

Kansas City Academy
High School Course Description Overview
Updated June 2019

Courses in italics not offered 2019-2020 based on student interest and staff availability

English Department

ELA 9

ENG-9

Prerequisite:

Required for all 9th graders

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

Students will develop essential high school-level literacy skills including the reading of literature and informational text; writing of memoirs, essays, and research papers; practicing grammar, spelling, and punctuation; and practicing speaking-and-listening skills. Students read classic and contemporary world literature along with nonfiction essays and multimedia selections. Students work along with the teacher to assess their learning, which is demonstrated through tests, writing assignments, class presentations, projects, and participation.

Teaching/Learning Style:

The class is conducted in a variety of modes including direct instruction, independent work, collaborative work, and discussion.

Credit:

.5 English per semester

ELA 10

ENG-10

Prerequisite:

Successful completion of English 9, Required for all 10th graders

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

This course continues the development of essential high school-level literacy skills begun in 9th grade including the reading of literature and informational text; writing of memoirs, essays, and research papers; practicing grammar, spelling, and punctuation; and practicing speaking-and-listening skills. Students read classic and contemporary world literature along with nonfiction essays and multimedia selections. Students work along with the teacher to assess their learning, which is demonstrated through tests, writing assignments, class presentations, projects, and participation.

Teaching/Learning Style:

The class is conducted in a variety of modes including direct instruction, independent work, collaborative work, and discussion.

Credit:

.5 English

American Literature

ENG-Am Lit

Prerequisite:

Junior/Senior Standing

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

This course will explore the theme of “The American Dream” through the study of novels, poetry, short stories, and drama.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Text required. Ideas will be explored through daily reading, frequent writing assignments, lecture, class discussion, group work and films.

Credit:

.5 English per semester

British Literature

ENG-Brit Lit

Prerequisite:	One semester of composition, Junior or Senior standing
When Offered:	Semester 1 and/or 2
Course Description:	Recurring themes in the literature of the British Isles will be explored. Consideration will also be given to historical period, literary genre and classic text by authors such as Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens. This course provides a strong background for college-bound students.
Teaching/Learning Style:	Text required. Class time will be spent in lecture, discussion and peer interaction. Daily reading, frequent writing assignments, and tests.
Credit:	.5 English per semester

Creative Writing

ENG-Creat Wrt

Prerequisite:	Consent of instructor
When Offered:	Semester 1 and/or 2
Course Description:	This class aims to cultivate the students' crafts as poets and prose writers by paying closer attention to the world surrounding them and using the power of language to create something new. Students will develop an individualized plan to practice their craft while strengthening their writing, editing, and revising skills according to current standards of contemporary literary publishing. The class offers practice in prose fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction and other forms of expression in a workshop setting.
Teaching/Learning Style:	Students will work with the instructor to assess their own work. Learning will take place through direct instruction, discussion, writing exercises, critical reading, assessments, personal exploration, and interaction with peers.
Credit:	.5 English per semester

Young Adult Literature

ENG-YA LIT

Prerequisite:	Open to students in grades 9-12
When Offered:	Semester 1 and/or 2
Course Description:	This course is a survey of young adult literature, which is typically read by people ages 13- early adulthood. Students will read and familiarize themselves with the growing genre of young adult fiction. Students will learn about tropes and common themes in young adult fiction, become familiar with significant YA writers, evaluate reading materials for other teens/peers, explore ideas of censorship and banned YA books, and learn about YA literature adapted for films. The following genres of young adult literature will be explored in this survey: fantasy, realistic, graphic novel, verse, science fiction, and short stories.
Teaching/Learning Style:	Keeping up with assigned readings is imperative to success in this class. Students will be expected to read outside of class each day. Students will participate in class discussions over readings, weekly journals, and creative projects.
Credit:	0.5 English per semester

Ancient World History

SS-World Hist 1

Prerequisite:

Recommended for 9th Grade

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

This course examines the development of human history around the globe from the origins of humankind through the Middle Ages. Students will explore the development of, and interactions between, peoples, states, civilizations, and empires. Among the topics we will examine are the rise of cities, the evolution of technology and navigation, the development of communication and language, the importance of agriculture, the rise and fall of empires, the evolving conduct of warfare, and the emergence of intellectual thought and local and world religions.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Students will be expected to learn through hands-on projects, weekly reading assignments, projects, and a capstone research paper each semester.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies

Modern World History

SS-World Hist 2

Prerequisite:

Recommended for 10th Grade

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

This course studies world civilizations from the sixteenth century to the present, beginning with the Protestant Reformation. The central focus of the course is on technological, political, cultural, intellectual, and social revolutions and their impact on the modern world. We will examine the human experience through the analysis of first-hand accounts. We will explore power struggles, inequalities, and social divisions of ethnicity, class, and gender. Students will develop original projects that demonstrate understanding of the mentality behind the French Revolution, the cultural isolation of Tokugawa Japan, the competing political ideologies of modern nations, and the goals of propaganda during the First World War.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Students will be expected to learn through hands-on projects, weekly reading assignments, projects, and a capstone research paper each semester.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies

Art History

FA-ArtHist

Prerequisite:

n/a

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

Art history presents us with a visual narrative of human history. Students of art history will engage with art, architecture, and design from the ancient world to the present by exploring various themes that cross time periods and cultures as a way of exploring that narrative. Possible themes include: material culture, food in art, art as invention, and artistic rebels.

Teaching/Learning Style:

This course is taught in a seminar style, with an emphasis on class discussion and participation. Students will be expected to learn through hands-on projects, art making, reading assignments, written essays/reflections, research, and presentations.

Credit:

.5 Fine Arts or Social Studies

United States History

SS-US Hist

Prerequisite:

Junior or Senior standing or permission of instructor – required for graduation

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

Semester 1 – A survey of early American history beginning with migration of early peoples to the continent and concluding with the end of Reconstruction. Additional topics that will be covered in this course include the Colonial Period, the American Revolution, the development of the Constitution, Jacksonianism, Westward Expansion, the Border War, the Civil War, and the Civil War in memory.

Semester 2 – A survey of modern American history beginning with the Gilded Age and concluding with the end of the Cold War. Additional topics that will be covered in this course include rural activism, industrialization, urbanization, the Progressives, the rise of the American Empire, the 1920's, the Great Depression, World Wars I & II, the 1950's, and the Civil Rights Movement. Special consideration will be given to issues of race, class, and gender in American history, as well as the inclusion of cultural history.

Teaching/Learning Style:

This course will feature both lectures and discussion, with occasional viewing of films. Students must be prepared to read outside of class and take notes in class. Grades will be based on projects, quizzes & examinations, and participation.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies per semester

American Government

SS-Govt

Prerequisite:

Junior or Senior standing or permission of instructor – required for graduation

When Offered:

Semester 1

Course Description:

"All politics is local" is one of the maxims of political wisdom. We will follow that advice as we approach our study of the laws and the people who formulate them from the ground up. We will focus on individuals who have dedicated their lives to making a difference.

Teaching/Learning Style:

This class will focus on a hands-on approach through a variety of projects and activities in addition to text assignments and lecture/discussion.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies

Economics & Finance

SS-Econ

Prerequisite:

Junior or Senior standing or permission of instructor – required for graduation

When Offered:

Semester 2

Course Description:

This course is a basic introduction to economics and personal finance. The following topics will be covered: supply and demand; opportunity cost; monetary policy; interest and interest rates; credit; market structure; and the stock market. The course will explore these ideas through the creation and execution of a business plan.

Teaching/Learning Style:

A combination of lecture and hands-on projects will be utilized for this course.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies or Practical Arts

Special Topics in History

SS-HistTopics History through the Lenses of Marginalized Peoples

Prerequisite:

Sophomore, Junior, or Senior Standing

When Offered:

Semester 1 or 2

Course Description:

In this course, students will consider how perspectives of American history are shaped by the predominant views of those in power. They will explore contemporary historical works that focus on the view of events and historical progress through the eyes of the displaced and marginalized. The course will also include examination of late 20th Century and contemporary social change movements related to advancing marginalized peoples in the United States.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Teaching/learning methods utilized will include interactive lecture, focused discussion, extensive reading, independent research, reflective/analytical writing, expository writing (from research), and tests.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies

Religion and Philosophy

SS-Rel

Prerequisite:

Sophomore, Junior, or Senior Standing

When Offered:

Semester 1 or 2

Course Description:

In exploring the major religions of the world, we will look at the roots of religion in human evolution, how that sheds light on how we view ourselves and our place in the world (philosophy), and religion's historical and contemporary place and role(s) in society. We will examine religious texts as literature, with emphasis on both traditional (literal) and liberal (symbolic) interpretation, as well as religious and spiritual themes in more mainstream poetry and prose.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Teaching/learning methods utilized will include interactive lecture, focused discussion, extensive reading, independent research, reflective/analytical writing, expository writing (from research), and tests.

Credit:

.5 Social Studies

Pre-Algebra

MA-Pre Alg

Prerequisite: Department Recommendation
When Offered: Full Year Course
Course Description: This course is designed to help students make the transition from arithmetic to algebra, and to help overcome any fear of algebra. Students will practice critical thinking skills and will often work cooperatively to solve problems.
Teaching/Learning Style: Teacher directed group instruction.
Credit: Not eligible for High School credit

Algebra I

MA-Alg 1

Prerequisite: Strong computational skills including fractions. Pre-Algebra or Department Recommendation
When Offered: Full Year Course
Course Description: Students will acquire skills in working with integers, translating real-life problems into algebraic equations, solving linear equations, graphing, and working with inequalities, polynomials and rational expressions.
Teaching/Learning Style: Text required. Group instruction, teacher-directed, daily homework assignments, and hands-on discovery methods
Credit: .5 Math per semester

Math: A Human Endeavor

MA-MHE

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or permission of the instructor
When offered: Semester 1 and/or 2
Course Description: This course is a hands-on exploration of a variety of topics in math including inductive and deductive thinking, number sequences, functions, symmetry, counting principles, probability and statistics. Students who think they do not like math are especially encouraged to take this class. Students may take this course at the same time as other math courses.
Teaching/Learning Style: Text required. Group instruction, teacher-directed, daily homework assignments, and hands-on discovery methods
Credit: .5 Math per semester

Geometry

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Teaching/Learning Style:

Credit:

MA-Geom

Algebra 1

Full Year Course

Students will be introduced to inductive and deductive methods of reasoning. They will acquire basic vocabulary and factual information about geometric and spatial relationships using discovery methods and conjectures. They will concentrate on the most practical and frequently used theorems in geometry. This course is required for all students. It is an important course to take prior to the PSAT, SAT and ACT tests.

Text required. Group instruction, teacher-directed, daily homework assignments, group and individual projects, and discovery activities.

.5 Math per semester

Advanced Algebra

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Teaching/Learning Style:

Credit:

MA-Adv Alg

Algebra 1 and Geometry

Full Year Course

Students will work on units dealing with algebraic functions, graphing, matrices, and the quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students will strengthen and extend their algebraic skills and will develop their ability to apply creative and analytical thinking to mathematics. This course is a required course for college-bound students.

Text required. Group instruction, teacher-directed, daily homework assignments, group and individual projects, and discovery activities.

.5 Math per semester

Advanced Math Topics

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Teaching/Learning Style:

Credit:

MA-Pre Calc / MA-Calc

Pre-Calculus: Completion of Advanced Algebra with a letter grade of "C" or better
Calculus: Instructor's permission

Full Year Course

Option 1: Pre-Calculus – Students will explore topics of functions, analytic geometry, trigonometry and vectors. These topics are typical of a pre-calculus course. This course is highly recommended for any college-bound student. Students who expect a college program that will require college algebra or calculus are highly encouraged to take this course in order to prepare themselves for the rigor of college mathematics.

Option 2: Calculus – With permission, a student that has taken the pre-calculus topics may sign up for an additional year for an introduction to Calculus. Calculus is required for many majors in college. Exposure to Calculus in high school is highly recommended for those students.

Text required. Group instruction, teacher-directed, daily homework assignments, group and individual projects, and discovery activities.

.5 Math per semester / Advanced Core Elective

Earth Science

SC-Earth Sci

Prerequisite:

9th grade standing, or instructor's permission

When Offered:

Full year course

Course Description:

Earth science is a class that collectively seeks to understand the Earth and its neighbors in space. The main purpose of Earth Science is to introduce students to the Earth and the intricate workings of our Earth's systems. Weather, oceanography, volcanoes, earthquakes, rocks and minerals, environmental issues, the history of the earth, and astronomy are all covered as part of this class. The course will involve conducting inquiry explorations. Students will use the scientific design process to conduct their experiments. Major lab write-ups and research reports are frequently required.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Text, virtual field trips, and field trips are included. The course will include reading, writing, group discussion, projects, construction of evidence-based arguments, design and execution of scientific studies, and the use of conceptual and mathematical models.

Credit:

.5 Science per semester

Biology 1

SC-Bio 1

Prerequisite:

Sophomore standing or permission of instructor

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

Biology is the study of living organisms and their interactions with each other and their environment. We will be looking at these interactions from an ecological perspective since ecological understanding will be crucial in solving some of the problems present today. Some of the themes we will explore are ecology, energy, evolution, genetics, cell theory, homeostasis, and reproduction. A sub-theme that runs through the course is that of Earth saints and heroes, the men and women who are making or have made significant contributions to the well-being of the planet. Cooperative learning, field work on the prairie, varied assignments, and educational technology will be used to help students fully develop their understanding.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Text and lab notebook required. Experiments, discussion, reading, lectures, and research will all be elements of the class.

Credit:

.5 Science per semester

Chemistry

SC-Chem

Prerequisite:

Algebra 1

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

This class will focus on developing a model of matter that will explain increasingly complex observations. Beginning with very simple observations (such as sugar dissolving in water), we will progress in an historical fashion to the point where we can explain more complex observations, such as burning alcohol. This course is based on the Modeling Instruction Program at Arizona State University, designated as exemplary in 2001 by the U.S. Department of Education.

Teaching/Learning Style: Laboratory work, small group problem-solving, group discussion, lectures and simulations will be included. Much of the important ideas will be developed through discussion of laboratory work.

Credit: .5 Science per semester

Env Science/Sustainability SC-Env Sci

Prerequisite: Biology

When Offered: Full Year Course

Course Description: Environmental science and sustainability (ES&S) is a course intended to build understanding of scientific processes and concepts to prepare high school students to seek solutions to problems that they are likely to face in their lifetime. ES&S is designed to build an interest in the sciences, and allow students the opportunity to connect what they are learning with class to real-world issues and problems. The integration of the two will take place through the use of extensive laboratory activities and field trips to various sites. Some of the topics discussed will include climate change, species conservation, energy sources, and how to create a more sustainable environment.

Teaching/Learning Style: Text and digital resources will be used. The course will include reading, writing, group discussion, projects, construction of evidence-based arguments, design and execution of scientific studies, and the use of conceptual and mathematical models.

Credit: .5 Science per semester

Physics

SC-Physics

Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 2 (may be taken concurrently if necessary)

When Offered: Full Year Course

Course Description: Physics is a fascinating subject matter that strives to find the fundamental patterns of nature. By understanding these patterns, predictions can be made that could ultimately make cars safer or take us to Mars. In this course, students will be guided in the process of finding and applying these patterns, the laws of physics. With an emphasis on the study of motion, students work collaboratively to design, carry out, and analyze experiments that lead to important laws of physics. Students develop problem-solving skills as they apply these laws to new situations. They are required to present and defend their solutions to their classmates. This course is based on the Modeling Instruction Program at Arizona State University, designated as exemplary in 2001 by the U.S. Department of Education.

Teaching/Learning Style: Students will participate in laboratory work, discussion and student presentations. Each student must have a scientific calculator. Students' learning will be assessed with tests and projects.

Credit: .5 Science per semester

Foreign Language Department

Intro to World Languages

FL-World Lang

Prerequisite:

None

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

In this class, we will look at languages from many different angles. We will explore different languages (including spoken, written and sign languages). We will look at lost languages, rules of language, acquisition of language and development of language. Culture is an important aspect of language so we will also look at several different cultures. Students will come out of this class with a broad view of the role language plays in the world, our lives and how it shapes us (or we shape it).

Teaching/Learning Style:

We will use different sources including TED lectures, current novels, fiction and non-fiction, films,

Credit:

.5 Foreign Language per semester

French

FL-French 1 / FL-French 2 / FL-French Adv

Prerequisite:

Class Placement per Instructor Assessment

When Offered:

Full Year Course

Course Description:

The five goals of the national standards of foreign language learning, - communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities - are implemented in KCA French classes. This means we focus on what and how students learn. We stress communication within a cultural context. Students engage in conversations, presentations, written and spoken French. Students also work on reading and comprehension through grammar and vocabulary by putting pieces together in meaningful and purposeful ways.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Teacher led instruction occurs individually as well as in small groups throughout the course. There is an expectation of nightly review and 3-4 nights per week of homework. There are 4-6 quizzes per chapter as well as a Chapter Exam for each Chapter. We will cover 6 chapters per semester.

Credit:

.5 Foreign Language per semester

Fine Arts Department – Visual Arts

Final schedule will include 2-4 of the tentative offerings listed, TBD based on student interest

Art Appreciation

FA-ArtAppr – Course description pending

Ceramics

FA-Ceramics

Prerequisite:

None

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

Students will explore functional and sculptural ceramics from a variety of artists and cultures. We will use these examples as inspiration for creating our own work. Students will learn basic hand-building techniques using slab, coil and pinch methods, additive and subtractive methods, sculptural and functional methods, various glaze techniques and firing techniques. Students will also have the opportunity to use the potter's wheel. Class Limit 6

Teaching/Learning Style:

Studio class, teacher directed, hands-on, class discussion, and critiques.

Credit:

.5 Fine Arts

Drawing

FA-Draw

Prerequisite:

None

When Offered:

Semester 1

Course Description:

This course is designed to improve each student's proficiency at drawing from observation. We will begin drawing basic forms and work toward observational figure and landscape drawing. Proportion, value, perspective, and style are a few of the skills we will explore. Sketchbooks and outside drawing assignments will be mandatory. This course will require focus as we improve our ability to observe and record the world around us. Class Limit 6

Teaching/Learning Style:

Studio class, teacher directed, hands-on, class discussion, and critiques.

Credit:

.5 Fine Arts

Photography

FA-Photo

Prerequisite:

High School standing, Teacher Permission, access to 35mm camera

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

Students will become proficient with traditional 35-mm camera functions, black and white film processing and developing, and darkroom printing. Students will also understand what makes a quality photo and how to communicate their intended ideas. This course will focus heavily on technical skills in relation to camera mastery, chemical usage and photography supplies. It requires maturity, respect for materials and working outside of class. Students need to provide their own 35mm camera the first week of school.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Hands-on learning, teacher directed group and individual work

Credit:

.5 Fine Arts per semester

Portfolio Prep

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Teaching/Learning Style:

Credit:

FA-Port Prep

Instructor Permission, Written Proposal, Completion of One or More High School Art Courses, High School Standing

Semester 1 and/or 2

Portfolio Prep is offered to High School students who intend to pursue Art as part of their post-high school plans. Emphasis in the course includes portfolio development, artist statement development, regular critiques, work documentation, post-secondary opportunities, and the application process.

Hands-on learning, teacher directed, individual work

.5 Fine Arts per semester

Fine Arts Department – Theatre

Theatre Study

Prerequisite:	none
When Offered:	Semester 1 and/or 2
Course Description:	This course is a buffet of theatre: some acting, some tech, and some history... a sampler for those who want to try something new and juicier stuff for those who are coming back for more.
Teaching/Learning Style:	Hands-on learning, teacher directed, group and individual work
Credit:	.5 Fine Arts per semester

FA-Theatre

Playwriting & Directing

Prerequisite:	Grades 10-12; Minimum one semester of theater at KCA or instructor permission
When Offered:	Semester 1 (8 th hour option/2 days per week)
Course Description:	Students will learn the basics of writing for the stage, including using dialogue to develop plot, character, and theme. In addition, students will apply analysis skills to both offer and receive constructive criticism to be used in revision and improvement. The culmination of the course will be for students to prepare their original pieces for presentation as part of KCA's spring theater production.
Teaching/Learning Styles:	Creative composition, workshopping
Credit:	.25 Fine Arts or English per semester

FA-Play

Fine Arts Department - Music

Studio Music

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

FA-Studio Music

Prior musical training and audition will secure placement

Semester 1 and/or 2

Students accepted into this music program are placed in one or more electric bands and spend class time learning how to perform with each other, allowing students to develop their own unique musical sound (voice) while learning how to interact with others musically. Student songwriting, creativity, and collaboration are strongly encouraged. Concerts are performed toward the end of each semester and highlight the effort put forth by the student musicians.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Rehearsals are led by the music instructor in collaboration with the students.

Credit:

.5 Fine Arts per semester

KCA Singers

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

FA-Singers

Instructor Approval

Semester 1 and/or 2 (after school option)

This a cappella singing group meets after school 2 days per week to hone their vocal skills and develop performance-ready pieces which are presented each semester as part of the KCA Music Showcase. This is a graded class (P/F) with grades based on attendance, participation and effort. The class is open to both Middle and High School students on a space available basis (limit 12).

Credit:

.25 Fine Arts per semester for students in grades 9-12

Music Theory I

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

FA-MusicThry1

Recommendation of Instructor

Semester 1 and/or 2 (after school option)

This course will develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. Theory I will focus on the rudiments and terminology of music, including hearing and notating pitches, intervals, scales and keys, chords, meter and rhythm. Modal, pentatonic, whole-tone, and exotic scales will be introduced, along with part-writing, arranging, Nashville numbers, and Roman numeral analysis. The course will emphasize preparing students for both advanced music study and the written music of their time.

Teaching/Learning Style:

Interactive, teacher led, with both individual and group work daily.

Credit:

.25 Fine Arts per semester

Physical Education Department

Health & Fitness

PE-Health/Fit

Prerequisite:

None

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

This class is designed for students to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Students will learn correct body mechanics, through safe, functional, fun movements. Class includes elements of weight lifting, body weight movements, running, jumping rope, and more. Additionally, yoga (breathing), flexibility, agility, balance, and coordination are addressed in this class. These are skills and strategies that can be applied for a lifetime!

Teaching/Learning Style:

Teacher led. We work as group to encourage one another.

Credit:

.5 Physical Education per semester

Practical Arts

Microsoft Office

PA-Office / PA-Word / PA-Excel

Prerequisite:

None

When Offered:

Semester 1 or 2

Course Description:

Introductory Class: This class will introduce you to at three components of Microsoft Office: Word (word processing), Excel (spreadsheet), and Power Point (presentation).

MS Word: The class will begin with basic document skills (editing and formatting text, tables and documents), and then progress to more advanced skills (tables, graphics, themes, styles, merge documents and references).

MS Excel: The class will begin with basic spreadsheet skills (entering data, formatting, formulas, functions and charts), and then progress to more advanced skills (tables, analyzing data, advanced charts, what-if analysis and pivot-tables).

Teaching/Learning Style:

Individual, independent work at the computers on a daily basis. Comprehensive projects will tie skills together and test understanding.

Credit:

.5 Practical Arts (Fulfills Computer Literacy Requirement)

Intro Cmptr Programming

PA-CptrProg

Prerequisite:

None

When Offered:

Semester 1 and/or 2

Course Description:

This class includes exploration into basic computing hardware, overview of MS Office and Google suites of products and coding (Scratch, Python, and Website creation)

Teaching/Learning Style:

Individual, independent work at the computers on a daily basis. Comprehensive projects will tie skills together and test understanding.

Credit:

.5 Practical Arts per semester

Culinary Arts

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Teaching/Learning Style:

Credit:

PA-Culinary

None

Semester 1 and/or 2

The class will be comprised of basic essentials of cooking. We will begin by learning proper knife skills and knife cuts, as well as food safety and sanitation. We will then move into cost control, menu development and product identification. The importance of nutrition and sustainability in cooking will be discussed, and we'll practice some basic cooking techniques. Curriculum will emphasize the ideas behind the food and Bistro Kids' philosophy of using fresh, local ingredients and seeing food with respect, but also with a creative outlook. Class Limit: 2 per section

Instructor-directed, hands-on learning. Projects may require group and/or individual work.

.5 Practical Arts per semester

Yearbook

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Teaching/Learning Style

Credit:

PA-Yearbook

none

Semester 1 and/or 2

This is a hands on course in which students will deepen their business knowledge as they create a final project-The KCA Yearbook. This will be designed as a business opportunity to learn more about starting a business, publishing, advertising, cross-training and design. Special attention to business skills in reading, writing and editing are central to this class.

This is a product-driven course with timely, creative production of consistent and accurate content in collaboration with your co-learners. A combination of instructor direction, discussion, assessments, and meeting deadlines

.5 Practical Arts per semester

TA - Teacher's Assistant

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

Credit:

PA-TA

Teacher's permission

Semester 1 and/or 2

The student will assist his/her assigned teacher in preparing materials for instructional activities. Duties may include photocopying, organizing instructional materials, preparing laboratory activities and creating worksheets.

.5 Practical Arts per semester

Senior Seminar

Prerequisite:

When Offered:

Course Description:

SR-Seminar

Senior Status – required for graduation

Full Year Course

A major aspect of the guiding philosophy of KCA is to prepare future adults for responsible participation in their society by encouraging diversity, dialogue and understanding, responsible freedom, critical thinking, and an awareness of global interdependence. This seminar is an opportunity for KCA seniors to get involved with a social justice issue they are personally passionate about and experience what it means to live the traits listed above.

Teaching/Learning Style

In this required seminar, students will participate in and lead discussions on readings, give presentations, research a social justice topic of their choice, write reflections and an extensive research paper, and develop and implement a personal social justice project. The work done for this seminar will be presented as part of students' Senior Passages which is required for graduation from KCA.

Credit:

.5 Practical Arts per semester