further their understanding of the Chinese language and culture. At the end of the course, students will be able to achieve Intermediate-Mid Level according to ACTFL Chinese Oral Proficiency Interview guidelines.

FRENCH I	9	FULL YEAR	--	--
----------	---	-----------	----	----

French I is an introductory course for the student who has had little or no exposure to the French language. Students learn basic communicative functions while listening, speaking and reading skills are emphasized. These skills are developed in classroom activities and with the use of online sources. Students will also be introduced to Francophone cultures such as France, Québec, Africa and other French-speaking countries.

FRENCH II	9	FULL YEAR	--	FRENCH I OR 8TH-GRADE FRENCH
-----------	---	-----------	----	------------------------------------

Students who have completed an 8th grade French course or French I will enroll in French II. This course will introduce the student to more advanced grammatical structures and continue to place emphasis on listening and speaking skills. Students will learn more about Francophone cultures through readings and other authentic material. Writing skills are also emphasized.

FRENCH III	10	FULL YEAR	--	FRENCH II
<p>Students complete the development of intermediate grammar skills while beginning to develop advanced communication skills in preparation for advanced French. Much emphasis is placed on oral expression. Magazine articles and French literature are used to develop listening and reading skills.</p>				

FRENCH IV/ INDEPENDENT STUDY	11	FULL YEAR	--	FRENCH III
<p>This course is for the student who has completed French III and desires to continue the study of the French language and culture. Readings will include short stories, poems and novels from the Francophone world. The course also consists of a review of grammar, speaking practice, listening exercises and written assignments.</p>				

LATIN I	9	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>Latin I is an introductory course for students with no prior experience with the language. This course will introduce students to the joys of the Latin language, with an approach to basic morphology, grammar, and vocabulary that emphasizes reading fluency. Students will develop the skills and habits necessary for higher language study and for the eventual reading of unadapted Latin texts. The course will be richly supplemented with discussion of ancient history and culture, with ample opportunities to explore the cultural and linguistic connections between the ancient and modern worlds.</p>				

LATIN II	9	FULL YEAR	--	LATIN I OR 8TH-GRADE LATIN
<p>Latin II is for students who have completed 8th-grade Latin. In this course, students will deepen their knowledge and enjoyment of the Latin language, while developing the skills and habits necessary for higher language study and for the eventual reading of unadapted Latin authors. Following a careful review, students will continue to use the Cambridge Latin Course to build reading fluency, mastery of grammar and morphology, and a robust core vocabulary. The course will be richly supplemented with discussion of ancient history and culture, with opportunities to explore the cultural and linguistic connections between the ancient and modern worlds. Prerequisite: Latin I or eighth-grade Latin.</p>				

LATIN III	10	FULL YEAR	--	LATIN II
-----------	----	-----------	----	----------

The goal of Latin III is to transition from the presentation of basic Latin grammar to the critical reading of more complex Latin poetry and prose. Students will review and refresh forms and syntax already learned, master new grammar and vocabulary, and gain important skills in translation, textual analysis, and reading fluency. The course will be richly supplemented with deeper dives into ancient history and culture. Prerequisite: Latin II.

LATIN IV	11	FULL YEAR	--	LATIN III
----------	----	-----------	----	-----------

Latin IV continues students' venture into the exciting and unpredictable waters of reading real Latin authors. While students will review and refresh forms and grammar as needed, the focus of the course will be on reading continuous Latin texts, appreciating them as literature, and discussing and debating the ideas they contain. A representative sample of authors include Cicero, Caesar, Vergil, Ovid, Pliny the Younger, and Seneca, although the course may be shaped toward student interest. Prerequisite: Latin III.

SPANISH I	9	FULL YEAR	--	--
-----------	---	-----------	----	----

For the student who has had no previous experience with the language, an introductory course is offered. Students learn basic communicative functions while listening and speaking skills are emphasized. Students who have had 8th-grade Spanish or Spanish I may not enroll in this course without recommendation from the Head of the Upper School and the World Language Department Chair.

SPANISH II	9	FULL YEAR	--	SPANISH I OR 8TH-GRADE SPANISH
------------	---	-----------	----	--------------------------------------

Students who have completed 8th grade Spanish will continue their study of Spanish in this course. This course deepens the students' knowledge and exposure to culture of the Spanish-speaking world through the presentation of new and essential vocabulary and grammatical structures. Emphasis is placed on strengthening communicative skills in writing, reading, listening and speaking.

SPANISH III	10	FULL YEAR	--	SPANISH II
-------------	----	-----------	----	------------

The course emphasizes acquisition of advanced vocabulary in cultural and conversational settings, the introduction of advanced grammatical concepts and in depth study of Spanish-speaking countries.

SPANISH IV	11	FULL YEAR	--	SPANISH III
<p>This course continues to develop language skills especially through the study of reading selections of literature and advanced grammatical structures. In our study of language, emphasis is placed on spoken and written personal expression. In our study of literature, in-depth discussions about Hispanic history and culture are woven into the lessons.</p>				

WORLD LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS – ADVANCED PLACEMENT

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
AP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE	12	FULL YEAR	--	CHINESE IV
<p>AP Chinese Language and Culture covers the equivalent of a third-year college course. This course places an emphasis on communication both oral and written communication. Students will continue to learn language control and other communication strategies in real-life situations. Students will further their study of the Chinese culture through the use of authentic materials. Interpersonal, interpretive and presentation skills will be practiced throughout the course in preparation for the AP Chinese exam. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. The course has a summer assignment, the details of which will follow.</p>				

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE	12	FULL YEAR	--	FRENCH III
<p>This course is offered online with the instructor on campus. This course covers the equivalent of a third-year college course in advanced French composition and conversation. Students will work on improving their proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing in the French language. This is accomplished through an extensive review of grammar, use of idiomatic expressions, writing of compositions, listening exercises and the reading of literary excerpts. Resources will include authentic material from the Francophone world from newspapers, magazines, news sources and French radio and television. These will be used to further develop language skills and the students' understanding of Francophone countries. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam in May. The course has a summer assignment, the details of which will follow.</p>				

AP LATIN	12	FULL YEAR	--	LATIN IV
----------	----	-----------	----	----------

This course is equivalent to a third-year university Latin course. In this course, students will continue to develop their capacity to read, analyze, and enjoy Latin prose and poetry through an intensive reading of selections in Latin from Caesar's Gallic War and Vergil's Aeneid. Students will improve their reading fluency through daily passage preparation and regular sight-reading of comparable authors, in combination with ongoing vocabulary-building and grammar review. Students will read in English significant selections from both works, in addition to modern scholarly essays, which, together with in-class discussion and essay practice, will significantly promote their ability to appreciate and analyze works of Latin literature. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP Latin exam in May. Prerequisite: Latin IV. The course has a summer assignment, the details of which will follow.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE	12	FULL YEAR	--	SPANISH IV
---------------------------------------	----	-----------	----	------------

This course covers the equivalent of a third-year college course. Students will work on improving their proficiency across the three modes of communication. The course focuses on the integration of authentic resources including online print, audio, and audiovisual resources; as well as traditional print resources that include literature, essays, and magazine and newspaper articles; and also a combination of visual/print resources such as charts, tables, and graphs; all with the goal of providing a diverse learning experience. It is assumed that students have previously been exposed to advanced language structures in the courses leading up to the AP Spanish Language and Culture course; however, review of the mechanics is done within the contextual framework of each unit as needed. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP subject exam in May. The course has a summer assignment, the details of which will follow.

CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

COURSE NAME	GRADE LEVEL	COURSE LENGTH	SEMESTER(S) OFFERED	COURSE PREREQUISITE
PUBLIC SPEAKING	9, 10,11,12	1 SEMESTER	--	--

With the prominence of texts and emails in daily communication, the ability to stand up in front of a group and eloquently present ideas or facts in an organized and interesting manner is becoming somewhat of a lost art. Yet, there are still plenty of situations that call for oral presentations to be made, and those that have this skill will be better prepared to succeed in all areas of life, whether business or personal. This very practical course gives students the opportunity to research, write and deliver a variety of speeches: informative, persuasive and special occasion (such as a eulogy and introducing another speaker). Students choose their own speech topics and learn such things as adapting to an audience, reasoning, and how to effectively use the voice and body to clearly deliver their message. Course participants grow not only in their confidence and poise when communicating but also in their ability to critically evaluate the discourse of others.

SENIOR PROJECTS	12	1 SEMESTER	SPRING	--
-----------------	----	------------	--------	----

Senior Projects are designed to encourage seniors to assume greater ownership of their program during their final semester at TVS and to imagine ways that they can take initiative for their own learning. As well, the Senior Project opportunity encourages seniors to imagine ways they can put their passions and skills to the service of the broader community. This program allows students to pursue academic or service-oriented interests on or off campus. Students interested in pursuing a Senior Project must submit a completed application in the fall. Students will be notified of this date. The project must be approved by the Senior Project Committee and satisfactory completion of a final presentation before the Committee in May is required for graduation. Senior Projects will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

YEARBOOK I	11,12	FULL YEAR	--	--
<p>Yearbook I students cover sports events, photograph fine arts productions, capture candid and write copy for all school events provided for on the ladder. Yearbook I students will envision and communicate theme, select photographs on the school yearbook. Yearbook I students will support Yearbook II staff in completing the above tasks, write and edit the majority of copy, and serve as staff photographers as needed. All Yearbook I and II staff members will be graded on the degree to which they meet the challenges of yearbook production in the following areas: Print & Photographic Media Literacy, Newswriting and Information Gathering, Document Production and Distribution Advertising, Standards and Ethics, and Professionalism in Work Relations. Advisor approval is required for admission into this course. The yearbook advisor will describe the application process to students each spring.</p>				

YEARBOOK II	12	FULL YEAR	--	YEARBOOK 1
<p>In addition to completing the tasks and meeting the goals of Yearbook I students, Yearbook II students assume responsibility for the design and completion of the Trojan Walls annual commemorating their final TVS school year. Yearbook II students will envision and communicate theme, select photographs on the school yearbook, construct computer layouts and page designs, and be responsible for the final content that comprises the Trojan Walls. Yearbook II students oversee the Yearbook I staffers in covering sports events, photographing fine arts productions, capturing candid, and writing copy) and they likewise complete such assignments during peak production periods. All Yearbook I and II staff members will be graded on the degree to which they meet the challenges of yearbook production in the following areas: Print & Photographic Media Literacy, Newswriting and Information Gathering, Document Production and Distribution Advertising, Standards and Ethics, and Professionalism in Work Relations. Advisor approval is required for admission into this course. The yearbook advisor will describe the application process to students each spring.</p>				

APPENDIX

UPPER SCHOOL STUDENT SCHEDULE PLANNER

	ENGLISH 4 credits	MATH 4 credits	SCIENCE 3 credits <i>The Texas State Legislature has ruled that the Recommended High School Program is four years of science.</i>	SOCIAL STUDIES 4 credits	WORLD LANGUAGE 3 credits of the <u>same</u> language	FINE ARTS/ ELECTIVES Must include 1 credit of fine art.
9	English I	----- Insert math option.	Biology OR Honors Biology	World History or Honors World History	Language I OR II	----- Insert fine arts OR elective option.
10	English II	----- Insert math option.	Chemistry OR Honors Chemistry	----- Insert social studies option.	Language II OR III	----- Insert fine arts OR elective option.
11	College Prep English III or AP English Language and Composition	----- Insert math option.	----- Insert science option.	----- Insert social studies option.	Language III OR IV	----- Insert fine arts OR elective option.
12	College Prep English IV and Spring elective or AP English Literature	----- Insert math option.	----- Insert science option.	----- Insert social studies option.	----- Insert world language option.	----- Insert fine arts OR elective option.

Additional Required Courses:

- 4 Mathematics: Algebra I, Geometry (or Honors), Algebra II (or Honors), Precalculus (or Honors)
- 4 Science: Physics (or Honors) must be taken in the junior year unless a student petitions the department chair. The only reasons for delay would be mathematical preparation or the enrollment in an AP science course.
- 4 Social Studies: US History (or AP), Economics (1 semester) or Honors Economics (full year), Government (1 semester) or AP Government (full year).

ENGLISH COURSE ELECTIVES	FALL	SPRING	FULL YEAR
Creative Writing	x		
Gothic Literature and Film		x	
A Focus In Shakespeare	x	x	
The Bible As Literature: A Survey	x		
Girl Talk: Coming of Age Narratives		x	
To Infinity and Beyond		x	
FINE ARTS COURSE ELECTIVES	FALL	SPRING	FULL YEAR
Art I (prerequisite for all other visual arts electives)			x
Art II			x
Art III			x
Senior Portfolio			x
Studies in Glass			x
Three-D Studies (Ceramics)			x
Photography I			x
Photography II			x
Choir			x
Honors Choir (T-period)			x
Improv	x	x	
Stage Acting I	x		
Stage Acting II		x	
Technical Theatre I	x	x	
Technical Theatre II	x	x	
Theatre Directing	x		
Dance (7th period)			x
Dance II			x
Dance III			x

MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE ELECTIVES	FALL	SPRING	FULL YEAR
Accelerated Precalculus/Calculus			x
AP Calculus AB			x
AP Calculus BC			x
Accelerated AP Calculus BC			x
AP Statistics			x
Advanced Topics in Mathematics			x
Intro to Graphics Programming I	x	x	
Intro to Graphics Programming II		x	
Intro to Calculus	x	x	
Intro to Statistics	x	x	
Mechatronics: Foundations of Robotics	x	x	
AP Computer Science A			x
SCIENCE COURSE ELECTIVES			
AP Biology			x
AP Chemistry			x
AP Physics C Mechanics			x
AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism			x
Environmental Science	x	x	
Meteorology	x	x	
Astronomy	x	x	
SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE ELECTIVES			
AP Government & Politics			x
Advanced Economics			x
AP Psychology			x
AP United States History			x

AP European History			x
British History		x	
Various Grade 10 Honors Electives	TBD	TBD	TBD
Modern Asia	x		
Contemporary Problems In Constitutional Law		x	
Religion in Culture		x	
WORLD LANGUAGE COURSE ELECTIVES			
AP Chinese			x
AP French			x
AP Latin			x
AP Spanish			x
CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL COURSE ELECTIVES			
Senior Projects		x	
Public Speaking	TBD	TBD	
Speech and Debate	TBD	TBD	
Yearbook I			x
Yearbook II			x