

Salem High School

International Entertainment & Business Leadership Academy • 2020-2021

Elective course descriptions*

CTAE PATHWAYS

AP Computer Science Principles

Students explore their understanding of computer science through working with data, collaborating to solve problems & developing computer programs. **Pre-requisite: Algebra credit. This course is NOT the same course as AP Computer Science offered at RCA.**

Broadcast (Radio Program/10th graders and up)

The Arts, A/V Technology, & Communications Career Cluster includes designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content in the field of radio broadcasting.

Business and Technology

These courses are designed for high school students as a gateway to the career pathways listed and provides an overview of business and technology skills required for today's business environment.

Digital Technology

Exposure to foundational knowledge in hardware, software, programming, web design, IT support, and networks.

MCJROTC Leadership Education

Successful completion of at least three units of credit in the JROTC program qualifies one for advanced placement in a college ROTC program or accelerated promotion in the military. **Requires boys to have trimmed hair; students cannot have neon-like hair colors.**

WORLD LANGUAGE PATHWAYS

French

Study of the French language and culture; emphasizes all skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing in an integrated way. Includes how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, to speak and read within a range of carefully selected topics.

Spanish

Study of the Spanish language and culture; emphasizes all skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing in an integrated way. Includes how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, to speak and read within a range of carefully selected topics.

AP Spanish Language

This course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish and should be taken after four years of Spanish or its equivalent.

Mandarin Chinese

Study of the Chinese language and culture; emphasizes all skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing in an integrated way. Includes how to greet and take leave of someone, to ask and respond to basic questions, to speak and read within a range of carefully selected topics.

FINE ARTS PATHWAYS

AP Art History

This is an introductory college-level art history course. Students analyze works of art and explore concepts like culture and cultural interactions, theories & interpretations of art, the impact of materials, processes, and techniques on art and art making.

Band (Advanced placement by audition)

Provides opportunities for performers to increase their skills and precision on a wind, brass or percussion instrument. Includes performance and production, historical and cultural contributions and influences, creative aspects of music and appreciation of music.

Chorus (Advanced placement by audition)

Provides opportunities to develop performance skills and knowledge in mixed choral singing. Covers performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, historical and cultural contributions and influences.

Drama/Theatre (Performance placement by audition)

Develops and applies theatre skills through basic vocal, physical and emotional exercises; includes improvisation and scene study and related technical art forms.

Contemporary Music/General Music elective

Focuses on the social and cultural history of contemporary music such as jazz, blues, rock & roll, R&B and other genres.

Visual Arts

This course emphasizes the ability to understand and use elements and principles of design through a variety of media & explores master artworks for historical & cultural significance. **This is not a freestyle art class.**

Music Technology (Requires instructor permission/10th graders & up)

Includes the use of computers in music production, music notation & music performance. Software & concepts in music technology will be emphasized.

AP Music Theory

The course teaches the mastery of pitches, intervals, scales and keys, chords, meter, and rhythm. You will need to apply this mastery towards complex and creative tasks such as: melodic and harmonic dictation. composition of a bass line for a given melody, implying appropriate harmony.

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ACADEMIC ELECTIVES

AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination and seeks to help students prepare for a successful college transition by helping them to develop skills such as critical thinking, teamwork and organization. ***GPA and application requirements prior to admission in the course.***

Current Issues—1st semester

Analyzes current issues and influences that are related to them and examines how decisions are made concerning those issues.

World Affairs—2nd semester

Focuses on global interrelationships, analyzing strategic geographic, political, economic and social issues that influence the United States' relationships with other countries in an interdependent world.

Dramatic Writing—satisfies a Fine Arts & 4th English requirement (11th & 12th grade)

Students engage in developing dramatic writings for theatrical media with special emphasis on film and television.

AP Human Geography

Per College Board, students will explore how humans have understood, used, & changed the Earth by using the tools & thinking processes of geographers to examine patterns of human population, migration & land use.

Individual and the Law—1st semester

Course analyzes the foundations & functions of the American legal system and examines types of laws, the individual's relationship to the law.

World Geography—2nd semester

Investigates regions of the world & how these regions influence the historical, economic, political & cultural development of the world.

Journalism A & B

This course focuses on journalistic writing through analysis of newspapers, yearbooks, literary magazines, and broadcast journalism publications. Students will participate in news gathering, the study of ethics, & the aspects of copy writing, editing & revising.

Multicultural Literature A & B

Students will develop an understanding of historical context and the relevance of cultural philosophies that impact diverse literary voices. The focus: cultures of origin of diverse writers and the meaning of the literature that they produce.

Speech (Oral and Written Communication) A & B

This course focuses on developing public speaking skills as well as critical thinking, organizing ideas, researching counter viewpoints and communicating appropriately for different audiences and purposes.

AP Psychology (11th-12th grade)

Per College Board, students will explore the ideas, theories, and methods of the scientific study of behavior and mental processes.

Psychology—1st semester

Investigates the principles of psychology, developmental psychology, heredity environmental aspects of psychology, learning theory, personality, intelligence, social disorders and research methods.

Sociology—2nd semester

Course investigates principles of group behavior, the individual in groups, social institutions, social control and the use of research methods to examine social problems. Integrates and reinforces social studies skills.

SAT Verbal/SAT Math—1 semester of each

Assist students in preparation for taking the SAT.

Shakespeare—1st semester

This course offers the skills students need to explore and study William Shakespeare's life and works. Students develop the ability to interpret literature and complex ideas.

Mythology—2nd Semester

Introduces the importance of myths and tales of classical mythology, focusing on a study of the influences of Greek, Roman, and Norse word origins on the English language, and composition.

Yearbook

Students work to develop and create the school's yearbook. Requires permission of the instructor.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

Team Sports

Introduces fundamental skills, strategies, and rules associated with team sports such as basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, team handball, and flag football

Weight Training

Emphasizes strength development training and proper lifting techniques. And includes fitness concepts for developing healthy lifetime habits

**The full course description catalog is located on the Salem Home page. The list above is abridged.*