

Elective Course Descriptions

Academic Support Lab (11-12) This academic lab provides an environment for students to complete courses that were previously taken but not completed successfully. A teacher oversees the completion of the classes from an online provider (Cyber High or Apex). Credits are earned upon completion of each online class.

Advanced Band (10-12) This advanced band course includes participation in marching band. The band represents the school in public performances and competitions. Advanced performance techniques are emphasized. Serious band literature is selected from a variety of periods of music history. (F)

Art I (9-12) Students will develop their technical skills and vocabulary as they work with a variety of art tools and materials. Foundational skills in drawing, painting, illustration, sculpture, printmaking, and digital art will be covered. Students will exhibit work and participate in group critiques as they develop a working portfolio of art. (F)

Art II (10-12) This intermediate level course in drawing, painting, design, printmaking and sculpture builds on the skills learned in Art I and stresses rendering skills and completion of finished works for presentation. (F)

Art III (10-12) This comprehensive advanced course continues refining the students' skills acquired in Art II. Artistic perception, creative expression, historical and cultural aspects, criticism and connections are covered. Students demonstrate an understanding of art theory and historical contexts through reading, writing, and oral assignments. Students keep a portfolio of their work. (F)

AP Studio Art (11-12) This is a rigorous course for the high level student optimally taken after completion of lower level courses in sequence. The College Board portfolio submission requires 22-24 works half of which are in an area of concentration with a specific theme. It is highly recommended that students meet with instructors prior to beginning their coursework. (F)

AVID 9 Ninth grade students who demonstrate the ability for success in a rigorous high school curriculum, but have had limited success in such courses, enhance their potential through the first year of this four-year program. Students begin their four-year portfolios to demonstrate their successful growth in language arts, mathematics, history- social science, and science. (G)

AVID 10 Tenth grade students who demonstrate the ability for success in a rigorous high school curriculum, but have had limited success in such courses, enhance their potential through the first year of this four-year program. Students begin their four-year portfolios to demonstrate their successful growth in language arts, mathematics, history-social science, and science. Students participate in peer tutorials and ask questions using higher-order thinking skills. (G)

AVID 11 In this third year of a four-year program, students continue to demonstrate improvements in their writing skills through the development of interviews used in writing and evaluating short stories. In addition, they continue to participate in academic tutorial groups and to increase portfolio entries. (G)

AVID 12 This is the last year of a four-year program. Students will complete their required courses for college admission, complete college applications, demonstrate abilities in analytical writing, improve oral communication through Socratic Seminars, prepare for external exams, and complete their AVID portfolios. (G)

Beginning Band (9-12) This is an introductory course which will develop students' musical knowledge and performance skills including playing techniques, music literacy, music theory and work habits. Students will demonstrate their ability to play brass, woodwind, and percussion at a level commensurate with their skills. (F)

Beginning Choir (9-12) This is a course that explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods through study and performance. The core curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Students in Beginning Choir are expected to participate in one evening concert each term as a major part of their grade. (F)

Beginning Piano (9-12) In this course, students learn basic musical skills and beginning piano technique by playing major scales, finger exercises, and beginning level piano music. Students study the fundamentals of music theory and ear training skills through activities related to assigned beginning piano pieces. Students are exposed to music history such as the musical eras related to assigned pieces and the history of piano and keyboard development. (F)

Body Improvement (10-12) This class is a combination of Jazzercise and aerobics. It is intended to help students with the firming and tightening of the body contours. It is not a muscle development program. May be repeated for credit.

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Business Skills (10-12) This course covers a series of computer software applications leading to certificates of completion, verifying competencies and expanding general office skills needed for entry-level employment. (G)

Ceramics 1 (11-12) This Ceramics course is designed to introduce students to various ceramic hand building processes and a working knowledge of wheel thrown pottery. The course will integrate the design and construction of ceramic ware using a full spectrum of artistic tools, techniques and materials. The students will also learn surface decoration and glazing methods. Art History, Criticism, Aesthetics and Careers will be studied with a focus on Ceramics. (F)

Ceramics 2 (11-12) This course focuses on the history, evolution and process of creating with clay. This course teaches the use of the elements of art and principles of design as applies to 2D and 3D media. Students will learn the properties of clay and how to use it in the design and creation of ceramic works that are both artistic and functional. Techniques include hand building, proper use of basic tools, glazes, kiln and throwing on the potter's wheel. (F)

Construction I (9-12) This course is an overview of the construction trades, with integrated Geometry content. Students master measurement systems, safe use of hand and power tools, calculation and characteristics of materials, carpentry, framing, basic electrical wiring, plumbing and site preparation. (G)

Construction II (10-12) In this course, students master measurement systems, safe use of hand and power tools, calculation and characteristics of materials, carpentry, framing, basic electrical wiring, plumbing, and site preparation. Students learn about constructions and construction careers. Coursework is project based, developing teamwork and project management skills. (G)

Construction III (11-12) This competency-based course prepares students to work in the construction industry. The course is designed to provide students with technical instruction and practical experience in basic residential and commercial construction through classroom instruction and applied practice of field skills. At the end of the course, students research and evaluate apprentice, employment, and secondary schooling opportunities. (G)

Costume Design (10-12) This course gives students the beginning drawing and painting skills necessary to

design costumes for the theater and primary construction skills including the fundamentals of sewing machine operations, use of patterns, fabric and notions selection and anything else that may be encountered in a Costume Shop. Students will how what they learn in the construction lab and design class applies to a practical production. Students will develop awareness of the history of design and the elements, principles and styles of design as they apply to the visual creation of a dramatic character on stage. (F)

Creative Writing (11-12) This course is designed for developing young writers who seek to perfect their skills in writing poems, short stories, and plays. Students edit and rewrite their work. Students submit at least one piece of written work for publication or competition. In the second semester, students design a school literary magazine, completing every aspect of the process.

Drama I (9-12) Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the terminology of the theater, the history of drama, and the fundamentals of stage production as they study actual texts. Students demonstrate the techniques of acting through class performances. Students read, see, and respond critically to plays. (F)

Drama II (10-12) In this course students continue learning at more advanced levels and proficiencies the same materials covered in Patterns and Development I. Critical analysis and evaluation become keener and acting texts more challenging. Play reports are required. (F)

Education I (10-12) This course is an introductory course to explore career options and key concepts in the field of education. The course is the first in a two year sequence. The goal is to create a pipeline for students to enter the education field and fill positions in this industry. This program will provide the first opportunity for students interested in careers in the pathway to formally study education and participate in community classroom practicum experiences in partnering schools and youth recreational programs.

Education II (11-12) This course introduces students to the concepts and issues related to diverse learners in today's contemporary schools (TL-12). Topics include teaching as a profession and career, historical and philosophical foundations of the American education system, contemporary educational issues, California's Common Core Contents standards and frameworks, and teacher performance standards. In addition to class time, the course requires a minimum of 60 hours of

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structured fieldwork in a Head Start-8th grade public school setting. This class will be articulated with approved post-secondary institution.

Engineering 1 (Introduction to Engineering Design) (10-12) Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work. (D)

Engineering 2 (Computer Integrated Manufacturing) (11-12) This course teaches students about manufacturing processes, product design, robotics, and automation. It explores manufacturing history, individual processes, systems, and careers. The course also incorporates finance, ethics, and engineering design. (D)

Engineering 3 (Principles of Engineering) (12) In this course, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation.

Ethnic Studies (11-12) This course is designed to develop an understanding of how race, ethnicity, nationality, and culture have shaped and continue to shape individuals and society in the United States. This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge to achieve an understanding of and an appreciation for the various cultures in their community. The focus is around the experiences of African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos/as, and other radicalized peoples in the United States. Students will be engaged in both intellectually and emotionally rigorous Contents constructed around issues of ethnicity, identity, service, and social justice. Students will research and examine how 20th Century events reveal power, privilege, ethnocentricity, systemic oppression, and cultural hegemony that influence their individual experiences into the 21st Century. (G)

Geography (9-12) In this course students demonstrate their understanding of basic concepts of physical and cultural geography. This course emphasizes the pre-European cultures of North America, Latin America, Europe, Russia, the Eurasian Republics, North Africa, and Southwest Asia. Second semester focuses on Africa, Asia, Southeast Asia, and Oceania. (G)

Get Focused, Stay Focused (9) This course is designed to help students learn and practice valuable skills to help them to be career and college ready. Students will

demonstrate their understanding of career paths through a variety of assessments, projects, job simulations, speeches, research assignments, online portfolio, and research papers. Students will identify academic interests, skills, values and personality types, research employers and industries, gain experience with public speaking and interview skills, familiarize themselves with college and job search tools, strengthen writing skills, learn goal setting, solidify research techniques, and write research papers utilizing correct citations. (G)

Guitar (10-12) This course is a beginning guitar class. Students will develop skills and musicianship in playing the guitar as well as the ability to read musical notation. Through the study of classical and contemporary music, students will refine finger picking and strumming techniques as well as singing and improvisation. (F)

Infant Care (12) Students work under the direct supervision of the Child Care Coordinator. In addition to helping in caring for the infants and toddlers, students are given text assignment related to the first twelve months of child development.

Introduction to Computer Science (Computer Science Essentials) (10-12) (PLTW) This course will introduce students to the field of computer science and the fundamentals of computer programming. Students will explore topics of human computer interaction, problem solving, web design, computer programming, data modeling, and robotics. Throughout the course, students will understand the algorithmic underpinnings of computer applications and gain technical expertise using computational tools. (D)

AP Computer Science Principles (10-12) This course introduces students to the central ideas of computer science, instilling the ideas and practices of computational thinking, and inviting students to understand how computing changes the world. Students develop innovative computational artifacts using the same create processes artists, writers, computer scientists, and engineers use to bring ideas to life. (C)

Journalism I (9-12) This course focuses on the fundamentals of scholastic journalism. Units may include the following: basic terminology, lead writing, news writing, feature writing, sports writing, opinion writing, ethics, graphic design, desktop publishing, and broadcast. Passing this course may lead to later work with the school newspaper. (G)

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Law and Society (10-12) In this course, students will explore the ramifications of landmark law cases dealing with constitutional, sexism, racial and ethnic issues, and others that have had impact on American society. (G)

Literature thru Film (11-12) This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to practice and improve their analytical and writing skills through the study of great works of literature and their film adaptations. Students will become proficient in analyzing literature and film and how it has and continues to shape beliefs around race, class, ethnicity, gender, and national origin. This is an intensive writing, text-based course aimed at enriching the experience of textual literary study and expository, critical and analytical writing through multiple mediums and genres. (B)

Mariachi 1 (9-12) This is an introductory course designed to assist students with developing and enhancing professional musicianship skills through the study of music composed expressly for Mariachi Ensembles. In this setting, the ability to learn an instrument with basic technical proficiency and aesthetic sensitivity will be emphasized in preparation for a career in mariachi in real world settings. (F)

Mariachi II (10-12) This is the second course of Mariachi Band which extends what students have learned in Mariachi Band I. Through mariachi music, students learn advanced music skills on the violin, trumpet, vihuela, guitar, or guitarron. (F)

MESA (10-12) In this program students develop their math and science skills through academic, activity based labs. Students demonstrate appropriate study techniques and improve their reading and writing skills through interdisciplinary activities. The activity-based curriculum enhances students' confidence, team spirit and academic excellence. Students participate in college visitations, local and state competitions, and field trips. (G)

Mexican American Studies (11-12) In Mexican American History, students will learn about the history and contributions of Mexican American people. In this course, students will learn about the indigenous peoples of Mexico and Central America, significant events from the history of Mexico, and the unique experiences of Mexican Americans in the United States. This course is open to students of any background who wish to learn more about Mexican American heritage.

Orchestra (9-12) This performance class plays for musical productions, assemblies, and other school and

community functions. An elective variety of standard orchestral literature will be rehearsed and performed. Students will develop individual and group performance skills and the appreciation of music and musicianship. Participation in public performances is required. (F)

Personal Finance (10-12) Students use their math skills to manage their finances and make sound financial decisions in order to be prepared for adulthood. Students will understand the importance of saving and budgeting, investments (including stock market), credit and debt, financial planning and insurance and income, taxes and giving. Students will explore interesting and relevant real world case studies as well as practical and ready to use solutions for daily life. (C)

PLUS (9-12) This program combines high-level critical thinking, writing, and analytical skills with project experiences and implementation, while giving students an opportunity to explore interpersonal and mass communications as they identify and address critical issues related to school climate. Students will become more empowered peer leaders as they hone their communication and problem solving skills. Students will participate in youth Participatory Action Research projects which includes: research and evaluation, project planning and execution, as well as leadership and critical thinking-based activities. (G)

Principles of Information Technology (9-12) This course is an introduction to computers, computer science, and computer applications. The course provides an understanding of how computers affect our daily lives and how we can use computer technologies to become more efficient and effective in our daily routines. Course Contents will include understanding of various hardware, software, operating systems, care/operations, administrative applications, and employability skills. Along with productivity skills, students will also develop an understanding of the ethical and legal issues in our society today so that they can be informed technology users of the future. (G)

Problem Solving (9) Problem solving is the introductory course for Edison's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Program. During this course, students will be introduced to the engineering design process, the study of logic and critical thinking. Students will design and create projects using Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Projects will focus on areas of 3D Modeling, Statistics, Programming and Robotics. Students will learn how to use a variety of software

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programs including Microsoft Office, Google Docs, Autodesk Inventor and block-based programming software. Students will present their solutions in oral and written form. Skills developed in this course can be applied in courses throughout high school and college.

Psychology (11-12) This college-prep course is designed as an introduction to the academic study of psychology. Students explore such topics as psychological disorders and therapies, human development, the biological basis of behavior, learning processes, social behavior, states of consciousness, and sensation. (G)

QRAT: Quantitative Reasoning Advanced Topics in Mathematics (12) This course is a fourth year course in mathematics. This course can replace Precalculus/AP Calculus. Students taking this course will receive math credit from the UC/USC systems.

The purpose of this course is to expose students to topics covered in a traditional Precalculus and AP Calculus course in a different way. The course focuses on learning these topics using hands on tasks, journals, and teamwork. This will not be a traditional math course. (C)

Show Choir (10-12) This is an upper-level performance opportunity offered to experienced music students who are accomplished in vocal performance. Students will perform all forms of choral music, including classics, standard contemporary, popular, rock, and jazz. Participation at all rehearsals and performances is an integral part of this class and is part of the required contract to be a member. This group may tour or travel as part of the course Contents. (F)

Competitive Speech and Debate (10-12) In this course, students are given training in competitive speaking events including debate, congress, extemporaneous speaking, oratory, impromptu, expository speaking, programmed reading and dramatic and humorous interpretation. Students demonstrate speaking skills in a variety of competitions. Travel to a minimum number of speech tournaments is required. (G)

Stagecraft Technology (10-12) The course builds upon students' prior skills acquired in their Math, English and previous theatre courses and provides real world extensions and practice with these skills. The course requires extensive reading of a variety of genres, both fiction (mostly plays) and nonfiction (including reviews, blueprints, instructional manuals and industry reports) with a consideration of industry, historical and cultural

context. Course work builds proficiency in analytical reading and writing of plays and other scripts with respect to determining a theme or central idea and analyzing how an understanding of author's purpose and audience determines the needs of a performances in all areas of theatrical construction and development. (G)

Student Leadership (9-12) This course for elected or prospective student office holders emphasizes the techniques of group leadership and the management of student activities. (G)

Supply Chain (11-12) This course will cover the basic principles of warehousing, material handling and distribution center management. Key components such as warehouse operations, shipping, receiving sanitation, safety and inventory management will be examined. (G)

Web Design (11-12) This course explores the historical and rapidly changing trends in the field of design for the web. Through design projects, students develop problem solving and critical thinking skills, artistic perception, critique and self-reflection. Students will learn methods and theory such as elements and principles of design to enhance their own artistic vision and style. (G)

Yearbook I (9-12) This class is responsible for organizing and preparing the school yearbook. Students demonstrate the ability to budget, sell advertisements and yearbooks, fundraise, publicize sales, develop a theme, organize content, design layout and write copy. Students demonstrate journalistic writing, art, photography, printing techniques, book structure, and preplanning for production deadlines. (G)

Yearbook II (10-12) This class is responsible for organizing and preparing the school yearbook. Students demonstrate the ability to budget, sell advertisements and yearbooks, fundraise, publicize sales, develop a theme, organize Contents, design layout, and write copy. Students demonstrate journalistic writing, art, photography, printing techniques, book structure, and preplanning for production deadlines. Responsible and ethical journalism and high standards for copy and photo quality are emphasized. (G)