Wilder Academy of Virtual Education

Course Catalog

2026-2027

Our School

Enrollment is open for students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Students will master skills and Idaho standards using personal motivation to create their learning pathway through high school graduation. Students will develop their learning through mentor-student collaboration, focusing on mastering essential learning skills versus merely meeting time/date expectations. Students seeking to challenge themselves in personalized and innovative ways to excel in creating learning pathways that accomplish their goals for a future-ready life can find thriving success at Wilder Academy of Virtual Education (WAVE).

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High School Graduation Requirements

<u>Wilder Academy of Virtual Education high school graduation requirements:</u>

- **46 credits minimum are required to graduate**
- **Completion of Senior Project, which includes an oral presentation and written report by the end of 12th grade**

English	**8 credits**
Math (Algebra 1 and Geometry Req.)	**6 credits**
Science (2 lab credits Req.)	**6 credits**
US History	**2 credits**
American Government	**2 credits**
Economics	**1 credit**
Health	**1 credit**
Speech	**1 credit**
Humanities	**2 credits**
Electives	**16 credits**
Digital Literacy (*Required for graduation in 2028 and beyond***)**	**1 credit**
Total	**46 credits**

Digital Literacy

Digital Literacy, Semester, One Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for graduation in 2028 and beyond

This course prepares high school students to thrive in a digital learning environment, collaborate effectively, and responsibly engage with technology in academic and real-world settings.

HS Digital Literacy aligns directly with the Idaho State Content Standards for Digital Literacy. Designed to empower students with essential 21st-century technology skills, this course guides learners through mastering digital workspace configuration, cloud application suites, professional communication protocols, and responsible online citizenship. Through practical, hands-on activities, students develop the practical competencies needed to navigate virtual learning environments, solve technical challenges, and interact safely and ethically in a digital world.

English Language Arts Courses

English 9, Year, Two Credits

Prerequisite: 9th grade required, none

Required for Graduation

English for grade 9A is an integrated curriculum. Each unit contains thematically related lessons in five domains: reading and the study of literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening, and language study, which includes word knowledge and grammar skills. Topics are presented in ways that help young adolescents relate literacy skills to other aspects of their lives. Writing assignments include narrative, expository, and persuasive/argumentative modes and emphasize the use of and details and reasoning to support ideas. Speaking and listening lessons in Semester A emphasize collaborative discussion skills and peer review. Vocabulary development instruction is integrated into literature and informational text lessons. Each unit ends with an authentic assessment that presents students with a real-world scenario requiring some of the skills they learned in the unit.

Like semester A, semester B consists of integrated units focused on a theme or mode of study. Literature study in semester B focuses on the analysis of different forms of literature and on comparative studies of world literature and literature delivered in different media. Writing and informational text lessons guide students through the stages of research and demonstrate how to evaluate, integrate, and share the information gathered during research. Students are required to share their ideas and analysis using several different modes, including oral and multimedia presentations.

English 10, Year, Two Credits

Prerequisite: 9th grade

Required for Graduation

In English 10A, students learn how to express their thoughts and feelings in writing. Emphasis is placed on the specific traits of the 6-Traits of Writing: Ideas, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, and Conventions. Students also review the 5-step writing process as they practice the skills of prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. Each unit also includes instruction in the Greek roots of common English words. In English 10A students are guided through the 5-step writing process for each of the major types of writing: expository, persuasive, expressive, research, and functional. The writing projects center on each of the five major types. Students will receive comprehensive instruction on the various structures and styles of writing. Students are expected to produce original high quality examples of each of the major types of writing. Writing samples are graded against the 6-Traits of Writing.

In English 10B, students broaden their reading experience with exposure to literature from around the world. Students are given vast exposure to a variety of reading samples, and are encouraged to connect and relate to the various authors and cultures within the contexts of the passages and works Reading strategies, the literary elements, and new vocabulary and Latin roots are introduced. In addition, students are guided through an active reading process in preparation to prepare them for high-stakes testing which will assess their abilities to make inferences, comprehend, and analyze a variety of reading materials. Students are expected to respond to assigned reading materials in a variety of activities and manners. Students will be graded on their abilities to review, summarize, analyze, connect, and respond to reading materials. Additionally, students will practice important reading strategies such as determining the meaning of unfamiliar words. They will produce an independent vocabulary assignment as evidence of their familiarity with these strategies. Students are also expected to create original materials in an effort to grasp the complexity of the genres.

English Language Arts Courses

English 11, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: 10th grade
Required for Graduation

English for grade 11A is an American Literature course, with units organized chronologically according to periods in literary history. As students read foundational works of literature and other historical documents written between 1600 and 1900, they'll review and extend skills in five domains: analyzing literature, analyzing informational text, writing, speaking and listening, and language study, which includes word knowledge and grammar skills. Each module or unit begins with a lesson that provides historical context for the era and introduces themes that emerged in the literature of that era. Each lesson provides students with an opportunity to review basic analysis skills before applying those skills to works of literature or key historical documents. Lessons focused on more difficult historical documents include activities that help students comprehend the complex ideas in these works. Writing modes addressed in Semester A of this course include narrative, reflective, persuasive, and analytical modes. Assignments emphasize the use of details, evidence, and reasoning to support ideas; writing lessons include model essays that demonstrate key features of each mode. The speaking and listening lessons in Semester A cover rhetoric, the peer review or writing workshop process, and performance skills. Vocabulary development instruction is integrated into literature and informational text lessons. Each unit ends with an authentic assessment that presents students with a real-world scenario requiring some of the skills they learned in the unit.

Semester B of English 11 consists of units focused on historical eras and literary movements of the 20th and 21st century, such as Naturalism, Imagism, the Harlem Renaissance, and Post-Modernism. Literature analysis lessons in semester B focus on the forms of literature that were most commonly written during the Twentieth Century and how the forms, styles, and techniques of that century inform literature written today. Students will also evaluate various modes and forms of language expression, including single media and multimedia messages. Writing and informational text lessons guide students through the stages of a rigorous research process and demonstrate how to evaluate, integrate, and share the information gathered during research. Students are required to share their ideas and analysis using several different modes, including oral and multimedia presentations.

English 12, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: 11th grade
Required for Graduation

Students examine major works of literature organized into thematic units. Each unit contains poetry, short stories, and a novel that revolves around the theme for the unit. Themes include the self, relationships, alienation, choice, and death. As students read these works, they have the opportunity to reflect on these important themes by writing in multiple modes and creating cross-disciplinary projects.

English Language Arts Courses

Senior Project, Included in English 12
Prerequisite: 11th grade
Required for Graduation

The Senior Project at Wilder Academy for Virtual Learning is a comprehensive assignment that is designed to be a culmination of each student's academic experiences from his/her high school career. This culminating high school learning experience will allow each student to apply and showcase the skills needed to excel in post-secondary education and/or the workplace. Students will utilize a range of intellectual, social, and life skills in their pursuit of developing lifetime learning habits and interests. The overall goal of the Senior Project is to ensure that each student creates a high-quality project that combines real-world experience with focused research, resulting in a research paper, fieldwork, and an oral presentation that applies the rigor, relevance, and relationship attributes that were the focus of high school.

Speech, Semester, One Credit
Prerequisite: None
Required for Graduation

Do you strive to gain more confidence when speaking in front of people? Learn techniques from famous speakers throughout history while learning what it takes to make a great speech. Develop skills that will serve you well throughout your career and personal life. Students will be required to present several speeches.

Health

Health: Living Your Best Life, Semester, One Credit
Prerequisite: None
Required for Graduation

In this course, students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to lead a healthy life. We will focus on the impact of personal decisions on the student's own health. Students learn how to find, evaluate, and use reliable information related to a variety of health topics. They also study the basic science behind nutrition, exercise, stress, and psychology, and examine how these factors affect a person's overall health. Each lesson in the course guides students in applying what they have learned to their own lives and choices—and gives them a chance to discuss the topic with peers and instructors.

Humanities/Electives

Adobe Photoshop Certification Course, Semester, One Credit, *elective*
Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Adobe Photoshop Certification Exam

This course introduces students to the world of Adobe Photoshop. Students will get an insight into what it is like working in the visual and graphic design industry. Over 11 modules, students will learn everything from absolute basics like navigating Photoshop to performing complex tasks like editing and retouching photos, applying filters and effects, and even creating original artwork. The course contains guided tutorials, do-it-yourself projects, and great resources that will help students practice and learn how to work in Photoshop.

Adobe Illustrator Certification Course, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Adobe Illustrator Certification Exam

This course gives students foundational knowledge using Adobe Illustrator CC. In the course, they will explore what it's like to work in the design industry, building their skills in vector drawing and learning how to create graphics and illustrations with this industry-standard tool. The course is aligned with the standards for passing the Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) examination.

Adobe InDesign Certification Course, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Adobe InDesign Certification Exam

This course introduces students to the world of Adobe InDesign. Students will get an insight into what it is like working in the digital media and print design industry. Over 10 modules, students will learn everything from absolute basics like navigating InDesign to performing complex tasks like creating page layouts, applying interesting effects, and even making documents interactive. The course contains guided tutorials, do-it-yourself projects, and great resources that will help students practice and learn how to work in InDesign.

Career Exploration in Healthcare, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the exciting and varied career opportunities in the health care industry that will be in demand in their future! The course will introduce the roles and tasks, identify the education and skills needed, identify the responsibilities of roles that support or supervise them, and analyze the legal and ethical responsibilities, limitations, and implications for each of these professions. Get ready. Get set. Learn about the Future of Health Care Careers!

Humanities/Electives

Entrepreneurship and Small Business Certification, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Certification Exam

This course will prepare students for certification in Entrepreneurship and Small Business. The modules are designed to cover all aspects of entrepreneurship, including traits of successful entrepreneurs, business management, hiring employees, creating a company culture, managing finances, and marketing products and services. Each module will challenge students to put themselves in the role of an entrepreneur and consider how they will handle the extensive responsibilities of starting a business.

First Aid & Safety, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

In this course, students learn and practice first-aid procedures for a variety of common conditions, including muscular, skeletal, and soft-tissue injuries. In addition, students learn how to appropriately respond to a variety of emergency situations. They also learn the procedures for choking and CPR for infants, children, and adults. In addition to emergency response, students will explore personal, household, and outdoor safety, and disaster preparedness.

Intro to Business, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the basic business concepts that will help them understand how a business survives in today's economy and the role that consumers play in the same economy. Students will learn how to balance a checkbook, save for the future, and use credit wisely. Students will also learn how to create a resume and how to participate in a job interview.

Journalism, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to prepare you to become a student of journalism and media. The work we do here will equip you with the critical skills you must have to succeed in high school media, college media, and beyond. We will read a variety of journalistic material and do a great deal of news writing. We will also look at journalism from legal, ethical, and historic vantage points. Expect to complete numerous writing activities in a variety of styles including editorial, hard news, feature, review, and more. If you participate actively, you will gain tremendous skills that will serve you for the rest of your life. Individual and group project will also be a part of this class. This course is a project based course and does not include traditional tests, unit level understanding is assessed through unit projects.

Keyboarding, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None (Students can test out of the Keyboarding portion of the class.)

Learn proper technique and become proficient in using a keyboard. This is a great class for those who have never had formal keyboarding training or those who need a refresher. Play games and build your skills!

Humanities/Electives

Mental Health and Well-Being, Semester, One Credit, *elective*
Permission Form Required: Opt-In Permission Slip MUST be signed and emailed to Mrs. Lenz - elenz@wilderschools.org prior to enrollment.

Students begin by exploring the different dimensions of healthy intra-and interpersonal relationships. They next examine stress and the importance of learning to manage it. Next, students are introduced to the concept of neurodiversity and some of the characteristics of neurodiverse people. A discussion of mental health, mental illness, and suicide prevention follows. Students then explore the short-and long-term effects of violence on health and look at ways to prevent or reduce violence. The semester concludes with an overview of end-of-life care, death and dying, and the grieving process.

Microsoft PowerPoint Certification, Semester, One Credit, *elective*
Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Microsoft PowerPoint Certification Exam

Microsoft PowerPoint is a highly useful presentation software that is part of the MS Office suite of applications and products. It allows users to easily create visually-engaging slide presentations that are useful in academic, business, and marketing settings, to name a few. As PowerPoint has evolved, so has its functionality and capabilities. In this course, students will learn about the many functions of MS PowerPoint, from incorporating images, video, and audio into presentations as well as how to add exciting animations to impress audiences. Students will learn about the nuances of creating dynamic slides and incorporating creativity into their presentations. The course will outline each of the elements of the MS Office PowerPoint Certification Exam, and students will be given activities, projects, and other ways to practice and implement what they have learned.

Microsoft Word Certification, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Microsoft Word Certification Exam

This course introduces students to Microsoft Word. Students will gain insights into the features and capabilities of this essential software within personal, educational, and business settings. Over 11 modules, students progress from absolute basics like navigation to performing complex tasks like graphic elements and collaboration. This course prepares students for the Microsoft Office Associate Microsoft Word Certification.

Microsoft Outlook Certification, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Microsoft Outlook Certification Exam

In this course, students will navigate Microsoft Outlook, which is the preferred email client for sending and receiving emails from the Microsoft Exchange Server. Outlook includes access to contact, email, calendar, and task management tools. Microsoft Outlook is a component of Office 365 and the Microsoft Office suite, including Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint. From fundamental processes like adding an account to more complex tasks such as customizing features to better accommodate specific needs, students will explore all that Microsoft Outlook can do.

Humanities/Electives

Microsoft Excel Certification, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None
This course prepares students for the Microsoft Excel Certification Exam

This course introduces students to the world of Microsoft Excel. Students will get an insight into the use of the product within the business setting. Over 8 modules, students will learn everything from absolute basics like navigating Microsoft Excel to performing complex tasks like formulas and functions. This course prepares students for the Microsoft Office Associate: Microsoft Excel Certification.

Nutrition, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

This course provides a comprehensive study of nutritional principles and guidelines. Students will learn about global perspectives on nutrition, nutrient requirements, physiological processes, food labeling, healthy weight management, diet-related diseases, food handling, nutrition for different populations, and more. Students will gain important knowledge and skills to help them attain and maintain a healthy, nutritious lifestyle.

Physical Education, Year, Two Credits, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

This course covers physical fitness, why it is important, how to have a healthy attitude, and how to stick with a healthy game plan. In this ever-changing world, physical fitness becomes more important and more difficult to find the time for. This course allows the student to discover how to make physical fitness not only a part of their daily life, but also see that it is attainable. This course leads the student to discover healthy behaviors and sets the tone for physical fitness as well as healthy exercise. PE for a Healthy Lifestyle will examine the emotional, physical, and scientific factors that influence physical performance. This course is designed for anyone, ranging from the beginner to advanced abilities.

School to Work, Semester/Year, Two Credits, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

School to Work is designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world employment. This course guides students through practical work experience while developing essential professional skills, workplace etiquette, and employment reporting standards. Students learn to track performance across structured reporting periods, manage job responsibilities, and evaluate career readiness in preparation for post-secondary transitions.

To earn credit for your job, you must work and submit proof of at least 60 hours per semester. You may take this class in both semesters for a total of two credits.

Humanities/Electives

Study Skills and Strategies A, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

The Study Skills and Strategies course equips students with skills and understandings critical to effective learning. Using a unique approach to the traditional topic of study skills, this course weaves understanding regarding the role of the brain in learning into the instruction of discrete learning skills and strategies. Moving beyond a list of good tips and ideas, the Study Skills and Strategies course will challenge students to develop intentional approaches to learning. They will be required to make connections between the strategies and skills they learn in this course and the implementation of those strategies and skills in their other coursework. Upon completion of the course, students will have learned a variety of specific learning skills and strategies, gained a greater understanding of their own learning preferences, and become prepared to develop and implement specific learning and study plans for any academic course or other learning needs.

Study Skills and Strategies B, Semester, One Credit, *elective*

Prerequisite: None

The Study Skills and Strategies course equips students with skills and understandings critical to effective learning. Using a unique approach to the traditional topic of study skills, this course weaves understanding regarding the role of the brain in learning into the instruction of discrete learning skills and strategies. Moving beyond a list of good tips and ideas, the Study Skills and Strategies course will challenge students to develop intentional approaches to learning. They will be required to make connections between the strategies and skills they learn in this course and the implementation of those strategies and skills in their other coursework. Upon completion of the course, students will have learned a variety of specific learning skills and strategies, gained a greater understanding of their own learning preferences, and become prepared to develop and implement specific learning and study plans for any academic course or other learning needs.

World History, Year, Two Credits

Prerequisite: US History

One option for a Humanities credit, or an elective credit.

World History begins with a focus on the skills needed to read, understand, and analyze history. The class demonstrates how historians and social scientists arrive at their conclusions about human history. Semester A covers the history of civilization from hunter-gatherer societies through the characteristics of the earliest civilizations to the Enlightenment period in Western Europe. The second half of Semester A explores early intellectual, spiritual, and political movements and their impact on interactions among world cultures.

Math Courses

Math Essentials, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: 8th Grade Math

Students begin the first semester of this course with a review of how to use basic arithmetic operations with whole numbers, integers, fractions, mixed numbers, and decimals. More complex concepts are built on these basics. Students revisit simplifying order of operation problems. They will also learn how to apply the properties of addition and multiplication, as well as the distributive property, to equation solving. This semester ends with a review of solving inequalities in one- and two-steps.
In the second semester of this course, students learn about ratios, rates, and proportions, and find where they can use these concepts in their own lives. Students will also work with percentages. They will perform calculations and apply percentages to real world scenarios. This semester includes a study of the coordinate plane and linear equations. Students revisit plotting ordered pairs, graphing and writing equations, as well as using these ideas to solve everyday problems. In the latter half of this semester, students will focus on where they can find different kinds of equations in the world outside the mathematics classroom, with a focus on interest applications. Finally students will renew their geometry knowledge through a study of triangles, quadrilaterals, area, surface area, and volume. The course concludes with an in-depth look at reading, creating, and interpreting scatterplots.

Algebra 1, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra
Required for graduation

Students begin the first semester of Algebra 1 with a review of the basic tools of algebra, including properties of operations, combining like terms, and solving simple equations and inequalities. More complex concepts are built on these basics. Students learn about linear models, linear inequalities, statistics, linear functions, transformations, sequences, and systems of linear equations. The course also includes lessons on linear inequalities.

In the second semester of Algebra 1, students focus on exponential and quadratic functions. They will learn how to read, write and graph these function types. They will also learn where they can find exponential and quadratic functions in their own worlds. In this semester, special attention is given to making meaningful comparisons of linear, exponential and quadratic growth. Students also spend time learning about geometric sequences, polynomials, factoring, radical equations, piece-wise defined functions, as well as rational expressions and equations. The semester concludes with a comprehensive review of the course.

Algebra 2, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: Geometry

Math Courses

Algebra 2 further extends the learner's understanding of major algebra concepts such as expressions, equations, functions, and inequalities. An emphasis will be placed on the use of appropriate functions to model real-world situations and solve problems that arise from those situations. A focus is also on graphing functions by hand and understanding and identifying the parts of a graph.
Algebra 2 builds on the concepts learned in the first semester and prepares the learners with the building blocks needed to dive deeper into trigonometry, pre-calculus, and advanced probability and statistics.

Consumer Math, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: Algebra & Geometry or equivalent

This course focuses on the mathematics involved in making wise consumer decisions. Students explore the many ways in which mathematics affects their daily lives. The first semester will cover paychecks and wages, taxes, insurance, budgets, bank accounts, credit cards, interest calculations, and comparison shopping. Second-semester topics include vehicle and home purchasing, investing, and business and employee management.

Geometry, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: Algebra 1
Required for graduation

This course introduces students to the core structures and reasoning of geometry through a focused study of basic shapes, logic, lines and angles, triangles, congruence, similarity, and introductory trigonometric ideas. Across 60 lessons, students build a strong foundation in geometric proof, learning how to justify relationships using deductive and indirect reasoning. Special emphasis is placed on triangle congruence and similarity and the key theorems, postulates, and properties. Interactive videos and practical assignments help students see how these ideas apply to real-world problem-solving, while the course steadily develops their ability to write, analyze, and communicate geometric arguments with clarity and precision.
Semester B
Semester B builds and extends the skills students gained in semester A. The course continues to emphasize deductive and indirect reasoning as students write proofs relating to quadrilaterals and conics. This work is scaffolded using interactive videos. Students also apply geometric thinking to real-world problems through geometric transformations, and the algebraic and graphical representation of those transformations. Students endeavor to deepen their understanding of measurement by calculating area, surface area, and volume for a wide range of two- and three-dimensional figures. The semester concludes with

an introduction to probability and predicting outcomes. This semester includes six modules, each containing ten lessons, for a total of 60 lessons in the course.

Science Courses

Anatomy and Physiology, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: None

In this course, students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to lead a healthy life. Semester A focuses on the impact of personal decisions on the student's own health. Students learn how to find, evaluate, and use reliable information related to a variety of health topics. They also study the basic science behind nutrition, exercise, stress, and psychology, and examine how these factors affect a person's overall health. Each lesson in the course guides students in applying what they have learned in the lesson to their own lives and choices—and gives them a chance to discuss the topic with peers and instructors.

Semester B is designed to give the student an understanding of how structure and function are related in the human body. The student will study the human body from the cellular level to the organ system level. All of the major body systems will be studied in great detail. Additionally, biochemistry, cell biology, histology, biotechnology, bioethics, and pathology will also be studied. This course is highly recommended for students seeking a career in science or a health-related profession.

Biology, Year, Two Credits, Lab Science
Prerequisite: None
Counts toward lab credits science requirement

Biology A introduces students to the scientific method and the major concepts of biology from a historical and practical viewpoint. The three major themes of this course are the cell, the molecular basis of heredity, and the interdependence of organisms. Students who take this class will have a deeper appreciation for the complexities of living organisms. Life on this planet, unlike anywhere else in the observable universe, is complex and highly organized. Whether examining life on the molecular or the planetary level, it exhibits a highly organized structure that inspires awe with its genius and complexity. In the last 50 years, discoveries have launched new branches of biology that have transformed the daily routine, from conception to death. New challenges await, such as the current crisis in ecology, global warming, and the resurgence in viral disease. To make rational choices in the 21st century, the citizen must have a basic understanding of biological concepts and the reasoning behind them. Biology A is presented in a multimedia format using interactive modules, labs, narrated animation, text, and videos to present the study of life on this planet. Students work through and complete several self-check activities and quizzes for practice and participate in self-reflection. In each unit, students complete the lesson quizzes and unit exams.

Biology B is a continuation of the basic course in biology, Biology A. The major concepts covered are population dynamics and evolution. Students explore population dynamics through the study of mutualism, predation, parasitism, and competition. The theory of evolution is presented, along with the many pieces of evidence and details that make evolution the backbone of modern biology. From biochemistry to evolution, biology fascinates people. Biochemists first astounded the world by showing that life obeys the same chemical principles as all creation, but that life engineers chemistry to its own needs. Decades later, Darwin shocked the world by suggesting that life evolves according to the conditions of the environment it inhabits. Evolution, often debated and derided, has survived to become a key concept of biology. This second course in biology examines the wonder of life and its mechanisms. Students work through and complete several self-check activities and quizzes for practice and participate in self-reflection. In each unit, students complete lesson quizzes and unit exams.

Science Courses

Earth Science, Year, Two Credits, Lab Science
Prerequisite: None
Counts towards lab credits science requirement

The first three modules of Semester 1 cover Scientific Inquiry, the Structure and Composition of the Universe, and the Features of the Solar System. Students learn the importance of scientific inquiry and how to communicate the results of scientific investigations. They then have material on the formation of the universe, including the Big Bang Theory, the motions of celestial objects, and stellar evolution. The third module covers material related to the Solar System, including features of the Sun and the planets and the movements of Earth. The second three modules of Semester 1 cover Weather, Climate, and Earth's Water Cycle. Students first learn in Module 4 about the atmosphere and clouds, as well as the factors that influence local and global climate. In Module 5 they continue by learning about weather and air masses, meteorology, and storms. Module 6 then discusses the water cycle, including groundwater and ocean features, as well as water scarcity and pollution.

The first three modules of Semester 2 cover the physical structure of the Earth and Earth's tectonic system, including the rock cycle, tectonic activity, and mountain building. It then covers weathering and erosion and soil formation. The next material in the course then addresses the concept of systems; it addresses the Earth as a system, feedback in systems, and Earth's major nutrient cycles. The second three modules of Semester 2 cover geologic history, including the evolution of Earth's atmosphere, the geologic time scale, and the fossil record. It then goes over natural resources and the effects of the human population on natural resources. The course wraps up with a discussion of human society and its interconnectedness with the Earth's environment, how science and technology work together, and the technological design process in Earth science applications.

Forensic Science, Year, Two Credits
Prerequisite: None

Our notions of forensics are often fictionalized, containing fantastical ideas about what forensic science really is. In Semester A of this course, you'll explore the truth behind the science from its history to its modern-day developments. You will learn how detectives conduct thorough investigations, as well as common equipment and methods that are used throughout the field. Finally, you will learn about collecting and analyzing the most common types of evidence found at a crime scene and how they guide investigators to answers. Let's track your interests and continue your pursuit of justice through science!

You've investigated the surface and have started building a case, but now it's time to examine the field of forensics further. In Semester B of this course, you will delve into the details, studying DNA analysis, forensic anthropology, tool marks, arson, impressions, toxicology, questioned documents, and digital forensics. You will also explore the different specialties within a forensics team. You'll learn more about what each field entails, what that specialist does at the scene and in the lab, and what conclusions can be made based on their analysis. Let's continue strengthening your case and interests for this fascinating field.

Social Studies Courses

US History A, 1 Quarter, One Credit

Prerequisite: None

This course covers the discovery, development, and growth of the United States. Major topics include Native American cultures; European colonization of the Americas; as well as the causes and effects of the American Revolution; Civil War; and World War I. Geographical, economic, and political factors are explored as the key factors in the growth of the United States of America.

U.S. History (A) is a survey of the struggle to build the United States of America from the colonial period to the beginning of the twentieth century. By means of reading, analyzing, and applying historical data, students come to appreciate the forces that shaped our history and character as an American people. Not only are the topics of American history discussed, but students also explore research methods and determine accurate sources of data from the past. Knowing the facts and dates of history are just the beginning. Each student must also understand how history affects him or her.

US History B, 1 Quarter, One Credit

Prerequisite: US History A

American History (B) begins with a study of American life before the 1929 Stock Market crash and how the Roaring Twenties influenced society in the late 19th through early 20th centuries. Students will examine the causes and consequences of the Great Depression and move on into a detailed study of World War II with an emphasis on America's role in the conflict. The course continues with an analysis of the Cold War struggle and America's rise as a superpower.

The Civil Rights and Women's rights movements, pollution, and the environment, and American domestic and foreign policy will be examined. The course wraps up with a summary of current events and issues, including a study of the Middle East. This course begins with an assessment of life in the United States before World War I and ends with the conflicts of the new millennium. Students look at the nation in terms of economic, social, and political trends. The experiences of the last century are summarized, including a look into the civil rights issues that have embroiled the nation in conflict. The development of the United States of America into a superpower is explored within a global context.

Economics and Financial Literacy, 1 Quarter, One Credit

Prerequisite:

Graduation Requirement

This course introduces the principles and the applications of economics in everyday life. Students develop an understanding of limited resources and compare them with unlimited wants and needs. Students learn how individual and national economic decisions are made to allocate goods and services among competing users. Students apply economic principles to think and problem-solve.

Social Studies Courses

Government, Quarter, 1 Credit
Prerequisite: CIVICS
Graduation Requirement

This course will guide students through an in-depth study of the history, structure, and guiding principles of American government. The first unit will review the origins of government in general and American government in particular—from the earliest models for democracy to the founding documents that created a federalist system of government in the U.S. Several units will help students explore the roles and responsibilities of each branch of government as well as the impact that the Constitution has had and continues to have on the way government works and on the lives of individual Americans. The course's final unit will guide students through a series of projects that require them to apply what they have learned about American government to an issue that interests them.

Civics, Quarter, 1 Credit
Prerequisite: US History
Graduation Requirement

In this course students will understand the significance of government, law, and politics. They will examine the United States foundational documents and how they shaped the Unites States government. Students will examine the purposes and functions of federal, state and local government, the justice system, political systems the environment, and the economy. Learners will evaluate their role and civic responsibility to their families, communities, and country including voting and being a productive member of society. Students will get to know leaders and influential people that have championed many causes including civil rights and the environment. Learners will also learn proper ways to interact in society including interpersonal skills and respecting differences in others including disabilities. Learners will follow a step-by-step approach for successfully completing each lesson, which includes textbook reading, interactive activities, supplemental reading, lecture, video clips, and Power Point presentations to enhance and reinforce learning. Learners receive frequent feedback from teacher and peers through discussions. By the end of the course students will have a deep understanding of their civic responsibilities as well as the difference one individual can make in society.

World Geography A, 1 Quarter, 1 Credit
Prerequisite: World History
One option for a Humanities credit, graduation requirement

The World Geography course provides students with an analytical view of how geographic factors have and continue to influence human behavior on Earth. Students will examine how the physical and cultural geographic factors contribute to varying levels of cooperation within the major world regions. Additionally, students will examine the importance that political, environmental, and economic factors have in a region's development.

Social Studies Courses

World Geography B, 1 Quarter, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: World Geography A

One option for a Humanities credit, graduation requirement

World Geography B delves into the intricate connections between human societies and their environments, focusing on the diverse ways people interact with, adapt to, and impact the world's physical landscapes. This course explores contemporary global issues, cultural patterns, and regional dynamics, highlighting the interdependence between geographic features and human activities. Students examine topics such as urbanization, climate change, and globalization, gaining insights into how geographical factors shape and are shaped by global events and trends.