Latexo High School

2026-2027
Course Catalog



Latexo High School

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Principal- Blake Thornton
High School Counselor- Leah Santa Maria
Superintendent- Michael Woodard

Junior High Courses

Language Arts and Reading
7th and 8th grade ELA focuses on growing reading comprehension through reading and analyzing a variety of texts across genres. Students will also focus on improving writing skills by responding to a variety of texts with both short and extended responses.

Pre-AP Language Arts
8th grade Pre-AP students need to have at least met grade level on 7th grade Reading STAAR. The course is the beginning of Pre AP coursework and is taught on a 9th grade level. *Summer reading is required for this course.

Math
7th grade: In 7th grade math we will cover a variety of topics. These include working with rational numbers, solving for a variable, graphing lines and finding measurements in 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional objects. This course will be more lecture based with guided notes in an interactive notebook.

8th grade: Eighth grade math, or pre-algebra, serves as an algebra and geometry prerequisite where students learn the fundamentals required for high school mathematics classes.

Social Studies
7th grade: In Texas history, students will study the major events, figures, and themes that have shaped the history of Texas from pre-colonization to modern times. Topics covered include colonization, revolution, statehood, and modern Texas.

8th grade: US History 8th Grade: This course begins with a selective review of the Age of Exploration, the colonial period and the American Revolution. The major focus of the year is the development of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, specific presidential eras, the impact of the Westward Movement, and the struggles of the Civil War & Reconstruction.

Science
7th grade: Students will learn concepts in earth science, life science, chemistry and physics.

8th grade: Students will build upon concepts learned in 7th grade science.

Athletics & PE
Athletics: Athletics is a course that involves physical training and competitive sports to develop students' physical fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship, and strategic thinking skills. Students may participate in various sports activities such as basketball, football, volleyball, track and field, and others, depending on the school's offerings.
PE: Junior high and high school physical education is a course designed to promote students' physical fitness and health through a variety of physical activities, including team sports, individual sports, and fitness training. The course also aims to teach students essential life skills such as leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving.

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English Language Arts Courses

English I: Students enrolled in English I continue to increase and refine their communication skills and critical analysis of texts across genres. Students take their writing through all the steps of the writing process on a regular basis. In addition to planning and drafting, students revise for organization and idea development and edit their papers for clarity and the correct use of the conventions and mechanics of written English. They practice all forms of writing, including literary, narrative, expository, persuasive, analytical writing. English I students read extensively in multiple genres from literature. They learn forms and terms associated with selections, including developing comprehension and vocabulary skills to build greater depth and complexity, and analyze elements of text for greater understanding and modeling for their own writing. Students will be required to take the STAAR English I End-of-Course assessment for this course.
English II: Students enrolled in English II continue to increase and refine their communication skills and critical analysis of texts across genres. Students read a wide variety of literary and informational texts. Students compose a variety of well-organized and detailed texts and are expected to know how to locate a range of relevant sources and evaluate, synthesize, as well as present ideas and information. Students listen to others and contribute their own ideas in groups. In addition, students learn and apply the standards of English in speaking and writing. Students will be required to take the STAAR English II End-of-Course assessment for this course.
English III: This year of high school English focuses on American Literature.
English IV: This last year of high school English focuses on British Literature.

College English

Fall (1301): Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating and critical analysis.
Spring (1302): Intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

Pre-AP English *All Pre-AP/AP English courses require summer reading.

Pre-Ap English I: Students in this course need to have taken PAP 8th grade English unless they are moving in from another school. This is an honors level class that concentrates on advanced literature and writing skills.
Pre-Ap English II: Students in this course need to have taken PAP English I. The coursework is advanced and centers heavily on British literature at an honors level. Advanced writing skills are continued as students prepare for the AP English Literature and Language tests they will take at the end of their junior year.
AP English III: Requirements for this class include the previous 3 years of PAP English classes. The coursework for this class is at the college level and students are required to write weekly essays as they prepare for the AP English tests they will take at the end of the year.

Dual Credit/Angelina College

College English
College Algebra/Statistics (1 semester each)
College Math Business
College History
Dual Credit Art/Psychology (1 semester each)
Dual Credit Public Speaking
Dual Credit Economics
Dual Credit Government
Dual Credit Biology

Biology

Preferred prerequisites: algebra I, met grade level on the 8th grade Science STARR test. Biology focusses on patterns, processes, and relationships of living organisms through four main concepts: biological structures, functions, and processes; mechanisms of genetics; biological evolution; and interdependence within environmental systems.
Honors Biology: For student who have chosen to pursue honors, AP, and college classes and have taken algebra I, and met 8th grade Science STARR test and have passed the 8 th grade science with at least an 85. This is a college prep class with an EOC STARR test attached to it, a writing enhanced class, and for students who will be taking honors chemistry next.
IPC: No prerequisites but is a 9 th grade class and for those students who are not planning on taking chemistry. Integrated Physics and Chemistry incorporates the disciplines of physics and chemistry in the following topics
force, motion, energy, and with a larger focus on matter (chemistry). This class will prepare you for a better
understanding of biology.

Honors Anatomy & Physiology

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry (preferred but not required). This is a college prep class. Students in Anatomy and Physiology study a variety of topics, including the structure and function of the human body and the interaction of body systems for maintaining homeostasis.

Chemistry

In Chemistry, students conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific practices during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include characteristics of matter, use of the Periodic Table, development of atomic theory and chemical bonding, chemical stoichiometry, gas laws, solution chemistry, thermochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Students will investigate how chemistry is an integral part of our daily lives.

Physics (on level and AP)

The Physics class is an algebra-based, introductory level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electric charge and electric force, DC circuits, and mechanical waves and sound. This class will provide a great fondation in physics for any student iinterested in a science career.

Forensic Science

Forensic Science is a course that introduces students to the application of science to connect a violation of law to a specific criminal, criminal act, or behavior and victim. Students will learn terminology and procedures related to the search and examination of physical evidence in criminal cases as they are performed in a typical crime laboratory. Using scientific methods, students will collect and analyze evidence such as fingerprints, bodily fluids, hairs, fibers, paint, glass, and cartridge cases. Students will also learn the history and the legal aspects as they relate to each discipline of forensic science. Students must meet the 40% laboratory and fieldwork requirement. This course satisfies a high school science graduation requirement.

Environmental Science

The Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography.

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Social Studies Courses

World Geography: World geography is a course that explores the physical and cultural characteristics of the world's regions, including their natural resources, climate, population, and economic systems.
World History: This course examines the major events and turning points of world history from ancient times to the present. Students investigate the development of classical civilizations in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and Asia, and they explore the economic, political, and social revolutions that have transformed human history.
US History: This course will cover United States history from its pre-colonial period beginning in 1492 to the present. It covers all major aspects of American history during that period including: political, diplomatic, intellectual, cultural, economic and social events.
Dollars & Sense: Dollars & Sense focuses on consumer responsibilities, money management, communication skills, the use of financial applications, decision-making skills, impact of technology, employability skills and preparation for job seekers & careers.
US Government: US Government is the study of the founding principles of democracy in the United States, the structures and details of how the government functions, and the role of the individual citizen in participating in that democracy.
Economics: Economics is a social science that examines how goods and services are created, consumed, and exchanged. This course covers basic economic problems such as scarcity, choice, and effective use of resources.

Math Courses

Algebra I: All students are required to take Algebra 1, usually as freshmen. Advanced students may take this course in 8th grade.
Pre-AP Algebra I: The student will learn properties of functions: linear, piecewise, quadratic, exponential, algebraic, and graphic.
Geometry: In Geometry, students will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 8 and Algebra I to strengthen their mathematical reasoning skills in geometric contexts. Within the course, students will begin to focus on more precise terminology, symbolic representations, and the development of proofs.
Pre-AP Geometry: The student will learn properties of 2D and 3D geometric objects both physical and analytical.
Algebra II: Algebra II, students will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Kindergarten-Grade 8 and Algebra I. Students will broaden their knowledge of quadratic functions, exponential functions, and systems of equations. Students will study logarithmic, square root, cubic, cube root, absolute value, rational functions, and their related equations.
Pre-AP Algebra II: The student will learn properties of functions: linear, piecewise (including abs val and greatest integer), quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, square root, cube root, and rational.
AP Pre-Calculus: AP Precalculus prepares students for other college-level mathematics and science courses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations.
AP Calculus: AP Calculus AB is an introductory college-level calculus course. Students cultivate their understanding of differential and integral calculus through engaging with real-world problems represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally and using definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions as they explore concepts like change, limits, and the analysis of functions.

Elective Courses
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Computer Science

Fundamentals of Computer Science- An introductory course covering basic programming, web design, and digital citizenship.
Computer Science I, II and III- Focused on programming logic, data structures, and object-oriented programming (often using Java or Python).

Health Science

Principles of Health Science: Organization, function, evolutionary adaptation, and classification. Concepts of cytology, reproduction, genetics.
Medical Terminology: The laboratory portion of the course will reinforce the fundamental principles of living organisms.
Health Science Theory: Physical and chemical properties of life, organization, function, evolutionary adaptation, and classification.
Health Science Practicum: Explore the concepts of cytology, reproduction, genetics, and scientific reasoning.
Phlebotomy: Students learn how to collect blood from patients and prepare samples for testing.
Pharmacy Technician: Students will gain a strong foundation in the knowledge and skills needed to pursue a career in the pharmaceutical field. Knowledge includes pharmacology, pharmacy law, medication safety, the dispensing process, and inventory.

Athletics & PE

Athletics: Athletics is a course that involves physical training and competitive sports to develop students' physical fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship, and strategic thinking skills. Students may participate in various sports activities such as basketball, football, volleyball, track and field, and others, depending on the school's offerings.
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Spanish I-IV and AP

These are all cumulative courses beginning with Spanish I and culminating in the possibility of earning AP credit. Spanish I and II are required for High School graduation. They all cover grammar, pronunciation (speaking), comprehension, the written language and culture. Students learn by reading, writing, watching videos (even movies!), and singing.

Agriculture

Principles of Agriculture: Introduction to Agriculture Courses, parliamentary procedure, livestock breeds, FFA history, soil science, basic shop safety.
Ag Mechanics: Introduction to shop safety, cutting torch care and use, hand tool id, reading/understanding tape measures, "stick" welding, MIG welding.
Ag Structure/Design: Metal Fabrication construction of projects for Houston Livestock show and County Fair.
Horticulture Science: The purpose of this this course is to introduce principles and practices in the development, production and use of horticultural crops.
Advanced Plant and Soil Science: In Texas, Advanced Plant and Soil Science is a high-level Career and Technical Education (CTE) course that bridges the gap between traditional agriculture and rigorous laboratory science.
Floral Design: Designed to develop students' ability to identify and demonstrate the principles and techniques related to floral design.
Wildlife Management: Examines the management of game and non-game wildlife species, fish, and aqua crops and their ecological needs as related to current agricultural practices.
Livestock: Students will acquire knowledge and skills related to livestock and the livestock production industry.

Yearbook

Yearbook students will photograph sporting events, use graphic design tools to design yearbook pages, assist photographers in district photo sessions, sell advertisements, hand out pictures, and organize information for the yearbook. They will gain basic knowledge of photography, graphic design and professional interaction with community members.

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Theater I-IV
The students will work to develop concepts about self, human relationships, and the surrounding environments using elements of drama and conventions of theatre. The student interprets characters using the voice and body expressively and creates dramatizations. The student applies design, directing, and theatre production concepts and skills.

General Employability Skills
This course is designed to guide students in obtaining the knowledge and the needed employability skills that are transferable among a variety of jobs and careers and are considered essential in any employment situation. Students will learn and apply basic knowledge of what is expected in the workplace.

Sports Media
A sports media class is a course that teaches students how to report, produce, and analyze sports content for various media platforms, including print, broadcast, and digital. Students will learn how to write stories, shoot video, and edit content, as well as how to analyze and discuss sports from a media perspective.

Other Services

Dyslexia Therapy
Incoming 6th Grade Students who received Year One of Take Flight at the Elementary School will enroll in Year 2 of Take Flight. This class is for students who are identified as dyslexic and in active therapy. Multisensory instruction focuses on the five components of effective reading instruction supported by the National Reading Panel research meta-analysis. These components are phonemic awareness, phonic skills, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

Dyslexia Monitoring
This service is offered when a student has completed Dyslexia Therapy but needs additional support in fluency, spelling, and comprehension.

Special Education Support Services
Students are served according to IEP schedule of services.

Work Program
Juniors and Seniors have the opportunity to work off or on campus for school credit. The students in this program must be on track with all course credits for their graduation plan.