



High School Course Catalog

2012-13

High School Academies

BrainworX

Delta Visionary Integration of Science, Technology & Academics (Delta VISTA)

Foundations

Historic Durham Ferry School of Agriculture

Imagine-IT

Independent Study

Venture Online Independent Learning Academy (VOILA)

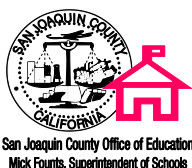


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Venture Academy Family of School's Philosophy

Mission Statement:

The mission of Venture Academy is to awaken the imagination, passion and curiosity of K-12 students by providing rich standards-based educational opportunities for those who seek innovative, non-traditional approaches to learning. Our students will become literate, lifelong learners empowered to embrace challenge, think critically, play passionately, live responsibly, learn infinitely, and imagine possibilities.

Belief Statements:

We believe that...

- *Each individual can learn
- *Education empowers individuals
- *Each individual has unique strengths and intelligences
- *Each individual is important and can make a difference in the world
- *Individuals joining together for a common purpose produce powerful results
- *Individuals learn best in a nurturing, non-threatening environment
- *Imagination, passion, dreams, and curiosity are gateways to learning
- *Play is an essential part of learning
- *Learning involves embracing challenge and being willing to risk
- *Students' needs direct their educational paths
- *Education is a team effort involving students, families, teachers and community
- *Real world connections enhance learning
- *Learning is life-long

Expected School-wide Learning Results (ESLR's)

1. **Venture Academy students will embrace challenge.**

Students may demonstrate this by (but are not limited to):

- Identifying and reflecting on challenges
- Identifying tools and talents
- Developing and Implementing a plan of action

2. **Venture Academy students will think critically.**

Students may demonstrate this by (but are not limited to):

- Evaluating and applying knowledge/skills in a variety of situations and contexts
- Acquiring knowledge necessary to form an educated opinion

3. **Venture Academy students will live responsibly.**

Students may demonstrate this by (but are not limited to):

- Exhibiting and making healthy lifestyle choices
- Identifying community needs
- Serving the community

4. **Venture Academy students will play passionately.**

Students may demonstrate this by (but are not limited to):

- Playing to learn
- Learning to play
- Balancing lives (work and play)
- Exploring the connection between passion and work

5. **Venture Academy students will learn infinitely.**

Students may demonstrate this by (but are not limited to):

- Realizing the world is a classroom
- Demonstrating continuous progress toward mastery of a core body of knowledge
- Initiating and facilitating their own learning

6. **Venture Academy students will imagine possibilities . . .**

High School Teaching Staff

BrainworX	Delta VISTA	Historic Durham Ferry School of Agriculture	Foundations	Independent Study
Joshua Brigham Lauren Dinubilo Molly Johnson Timothy Welsh Latricia Donahue	Tracey Bidwell Troy Bidwell Rebecca Clarke Heather Fogg Christina Fugazi Carlos Meza Spencer Wright	Rashonne Founts Joann Tavaziva	Adrian McDaniel Dionne McDonald Michael Reeves Ryan Teicheira	James Andersen Linda Bonvillain Marlowe Burgess Hope Groya Jennifer Tereba Robert Weagle

<u>Special Education & Resource</u>	Regional Occupational Centers/Program (ROP)	IMAGINE-IT
Debbie Brosten Nic Castellanos Janis Fisk Crossland Casey Gualtieri Steve Wichman	Shonna Beam Maryanne Friend John Herger Jeannine Huffman Andrea Jacobs John Kenny Richard Migliori Lori Kelley Tubbs	Megan Boyd Bryan Cantrell Latricia Donahue Mike Farrens Nancy Rieti

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



High School Subject Area	Venture Academy Family of Schools (VAFS) Graduation Requirements	CSU/UC Minimum Requirements Grades of "C" or better
English	40 credits of English	Four years of approved courses
Mathematics	20 credits of mathematics including successful completion of Algebra 1	Three years, including algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra. Four years recommended.
Social Science	30 credits of History/Social Science, including one year of U.S. History; one year of World History; and one Semester each of American Government and Economics.	Two years of history/social science, including one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government; and one year of world history, cultures, and geography.
Science	20 credits , including life and physical sciences.	Two years, including one year of biological and one year of physical science with lab. Three years recommended.
Community Service	5 credits (75 hours)	
Foreign Language	10 credits of either visual and performing arts or foreign language.	Two years in same language required. Three years recommended.
Visual and Performing Arts		One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art.
Physical Education	20 credits (1 credit per 15 hours)	
Health	2.5 credits	
Electives	57.5 credits	One year
Total Credit Requirements	205	15 (7 in the last two years) <u>1 year=10 credits</u>
Proficiency Requirements		
Beginning with the class of 2008, all students must pass the California High School Exit Exam.		

What is your Four-Year Plan?

(Plans may differ depending on your academy or career pathway)

Grade	Required Courses	Student Courses	Grade	Credit	Credit	Credit	Career Information and Plans
9 (50 cr)	English 9						Career Goal/Major: Academy Emphasis: Supporting Activities: (9 - 12) If College Bound: PLAN Total credits to date:
	Math						
	Earth Science						
	Physical Education						
	Freshman Success Elec						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Elective							
Summer School:							
10 (100 cr)	English 10						Career Goal/Major: Academy Emphasis: If College Bound: PLAN High School Exit Exam: Math/ELA Total credits to date:
	Math						
	World History						
	Biology						
	Physical Education						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Elective							
Summer School:							
11 (150 cr)	English 11						Career Goal/Major: Academy Emphasis: If College Bound: PSAT SATI SATII ACT High School Exit Exam: Math/ELA Community Service: Total Credits to Date:
	Math/Elective						
	U.S. History						
	Science/EGC						
	Elective						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Elective							
Summer School:							
12 (205 cr)	English 12						Career Goal/Major: Academy Emphasis: SATI SATII ACT High School Exit Exam: Math /ELA Community Service:
	Math						
	Amer. Govt./Economics						
	Elective						
	Elective						
	Elective						
Post High School Goal:							Total Credits to Date:

Program Options

BrainworX – Academy of Innovation and Inquiry

Individualized program with one-on-one attention and resources students need to prepare for college and succeed in life. Student in this program have the opportunity to complete up to 20 college credits. Students have the opportunity for internships, job shadowing, and advanced placement courses.

BrainworX Academy is also home to the Clean Transportation Technologies Academy (CTTA). This is a joint venture with California Department of Education's California Partnership Academy, AECOM Technology Corporation and San Joaquin Rail Commission with a career focus on emerging clean technology and renewable energy careers. Clean Technology curriculum is integrated into all classes as students explore alternative forms of clean energy transportation. In CTTA, students are required to explore clean technology-related concepts through hands-on exploration and student-led instruction.

Delta Visionary Integration of Science, Technology and Academics (Delta VISTA)

Students in grades 9 through 12 who are fascinated by science and technology are exposed to real world scientific learning experiences using the environment as a theme to guide instruction. Students use Service Learning, science and technology to solve real world problems – preparing them for success in post-secondary education and/or skilled employment in a science-based economy. The structure of Delta VISTA is one where professionalism is stressed everyday in preparation for entering the work force or further academic/technical training. Currently, nine (9) Advanced Placement (AP) courses are offered: AP Biology, AP Calculus, AP Chemistry, AP English, AP Environmental Science, AP Human Geography, AP Spanish, AP United States History, and AP World History. Delta VISTA also has partnered with Grand Canyon University to offer 16 semester units each year to juniors and seniors with a summer program. These university courses are free of charge to our students.

Delta VISTA is also the high school home of **Pathways to Health Careers (P2HC4)**, a four-year program that introduces students to the various fields and areas of the medical world. Students in the program take courses related to the field of medicine including: Medical English, Medical (human) Biology, Medical Terminology, Sports Medicine, CPR/First Aid, Epidemiology and more. Two Fridays a month during a student's freshman/sophomore years, students will participate in seminars that include guest speakers from the medical community, field trips and workshops. During their junior/senior years, students will participate in various internship programs exposing them to the medical fields. Several of the classes will be articulated with Delta College, earning students college credits while in high school.

Students interested in Delta VISTA or P2HC4 must complete the interview process. Once accepted, students with the assistance of parents/guardians and Delta VISTA teachers will

register for the classes that will fill their four-day-a-week schedule. On Fridays students must commit to learning activities that are off site.

Foundations

Helping students make connections through Integration of Visual & Performing Arts

Teachers within the Foundations Academy MDA site at Venture Academy believe that students thrive when provided with tangible thematic instruction. Through this concept, students are enabled to make relevant connections throughout the curriculum.

Students within the Foundations Visual & Performing Arts program participate in a rotation schedule that involves Social Studies, English/Language Arts, and Drama. All students within this program are required not only to take drama as part of their daily schedule but also enroll in an additional visual or performing arts class throughout the week. This class should work towards building a portfolio in the student's area of interest (i.e., dance, music, photography, etc.). All core classes within the Foundations program are centered on visual and performing arts. Therefore, all classes integrate the arts into the daily curriculum. Classes focus on both the visual and performance aspect of the arts in a variety of ways.

Historic Durham Ferry School of Agriculture

Durham Ferry High School campus is located on a 290-acre site that was formerly a state park. Because of its unique setting, the school program is a blend of academic core subjects and hands-on outdoor experiences that reinforce those academics. Students have the opportunity to earn all high school credits and prepare for a variety of post-high school options. Freshmen and sophomores are expected to complete the following courses in a two-year span of time: English (2 years), Algebra I, Geometry, U.S. History, World History, Biology, Earth Science, and Health. In addition, all students are expected to participate in ROP Ranch Management and have the opportunity to participate in Industrial Arts class. Upper division students (Juniors and Seniors) will meet with their teacher and design a plan to meet their academic needs and career goals. All Durham Ferry high school students may participate in afternoon classes at the main site depending on openings and eligibility requirements. Students who maintain academic eligibility may participate in Venture Academy Athletics.

ImagineIT

ImagineIT Academy is designed for students interested in technology and multiple career pathways. This academy works closely with Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Regional Occupational Centers/Program (ROP) courses offered on campus. In addition to fulfilling all academic requirements needed for a Venture Academy high school diploma, students are encouraged to experience the wide variety of pathways offered at the school. Pathways include, but are not limited to: Graphic Design, Aviation, Visual Arts, Mechanical Construction (welding), Construction, Design and Build (architecture), Medical Assistant, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, etc. Through the pursuit of these pathways, students have the opportunity to earn various professional certifications and internships.

ImagineIT Academy is also home to the New Energy Academy (NEA). This is a joint venture with California Department of Education's California Partnership Academy and Pacific Gas and

Electric (PG&E). NEA curriculum is integrated into all classes as students explore alternative forms of energy and the possibility of an energy efficient future. In NEA, students are required to explore energy-related concepts through hands-on exploration and student-led instruction. NEA serves students in a three year cohort model, providing support, focused curriculum and professional mentorship through the Sophomore, Junior, and Senior years.

Courses at ImagineIT Academy (from English to Film Appreciation to Art Studio) are far from traditional. Teachers provide an innovative, project-based learning environment across all subject matters. In this environment, students become independent thinkers, self-disciplined problem solvers, and involved members of their community.

Independent Study

Students in the independent study program meet monthly or more frequently as determined by both the student and teacher of record to ensure that student is making adequate progress and doing the work assigned to them. This allows the students to progress at their own rate and offers a flexible school day/week to meet each student's individual needs. It is recommended that students wanting to be enrolled in independent studies have passed both parts of the California High School Exit Exam

Venture Online Independent Learning Academy (VOILA)

Students in this academy use the Odysseyware online learning tool to complete their education. Students meet regularly with their teacher of record to ensure adequate progress using online tools. Students will also be required to complete projects and assignments outside of the online courses.

Venture Academy Family of Schools Course Offerings

(Note: Not all courses are offered each year. Classes will be offered based on student's needs).

BrainworX (Program Specific Courses)

English 9

Grade Level: 9

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills first year of the 4-Year English requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English ("b") requirement (pending)

English 9 is a core Language Arts course integrating literature, writing, grammar, mechanics, speaking and listening, vocabulary development, reading skills and study skills.

Integrated Math 1 (BrainworX)

Grade Level: 9

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills one year of the math requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC Math requirement (pending)

The Integrated Math 1 Course utilizes a problem-centered approach and is integrated with the other core content courses of BrainworX. Knowledge is built through units organized around a central theme. Students solve a variety of smaller problems that develop the underlying skills and concepts needed to solve the central problem of each unit. This course weaves content standards from Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 and Statistics at a foundation level. The course prepares students for the California High School Exit Exam, and gives them a strong foundation in the logic needed for abstract problem solving. Regular attendance and participation along with timely completion of daily practice homework is required. Students will need to demonstrate competency on quizzes and tests. Resources used include College Preparatory Mathematics, Interactive Mathematics Program, and supplemental conceptual activities.

Delta VISTA (Program Specific Courses)

Individual and Community Development (ICD)

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Credit

Individual and Community Development curriculum includes subjects such as career planning, social behavior in the workplace, and math and English skills necessary for work. Students will learn proper workplace etiquette, how to write a cover letter and resume, and various other forms of formal communication and interview skills. They will practice these skills through community related projects, which will lead to the exploration of various careers and employment opportunities.

AVID I

Grade Level: 9

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Credit

AVID 1 is an interdisciplinary course for AVID freshmen. The course is designed for those students who elect to take a course that prepares them for the rigor required for college work. Students will engage in WIC-R (writing, inquiry, collaboration and reading) strategies and will focus on time management and organizational skills that will help them become more successful students.

AVID II

Grade Level: 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Credit

AVID 2 is an interdisciplinary course for AVID sophomores. The course is designed for those students who elect to take a course that prepares them for the rigor required for college work. Students will engage in higher levels of WIC-R (writing,

inquiry, collaboration and reading) strategies than experienced in the prior years of AVID. Students will begin focusing on which colleges are going to best fulfill their academic and career requirements. Time management and organizational skills will continue to be a focus.

AVID 3-4

Grade Level: 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Credit

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC Elective (“g”) requirement only if both courses are taken as a 2 year course.

The AVID 3/4 Junior-Senior Seminar is a two- year interdisciplinary course for AVID juniors and seniors. The course is designed for those students who elect to take a course that prepares them for the rigor required for college work. Students will engage in higher levels of WIC-R (writing, inquiry, collaboration and reading) strategies than experienced in prior years of AVID. These higher-level thinking, reading, writing and oral language skills are needed to prepare students for the level of work required to produce a culminating research project at the end of the senior year

English

English 9

Grade Level: 9

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills first year of the 4-Year English requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English (“b”) requirement

English 9 is a core Language Arts course integrating literature, writing, grammar, mechanics, speaking and listening, vocabulary development, reading skills and study skills.

English 10/Multicultural Literature

Grade Level: 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Completion of English 9

Graduation: Fulfills second year of the 4-Year English requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English (“b”) requirement

English 10 is a core Language Arts course integrating literature, writing, grammar, mechanics, speaking and listening, vocabulary development, reading skills and study skills.

English 11/American Literature

Grade Level: 11

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Completion of English 10

Graduation: Fulfills third year of the 4-Year English requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English (“b”) requirement.

English 11 is a core literature-based program integrating the study of American literature with writing, speaking and listening, vocabulary development, reading skills, and study skills.

English 12/ Expository Reading and Writing

Grade Level: 12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Completion of English 12

Graduation: Fulfills fourth year of the 4-Year English requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English (“b”) requirement

The goal of the Expository Reading and Writing Course is to prepare college-bound seniors for the literacy demands of higher education. The cornerstone of the course—the assignment template—presents a process for helping students read, comprehend, and respond to non-fiction and literary texts. Modules also provide instruction in research methods and documentation conventions. Students will be expected to increase their awareness of the rhetorical strategies employed by authors, and to apply those strategies in their own writing. They will read closely to examine the relationship between an author’s argument or theme and his or her audience and purpose, to analyze the impact of structural and rhetorical strategies, and to examine the social, political, and philosophical assumptions that underlie the text. By the end of the course, students will be expected to use this process independently when reading unfamiliar texts and writing in response to them.

California Literature

Grade Level: 11-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Completion of English 10

Graduation: Fulfills third year of the 4-Year English requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English ("b") requirement.

California Literature is a course that analyzes regional works of literature from California Literature while making interdisciplinary connections to California's history, cultural fabric, politics, art, music, and development. In addition to the core prose reading, we will read short stories, poetry, historical documents, and applicable articles from various sources such as newspapers, web blogs, etc. Students will also be required to read outside texts that support the theme, genre, or focus of a particular unit.

Speech and Debate

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: English 9, "C" or better grade in previous English course.

Graduation: Fulfills elective credits.

Speech and Debate is a one-year course in oral communication with emphasis on public speaking. Students will be introduced to and refine research skills, delivery skills, and listening and evaluative skills for a variety of types of speeches. Various communication theory and practices are explored as well as practiced throughout the course. Parliamentary debates are introduced, explored and effectively practiced.

AP English Language & Composition

Grade Level: 11th or 12th

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: English 11 or Eng 12

Graduation: Fulfills one year of English

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English ("b") requirement

AP Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. - College Board

Medical English10 (A-G)

Grade Level: 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills one year of the 4-Year English requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English ("b") requirement

This course presents a study of the development of world literature from ancient times through the present and focuses on medical components within the works read. With emphasis on major authors and literary trends, all forms of literature will be covered, including poetry, prose, and drama. Discussion and written assignments will stress insight into the works and the correlation of history, culture, literature, and other fine arts. Emphasis will be placed on critical, analytic reading skills, participation in-depth, constructive class discussion, and critical, evaluative writing.

Medical English 9 (A-G)

Grade Level: 9

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills one year of the 4-Year English requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC English ("b") requirement

This course presents an introduction to literature and focuses on medical components within the works read. With emphasis on major authors and literary trends, all forms of literature will be covered, including poetry, prose, and drama. Discussion and written assignments will stress insight into the works and the correlation of history, culture, literature, and other fine arts. Emphasis will be placed on critical, analytic reading skills, participation in-depth, constructive class discussion, and critical, evaluative writing. Grammar and writing development will be a major component of the course.

CAHSEE Test Preparation

Grade Level: 10-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Students are placed in this class based on their performance on STAR tests and previous CAHSEE test scores.

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit.

Students in this class receive additional instruction to help prepare them to successfully pass their California High School Exit Exam and the California Standards Tests.

AP United States History

Grade Level: 11/12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: English 10

Graduation: Fulfills one year U.S. History high school requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one semester of CSU and UC U.S. History requirement Category A

The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and enduring understandings necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format.

AP World History

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills one year World History high school requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one semester of CSU and UC World History requirement Category A

Advanced Placement World History is a college level course designed to help students develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts and interactions between different types of Human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The chronological time frame is from 8000 BCE to the present. The course is divided into five units consisting of the following time periods and big picture ideas

AP Calculus

Grade Level: 11th and 12th

Length: 1 year (2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Precalculus and teacher recommendation

Graduation: Fulfills one year of math

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year Category C

This course is the first year course in the study of Calculus. This course is equivalent to a college level course. Students in this course are expected to have a solid background in mathematics. Students will learn to use graphical, numerical, analytic, and verbal methods to solve problems. The course teaches students procedural skills and conceptual knowledge of a variety of topics. Topics covered in this course include: limits, continuity, analyzing graphs, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications, differential equations, and more. This course will prepare students for future courses in Calculus as well as the Advanced Placement Examination given each May. Students who pass the AP exam can receive college credit. A graphing calculator is strongly recommended for this course. There are some problems which cannot be done without the use of a graphing calculator.

AP Biology

Grade Level: 11/12

Length: year long course

Prerequisite: Biology

Graduation: satisfies 1 year of lab science

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year Lab Science Category D

This class will begin with a global view of biology, focusing on the study of the relationship of living organisms with each other and their environment. We will see how organisms are affected and even changed by forces of nature. The class will include a survey of the diversity of life, and the mechanisms by which living organisms draw their energy, grow, and reproduce. Finally, it will deal specifically with structure, function, and adaptations of plants and animals. Throughout the course we will explore how the concept of evolution pervades the modern understanding of Biology, and how technology has both contributed to our knowledge base and impacted our lives.

AP Chemistry

Grade Level: 11-12

Length: year long course

Prerequisite: Chemistry and Algebra 1

Graduation: Fulfills requirements for one year of physical science

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year category D Lab Science This course is designed to provide a solid first-year college chemistry experience, both conceptually and in the laboratory. The labs serve to supplement the learning in the lecture section of the course. Students will write a detailed lab report that will help prepare them for the rigors of college lab reports. Problem-solving skills, both on paper and in the lab, are emphasized. The class consists of weekly problem sets, labs, and quizzes. The exams are reviewed in class to increase students' awareness of test-taking strategies.

AP Environmental Science

Grade Level: 11/12

Length: year long course

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Biology

Graduation: Fulfills one year physical science requirements

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year category D Lab Science

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to prepare students for the AP Exam in May as well as expose them to college level material. The emphasis of this class will be centered on "the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them."

Science Competitions and Projects

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: At least one High School Science class and permission of instructor

Graduation: Fulfills one year of elective credits

College Prep: This class teaches students advanced research and publication processes. Students will select a research project with individually or in a team, and with the guidance of the instructor conduct field or laboratory research. Students will be encouraged to present their finding at an appropriate scientific forum. Students will also compete in science competitions which include but are not limited to Science Olympiad, Remote Operated Vehicles, and the Ocean Science Bowl.

Foreign Language

Spanish 1

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills foreign language requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC Language other than English ("e") requirement

Spanish 1 is an introductory course for students who wish to learn a foreign language. It is intended to develop limited facility in each of the major communication skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Major emphasis is on development of the ability to speak fluently with accurate pronunciation and intonation, while fostering an appreciation of the culture.

Spanish 2

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1.

Graduation: Fulfills foreign language requirement

College Prep: Fulfills one year of CSU and UC Language other than English ("e") requirement

This course is designed to teach students to communicate in Spanish. Instruction will emphasize listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in preparation for advanced work. Students will be able to express themselves at a basic level in present and past tenses. Additional emphasis will be focused on reading comprehension in the target language.

Spanish 3

Grade Level: 10-12

Length: year long course

Prerequisite: Spanish 2

Graduation: Fulfills one year of the VP Arts/foreign language credits

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year category E: Language Other Than English

Spanish 3 is an intermediate course for students who wish to continue their learning of Spanish. It is intended to develop the major communication skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Major emphasis is on development of the ability to speak fluently with accurate pronunciation and intonation, while fostering an appreciation of the culture.

AP Spanish Language

Grade Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year long course

Prerequisite: Spanish 2

Graduation: fulfills one year of VP Arts/foreign language requirement College Prep: fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year E Language Other Than English

The AP Spanish Language course is comparable to an advanced level (5th- and 6th-semester or the equivalent) college Spanish language course. Emphasizing the use of Spanish for active communication, it encompasses aural/oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar, and composition.

Foundations Block

All Students enrolled in the Foundations Program must choose the Foundations Block, which meets every school day.

Foundations Block – English, History, and Performing Arts

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none.

Graduation: Fulfill English, Social Science, VAPA and Elective credit

Art is infused into the curriculum in all subject areas to meet program guidelines and state standards. For specific grade level descriptions see Course Content areas.

Mathematics

Algebra Readiness

Grade Level: any

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendations

Graduation: Fulfills Elective or Math Credit

Algebra 1

Grade Level: 9–12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills one year of the math requirement

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC math (“c”) requirement.

Algebra 1 is the first course to begin a 3-year college-prep math sequence. This course emphasizes formal development of the algebraic skills and concepts necessary for success in geometry and other advanced college-prep math courses. It is a rigorous course with a good deal of homework and an extensive testing schedule. **Students who earned less than a “C” in their previous math class are strongly recommended to re-take the previous course.**

Algebra 1 (Durham Ferry)

Grade Level: 9–12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills one year of the math requirement.

Algebra 1 is recommended for 8th grade students and is a course requirement for all high school students. Passing a course of Algebra 1 satisfies the Algebra requirement for high school, prepares students for the California High School Exit Exam, and gives them a strong foundation in the logic needed for abstract problem solving. High school students will earn a total of 10 credits if all requirements are met. Middle school students do not receive high school credits, but the Algebra 1 requirement is shown as satisfied on their transcript and they enroll in Geometry as 9th grade students. Regular attendance and participation along with timely completion of daily practice homework is required. Students will need to demonstrate competency on quizzes and tests. Resources used include AGS Algebra, Interactive Mathematics Program and Supplemental Conceptual Activities.

Advanced Placement Calculus AB

Grade Level: 11th and 12th
Length: 1 year (2 semesters)
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Precalculus and teacher recommendation
Graduation: Fulfills 1 year of math other than Algebra
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year category C

This course is the first year course in the study of Calculus. This course is equivalent to a college level course. Students in this course are expected to have a solid background in mathematics. Students will learn to use graphical, numerical, analytic, and verbal methods to solve problems. The course teaches students procedural skills and conceptual knowledge of a variety of topics. Topics covered in this course include: limits, continuity, analyzing .

Geometry

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Intensified Algebra.
Graduation: Fulfills one year of math requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC math ("c") requirement.

Geometry is a rigorous, college-prep course with commensurate homework. It emphasizes the formal development of those geometric and algebraic skills and concepts necessary for success in Algebra 2 and college entrance testing programs. **Students who earned less than a "C" in their previous math class are strongly recommended to re-take the previous course.**

Geometry (Durham Ferry)

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Intensified Algebra.
Graduation: Fulfills one year of math requirement.
College Prep: N/A

This course will fulfill 10 credits of 20 total Math credits required for graduation from Venture Academy. It is also recommended that college-bound students complete a course in Geometry. This course prepares students for the California High School Exit Exam, and gives them a strong foundation in the logic needed for abstract problem solving. Regular attendance and participation along with timely completion of daily practice homework is required. Students will need to demonstrate competency on quizzes and tests. Resources used include AGS Geometry, selected lessons/supplemental activities from: Geometry: Concepts and Applications (Glencoe), Interactive Mathematics Program (IMP), and Supplemental Conceptual/Art Activities.

Algebra 2

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry.
Graduation: Fulfills one year of math requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC math ("c") requirement.

Algebra 2 is a course designed to review and expand upon the mathematical content of Algebra 1 and Geometry. Logarithmic and exponential functions, series and sequences, quadratic systems, conic sections and the complex numbers are introduced. Algebra 2 forms the foundation upon which college-level mathematics and statistics courses are built and is therefore essential for college-bound students. **Students in this course are encouraged to own a graphing calculator. We recommend the TI-84. Students who earned less than a "C" in their previous math class are strongly recommended to re-take the previous course.**

Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 10 - 12
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: Algebra 2
Graduation: Fulfills one year of math requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC math ("c") requirement. (pending)

Pre-Calculus is a course that includes trigonometry and math analysis. Studies of functions, logarithms, analytical geometry, mathematical inductions, and limits will prepare students for Calculus. Students enrolled in this class are encouraged to own a graphing or scientific calculator. We recommend the TI-84 graphing calculator. **Students who earned less than a "C" in their previous math class are strongly recommended to re-take the previous course.**

Physical Education

Physical Education

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills 10 credits of Physical Education requirement.

Physical Education areas covered are: physical fitness, field games, weight training, plyometrics, aquatics, various team sports, steroid and nutrition education. Students must complete the required standards and benchmarks.

Sciences

Biology

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Life Science requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC Life Science Lab Category D requirement. (pending)

Biology is a one-year standards and benchmarks course. This course emphasizes the study of the characteristics of life, cellular structure and function, genetics, evolution, ecology, and comparative anatomy and physiology. Connections will be made with current issues and concepts from Earth Science, Chemistry, and Physics. Laboratory work is a regular part of the course.

Earth Science

Grade Level: 9 - 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Graduation: Fulfills Physical Science requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC elective Category G requirement. (pending)

Earth Science is a course designed to meet the State of California content standards in the subject. In particular, major emphasis will be placed upon helping students to become independent learners of science. In this effort, skill building in mathematical representation of science concepts, active scientific inquiry, and writing about science will be woven throughout the course delivery.

Chemistry

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Biology or Earth Science, Algebra II (can be concurrently enrolled)

Graduation: Fulfills Physical Science requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC Physical Science Lab requirement Category D.

Chemistry is a one-year course that emphasizes the basic concepts of chemistry while it builds and expands on the student's knowledge gained from previous physical science or biology courses. This class uses mathematical problem solving applied to chemistry concepts. The course also emphasizes, in depth, critical and creative thinking skills through experimentation, written assignments and real-world problems and projects.

Methods of Scientific Inquiry

Grade Level: 9 - 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC elective ("g") requirement. (pending)

Methods in Scientific Inquiry is a one-year course that is required of all Delta VISTA students. The course explicitly addresses three broad skills areas encompassed by the nature of science: data acquisition and analysis, experimental design, and written and oral communication. Activities will support the development of basic skills across the science disciplines and promote an understanding of scientific inquiry and the nature of research. One component of this course is time to develop, design, and produce an individual or group project that will be submitted for competition in the San Joaquin County Science Fair.

Marine Biology

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: Biology (may be taken concurrently) with a "C" or better and Algebra 1

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC elective ("g") requirement. (pending)

This course builds upon and extends biological concepts developed during the first year. Students take an in depth look at the physical, chemical, and geological characteristics of the world's oceans as it applies to marine organisms. They then investigate the structure, functions, behaviors, adaptations, and classification of a variety of plant and animals that live in the marine environment. Students learn how energy flows and matter cycles through the Earth's ocean system and they investigate the impact of humans on that system. Laboratory activities include dissection, experimentation, data collection, and data analysis that develop scientific investigation and scientific thinking skills.

Oceanography

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: Biology (may be taken concurrently) with a "C" or better and Algebra 1

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC elective ("g") requirement. (pending)

Forensic Biology

Grade Level: 10-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Biology (may be taken concurrently)

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC elective ("g") requirement. (pending)

Forensic biology is a broad survey of the scientific skills, disciplines and training used by forensic specialist in law enforcement, business and industry. This is a year long applied laboratory science course designed to introduce students to the field of forensic science. Students will learn the fundamental concepts of forensic science and apply them in the completion of laboratory assignments and analysis of criminal evidence. Students will also participate in case studies of real and simulated.

AP Environmental Science

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Biology (may be taken concurrently) with a "C" or better and Algebra 1

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC elective ("g") requirement.

Conceptual Physics

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Physical Science Requirement

This course deals with the most basic of sciences – physics. The course uses a conceptual approach, emphasizing the concepts behind the Laws of Motion, energy, light, sound, etc. In addition to textbook work, the class also incorporates demonstrations, simulations, activities, and projects to reinforce the principles of physics. Upon completion of the course, the student will have a basic understanding of the laws that govern the Earth and the Universe.

Social Sciences

World History

Grade Level: 10

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills World History requirement.

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC History ("a") requirement.

Modern World History is designed to sensitize students to the contributions and growing interdependence of the various peoples and cultures of our world. This course will provide students with an understanding of the effects on the world of the use of democratic ideas, the Industrial Revolution, imperialism, colonialism, World War I and II, the Cold War, totalitarianism, nationalism, and the problems of the contemporary world.

U.S. History

Grade Level: 11
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: None
Graduation: Fulfills U.S. History requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC History ("a") requirement.

Contemporary U.S. History is designed to help students examine major turning points in American History in the twentieth century. Throughout the year students will examine American culture including religion, literature, art, drama, architecture education, and the mass media. This year begins with a selective review with an emphasis on the nation's beginning and the industrial transformation.

Advanced Placement (AP) U.S. History

Grade Level: 11
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: None
Graduation: Fulfills U.S. History requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC History ("a") requirement.

AP U.S. History is the equivalent to freshman U.S. History on the college or university level. The course will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

AP Human Geography

Grade Level: 9-12
Length: Year long course
Prerequisite: World History, Geospatial Technology (recommended)
Graduation: Satisfies 1 year of elective credit
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC requirements for one year category G college prep elective

The Human Geography course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding. The class teaches the methods and materials used by profession geographers

American Government

Grade Level: 12
Length: Semester Class
Prerequisite: None
Graduation: Fulfills American Government requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC History ("a") requirement.

American Government is a semester course designed to help students develop an understanding of the institutions of American government. Students examine and compare and contrast the development and processes of governments in both the United States, and to a lesser extent, the world. Students also examine related major issues of the world today. Emphasis is placed on the development of social participation skills and civic responsibility.

Economics

Grade Level: 12
Length: Semester Class
Prerequisite: None
Graduation: Fulfills Economics requirement.
College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC History college prep elective ("g") requirement.

This ½ Term course is designed to deepen students' understanding of the economic problems and institutions of the nation and world in which they live. It will provide them with the knowledge and skills needed to make reasonable decisions on economic issues as citizens, workers, consumers, business owners, managers, and members of civic groups. The course is primarily a course in social science enriching students' understanding of the operations and institutions of economic systems rather than a course in household or business management.

History of American Popular Music

Grade Level: 11 - 12
Length: Year Class
Prerequisite: U.S. History
Graduation: Fulfills CSU and UC Elective ("g") requirement. (pending)

History of American Popular Music (Rock and Roll) from 1950 to 2000 with an emphasis of the art from African American and southern roots, through the impact of the 'British Invasion' of the 1960's, heavy metal and alternative rock of the 1980's, to the creation of several subgenres through contemporary artists.

Intro to Law

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: U.S. History

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Credit

College Prep: Fulfills CSU and UC Elective ("g") requirement. (pending)

Introduction to Law is a challenging course that will prepare students for a college course in Criminal Justice or Pre-Law. It is a two-semester course that will take students from the frameworks in the Constitution to review of actual on-going cases in our court system today. Solid reading, writing and public speaking skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to after-school and weekends are necessary to succeed. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, public speaking, question writing and role-playing.

History Through Film

Grade Level: 10+

Length: Year

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Credit

History through Film is designed to look at History through the eyes of 20th and 21th century moviemakers. This course will give students insight into how many people gain their knowledge of history, and understand the inaccuracies and literary license taken by many filmmakers. Students will learn to disseminate these inaccuracies and understand their purpose. Class will be taught in thematic units. Topics may include, but are not limited to: sports in history, racial integration, biographies, propaganda, wars throughout history and specific instances turmoil and events throughout the world. Independent films, major studio productions, and documentaries will be viewed.

Modern Art History

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Fall/Spring.

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

This course is broken up into 3 main components of study.

*A historical survey of early "modern" art from its origins in the mid-19th Century in Europe to the beginning of the 20th Century. Emphasis is on the major styles, monuments and artists, and their social and political connections and implications.

*Explores 20th-century art through a close examination of key artists, styles and movements. Focus emphasizes historical developments during the first three-quarters of the century, but which inform contemporary visual arts.

*Surveys major developments in American painting from the 17th century through the 20th century as seen primarily in painting, with references to architecture and sculpture. Discussion of major art movements in relation to historical and cultural developments and gain insight into what makes American art unique.

Ninth Century Art History

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Fall/Spring.

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

Art History: Greek and Roman Sculpture

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Fall/Spring.

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

Visual and Performing Arts

Take 3

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year. May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite: Audition/Instructor approval

Graduation: Fulfills VP Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

Advanced performance class for seasoned performers. This class is intended for the "triple threat" student and curriculum is centered on creating performance material with our in-house talent (singers, actors, dancers, artists) for yearly lunch and dinner theater performances.

Beginning Black and White Photography

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement.

Beginning B/W Photography is an introductory course in traditional photographic camera work and laboratory procedures. Basic camera theory, darkroom procedures, aesthetics, history, and concepts are presented in lecture and practiced in laboratory periods.

Intermediate Black and White Photography

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Beginning B/W Photography and/or instructor approval

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement.

Advanced Black and White Photography

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Intermediate B/W Photography and/or instructor approval

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement.

Digital Photography

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement

Publications/Graphic Art (Yearbook)

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement.

This course teaches basic production techniques which focus on copy writing, placement, layout design and continuity, photographic processes, advertising, marketing, sales promotion, and how to meet deadlines. Opportunities in photography journalism, computer graphics and graphic design will be provided.

Chorus

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class. May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

This is an advanced choral music class designed for singers displaying a high degree of vocal/choral experience and skill. Emphasis is on more advanced facets of musicianship, vocal/choral production and vocal/choral technique. Participation in performances of the Select Singers is mandatory

Beginning Guitar

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None, but the student must have his/her own guitar

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Requirement

Beginning Guitar is geared for the student who has little to no experience playing the guitar, although more intermediate students can still benefit from what is offered. The course covers basic music reading, and understanding the guitar in what is called "first position." Outside materials are also used in order to cover a broader spectrum of technique, music theory, and various approaches to playing the instrument.

Piano I

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Requirement

Upon completion of Piano I, the student will have a fundamental understanding of music theory, reading, and playing

technique. The course is designed for students with little to no background of music reading, and is open to any who wish to experience playing a musical instrument. It is not required that the student have access to a piano outside of school.

Piano II

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Piano I and/or audition

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Requirement

This course continues where Piano I ended, bringing the student into a deeper understanding of all aspects of music – theory, reading, style, and history. Through playing more complex pieces, and composing their own, the student develops a greater appreciation of music.

3-D Art Design

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Credits: 2.5 credits per semester

Prerequisite: none

Graduation: Helps fulfill Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

This course teaches basic techniques for designing and creating 3-D art from paper, glass, tile, wood and metal.

Take 3 Advanced Performance

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Fall/Spring.

Prerequisite: Audition

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit

Non Departmental

Study Skills

Grade Level: 9-12 based on need

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: Students recommended by their teacher of record or IEP team will have this class available to them.

Graduation: Fulfills elective credit

Study Skills is a support class that students may take if they are recommended by their Language Arts or RSP teacher, score Far Below or Below Basic on their California Content Standards test. This class will review the skills necessary to improve student's writing skills, reading comprehension and math skills.

Health

Grade Level: 9-12 (Grade 9 recommended)

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Health requirement.

This course is designed to help students examine their lifestyles, select goals, and make plans to achieve and maintain optimum health. The course focuses on choosing behaviors, which help prevent illness and accidents, promote health for ones' self and others, and improve the quality of the environment. The course promotes responsible decision-making and provides students with life management skills they can use for the rest of their lives.

Staff Assistant (TA)

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Permission of Counselor and Instructor,

Graduation: Fulfills elective credits or community service.

Students in these courses will work under teacher or administrator supervision in a work or lab setting within the school environment.

Industrial Arts

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Elective credit.

Lab Fee: \$25.00 for the semester plus the cost of materials for personal projects.

This course covers the basics of woodworking and metal working with an emphasis in metal artwork. The students learn the safety procedures for safe use of shop equipment as well as how to design and fabricate projects in wood and steel.

Work Experience

Grade Level: 11-12 must be 16

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Age 16, work permit and instructor approval

Graduation: Elective credit.

Work Experience Education is a partnership between the student, the school, and the employer. It allows the student to earn elective credits towards graduation as well as learn valuable job skills in class and on the job.

7 Habits

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective credit.

Driver's Education

Grade Level: 10 – 12 (Grade 10 recommended)

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: Students must turn 15 by end of Term to enroll in this class:

Graduation: Fulfills elective credits

Students study the vehicle code and safe driving practices to prepare for the states written exam. Driving techniques will be taught as well as tips and tricks to passing the written test and driving test the first time. Students will participate in small group activities, as well as watch videos, and listen to guest speakers about safe driving skills. Upon completion of the class, students will receive a Driver's Education completion form needed to apply for their permit.

Rock Climbing

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Semester Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective or PE credit.

This is a basic course in facing challenges. The challenges are in the form of climbing, belaying other climbers, and knot tying. The students learn the safety precautions and commands for basic rock climbing. They practice tying knots used in alpine climbing. The emphasis is on reaching your climbing goals each class period.

Family Life

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Parental Approval

Graduation: Fulfills Elective credit.

This course will discuss elements of a successful family. Topics include understanding one's own personality traits, self-discovery, communication skill, building healthy relationships, practical matters in family life, budgets and decision making, along with other relevant topics. Use of pregnancy vests and baby simulators are used to teach about raising a family.

Humanities (Durham Ferry)

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: N/A

Graduation: Fulfills Core and Elective credit.

The Humanities part of the curriculum blends a number of curricular areas, but will satisfy credit requirements in the following subjects: History, English (Literature), Some Visual Arts, Some Performing Arts. Resources include the following [AGS United States History Text](#); Video: [The Century: America's Time](#); A variety of literary genre including speeches, poetry and drama related to the current theme; and Novel study of [To Kill a Mockingbird](#). The focus will primarily be on the study of Twentieth Century American History.

Career Prep:

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective Requirement

Students will learn how to fill out a job application, interviewing skills and resume writing. They will receive a certificate upon completion from WorkNet. They will also learn about various college and career opportunities.

English Essentials

Grade Level: 9-12 based on need

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: Students recommended by their Language Arts teacher, scoring Far Below or Below Basic on the California Content Standards test will be required to take this course.

Graduation: Fulfills English credit

English Fundamentals is a support class that students must take if they are recommended by their Language Arts or RSP teacher, score Far Below or Below Basic on their California Content Standards test. This class will review the fundamentals of grammar, word analysis, writing skills, and improve student's reading comprehension.

Medical Terminology

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills one year of an elective credit.

College Prep: This course is articulated with Delta College and students who pass with a grade of B or better may apply to receive college credits. This course is designed to develop a basic medical vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on roots, prefixes, and suffixes that form medical terms. Basic anatomy and physiology is presented as each body system is introduced.

Health Careers

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills one year of an elective credit.

College Prep: This course is articulated with Delta College and students who pass with a grade of B or better may apply to receive college credits. (pending)

This is a survey course designed to provide information about a variety of health careers to assist the student with life and career planning and development. The course also introduces students to concepts which must be understood before engaging in the helping process. This course assists the student to identify strengths or weaknesses affecting admission into the health professions. Job functions, education and training, and employment opportunities are also included.

ROC/P (Regional Occupational Centers and Programs)

Introduction to Theater and Drama

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

This is an introductory course giving students a survey of various aspects of theatre and drama. Students will learn about theatre history, a theatre environment, basic movement, and vocal techniques and the design process.

Jazz

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

A technical dance (emphasis in ballet, but not necessary to know) with high energy showcasing kicks, turns, leaps and jumps

Ballet

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

Ballet is the basis of all other dances. It teaches strength, technique and body placement, as well as, terminology

Hip Hop Dance

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

Fast-paced dance, set to hip-hop music focusing more on movements to beats rather than counts. It allows the dancer to put their own twist on the steps rather than specific choreography.

Lyrical Dance

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

Ballroom Dancing

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Fine Arts requirement or elective credit.

This is an active performing arts class designed to introduce students to the basics of different types of ballroom dancing styles. Students are required to participate in all class sessions and be involved in outside performances (after school time) throughout the year.

Digital Arts (Introduction to Computers)

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills Elective requirement

Open to all students with an interest in technology. This multimedia class allows students to develop projects using a variety of computer applications, which include word processing, presentation software, desktop publishing, video and sound editing and web authoring. Students will also create an electronic portfolio to showcase their talents. No prior experience necessary.

Digital Media Productions

Grade Level: 9-12

Length: Year Class

Prerequisite: None

Graduation: Fulfills CSU and UC Elective ("g") requirement

Open to all students who have an interest in media productions. Students will learn to create a variety of media projects using audio and video editing software. Learn all that is involved to create media masterpieces including pre-production and post production techniques. No prerequisite required. (This class is required if students have an interest in VAM-TV)

Broadcast Journalism – VAM-TV (Venture Family of Schools students only)

Work with a creative team to showcase all of the great things that make Venture so special! Be a part of the VAM-TV crew to cover events such as dances, rallies, field trips and many other activities to create a monthly video magazine. Interested students must complete an application and be part of an interview process. Class size is limited. Prerequisite: Beginning Media Productions.

Careers in Law Enforcement

This course provides students with a background in the Law Enforcement field and includes course training in laws, procedures, tactics, necessary requirements for a career in law enforcement, training, judicial system, probation, and parole. Successful completion of the 2 year course can earn the students course credit at San Joaquin Delta College.

Construction Skills

Students will engage in basic carpentry skills to enable them to obtain a job in the construction trades as an apprentice. Students will be able to recognize and apply safety procedures in all aspects of being on the job site, read a tape measure and calculate sums, properly select/use hand tools and power tools, perform as an union apprentice. Students will learn about tool safety, construction mathematics, basic plumbing, painting, door & window installation, basic electrical, proper lifting techniques, demolition, and estimation.

Cosmetology

Students will engage in Cosmetology skills to enable them to obtain a license in the cosmetology industry. Requirements for completion of the program are 1600 clock hours which include technical instruction hours and required operations. Upon completion of these requirements, students will take a State Board Exam for licensing with the State of California Board of Barbering and Cosmetology. Students will learn cosmetology chemistry, wet hair styling, soft curl, permanent waving, hair cutting, chemical straightening, artificial nails, hair coloring and bleaching, facials, and manicuring and pedicuring.

Culinary Arts

Students will engage in a variety of culinary hands-on-experiences in a restaurant environment. This includes learning about various careers in hospitality/restaurant industry, customer service, food presentation, cooking techniques, and entrepreneurship. Students will learn about food preparation, table service, food and beverage management, kitchen management, instruction in sanitation, food chemistry, nutrition, and personnel management.

Design + Build

Students will engage in basic architectural design skills to enable them to obtain design and conceptual knowledge of the architecture process. But the end of the course students will be able to understand and explore design concepts for architectural projects, use and utilize several architectural software packages to express design concepts, and develop and build physical models to demonstrate design features. Students will learn about architectural software programs, design concepts and basics, drafting and sketching skills, model making, rapid design process, architecture vocabulary, project timelines and process, and explore multiple media and presentation paths.

Graphic Communications

This course is a beginner to intermediate course in graphic design and digital animation. Students will learn how to apply principles of design, character animation, motion graphics, elements of art to digital print, and multimedia projects. Students will gain strong knowledge of Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Flash, Adobe InDesign, Garage Band, and iMovie. Students will learn how skills are applied to the real world and will learn about client based careers in Graphic Communications.

Mechanical Construction

Students will engage in basic mechanical construction skills to enable them to obtain a job in the construction trades as an apprentice. By the end of the course students will be able to recognize and apply safety procedures in all aspects of being on the job site, read a tape measure and calculate sums, properly select/use hand tools and power tools, welders, plasma and oxygen torches, and bend, cut and form sheet metal. Students will learn about tool safety, mechanical construction mathematics, basic welding (Arc, MIG, TIG), basic 12 volt electrical, estimates, project applications, proper lifting techniques, drafting (basic), layout, and HVAC.

Medical Assistant

The medical assistant course presents all the elements necessary to meet the objective of becoming successfully employed as a medical assistant. Training includes medical terminology, body structure and function, law and ethics, safety and maintenance, office skills, communications, assisting the physician, and socio-economics. Students will learn about body structure and function, emergency care, medical records management, medical billing/medical manager, Microsoft office technology, specialized medical practice, office surgery, administration of medication, laboratory examination, and introduction to Pharmacology.

Office Technology

Students will learn practical, up-to-date information to prepare them for working in an office setting. Emphasis will be placed on practical applications-everyday skills and knowledge needed to be successful in the workplace. Students will also obtain individual certificates in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft PowerPoint.

Pre-Engineering Lab

Pre-Engineering is an entry-level course designed to create an interest in Engineering as a career goal and provide hands-on instruction in a variety of related technologies. Students will engage in testing a MagLev car on a raceway, use construction and architectural drawing templates to complete several floors of The Lake House, build a digital stopwatch or dice game, build, program, and test a robot, extract DNA from wheat germ using a simple process and common ingredients. Students will learn about alternative energy, architectural design, biotechnology, construction, digital electronics, environment, robotics, and transportation.

Sports Therapy

Sports Medicine is a branch of medicine that deals with the prevention and treatment of athletic injuries. Those who work in sports medicine must draw from a vast array of disciplines including anatomy, physiology, physics, psychology, strength training, and nutrition.