

# 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum

## **Biology:**

This course will focus on enhancing the student's knowledge and understanding of life, the structure and function of organisms, and the relationships that exist between all living things. The student will learn to solve problems, answer questions, and gain new information by way of scientific method and proper laboratory/research procedures. Laboratory activities will be completed for each chapter to enhance knowledge of content. Students will complete at least one formal lab report during the year. Prerequisite: Physical Science.

## **Geometry:**

The geometry skills and concepts developed in this discipline are useful to all students. Aside from learning these skills and concepts, students will develop their ability to construct formal, logical arguments and proofs in geometric settings and problems.

OR

## **Advanced Geometry**

In addition to the material covered in geometry as listed above, the last nine weeks is devoted to an extensive review of trigonometry and areas of algebra II needed for pre-calculus and calculus. This allows for the beginning of AP calculus during the second semester of Pre-Calculus.

## **10th Grade English – British Literature:**

This is a comprehensive, chronological study of British Literature beginning with the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Periods and moving through the Post World War II Era. As with the 9th grade class, a variety of authors and literary genres will be studied. Special emphasis will be placed on the Renaissance, the Romantic and the Victorian time periods. The writing component in this class will focus on the essay in order to prepare students for the SAT.

OR

## **10th Grade Advanced English – British Literature:**

This class parallels the standard 10th grade class in terms of content; however, this class is designed as a Pre-AP class. Briefly, students will read some of the earliest known British works; however, the majority of time will be spent reading works from the mid-1500s through more modern writings. Writings from these particular time periods are used by the College Board on the AP Literature exam. This class will concentrate heavily on literary analysis, in particular the close read. Students will learn and practice this skill of interpreting the writing style of the author and how it impacts what is said. The writing component of this class will be the rhetorical analysis essay. This class is the precursor for AP Literature as a junior. Acceptance into this class is based on PSAT scores, 9th grade English grade and teacher recommendation.

## **Government:**

This course will provide students with a basic foundation in the field of U.S. Government. It will cover topics in constitutional underpinnings of government, political beliefs and behaviors,

political parties and interest groups, institutions of national government, public policy, and civil liberties and rights.

OR

**AP Government and Politics:**

This is a college level course that covers American government and its political process. The purpose of this course is to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement exam. The course is taught at college level and requires reading and preparation. Students will develop a critical understanding of the American government, political system, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

**Spanish I:**

This course is the first in a series of courses that satisfy the foreign language requirement for entrance to a university. Spanish I language focuses on the development of communicative competence in Spanish and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. It assumes that the student has minimal or no prior knowledge of the language and culture.

**\*\*Advanced Art:**

This class is a continuation of general art with more concentration on acrylic and water color painting and painting with pastels. Students will work at an advanced level of drawing and painting.

**\*\*Choraliers:**

This choir represents the top vocalists at FRA. This course will focus on sight-reading, the St Olaf style of choral tone production, melodic intonation vs. harmonic intonation, and advanced vocal techniques as demonstrated in traditional genres seen throughout the western European history. Students will also learn harmonic theory, Latin musical terms, and world music history. Performing is required. Performances may include: nursing homes, a Christmas concert, church visits, literary competition, and a spring concert. Prerequisite—prior vocal experience.

**Speech and SAT Prep:**

The introductory speech and SAT preparatory class is a requirement for all 10th grade students. The class introduces the students to the various avenues of public speaking and will also help to refine the student's public speaking and presentation skills. The students will be required to give several speeches every nine weeks and periodically will have tests covering information from their textbooks as well. The SAT preparatory section will serve as a supplement to the speech section and will prepare the students for the SAT in the area of English.

**\*\*Yearbook:**

The yearbook is more than an annual history book that chronicles the life of FRA students; it is the result of the staff's creativity and personality. Students develop skills in leadership, journalism, photography, creative design, layout, and writing. Students are expected to plan the theme and layout, design pages, photograph events, and write/edit/revise the text of each page while under the constraints of a deadline. Meeting deadlines requires staying after school and homework. Since computers are the production tool, the understanding and use of technology is important. Students understand the role and responsibility of each staff member, and they also understand the importance of teamwork. Teacher recommendation is required, and the adviser seeks students who are "go-getters": self-motivated, responsible, able to write well, and able to perform independently and effectively under "deadline stress. "This class is limited to a maximum of 8 students.

**\*\*Introduction to Computer Science:**

The goal of this course is to provide students with a foundation of computer science and basic programming. Topics will be taught emphasizing STEM domains and will include, but are not limited to: data types, variables, and arithmetic operations, strings, arrays, streams and files, graphics, and methods and construction. Once students complete the CodeHS Introduction to Computer Science course, they will have learned material equivalent to a semester college introductory course in Computer Science and be able to program in JavaScript.

**\*\*Weight Training and Conditioning Education:**

This class is designed for the student who enjoys physical activity and wishes to increase their strength and overall fitness. The student will be expected to understand and practice a certain level of knowledge of the body, kinesiology, exercise physiology and nutrition. Grading is based upon daily dress-out and participation. Prerequisite: 9th grade PE/Health.