2024-2025 Course Descriptions

Advanced Personal Finance:
This course is designed to help students develop skills to make informed financial decisions, manage financial resources, and plan for future financial success. Students will learn basic personal finance principles to manage their money, which include budgeting, banking, insurance, mortgages, savings, investments, retirement, and taxes. Students will also learn about consumer protection laws, internet safety and cyber security.

Algebra II:
In this course students extend their study of foundational algebraic concepts, such as linear functions, equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, absolute value functions, and exponential functions, from previous mathematics encounters. Additionally, students study new families of functions that are also essential for subsequent mathematical application and learning. These functions include rational and logarithmic functions.

American Sign Language I:
ASL 1 is a beginner course into the introduction of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture. The goal is to keep voices off, eyes open as we use and practice our visual skills to gain a basic means of communication into the Deaf Culture.

Anatomy and Physiology:
This upper level science course is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of how the organ systems within the human body work together to maintain homeostasis, and how a failure in homeostasis results in a disease or health issue. The course was designed with a focus on hands-on and creative assessments that cultivate students' critical thinking, research, and communication skills – both orally in class discussions as well as in written forms. Each unit includes laboratory work in the form of traditional labs and/or simulation activities, the study of specimens, and research-based projects. Students should be prepared to conduct research, work in small groups as well as independently, write scientifically, and communicate their understanding in a variety of methods. Day-to-day instruction methods include teacher-lead instruction, group work, student seatwork, project-based learning, and lab exercises with both student-choice and teacher-choice grouping. Students can expect to start each day with a bell ringer assignment followed by learning activities and lecture. At times students will work independently from the teacher in order to achieve the level of student autonomy expected of upperclassmen students. Classes are structured to utilize every minute for learning and assessing understanding. Real world application is a daily objective. Higher-level thinking will be incorporated into each lesson as well as use of technology, when applicable, to increase student achievement. Students are expected to participate in all activities and actively engage and ask questions during teacher-led lecture. Students are also expected to review and study the content covered in class outside of school daily.

Band:

CHS Band will give students the opportunity to study and apply techniques that have been previously presented in ensembles and lessons. Those who are beginners in music will begin to learn and apply techniques of instrumentation and understanding notation. Musical literature stemming from genres across the decades will be performed. CHS Band members will participate in School Performances, Open Mic Nights, as well as other performance opportunities throughout the semester.

Biology I:
Biology is important because it helps us understand the Big Picture. This course is designed to introduce students to the study of life. With focus on topics such as genetics,cell biology, ecology, biotechnology, and ecosystem dynamics, we will explore different aspects of science and embark on our own personal journey to becoming inquisitive, scientific thinkers. This is an EOC course so the curriculum will be cumulative, with a final End of Course exam, counting toward 20% of the student's final grade.
This class will require students to engage in class discussion and demonstrate proficiency in important vocabulary and concepts related to biology. Class projects, laboratory observations, and hands-on field experience will collectively contribute to the students' grade in the class.
Students are expected to follow all lab safety rules (posted in classroom) and act responsibly with lab equipment. Students are also expected to respect themselves, their classmates, and all staff at the school and on any field trips they may attend.

Chemistry:
Learning about chemical processes at both the microscopic level (too small to be seen) and the macroscopic level (visible to the naked eye), you will design and implement laboratory investigations to uncover ideas and laws in chemistry and to confirm their truthfulness. You will explore topics in atomic structure, chemical bonds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, gas behavior, thermochemistry, nuclear chemistry, chemical equilibrium and more.

Civics: Civics courses examine the general structure and functions of U.S. systems of government, the roles and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system. These courses do not typically delve to the same degree of detail into constitutional principles, or the role of political parties and interest groups as do comprehensive courses in U.S. Government. Instead we will focus more on civic concepts such as: community, values, consensus and compromise, rights and responsibilities, deliberation and debate, action and unity in times of crisis, and informed voting.

Digital Art and Design:
The ever changing and global technological advancements offer newer and broader opportunities in the creative industry. The Digital Art and Design program prepares students for a multitude of careers in the graphic design field. This program provides instruction in layout, computer design, electronic art, color enhancement, and digital photography. Students use design concepts, principles, and processes that meet client expectations using Adobe Creative

Suite Software: Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. Students will have the opportunity to attain Adobe Certified Associate certification. Career development and employability skills are the foundation of all career and technology education. Students will compile their works for inclusion in a portfolio, for use in this program of study, the workforce, or postsecondary education.

Early Childhood Education:
Early Childhood Education 1 provides students with hands-on opportunities to actively explore and observe the world of children and prepare them for educational and administrative careers in the field. This course provides an in-depth study of career paths, developmentally appropriate practices, curriculum development, safe and healthy learning environments, and collaborative relationships.

Earth Science:
Earth Science includes many sciences such as Astronomy, Geology, Meteorology and Oceanography. Watch out the window when riding in a car, listen to the weather forecast and look up at the night sky. This course will help you better understand some of the natural phenomena you observe in the world around you.This course is designed to introduce students to the study of the Earth. Students will learn about the two types of weathering—physical and chemical—and some of the processes that contribute to each type. In addition, students will study different types of surface water, such as streams, lakes, and wetlands. Students will also be able to identify and describe the layers of Earth's atmosphere. Finally, students will learn about weather and the world's oceans and review climate and climate change. This class will require students to engage in class discussion and demonstrate proficiency in important vocabulary and concepts related to environmental studies. Class projects, laboratory observations, and hands-on field experience will collectively contribute to the students' grade in the class.

English I:
English 1 aims to build a solid foundation in reading, writing, and critical analysis that will be essential for more advanced coursework and academic success. I believe the best way to become better readers, writers, communicators, and thinkers is to participate in reading, writing, communicating, and thinking. Therefore, we will incorporate the South Carolina ELA standards and do all of these things every day. Be prepared to read and write every day. Be prepared to share your ideas and your questions with me and your classmates. We will all participate in a variety of learning strategies and styles. We will work individually at times and in pairs and groups at other times-sometimes all three in a class period. In order for us all to get the most out of the classwork is to participate every day. You are responsible for your own learning. I will be here to facilitate, but you must accept it all.

English II:
Students entering English 2 Honors are refining critical thinking skills, problem-solving skills, and creativity. English 2 Honors students should be closely reading rich and challenging texts and should also be able to demonstrate the ability to analyze the structure of and techniques used within various types of print and multimedia texts.

English III:
Traditionally English 3 is the study of American Literature and the relationship between our actions, events, and ideas, that are reflected in our country's literature. This was achieved primarily with only those works written by American authors. We will continue this idea, but at times literature, articles, current events, etc. from other places may be incorporated. I believe the best way to become better readers, writers, communicators, and thinkers is to participate in reading, writing, communicating, and thinking. Therefore, we will do all of these things every day. Be prepared to read and write every day. Be prepared to share your ideas and your questions with me and your classmates. We will all participate in a variety of learning strategies and styles. We will work individually at times and in pairs and groups at other times-sometimes all three in a class period. In order for us all to get the most out of the classwork is to participate every day. You are responsible for your own learning. I will be here to facilitate, but you must accept it all.

English IV:
Students entering English 4 are demonstrating critical thinking skills, problem-solving skills, and creativity. English 4 students should be efficient readers, writers, and communicators, and should communicate through a variety of modes to analyze, evaluate, and critique the structure, tone, and techniques of various types of print and multimedia texts.

Entrepreneurship: This course is designed for those interested in starting their own business. The curriculum is centered on three key aspects of entrepreneurship: 1) the individual, their traits, skills, and attributes that make entrepreneurs successful, 2) the business ideas, how to generate them, where to look for them, how to expand them, and 3) how to ensure they are valid business ideas with potential to meet profit goals. These elements, developed in the course, will assist in creating your own small business plan and competing in the school business plan competition.

Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS):
Family and Consumer Sciences 1 is a project-based course that empowers students by equipping them with skills that lead to growth in the following areas: interpersonal relationships, education and early childhood procedures, textiles, fashion, and apparel principles, nutrition and wellness practices, financial literacy skills, housing and interior design processes, and career exploration opportunities. Often called "Adulting 101" this course will answer many of your questions about growing into your adult roles.

Foundations of Algebra:
This course formalizes and extends the mathematics that students learned in the middle school grades, and is based on Algebra I college and career readiness standards. The course deepens and extends understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. As per South Carolina graduation requirements for high school students, all Algebra 1 students will be required to take

an End of Course (EOC) exam at the conclusion of Algebra 1. Students will take their EOCs for Algebra 1 in May (date to be determined).

Geometry:
This course will cover Geometric concepts including points, lines, planes, triangles, quadrilaterals, area, volume, and circles. We will see how these areas of Geometry can be seen in real life. The assignments will be based on projects, computations, proofs, and graphical representations.

Government and Economics/Personal Finance Government

Government (Quarter 1)
In US Government, students will examine the theory and practice of the American government through a comprehensive introduction to fundamental political concepts. The course is designed to cover topics such as governmental systems, the constitution basis and structure, and citizen involvement in the political system. By the end of the course, students should feel confident and knowledgeable to contribute to the governmental process, and to be a responsible citizen of the United Stated and the world. Economics & Personal Finance

Economics/Personal Finance (Quarter 2)
The goal of a study of economics is to teach a student how to evaluate choices. Students will learn to use vocabulary specific to economics to explain, describe, and predict how the interaction of supply and demand sets prices for goods and services in product markets and wage prices in factor markets. Students will use economic concepts in a reasoned, careful manner in dealing with personal, community, national and global economic issues. Throughout this course we will examine various economic topics including resources, supply and demand, market equilibrium, scarcities, GDP, inflation, and exchange.

Gaming Concepts, Design, and Development:
Have you ever wondered how and why video games have become SO huge and influential? In Game Design and Development, students will look at the history, modern aspects, future, design, pieces, and all other components about video games and the massive esports industry of our world. Students will be delving into audio and image editing, marketing aspects of the video game industry, various careers, as well as the actual story and design of some of the most popular games of multiple generations.

General Music:
General Music is a wonderful look into music as a whole. In this class you will experience different areas of music, from reading music, to different genres of music, how music inspires and what goes into composition and collaboration. During this course you will be using handchimes to work on learning several different modes of music. By the end of this course you should be able to read basic music, analyze different types of music, identify different genres and hopefully, compose a small piece of work. We will also prepare music to perform at school as well as outside of school.

Housing and Interiors I:
“Home is where the heart is,” and the house shelters that home. This course will help students to begin preparations for their future dream home, and we will begin by stretching our creativity. With an emphasis in the design process, Housing and Interiors 1 provides opportunities for students to evaluate the housing market; housing needs for individuals, families, and communities; and career pathways in the housing and interiors industries. Identification of the elements and principles of design is emphasized. Projects are integrated throughout the course; our final project will be redesigning/upcycling a piece of furniture and/or home accessory for a specific space, inspired by an artist or school of design.

IT Fundamentals:
More and more we are surrounded by computers and things that fall into the realm of “Information Technology”. This course is designed to help them navigate their daily lives, establish connections, and give them an outlook of why the world of Computer Science has changed, and is changing, every day. Some of the topics covered throughout the course will be the relationship between Software and Hardware, Computer History and Prominent figures, Document Formatting (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, or their Google equivalent), Cybersecurity, Website Design, and Internet Safety, to name a few.

Modern World History:
World History is the study of the history of the modern world, beginning with the period of 1300 to present. Students will begin by learning about the emergence of the Modern World from 1300–1500, global affairs and interactions (1450-1815), the rise of the new governments and competition in the global community (1815–1918), the emergence of new world powers (1885–1950), and the world from World War II to present day (1933–present). Students will learn Modern World History through the lens of inquiry in order to study the effects of various changes to culture, governments, ideas, innovation, people, religion, and revolution with an intent to create a citizen who has a global perspective.

Physical Education:
In order for students to learn how to have a healthy body P.E. must educate and introduce students to a variety of activities. P.E. can help students try a huge variety of activities to see if they want to continue participating in team sports, individual lifetime sports, dance, movement, yoga, cardio, fitness, strength training, competition, and more in their future and FOR LIFE!! P.E. should be students’ favorite class! Additionally, P.E. can teach students about nutrition, healthy weight, nutritional products, dangerous behaviors, first aid, body systems, injury prevention and care; as well as teach students important skills like teamwork, cooperation, leadership, communication, confidence, spectator etiquette, empathy, and social skills, sportsmanship, self-discipline, and goal setting. Mainly, for students to gain the appreciation and desire to continue some of what they learn in this P.E. class for life, P.E. should be FUN! The main goal of this P.E. curriculum is to help students explore and find activities THEY enjoy enough to incorporate into their own lifestyle.

Physical Science:
Physical science is an introductory science course that merges aspects of chemistry and physics in a conceptual and applicable way. It is designed to give students a solid background prior to entering into upper-level science courses.

Probability and Statistics:
This class takes a lot of general concepts and requires students to analyze (not just summarize), describe, analyze, evaluate data and numbers. Some of the Topics and Projects students will be complete are:

- Planning and Conducting a Local Survey
- Designing A Statistically Valid Experiment
- Creating your own Carnival Game and using Probability to prove its fair
- Determining Correlation between real world examples and analyzing why this might or might not occur

Students should be prepared to write about and explain in great detail things that deal with surveys, experiments, studies, and statistics as a whole.

Spanish I:
This course is designed to help develop the three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational. For the interpersonal mode, students learn and practice informal conversation and informal initial writing in the form of an email. For the presentational mode, students will learn and practice formal three-five-minute presentations and formal narrative writing. For the interpersonal mode, students will focus on identifying important details and main ideas in a variety of audio clips and in a level one Spanish book written in the present tense with roughly 400 unique vocabulary words. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

US History and Constitution:
United States History is a required course that takes a conceptual look at changing American culture, politics, environment, and economy. The course's intent is to help students better understand the themes of history which shaped and continue to impact our lives. This required class begins with a brief chronological overview of the country before it was the New World, the Colonial Era, the American Revolution, the Constitution, the rise of nationalism and sectionalism, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, and Reconstruction among many others. The concepts explored in this course will continue to prepare and empower students to make choices as responsible participants in society.