



مدرسة الكويت الأمريكية
Kuwait American School
We build minds, character & futures

Kuwait American School

High School Curriculum / Course Descriptions Guide

Updated June 2024

MISSION

Kuwait American School is a caring, values-based school committed to delivering international education to the highest academic standards. We seek to educate the whole person towards the highest level of human consciousness in a learning environment of intercultural understanding and respect. Our mission is to serve our one world community by empowering valuable members of society.

PHILOSOPHY

- We believe all children are gifted. Our foundation for all learning is LVRUS – Love, Valuing each person, Respect, Understanding, and Safety.
- We believe that character development is especially important to support academic success.
- We create a positive environment where the diversity of the student body and staff creates interest and respect for different cultures, ideas, beliefs, and backgrounds.
- We provide a challenging and creative academic environment where learning is a never-ending pursuit.
- We strive to develop independent and creative thinking and expect our students to be able to question, analyze, and evaluate.
- We are dedicated to student intellectual achievement and holistic learning emphasizing the social awareness, mindfulness, and spiritual integrity that are central to an appreciation of applying our natural talents, living our values, and learning for life.

The Kuwait American School is a happy, welcoming, and hardworking family school where we teach by example, learn with all our hearts to respect, and value each other for who we are, as well as live our lives to the fullest.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Students attend school between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Each period is 50 minutes in length, with a total of 7 periods per day.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are encouraged to attend school daily. In the event of an excused absence, students are expected to return to school with verifiable documentation. Excused absences provide students with an opportunity to make up missing assignments in a timely fashion.

STUDENT SERVICES

Students may frequent the guidance department to engage in academic planning or to find meaningful resolutions to other daily needs. Staff members are available to mentor and provide opportunities for overall student development.

GENERAL INFORMATION

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMPETENCY REQUIREMENT

As a part of our mission, Kuwait American School expects its graduates to demonstrate a working competence with Information Technology. All students must show proficiency in collecting and analyzing relevant information via the Internet, access Jupiter for grades and Google Classroom for assignments and course information, and use e-mail systems for communication.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

1. Each student will be scheduled for at least seven courses. In all cases, at least four of the courses must be categorized as academic. This pattern ensures optimum flexibility for breadth and depth, both of which are necessary for sound comprehensive college preparation.
2. English must be taken each year. A student with a final average below D is required to repeat English to advance to the subsequent English course.
3. Mathematics is required in grades 9-11.
4. Many colleges require more than two years of a language; therefore, we encourage additional studies. Arabic is a part of student required classes.
5. Practical work in the science lab is required.
6. Ancient World History, Modern World History, and U.S. History are required.
7. The credit in Fine Arts is required. This is a one-year course.
8. Two credits of Physical Education/Fitness are required.
9. Re-enrollment and promotion to the next grade is considered using final grades in each course. A grade of D or better is considered passing. Successful completion of a course requires taking the semester examination. In some cases, failure in a single course may be made up during the summer, but each student's academic status is evaluated individually with respect to re-enrollment. Students who make up a course during the summer are required to take and pass a resit examination in September of the next school year.
10. All subjects are graded on a scale of A-F.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

| COURSES | GENERAL REQUIREMENTS (4-YEAR) DIPLOMA |
|----------------------------|---|
| ENGLISH | 4 credits |
| MATHEMATICS | 3 credits (Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II) 1 other math credit is recommended (Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics, Business Math) |
| SCIENCE | 3 credits (Physical Science, Biology and Chemistry) 1 additional credit is recommended (Physics, Environmental Science, Human Biology) |
| ADDITIONAL MATH OR SCIENCE | 1 credit (Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics, Business Math Physics, Environmental Science, Human Biology) |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 3 credits (Ancient World History, Modern World History and United States History) |
| FOREIGN LANGUAGE | 4 credits Arabic Language (Non-Arabic speaking students only take Arabic up to grade 9) |
| ISLAMIC RELIGION | 2 credits |
| HOLY QURAN | 2 credits |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION | 2 credits |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | 1 credit |
| ELECTIVES | 3 credits (Art I, II, III, Music, Music Appreciation, Band, Yearbook, Global Studies, Creative Writing, Drama, French I, II, Debate, Psychology) |
| TOTAL | 28 CREDITS |

***Note:** To qualify for graduation, all the above-mentioned requirements must be fulfilled successfully. A student must follow the KAS attendance policy for his or her entire high school years. Additionally, a student must earn a final grade of at least D in course. Successful completion of a course requires taking the semester examination. A student who is deficient in one subject, meaning the final average was below D, must make up the deficiency by taking summer school and a re-sit exam in September.*

SCHEDULING

The preparation of a student's academic schedule is a very important undertaking and presents several opportunities for consultation among student, family, advisor, and academic office. We urge your careful consideration of the requirements and options and strongly recommend a plan that outlines the entire school career well in advance. Note that the college counselor meets with each high school student in preparing a four-year plan. Please refer to this curriculum guide for specific information.

Our commitment to small, balanced classes means that requests for individual teachers or specific periods cannot be accommodated. Each spring, students will complete a course request form for the upcoming academic year.

REQUIRED COURSES BY GRADE LEVEL

| | |
|--|---|
| FRESHMEN (Grade 9) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● English I● Algebra I● Physical Science● Ancient World History● Physical Education● Arabic● Islamic Studies*● Information Technology | SOPHOMORE (Grade 10) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● English II● Geometry● Biology● Modern World History● Physical Education● Arabic● Islamic Studies*● Elective |
| JUNIOR (Grade 11) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● English III● Algebra II● Chemistry● US History● Arabic● Islamic Studies*● Electives● Physical Education | SENIOR (Grade 12) <ul style="list-style-type: none">● English IV● Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics or Business Math is recommended● Environmental Science, Physics or Human Biology is recommended● Arabic● Islamic Studies*● Electives |

* For Muslim students only.

Students must complete 6 credits to be considered a sophomore, 12 credits to be considered junior and 18 credits to be considered a senior

GRADES

Kuwait American School utilizes an Alpha System for reporting student grades, (A, B, C, D, F). The minimum college certifying grade is C-. The use of plus (+) or minus (-) more clearly defines the specific level of achievement attained. Students who receive an incomplete in a course have two weeks from the end of the grading period to make up the work or may receive a failing grade in the course.

Each academic department within the school establishes assessment criteria and rubrics . Any required course in which a grade below D- is earned must be repeated before proceeding to the next level of that subject.

CUMULATIVE G.P.A.

For computing cumulative G.P.A, the following chart is used.

| | |
|----|-----|
| A | 4.0 |
| A- | 3.7 |
| B+ | 3.3 |
| B | 3.0 |
| B- | 2.7 |
| C+ | 2.3 |
| C | 2.0 |
| C- | 1.7 |
| D+ | 1.3 |
| D | 1.0 |
| F | 0.0 |

ACADEMIC HONORS

KAS recognizes students' academic achievement in several ways. One of these is the designation of Honor and High Honor Roll. Students qualify for this recognition based upon quarter grades.

High Honor Roll

No grade below a B- in any course Minimum GPA of 3.7

Honor Roll

No grade below C Minimum GPA of 3.3

The Senior Graduation requirement is:

Graduate with Honors - GPA 3.5 to 3.69 for two consecutive years (Grades 11 and 12). It is a requirement to have no grades below a C in all subjects across all years of high school at KAS.

Graduate with High Honors - GPA 3.7 or above for two consecutive years (Grades 11 and 12). It is a requirement to have no grades below B- in all subjects across all years of high school at KAS.

ELA COURSE OVERVIEW

General Overview of ELA in 9-12

The ELA curriculum at KAS is based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy build and reflect the skills and knowledge students will need to succeed in high school, university and life through:

1. Regular practice with complex texts and their academic language
2. Reading, writing, and speaking grounded in evidence from texts, both literary and informational
3. Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction

Reading

The reading standards offer a focus for instruction each year and help ensure that students gain adequate exposure to a range of texts and tasks. Rigor is also infused through the requirement that students read increasingly complex texts through the grades. Lexile ranges are used as an additional tool for determining grade-level complexity. Students advancing through the grades are expected to meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades. Throughout high school, students will be exposed to a variety of novels, short stories and poems.

Language and Writing

The language and writing standards for grades 9-12 offer a focus for instruction each year to help ensure that students gain adequate mastery of a range of skills and applications. Each year in their writing, students should demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, from vocabulary and syntax to the development and organization of ideas, and they should address increasingly demanding content and sources. Students advancing through the grades are expected to meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades.

Kuwait American School ensures that the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Writing Expectations and targets are met while continually modeling, teaching and assessing.

We also strive to ignite a passion for learning, thinking, and expressing one's views through exemplary writing and speaking. We seek to expand the students' global perspective and self-awareness through the doors of literature, thoughtful discussions, and student-centered learning activities.

ENGLISH I (103)

Grade 9 - 1 Credit

In English I, students are engaged in reading a variety of literature and provided with the tools to analyze, evaluate, and respond to the materials covered. Students will read varied authentic texts depicting the theme of "Heroes": *I am Malala*, *The Bomb*, *Macbeth*. The overarching goals of the course are to create a love of reading, to enhance critical thinking skills, to utilize tools and resources as a means of enhancing one's reading and writing fluency, to expand vocabulary, and to develop writing skills to clearly articulate one's thoughts and ideas. Students will compose a variety of narrative, expository and persuasive essays reflecting the themes within the reading materials.

ENGLISH II (104)

Grade 10 - 1 Credit

English II encourages students to read more complex literature and continue to analyze, evaluate, and respond to the materials covered. Authentic texts depicting the theme of “Justice for All”. Titles include Twelve Angry Men, Monster, To Kill a Mockingbird. The overarching goals of the course are to enhance a love of reading, to continue to develop critical thinking skills, to apply tools and resources as a means of enhancing one’s reading and writing fluency, to cultivate the learning and use of vocabulary, and to continue to develop extensive writing skills to clearly articulate one’s thoughts and ideas through the writing of essays, reflections, and short stories. Students will compose a variety of narrative, expository and persuasive essays reflecting the themes within the reading materials.

ENGLISH III (105)

Grade 11 - 1 Credit

English III explores American history through the reading of novels, essays, poetry, and drama. Students will analyze and critique events and social issues vis-à-vis the reading of materials such as Narrative of Life of Frederick Douglas, Short Stories, Into the Wild, Romeo and Juliet . Students will continue to compose essays reflecting their own experience and thoughts. Students will compose a variety of narrative, expository and persuasive essays reflecting the themes within the reading materials. Learning activities include oral and visual presentations reflecting analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

ENGLISH IV (106)

Grade 12 - 1 Credit

This course engages students in literature of a more global perspective as related to the theme of “Decisions”. Titles include, but are not limited to, Things Fall Apart and Hamlet. Students will also complete an independent research project related to a global issue of their choice. Students will compose a variety of narrative, expository and persuasive essays reflecting the themes within the reading materials. Learning activities include advanced oral and visual presentations reflecting analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

ENGLISH ENRICHMENT (107)

Grades 11-12 - 1 Credit

English Enrichment presents opportunities to further develop English language arts skills. This elective course focuses particularly on the areas of poetry, reading strategies, oral communication, SAT vocabulary and essay writing. Students are engaged in opportunities to develop greater self-confidence and proficiency in reading, writing and speaking.

JOURNALISM (180)

Grades 9 - 12 - 1 Credit

The school’s newspaper is a student-produced publication. Participants are not only responsible for all stories and editorial duties but must also learn the principles of journalism in the production of no fewer than six newspapers during each academic year. The paper serves the student body, faculty, administration, and alumni, and seeks to make the KAS community aware of important happenings on campus. Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

ARABIC LANGUAGE OVERVIEW

ARABIC I, II, III, IV

In Arabic language classes, we aim to provide students with the necessary communication skills in either their native language or as a foreign language to prepare them for subsequent courses. This preparation gives students a practical knowledge, which will allow them to put the language into use in travel or in their daily lives.

Our program specifically involves working with students in the four skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing, while developing an awareness of and sensitivity to the cultural aspects of the Arabic language.

Arabic classes and Arabic as a Foreign Language (AFL) classes are mandated by the Kuwait Ministry of Education. The Ministry provides both the Arabic curriculum and coursebook.

ISLAMIC STUDIES COURSE OVERVIEW

All Muslim students are required by the Kuwait Ministry of Education to study Islamic Studies and Quran throughout the high school years. Islamic as a Foreign language (IFL) is provided for non-native speakers. Islamic and Islamic as a Foreign Language classes are mandated by the Kuwait Ministry of Education. The Ministry provides both the Islamic and Quran curricula and coursebooks.

MATHEMATICS COURSES OVERVIEW

General Overview

The mathematics curriculum at the Kuwait American School is based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), which were written to ensure that math is taught with more depth and that an opportunity for conceptualization of mathematical concepts and finding applications to everyday life is clearly provided. We have made some adjustments (additions and omissions) to the CCSS to meet our learners where they are at and ensure that they have plenty of time to master necessary skills.

ALGEBRA I (308)

Grade 9 - 1 Credit

The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. Because it is built on the middle grades' standards, this is a more ambitious version of Algebra I than has generally been offered. The critical areas, called units, deepen, and extend 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. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

GEOMETRY (305)

Grade 10 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I

The fundamental purpose of the course in Geometry is to formalize and extend students' geometric experiences from the middle grades. Students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. Important differences exist between this Geometry course and the historical approach taken in Geometry classes. For example, transformations are emphasized Early in this course. Close attention should be paid to the introductory content for the geometry conceptual category found in the high school CCSS. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

ALGEBRA II (309)

Grade 11 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry

Building on their work with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions, students extend their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, and radical functions.² Students work closely with the expressions that define the functions and continue to expand and hone their abilities to model situations and to solve equations, including solving quadratic equations over the set of complex numbers and solving exponential equations using the properties of logarithms. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

PRE-CALCULUS (310)

Grade 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II

Pre-calculus completes the student's preparation for a course in calculus. The focus of the course is on functions. Topics in the course syllabus include algebraic functions and their properties, inverses, graphing techniques, and exploring the transcendental functions of logarithms and trigonometry. The study in trigonometry includes right triangle trigonometry and circular function explorations, verifying identities, solving equations, and vectors.

CALCULUS (311)

Grades 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II, plus a minimum of B- grade in Algebra 2.

The focus of the course is on functions. Topics in the course syllabus include Functions and Graphs, Polynomial and Rational Functions, Limits and Their Properties, Differentiation, Applications of Differentiation, Integration, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Calculus, Trigonometric Functions, Analytic Trigonometry, Additional Topics in Trigonometry.

STATISTICS (312)

Grades 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Students taking Statistics will gain an understanding of the ways in which data communicates information. They will analyze, compare, create, and interpret relationships between variables and patterns. Representations to be covered include (but are not limited to) scatterplots, residual plots, two-way tables, and distributions.

BUSINESS MATH (313)

Grade 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course adopts a thematic approach to business management exploring how people can start a business, prepare business plans, understand financial statements, analyze and interpret statistics from data presented. It is an introduction to the basic topics of business management; entrepreneurship, business model and planning, creativity, innovation and innovative sales, human resources, and basic introduction to statistics. Students will learn about the general structure that underlies starting a new business, presenting business concepts to investors and interpreting financial data and numbers. Students will engage in interactive class discussions, presentations, critical reading, group work, brainstorming sessions, and online discussions.

SCIENCE COURSES OVERVIEW

General Overview

The science curriculum at the Kuwait American School is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which are the leading cutting-edge, research-based standards used by most states in the United States of America. The NGSS were written to ensure that there was a balance between both acquiring scientific content and engaging in scientific discourse and projects that require application of scientific and engineering skills, such as those outlined in STEM.

At the Kuwait American School, we use the NGSS performance expectations as evidence of learning of our science curriculum. We meet the High School Physical and Life Sciences NGSS by creating three consecutive domain-based and specialized courses:

- Grade 9: Physical Science – Physics and Introduction to Chemistry
- Grade 10: Biology (Life Science)
- Grade 11: Chemistry (Physical Science)

PHYSICAL SCIENCE (408)

Grade 9 - 1 Credit

Co- or prerequisite: Algebra I

Students in Grade 9 continue to develop their understanding of the four core ideas in the physical sciences. These ideas include the most fundamental concepts from chemistry and physics, but are intended to leave room for expanded study in upper-level high school courses.

The performance expectations in Grade 9, based on Next Generation Science Standards – High School Physical Science, blend the core ideas with scientific and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts to support students in developing usable knowledge to explain ideas across the science disciplines. Waves and their applications are not covered in the Grade 9 standards, as they are covered to a sufficient depth at the Middle School level.

| Unit | Topic |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| A | Introduction to Science |
| B | Structure and Properties of Matter |
| C | Motion and Forces |
| D | Energy |
| E | Electricity and Magnetism |

BIOLOGY (403)

Grade 10 - 1 Credit

Co- or prerequisite: Algebra I

Students in Grade 10 develop understanding of key concepts that will help them make sense of life science. The ideas are built upon students' science understanding of disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts from earlier grades.

The performance expectations for Grade 10, based on Next Generation Science Standards – High School Life

Science, blend core ideas with scientific and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts to support students in developing usable knowledge that can be applied across the science disciplines.

| Unit | Topic |
|------|-----------|
| A | Cells |
| B | Genetics |
| C | Evolution |
| D | Ecology |
| E | Plants |
| F | Animals |

CHEMISTRY (405)

Grade 11 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Biology

Co- or Prerequisite: Geometry

The emphasis in this course is on the description of the physical properties of matter and the changes these properties undergo during a chemical reaction. The solid, liquid, and gaseous states are described by laboratory exercises. The structure of the atom and the processes involved in forming compounds are discussed with special attention to the topics of oxidation / reduction, stoichiometry, kinetics and equilibrium. The comparative chemistry of elements is stressed throughout the course. Lab work includes both quantitative and qualitative exercises, which are useful in reinforcing the topics being studied. A TI graphing calculator is required.

| Unit | Topic |
|------|--|
| A | Introduction to Chemistry |
| B | Atoms and the Periodic Law |
| C | Chemical Bonding and Reactions |
| D | Properties and Types of Gases, Solutions, Acids, and Bases |
| E | Equilibrium, Oxidation, and Reduction |

PHYSICS (406)

Grade 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Completion of one year of Biology, one year of Chemistry, and one year of Algebra, as well as a grade of B- or better in Chemistry.

This course will emphasize the study of motion, forces, energy, heat, sound, electricity, and light. It is designed primarily for those students who are interested in a more conceptual approach to the subject material; however, some mathematical applications to the major concepts of physics will be emphasized. Laboratory experiences will enhance

the student's understanding of concepts being covered as well as allowing students a greater appreciation for our physical world.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (404)

Grade 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology or Chemistry or permission of the instructor.

Environmental Science is a comprehensive, holistic, and eclectic approach to understanding critical environmental issues that are essential to every one of us. It includes ecology but takes it further into practical problems of humans and their environment. It also explores best management practices to build a sustainable society. Topics such as ecosystems, biogeochemical cycles, biodiversity, population dynamics, population growth, water resource management, soil conservation, sources of energy, succession, air quality assessment, purification of natural resources, food production and pesticides, and global warming will be covered. Lab activities will be an important part of the course.

Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

HUMAN BIOLOGY (409)

Grade 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Biology

The Human Biology course includes a detailed study of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Students taking this course will investigate and analyze the interdependence of biological systems for optimum performance. Students will examine the ways in which DNA affects cell division and the eventual influence it has on inheritance in new generations. Lab activities will provide opportunities for students to examine and describe anatomical components of various organs.

Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES OVERVIEW

General Overview

The Social Studies courses at KAS are based on the New York Social Studies State Standards. In Middle School, there is a focus on direct instruction of geography skills blended with other social studies strands. In High School, the focus is primarily on history.

ANCIENT WORLD HISTORY (505)

Grade 9 - 1 Credit

This course focuses on the development of early civilizations, their fall and the impact that they had. Students will examine from the time periods of prehistory, ancient history, early and late medieval history and the early American societies. Throughout the course students will examine sources to reach conclusions being aware of the origins, intended audience and purpose of the source. Students will develop their skills of examining causation and analyze why there are different interpretations of the past.

Student participation in class discussions, regular group work, and homework comprises an important component of student evaluation in this course. It also provides an environment for developing the oral presentation skills and self-confidence that are so vital to later upper school performance. Comprehensive semester examinations are given.

MODERN WORLD HISTORY

Grade 10 - 1 Credit

This course focuses on early modern and modern history and how exploration, development of science and the philosophies of people such as Hobbes, Locke and Montesquieu assisted in changing the course of societies, e.g. from absolute monarchs to revolution to democracy.

Students will have an in-depth examination of World War One and be able to analyze different interpretations and judgments to reach reasoned conclusions about key events and people in the war. They will examine the impact the war had on Europe and the Middle East and analyze the causes of World War Two, in particular, the policy of appeasement.

Student participation in class discussions, regular group work, and homework comprises an important component of student evaluation in this course. It also provides an environment for developing the oral presentation skills and self-confidence that are so vital to later upper school performance. Comprehensive semester examinations are given.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (506)

Grade 11 - 1 Credit

This course focuses on the development of the United States from pre-colonial times to the present day. Students will analyze the role of Native Americans and their culture and how the Europeans usurpation of their land has affected their heritage and culture. Students will examine the American Revolution, Civil War, and the role of slavery using sources in light of their context, audience and purpose to reach well rounded conclusions about these events. They will explain the causes and impacts of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement and be able to link these with issues that America faces today.

Students are encouraged to develop their critical thinking in both the written and spoken word through essays and class discussion. Major tests, analytical essays, research projects, and class participation will be the major ways by which student progress is measured.

GLOBAL STUDIES (507)

Grades 11 / 12 - 1 Credit

This course focuses on global issues, the key issues that dramatize the increasing interdependence of the world. As global issues are interrelated an interdisciplinary knowledge is required and students will receive information from multiple disciplines such as biology, economics, political science, chemistry, environmental science, and many others. This course is designed to analyze and explain values and attitudes that contribute to persistent issues and social problems or pose obstacles to cross-cultural understanding.

The course will emphasize development of critical skills in reading and analyzing primary source documents. Student participation in class discussions, regular group work, and homework comprises an important component of student evaluation in this course. It also provides an environment for developing the oral presentation skills and self-confidence that are so vital to school performance. Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

PSYCHOLOGY (508)

Grades 11 / 12 - 1 Credit

High school psychology is an elective course that aims to give students an understanding of human behavior. This course is designed to explore basic principles and theories of psychology topics including personality, learning, intelligence, and the history of human behavior will be discussed. Students will also learn about the history of psychology where they will study the psychology of Ancient Greece and theories founded by famous psychologists and philosophers such as Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, and Sigmund Freud. The course is project and research based and students will be actively engaged in the learning process.

They will use and apply technology and critical thinking skills to learn and research about:

- Development of Psychology as a Science
- Psychology of Ancient Greece and famous psychologists
- Personality Approaches
- Stress and Health Promotion
- Positive Psychology
- Effects of Motivation and Emotion
- Memory

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Grades 11 / 12 - 1 Credit

This course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge you need to pursue college studies and/or the career of your dreams through the instruction and cultivation of organizational skills, decision-making, time management, citizenship, and ethical behavior. The latter are a few of the themes emphasized in this course. Among the varied activities in this course, students will research and present a project on a college or university, write a personal mission statement, research a potential career, learn to write resumes, fill out job applications, conduct interviews, manage personal finances, and a lot more.

COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES OVERVIEW

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY I (706)

Grade 9 - 1 Credit

This course is designed to introduce students to a wide range of multimedia and web applications that they may use throughout high school as well as into university.

Students work with digital graphics (Photoshop) including image editing and preparing digital images for print or web presentations.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY II (707)

Grade 10 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: IT I

This course is designed to introduce students to a wide range of multimedia and web applications that they may use throughout high school as well as into university.

Students begin working with Digital Video including filming, editing and presenting. Students work with Illustrator and Photoshop to develop greater skill in digital graphics such as creating Vector imagery, logos, and other objects.

GRAPHIC DESIGN (708)

Grades 11 or 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: IT I and II

Students taking this course work in small cooperative learning groups where each student specializes in their area of strength. The groups create designs and details for specific pages to be used for the yearbook. All students contribute to create ideas and problem solving in the process. The main program used is the Jostens Yearbook program.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING (709)

Grades 11 or 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: IT I and II

Students taking this course will be learning about the Algorithms and problem solving in coding. Students will work on Decimal, Binary and Hexadecimal and their conversion. Furthermore, students will look at the Computer Speed and Units Measures. Students will be Introduced to computer programming languages, Operators (Mathematical, Rationals and Logical), Calculation Priorities and Logic Priorities, Variables and Constants. Students will be using C + + Programming.

VIDEO EDITING (710)

Grades 11 or 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: IT I and II

The Video Editing course is designed to teach the fundamental skills necessary for creating professional-quality video content. Students will learn about the various components of video editing, including cutting, splicing, and rearranging footage, as well as adding text, animating texts, shapes and footages and how to apply special effects and color correction techniques. Additionally, the course will cover best practices for sound design and music selection. Through a combination of lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on projects, students will gain the knowledge and skills needed to create compelling and visually stunning videos.

WORLD LANGUAGES OVERVIEW

General Overview

In world languages, our major goals are to provide our students with the necessary communication skills in the language and to prepare them for subsequent courses in the college environment. This preparation gives students a practical knowledge, which will allow them to put the language into use in travel or in their chosen profession.

Our program specifically involves working with students in the four skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing, while developing an awareness of and sensitivity to the cultural aspects of the target language.

FRENCH I (201-A)

Grades 9 - 12 - 1 Credit

This course develops basic speaking, reading, listening, and writing skills. Students are introduced to francophone culture through geography, music, and the arts. There are daily homework assignments, frequent quizzes, several tests, and a final project. Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

FRENCH II (202-A)

Grades 9 - 12 - 1 Credit

This level continues the basic grammar structures and vocabulary begun in French I. Speaking is emphasized; all language skills are reinforced and refined. Students keep a journal in French, give occasional oral reports in class, take frequent quizzes and several tests, and have daily homework assignments. Speaking is emphasized during the second semester. Students will work on end-of-year projects.

Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

FINE ARTS COURSES OVERVIEW

The Fine Arts are an integral part of human history and experience. We believe that every student should be proficient in at least one of the arts disciplines to gain a broad cultural and historical perspective. Through the study of the performing and visual arts, KAS students are more able to communicate clearly, analyze abstract images, make discriminating judgments, and understand their world. Moreover, in the arts we seek to maximize each student's expressive potential.

The curriculum in each area of the visual and performing arts offers a logical progression through the varied tools, techniques, and skills necessary for successful translation from idea to final form. In addition, all courses explore the conceptual, historical, and theoretical aspects of the art form. Technical experience and artistic expression are enhanced through frequent practice, exhibition, or performance, and evaluation of one's own work and the work of others.

To help instill an appreciation of all the arts, each course will require the viewing of a performance or showing each semester (introductory courses require one viewing and written evaluation; all other arts courses require two viewings and written evaluations). These may include an exhibition in the gallery or performance on campus or other activity with the permission and approval of the instructor.

Special Note: Arts classes are essentially lab classes. It is always difficult and often impossible to make up for missed classes. Regular attendance is essential for successful completion of visual and performing arts courses.

ART I (1118)

Grades 9 / 12 - 1 Credit

Students will explore technical and stylistic methodology related to specific periods of art trends. The course will focus on color theory and brush applications as they apply to assignments in abstraction and realism. Students will be required to keep a weekly visual journal.

ART II (1119)

Grades 10 / 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Art I

Art II provides students with the opportunity to further develop the skills introduced in Art I. The course will focus on a greater variety of brush applications and color theory as applied to art projects using abstraction and realism. Students will be required to keep a weekly visual journal.

Art III (1120)

Grades 11 / 12 - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Art I and II

This is the introductory visual arts course, required for all other studio visual arts courses. In this course students learn the basic skills necessary to translate ideas into visual statements. Composition, color theory, perspective, and scale will be studied as the basis for work in all art media. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional projects will be assigned. Lectures and textbook readings on art history and aesthetics relevant to current classwork will be included. This course may be taken only one time. Grading is based upon mastery of studio skills presented, tests on elements of composition, design, and art history terms and trends, and the quality of a student's journal. Note: This course is offered and provided based on student interest.

MUSIC I (1121)

Grade 9 - 1 Credit

In "Music I" students explore the creation of music through Wind Band and self-directed performance. Students learn a wind instrument and the basics of reading music during the first semester, playing together as a class, and then use their learning skills to direct their own performances on any chosen instrument during the second semester. Along with performance skills, students learn the basics of music theory.

MUSIC II (1122)

Grade 10 - 1 Credit

In "Music II" students further develop their performance skills and learn the basics of Western European art music theory. Students will develop their aural skills through listening critically to music, and explore the cultural music of people from different areas of the world. Students work individually and in groups, developing their ability to bring a performance from its inception to its fulfillment while working in teams.

MUSIC III (1123)

Grades 11/12 1 Credit

In "Music III" students study music theory and put the theory into practice for both vocal and instrumental development. Diverse styles of music are explored throughout the course using the musical framework of world art music. The goal of the course is to help develop well rounded musicians capable of leading their own learning.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE OVERVIEW

GRADES 9-12 (821)

All students are required to complete one credit to satisfy graduation requirements with respect to physical education/fitness. However, compulsory PE classes are scheduled for each of the four high school grades.

AEROBICS/SPORTS

Classes meet at least twice a week. Quarter grades will be based upon student participation, readiness in the school PE uniform, promptness to class, and attitude. Attitude is a combination of incentive, cooperative spirit, and effort.

Students are required to dress in appropriate physical fitness attire and participate in all classes. During cold weather, KAS sweat-pants may be worn.

There are two components of the PE program.:

- A. Cardiovascular Unit: The Cardiovascular Unit has as its goal general improvement of each student's cardiovascular fitness. Each student will participate in various cardiovascular activities such as walking, running, and aerobics for the entire semester.
- B. Sports Units: Students will engage in a variety of sports including, but not limited to, volleyball, American football, football (soccer), basketball, and badminton. The goal of these units is to gain knowledge, skills and competency in a variety of sports, as well as demonstrate good sportsmanship and teamwork.