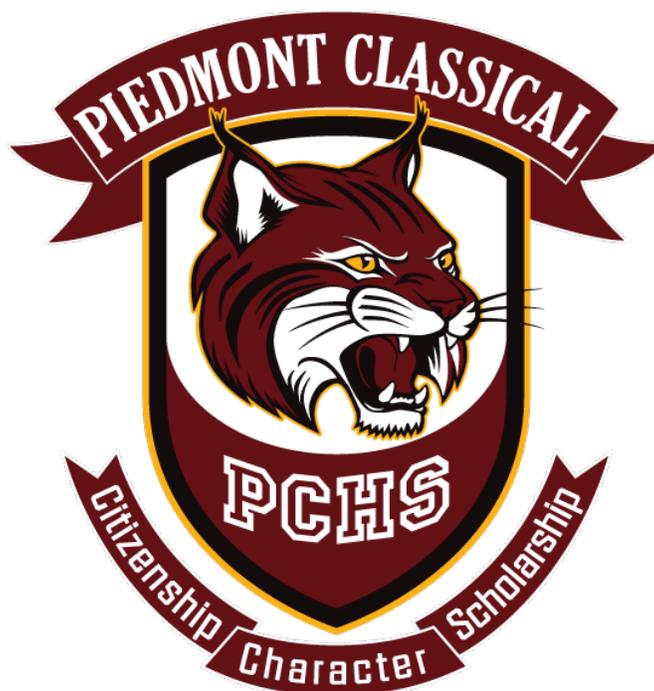


PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



2018-2019 Course Descriptions

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Table of Contents:

Graduation Requirements.....	3
Classical Core.....	4
English.....	4-6
Math.....	6-9
Music & Performing Arts	9-10
Physical Education.....	10
Science.....	10-14
Social Science.....	14
Visual Arts.....	17-18
World Languages.....	18-19

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Graduation Requirements:

All students will graduate from PCHS with at least **24 credits**. Course requirements include:

- 4 Credits of English
- 4 Credits of Math (at least one course beyond Algebra II)
- 4 Credits of Science (including Biology, Earth Science, and a Physical Science)
- 4 Credits of Social Studies (including World History, Civics & Economics and American History I *and* American History II OR AP United States History)
- 3 Credits of a World Language (at least 1 year of which must be Latin)
- 1 Credit of a Fine Art
- 1 Credit of PE/Health
- 1 Credit of Logic (10th grade)
- 1 Credit of Rhetoric (12th grade)
- 1 Credit of an Elective
-

Students can opt to take a Study Hall period during the day, which will *not* count toward credit or GPA.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CLASSICAL CORE

LOGIC

GRADE LEVEL: 10

1 UNIT

This course is an in-depth study of the classical syllogism (arguments) through learning the structure, form, and content of syllogisms. Students will learn how to properly construct a syllogism, accurately identify its parts, and determine its validity and soundness. Students will learn how words are related to the ideas they signify, as well as how they can be used of one another. The course also studies how we can know the meaning of an idea and how that idea is related to other ideas it may include or it may be included under.

RHETORIC

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

This course is devoted to the history, theory, practice, and implications of rhetoric, the art and craft of persuasion, through the analysis of persuasive texts and speeches, and the creation and production of persuasive texts, speeches, and analyses. It is designed to teach students to analyze and produce various (i.e., written, visual, audible) forms of rhetoric. Through class discussions, debates, presentations, and written assignments, students will practice their own rhetorical prowess. Students will become more efficient readers as they turn their analytical skills on assigned texts and writings. This combination of reading, speaking, and writing will help students become familiar with and succeed in: critical and active reading skills and abilities; techniques of rhetorical analysis; techniques of argument; the enhancement of written and oral discourse with appropriate figures of speech; and the technique of oral presentations and the use of visual aids and visual rhetoric to secure and maintain an audience.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH I

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

This course is devoted to the formal development of speaking, grammar, and writing skills through the use of Standard English. Students will also study various works in World Literature that will coordinate with the times and places students will encounter in World History. Literary global perspectives will focus on literature from the Americas, Africa, Eastern Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Students will be challenged and asked questions that require them to refer to what they have read which will foster critical-thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills. Along with these skills, students will be presented with study skill tools to enhance their learning and to help them be more successful in and out of the classroom.

HONORS ENGLISH I

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

Honors English I provides a deeper study of World Literature. Students will be expected to take greater responsibility for their own learning (including more independent reading outside of the classroom) and meet the rigor of the course through writing and presentations.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH II

GRADE LEVEL: 10

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH I

This course builds upon skills of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and vocabulary in written and spoken language of Standard English through a continuation of the study of World Literature of plays, novels, and poetry of various countries. Students will be challenged and asked questions that require them to refer to what they have read with an emphasis on writing effectively. This will foster critical-thinking skills, as well as communication skills.

HONORS ENGLISH II

GRADE LEVEL: 10

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH I

Honors English II provides a deeper study of World Literature. Students will be expected to take greater responsibility for their own learning (including more independent reading outside the classroom). Students will practice problem-solving and will begin learning how to synthesize texts read in and out of the textbook.

ENGLISH III

GRADE LEVEL: 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH II

English III is an in-depth study of U.S. literature and U.S. literary nonfiction especially foundational works and documents from the 17th century through the early 20th century. A study of the techniques of research will precede the creation of a documented research paper or project. At least one Shakespearean play should be included.

HONORS ENGLISH III

GRADE LEVEL: 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH II

Honors English III offers rigorous instruction in the study of U.S. literature and U.S. literary nonfiction emphasizing the foundational works and documents from the 17th century through the early 20th century. It probes the literature of the past and present to discover the best in exposition, description, narration, and argumentation. A study of the techniques of research will precede the creation of a documented research paper or project. The broad scope of literature and the depth at which students study various genres create the opportunity for independent study and advanced analysis. At least one Shakespearean play should be included.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

GRADE LEVEL: 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS ENGLISH II

AP English Language and Composition is a college level course that prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition exam. Students practice skills of critical reading of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and writing for a variety of purposes and audiences. Students will also analyze the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH IV

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH III

Students will explore various works in British Literature of plays, novels, and poetry. Such works will include Shakespeare, Chaucer, Swift, Keaton, Milton, and others. Students will problem-solve, analyze and synthesize through presentations and written assignments to foster communication skills needed in college and life.

HONORS ENGLISH IV

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH III

Honors English IV offers rigorous instruction in the study of British Literature. It investigates and questions literature from the past to the present. Students will further synthesize literature from this genre to make comparisons and contrasts to further draw conclusions and make inferences about works studied through presentations and detailed written assignments.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS ENGLISH III

AP English Literature is a college level course that prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Literature exam. Students read college level texts and analyze them in their discussion-heavy class. They learn about themes, motifs, periods, movements, genres, and a variety of other literature-related devices and methods.

YEARBOOK

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT/Elective

This course is designed to teach the skills necessary to produce the school yearbook, which offers a complete record of an entire school year. The year begins by planning the coverage for the school year and designing a unifying theme for the book. Students will study magazine journalism including layout and design techniques, writing and editing copy, headlines and picture captions. This course provides the study of and practice in gathering and analyzing information, interviewing, note taking and photography. Students will learn strategies of planning, marketing (ad sales) and distribution of the yearbook. Students will learn proofing strategies and work independently with photographers. At times, deadlines require that staff members work after school. Students will learn good work habits and are responsible for all phases of yearbook publication.

JOURNALISM

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT/Elective

The Journalism course will focus on two objectives: the appreciation of journalism as a craft, including its history and influence; and the practical experience of publishing an actual newspaper, with editors and deadlines. We will highlight influential journalists including Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Paine, Woodward and Bernstein, Breitbart, and others. Students will explore the effect of journalistic practice and malpractice on the course of history, as well as the rise and fall of magazine journalism. Students will be responsible for budgeting, writing, editing, formatting, printing and publishing a newspaper (traditional) for the whole school. Writing will be based on *Elements of Style* by Strunk and White.



PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MATH

FOUNDATIONS OF ALGEBRA I

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

This course is an option for students to take concurrently with Algebra 1. During this course students will strengthen their understanding of the prerequisite skills necessary for mastery of Algebra 1. This class will not count as a math credit; it will count as an elective credit.

ALGEBRA I

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

This course introduces the student to serious Algebra, covering operations with real numbers, solving equations and inequalities, dealing with and factoring polynomials, fractions and rational expressions, functions, linear equations, our number system, and quadratic functions. Also included is a "look ahead" to data analysis, geometry and trigonometry. Our textbook will be used throughout.

HONORS ALGEBRA I

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10

1 UNIT

Honors Algebra I will cover the same topics as regular Algebra, but in greater depth and with more critical thinking required. The honor student is expected to pursue the math beyond being able to do the problems, to reach a more thorough understanding. Applications will be stressed, and probability, statistics, geometry and trigonometry look-aheads will be more rigorous.

FOUNDATIONS OF GEOMETRY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10

1 UNIT

This course is an option for students to take concurrently with Geometry. During this course students will strengthen their understanding of Algebra 1 topics, which are applied in Geometry in the context of geometric figures and transformations. This class will not count as a math credit; it will count as an elective credit.

GEOMETRY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1

Geometry is a rigorous course designed to develop logical skills as students study spatial and geometric relationships. Students move from the basics of point, line and plane through triangles, quadrilaterals, circles and other figures. They will learn and apply deductive and inductive reasoning to the solving of problems and the development of proofs. Some algebra review, introductory trigonometry, solid geometry, data analysis, coordinate geometry, and transformations round out the course.

HONORS GEOMETRY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1

Honors Geometry covers the same topics as Standard Geometry, but will delve into more complex written problems and proofs. Students will be expected to do more independent work and demonstrate a firmer grasp of the material in order to be ready for subsequent honors and AP classes.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ALGEBRA II

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: GEOMETRY

The course is designed to build on algebraic and geometric concepts. It develops advanced algebra skills such as systems of equations, advanced polynomials, imaginary and complex numbers, quadratics, exponential and logarithmic functions. The course also continues to develop the study of functions. The content of this course is important for students' success on college mathematics entrance exams.

HONORS ALGEBRA II

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: GEOMETRY

The course is designed to build on algebraic and geometric concepts on a deeper level. It develops and enhances advanced algebra skills such as systems of equations, advanced polynomials, imaginary and complex numbers, quadratics, exponential and logarithmic functions. The course also continues to develop the study of functions. The content of this course is important for students' success on college mathematics entrance exams. As an honors course, students are expected to meet the rigor of the course and have a deeper understanding of Algebra II.

DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA II

This course introduces students to the mathematics of networks, social choice and decision-making. The course extends students applications of matrix arithmetic and probability. Applications and modeling are central to this course. This course qualifies as a 4th math required for admission to schools in the UNC system.

ADVANCED FUNCTIONS AND MODELING

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA I, GEOMETRY, ALGEBRA II

Advanced Functions and Modeling is designed for students who need additional mathematical support before entering Pre-Calculus. AFM will expand upon knowledge of linear functions, exponential functions, and quadratic functions. AFM will also review previous course concepts such as special right triangles, simplifying radicals, systems of equations with three equations, function transformations, graphing radical functions, solving logarithmic and exponential functions, as well as factoring quadratics. In addition to a review of previous course concepts, AFM will slowly introduce students to the Unit Circle and trigonometric identities to prepare them for Pre-calculus.

HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS ALGEBRA II OR DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

An honors level study of major topics from advanced algebra, trigonometry, analytic geometry, data analysis and introductory calculus is presented in preparation for calculus. This course qualifies as a 4th math required for admission to schools in the UNC system.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AP CALCULUS AB

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

This course develops the student's understanding of the concepts of calculus (functions, graphs, limits, derivatives and integrals) and provides experience with its methods and applications. Placement on the AP exam *may* earn a student 1 semester of credit for Calculus on the college level, depending on the college or university.

AP CALCULUS BC

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

A college-level course with topics including integration by parts, trigonometric substitutions, partial fractions, geometry in the plane, sequences and series, and elementary differential equations. This course develops the student's understanding of the concepts of Calculus (functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, and integrals) and provides experience with its methods and applications. It also includes advanced topics such as integration by parts, partial fractions, Euler's Method, sequences and series and elementary differential equations. Placement on the AP exam *may* earn a student 2 semesters credit for Calculus on the college level, depending on the college or university.

AP STATISTICS**

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS ALGEBRA II

This course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: (1) Exploring Data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns, (2) Planning a Study: Deciding what and how to measure, (3) Anticipating Patterns: Producing models using probability and simulation, and (4) Statistical Inference: Conforming models. This course qualifies as a 4th Math required for admission to schools in the UNC system.

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS:

Fulfills Fine Art credit requirement. If students elect to take multiple courses from this section, the second credit will be applied to the elective credit requirement.

BAND

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: EXPERIENCE PLAYING AN INSTRUMENT

Band is an ensemble that provides students with development of musical skills and offers performance opportunities. The primary focus is on the expansion of basic skills and general musicianship. Students are expected to attend all scheduled performances and concerts.

CHORUS

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

Open to any student who enjoys singing for pleasure. This is a beginning level chorus with no prerequisites or audition required. Basic music reading skills and sight singing will be included. Students will begin to master part singing. Music from classic to contemporary styles will be studied. Participation in all regularly scheduled rehearsals (including occasional after school rehearsals) and evening performances is required. Formal dress may be required.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC THEORY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

Do you have a passion for music and want to learn more about how it works?

Are you a musician but learned by ear and have no formal training? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then this course is for you. This course will give you the basic knowledge and skills about music, how to read music, and the basic understanding of how music works.

THEATER

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

Designed as a survey course in the fundamentals of theatre: acting techniques, improvisation, terminology, history and philosophy of theatre. There will be some play production. Inherent in this process is the development of self-discipline and greater self-confidence.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION I

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

Includes equal time for health and physical education. Health emphasizes personal and community lifelong issues such as nutrition, substance abuse, mental health, individual decision-making and interpersonal skill development. Physical education includes refining basic skills learned in grades 7 and 8, participation in fitness activities and assessments, a variety of individual and team sports, and recreational activities.

ADVANCED PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT/Elective

PREREQUISITE: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Emphasis on skill development and game strategies for students who have a genuine interest in physical education.

SCIENCE

EARTH/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: NONE

Earth and Environmental Science is designed to immerse students in the physical, biological, and environmental sciences that shape our earth. Scientific concepts, principles, and modern science practices allow students to analyze environmental issues, both natural and human induced, and engage in evidence based decision-making in real world contexts. The curriculum topics include the rock cycle, lithosphere, meteorology, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere, with an emphasis on environmental awareness and sustainability of the earth.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HONORS EARTH/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: TEACHER RECOMMENDATION AND 8TH GRADE SCIENCE EOG LEVEL III OR IV

This is a rigorous course designed to allow highly motivated students to conduct an in-depth study of the North Carolina Essential Standards Earth and Environmental Science. Students are expected to work independently on a variety of assignments and accept greater responsibility for their learning. The curriculum will integrate inquiry investigations and a variety of technologies with the study of earth as a system. The impacts of human activities on earth systems will also be a focus. Students' investigations will be communicated through presentations and formal laboratory reports.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, ALGEBRA I

This course is designed to be equivalent to an introductory college course in environmental science. It emphasizes the application of scientific concepts to the understanding and solution of environmental problems. Major topics include interdependence of earth's systems, human population dynamics, renewable and nonrenewable resources, environmental quality, global changes and environment and society.

BIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 10,11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: EARTH SCIENCE

Biology introduces students to the general concepts and principles of biology. The course will include a study of the structure and function of living organisms, ecosystems, evolution and genetics, and molecular biology.

HONORS BIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: TEACHER RECOMMENDATION OR LEVEL V OR IV 8TH GRADE SCIENCE EOG

Honors Biology is geared toward students with a genuine interest and high aptitude in the biological sciences. Taking Honors Biology will enable students to take higher-level sciences throughout their high school career. The course will include a study of the structure and function of living organisms, ecosystems, evolution and genetics, and molecular biology.

AP BIOLOGY & BIOLOGY LABORATORY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY AND ALGEBRA II OR HIGHER MATH

In AP Biology, students study the basic concepts covered in a "General Biology" college-level course. Major themes include evolution, cellular processes, genetics and information transfer, and biological interaction. This course provides in-depth laboratory experiences similar to those found in an introductory college level Biology course. The focus of the laboratory portion of this course is developing advanced reasoning and inquiry skills such as observation, experimental design, data interpretation, statistical analysis and operation of scientific equipment.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA I

Physical Science is designed to address the following science strands: force and motion; matter, properties and change; and energy: conservation and transfer. This course provides a basic knowledge of both chemistry and physics.

CHEMISTRY I

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

COREQUISITE: ALGEBRA II

Chemistry is designed to address the following science strands: matter: properties and change; energy: conservation and transfer; and interaction of energy and matter. Laboratory experiences and demonstrations are an important part of the course. Topics include structure of atoms, structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, conservation of energy and matter and interaction of energy and matter.

HONORS CHEMISTRY I

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

COREQUISITE: HONORS ALGEBRA II

Honors Chemistry is geared toward students with a genuine interest and high aptitude in physical sciences. Taking Honors Chemistry will enable students to take higher-level sciences throughout their high school career. Honors Chemistry is designed to address the following science strands in greater detail: matter: properties and change; energy: conservation and transfer; and interaction of energy and matter. Laboratory experiences and demonstrations are an important part of the course. Topics include structure of atoms, structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, conservation of energy and matter and interaction of energy and matter.

AP CHEMISTRY

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

1 UNITS

PREREQUISITE: BIOLOGY, HONORS CHEMISTRY, GEOMETRY OR HIGHER
RECOMMENDATION: HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

This is the equivalent of a general college chemistry course. Major themes include: atoms and elements; structure and properties of matter; chemical reactions; kinetics; thermodynamics; and equilibrium. This course provides in-depth laboratory experiences similar to those found in an introductory college level Chemistry course. It is designed to help students develop advanced reasoning and inquiry skills such as observation, experimental design, data interpretation, statistical analysis, and operation of scientific equipment.

PHYSICS

GRADES: 10, 11, 12

1 Unit

PREREQUISITE: PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND/OR CHEMISTRY AND ALGEBRA II

Physics describes how the physical world behaves by using mathematics and problem solving strategies. Through studying the natural laws dealing with mechanics, heat, light, sound, electricity, and magnetism, students develop concepts and skills that benefit their lives and careers. This course provides a good foundation for any student planning a career that involves engineering, medicine, electronics, mechanics, and/or technology. Students planning to continue their education at colleges, universities or technical schools should consider taking this course.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HONORS PHYSICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: CHEMISTRY AND HONORS ALGEBRA II

This course uses the North Carolina Essential Standards for Physics as a foundation for more challenging and advanced study that enriches key topics and broadens the student's view of the larger physics community. Students should have a strong mathematics and science background. Students will be required to 1. operate with algebraic expressions to solve complex equations which include trigonometric functions; 2. use exponents to solve problems; and 3. describe graphically, algebraically, and verbally real-world functions and identify independent and dependent variables.

AP PHYSICS I: ALGEBRA-BASED

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

PREREQUISITE: 90% IN ALGEBRA I AND II AND MUST BE ENROLLED IN PRE-CALCULUS OR A HIGHER MATH

Physics 1 AP is an algebra based, first year physics course that introduces students to college-level thinking. Students will gain valuable knowledge in terms of scientific reasoning and critical thinking skills. Laboratory activities, which will be at least 25% of the coursework, will be inquiry-based. Students will understand how to set up a lab, decide what factors should be tested, choose the best way to collect data, and analyze that data. Based on their lab conclusions, students will be able to take their findings and relationships and apply them to new situations. Physics 1 AP covers Newtonian mechanics with topics answering certain questions like how objects move (linear and rotational kinematics), why objects move the way they do (forces and energy), and what happens when objects interact with one another (forces and momentum). Other topics include work, power, mechanical waves and sound, and an introduction to simple circuit design. This course is a great choice for any student interested in an engineering or science-related field of study.

ASTRONOMY

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: TEACHER RECOMMENDATION- AN ELECTIVE SCIENCE

This course acquaints students with astronomy concepts including basic facts about the Earth, moon, and stars, and further studies on galaxies, cosmology, and space exploration.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

GRADE LEVEL: 11-12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY

This course focuses on the collection, identification and analysis of crime scene evidence. Emphasis will be placed on the methods that link suspect, victim, and crime scene. Laboratory exercises will include finger printing, handwriting analysis, ballistics, blood typing, hair and fiber examination, and DNA analysis. Case studies and current events will be explored.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HONORS ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY OR TEACHER RECOMMENDATION- ELECTIVE SCIENCE

The content of this course is designed to study the structure and function of the human body through discussions, laboratory activities, animal dissections, and research projects. The human body systems will be covered and homeostatic imbalances will be emphasized. This course provides a good foundation for any student planning to pursue a career in the allied health field or life sciences. Areas to be studied are levels of organization, support and movement, control and regulation, fluids and transport, environmental exchange, and continuity of life.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

WORLD HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

This course will provide a solid understanding of world history. It will enable students to better understand and evaluate the world and time in which they live by having a fundamental understanding of the past. This course will also cover major events and trends from ancient civilizations to the Cold War era. Within this chronology, this course will look at the history of culture, politics, diplomacy, society, education, economics, and more.

HONORS WORLD HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

Students in Honors World History will learn about world concepts and events in greater detail. Students will be expected to take greater responsibility for their own learning and meet the rigor of the course. Students will take more intensive, higher level questioning tests, and will have more in-depth class assignments.

AP WORLD HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 9

1 UNIT

This Advanced Placement course presents a detailed account of history. It covers the entire history of the world, from prehistory until the present. Over the year, we will examine the political, social, and economic changes in a variety of civilizations. We will also analyze the effects that religions, governments, economics and ideals have had on the world in the past and present. Finally, we will look at some of the geographic, environmental and biological issues that humans have encountered.

CIVICS AND ECONOMICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10

1 UNIT

Through the study of Civics and Economics, students will acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to become responsible and effective citizens in an interdependent world. Students will need a practical understanding of these systems of civics and economics that affect their lives as consumer and citizens. Furthermore, this course serves as a foundation for *United States History*. It is recommended that this tenth grade course, *Civics and Economics*, directly precede the *United States History* survey course to maintain continuity and build historical perspective. As informed decision-makers, students will apply acquired knowledge to real life experiences. When studying the legal and political systems, students will become aware of their rights and responsibilities and put this information to practice.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HONORS CIVICS AND ECONOMICS

GRADE LEVEL: 10

1 UNIT

Students in Honors Civics and Economics will learn about system and economic concepts in greater detail. Students will be expected to take greater responsibility for their own learning and meet the rigor of the course. Students will take more intensive, higher level questioning tests, and will have more in-depth class assignments.

AMERICAN HISTORY I: THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

GRADE LEVEL: 11

1 UNIT

The course begins with European exploration of the new world through Reconstruction. Students will examine the historical and intellectual origins of the United States from European exploration and colonial settlement to the Revolutionary and Constitutional eras. Provides a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues, and for analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society over time. This course goes beyond memorization of isolated facts to the development of higher level thinking skills, encouraging students to make historical assessments and evaluations. After completing American History I: The Founding Principles, students will be required to take American History II the following year.

HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY I: THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

GRADE LEVEL: 11

1 UNIT

The honors American History I course is more challenging and requires students to take greater responsibility for their learning by participating in problem-seeking, problem-solving, scholarly and creative processes, critical analysis and application, and reflective thinking. Students will take more intensive, higher level questioning tests, and will have more in-depth class assignments. After completing Honors American History I: The Founding Principles, students will be required to take (Honors) American History II the following year.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 11

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: CIVICS AND ECONOMICS

AP U.S. History is a college-level course, which focuses on developing students' understanding of American history from approximately 1491 to the present. The course has students investigate the content of U.S. history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods, and develop and use the same thinking skills and methods (analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation) employed by historians when they study the past. The course also provides seven themes (American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society) that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places. Students whom complete AP United States History will *not* be required to take American History II.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AMERICAN II

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: AMERICAN I

American History Course II will guide students from the late nineteenth century time period through the early 21st century. Students will examine the political, economic, social and cultural development of the United States from the end of the Reconstruction era to present times. The essential standards of American History Course II will trace the change in the ethnic composition of American society; the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. An emphasis is placed on the expanding role of the federal government and federal courts as well as the continuing tension between the individual and the state. The desired outcome of this course is for students to develop an understanding of the cause-and-effect relationship between past and present events, recognize patterns of interactions, and understand the impact of events on in the United States in an interconnected world.

HONORS AMERICAN II

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: AMERICAN I

While the content will be the same as American II, there will be a greater focus on analysis and student independence over learning.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

The study of European history will give you the opportunity to take an in-depth look at the political, economic, social, diplomatic, intellectual and cultural elements that have fundamentally influenced millions of lives today. In addition to providing this information (a narrative of events, movements, and people) this course will provide students the chance to develop “(i) their understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (ii) the ability to analyze historical evidence and express their own historical interpretations, and (iii) last, the ability to express their historical understanding in clear, concise writing.”

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

AP Human Geography is a college-level course, which introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and alteration of Earth’s surface. Students learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. Students will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

AP Psychology is a college-level course, which introduces systematic, scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with major subfields within psychology and psychological methodology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

VISUAL ARTS:

Fulfills Fine Art credit requirement. If students elect to take multiple courses from this section, the second credit will be applied to the elective credit requirement.

PHOTOGRAPHY

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

Introduces students to photography skills with an emphasis on composition, aesthetic approaches to photographic techniques, and display and exhibit methods. The course will also explore the need and use of photography. This is an elective course that can be taken at any time.

ART I

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

Is a basic introduction to the elements of art, various art mediums, materials, color theory, as well as, the history of art. Art I provides experiences in drawing, design, 1 point perspective, painting, graphic design, sculpture, textiles, crafts and art appreciation.

ART II

GRADE LEVEL: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ART I

Art II focuses on the principles of design, which build upon the elements of art. Students will work in a variety of art media, and focus on improving their visual literacy and problem solving while exploring Intermediate drawing, composition, and two-point perspective as a basis for painting, sculpture and crafts.

HONORS ART III

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: ART II

Designed for highly motivated art students with previous art experience. Students will follow the advanced art standards as outlined in the art portion of the NC Arts Honors Standards. The course will involve a more advanced study of art processes, media, history, creative development and written expression. Students will be able to discuss and explain the making of art products and the reasons why artists create. Independent research in a variety of off campus art venues will be required.

AP STUDIO ART: DRAWING

GRADE LEVEL: 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITES: HONORS ART III AND PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT

The AP Studio Art portfolios are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience and study of art. AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. Elements of art and composition will be emphasized. Students will explore a wide range of media including; pencil, charcoal, pastels, paint, printmaking and collage. Students are encouraged to develop their own artistic style of working. Inventive and observational works are encouraged.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART APPRECIATION

GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

1 UNIT

Art Appreciation will introduce students to the visual arts and the variety of art mediums and techniques used to create two and three-dimensional works of art, as well as photography and some film studies. Students will also study the history of art beginning with the Stone Age to the present. The purpose of this course is to build a context for understanding the arts; structurally, socially, culturally and historically with the intention of making art meaningful to the student's everyday life. Students will explore and analyze influential works of art as a way to gain an understanding of the arts as a method of communication and expression. While reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and quality of art; students will develop, explore and express their personal aesthetics through art projects, class discussions, gallery visits and writing assignments.

HONORS FILM HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 10, 11, 12

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: HONORS WORLD HISTORY OR HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY

In Honors Film History, students will have the opportunity to view many of the popular films and films of popular genres from the 1910s-present day, viewing these films through a historical lens, rather than from an entertainment standpoint. Honors Film History will be taught at an honors level and will be writing-intensive, with students writing film critiques, analyzing films and genres for a time period, as well as writing scripts. As a culminating assignment/project, students will create their own documentary or short film using a genre discussed in class and the various skills. Students will also be expected to read film critiques from popular critics, as well as historical articles and historical books. Other activities in Historical Film Study will include, but not limited to, writing of film scripts, listening to podcasts, outside participation in theater visits, and discussions with college students enrolled in Film Studies.

WORLD LANGUAGES

LATIN I

1 UNIT

A study of the fundamentals in grammar and vocabulary of the Latin language, while also acquiring knowledge of Roman culture and civilization.

LATIN II

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: LATIN I

Students increase skills with emphasis on translation and grammar skills, reading comprehension and increased cultural knowledge.

SPANISH I

1 UNIT

Begins development of listening, speaking, reading and writing in the Spanish language. Listening and speaking precede reading and writing. Students are introduced to Spanish culture, customs and geography. Students will be required to present memorized sentences or assignments appropriate to the course level.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SPANISH II

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: SPANISH I

Greater emphasis is given to reading and writing skills with the major goal for students being to communicate their ideas in an oral/written way. Students will continue to gain a cultural understanding. Students will be required to present memorized sentences or assignments appropriate to the course level.

HONORS SPANISH III

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: SPANISH II

Stresses increased integration of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The goal is exclusive use of Spanish in the classroom. Literary selections are used for reading material. The cultural focus includes important events in Spanish history. Students will be required to present memorized sentences or assignments appropriate to the course level. Students may participate in the Annual Learning Through Languages Symposium.

HONORS SPANISH IV

1 UNIT

PREREQUISITE: SPANISH III Honors

Stresses increased integration of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The expectation is exclusive use of Spanish in the classroom. Literary selections are used for reading material. The cultural focus includes important events in Spanish history. Students may participate in the Annual Learning Through Languages Symposium.