



# CURRICULUM GUIDE

## **School Information**

Universal School | 7350 W 93rd St | Bridgeview, IL 60455

Phone: (708) 599-4100 Fax: (708) 599-1588

[www.universalschool.org](http://www.universalschool.org)

This handbook provides descriptions of all courses and programs available at Universal School. In order to plan a complete course of study for the next four years, students should study these pages carefully, confer with their parents, and strongly consider the advice of teachers and Academic Counselor.

Courses listed in this Curriculum Guide will be offered only if there is sufficient enrollment. Universal School Board policy defines sufficient enrollment to be 7 students at the start of the school year. Course offerings may also be affected by the availability of staff as well as facilities. Also, it is expected that a student successfully completes a prerequisite before enrolling in a higher level sequenced course.

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) courses, who wish to obtain college credit, will be expected to pay for and take the AP exam in May. All other students in AP courses are required to take a retired AP exam at the end of the year for no cost and no opportunity for college credit.

## **Our Mission**

NURTURE | PREPARE | ACHIEVE

To provide a safe, nurturing, and stimulating Islamic learning environment that enables students to achieve their maximum educational potential, and prepare them for their future roles in society as responsible citizens.

## **Our Vision**

To prepare our students to be global citizens who possess innovative and creative capabilities for achievement, through a partnership between home and school that promotes Islamic values, respect and tolerance.

## **Accreditations**

Universal has been recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education since 1992 and in 2004 received accreditation from the North Central Association for Accreditation (now Cognia). We are accredited by or affiliated with:

- ISBE
- Cognia
- CIOGC- Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago
- CISNA- Council of Islamic School of North America
- National Honors Society of Secondary Schools
- College Board
- Illinois High School Association

## **Admissions Statement**

Admission to Universal School is open to all students in Pre-K to 10th grade. Admission into 11th and 12th grade is done on selective bases. The school does not discriminate in enrollment on the basis of race, age, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin. Universal School reserves the right to decline admission to students for the following reasons, which are not considered inclusive of all reasons justifying denial of admission: If a student requires special education instruction beyond the purview of the school's capability or capacity; if a student requires English as a Second Language (ESL) beyond the purview of the school's capability or capacity; if a student is academically weak or has had serious discipline problems at previous school. Enrollment opens during the month of May and continues until all available spots are filled in a given grade.

Priority in enrollment is as follows:

1. Students already enrolled at Universal
2. Staff children
3. Siblings of students already enrolled at Universal
4. Alumni children
5. All others

In order for a new student to be considered for admission to Universal School the following must be on file at the school:

1. Completed and signed application form
2. The results of the Universal entrance exam for students of 1st grade and up.
3. Copies of student's academic record for the past two years
4. Copies of student's standardized exams for the past two years
5. Copy of the student's Individual Education Plan (I.E.P.), if applicable
6. Documentation of passing admission interview for students in 5th grade and up
7. Copies of discipline record for the past 2 years
8. Interview for high and middle school applicants.

## **Graduation Requirements**

In order to graduate, 8th grade students must have a G.P.A. of 2.0/4.0 or higher, and no more than one credit loss. Students with more than one credit loss in eighth grade will not graduate and will not be able to participate in graduation exercises. 8th grade students who take summer school at Universal, or in the local school, and pass all previously failed subjects may enroll in 9th grade the following school year.

High school students must have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.0/4.0, earn 26 credit hours, and perform 25 hours of community service by February of the senior high school year and pass the U.S. constitution exam in order to graduate from Universal. Transfer students will be assessed based upon their credit evaluation. The following is the breakdown of required credits:

English Language 4.0 credits

Math & Computers 4.0 – 5.0 credits

(Students who take 3 credits of math must take an additional credit of computers)

Science 2.0 - 3.0 credits

Social Studies 2.0 - 3.0 credits

(American History and World History are mandatory)

Physical Education/Health 1.0 – 2.0 credits

Arabic Language/Quran 4.0 credits

Islamic Studies 4.0 credits

(One may be Islamic History or Geography)

Electives/Senior Project (Optional) 1.0 – 3.5 credits

Dual Enrollment/Credit at MVCC 2.0 – 4.0 credits (any subject 100 level)

26 total credit hours (minimum requirement)

Students entering high school will have 0 credit hours, even though they may have been in an accelerated program. The maximum number of credits that can be earned by a student on school campus in any given year is eight credit hours. Weighted grades are not available for middle school students.

### **To Earn the Seal of Biliteracy**

Universal High School will offer the Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) to demonstrate language ability in Arabic. Students who successfully complete testing and meet all other criteria will receive recognition through the Seal of Biliteracy.

### **Grading Policy**

The following is the grading system for the upper elementary, middle school, and high school students. All scores are based on a 0 to 100 scale. Teachers will distribute to students a syllabus, which includes the specific grading policy of each teacher. The following is the correspondence between letter grades and numerical equivalents:

#### **Grading Scale**

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

### **Grade Point Average (GPA)**

Universal School reports four GPAs on the official transcript. They are: All Subject Weighted GPA, All Subject NonWeighted GPA, Core Weighted GPA and Core NonWeighted GPA. The Core GPAs include points from English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Classical and World Languages. Progress Report grades and conduct grades are not included in the official transcript.

## AP, Honors, and Dual Credit Courses

### Advanced Placement

The Advanced Placement® (AP) program offers college level courses across the curriculum to all students who meet the academic prerequisite for the AP class in the course description list. The AP curriculum provides advanced, rigorous paced instruction and syllabus requirements to prepare students for standardized AP exams.

In the spring, Universal School administers a battery of AP exams as detailed on the College Board® website. Students are not required to be enrolled in an AP course in order to sit for an AP exam. Students often have developed interests independently or are well prepared for an AP exam through Benet's college prep and honors curriculum. For example, in Spanish dozens of students take and pass AP Spanish exam every year though the class is not an AP course.

AP courses offer the highest available weighted grades at Universal School. Students wishing to take an AP exam should see their counselor. Benet will order the exam and collect the fee for the exam.

Below is a list of the AP Exams that Universal School has made available to students in the past.

Biology	Human Geography
Calculus AB	Physics I
Chemistry	Physics II
Computer Science A	Psychology
English Language & Composition	Statistics
English Literature & Composition	United States History
Environmental Science	

### Honors

Honors (Honors) courses are offered throughout the curriculum to all students who meet the prerequisite for the Honors class in the course description list. Initial placement in an honors curriculum is based on grades, PSATs, placement exams, and teacher recommendation. Honors courses provide additional preparation for AP exams as noted in the course descriptions; students also earn weighted grades in honors courses due to accelerated level coursework.

### Dual Credit Courses with Moraine Valley Community College

Universal School is a recognized Dual Credit school with MVCC. These are the same expectations, workload, learning activities, projects, and exams as the courses taught to first year students at MVCC. Admissions offices at universities may accept the completed course credit as a college transfer credit from MVCC or as a fulfilled prerequisite, thus placing a student at a higher level college class. Some colleges accept MVCC credit and enter the grade earned into the college GPA. Other colleges do not recognize the grade. For information about whether a university will accept MVCC credit, please contact the university directly. For more information about enrollment in the MVCC program, students should see the Academic Counselor.

### Standardized Tests

All sophomores and juniors take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) as practice for the SAT and for juniors only, a chance to enter the NMSC scholarship programs

AP Exams are administered by Universal School in May per the schedule on the College Board website.

Universal does not include standardized test scores on the transcript. Students are informed that they are responsible for having their scores sent by the testing agency to the colleges of their choice.

## **Academic Programs and Policies**

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is behavior that reflects the knowledge of allowable and unallowable activities. Detailed lists of allowed and prohibited activities are available in the Parent/Students' Handbook along with a list of consequences for violations.

### **Attendance**

Consistent daily attendance by students is integral to obtaining the maximum educational benefit. Attendance for a minimum of four periods is considered a school day. Students may not participate in extracurricular activities on a day they are absent. Extended absence in any course (roughly more than 10 days per semester) may result in denial of course credit. For further details on attendance, including extended absence, contact the Dean of Students and review the Parent/Students' Handbook.

### **Course Offerings**

Time allotments, class size, space, teacher availability, and student preferences all determine the number and variety of each year's course offerings. Sufficient time and counseling is provided for students and their parents to select courses.

### **Add Drop Policy**

In general, the school discourages students from dropping courses or transferring between classes and levels. However, the administration will approve the drop of courses or the transfer to other classes in special circumstances. The drop/add policy is not automatic. A student will be required to show reasons for the request. The administration's decision in these matters is final. The deadline for any changes in student schedule is the last day of the second week of the semester. After the deadline, students may not drop or add courses unless initiated and required by the administration. Adding/dropping a course may not take place until all signatures are secured on the proper form. Students are responsible for obtaining all required signatures.

### **Failures, Course Repeat, Summer School**

If a student fails a course necessary for graduation, that course must be repeated and successfully completed. This may be done by taking the course in summer school. These courses must be approved by the counselor. The original grade earned remains on the student transcript. Grades earned for recovery credit will not be factored into the GPA.

A student who has failed the first semester of Algebra, Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, or the first or second year of a Classical and World Language, but who passes the second semester of the same course, is eligible to complete a proficiency exam on the first semester material at the conclusion of the second semester. A passing grade on the proficiency exam would earn the first semester credit for the course and summer school would not be necessary. However, the original grade would remain on the student transcript.

### **Athletic Eligibility**

The effect of scholastic standing on interscholastic competitions is determined by the Illinois High School Association rules. These rules are published in the Athletic Department Handbook.

### **Homework and Extracurricular Activities**

Daily homework should be expected in each class. While the length of the assignments varies daily, students should be prepared for 30-45 minutes per subject per night on average. Study halls are provided in addition to silent homerooms and

library hours before and after school. Students are encouraged to meet with their counselors for additional support options if needed. Participation in extracurricular activities is strongly encouraged and typically helps students with time management and balance.

### **National Honor Society**

Universal School operates a local chapter of the National Honor Society. Membership in the Benet chapter is an honor bestowed upon a student by the faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Members who fall below the standards which were the basis for their selection are subject to dismissal from the organization. Members who resign or are dismissed are never eligible for membership or its benefits.

### **Probation or Dismissal for Academic Performance**

Junior High and High School students with a GPA of less than 2.0/4.0 will be placed on academic probation. While on probation, the student will be required to participate in an Academic Support Program, which includes counseling and tutoring. If a student does not raise his/her GPA the following quarter, he/she may be asked to leave the school, or not be allowed to re-enroll for the following year. Guidelines for the probation policy are available in the counseling office. Students on academic probation may be banned from participating in extracurricular activities and may not be eligible to reenroll the following school year.

### **Transcript of Credits**

The high school transcript is the student's permanent record and contains the following:

1. Personal data: address, date of birth, parents' names
2. Record of all courses taken and grades received
3. Record of passing the U.S. Constitution test
4. Cumulative Grade Point Averages both Weighted/Unweighted All Subject and Core GPAs
5. Credit granted by proficiency tests

Transcript requests are made to the Academic Counselor, and transcripts will be sent directly to the school or agency designated by the student. A student may request an unofficial transcript. Conduct grades are not part of the permanent record.

### Four Year Course Planning Worksheet

<b>Course</b>	<b>Freshman</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>English</b>	English 1	English 2 H. English 2	English 3 H English 3 AP English	English 4 H English 4 AP English
<b>Mathematics</b>	Algebra 1 Geometry	Geometry Algebra II Algebra II H	Algebra II Trigonometry Pre Calculus	Trigonometry II H. Statistics AP Calculus
<b>Lab Science</b>	Biology	Chemistry Chemistry H AP Physics I	H Environ. Sci AP Bio AP Chem AP Physics I AP Physics II	H Environ. Sci AP Bio AP Chem AP Physics I AP Physics II
<b>Social Studies</b>	World History	U.S. History	AP US History Media & Culture H Human Geo H Psychology Sociology Islamic History	AP US History Media & Culture H Human Geo H Psychology Sociology Islamic History
<b>World Languages</b>	Arabic/Quran	Arabic/Quran	Arabic/Quran Dual Credit Arabic 101	Arabic/Quran Dual Credit Arabic 102
<b>Religion</b>	Islamic Studies 1	Islamic Studies 2	Islamic Studies 3	Islamic Studies 4
<b>Health, P.E., Computers</b>	P.E. 1 Sem. Health 1 Sem.	P.E. 1 Sem. Computers 1 Sem.	Computers H Computers	Computers H Computers
<b>Electives</b>		AP Physics I	<b>1 Semester Courses</b> Personal Finance Public Speaking Creative Writing Yearbook	<b>1 Semester Courses</b> Personal Finance Public Speaking Creative Writing Yearbook



## Course Request Instructions

Current Universal School students will request courses in February for the next school year. Course planning conferences for parents and students are available with the counselors. Universal School provides junior families a current transcript to assist in course selection. Additional information to be utilized when choosing courses will be shared during Academic Counseling Meetings.

## English Department

### Regular English

#### Grade: 9<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit

Students will expand their appreciation of various genres introduced in eighth grade by reading works of similar authors, but which demand greater interpretive and comprehension skills. They will practice writing skills that are connected with the works they are reading. Vocabulary and grammar are also integrated with the literature. Additional novels, plays, and poetry will be used.

#### Summer Reading for students entering 9<sup>th</sup> Grade:

##### Animal Farm

Reading During the School Year:

To Kill A Mockingbird 9<sup>th</sup>

Romeo and Juliet 9<sup>th</sup> (text)

The Odyssey 9<sup>th</sup> (text)

Lord of the Flies 9<sup>th</sup>

Of Mice and Men

### Regular English

#### Grades: 10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit

Students will be able to read, comprehend, and interpret short stories. This course will also develop the students' skills to identify plot, character, setting, and theme in written works. They will understand and identify figurative language in writings, and will also be capable of analyzing, evaluating, and recognizing different forms of literature. Students taking this course will enhance their writing skills, polish their speaking and listening skills, and gain an appreciation for literature by reading several novels and poems. **Summer Reading entering 10<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

#### A Separate Peace by John Knowles

10<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List during the School Year:

Julius Caesar 10<sup>th</sup> (text)

Antigone 10<sup>th</sup> (text)

Raisin in the Sun 10<sup>th</sup>

Fahrenheit 451 10<sup>th</sup>

Pride and Prejudice 10<sup>th</sup>

Great Expectations

Death of A Salesman 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Regular English**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit Summer Reading entering 11<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Regular English: The Great Gatsby

### **11<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List for English III during the School Year:**

Malcolm X

Pygmalion

The Catcher In the Rye

The Scarlet Letter

The Crucible (text)

### **Honors English Grades: 11<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The primary objective of this class is to fold: first to introduce students to the wide range of forms, styles, ideas and materials peculiar to British literature; second, to prepare students to progress into A.P. English class. In addition to reading and writing personal and response essays about literature from The American Experiences, students will also be expected to practice A.P. format. Students are required to read and discuss novels they have procured themselves.

Honors English: The Great Gatsby

### **11<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List for English III HONORS during the School Year:**

Their Eyes Were Watching God

Malcolm X (excerpts ONLY)

Macbeth (text)

The Catcher in the Rye

The Scarlet Letter

The Grapes of Wrath

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

The Crucible (text)

### **AP English**

**Grades: 11-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will develop an individual voice in writing by learning a variety of rhetorical strategies; students will know the importance of phrasing, sentence structure, and mechanics. They will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. They will also apply literary terms and concepts to fiction and nonfiction works.

AP English Literature and Composition summer reading list is as follows: *The Jungle by Upton Sinclair*

*Narrative of Frederick Douglass*

### **AP English Literature and Composition for the School Year:**

*The Awakening* Kate Chopin (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter) *Light in August* William Faulkner (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter)

*Othello* Shakespeare (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter) *Hamlet* Shakespeare (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) *The Glass Menagerie*  
Tennessee Williams (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Zora Neale Hurston (4<sup>th</sup>  
Quarter)

### **Regular English**

**Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List for English IV during the School Year**

Frankenstein

Robinson Crusoe

### **Summer Reading for Students entering 12<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Regular English: *The Importance of Being Earnest*

### **Honors English**

**Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List for English IV HONORS during the School Year** Hamlet

Frankenstein

Wuthering Heights

Paradise Lost (4 / 12 books maximum)

Othello

### **Summer Reading for Students entering 12<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Honors English: *A Midsummer Night Dream*

### **A.P. English Literature**

**Grades: 11-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course involves students in becoming skilled readers of literature writing in a variety of historical periods and rhetorical contexts. The course also involves students becoming skilled writers who compose clear, concise, and persuasive interpretive essays demonstrating understanding of the broad implications of particular works of literature. The course is designed to strengthen students' abilities to comprehend and interpret the form and substance of a variety of works, including both poetry and prose. The course will prepare the students for College Broad English AP Exam for college credit.

AP English Literature and Composition summer reading list is as follows: *The Jungle* by

*Upton Sinclair*

*Narrative of Frederick Douglass*

**AP English Literature and Composition Readings during the school year:** *The Awakening* Kate Chopin (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter) *Light in August* William Faulkner (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter) *Othello* Shakespeare (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter) *Hamlet* Shakespeare (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) *The Glass Menagerie* Tennessee Williams (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Zora Neale Hurston (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter) AP Readings During the Year May Also Include:

Hamlet (text)

Macbeth

Frankenstein

Oedipus Rex (text)

In Cold Blood

The Crucible

**\*\*Over the years summer reading for A.P. and recently for other classes**

Emma Persuasion

Wuthering Heights

King Lear (new addition for A.P. Lit. this year)

The Awakening

Their Eyes Were Watching God (Can be for grades 10<sup>th</sup> and up)

The Merchant of Venice

Animal Farm

Count of Monte Cristo

Invisible Man

Heart of Darkness

Brave New World

The Great Gatsby

Black Like Me

### **Writing and Grammar**

**Grade: 9<sup>th</sup> 1/2 Credit**

The objective of this course is to strengthen students' writing, vocabulary, and spelling skills through tests, quizzes, writing assignments and presentation skills. It strengthens students' reading, writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills by examining different forms of writing. It also develops effective oral communication skills, and strengthens students' writing skills by understanding the writing process, then writing through various essay assignments.

### **Writing and Grammar**

**Grade: 10<sup>th</sup> 1/2 Credit**

The purpose of this course is to equip students with proper grammar usage in order to improve the quality of their writing. Students will study and practice various prewriting, organizational, audience analysis, and revising strategies that will assist them in completing specific writing assignments. It provides the students with the four essay formats: expository, descriptive, persuasive, and narrative.

### **Writing and Grammar**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup> 1/2 Credit**

This course presents a variety of strategies such as synonyms, word parts and reading skills. It composes for a variety of purposes using a range of formats and techniques. It develops an understanding of and ability to write research papers by using grammar and conventions correctly in writing and speaking. Students will practice using grammar and will also understand the structure of the English Language through a study of grammar. It provides the students with the four essay formats: expository, descriptive, persuasive, and narrative.

# Math Department

## **Pre-Algebra**

**Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course is to make students use reasoning skills in applying math to daily activities as well as to introduce the idea of a variable and progress from working with numerical expressions to manipulating algebraic expressions. Students will use algebra and arithmetic skills in practical settings to solve real world problems; they will work with fractions proportions and percents. Students will get the concept of positive and negative integers, rational numbers, area and volume; also students will develop spatial thinking and apply their knowledge of geometry to the real world.

## **Algebra I**

**Grades: 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The goal of this course is to acquire a basic knowledge of Algebra to become confident thinkers and problem solvers. Emphasis is placed on solving linear functions and their graph, systems of equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, polynomials, and exponential functions providing a solid preparation for high school math studies.

## **Geometry**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will engage the students to use inductive and deductive reasoning skills as learning the basics of geometry, while they learn to write and understand the definitions of principle geometric vocabulary. Students will learn the basic figures of geometry and their properties, will be able to find angles and degree measurements, will use algebra skills to solve real world problems, and solve problems involving parallel and perpendicular lines. This course will make the student develop reasoning skills with three-dimensional objects, develop the formulas for surface areas and volume of cylinders, pyramids, etc. It will also provide triangles congruent, quadrilaterals, ratios, proportions and similarity.

## **Honors Geometry**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course is intended to continue working on the concepts learned in the regular geometry class, putting an emphasis on advanced writing in math and word problems. Students will continue developing important reasoning skills with different dimensional objects and formulas.

## **Algebra II**

**Grades: 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The students will use several methods to solve equations, linear, quadratic, one variable, multivariable, rational, real and imaginary equations. They will also work on multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction of polynomials and rational expressions. In addition, they will simplify and evaluate rational exponents and define zero and negative exponents. This course will also help students work with exponential and logarithmic functions, periodic functions and trigonometry.

## **Honors Algebra II**

**Grade: 10<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit** This course is intended to continue working on the concepts learned on the regular Algebra II class putting an emphasis on advanced writing in math and word problems. Students will continue developing important reasoning skills to solve arithmetic and geometric sequences and series. Also, the student will learn conics.

## **Pre-Calculus**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course is designed to aid students in acquiring the knowledge and understanding of mathematical ideas, concepts and procedures to give them the mathematical power needed to succeed in any higher education math based work in college. It will give them the ability to think and communicate critically and responsibly, the ability to use math beyond the classroom and in real life. Students will learn about polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic function, trigonometric functions, graphs and inverses of trig functions, applications of trigonometry, trigonometric identities and equations, polar coordinates and vectors, systems of equations, exponential and logarithmic function, and analytical geometry.

## **AP Calculus AB and BC**

**Grades: 12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course is intended to continue working on the concepts learned on the regular pre calculus class putting an emphasis on advanced writing in math and word problems. Students will continue developing important reasoning skills, work on sequences, probability, limits, and an introduction to calculus.

## **Honors Pre-Calculus**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will provide an understanding of limits, derivatives and antiderivatives, theory, mechanics through problem solving. Students will prepare for the calculus AB exam by applying knowledge known and gained in practice tests. The instructor will work on the students' weakness to find all the techniques possible to make them into strengths and a successful final score on the exam.

## **Consumer/ Business Math**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course deals with economic issues related to earning, banking, budgeting and various business transactions. Encourage critical thinking skills while making consumer decision making. Integrate critical math skills in business; incorporate technique in being an independent, effective thinker and decision maker, and it develops awareness in making Halal monetary decisions.

## **Trigonometry**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course are designed to bridge the gap from high school courses to college courses. This course begins with a review of the real numbers and basic algebra, review of the function concept. As they progress through the text, students will work with linear, quadratic, and higher-degree polynomial functions; the absolute value square root functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions; and

trigonometric functions. Graphing is emphasized so that students become proficient in both drawing and interpreting graphs.

### **Honors Statistics**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course is a full year, non-calculus based course in descriptive and inferential statistics. It will introduce students to the tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Four broad conceptual themes will be covered: exploratory analysis of data, planning a study, probability, and statistical inference. The graphing calculator (use of a TI83+ or TI83 Silver Edition or the TI84 is an expectation for the AP Test) and computer labs will be used throughout the course. Students enrolled in this course are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Statistics Examination

## **Social Studies Department**

### **World History**

**Grade: 9<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will focus on the modern era; it will discover and explore the cultures, value, and systems of various societies and their evolutions throughout the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The main goal of this course is to help students familiarize themselves and understand their world today through analyzing the past. It will focus on some themes such as diversity, art of the individual, religions and value systems, and political and social systems.

### **American History**

**Grade: 10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will cover the history of the United States from early colonial society to modern times. Students will be able to analyze and comprehend the eight major themes of American history: Geography, Economic organization, politics and law, war and diplomacy, technology, religion, philosophy, science, arts, social relations, and cross cultural interaction. The course will also provide the students with means and a methodology that will help them better understand our world today and appreciate the story of mankind. Careful attention will be paid to important skills such as development of critical and analytical skills, study skills, and map reading skills.

### **Islamic History**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will study the history of Islamic states from the Khulafa al-Rashideen to the modern day. There will be analysis and comprehension of major themes of Islamic History, such as: expansion, social patterns, Muslim contributions to the arts and sciences, and the decline of Muslim empires. The objective of this class is to understand the Muslim intellectual tradition and appreciate the development of Muslim sciences by scholars of the past. It also provides the students with means and a methodology that will help them better understand our world today and appreciate the story of mankind. Careful attention will also be paid to important skills such as: development of critical and analytical skills; study skills; and map reading skills.

### **Sociology**

**Grades 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The course introduces the ideas of sociology to the students, increases their awareness of the everyday social

world, and facilitates the application of sociological ideas in understanding human behavior. This course will also increase the student's perception of oneself as a social being, and improve the student's perception of oneself as a social being, and improve the student's comprehension of the reciprocal influences of society on the individual and the individual on the society.

### **Psychology**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course are to learn the basic concepts of psychology including: the introduction to psychology, definition, brief history, what psychologists do, developmental psychology-the growth of humans. We also cover our mind and body including behavior states of consciousness, sensation and perception. There is also a learning and cognitive process including conditioning, memory and thought, thinking, language, motivation and emotion. As well there is personality and individuality including testing, theories of personality. Finally this class includes stress, health, psychological disorders, and social psychology including individuals, groups, attitudes and social influence.

### **AP U.S. History**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most colleges introductory U.S History Course. It is designed to help students acquire the analytical skills and factual knowledge needed to deal critically with a wide variety of historical problems. Students will also learn to assess historical material, their relevance to a given issue, their reliability and their importance, and to weight the evidence and interpretation presented in historical scholarship. The course will help to develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essays.

### **Honors Human Geography**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. There will be a strong emphasis on writing throughout the course, and students will consistently express their geographical understanding through writing. Students will become more geoliterate, more engaged in contemporary global issues, and more informed about multicultural viewpoints.

### **Media and Culture**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course covers the role and responsibilities of the media in American society. Students will gain an understanding of specific areas of mass communication, including newspapers, television, magazines, radio, internet, movies, advertising and public relations. The course provides an overview of the evolution of mass communication and emphasizes how media messages interact with culture. Students will also study professional models as a way to learn the techniques of journalistic research and writing. Their articles are submitted for publication in the school newspaper and other area publications. Students enrolled in Media and Culture are expected to participate in creating the school newspaper; therefore, interviewing and speaking skills are also taught.



## **Political Science**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

This course is offered as part of a dual credit partnership between Moraine Valley Community College and Universal School. Students who submit a dual credit enrollment form and earn an A or B in the course will be awarded college credit through Moraine Valley Community College. Students earning less than a B will be dropped from the course and have no record retained of their enrollment in the course. This course explores the basic principles of the Constitution, and structure and functions of the federal government. This includes Congress, presidency and judiciary. The roles of political parties, pressure groups and public opinion in American politics are examined.

## **Economics**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

The objectives of this course are to explore the effects of economics on everyone. It discusses the benefits of the free market and helps students understand the relationship between business and labor and how they can achieve their goals. This course also covers the concept of financial responsibility and personal finances, and to have an understanding of the role of government in the economy. It also explains scarcity and how it can divide the world or bring it together. This course helps to develop critical thinking skills when analyzing real-life situations involving money and finances.

# Arabic Department

## **Arabic Level I**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

The student will be able to read and write in Arabic by the end of the course. The student will be encouraged to speak only Arabic in class, to practice new words and phrases, and to ask and answer basic questions using interrogative pronoun, (e.g.: Who? What? Where?). Basic grammatical skills like nouns, verbs, proposition, masculine and feminine will be covered. The instructor has the option of choosing a text book from **Lughatuna Alalamiyya** series, Book 1, 2, 3, and 4.

## **Arabic Level II**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

The students will be able to read a paragraph, understand the general meaning, and answer related questions by the end of the course. The students will be encouraged to write a paragraph about a certain topic, using the new vocabulary words and applying the new grammatical skills. New grammatical skills will include pronouns, conjugation of verbs in different tenses, dual and plural nouns, and learn basic syntax. The instructor has the option of choosing a text book from **Lughatuna Alalamiyya** series, Book 5 or 6.

## **Arabic Level III**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

The students will be introduced to Quranic Verses, Ahadith, stories of the Sahaba and poems. The students will be able to read the text, understand general meaning, and answer related questions by the end of the course. The students will be encouraged to write summaries about a certain topic, using the new vocabulary words and applying the new grammatical skills. The students will build on their grammatical skills, review pronouns, conjugation of verbs in different tenses, dual and plural nouns, and learn intermediate syntax (adjectives, conjunctions...). The instructor has the option of choosing a text book from **Lughatuna Alalamiyya** series, Book 7 or 8.

#### **Arabic Level IV**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

The students will be introduced to more poems to, quotes from the prophet, and the life of the companions. The students will be able to read the texts, value the Arabic Literature, understand the general meaning, and answer related questions by the end of the course. The students will be encouraged to write essays about a certain topic, using the new vocabulary words and applying the new grammatical skills. The students will build on their grammatical skills, learn about adverbs, interjections, and advanced syntax. The instructor has the option of choosing a text book from **Lughatuna Alalamiyya** series, Book 9, 10 or 11.

#### **Dual Credit Arabic 101**

**Grades: 11th grade ½ Credit**

The course covers a variety of topics aimed to facilitate the comprehension and use of basic words and expressions in standard Arabic. Vocabulary and structures are introduced to enrich the learners' knowledge and help them become autonomous learners. Students will develop the ability to express themselves in written and spoken forms, using both formal and spoken registers of Arabic. The course, in addition, is designed to help students introduce themselves and ask and answer questions about personal details; handle interactions such as daily-life situations, asking and giving directions, dealing with money, shopping for food, clothes etc...; and emergencies. It also focuses on learning through communication, developing critical thinking, and exposing learners to Arabic and Islamic culture & values. Students receive college credit through Moraine Valley Community College.

#### **Dual Credit Arabic 102**

**Grades: 12th grade ½ Credit**

This is an advanced course that integrates modern standard Arabic with spoken dialects in a way that accommodates the needs of advanced students. It covers a variety of topics such as Arab cultures and communities, education, religion, social life, economics, politics, military, and the environment. In addition, it works on listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. Materials are authentic and structured to provide opportunities for further practice and use. Moreover, a lot of vocabulary and structures are introduced to enrich the learners' knowledge and help them become autonomous learners. Students will develop the ability to use authentic language, be fluent in verbal communication, write grammatically correct passages and essays, listen to media reports and news, and express themselves in a variety of topics and situations. Students receive college credit through Moraine Valley Community College.

# Islamic Studies Department

## **Islamic Studies IV**

**Grade: 9<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course covers the four areas of Sharia: Tawheed, Tafseer, Hadith and Fiqh. It assumes that the Quranic skills of reading and Recitation of the Quran would be covered in Arabic classes. Students will learn the duties of a Muslim. One of the greatest blessings of Islam is its admirable success in creating strong, warm, rich and durable bonds of love and brotherhood between individuals.

## **Islamic Studies V**

**Grades: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The purpose of this course is to prepare the students to live Islam apply it in all walks of life prior to leaving the traditional school environment, and before entering higher educational institutions. Combination of various Islamic sources and references will be used. The information gained will educate and appropriately train the Islamic worker to function primarily in North America. By means of: by providing students with spiritual uplifting, proper knowledge and understanding of Islam, Islamic movements, working knowledge of contemporary ideologies and religions, and giving the skills and tools to maintain Islam in North America.

## **Islamic Contemporary Issues**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course is a combination of examining contemporary issues that affect our faith and call us into action (community service). Much of the course will revolve around community engagement and there will be some required participation outside of class - some of which can double for community service. Participation will be closely monitored and students will be encouraged to seek extra credit. This course will also examine the basics of other faiths, secularism, feminism, conservatism, some legislative issues, radicalization/extremism and how to counter Islamophobia. This course will provide students with an opportunity to organize and have hands-on experience in community engagement and how to promote positive change through an Islamic approach. Discussions in class will revolve around the contemporary challenges of the day and require students to examine a variety of social issues, consider various perspectives, and recognize the flexibility of Islam without exceeding its injunctions. One of the main goals of this course is for students to fully appreciate the authenticity of the message of Islam and its effects so that they can adopt an Islamic moral code and conclude an ethical imperative. Additional material outside of the text(s) will be covered to afford students opportunities to gain life skills related to practicing Islam

# Science Department

## **Biology**

**Grade: 9<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course will study the seven unifying themes of biology, which are reproduction and inheritance, development, structure and function, energy relationships, ecology, science and society, and evolution. The students will increase their awareness of the importance of biology in their everyday lives and its expanding role in modern society. Students will also gain an appreciation for the beauty behind all different aspects of

living organisms and realize the magnificence of their creator. Students will analyze in depth the study of genetic engineering and its modern day applications.

## **Chemistry**

**Grades: 10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

Students will be able to explore the various branches of chemistry as it serves society, industry, consumers and the environment. They will understand the nature and structure of elements, atoms and compounds, study the rules that govern the behavior of gasses and other states of Matter. This course will help them to be proficient in scientific measurements and degree of certainty calculations, to use critical thinking skills as well as algebraic concepts, and scientific principles to predict the products of a reaction and other stoichiometric problems.

## **Honors Chemistry**

**Grade: 10<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

Honors Chemistry is intended for the highly successful and motivated science and math student who may be intending to major in science or science related areas. Although the topics for this course are similar to those of the Chemistry course mentioned above, there are two additional independent units (Nuclear Chemistry and Organic Chemistry). Furthermore, the pace is accelerated, the depth and scope of the coverage are expanded, and there is a greater expectation for the students to take responsibility for learning outside the classroom. Through lecture and laboratory investigations, this course goes beyond introducing the fundamental concepts and requires students to apply learned concepts to new situations, interpret qualitative and quantitative data, and use mathematics to infer numerical relationships. Laboratory work is an integral part of the course and is very analytical in nature. Students who are self directed learners with demonstrated mastery of math and science and excellent reading comprehension skills are considered for this course.

## **Adv. Chemistry (AP)**

**Grades 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

Students will be able to explore the various branches of chemistry as it serves society, industry, consumers and the environment. They will understand the nature and structure of elements, atoms and compounds, and study the rules that govern the behavior of gasses and other states of Matter. This course will help them to be proficient in scientific measurements and degree of certainty calculations, to use critical thinking skills as well as algebraic concepts, and scientific principles to predict the products of a reaction and other stoichiometric problems.

## **AP Biology**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introduction biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. AP Biology includes the topics that regularly provide the foundation found in the first year of college biology.

## **Physics**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course are to provide understanding to the meaning of science and scientific

observation. Students will gain knowledge about measurements and units, Mechanics waves and light, and they will understand the rules behind physics and force. Laboratory will be used to gain practical experience, and gain an appreciation for the dynamic of science. Strong attention is given to problem solving. Learning how to approach and solve problems is a basic part of this course.

### **Honors Physics**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course are to provide understanding to the meaning of science and scientific observation. Students will gain knowledge about measurements and units, and they will understand the rules behind physics and force. Laboratory will be used to gain practical experience, and gain an appreciation for the dynamic of science. Strong attention is given to problem solving. Learning how to approach and solve problems is a basic part of this course. State of Matter, Electricity, and Magnetism.

### **AP Physics**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

The objectives of this course are to provide understanding to the meaning of science and scientific observation. Students will gain knowledge about measurements and units, and they will understand the rules behind physics and force. Laboratory will be used to gain practical experience, and gain an appreciation for the dynamic of science. Strong attention is given to problem solving. Learning how to approach and solve problems is a basic part of this course. State of matter, Electricity, and Magnetism, as Modern and Nuclear physics.

### **Honors Environmental Science**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 Credit**

Environmental Science stands at the interface between humans and earth and explores the interactions and relations between them. This relationship will need to be considered in all future decision making in a manner that promotes sustainability, science, and stewardship.

## **Computer Department**

### **Introduction to DOS/ Windows**

**Grade: 9<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

This course provides an overview of computer hardware and operating system concepts used on computers. This class studies fundamental computer command syntax with an in depth study of the Disk Operation System (DOS) commands. Students will use a computer system to execute problem solving exercises using beginning Disk Operating (DOS) commands.

### **Introduction to Visual Basic**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

This course introduces general programming concepts in Visual Basic. Visual Basic enables programming to produce a wide range of applications. Rather than emphasizing the development of specific types of application, this course emphasizes elements that are common to most Windows Applications.

## **HTML**

**Grades: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

This course introduces web page authoring and publishing. The planning, design and creation of multiple media web pages that include links, tables, graphics, and HTML at extremely fast pace. This class also focuses on the Universal School Homework Center.

## **Visual Basic I**

**Grades: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> ½ Credit**

This course is an introduction to BASIC as a programming language for microcomputers. Design, develop and execute application programs primarily in the business area. Program documentation is also covered.

## **AP Computer Science**

AP Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) is a full-year, rigorous course that introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and explores the impact of computing and technology in our society. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics including: programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing.

# Physical Education Department

## **Physical Education**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

The goal of this course is to develop physically educated individuals who have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthful physical activity. It demonstrates competency in motor skills and movement patterns needed to perform a variety of physical activities. The students should have a clear understanding of movement concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics as they apply to the learning and performance of physical and performance of physical activities. Achieves and maintains a health-enhancing level of physical fitness. Exhibits responsible and social behavior, which respects self and others in physical activity settings. Finally, the students should value physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and/ or social interaction.

## **Electives**

### **Dual Credit Journalism**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

The journalism class will produce four issues of the Constellation, our school's newspaper. Students will learn basic journalism skills such as finding stories, interviewing, reporting, writing, designing, photographing, editing, proofreading and management. Dual Credit course with MVCC

## **Yearbook**

**Grades: 12<sup>th</sup>**

In this course students will learn how to work with designing programs and online publication generation, and develop the skills of how to change pictures, sizing, editing and writing on pictures. They will collect pictures for all events, students, and teachers, to make special pages for most of the memories, events and activities. Students will work as groups in specific classes, Students gain useful, real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles.

## **Creative Writing**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

This course develops the skills of students in writing four genres: essay, short story, drama, and poetry. Each quarter emphasizes one of the four genres. Class activities are divided between mastering the techniques of each genre and sharing of student writing. This course is only for those who love to write every day and are willing to share their writing with others.

## **Personal Finance**

**Grades: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

In today's increasingly complex society, everyone needs an understanding of the business world. This is true not only of the person who intends to enter the business world in order to make a living, but of each person who will buy and use the goods and services that businesses have to offer. Topics discussed include the individual consumer in the marketplace, money management, consumer credit, human services-housing, food, transportation, clothing, health services, drugs and cosmetics, recreation, furnishings and appliances, insurance, savings and investments, taxes and the consumer in our economy. Other topics include banking services, the stock market, basic marketing principles and career investigation.

## **Public Speaking**

**Grades: 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

This course is intended to provide and instill the fundamental skills in high school students to become effective and confident speakers. This course will allow students to learn and practice speech making and presenting to an audience, beyond the basic public speaking situations that are covered during English classes. Although the class begins with a review of persuasive and informative speeches, we quickly move to more challenging experiences. Oral interpretation of poetry and prose is covered. Several weeks are devoted to debate where students learn to develop an affirmative case and a negative brief. Students also participate in radio speaking, a television news broadcast, and an acting scene.