



**Freshman Course Offerings  
(2017-2018)**

**FOUR-YEAR STUDENT PLANNING GUIDE**

Shaded areas indicate department requirements. When planning course selections, be sure that a total of 70 academic credits are chosen for each year.

	9	10	11	12	Required Credits	Rec. Credits
<b>Religious Studies</b>	Christian Scriptures and Mystery of Jesus	Mission of Jesus and Mission of the Church	Sacraments and the Spiritual Life and Christian Morality	Social Justice and World Religions or Health Care Ethics	40	40
<b>English</b>	FCP English I, CP English I or ACP English I	FCP English II, CP English II or ACP English II	AP English or English Elective	AP English or English Elective	40	40
<b>Math</b>	Accelerated Math I, Algebra 1 or Algebra 1a	Accelerated Math II, Geometry or Algebra 1b	Honors Analysis, Algebra II / Trigonometry, Algebra II or Geometry	AP Calculus, AP Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Math, Statistics or Algebra II	30	40
<b>Science</b>	Accelerated Biology, Biology or Earth Science	Honors Chemistry, Chemistry, Honors Physics, Physics, Biology or Env. Science	AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, Chemistry, Honors Physics, Physics, Anatomy and Physiology, Introduction to Sports Medicine or Environmental Science		20	40
<b>Social Studies</b>		AP World History, CP World History, FCP World History	AP US History or US History	AP US Government or Civics and Economics	30	30
<b>World Lang</b>	French I, Mandarin I, Spanish I, Spanish II or Honors Spanish II	French II, Mandarin II, Honors Spanish II, Spanish II, Honors Spanish III, or Spanish III	Honors French III, French III, Honors Spanish III, Spanish III, Spanish IV or AP Spanish	AP French, French IV, AP Spanish, Spanish IV or Spanish V	20	40
<b>VAPA</b>	VAPA Elective <sup>1</sup> (Art, Choir, Instrumental Music or Theatre)	Full year of VAPA taken Sophomore, Junior or Senior Year (Art II, Ceramics I & II, Choristers I & II, Intermediate Instrumental Music or Theatre II & III)			20 <sup>2</sup>	20
<b>PE / Health</b>	PE And Health	Two semesters of PE taken Sophomore, Junior or Senior Year.			20 <sup>3</sup>	20
<b>Electives</b>	Exploring Computer Science or Academic Edge. <sup>4</sup>	Some examples include Video Editing, Studio Production, Computing with Robotics, AP Computer Science, Psychology, Ethnic Studies, Personal Finance and 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Marketing			50	
<b>Christian Service</b>	Two days of service	15 hours of service at one site	25 hours of service at one site	25 hours of service at one site		
<b>Credits Required</b>					270 <sup>5</sup>	280



<sup>1</sup> Freshmen may choose to post-pone their VAPA requirement to Sophomore year and take Exploring Computer Science.  
<sup>2</sup> VAPA graduation requirements have been increased from 10 units to 20 effective for the graduating class of 2020 and thereafter.  
<sup>3</sup> Up to two semesters of PE requirement may be waived by participation in two seasons of SPSV varsity athletics.  
<sup>4</sup> Students who take Academic Edge may choose to post-pone their World Languages or VAPA requirement until their Sophomore year.  
<sup>5</sup> SPSV graduation requirements have increased from 260 units to 270 effective for the graduating class of 2020.

### Religious Studies

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES</b>	160	Semester	No
<p>This course provides a foundation for the study of religion at the Catholic high school level. Students develop a general knowledge and appreciation of the Christian Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments. In the course, students learn to read and understand biblical texts, the major sections of the Bible, and important themes and people found in the stories. This class invites students to build community and discover new things about themselves and what they want out of high school and life in general.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Required of all Freshman.</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>THE MYSTERY OF JESUS</b>	170	Semester	No
<p>The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of <i>revelation</i> and <i>mystery</i> as they relate to the Christian understanding of the nature of God. Special focus is given to the person of Jesus. In learning about who God is and the manner in which Jesus invites us to live our lives, students learn who He calls them to be. Students will read the Scriptures through the lens of the contextualist, leading to a fuller appreciation of the Revelation of God found in our sacred writings.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Required of all Freshman.</p>			



## English

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
FUNDAMENTAL COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH I	1110	Year	Yes
<p>This course strives to address weaknesses in basic language arts skills; the primary focus is to build reading comprehension and written expression skills. Students practice active reading skills and read grade level material. Writing instruction addresses a variety of writing traits. Students learn and practice the writing process in their efforts to develop their writing skills. Students study and practice formal oral presentation skills. Students begin their study of vocabulary using the online tool Membean.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> English I is required of all Freshman</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH I	1111	Year	Yes
<p>This course addresses the on-going development of reading, writing, and communication skills of students who possess a solid foundation in language arts. Students read a wide variety of literature and study traditional and innovative literary forms and structures. Students learn and practice the writing process in their efforts to develop their writing skills. Students study and practice large- and small-group discussion skills to develop their oral communication abilities. This course seeks to advance critical thinking skills and to explore the relevance of material in a modern context. Students begin their study of vocabulary using the online tool Membean.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> English I is required of all Freshman</p>			



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>ACCELERATED COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH I</b>	1112	Year	Yes
<p>This challenging course includes elements currently found in CP English I but explores the material in more depth and at an accelerated pace. The main goal of this course is for students to advance their language arts skills. Students read a wide variety of literature and study traditional and innovative literary forms and structures. Students learn and practice the writing process in their efforts to develop their writing skills and study and practice large and small group discussion skills to develop their oral communication abilities. This course seeks to advance critical thinking skills and to explore the relevance of material in a modern context. Students begin their study of vocabulary using the online tool Membean.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> English I is required of all Freshman.</p>			

### Mathematics

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>ALGEBRA IA</b>	2120	Year	No
<p>This is the first-year course of a two-year program. It covers the first half of Algebra I and is designed for those students whose placement scores indicate they would benefit from spending more time with newly learned algebra skills. Topics explored include real numbers, functions, equation-solving, inequalities, and problem- solving.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Enrollment determined by Mathematics scores on the placement test and departmental approval.</p>			



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>ALGEBRA I</b>	2112	Year	Yes
<p>This standard course in first-year algebra includes a study of real numbers, solving equations and inequalities, functions, systems of equations and inequalities. Additional topics explored include factoring, exponents and exponential functions, quadratic functions and equations, radical expressions and equations, and rational expressions. Data analysis and probability may be introduced.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Enrollment determined by scores on the Math department placement test and departmental approval.</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>ACCELERATED MATHEMATICS I</b>	2140	Year	Yes
<p>This is the first-year course of a four-year advanced program designed for students with exceptional abilities and backgrounds in mathematics. It includes the main topics of Algebra I and selected topics from Geometry that include and introduction to points, lines, planes, and angles, deductive reasoning, and parallel lines and planes.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Enrollment determined by scores on the Math department placement test and departmental approval.</p>			

### Science

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>EARTH SCIENCE</b>	3135	Year	Yes
<p>This course covers the formation and history of the universe, the solar system, and the earth. Topics covered include astronomy, plate tectonics, oceanography, meteorology, physics, chemistry, and environmental science. Scientific methods and critical-thinking are developed through hands-on activities. Current events and technological advancements that affect the earth are emphasized in the course.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> None</p>			



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>BIOLOGY</b>	3212	Year	Yes
<p>This course covers the major biological concepts that include chemistry, cytology, microbiology, genetics, taxonomy, ecology, anatomy, physiology, and evolution. Students work on a critical-thinking approach to problem-solving through the use of the scientific method and hands-on instruction. Students are required to perform laboratory experiments and exercises and acknowledge the technological advancements that are constantly changing the lives of those on Earth.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Placement test results or successful completion of Earth Science.</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>ACCELERATED BIOLOGY</b>	9652	Year	Yes
<p>This course covers the major biological concepts that include chemistry, cytology, microbiology, genetics, taxonomy, ecology, anatomy, physiology, and evolution. Students work on a critical-thinking approach to problem-solving through the use of the scientific method and hands-on instruction. Students are required to perform extensive laboratory experiments and exercises and to acknowledge the technological advancements that are constantly changing on earth. The course is fast-paced and outside reading and extensive projects are required. This course is available to freshmen. Sophomores may take the course based on teacher recommendation and space available.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Placement test scores, challenge test, previous grades, and departmental recommendation.</p>			



**Electives:**

**Visual and Performing Arts / Business and Technology**

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
ART I	7500	Year	Yes
<p>This is an introductory art course designed to encourage visual exploration and broaden horizons in the search for personal expression. The elements and principles of design are emphasized through every project with required textbook readings. Technical skills are built through the use of specific art materials and processes.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Fee for art materials is \$50.00.</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
CONCERT CHOIR	7850	Year	Yes
<p>This class is open to all students, grades 10-12. Singers learn to sing correctly, with proper breathing technique and posture. As a result of this habitual practice, students become more disciplined in their approach to music. Students gain the ability to read music through the learning of music theory. The students learn and develop an appreciation for a variety of styles of music in a variety of languages. Concert Choir students take pride in their achievements and perform in three concerts during the school year: Fall, Christmas, and Spring.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> None.</p>			



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>INTRODUCTORY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC</b>	7900	Year	Yes
<p>This class aims to expose students to the foundational principals, concepts, and mechanics of collaborative music through the applied medium of a wind ensemble. Participants will compile a set of skills through individual discipline and group cooperation. By learning the rudiments of musical practice and performance, Introductory Wind Ensemble members will be pursuing skills in leadership, personal accountability, creative and critical thinking, personal expression, and teamwork.</p> <p>Students will become proficient in the pillars of music, including a sound understanding of musical structure and notation, deciphering of basic rhythms, and the individual techniques of applied instruments and their roles in the ensemble. With emphasis on personal accountability, students will become proficient in the skills of musical preparation, personal practice techniques, ensemble rehearsal techniques and etiquette, as well as understanding the historical and contextual settings of performance material. The Wind Ensemble will give a minimum of two concerts each school year. Additional performances may be seasonal, competitive, or in support of other organizations and/or functions within the school. Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is mandatory.</p> <p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Prior musical experience is beneficial; however it is not mandatory. Students may use their own musical instrument or rent from the instructor for a small fee.</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
<b>INTERMEDIATE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC</b>	7905	Year	Yes
<p>This class aims to expose students to the foundational principals, concepts, and mechanics of collaborative music through the applied medium of a wind ensemble. Participants will compile a set of skills through individual discipline and group cooperation. By learning the rudiments of musical practice and performance, Introductory Wind Ensemble members will be pursuing skills in leadership, personal accountability, creative and critical thinking, personal expression, and teamwork.</p> <p>Students will become proficient in the pillars of music, including a sound understanding of musical structure and notation, deciphering of basic rhythms, and the individual techniques of applied instruments and their roles in the ensemble. With emphasis on personal accountability, students will become proficient in the skills of musical preparation, personal practice techniques, ensemble rehearsal techniques and etiquette, as well as understanding the historical and contextual settings of performance material. The Wind Ensemble will give a minimum of two concerts each school year.</p>			



Additional performances may be seasonal, competitive, or in support of other organizations and/or functions within the school. Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is mandatory.

**Prerequisites:** Introductory Instrumental Music or teacher recommendation. Prior musical experience is beneficial; however it is not mandatory. Students may use their own musical instrument or rent from the instructor for a small fee.

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
THEATRE ARTS I	7710	Year	Yes

In this quickly paced class, students will learn basic acting techniques and strategies through games, scene work, and ensemble discussion. Instructional units will focus on vocal variety, character status, atmosphere, and projection. Students will also encounter roleplaying Production game that features activities that represent a full, community production. The ensemble will also perform in the Festival of the Arts in May.

**Prerequisites:** None

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE	6585	Year	Yes

In this course students will have the opportunity to create projects using computer based technologies in areas such as multimedia web design, object oriented Java programming and robotics. Students learn the fundamentals of web design using HTML, CSS, Java and Photoshop to create web pages. The programming portion of the class will provide an introduction to the Java programming language and will serve as preparation for the student who wants to take the AP Computer Science class. Students will also learn the basics of robotics by creating robots and programming them using Java.

**Prerequisites:** 9th Grade Elective; space available for grades 10-12.



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
ACADEMIC EDGE	8645	Year	No*
<p>This course provides valuable skills needed for a successful transition into high school. Topics explored will include study skills (time management, organization skills, and preparation for tests/exams). Special emphasis will be placed on college prep writing. Focused, small-group study sessions provided by academic teachers of various subjects and the course instructor are an integral component of this course.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> 9<sup>th</sup> Grade enrollment based on data gathered in the admissions process.</p>			

\*This course is generally offered as a yearlong extracurricular activity. Students receive 2.5 units of non-academic credit.

### World Languages

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
FRENCH I	4122	Year	Yes
<p>This course introduces students to listening, speaking, reading and writing in French. A basic vocabulary and the most common language patterns are taught. Cultural information related to the Francophone world is emphasized. French 1 learning includes: oral presentations, video projects, games, and other interactive activities. Course is required to be eligible for the SPSV France trip.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> None.</p>			



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
MANDARIN I	4001	Year	No*
<p>Mandarin 1 is an introductory course for non-Chinese speaking students who until now have had little in-depth exposure to the intricacies of the Mandarin Chinese language and the cultures of Chinese-speaking countries. The main objective of Mandarin 1 is to develop a strong foundation in the four language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Focus will be on developing student speaking and listening skills, pronunciation and proper grammar usage in high-frequency common communicative settings, such as introductory greetings, family descriptions, time, hobbies and home etiquette. Students will also be able to accurately write and depict Chinese characters (Hanzi), effectively develop their phonetic understanding of Hanyu Pinyin and begin to associate the tonal qualities of Mandarin Chinese into their pronunciation.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> None. Subject to sufficient enrollment.</p>			

\*UC approval pending.

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
SPANISH I	4112	Year	Yes
<p>This course is designed to welcome students into language learning. It provides a solid foundation in structures and vocabulary and common language patterns in the Spanish language. It also provides practice for listening, speaking, reading, writing. Students will study seven Hispanic countries and their cultures and will make connections and comparisons between their cultural experience and the cultural experience of teenagers in the Hispanic countries. Another goal of this course is to help the students recognize that they are participants in multilingual communities at home and in other countries around the world.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> None.</p>			



Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
SPANISH II	4212	Year	Yes
<p>Spanish II is designed to further student's language proficiency. Students review and incorporate key concepts from Spanish I, but are exposed to more complex vocabulary and grammatical lessons. New instruction includes learning how to speak and write in the Past Tense (both Preterite and Imperfect). Students will also increase their own use of the Target Language through more conversational group/partner work, and they will also complete more advanced projects such as short essays and oral presentations in front of the class. Students will gain all the tools necessary to be successful in future Spanish courses at SPSV and beyond.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> 70% or higher in Spanish I and Departmental Recommendation, or Challenge Test.</p>			

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
ACCELERATED SPANISH II	4213	Year	Yes
<p>Accelerated Spanish II is a class that incorporates many of the same concepts as Spanish II, however, while the Accelerated class may utilize the same textbook series as Spanish II, the pacing of the class is noticeably faster paced. As a result, students will be exposed to advanced grammar such as the Subjunctive that will not be new to them once they reach the Spanish III level. Additionally, this course is taught exclusively in Spanish with the lone exception of instruction of especially difficult grammatical concepts. Students will also use the Target Language at a higher level than the standard Spanish II course, and their projects will be more in-depth and push their creativity to a higher degree. This course is a wonderful way to help ensure that students will be successful in Spanish III Honors and any other advanced courses such as AP Spanish.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> 90% or higher in Spanish I and Departmental Recommendation, or Challenge Test.</p>			



## International Course Offerings

Course Name	Course #	Term	UC / CSU Approved?
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE I	8650	Year	Yes
<p>Beginning with a review of basic reading comprehension strategies and skills, such as scanning and skimming, students are introduced to searching for more complex, inferential layers of meaning. They will learn to evaluate sources to predict information in the reading, identify basic stylistic devices and develop a sensibility to the author's tone.</p> <p>Using activities and prompts from the text, students learn how to summarize and synthesize information from up to three different sources. They work on expanding their scholarly vocabulary and incorporating it in their speech. Writing skills are developed to a level sufficient to produce coherent multi-paragraph answers to writing prompts with minimum support as well as to produce basic essays with support. Teachers expect the students to express opinions on the subjects and select evidence to support them as they work toward constructing logical arguments.</p>			
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> Enrollment in the SPSV International program, Placement test. (Required).</p>			