

2025 Course Descriptions

General Music: Your Backstage Pass to 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.

ASL 1: Visual Language, real connection: Get ready to turn your voice off and your eyes on! In this beginner course, you'll dive into American Sign Language and Deaf culture, learning how to communicate using your hands, facial expressions, and body language. We'll keep it interactive and visual as you build basic conversation skills and explore what life is like in the Deaf community. By the end, you'll be able to sign simple conversations and have a whole new way to connect with people—no sound required.

CHS Instrumental Music: Orchestra Strings

Whether you've been playing for years or you've never touched a string before, this class will get you making music in no time. You'll learn (or level up) your skills on string instruments, discover how to read and play music, and dive into songs from different genres and decades—yes, more than just classical! We'll perform at school concerts, Open Mic Nights, and other cool events, so you'll get plenty of chances to show off your sound.

Spanish 1: 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)

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.

Biology: Biology is an introductory laboratory-based science course designed to familiarize the student with the major concepts of biological science: the cell; molecular bases of heredity; biological evolution; interdependence of organisms; matter; energy; organization in living

systems; behavior and regulation. This course provides numerous opportunities for students to develop science process skills, critical thinking, and an appreciation for the nature of science through inquiry-based learning experiences. Investigative, hands-on lab activities that address the high school inquiry standards are an integral part of this course. *Biology is an EOC course and students are required to take a SC state-made final exam.*

Forensic Science: Forensic Science is the application of science to the popular field of crime scene investigation. It involves all areas of science including biology, anatomy, chemistry, physics, and earth science with an emphasis on complex reasoning and critical thinking. Students will apply their prior knowledge through a variety of lessons including hands-on activities, labs, and projects to learn about forensic careers, crime scene investigations, laboratory technologies and experimentation, as well as deductive reasoning used to solve crimes.

Physical Science: Physical Science is an engaging, introductory course that blends key concepts from chemistry and physics in a practical and relatable way. Designed to build a strong foundation for future science learning, this course equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in upper-level science classes. Through hands-on activities, real-world applications, and conceptual understanding, students will explore the fundamental principles that shape the physical world around us.

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.

Environmental Science Course Description/Purpose:

The earth is very important to us because it is where we live and share resources with other species. This class focuses on topics such as climate, ecology, ecosystem dynamics and the impacts humans have on each. We will aim to solve environmental issues in our school, community, and country.

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 2 Honors: 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 3 Honors: Students entering English 3 Honors are refining critical thinking skills, problem-solving skills, and creativity. English 3 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.

Podcasting/Media Technology I: Students entering Media Technology are refining critical thinking skills, problem-solving skills, and creativity. Media Technology students should be closely studying media technology and processes and should also be able to demonstrate the ability to analyze the structure of and techniques used within various types of media.

Algebra 2 with Probability: In Algebra 2 with Probability 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. In addition to increasing student knowledge of parent functions, Algebra 2 with Probability also includes the study of complex numbers, matrices, and probability. This course will explore how these new topics can be applied not only to mathematics but also in the larger scope of real world processes.

Statistical Modeling: Statistical Modeling is a newly designed course that extends students' understanding of statistics. This course offers students opportunities to strengthen their understanding of the statistical method of inquiry and statistical simulations. Students will engage in hands-on activities, real-world problem-solving, and collaborative projects to explore how data informs decision-making across various fields, such as science, business, and social sciences. The course emphasizes critical thinking, logical reasoning, and clear communication of findings, preparing students for advanced studies and practical applications in a data-driven world.

Food and Nutrition 1: Are you aware of what foods to eat to maintain a healthy life-style? Can you select and prepare healthy foods? Food and Nutrition will allow students to evaluate food choices, practice a variety of food preparation techniques, demonstrate table service and etiquette, and explore nutrition related careers. Critical thinking and practical problem-solving are emphasized in a co-curricular approach that incorporates principles of mathematics, science, writing, communications, and economics.

Topics we'll cover include:

- Factors that influence food choices and nutritional status.
- Making nutritional food choices.
- Nutrients and nutrition guidelines.
- Physical health and fitness.
- Food safety and sanitation
- Preparing and serving nutritious and delicious foods

Fashion, Fabrics and Design 1:FFD1 is a one-credit CATE course. In FFD 1 we will learn how textiles are woven into the fabric of life, develop skills in the selection, purchase, design, care, and construction of textile products. The course emphasizes critical thinking skills needed for making wise consumer choices and career decisions. Because we are at CHS, students will be able to make choices about their sewing projects and career investigations. Integration of the Family and Consumer Sciences Pre-Professional Assessment Certification (Pre-PAC) competencies and the student organization, Family Careers and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), greatly enhances this curriculum. Topics include:

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| Fibers and Fabrics | Design | Career and Professional |
| Construction Techniques | The Fashion Industry | Practices |

Art 1: Students will use the elements and principles of art to create artwork, use different materials, techniques, and processes to make art, organize work for presentation and documentation to reflect specific content, ideas, skills, and or media, relate artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context, and evaluate and communicate about the meaning in my artwork and the artwork of others.

Geometry with Statistics: Geometry with statistics integrates geometric concepts with statistical methods, often involving data visualization and analysis through geometric representations. This integration allows for a deeper understanding of both fields, particularly in areas like data modeling, spatial reasoning, and problem-solving.

Personal Finance: A personal finance course equips students with the essential knowledge and practical skills needed to manage their financial affairs effectively and make informed financial decisions throughout their lives.

Child Development 1: provides an in-depth study of the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive growth of children from conception through toddlerhood. This foundational course equips students with essential knowledge and practical skills for promoting high-quality care and guidance of young children. Emphasis is placed on creating nurturing environments that support optimal development, understanding developmental milestones, and identifying key factors that influence a child's growth.

Theater: This course offers students a foundational exploration of the art of theater. Through hands-on activities, students will learn basic acting techniques, stage terminology, and performance skills, while also gaining an appreciation for theater history and production roles. Students will participate in warm-ups, improvisation, scene work, and simple technical theater projects to build confidence, collaboration, and creativity. No prior theater experience is required—just a willingness to take risks, work as a team, and bring stories to life on stage.

English 1: 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. The best way to become better readers, writers, communicators, and thinkers is to participate in reading, writing, communicating, and thinking. Therefore, the South Carolina ELA standards and each of these

activities will be incorporated every day. We will all participate in a variety of learning strategies and styles

Geometry with Statistics: This course combines the study of traditional geometry with the fundamentals of statistics, offering students a well-rounded mathematical experience. Students will explore geometric concepts such as angles, area, volume, and spatial reasoning, while also learning to interpret and analyze data through scatterplots, data sets, and statistical measures. Emphasis is placed on logical reasoning, problem-solving, and using both geometric principles and statistical evidence to prove and support conclusions.

Advertising: This course explores the evolution of advertising from its early roots in print and word-of-mouth to today's fast-paced digital landscape. Students will examine modern advertising strategies, including social media, influencer marketing, and streaming platforms, and analyze how these tools shape consumer behavior. Through hands-on projects and real-world examples, students will learn how to effectively "get the word out" and promote products or services to a target audience.

English IV Course Description: English IV is a course designed for seniors to refine the reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills developed throughout high school. Centered on British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the modern era, students will explore a variety of genres and texts within their historical and cultural contexts. Writing assignments will focus on clarity, organization, and evidence-based reasoning. Speaking and listening activities will further enhance communication skills in both formal and informal settings. By the end of the course, students will be effective readers, writers, and communicators—well-prepared for the academic and professional challenges ahead.

U.S. Government: This course provides an in-depth study of the structure, functions, and principles of the United States government. Students will explore the foundations of American democracy, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and the roles of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Additional topics include federalism, political parties, elections, public policy, and civic responsibility. Thinking critically to analyze primary documents and current events will help prepare students to be informed, active participants in the democratic process.

Economics & Personal Finance: This half-credit course introduces students to key economic principles and essential personal financial skills. Students will study how individuals, businesses, and governments make economic decisions, as well as how markets function on both a micro and macro level. The personal finance component focuses on budgeting, saving, and credit. Emphasis is placed on responsible decision-making, financial literacy, and preparation for real-world financial challenges in a global economy.

Modern World History: This course examines global history from 1300 to the present, focusing on major events, movements, and interactions that shaped the modern world. Key topics include the Renaissance, global exploration, revolutions, imperialism, world wars, and contemporary global issues. Students will analyze the development of political systems, cultural exchange,

technological change, and global interdependence through an inquiry-based approach. Students will practice critical thinking and historical analysis to help develop a global perspective.

US History: 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.

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 class business plan competition.