

# Eagle Ridge Academy



## Course Description Guide 2017-2018

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## **EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY MISSION STATEMENT**

It is the mission of Eagle Ridge Academy  
to assist families in developing exemplary citizens  
by equipping students with fundamental knowledge  
enabling them to be culturally literate,  
prepared for college,  
and virtuous in character.

We accomplish this through a rigorous academic program  
with a strong emphasis on  
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics  
taught in a safe environment.

### **Welcome!**

Welcome to Eagle Ridge Academy High School. We are thrilled to have you join our high school community. Our goal is to prepare you for the multi-faceted rigors of college and beyond by offering challenging and engaging courses, athletic opportunities and numerous social activities. The information in this course catalog provides an overview of courses that are generally offered at Eagle Ridge Academy High School; some course offerings will change on a yearly basis to allow a broad selection of opportunities to enrich your high school experience.

Similar to college, Eagle Ridge Academy High School requires the satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses in order to enroll in our more advanced courses. ERA is committed to providing you with many opportunities to complete several prerequisite courses during your freshman year. You are a priority!

ERA is a small school so we must focus our attention...on you. Besides challenging and interesting courses, the ERA staff, faculty and administration have the opportunity to get to know each of you individually and are excited to offer personal attention to help you accomplish your high school and post-secondary goals.

On behalf of the Eagle Ridge Academy team, welcome to your school!  
We are excited to get to know each and every one of you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ben Ploeger, Principal

## ***INFORMATION***

### **ACADEMIC LETTER**

It is the intention of Eagle Ridge Academy High School to offer Academic Letters on the basis of the following criteria:

- A student must have completed one full year at Eagle Ridge Academy.
- A student must carry a minimum of six academic classes in a year.
- Student must receive a 3.8 GPA for the academic year.

### **VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN REQUIREMENTS**

The Valedictorian shall be the student with the highest weighted GPA, having successfully completed a minimum of two college level courses, shown outstanding personal character, and participated in at least two full seasons of “extra-curricular” activity. Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be determined at the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> semester.

### **NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

If athletes are planning to enroll in college as freshmen and wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, they must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse.

#### **NCAA Eligibility Information**

[http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA.jsp](http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp)

#### **NCAA Division 1 Eligibility**

\* 16 core courses in the following areas:

4 years English

3 years math at Algebra 1 or higher

2 years natural or physical science (one lab if offered at any high school attended)

1 year additional English, math, or natural/physical science

2 years social science

4 years additional from areas above of foreign language, philosophy, or comparative religion

\*Minimum required GPA: 2.3

\*Graduate from high school

#### **NCAA Division 2 Eligibility**

\*16 core courses

3 years English

2 years mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher)

2 years or natural/physical science (1 year of lab)

3 years of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science

2 years of social science

4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)

\*Minimum required GPA 2.0

\*Graduate from high school

## High School Graduation Requirements

Graduation requirements have been established by Eagle Ridge Academy and the Board of Education to ensure a well-balanced program to meet the challenges of our society. These requirements allow and encourage a wide range of electives to prepare for post secondary options, training, and advanced study.

### For the classes of 2014 and beyond

English	4 credits	1 unit each year for all four years
Social Studies	4 credits	1 unit each year for all four years
Mathematics	4 credits	Algebra 1 and higher
Science	4 credits	
Foreign Language	2 credits	2 years of the same foreign language
Technology	2.5 credits	
Fine Art	1 credit	Drama , music or fine arts
Physical Education**	1 credit	
Class Academies	1 credit	
General Electives	.5credit	
Total	24 credits	

\*\*Physical Education requirements may be met by participating in off-campus programs as approved by the Principal.

## English

### **Foundations of Literature**

CREDIT: 0.5

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Remedial course for students who may need extra support in fundamental reading and writing skills. It is a class that is taken alongside Intro to Literature and Composition.

### **Intro to Literature and Composition**

Course Fee

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

GRADE 9

2 SEMESTERS

Through this course, students will review and build their knowledge of mechanics and conventions of the English language. This course is designed to prepare students for the academic rigor that is present throughout the English program at Eagle Ridge Academy. English 9 consists of the genre approach to the study of literature and includes the study of short stories, poetry, essays, contemporary and classic novels, and Shakespearean drama. The course focuses on recognition and analysis of literary terms and literary devices, vocabulary, critical reading and analysis skills, and in conjunction with World History I, examines the historical, cultural, and social contexts relevant to the readings. English 9 focuses on reinforcing and developing fundamental writing skills, including MLA formatting, grammar, usage, and mechanics. English 9 will work to enhance students' reading and writing skills in preparation for success on the CSAP exam.

### **World Literature and Composition**

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: Intro to Lit

GRADE 10

2 SEMESTERS

In conjunction with World History II, this course teaches students to examine the connections between the literature and history of a given time period and world area. This simultaneous study immerses students in a variety of cultural contexts, giving them a more complete picture of world civilizations. In English 10, students will employ skills in a chronological study of World Literature as they interpret and analyze selections. Composition is emphasized, along with the study of literary conventions. Literature is selected from the following periods: The Renaissance, Elizabethan England, The Age of Rationalism, Romanticism and Realism, The Modern World (1880 to 1945), and the Contemporary World (1945 to the recent past). Students' writing and composition skills are enhanced in preparation for the CSAP exam.



## **American Literature and Composition**

Grade 11

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: Intro to Lit. & World Lit.

In conjunction with American History, this survey course teaches students to examine the connections between American Literature and the historical era during which it was produced. This course takes shape chronologically, focusing on diverse narrative applications in an array of stylistic, creative, and generic modes. In addition, the course examines the ways in which American writers try to separate themselves from the long-established literary traditions in Europe, and students look closely into cultural, historical, and literary events taking shape in America to better understand shifts in literary conventions. This coordinated study immerses students in the cultural context of various periods in American History. Composition will be emphasized along with the study of literary conventions and criticism. The creation of a uniquely American form of literature will also be examined as students draw comparisons and contrasts with literature studied in the 9th and 10th grade courses. The course stresses vocabulary skills, while specific grammar and usage units enhance writing performance both in class assignments and on the ACT.

## **British Literature and Composition**

Grade 12

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: Intro to Lit., World Lit., American Lit.

This survey course examines genres of British literature such as the epic and elegy from the early Anglo-Saxon period, novels from all periods, postmodern poetry, short stories, and drama of the twentieth century. Major British writers, and some world masters, are studied with an emphasis on analyzing and comprehending writing. Purposes and techniques are explored through close readings and research in order to prepare students for the college experience. Writing includes reflection papers, college essay preparation, the formal research paper, and expository literature-based papers. Critical thinking skills are honed through class discussion and written assignments.

## *Social Studies*

### **Cultural Geography**

Grade 9

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

This is a one semester course that uses geographic features to explore how human relationships, political and social structures, economics, science, technology and the arts have developed and influenced life in countries around the world. The class studies the principal regions of the world to include the Americas, Europe and Eurasia, Africa and the Middle East. This course is designed to provide an opportunity for students to study the interaction of man and his environment. The course familiarizes students with the world using the 5 geographic themes and essential elements and how those 5 themes connect the entire world. Throughout the course, students learn how to read maps, charts, and graphs rigorously and critically--and how to create them. The course is designed to provide an opportunity for students to study the interaction of man and his environment as well as current developments around the world, which affect physical and cultural settings. Emphasis is placed on geographical processes, which affect decisions concerning interrelationships among nations, production and distribution of goods, uses and abuses of resources and political and economic conditions.

### **Government**

Grade 9

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Based on the Colorado Content Standards for Civics, students will study the functions of American government, from its philosophical inception to its present form. The role of national, state and local governments will be addressed, as well as the defined roles of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

### **World History 1**

Grade 9

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 0.5

World History 1 is an introductory course to human history around the globe from the origins of humankind to approximately the year 1500 CE. Students will become familiar with the development of, and interactions between, peoples, states, civilizations, and empires. Among the topics we will examine are the rise of cities, the evolution of technology and navigation, the development of means of communication, the importance of agriculture, the rise and fall of empires, the evolving conduct of warfare, and the emergence of intellectual thought and local and world religions.

## **World History**

Grade 10

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: World History 1

CREDIT: 0.5

The World History curriculum simultaneously combines the study of literature, history, art and music spanning from the origins of diverse societies to approximately 1650 AD. Combining the study of these four subjects allows students to follow man's development in Asia, Egypt, India, China, Ancient Greece, Rome, Europe, and the Americas. The goal of this course is to develop in students the ability to see the relationship between a given time period and the literature, art and music produced during that time. Further, students will be able to write and speak about, discuss, compare and draw relationships between different time periods, cultures and philosophies.

## **United States History**

Grade 11

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: World History I & II

United States History emphasizes national development in the late eighteenth, nineteenth, and the twentieth centuries and builds upon concepts developed in previous studies of American history. After a brief review of significant events in the early development of the nation, the course gives major emphasis to the interaction of historical events and geographic, social, and economic influences on national development in the late eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Students demonstrate the ability to trace and analyze chronological periods and examine the relationships of significant themes and concepts in United States history. Students will be able to sequence historical events, examine cause and effect, identify different perspectives, and relate historical situations to current issues. Opportunities are given to develop inquiry skills by gathering and organizing information from primary source material and a variety of historical and contemporary sources, accounts, and documents. Investigation of themes and issues include analysis of the importance of cultural pluralism and diversity of opinion in American society is examined throughout the class.

## **Economic Principles**

Grade 12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Prerequisite: World History I & US History

Based on the National Content Standards for Economics, students will study economic laws / models to understand the principles that effect market conditions and influence choices made by individuals, businesses governments and societies when allocating resources. Students will develop personal financial literacy through looking at their personal financial goals, credit management, spending, saving and investment options and risk management strategies.

## **Political Science**

Grade 12

1 Semester

Credit: 0.5

Based on the Colorado Content Standards for Civics, students will study the functions of American government, from its philosophical inception to its present form. The role of national, state, and local governments will be addressed, as well as the defined roles of the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

## **International Relations**

Grade 12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

This course is designed to give students an in depth look at international issues including conflicts, trade, relationships, roles of various countries and groups and the causes and consequences of these issues/events.

## *Mathematics*

### **Foundations of Algebra**

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5 Elective

Prerequisite: Placement Test or Teacher Recommendation

(MA02151)

In this class the students will cover basic Algebra skills such as basic math operations, solving equations with variables, inequalities, and graphing. It will coincide with the Algebra 1 class, with teacher input and evaluations. The assignments in this course will include daily participation, as well as assessments of Algebra skills.

### **Algebra I**

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

(MA0402 & MA2402)

Students will learn to demonstrate proficiency in the four basic math operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) with rational numbers and algebraic expressions. Students will manipulate, solve, and evaluate linear and quadratic equations with one variable. They will also learn to correctly graph ordered pairs on a coordinate system, interpret graphs of linear functions, write and manipulate linear, quadratic and exponential functions, and manipulate linear equations in two variables. The course will culminate with quadratic equation factoring.

## **Geometry**

2 Semesters  
CREDIT: 1.0  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1  
(MA0404 & MA2404)

Students will learn both planar and solid geometry. Some specific topics covered will be lines, angles, triangles, polygons, circles, polyhedra, similarity, congruency, transformation, constructions, deductive and inductive reasoning (proofs).

## **Algebra II**

2 Semesters  
CREDIT: 1.0  
Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry  
(MA0403 & MA2403)

Algebra II is a comprehensive course where students will continue their pursuit of formal mathematics by extending many concepts encountered in Algebra I and Geometry. Units of study will include the following: number sets, real and imaginary numbers, equations and inequalities, linear relations and functions, systems of equations, matrices, quadratic relations and functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, conic sections, polynomial functions, rational and radical functions, series and sequence, statistics and probability and elementary trigonometric concepts.

## **Trig/Pre-Calculus**

2 Semesters  
CREDIT 1.0  
Prerequisites: Successful completion (C or better) of  
Algebra 2 or permission of Instructor  
(MA0430 & MA2430)

Pre-calculus is a comprehensive course focusing on the concepts of function analysis and trigonometry to provide students with the analytical tools necessary for studying calculus. Units of study will include the following: number sets, equations, inequalities, rational & radical functions, exponential & logarithmic functions, quadratic & polynomial functions, trigonometric functions,

trigonometric identities, analytic geometry, systems & matrices, and limits & continuity. Students will use graphing calculator technology to support their understanding of the relationship between a function and its graph, as well as to evaluate functions numerically. The course will focus on applying the curriculum to real-world problems involving these concepts. A TI-83 or similar graphing calculator is required for this course.

## **Statistics**

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II

(MA0427 &MA2427)

The goal of this course is to introduce students to various ways to display and analyze data. There are four main themes in the course: exploratory analysis, planning a study/experiment, probability, and inferential statistics. Students will be introduced to different ways to collect data and set up parameters in order to conduct a meaningful experiment. They will be exposed to many different kinds of data (data used in scientific experiments, marketing schemes, population changes, psychological experiments, etc.) They will find out where patterns lie in each set of data and how to communicate those patterns to others. Lastly, they will test hypotheses from real and simulated experiments and discuss percent certainty that each hypothesis is true or false.

## **Calculus I**

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Course Fee: Fee for exam

Prerequisite: C or better in Trig/ Pre-calculus or Instructor Permission

(MA0433 &MA2433)

Calculus I provides students with an intuitive understanding of the concepts of calculus and experience with its methods and applications. These courses introduce calculus and include the following topics: elementary and transcendental functions; properties of functions and their graphs; limits and continuity; differential calculus (including definition of the derivative, derivative formulas, theorems about derivatives, geometric applications, optimization problems, and rate-of-change problems); and integral calculus (including anti-derivatives and the definite integral, volumes and surface of curved 3-D objects, centers of mass and work calculations).

## **Calculus II**

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Course Fee: Fee for exam

Prerequisite: C or better in Trig/ Pre-calculus or Instructor Permission  
(MA0433 &MA2433)

Calculus II provides students with an intuitive understanding of the concepts of calculus and experience with its methods and applications, and also requires additional knowledge of the theoretical tools of calculus. This course assumes a thorough knowledge of elementary functions, and cover all of the calculus topics in Calculus I as well as the following topics: vector functions, parametric equations, and polar coordinates; rigorous definitions of finite and nonexistent limits; derivatives of vector functions and parametrically defined functions; advanced techniques of integration and advanced applications of the definite integral; and sequences and series and their applications.

## **Science**

### **Physical Science**

Grade 9

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 0.5

This course covers the foundations of Physics, Chemistry, and Earth Science. Major topics covered in this course will include forces, motion, atomic structure, chemical reactions, geology, meteorology, and astronomy. The goal of this course is to help students develop foundational knowledge and skills that will contribute to their understanding of the dynamic systems that make up our world, and the ways the disciplines listed above make our modern technological achievements possible. In addition, this course will strengthen students' abilities to apply scientific thinking and problem solving to explain the natural world.

### **Biology**

Grade 10

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisite: Physical Science or Teacher Approval

Lab Fee

(SC0605 & SC2605)

Biology is the study of living organisms. It includes the study of the structure, metabolism, development, behavior, and history of living things. This course is a laboratory/lecture course that introduces students to general biology. A variety of concepts are covered, including biological



chemistry, the cell, photosynthesis and cellular respiration, heredity and genetics, protein synthesis, evolution, taxonomy, and ecology. The overall goal of this course is that students will be able to apply an understanding of fundamental biological processes to explain the properties of living organisms. In addition, this course will strengthen students' abilities to apply scientific thinking and problem solving to explain the natural world.

## **Chemistry**

Grade 11

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisites: Geometry or concurrently enrolled in Geometry, Biology

Lab Fee

(SC0610 & SC2610)

Chemistry is the study of the composition of substances and the changes that they undergo. It includes the study of the properties of matter and the ways in which different substances interact, combine, and change. This course is a laboratory/lecture course designed to introduce students to general chemistry. Some of the major topics that we will cover in this course include the following: the structure of the atom and the properties of subatomic particles, nuclear chemistry, the role of electrons in chemical interactions, chemical bonding, the mole, the gas laws, chemical reactions, thermochemistry, equilibrium and reaction rates, and acids and bases. The overall goal of this course is that students will be able to apply an understanding of atomic and molecular structure to explain the properties of matter, and predict the outcomes of chemical and nuclear reactions. The study of chemistry involves a great deal of abstract reasoning and critical thinking, and this course will strengthen students' problem solving skills and mathematical proficiency.

## **Physics**

Grades 11-12

2 Semesters

CREDIT: 1.0

Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra

II or concurrent enrollment in Geometry  
and Algebra II, Instructor Permission

Fee:

(SC0611 & SC2611)

The study of Physics involves the scientific approach to the study of nature in its simplest form. Physics is often considered the most fundamental science, as all explanations in the other branches of science ultimately derive from principles of physics. Students in Physics will learn about different forms of motion and energy and how they are related to each other. Students will also learn about other related topics including optics, waves, electromagnetic theory and light. An emphasis in the course will be placed on laboratory investigations, where students will design experiments to test the principles covered in class. This course improves students' critical thinking skills, and is thus highly recommended for any student who is considering pursuing an engineering or science degree in college, including those who are considering the biological sciences. Universities and colleges look

favorably upon redundant students who have taken physics in high school.

## **Oceanography**

Grades 9-12

1 or 2 Semesters

Oceanography (Fall): is a class that covers the chemical, geological, and physical properties of the ocean. We cover chemical make-up navigation, tides, currents and climates, wind patterns, ocean layers, sedimentation and erosion, etc. The class is helpful going into second semester, but not required. Students may take one semester or the other, or may take both.

Oceanography (Spring): is a class that covers the ecology and organisms of the ocean. We will cover zones, ecology, evolution of marine organisms, and will cover the class distinctions of marine invertebrate and vertebrate. This class is a follow up to the fall class, but students may take this class before (or separate) from the fall class. Hands-on activities and live specimens will be dependent on availability of organisms. Students are expected to respect all live organisms in the classroom and to follow all rules and safety precautions when handling live organisms.

## **Robotics**

Grades 11-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: .5

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Must have passed Algebra I with a B or higher

Robotics provides integrated hardware, software and educational resources for use in the science classroom. Students learn to design, program and control fully-functional models and robots that carry out life-like automated tasks. Robots and automated systems play an integral role in everyday life. Future innovators will require the skills to create, program and maintain complex automated systems that drive industry, from manufacturing, information technology and skilled trades. Students will learn how to integrate science and engineering to work in teams. Students will also design, analyze, use applied mathematics and physics, to perform complex calculations in the construction to understand patterns, and variables. A course fee will be assigned.

## **Botany**

Grades 10-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Prerequisite: Must have completed Biology or concurrently enrolled in Biology

Botany is a 1-semester, project-based, advanced biology course with a focus on plants offered during the fall semester. This course provides an introduction to greenhouse engineering, composting, photosynthesis, nutrient cycles, classification, structure, and function of plants. Topics include

reproduction and development of vascular and non-vascular plants, levels of organization, investigating nutrient cycles through worm bins, form and function of systems, plant diversity within an ecosystem, and the interconnected relationship between plants and animals.

## **Science, Technology, & Society**

Grades 10-12

2 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Prerequisite: Needs to have passed Biology

The purpose of this course will be to encourage students to explore the interrelationships between scientific and technological progress and our social institutions, values, and culture. Because this topic is extremely broad, this course will not be a comprehensive analysis of any particular aspect of scientific progress, but will rather function as a survey of some of the major examples of how science and technology have influenced the culture and society of the United States.

This course will include detailed investigation of scientific and technological breakthroughs, as well as analysis of the social consequences of these breakthroughs. Class activities will include readings of primary and secondary sources, discussion and debate, laboratory activities, and essay writing.

Assessments will include lab reports, short essays, participation in class discussions, quizzes and exams, and a final exam

## **Foreign Language**

### **Spanish I**

CREDIT: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: None  
(WL0258 & WL2258)

In Spanish 1, students will focus on vocabulary and grammar. They will learn different tenses such as present and past tense. Students will learn to write, read and speak in Spanish. They will work on projects that cover different Spanish cultures including Spain, South America and Central America.

### **Spanish II**

CREDIT: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish I or instructor approval  
(WL0259 & WL2259)

2 SEMESTERS

Students will review the foundational skills for learning and communicating in the Spanish language. This course will focus on vocabulary and grammar. They will learn different tenses such as present, past tense and

imperfect tenses. Students will learn to write, read and speak in Spanish. They will work on projects that will cover different Spanish cultures including Spain, South America and Central America. They will be able to read materials in Spanish such as short stories and also write short essays in the Spanish language.

### **Spanish III**

CREDIT: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish I & Spanish II or instructor approval  
(WL0260 & WL2260)

Spanish 3 is an intensive course where students will be expected to communicate almost entirely in Spanish. They will continue to learn more about Spanish grammar including the present, imperfect, preterit, future, and command forms of both regular and irregular verbs and will develop an ever expanding vocabulary that will enable Spanish learning students to develop their reading, writing and speaking skills. This course will also teach the use of the Spanish subjunctive, the Tú and Usted Affirmative and Negative Commands, the formation of the future tense, the differences between Por and Para, Past Participles as adjectives, and the combined Present Perfect, Past Perfect and Future Perfect tenses.

### **Advanced Spanish III**

Credit: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish Placement Test or Teacher Recommendation

This course will focus on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining more facility and faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates.

### **Spanish IV**

CREDIT: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish III

Spanish 4 students reinforce their skills and serve as role models by actively working with beginning Spanish students in Spanish 1 classrooms. They also follow an independent course of study, which includes reading from online sources, participating in online discussion forums, and submitting all course assignments via the Internet. Course content includes college-level readings, video clips, art, and other topics related to the study of Spanish that will prepare students for college Spanish coursework.

## **Spanish V**

CREDIT: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish IV

Course designed to further develop the communication skills and cultural knowledge of students that have completed Spanish 4. Students will be able to read and discuss college-level texts in Spanish, research and present on culturally diverse topics, and lead their peers to participate in the University of Northern Colorado's World Language Day competitions.

## **Technology**

### **Online Applications**

CREDIT: .5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: None

(BU0005)

1 SEMESTER

Computer Applications provides students with the proper knowledge, skills and procedures to create documents, workbooks and presentations using Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint. *Online Applications is a prerequisite for all other computer classes.*

### **Web Design**

Course Fee

CREDIT: .5

Prerequisite: Computer Apps

(BU0020)

1 SEMESTER

Web design provides students with the proper knowledge, skills and procedures to design basic web sites. Students will learn basic history and workings of the Internet, Web terminology, design concepts including informational and navigational architectural structure, and how to create HTML documents suitable for developing Web pages. They will learn common Web page formats and functions such as HTML tags, hyperlinks, hyperlinks, images, tables, image maps, frames and forms.

## **Digital Media**

CREDIT: .5

1 Semester

NON-REPEATABLE COURSE

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Computer Applications  
(FA230)

Digital Media will be dedicated to students' discovery of Photoshop and its capabilities as it relates to the following: digital photography, graphic design, and other basic creative compositional applications available on PS CS4. Students will learn the tools on Photo Shop through detailed instruction, and will be able to create works that reflect a competent knowledge of the Adobe program. More advanced students will be asked to show proficiency before creating work independently. Advanced students will be able to create pieces that work with the original project's framework that must be accompanied by a detailed description/proposal, and that receive approval from the instructor.

## **Introduction to Digital Photography**

CREDIT: .5

1 Semester

NON-REPEATABLE COURSE

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Computer Applications  
(11054)

A photographer is someone who combines the compositional skills of an artist, the analytical mind of a scientist and the observational soul of a poet. In this introductory course you will become all three as you study traditional photographic composition, interpret the images you capture with your phone's camera or digital camera using several web based editing suites (Instagram, Pixlr,) and Adobe Photoshop. Students will also learn to post images to the web, social media and to a portfolio site.

## **Effective Digital Presentations**

CREDIT: .5

1 Semester

NON-REPEATABLE COURSE

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Online Applications

Students will learn to process data and report results, demonstrate ability to research, and organize a presentation through stages of writing, revising, outlining, and rehearsing. Students will also learn

and understand digital citizenship skills such as, the use of royalty free images, sounds and music in a presentation. Copyright laws regarding presentations will be discussed and proper use of images, sounds, fonts and music will be explored. Students will perform speeches utilizing multi-mode presentation, cross-modal reinforcement, effective language choices, and professional-quality visual aids and learn to utilize presentation graphics software.

### **3 Dimensional Modeling**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Online Application

Introduces students to Autodesk Mudbox, a 3D sculpting and design program. Students will learn how to use sculpting, texturing, and mirroring in a 3 dimensional space. Student will learn how to track coordinates on a 3D graph and how these coordinates impact both design and function. Students will learn to engineer scale models using basic mathematical principles and will apply UV mapping to those models.

### **Robotics Technology**

Credit: 0.5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Provides integrated hardware, software, and educational resources for use in the science classroom. Students learn to design, program, and control fully-functional models and robots that carry out life-like automated tasks.

### **Engineering Technology**

Credit: 0.5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Civil Engineering and Architecture courses provide students with an overview of the fields of Civil Engineering and Architecture while emphasizing the interrelationships between both fields. Course includes project-planning, site-planning, project documentation, presentations, and consistent use of technology.

### **Research and Technology**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Online Applications

Introduces students to a variety of advanced research methods including: survey sampling, observational research, field experimentation, and interview data. Students will learn the differences between qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methodology techniques. Students will also learn to use technology to compile statistical data, to present research data using charts and graphs, and to write comprehensive research reports.

## **Video Game Design/Programming**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Online Applications

Introduces students to game design and programming from conceptual development, game play, terrains, and characterization through storyboarding and code development of a simple social game. Students will examine game experience, game expectations, game rules, game levels, design of graphics for games, storyboarding of levels and game play, and development of a social game in Construct 2.

## **Graphic Design**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Online Applications

Course concentrates on the high-end capabilities of the Adobe Creative Suite. Students explore a wide range of vector image manipulation techniques that can be applied to logos, packaging, infographics, and branding used in layouts, editorial work and advertising work. Students work with vector objects in Adobe Illustrator, acquire a working knowledge of typography, and create vector art for reproduction. Students will learn the foundations of grid structure, elements of graphic design and layout design. Students will use tools such as the Pen Tool, the Brush Tool, the Symbols tool and learn to create strokes, fills, shapes and painting effects to create design pieces for print and the web.

## **Computer Science Discoveries 1 & 2**

CREDIT: 1.0

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: Online Applications



Part 1: Introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. It will focus on the visible aspects of computing and computer science, encouraging students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression.

Part 2: Encourages students to look outward and explore the impact of computer science on society. Students will see how a thorough user-centered design process produces a better application, how their personal data is collected and used on the web, and they will work with bare circuit boards to see how computers collect input and return output in a variety of ways.

## **Video Editing**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: Online Applications

This class introduces students to the world of filmmaking, video editing, and creative visual expression. Students will learn how to create short films using both cell phone cameras and classroom video cameras.

## **Microsoft Office**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: Online Applications

This course will introduce students to the fundamentals of Microsoft Office

## **Physical Education**

### **Fitness Education**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: .5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: None  
(PE0550)

This course involves instruction in fundamental skills for various team and individual sports allowing for a participation in a lifetime of recreational activities. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the value of health, daily fitness, and the development of a game environment and understand the context for various games and activities. Development of cardiovascular fitness and other components of physical fitness will also be emphasized.

## **Insanity Fitness Education**

Grades: 9-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Students will be completing the 60-day total body conditioning program in addition to other fitness workouts. This is an intense program for students that are serious about becoming more physically fit. Students will use these training practices and apply them to their everyday lives. Student will focus mainly on improving all components of fitness.

## **Fine Arts**

### **Film Appreciation**

Grades: 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Designed to give you an awareness and understanding of motion pictures as a cultural art form. You will be introduced to the basic aspects of history, theory, and aesthetics of the cinema as experienced throughout the world. The course will include discussion of the methods of filmmaking as well as the various formal structures contained within films.

### **Beginning Drawing & Painting**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

NON-REPEATABLE COURSE

Course Fee

Prerequisite: None

Required Course for Adv. Drawing & Painting  
(FA0200)

Drawing & Painting is an introductory course in the understanding of drawing and painting from the right side of the brain. It follows the philosophy that art can be a trained skill and not necessarily a natural talent.

### **Advanced Drawing & Painting**

CREDIT: .5

NON-REPEATABLE COURSE

1 Semester

Course Fee

Prerequisite: Beg. Drawing & Painting

Required Course for Adv. Drawing & Painting

(FA0202)

Advanced Drawing & Painting takes the basic skills learned and allows students to create more complex pieces of artwork.

## **World Art**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Students examine art history and develop art making skills in the context of historical art. In fall semester students learn pre-history to the renaissance and in the spring they explore post-renaissance to post-modernism. Students make both 2D and 3D works of art on various subjects in order to understand the construction, symbolism, aesthetic, and impact art has made on our world.

## **Studio Processes**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

In Studio Processes, students learn the process of sculpture using the materials of paper, plaster, plastic, clay, and found objects. Students also learn the additive and subtraction methods in sculpting as well as mold making and casting. This class is designed as an exploration in all 3D media, expansion on art historical sculpture, and rigorous implementation of artist statements and presentations.

## **Independent Art**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

REPEATABLE COURSE

Course Fee

Prerequisite: At least one beginning level class with instructor approval

Student will design their own portfolio of work to complete throughout the course of the semester.

Student will contract with the instructor a minimum of 5 artworks to be completed. Artwork medium can be of the student's choosing. Grades will be determined based off of in-class work and completed projects. Students in independent art must be self-sufficient and reliable to work at a pace that is consistent with other art courses.

## **Intro to Theater**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Introduction to Theater Arts covers many aspects of theater. Students will study acting theory and improve their acting skills, using improvisation as well as memorized, prepared scenes. Students will also study theater history, technical theater, and some musical theater. Students will also learn how to be an appropriate audience, and critique other's performances and productions. It is very important students understand this class requires bookwork as well as memorization, rehearsal, and performance.

## **Theater Production**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Theater Production covers many aspects of theater. Students will study acting theory and improve their acting skills by casting, staging, and performing several class productions. Students will be covering several different types of productions including theater in the round and Shakespearean Theater. Students will also learn how to be an appropriate audience, and provide an in-depth critique of other's performances and productions. It is very important students understand this class requires bookwork as well as memorization, rehearsal, and performance.

## **Technology Theater**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Technical Theater covers many aspects of theater design and operations. Students will study design theory and improve their ability in lighting, sound, front of house, props, costume, makeup, and stage management. Students will also study theater designers and their contributions to the theater world.

## **Intro to Playwriting**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Introduction to Playwriting is dedicated to process and creativity. Students learn to write plays by writing plays. the primary goal of the course is to encourage students to write quickly, fluidly, and fearlessly. Students will write 10 minute plays (approximately 10 pages) every 2 weeks, or a 10 page scene which will be outlined in an assignment. The students will then perform these as "reader's theater" pieces after completion. The course will introduce the traditional approach to writing for the theater which is rooted in character and narrative structure, with emphasis on a play's arc through its beginning, turning point, and ending. In class exercises are designed to circumvent students first lines of defense, to silence the negative editor voice, to experience trusting first instincts, and to encourage students to write both visually and concretely.

## **Musical Theater**

Credit: 0.5

1 Semester

This class is an exploration of musical theater. Students will study the work of the actor/singer/dancer and use their gained knowledge to develop as performers. Students will prepare and present as soloists as well as members of small groups and larger ensembles. There will also be a focus on the audition process as well as musical theater history and repertoire. Finally, the class will participate in a culminating showcase performance at the end of the semester.

## *Electives*

### **Presidential Election**

Grades: 10-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

This course will allow students to look at the specifics of campaigns as they happen, understand how candidates put campaigns together, how these campaigns are financed, how the media covers and often dictate these campaigns as “horses-races” with entertainment soundbites being substantially more important than substance. By the end of this course, students will understand not just how the election process happens, but all of the small unreported factors that can make or break an election at any time.

### **Debating Current Events**

Grades: 9-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Prerequisite: Open mindedness and maturity

This course is designed to make students better citizens of our world. The course will be divided into two sections, one dedicated to US Domestic Policy and the other dedicated to World Events. Students will be required to discuss, research, and debate given events, and will be required to show their understanding in various projects and research papers.

### **World Religions**

Grades: 10-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

This course is designed to give students an in-depth perspective on the major religion throughout the world. This is a semester course and involves studying the main world religions through the history, people, places, practices, morals and philosophies that they are each based on.

## **Crime through American History**

Grades: 10-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

The study of how crime has changed throughout American history. This course will put emphasis on law and how it has changed, as well as psychological, sociological backgrounds of criminals.

## **Introduction to Civil Engineering/Architecture**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: Must have completed completed Algebra 2 with a C or higher

Introduction to Civil Engineering and Architecture course provide students with an overview of the fields of Civil Engineering and Architecture while emphasizing the interrelationship of both fields. Course topics include the roles of civil engineers and architects, project-planning, site-planning, building design, project documentation, and presentation.

## **Cold War**

Grades 10-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisites: World History or Currently Taking World History

*The Cold War and Its Aftermath* examines the Cold War with a focus on the U.S.-Soviet conflict. This conflict dominated global geopolitics and military affairs from the end of World War II to the fall of the Berlin Wall. In the first two decades of the post-Cold War era, the dynamics of the U.S.-Russian relationship continued to influence global geopolitics. Students will spend the semester reading selected scholarly works on military conflict from the beginning of the Cold War through Post-Cold War relations. As they are doing so, students will examine the theories of military conflict and diplomacy, along with the interpretive trends that have influenced war fighters and policymakers.

Throughout the class, students will discuss the conflicts waged during the Cold War and the decades after its thaw. Students will examine the proxy wars of the United States and Soviet Union; wars of national liberation in Africa, Asia, and Latin America; the Vietnam and Soviet Afghan Was; and post-Cold War conflicts in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

## **Military History**

Grades 10-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Students will research and analyze the strategic, technological, cultural, and political influence of warfare on human history and the development of civilizations from Ancient Greece to the war in Afghanistan. Primary and secondary sources will be emphasized and analyzed throughout the course. Change and continuity over time will be illustrated by using the following themes within each era of military history: 1) the attitudes of particular ages toward warfare; 2) how war influenced the society of particular periods; 3) the impact of technology on warfare in each period; 4) the nature of armies within each period, considering their structure and organization; and 5) how individual soldiers actually experienced the warfare of their time. Case studies of the most important battles and engagements will provide concrete examples of the above themes.

## **World War II**

The World War II course is designed to give students an in depth perspective on World War II. This is a semester course and involves the events leading up to the war, events of the war and the aftermath of the war. Your success in this class will be due to regular attendance, careful reading and your developing strong communication skills; those “skills” being historical analysis, essay writing, and critical and evaluative thinking. Along with these skills students will be incorporating the seven 21st Century skills, and the Colorado Content Standards in social studies. As per Eagle Ridge Academy’s mission statement, students will learn to become exemplary citizens, culturally literate, college ready and virtuous in character throughout this class. This will be a college level course, which puts a lot of the responsibility for learning on you. Students will learn about the political, social, economic and intellectual aspects of World War II and the Holocaust. It is imperative that students take notes on the lecture material and participate in discussions. This class will also use supplementary readings, videos, Internet technology and writing assignments. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask me or bring them to my attention.

## **Creative Writing**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Students will learn to demonstrate showing instead of telling. The course will help them use extensive description to demonstrate words that appeal to the senses. using the five senses, students will involve their reader to be able to experience the situations instead of just reading them. The materials will culminate all their learning into writing their own movie script.

## **Science Throughout History**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

To understand ‘science’, you must have a body of information and knowledge about the world and methods through which to secure said knowledge. In order to understand the trajectory of Western Civilization, students must be able to grasp the role of science throughout history. This will give students a general introduction to the history of science through the perspectives of the scientific community, historians, as well as inclusion of social commentary. We will investigate how the history of science has shaped social and scientific progress throughout history. The Focus of this class will be on readings of primary/secondary sources and analyzing sources through discussion and debate. Students will be involved in collaborative labs, essay writing through research of primary/secondary sources, and in depth discussion on a daily basis. Assessments will take place weekly with regard to labs, participation, and quizzes over reading, and also by semester unit tests, final, and final paper.

## **Baseball Throughout American History**

Grades 11-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

The Baseball throughout American History course is designed to give students a unique perspective on American history through the history of baseball. This is a semester course and involves everything from the late 19th century where baseball gained its foundation, through events in history including, wars, civil rights and the steroid era. Your success in this class will be due to regular attendance, careful reading and your developing strong communication skills; those “skills” being historical analysis, essay writing, and critical and evaluative thinking. Along with these skills students will be incorporating the seven 21st Century skills, and the Colorado Content Standards in social studies. As per Eagle Ridge Academy’s mission statement, students will learn to become exemplary citizens, culturally literate, college ready and virtuous in character throughout this class. This will be a college level course, which puts a lot of the responsibility for learning on you. Students will learn about the political, social, economic and intellectual aspects of Baseball through American History and the events and pop culture in America at the various times. It is imperative that students take notes on the lecture material and participate in discussions. This class will also use supplementary readings, videos, Internet technology and writing assignments.

## **Young Adult Literature**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester



Young Adult literature is a survey course that focuses on reading, discussing, and analyzing contemporary novels written primarily for readers ages 12-24. During this course, students will discuss what it means to "come of age" in modern society, as well as examine how important adolescent milestones are portrayed in young adult literature. Students will also participate in film studies featuring popular young adult films like *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, discuss the psychology of the adolescent brain, and create their own works of young adult fiction. This course is designed for all reading levels, and anyone who enjoys fiction featuring young adult characters is welcome to enroll.

### **Harry Potter: A Critical and Multidisciplinary Approach**

Grades: 9-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Students will gain the opportunity to apply a variety of interdisciplinary approaches to texts already familiar to them, demonstrating how literary theory and interdisciplinary analysis work to enlighten all texts, including popular young adult narratives. In *Harry Potter: A Critical and Multidisciplinary Approach*, students will examine the phenomenon of Harry Potter through the multidisciplinary lenses of mythology and history, philosophy, socio-economics, morality, destiny and freewill, cultural and pop cultural movements, and literary theory.

### **Zombie Literature**

Grades: 10-12

1 Semester

CREDIT: 0.5

Zombie Literature is an advanced literature course that focuses on academic study of the Zombie genre. Topics of study include the history of zombie literature, archetypes and tropes present within the genre, literary analysis of zombie films and short stories, as well as philosophical topics such as the delineation between a human and a person. The course is designed to model a college seminar class, and students of this class will participate advanced reading, writing, analysis, and discussion topics.

### **Philosophy Literature**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Through this course, students will be presented with a broad range of philosophical sources to help guide them on their way to formulate an opinion on various ideas, as well as extrapolate them through discussions, debates and other avenues where students can voice their opinion about philosophy. Following the Warrior Way, students will be guided toward becoming exemplary citizens, culturally literate, prepared for college, and virtuous in character.

## **Reproduction, Growth, & Development**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: Need to have completed Biology

Human Anatomy & Physiology: Reproduction, Growth, and Development (Human A&P) is the study of the human reproductive systems. We will cover those systems, hormones, puberty, childbirth, the prevention of pregnancy and STDs, risk factors and safety, self-esteem. Dissection of fetal pigs will occur early in this class.

## **Nutrition: Food, Diet, Society, Culture and Science**

CREDIT: 0.5

2 Semesters

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to nutrition, and include learning targets divided into 4 units: Food, Diet, Society & Culture Trends, and Science. This course will also study food and human metabolism.

## **Revolution & Social Change**

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: World History

There is no more crucial subject than the one before us. So crucial, in fact, that it has been reduced to an idealistic cliché of sorts: How can we change the world? How can we radically transform our communities, and indeed transform ourselves? And if we are to take on such a project, what might we (individually and collectively) change into? These questions, presented here in the very broad terms, will guide our class. They will take us through a series of historic and contemporary debates between various perspectives and exhibits of Marxism, anarchism, multiple indigenous forms of struggle, and of course into community based movements of our modern times. We play a role both collectively and individually in various aspects of given ‘societies’ and therefore have the responsibility to understand change as it relates to progress, motive, means, and outcomes.

## **Master Gardner - A Cultural History**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

This is a project-based course that will use the Greenhouse as its primary classroom. This course provides an introduction to greenhouse engineering, composting, vermicomposting, techniques in farming from around the world, and the history behind each of these concepts. We will explore historical, environmental, economic, and social considerations of sustainability in agriculture.

## **Hip Hop Literature**

Grades 9-12  
CREDIT: 0.5  
1 Semester

Through this course, students will be presented with a broad range of reasons for why hip hop is the way it is, what the purpose of the genre is, why artists would choose the words that they do, what the author's purpose is and ideas along those lines.

## **20th Century Pop Culture**

Grades 9-12  
CREDIT: 0.5  
1 Semester

This class allows students to gain a greater cultural understanding of life in the United States and the World during the 20th Century. Much of history is spent learning key players, politicians, and world events, but sometimes overlooks the greater cultural sense of a time period. This elective will allow students to gain an overall better understanding of the 20th Century.

## **Office Aide**

Grades 11-12  
CREDIT: .5  
1 Semester  
Prerequisite: Teacher Permission  
(SP0747)

This option provides an opportunity for students to receive practical work experience with various subject area teachers. Students must arrange enrollment in advance by filling out an application. Requirements: 1) No more than 1.5 credits may be earned in high school. 2) Students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA. 3) If student has ever broken a previous contract, he/she may not participate. 4) If student has ever received less than a "B" grade in a TA class he/she may not participate again.

## **Teacher Aide**

Grades 11-12  
CREDIT: .5  
1 Semester  
Prerequisite: Teacher Permission  
(SP0706)

This option provides an opportunity for students to receive practical work experience with various subject area teachers. Students must arrange enrollment in advance by filling out an application. Requirements: 1) No more than 1.5 credits may be earned in high school. 2) Students must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA. 3) If student has ever broken a previous contract, he/she may not participate. 4) If student has ever received less than a "B" grade in a TA class he/she may not participate again.

## **Peer Mentor (By application only)**

Grades 10-12

CREDIT: .5

1 Semester

Prerequisite: Permission of Counselor, Peer Counseling Training  
(SP0736)

Students will receive special peer counseling training in mentoring students who are younger than they. On a rotating schedule, mentors will be available to assist students with personal and academic issues. Students will also attend class daily to help them gain the skills necessary for mentoring others.

## **Academic Success**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 or 2 semesters

Academic Success is a study hall designed to provide students with academic support. This non-credit study hall will offer one-on-one tutoring as well as study skills and help with test preparation. Enrollment in this class will be determined by the counselors and the administration.

## **Resource Lab**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: 0.5

1 or 2 semesters

Eagle Ridge Academy offers academic assistance to students who qualify with a current IEP. See the Guidance Counselor or Special Education staff for more information.

## **Academy (required)**

Grades 9-12

CREDIT: .125

2 Semesters each year

Academy supports students as they make the transitions into, through, and out of high school. This happens with support at each grade level, with a strong focus in preparing students for the next step after high school. Along the way, students develop their Individual Career and Academic Plans. Every student will take Academy class each year they are a student in high school at Eagle Ridge Academy. This class is an important role in helping your teen to plan for and reach their post-secondary goals. Students will develop their goals, explore interests, learn skills to help them be successful in high school, explore various career options, and plan their post-secondary goals for college and beyond.