

KHARTOUM AMERICAN SCHOOL

High School Course Description Handbook



Graduation Requirements

Graduation requires a minimum of 24 successfully completed credits made up of the following:

	Credits for	Credits
Course	Minimum Graduation Requirements	Recommended for College
English	4	4
Mathematics	3	4
Social Studies	4	4
Science	3	4
Foreign Language	2	3
Health/P.E.	1	2
Fine Arts	1	2
Other Electives	6	3

Recommended four-year plan for college admission

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English	English	English	English

Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-calculus/Statistics	Calculus / AP Calculus / AP Statistics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics ZAP Chemistry	AP Physics
Modern World History	United States History	African Studies	Comparative Government
Writing Lab 9/ Elective	Writing Lab 10/Career & College Prep	Writing Lab 11/ Career & College Prep	Intensive College Writing / Elective
PE 9/Health	Team Sports / Elective		
Fine Arts	Fine Arts	Elective	Elective
Foreign Language or ESL	Foreign Language or ESL	Foreign Language or ESL	Elective

Unless there are special circumstances (e.g. taking an online course, taking very challenging courses), only grade 12 students should think about adding a study hall period into their schedule in place of an elective.

All chosen courses should be approved by the college counselor, principal and parent before the beginning of the semester. An *Elective Options Choice* sheet must be filled as part of the process.

Please note that not all AP courses and elective courses are offered every year. Your student will receive an *Elective Options Choice sheet*, which will indicate the courses available for him/her.

Developing Career and College Readiness

At KAS we are dedicated to helping our students to understand how their interests, skills, and education can provide a path to future opportunities.

We do this in a variety of ways:

Career and College Preparation Course - Compulsory course - Grade 10 (*Compulsory for students newly admitted to Grade 11*)

Intensive College Writing - Compulsory course - Grade 12

Career Day

Career Fair

College Day

College Night

Developing Character

Hear the Herd, affectionately named by our students to reflect our mascot and student-centered advisory program, is a multi-grade level program of small mixed groups of 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. It is a weekly session that allows for positive and collaborative time for conversation, debate, reflection and sharing. It is also a space to share information regarding school-wide initiatives with students. Students are provided with a space to connect with other students and teachers who they may not see on a regular basis and they take part in activities that allow them to explore topics of self-esteem, leadership, and appreciation for others, as well as activities related to the Mission, Vision and Global Citizenship.

AP Courses

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses are college level courses offered to Khartoum American School students. These courses provide a rigorous learning environment that will prepare students to be successful on the AP examinations. Exams are offered in May; students enrolled in AP level courses are expected to take the exam.

The examinations are graded on a five point scale: 5=extremely well qualified, 4=well qualified, 3=qualified, 2=possibly qualified or 1 =no recommendation. In July, the scores are released to the student and their designated high school. It is the responsibility of the students to send their score(s) to their designated college(s). High achievement in these courses and on the exam may result in college credit, placement in upper level college courses, or both.

Below are the course overviews for the AP courses that are offered at Khartoum American School. A detailed course description can be found at the College Board website.

AP English Language and Composition

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

AP English Literature and Composition

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

AP Calculus AB Course

AP Calculus AB is roughly equivalent to a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. The AP course covers topics in these areas, including concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically,

numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions.

AP Statistics Course

The AP Statistics course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding.

AP Chemistry Course Overview

The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced course work in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium.

AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of Physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits.

AP World History

The AP World History class is a college level course structured for highly motivated college bound students who wish to get a head start on their higher education by challenging themselves in high school. Class time is mostly focused on developing the four historical thinking skills as identified by the College Board to help students “think like a historian”, and on developing students’ abilities to think conceptually about world history. Five themes of equal importance — focusing on the environment, cultures, statebuilding, economic systems, and social structures — provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation across different periods and regions. AP World History encompasses the history of the five major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania, with special focus on historical developments and processes that cross multiple regions.

AP Macroeconomics

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level course that focuses on the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination; it also develops students’ familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts

AP Microeconomics

The purpose of the AP course in microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

Core Courses

English

Language Arts - 9

This course presupposes that students are on the way to building an established grounding in Language Arts. It builds upon previously taught literary devices such as metaphor, simile, hyperbole, alliteration, allegory and personification. The course includes studies of various literary genres: the short story, poetry, novel, drama, and non-fiction texts. It is expected that students can read well and infer meaning comfortably as well as appreciate higher-level literary texts. Their writing skills and spoken skills should be at a level where they can express themselves clearly using the conventions of good English. The course will deal with previously taught literary genres using a more critical approach.

English - Grade 10

This course focuses on developing students' reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. The course content is designed to expose students to a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts as well as non-print material (films, photographs, paintings, YouTube) to build their general knowledge and lay a solid foundation for Grade 11 and offer the best chance of success for the AP English course offered in Grade 11 and 12. Students will learn how to communicate accurately and effectively through written and spoken tasks and be encouraged to continue to develop their comprehension and analytical skills. Written assignments will begin to prepare students for college, the workforce and life in a technological society where they will need the ability to gather, comprehend, evaluate, synthesize, and report on information and ideas and to conduct original research in order to answer questions or solve problems.

African Literature - Grade 11

This course focuses on African folktales, oral tradition, the heroic cycle and the collective unconscious, with the study of novels, epics, poetry and short stories. Students perform research, close readings, summary and analysis of a variety of texts written about Africa by both Africans and non-Africans. This course works in conjunction with African Studies to give a wide ranging perspective on the continent and help to students understand how their geographical location influences them. This course focuses on analytical academic writing, personal response, research, and literary terminology.

English - Grade 12

This course focuses on satire and society, with the study of humor, the essay form, novels, memoirs, short stories, poetry, and Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Students are responsible for leading class discussion, active reading, close readings, essays, personal responses, speeches and tableau. Throughout the year students will gain independence in their learning, and develop interpretive and analytical skills.

Social Studies

Modern World History - Grade 9

Modern World History picks up from where Ancient World History ended, focusing on the rise of the modern world, beginning in the 16th century and continuing to the present day. Students will learn about the spread of new scientific, spiritual, and intellectual ideas during the Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, and Enlightenment. This is followed by a comparison of several different political revolutions in both Europe and the Americas, and an examination of the growth of nationalism and imperialism around the world. There is also a strong focus on WWI and WWII and the impact of these two wars on the second half of the twentieth century. Students will also learn basic concepts of historical research and analysis using a variety of primary and secondary sources. In addition, students will learn to make connections between events in the past with their current context. They are encouraged to develop their analytical skills by crafting historical arguments with the relevant evidence, and focusing on comparative, cause and effect, chronological and argumentative thinking through a variety of assignments and assessments such as primary source analysis, graphic organizers, research papers, timelines, presentations, quizzes and tests.

United States History - Grade 10

United States History includes a study of the Age of Discovery, Colonial America, the Enlightenment, the American Revolutions, Antebellum period, and the American Civil War. Students must be able to argue the positive and negative elements of Columbus' impact on the Americas. Students must be able to demonstrate a connection between the ideals of the Enlightenment and their influence on the American Revolution. Finally students must be able to note how the geographical and cultural divisions from the colonial period extended to American Civil War.

African Studies - Grade 11

The objective of this course is to develop students' knowledge and understanding of a broad range of topics spanning African history till the present, with a focus on cultural identity, context, power and critical perspective. Students are encouraged to develop an Afrocentric perspective in terms of analyzing events that portray the continent in a more balanced and positive manner. Over and beyond memorizing historical facts, students will assess how events, ideas and values affect individuals and society across time and Africa today.

Comparative Government - Grade 12

Comparative Government is the required full year Social Studies course for Grade 12 students. This course focuses on different types of government institutions and political issues in the world today.

Students will analyze a series of case studies to compare and contrast different countries and governments, their political institutions, their foreign policy and their decision-making processes. The cultural and economic background of each country will also be studied to determine the role these factors have on government. This class also explores the idea of political power and analyzes how power is obtained, utilized, and either maintained or lost. Students will also examine major world political issues and current crises, including terrorism, war and conflict resolution, and international relations. The study of current events will be integrated regularly to supplement class discussion. These issues will be explored within the context of the following question: Global Citizenship: How can citizens and governments collaborate to improve our world's institutions, economies and social policies?

Math

Geometry

Geometry covers the required concepts of Euclidean geometry including definitions, postulates, and theorems. Areas of study include angles, parallel lines, congruent and similar triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles and arcs, and the Pythagorean Theorem. Special topics covered include coordinate geometry, right angle trigonometry, and constructions. In addition to including problems, which serve to review algebra, two column proofs are introduced.

Algebra 1

Algebra 1 is designed to give students the needed skills that provide a foundation for all future mathematics courses. Students will explore writing and solving linear equations, powers and exponents, quadratic equations, polynomials and factoring, graphing and solving linear inequalities, and functions. Students also learn how to solve simultaneous equations and inequalities. They learn appropriate ways of setting up and solving real world problems using algebra.

Algebra 2

This course complements and builds upon the mathematical content and concepts of Algebra 1 and Geometry. In Algebra 2, we cover algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, and functions. Other topics covered include complex numbers, exponents, radicals, matrices, systems of linear equations, functions (absolute value, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, radical, polynomial, and rational) and their behavior, solving nonlinear equations, combinations/permutations, probability, and sequences/series.

Pre-Calculus

Topics of study in all pre-calculus courses include: fundamental concepts of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, functions and graphs, polynomial functions, rational functions and functions involving radicals, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and conic sections. Additional topics such as mathematical inductions, vectors, and matrices, sequences and series, and polar coordinates may also be included. Pre-Calculus thoroughly combines algebra and geometry to prepare students to undertake the study of calculus. Since functions are the foundations of calculus, these courses have been specifically developed to give the student a thorough understanding of elementary functions.

Statistics 12:

This course focuses on an introduction to the major concepts and techniques of statistical analysis. A variety of approaches are used, including hands-on activities, videos, and technological (graphing calculator and computer software) methods.

The following topics are covered in the course: Ways of displaying, describing, and analyzing data in statistics, correlations, scatter-plots, least-squares regression lines and residuals, probability, simulation, the normal distribution and binomial distributions are included. The students will also look for patterns and departures from patterns, ways of producing data using surveys, observational and experimental studies. Discrete and continuous random variables are also covered.

Calculus 12

During the first semester linear, polynomial, rational, trigonometric and composite functions and the characteristics of their graphs, continuity, limits, and derivatives of linear, polynomial, exponential and trigonometric functions, applications of derivatives used in biology, physics, economics and other disciplines, relative rates and maximum and minimum problems are covered. The second semester Integration and the applications of integration, areas and volumes of revolutions, integration using substitution, Riemann sums, the midpoint rule and the Trapezoid rule for estimation of areas, integration by parts, and differential equations are covered.

Science

Biology 9

The first unit of the semester was the Chemistry of Life. Students revisited their understanding of photosynthesis-focusing on the production and chemistry of glucose and carbohydrates. Students researched the chemistry and nutritional value of the three types of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and vitamins and minerals, and evaluated their diets for each. The second unit of the semester was Plant and Animal Ecology. Students learned scientific classification taxonomy and began investigating its usefulness. Students researched one plant to understand its taxonomy, reproductive and life cycles, habitat and other unique characteristics and designed an experiment related to it. They also researched an animal chosen from one particular phylum in order to understand the characteristics of the phylum as well as details about their animal and worked in a group to present a comparison and contrasting of the different phyla. Finally students considered the interdependence and interconnectedness of plants and animals in communities and ecosystems.

Chemistry 10

We began the school year by investigating the nature of matter and Atomic Theory. Students next learned about the two main kinds of chemical compounds, ionic and covalent, and how to use the Periodic Table to predict the formulas of compounds formed by the main group elements. Students examined the role of heat energy in physical and chemical changes, and learned to classify chemical reactions by type, such as synthesis and combustion. Students were next introduced to the principles of molar quantities and stoichiometry. They learned how to determine the precise quantities of reactants and products of chemical reactions.

Physics 11

Physics prepares and encourages students to develop their conceptual, experimental and problemsolving skills. More importantly, the course explores and familiarizes students with their strengths and limitations. This semester, we began with a unit introducing the measures of science and data visualization. This allowed for students to describe and picture motion physics principles for further studies. In addition, students learned and directly applied the scientific method and discussed their understanding of vectors' properties. Furthermore, students differentiated between the most confusing terminologies, such as velocity in its various terms, and acceleration. Finally, they studied and managed to identify knowledge, extract information, and make logical and justifiable decisions.

Other Mandatory High School Courses

Writing Lab 9

This course aims to develop and enhance writing skills, give examples of good writing, encourage student editing as well as present students with a wide range of writing signals, and vocabulary they can use in their own writing. This is a practical program that is implemented as a workshop in which students produce their work both inside and outside of class. "Write Source Grade 9" is the main teaching source alongside additional material from Internet sources. The focus in Grade 9 this year has been Expository Writing, Writing a Comparison Essay p.p. 145-184, and Response to Literature, Analyzing a Theme p.p. 255-311.

Writing Lab 10

In Writing Lab we focus on research skills. Students learnt how to use the MLA reference system and how to avoid plagiarism by giving credit to their sources. They also learn how to use research to build evidence-based arguments and how to form evidence-based claims. Next students study denotation and connotation by analyzing advertisements and then use the techniques they learnt to compare the Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln with Martin Luther's I Have a Dream-speech.

Writing Lab 11

This course focused on students improving writing skills for all aspects of life. Through the study of mechanics, grammar, form, and structure, students compiled a portfolio of their work. This included four types of writing: Narrative, Expository, Response to Literature and Argumentative. Students wrote a wide variety of assignments, including explanations of processes, letters to self, opinion editorials, and reflections.

Career and College Prep - Grade 10/11

One of the most common, and most complicated, questions you will be asked as a teenager is, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" While this question never seems to be completely answered, it is important to do all that you can now to begin discovering your future path towards making a living. This course is designed to provide you with resources, support, and experiences that will assist you in exploring your career interests, as well as outline the steps needed to get you on the right path towards achieving your goals after graduating from KAS. In this course you will explore your personality and matching careers and majors, along with designing a plan after graduating KAS that matches your longterm goals. Whether you enter the workforce, take a gap year, or go to college or university, this class will help you discover your place and prepare for it! Students will narrow down their list of colleges and universities, prepare for the SAT and TOEFL tests, complete their resumes and drafts of their application essays, and complete an internship experience by the end of the semester.

Intensive College Writing - Grade 12

Intensive College Writing is a course designed to challenge 12th grade students in the various aspects of the writing process, while also applying what they have learned to their college application essays. Students learned about the different characteristics of a successful college application essay and completed multiple writing assignments to practice mastering such techniques. Students used class time to work on college applications, while also completing their resumes, student info sheets used for requesting recommendation letters, and financial and scholarship applications. Students became versed in the art of clearly, and concisely, filling out numerous application forms and answering application essay questions, all while using creativity, word choice, and their own personal voice.

Health - Grade 9

Health class covers material on the physical, psychological, and social well-being of ourselves, as well as how to maintain a healthy well balanced life. Entwined with the understanding of the health triangle, students learn how to take responsibility of their future. They know the importance of eating well, being positive, while journeying within to find the benefits of self-discovery. Each student had a chance to learn how to recognize and define the 6 types of abuse and learned how they can create abuse free lives. Students understand that with the knowledge of health we can improve our lives for the better.

Team Sports - Grade 10

The purpose of this course is to provide learning experiences that will lead to the development of basic skills in team sports. This course will provide the student with an opportunity to learn and experience a variety of team and individual sports. Students will be expected to achieve a good level of skill in the selected team sports. A strong emphasis will also be placed on personal fitness and fitness training. The goal of the Physical Education Department is to provide the students with the tools necessary for maintaining lifetime fitness.

Electives

MUN and Political Science

This course focuses on public speaking and debate skills as students engaged in structure Model United Nations meetings. Every year, students have the opportunity to participate in an international MUN Conference as well as KASMUN (held at and by our school). The additional component of this course is political science, with a specific focus on philosophy, including ethics, individualism, utilitarianism, economy, responsibility and the form and purpose of government. Students study a wide variety of political thinkers, international situations, current events, past United Nations protocol, and have the opportunity to research, lead debate, write personal responses, and present information and ideas.

Global Issues 1

The Global Issues class is student centered and project based. It focuses initially on the theoretical concepts of “perspective”, “issue”, “globalization” and “sustainability”. Based on the Global Issues Network (GIN) framework, students are encouraged to list, prioritize, and present their top five pressing

Global Issues, justify their rankings and research solutions. In order to ground “global” issues to “local” contexts, as well as think about their own roles and leadership in their abilities to tackle these issues and devise solutions, students are required to develop and present a detailed proposal about a campaign that they would like to implement to “green” our school campus.

Global Issues 2

Global Issues 2 continues on from Global Issues 1 and is primarily project based. Coming under the umbrella of service learning where students tackle real world issues that impact them and the community around, the objective of the course is to develop project management, problem solving, communication and leadership skills with students taking the initiative in planning, executing and assessing a practical, hands - on project.

Reading & Research - Grade 9

Reading and Research assists students in learning to comprehend materials thoroughly, research assignments effectively, and build a foundation of habitual studying. Students utilize time in the Learning Center to reinforce other subjects through supplemental reading, exploring mixed media, and cross referencing external knowledge. This semester, students learned to effectively research information for presentation and discovered properly cited resources. In transitioning to high school, students also grasped time management skills in efficient study techniques and test preparation.

Consumers Math

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive study of the mathematics used in consumer decision making for the present time and in the future. Calculator usage will be taught to enable the student to perform advanced calculations and enhance problem-solving skills. Topics taught include banking skills, purchases, insurance, investments, and taxes. Students who successfully complete the Consumer Mathematics course will be able to solve practical and functional math problems as related to everyday situations.

Business Math

Business Mathematics is a two-semester course in which students learn to use mathematics effectively as a tool in their personal and business lives. After students have completed this course, they will be able to apply mathematical concepts in various personal and business situations. Students will review and apply mathematical operations with whole numbers, decimals, fractions, ratios, and percents. They will understand terminology related to personal and business mathematical applications and apply basic math skills to the solution of both personal and business applications. Students will also use common mathematical formulas to solve a variety of personal and business mathematics as well as apply knowledge of computer and calculator use.

SAT Math

SAT math was designed to enable students to think out of the box of most mathematics courses by learning techniques that would enable them to be more successful on the math section of the SAT examination. The students were encouraged to use intuition, trial and error, substituting the 'answers' into the problems in order to select the correct letter of the answer. The latter part of the semester was taken up with practicing the math sections of the SAT.

Media Production

Media Production focuses on the difference between media genres, e.g. television, radio, newspapers, magazines, the Internet. Students look at the demands of each medium. They analyze target audiences and techniques to reach and influence each target audience. Each student designs an imaginary product for which an advertising campaign is then developed. The advertising campaign includes advertisements for different media targeting a wide range of audiences. Students must produce each advertisement. The series must include a radio and a television advertisement.

History Through Film

In History Through Film students investigate important historical events as portrayed in film. They research the events portrayed in each film and analyze the stance taken by the producer and the reliability of the film as a resource. Students compare films portraying the same or similar events to identify techniques the producer uses to influence the audience. To broaden their understanding students read about the events portrayed in the films they view and then, through class discussions, note how different people respond to the material. Through the discussions they learn how to express themselves clearly as they hone their debating skills.

Theory of Knowledge

Theory of Knowledge offers a brief look at ways of knowing and areas of knowledge. Students watch *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Letters from Iwo Jima*, two movies which portray the WWII battle for Iwo Jima from the perspectives of soldiers from the two sides - America and Japan. After viewing the films students discuss concepts such as truth and belief. They continue to watch short videos that question education and discuss how we learn as well as the value of what we learn during formal education. Students then analyze YouTube videos of their choice and identify knowledge the producer assumes the audience has, knowledge the audience needs to benefit fully from the video and knowledge the viewer gains. In the process they develop their analytical and debating skills as well as hone their ability to support their views.

Shakespearian Drama

The main objective of this elective is to introduce students to Shakespearian Drama through a performance based course. The strategies and techniques used are designed to unlock complicated language, encourage students to enjoy and appreciate Shakespeare, and more importantly empower, and give them confidence in performance and public speaking.

Social and Behavioral Psychology

The objective of this course is to explore human social influence and interaction. More specifically, to target how the social environment influences our thinking, behavior, attitudes, and relationships. The class delves into the various ways people think about, affect, and relate to one another through the exploration of the self, the self in relation to others, basic behavioral research and body language, and the effects of social psychology in the media and decision making.

Public Speaking

This inquiry based course will teach students how to plan, prepare, and present three types of speeches: a narrative, an informative, and a persuasive speech. Students learn to choose speaking topics, develop outlines, and adapt them for specific audiences, to research and support their ideas, to benefit from listener feedback, and improve upon non-verbal communication. They will also learn to incorporate visual aids to enhance their presentation. Participation in this course will increase confidence and knowledge base when it comes to presenting and speaking in public. Unlike many skills that you may learn along the way, and then forget, you will actually use your public speaking skills for many years to come.

Skills for Success (Executive Functions)

This class is designed for the students who want to improve their learning and develop skills that they will be able to use all of their lives.

This class teaches students strategies that improve planning, goal setting, keeping track of time and events, evaluating ideas and reflecting on work, adapting to changes while thinking, reading and writing, organizing assignments, problem identification and solving, identifying and transferring learned skills to different situations and group work.

This will be accomplished through discussions, experiential (hands-on) activities and journaling.

Anatomy and Physiology

In Human Anatomy & Physiology we studied the basics of the human body. Topics such as the cell and its components have been covered in detail. This class aims to explore and understand the human anatomy to better our own bodies in a healthy manner.

Environmental Science

Environmental Science is high school class in which students will explore various ecological concepts and environmental issues.

There is an urgent need for environmental education. This program provides one way in which students can become aware of the interactions of people and their environment. The curriculum focuses on concepts that are real-life issues. It promotes awareness and understanding of practical every day problems that affect their lives. It also relates important environmental issues to the lives of the students and their families.

Multimedia Projects

This is a semester course. Students will have the chance to explore and learn about different multimedia applications. They will strengthen their potential, confidence and technical life skills with experiences on using those applications. Students will enjoy engaging, effective and meaningful educational experiences

through these powerful features: Interactive multimedia with stimulating graphics and animations, Movie production using iMovie, Creating sound affect for their movie using Garage Band.

ICT:

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is a semester course. Students will be introduced to the major parts of the computer hardware and how these parts work together. The course also will focus on the differences between operating systems, and what types of technology built on each of them.

Students will have the chance to visualize and build PCs by assembling the parts in one box. In addition, the course will give the students a chance to improve their keyboarding skills and learn more about web 2.0 tools such as Google Docs, Blog, Wiki, and Social Networks).

Adobe Applications (InDesign and Flash):

This course is divided into two parts. The first part is designed to focus on Adobe InDesign CS3, which will introduce students to the page layout and the toolbox of the InDesign program. Starting with the program basics, student will build skills and confidence in navigating this application and using its key tools. Students will be creating pages for the school yearbook.

The second part of the class will focus on Adobe Flash CS3. It is designed to teach students how to design animations that could be used in business advertisements or websites. Students will learn the fundamentals of Adobe Flash fast with a fluid workflow and best practices. It is a task-based course, with students learning by doing.

Basic Skills for Journalism and Media Technology:

This course is designed to introduce students to the media technology applications such as Adobe Applications, with more focused on Adobe InDesign, and Google Blog. Students will be learning how to use them and relay them to any publishing field. In addition students will be learning basic skills of the journalism field such as clear writing, the ability to prioritize and synthesize information, performance under deadline pressure, and producing news stories for KAS newsletter. Throughout the semester students will have the chance to improve their writing skills.

Business Computer Applications:

Business and Computer Applications provides an overview of the basic information about Business in general and the essential things that people need to know before they can join or establish any business or organization. The class also provides an overview of the integrated software packages most often used in the workplace. Students learn about Microsoft Office 2011 Applications and some other online applications that have become essential for business. Examples of these applications are: Linkedin, Facebook, Blog, Animoto...etc. The class focuses on how these applications could be used as marketing tools in business.

ESL 9/10 and 11/12

This course focuses on developing the reading, writing, listening and speaking skills of students whose first language is not English and to help them access all their other subjects that are taught in English. The course content is designed to expose students to a wide range of texts that will improve their vocabulary and general language skills. Students will learn how to communicate accurately and effectively through written and spoken tasks and be encouraged to continue to develop their

comprehension and analytical skills. Written assignments will begin to prepare students for college, the workforce and life in a technological society where they will need the ability to gather, comprehend, evaluate, synthesize, and report on information and ideas and to conduct original research in order to answer questions or solve problems.

French I

This course aims to teach beginning French students the basics of the French Language with respect to the four linguistic skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The students learn how to greet people, how to introduce themselves in French and how to reply. They have also been acquainted with the vocabulary of French etiquette. The topics taught so far this semester include: telling the time, how to introduce family members and French idiomatic expressions. The course is administered through listening, reading, having conversations, using the workbook and watching videos. Students learn expressions that they could use to express themselves effectively in French.

French II

This course aims to enhance the students' French Language ability, focusing on the four linguistic skills - listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The topics covered so far this semester include; how to describe some of the daily activities and expressions, how to ask and answer questions, how to invite friends to do activities and how to accept or turn down an invitation politely. Students learned the use of expressions with the verb "to do" - "faire". Students have also learned over the course of the semester, how to write and talk about different activities and their weekend routines. The course is administered through listening, reading, using the workbook and watching videos. Students have learned expressions that they could use to express themselves effectively in French.

French III

This course aims to develop greater confidence in writing and speaking French, so that common forms of written expressions may be better mastered and writing style could be improved. The several goals of this course include, further acquisition of grammatical skills and appropriate spelling through intensive drilling both oral and written, to develop a better feel for the language, to familiarize students with idiomatic expressions and to encourage the students to use more natural ways to express their thoughts in French. The various types of activities used are sentence reconstructions, filling blanks in a previously studied text, simulated conversation on a specific topic, and brainstorming for synonyms and search for roots of complex words. Development of translation is achieved by pointing out the differences between different languages and the way people express their thoughts. The students are presented with a range of topics for their compositions.

Arabic Language I

This course aims to teach complete beginners the basics of Arabic with respect to the four language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be introduced to the cultures and societies of the Arabic speaking world. Vocabulary and grammar will be presented in a communicative way in a variety of situations, e.g. making introductions, giving directions, buying things, making telephone calls and so on.

The emphasis will be on the spoken language, as well as on providing a foundation of basic Arabic script. As the school is implementing one to one laptop program, we will be using computers in everyday classes.

Arabic Language II

This course will focus on Modern Standard Arabic that's used in written and formal spoken contexts throughout the Arab World. In addition to the textbook, we will be exploring a variety of reading texts and audio-visual materials. One key component of the additional materials will be Arabic newspaper texts dealing with current events and issues.

In order to study the language in connection with its natural contexts, some exposure to Sudanese and other spoken accents will be included. As the school is implementing the one to one program, we will be using computers in everyday classes.

Arabic Language III

This course is a continuation of Arabic II, it continues with more sophisticated yet essential topics of daily and literary use of the Arabic language. The very emphasis of this course will be on expanding student vocabulary and improving reading and writing skills for a variety of practical purposes. It will also enhance the student's ability to read, understand and discuss Arabic writings, utilizing a variety of magazines, newspapers, journal articles, documents, short stories and other materials of interest to the students and relevant to their field of study and surrounding.

Water Color Painting

This course is designed for those who have no or little experience in watercolor. The course will focus on getting comfortable with watercolor painting techniques and enjoying the process of painting. The basics of materials, tools, techniques, color, value and "seeing" your subject will be explored. The class is designed to be inspirational and will focus on how to relax and enjoy the process of painting. Students then produced their own final painting and display their artwork in an art exhibition at the end of the school year. Students will be graded on class work, their preliminary sketches, homework, and participation. For each assignment students will be given the grading criteria in class and on Engrade.

Drawing and Painting Techniques

The Drawing and Painting Techniques Art course is designed to give students the opportunity to gain confidence in producing art, reinforce artistic skills, and to introduce how art can be a great way for self expression. Students were introduced to different artists and their drawing and painting techniques. They then chose their favorite painters and tried to adopt and combine their different drawing and painting styles (techniques) creating their own vision and developing their own ideas. Students then produced their own final painting or drawing and displayed their artwork in an art exhibition at the end of the semester. Students were graded on class work, their preliminary sketches, homework, and participation. For each assignment students were given the grading criteria in class and on Engrade.

Oil Painting

The oil painting course starts with the basic principles of oil painting, through a series of projects that cover traditional technical information. The subjects are chosen to cover a broad spectrum of experience for the beginning student. Learning to see, working from observation and discovering composition, proportion and space are practiced. The use of color to create form is explored. The teacher will demonstrate how to work with oil paint and provide different exemplars of the expectations of the final art piece.

Music and Technology

Music and Technology is a semester-long elective for high school students. Activities include learning basic rudiments and Music theory with the emphasis on reading notes. The students will learn to create chords, scales and inversions. Transposition is also a unit that will show how much the students have learned from the beginning of the semester. The students will continue to work on playing musical pieces leading to a repertoire. Their repertoire taken from the internet and they will aim to reach their goals

towards performance level. Everyone in this elective will create their own simple composition using the Garage Band or Logic Pro. At the end of the semester, the students are required to perform in a recital or at the end of the year production during the talent portion.

High School Music

This High School Music course aims to develop a student's interest to learn music through playing instruments and also focuses on Music Theory. This elective is for those who don't have any previous training or for those who have had some as well as for advanced learners of music. Students acquire skills in reading notes leading to excellent sight-reading skills and music theory. They apply their understanding of music concepts as they play the drums and demonstrate good rhythmic skills. In Music Theory, they notate a simple tune for an original song. In addition to this, they transcribe the notations of a song on a staff paper.

Music Appreciation Class

This High School Music course aims to develop a student's interest to learn music through playing instruments and listening to different music styles. This elective is for anyone who wants to show appreciation for music and learn to play the guitar, keyboard and drums. Music theory will still be a component in this class. The students will use technology integration to choose a repertoire to learn for a recital.

Team Sports - Grade 11 & 12

Students as a class voted and selected four sports to study this semester. They chose Swimming, Basketball, Soccer and Volleyball from a selection that included, Ultimate Frisbee, Softball, Flag Football and Dodge Ball. In each of the sports selected, the students focused on the following areas: Basic Knowledge of Rules, Care of Equipment, Personal Safety, Skills for Success and Play Tactics for Offense and Defense, Sport Specific Conditioning, as well as Umpiring and Refereeing Techniques.

Daily activities were planned based upon the weather and space needed. Each sport was practiced for approximately 2-3 weeks depending on the development of the group.

P.E. Sports, History and Practice

This class is designed to provide an advanced Physical Education program that includes physical conditioning and participation in a variety of sports as well as researching and studying its history. Sportsmanship, researching and identifying the true roots of the sports and effort are of major importance and improve the student's analytic capacities. Students are expected to participate positively, cooperate with classmates, understand the rules, and work towards understanding the bases and reasons for those rules. Several team sports will be focused on, along with some individual activities. By the end of this elective, the student should demonstrate an understanding of a variety of sports and the history of each one.

High School PE

The ultimate purpose of the physical education program is to help all students gain the skills and knowledge to be physically active for a lifetime. It accommodates a variety of individual differences, including cultural identity, previous movement experiences; fitness and skill levels; and intellectual, physical and social/emotional maturity. By the end of the required curriculum, students should fully recognize and understand the significance of physical activity to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. They

should also have developed the skills, knowledge, interest and desire to maintain activity for a lifetime. Activity experiences are designed to develop personal and social behaviors, consistent with responsible behavior in sport and society. That includes an understanding of conflict resolution, the importance of rules and ethical behavior, and a positive social interaction required in physical activity settings.