



Santa Clarita Christian School

COURSE HANDBOOK

Includes information concerning...

- SCCS Graduation Requirements
- UC and CSU Admission Information
- University of California a-g List
- SCCS Course Offerings and Descriptions

Graduation Requirements

Students are required to complete the following coursework in order to graduate from SCCS:

Subject	Requirement	Units	Notes
Bible	1 class per year at SCCS	up to 40	
English	4 years	40	
History	3 years	30	
Science	3 years	30	Biology/Chemistry required; Physics recommended
Math	3 years	30	Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 required
Foreign Language	2 years	20	Must be two years of the same language
Physical Education	2 years	20	Sport participation counts for 5 units each
Visual/Performing Arts	1 year	10	
Health	Semester	5	
Speech	Semester	5	Senior year only
Senior Writing Seminar	Semester	5	Senior year only
Electives	Semester	5	Optional
SAT/ACT	--	--	Students should take either or both of these exams at least twice their junior year

Electives and Fine Arts

Many electives are offered at SCCS and provide a well-rounded educational experience. See the course descriptions for more information. A student is required to take one year of "fine arts" for graduation from SCCS. The speech and senior writing classes automatically meet these requirements for all students. Please be advised, though, that these are not UC approved fine arts courses and students who would like to attend these schools should also consider taking UC approved courses (photography, art, or choir) while at SCCS.

Concurrent Class Policy/Community College Credits

SCCS offers a complete academic education that fully prepares students for post-secondary education. SCCS believes that its education is unique and includes spiritual instruction in every class that gives graduates a Christian worldview based on Biblical teaching. If a student is enrolled at SCCS, the school desires for the student to get his/her total high school education from SCCS. Yet, students who wish to take classes for college credit from a nearby academic institution can do so. Only juniors and seniors may miss any portion of the school day to take a concurrent class at a local college or junior college. However, in taking a class off campus, they may not miss a class at SCCS that is required for graduation. Freshman and sophomores are required to take their concurrent classes during evenings or on Saturdays. Students who wish to take classes from another academic institution for high school credit (either a summer school in a public school or at the local community college) can do so if they take a class that is not offered at SCCS or if they are taking a class that they previously failed at SCCS.

Honors/AP Requirements

Several years ago, SCCS developed our honors and AP programs to provide an extra challenge for our advanced students. The placement of a student is something that SCCS takes very seriously. This is one of the many areas of academic decision-making that openly reveals our academic integrity to the school family as well as to the community and other academic institutions. It is our desire to place a student into a class that will help them be the most successful student they can be whether it is college

prep, honors, or AP. This is important since not everyone can be in (nor are they ready for) an honors or AP class. With that said, we fully understand the importance of this decision and much prayer and consideration will go into the placement of each student. Ideally, an honors class has about 20 students. The number of students in an honors class will ideally not be more than 25 students. It should also be noted that while honors placement is determined through several factors, it is ultimately a decision that is made at the administrative level of the school. Any questions concerning placement should be directed to the administration/Academic Dean, not the teachers.

Once a student is placed into an honors or AP class, their placement for the following year is NOT guaranteed. All students, no matter the grade level or class placement the previous year will need to seek honors and AP placement each year at SCCS. There are only two exceptions to this:

Automatic retention: A student will automatically move on to the honors or AP course for a particular subject if they maintain a minimum of an A- (90%) average during BOTH semesters of the school year in the current honors/AP class they are taking.

Automatic removal: Any student falling below a C (75%) average in EITHER semester of the school year, will not be allowed to take the honors or AP course for that subject the following year. Please note, that with scheduling difficulties there are some grade levels that have an honors and a college prep track. This means that if a student is not in an honors class in one subject, they cannot be in any other honors class. This is especially true for underclassmen.

Students seeking honors or AP placement because they did not receive automatic retention from their honors class AND students who are currently in a college prep class who desire to join an honors or AP class, may request to join an honors/AP course. These students will be rated according to the following criteria:

1. Grade in subject area specific to the honors/AP class desired
 - Students who are not currently in an honors class are encouraged to apply for honors or AP courses, but they must be aware that they will not be considered for an honors or AP course if their current grade in the subject area is below a B (85%).
2. Average of grades in all core academic classes (English, history, math, and science)
 - Students who have a B- (80%) average in any of their courses will be placed on a waiting list. If room is available in the class after all other students have been considered, they MAY be invited into the class.
 - No student who has a C (75%) average or lower in any class will be allowed into any honors or AP course.
 - No student with a D or and F in any class will be allowed into an honors or AP course.
 - While electives and other classes outside the core academic coursework are not factored into the rankings, they will be looked at, and any low grades WILL be grounds for removal from consideration for an honors or AP course.
3. SAT/PSAT scores
 - The overall average as well as content-specific scores (i.e. reading and language scores for English) will be considered.
 - Please be advised that these scores will affect placement. Take these tests seriously. Anyone who falls below the 50th percentile will be placed on a waiting list and can be denied placement into an honors or AP class.
 - Students whose scores fall well below 50% will NOT be placed into an honors/AP class.
4. Teacher recommendations (as gathered privately and anonymously by the academic dean).

Students who are coming to SCCS for the first time can be considered for honors placement. New students will need to do the following to be considered for placement:

- Submit an honors/AP request
- Submit the most recent copy of their transcript, giving grades in all core academic subjects
- Submit a copy of their most recent standardized test scores

New students who desire to be placed into an honors or AP class must demonstrate a level of academic achievement that is at the same level of those who have already been placed into the class.

Colleges and Universities

Requirements and Admissions

There are many colleges and university choices available to students who graduate from Santa Clarita Christian School. In the past, students have applied to and been accepted at colleges such as Cornell, Georgetown, Pepperdine, UCLA (and other UC schools), Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, The Master’s College, Biola, and many others of similar distinction.

Listed below are the minimum admission requirements for California State University, and the University of California. While we are neither endorsing nor urging students to attend these schools, these schools set a high standard. While many of SCCS’s graduation requirements help students meet these minimum requirements, the school strongly advises students to work beyond these minimum requirements in order to have the fullest advantage for college admission.

Minimum Requirement - All courses must have “C” or better

	Cal State University	University of California
GPA	2.0+	3.0+
Tests	SAT I or ACT (if GPA is less than 3.0)	SAT I and SAT Subject Test (two required in two different areas – Level 2 is the only test accepted for mathematics) or ACT
Courses	English: 4 years Math: 3 years (4 years rec.) Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 History: 2 years must include U.S. History or U.S. History and Government Science with a lab: 2 years 1 biological science and 1 physical science (Chemistry or Physics) rec. Foreign Language: 2 years of the same language Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year Art, Dance, Theater/Drama, or Music Electives chosen from the subject areas listed above: 1 year	English: 4 years Math: 3 years (4 years rec.) Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 History: 2 years must include U.S. History or U.S. History and Government Science with a lab: 2 years (3 years rec.) at least two of these three areas: Biology, Chemistry, Physics. Foreign Language: 2 years (3 years rec.) of the same language Visual & Performing Arts: 1 year Art, Dance, Theater/Drama, or Music Electives chosen from the subject areas listed above: 1 year
Essay	No	Yes

University of California a-g List UC Approved Courses at SCCS

The University of California requires that students who desire to attend their schools must meet certain academic requirements. The chart below shows those requirements as well as all the classes offered at SCCS that the UC system has approved to meet those requirements. Please note that while SCCS may designate a course as “honors,” the UC system only gives honors credit to classes taken during the 11th and 12th grade year. Please check with your college(s) of choice to see their policy concerning honors classes and the extra GPA point awarded by those classes.

- ★ denotes courses that have been approved for extra honors credit: a=5, b=4, c=3
- ◆ denotes courses that cannot be used to fulfill the “g” elective requirement

a History/Social Science—2 years required: Two years of history/social science, including one year of world history, cultures or geography; and one year of US history or one-half year of US history and one-half year of American Government/Civics

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
World Geography	Geography	World History/ Geography/Cultures		Semester
World History	World History	World History / Geography / Cultures		
World History Honors	Hr World Hist	World History/ Geography/ Cultures		
U.S. History	U.S. History	U.S. History		
AP United States History ★	AP US History	U.S. History	AP	
U.S. Government	Government	American Government / Civics		Semester
AP Government and Politics United States ★	AP Government	American Government/Civics	AP	Semester

b English—4 years required

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
Introduction to Literature	Intro to Lit 9	English		
Introduction to Literature (H)	Intro to Lit (H)	English		
World Literature	World Literature	English		
Honors World Literature	Honors World Literature	English		
American Literature	Am Lit	English		
British Literature (H) ★	British Lit (H)	English	H	
British Literature	British Lit	English		

b English—4 years required (continued)

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
AP English Language and Composition ✨	AP Engl Lang	English	AP	
AP English Literature and Composition ✨	AP Eng Lit	English	AP	

- c Mathematics—3 years required, 4 years recommended:** Three years of college preparatory mathematics that includes the topics covered in elementary Algebra/Algebra 1, geometry and advanced Algebra/Algebra 2. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement.

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
Algebra I 💎	Algebra I	Algebra 1		
Geometry 💎	Geometry	Geometry		
Algebra II 💎	Algebra II	Algebra 2		
Pre-Calculus	Pre Calc	Advanced Mathematics		
AP Calculus AB ✨	AP Calculus	Advanced Mathematics		
AP Calculus BC ✨	AP Calculus	Advanced Mathematics		

- d Laboratory Science—2 years required, 3 years recommended:** Two years of laboratory science, including two of the three fundamental disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics. This requirement can also be met by completing the latter two years of a 3-year integrated science program.

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
Biology	Biology	Biological Science		
AP Biology ✨	AP Bio	Biological Science	AP	
Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry		
Honors Chemistry	Honors Chemistry	Chemistry	H	
AP Chemistry	AP Chem	Chemistry	AP	
Physics	Physics	Physics		
Honors Physics	Honors Physics	Physics	H	
Anatomy & Physiology	Anatomy & Physiology	Biological Science		
AP Environmental Science ✨	AP Environ Sci A/B	Interdisciplinary Science	AP	

e Language Other than English—2 years required, 3 years recommended: Two years of the same language other than English.

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
Spanish I ♦	Spanish I	LOTE Year 1		
Spanish II	Spanish II	LOTE Year 2		
Spanish III	Spanish III	LOTE Year 3		

f Visual & Performing Arts (Fine Arts)—1 year required

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
Art ♦	Visual & Performing Arts	Visual Arts (Intro)		
Band ♦	Band	Music		
Culinary Arts ♦	Culinary Arts	Visual Arts (Intro)		
Graphic Design ♦	GraphicDsn	Visual Arts (Intro)		
High School Choir ♦	High School Choir	Music (Intro)		
Photography ♦	Photo	Visual Arts (Intro)		
Theater Arts ♦	Theater Arts	Theater		

g Elective—1 year required: One year (two semesters), in addition to those required in "a-f" above. All courses must be listed under "a-f" above with the exception of courses marked with a blue diamond (♦) in Mathematics, Language Other than English, and Visual Performing Arts; plus the following:

Course Title	Transcript Abbreviation(s)	Category	Honors Type	Course Notes
Economics	Economics	History / Social Science		Semester

College Preparation—A High School Planner

At Santa Clarita Christian School, we take pride in preparing our students for college. Below are some of the Steps to Success that we offer to ensure that our students are successful when the time comes to apply to the colleges of their choice:

- During the 8th grade year, we meet with students and their parents to introduce them to the University of California A-G course requirement as well as the SCCS graduation requirement. We emphasize the importance of maintaining a high GPA and explain the role it plays in being accepted to the college of choice.
- During the 9th and 10th grade years, we meet with students to help them focus their attention on classes that will enhance their transcript as well as satisfy graduation requirements. We also focus on helping students explore different majors that might be of interest to them by providing them with tools which assist them during their research process.
- During the 10th and 11th grade years, students are introduced to the PSAT exam. When exam results become available, a meeting is scheduled with each student to review test results and identify their strengths and weaknesses. This process helps students to better prepare for the SAT. Also, students are encouraged to take the SAT Prep Course offered at SCCS once every quarter (free of charge) as a way of preparing for the SAT.
- During the 11th grade year, an individual meeting is set up with each student to complete a college survey which identifies the type of colleges the student is interested in as well as the course of study in which they might want to pursue. During this meeting, the importance of preparing for the SAT and the ACT exams is highly emphasized. All students are encouraged to take the SAT twice and the ACT once during their junior year.
- During the 12th grade year, all students are encouraged to sign up for the SAT and the ACT exams in the fall. An individual meeting is set up with each student and their family to introduce the college application process and discuss the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and scholarship information. Further, a College Writing class is offered to help prepare students for the rigorous application process.

English Department

Minimum Graduation Requirement: 40 Credits

Introduction to Literature  Grade 9 10 Credits

This introductory course will give students the basic tools and language needed to work with literature. The course will cover various literary elements such as plot, conflict, character, point of view, tone, and theme, and it will expose students to various genres (short story, novel, poetry, drama). The writing in the course will focus on literary analysis, developing strong organization and structure in their writing.

Honors Introduction to Literature  Grade 9 10 Credits

Like the college-prep introduction to literature course, this honors class provides a foundation in literary analysis. Students will continue their progress in understanding the elements of literature that they will encounter. Honors students will be required to read more and write more, and there will be an increased focus on developing a deeper level of thinking, especially in relation to the themes that are provided in literature.

World Literature  Grade 10 10 Credits

This course is a survey of different genres of literature throughout the world. Students will read a variety of novels, short stories and poems. They will also become more familiar with the writing process by responding to the literature that is read.

Honors World Literature  Grade 10 10 Credits

Honors World Literature is an accelerated course for students who have been recommended by their 9th grade English teacher. This course is a literature-based class with an emphasis on novels and short stories from various cultures and time periods from around the world. Students will respond to the various short stories, poems, and novels, through writing.

American Literature  Grade 11 10 Credits

This survey course will have students explore the literature of the United States from pre-colonial times to the modern period. Students will work in various genres as we examine the significant writers of our country. More importantly, though, students will learn about the philosophies driving the belief systems of each era of writing from the God-centered faith of the Puritans to the godless “lost generation” of the early 20th century. Analysis of this literature will come in many forms, but students will primarily work with the literature of this class through writing.

Honors British Literature UC

Grade 11

10 Credits

Honors British Literature is a survey course tracing the development of the literature of Britain from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 20th century. Connections will be drawn between the literature of each period and its history and philosophy. Worldviews expressed in the literature will be analyzed as they reflect or contrast with a Christian worldview. Students will read widely in many styles of poetry, analyzing style and meaning through discussion and analytical papers. Emphasis will be given to the development of critical language necessary to poetical analysis. Frequent practice in writing will include analytical, persuasive, and position essays. Attention will be given to vocabulary development.

AP Language UC AP

Grades 11/12

10 Credits

The purpose of AP Language & Composition is to help students write confidently across the curriculum and throughout the rest of their lives. Students in this introductory college-level course will read and analyze a wide range of texts from various nations and time periods. Through analysis and continual writing, students will learn the intricacies of how language works, create purpose and strategy, and improve their own style. The course texts will feature a variety of arguments, essays, nonfiction, speeches, images, and creative literature. Pieces of literature will be featured from categories like education, human nature, law and government, war, peace, poverty, wealth, and language. Summer reading and writing are required for all students taking the course.

British Literature UC

Grade 12

10 Credits

British Literature is a survey course tracing the development of the literature of Britain from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 20th century. Connections will be drawn between the literature of each period and its history and philosophy. Worldviews expressed in the literature will be analyzed as they reflect or contrast with a Christian worldview. Students will read and analyze many types of poetry, selected novels, and write essays on a variety of topics.

AP Literature UC AP

Grade 12

10 Credits

This is a college level course designed to meet the expectations of the AP Literature course description provided by the College Board. Students who complete this course will have experienced a deep level of literary analysis. Rigorous writing standards are set, and students are expected to write at a level that shows a sophistication of critical analysis of any text they read. While students will read a broad range of texts, it is also the expectation that there will be depth in the classroom discussions and the writing that students produce. All students are required to take the AP test at the end of this course.

History Department

Minimum Graduation Requirement: 30 Credits

World Geography Grade 9 5 Credits

This is a one-semester course that focuses on studying the world and its people. The introductory unit emphasizes the use of maps and globes, latitude and longitude in locating places, and the interpretation of geographical data and how it relates to local peoples. Human geographic concepts will focus on educating the student on today's various cultures and how they function in the modern world. Students will learn about differing political and economic systems, religions and their histories, human migration and urbanization patterns, population growth, and the ever-present globalization trend.

World History UC Grade 10 10 Credits

This course will challenge students to think critically and originally about historical cause and effect. Students will look at a period in the history of the world that has affected the early 21st century world from the Reformation through to present day. They will study concepts such as imperialism and totalitarianism and economic systems such as capitalism and communism that will not only add to historical knowledge, but also shed light on current events. Students will learn to think critically and historically.

Honors World History UC Grade 10 10 Credits

This course follows most of the same curriculum as the college prep World History course. However, a writing and research requirement will be introduced into the class to ensure a higher level of critical thinking necessary in an honors class. A book report will be completed the first semester. This will cover a broad analysis of the material studied by the student. Second semester will have a research paper of the time period studied during the reading of the 1st semester book.

U.S. History UC Grade 11 10 Credits

This course will focus a student's historical inquiry into the lives and events that formed the American society we live in today. Students will look at U.S. history as a process—full of people & events, conflicts & compromises, continuity & change—that leads to the present. They will study U.S. history chronologically. There will be a brief overview of the Civil War before embarking on an in-depth look at the aftermath and Reconstruction. Next, students will study industrialization, labor movements, and immigration. Finally, they will look at US imperialism, the Great Depression, World War I and II, the Cold War, 20th century social movements, and the US today.

AP U.S. History UC AP Grade 11 10 Credits

AP United States History prepares students for the demands of a college education by providing experience in college level reading, writing and responsibility for learning. It is a challenging course that is aligned with AP standards and is therefore the equivalent of a freshman college course presented in a high school setting. Organized both chronologically and thematically, AP US History is a survey of American history from the Age of Exploration to the present day. This course is organized on the assumption that students will take the AP examination in May of their junior year which will allow qualified candidates to receive college credit for the course. Consequently, there will be a focus on strengthening skills in taking objective exams, as well as writing clear and compelling expository essays.

Government

Grade 12

5 Credits

This one-semester course will be interdisciplinary, as it draws on areas beyond the defined social studies curriculum. The units taught are as follows: purposes and principles of government; citizenship in comparative perspective; citizenship, participation and the electoral process; legal rights and responsibilities; fulfilling responsibilities as U.S. citizens; public policy; and the use of the media.

AP Government  

Grade 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation based on 3.0 minimum GPA and high achievement in the previous history class.

In addition to lessons in government, this course will give students the opportunity to strengthen their skills in time management since students will be responsible to keep up with the quick-paced schedule that is involved in an AP class. There will be several independent as well as group projects in which students will need to schedule the research and writing of the project on their own. This class prepares students for the rigors and demands of a college class by providing experience in college level reading, writing, and critical analysis skills. It is a challenging course offering the equivalent of a freshman college course in a high school setting. All students are required to take the AP test at the end of this course.

Economics 

Grade 12

5 Credits

Economics is the study of how corporations, governments, and individuals make choices based on their wants and needs. This one-semester course will begin with basic economic principles allowing students to interactively work towards a complete understanding of economics. They will also undertake a variety of projects, which will put their gained knowledge to use in everyday life. The course objectives will include understanding how the basic economic principles impact daily life; how to focus on current economic climate and the way in which this impacts interest rates, unemployment rates; how to gain an understanding of micro- and macro- economic perspectives; and how to interactively approach economics through a variety of projects and techniques dedicated to making economics more accessible.

Math Department

**Minimum Graduation Requirement: 30 Credits
Completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2**

Algebra 1AB  Grade 8 10 Credits

Prerequisite: Completion of Pre-Algebra with a “C” or better grade or instructor permission.


This course covers integers, rational numbers, expressions, equations, inequalities, exponents, proportions, polynomials, factoring, graphing, linear equations, systems of equations, inequalities, and absolute values.

NOTE: Students complete this course during the 8th grade and receive high school credit for the class on their transcript.

Geometry  Grades 9 and 10 10 Credits

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I with a “C” or better grade or instructor permission.

This course covers lines, planes, angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles, synthetic proofs, relationships in triangles, similarity, right triangles, trigonometry of right triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, transformations, polygons, area, and volume.

Algebra 2  Grades 10, 11, and 12 10 Credits

Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry with a “C” or better grade or instructor permission.

This course covers equations and inequalities, linear relations and functions, systems of equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, relations and functions, rational expressions, polynomials, roots, functions, matrices, exponentials and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, probability, statistics, trigonometric functions, identities and triangles. This course is designed for highly motivated students.

Pre-Calculus  Grades 11 and 12 10 Credits

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a “C” or better grade or instructor permission.

This pre-calculus elective covers, polynomial and rational functions, compositions, inverses, derivatives and tangent lines, trigonometry, vectors, complex numbers, polar coordinates, exponential and logarithmic functions, probability, conic sections, sequences and series, and mathematical induction.

AP Calculus AB/BC   Grade 12 10 Credits

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or instructor permission.

This elective course covers polynomial functions, parametric equations, limits and continuity, differentiation, integration, applications of derivatives and integrals, exponential and logarithmic functions, inverse trigonometric functions, slope fields, and the use of graphing calculators in calculus. This course prepares the students for the AP Calculus exam for college credit.

Statistics

Grade 11 and 12

10 Credits

The topics covered in Statistics are experimental design, data collection, frequency distributions, histograms, mean, variance, standard deviation, interpretation of graphs, probability, binomial distributions, normal distributions, confidence intervals, testing hypotheses, regression, correlation, and chi-square tests. By the end of the year, a student who has successfully completed Statistics should be able to: conduct a statistical study; calculate the mean, variance, and standard deviation of a group of data; analyze statistical distributions and graphs; use technological tools to solve problems in statistics; and appreciate God's order in mathematics.

Science Department

***Minimum Graduation Requirement: 30 Credits
Completion of biology, chemistry, and physics***

Biology  Grades 9 10 Credits

High school biology is an introductory level class aimed at exposing students to the complex biological processes that characterize living things. Through discussion, group activities and lab work, students will have the opportunity to expand their understanding of important biological principles found in the study of genetics, cell biology, evolution, creation, ecology, and physiology. Topics studied are consistent with the California Standards for Biological Sciences.

AP Biology   Grades 9 10 Credits

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and teacher recommendation based on high achievement in the previous science class.

AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory biology course. In this class the students will exercise analytical skills and explore complex concepts as they expand their understanding of cell biology, genetics, ecology, evolution, creation, and physiology. Students will practice the pursuit of understanding how and why the world works, as they master the major principles of biology, design and perform laboratory experiments, collect and analyze data, and read and critique journal articles written by experts in their field. As they explore and investigate the processes and biodiversity that mark our natural world, they will develop and practice study skills of life-long learners

Chemistry/Honors Chemistry  Grade 10 10 Credits

This two-semester course covers the topics of matter, atomic theory, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, solutions, acids, bases, and salts, redox reactions, organic compounds, and nuclear chemistry. The course includes laboratory work.

AP Chemistry   Grade 10 10 Credits

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2; teacher recommendation based on high achievement in the previous science class.

The AP course is the equivalent of a college-level introductory course. During first semester the topics covered will be matter, measuring and calculating, atomic structure and the Periodic Table, chemical formulas, the Mole, chemical equations and stoichiometry. During second semester the students will learn about periodic properties, chemical bonding, gas laws, solutions, thermochemistry, acids/bases/salts, and chemical equilibrium.

Physics/Honors Physics  Grade 11 10 Credits

This year-long laboratory course introduces students to classical physics. Students will explore mechanics, thermodynamics, waves, optics, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. Through class discussions, demonstrations, and experiments, students will investigate the natural laws. Students will develop problem-solving skills using mathematical reasoning and practice laboratory investigations.

Anatomy and Physiology 

Grade 11 and 12

10 Credits

The laboratory course is an exploration into the structure and function of each component of the human body. Students will investigate the balance of complexity and orderliness in each of the eleven organ systems, and they will learn how the body systems are interrelated and work together as a whole. Through lecture, dissection, and microscopy, students will appreciate that we have indeed been fearfully and wonderfully made by God.

AP Environmental Science  

Grade 11 and 12

10 Credits

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation based on high achievement in the previous science class.

The goal of this course is to introduce students to environmental issues, problems, successes, and the science behind them. Topics such as species interaction, ecosystems, human population growth, soil and agriculture, conservation biology, mining, fresh water, oceans, climates, energy, and waste management will be covered in detail. A variety of methods is used to engage students including lecture, videos, current event readings, computer lab simulations and research, laboratory experiments, and field work. Students will learn skills that enable them to analyze current environmental issues, design inquiry experiments, and use these skills as they transition into lifelong learners.

Foreign Language Department

Minimum Graduation Requirement: 20 Credits

Spanish 1 **UC** Grades 9 10 Credits

This beginning course is an introduction to a foreign language as a system for the communication of concepts, ideas, and culture. Students will learn the language, culture, and customs of Spanish-speaking countries through the memorization of vocabulary, written grammar, reading, and conversations with classmates, and skits presented in class.

Spanish 2 **UC** Grade 10 10 Credits

A continuation of Spanish I, this course is design to emphasize the use of Spanish in a more meaningful and efficient way through Latin American history and literature. Students learn more varied expressions and better use of different tenses in the past, present, and future.

Spanish 3 **UC** Grades 11/12 10 Credits

This course is designed for students who want to become independent learners of the language. The student's vocabulary and grammatical skills will increase. They will possess a greater understanding of the culture and traditions of different Hispanic countries by engaging in conversations about hobbies, health, technology, food, music, literature, history, and art.

Physical Education Department

Minimum Graduation Requirement: 20 Credits

Physical Education Grades 9-12 10 Credits

Students will participate in a variety of team sports. Some of the sports may include football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, hockey, badminton and softball. Students will learn the rules for each sport, as well as basic movement patterns used, perform basic skills and learn various game strategies. The Presidential Physical fitness program is also used to test and evaluate the fitness level of the student.

Weight Training Grades 9-12 10 Credits

This is an introductory course designed to introduce the students to various aspects of conditioning and weight training (emphasizing lifting and training techniques). Students will be instructed in the areas of safety, personal fitness, stretching, free weights, circuit training, and proper warm-ups and cool-downs.

NOTE: *Students can also receive up to 5 credits of PE credits for each season of each varsity sport in which they participate.*

Electives

***Minimum Graduation Requirement:* Please note that a number of classes listed in this section are required for graduation. All others are options for students. The school does require that all students complete 10 credits of fine arts classes.**

Health Grade 9 5 Credits

This course focuses on developing the many aspects of the healthy lives we desire for our students. This includes a focus on the nutritional, physical, emotional, social, and spiritual facets of their lives. Topics include discussions on systems of the body, an introduction to healthy eating using the new food pyramid, pursuing an active lifestyle, and building healthy relationships. This is all done through a Biblical perspective.

Photography Grades 11/12 10 Credits

Photography is designed to teach photography as an art, incorporating art philosophy, art historically, and creatively. Major areas include very practical as well as artistic perspectives. Students will be required to have a digital camera and learn how to use it properly. The class will cover the basics of photography, including camera types, exposure, shutter speed, f/stop, depth of field, composure, lens types and uses, flash, lighting, background, cropping, lighting changes, digital file types, printing, printing services, and other aspects of photography. The class will also cover and require the use of Adobe Photoshop, Aperture, and a web-based photo organizing system. Outside work estimate 2 hours per week. Duration is one year.

Art Grades 9-12 10 Credits

This is a five-day-a-week course meeting for one full year. This is a beginning art class that focuses on skill building for drawing and painting, while also including some art history, different traditional mediums and how to use them. Students also explore sculpture in the spring semester. For intermediate artists, independent projects are encouraged.

Graphic Design (Yearbook) Grades 9-12 10 Credits

Those enrolled in the graphic design course will not only learn about aspects of graphic design (layout, typography, color, etc), but they will also enjoy the rewarding experience of completing two yearbooks: one for the secondary (grades 7-12) and one for the elementary (grades K-6). The course will require students to design the pages of the yearbook, taking pictures and adding written elements to complete the pages. There is a heavy focus on graphic design with basic instruction in photography and journalistic writing. Students will become familiar with using the computer to complete all work from photography manipulation to page development.

Concert Choir Grades 9-12 10 Credits

Concert Choir is a mixed-gender, auditioned choral ensemble for those students who wish to improve their vocal skills. It is a five day a week, performance-oriented class that focuses on the instruction of basic vocal (melody, harmony, rhythm, timbre, texture, vowel formation, blending, vocal placement, breathing, and other expressive devices), sight-reading, as well as music theory skills. Repertoire from many choral styles is learned and performed.

Band 

Grades 9-12

10 Credits

This course is a performance-based instrumental music ensemble for wind, brass and percussion players which teaches and develops the higher order of thinking skills involved in the musical performance process. With the core principle of communicating musical intent with clarity, students pursue the ability to think and play academically, creatively, collaboratively, and critically as the primary focus of this course. As a subsequent focus, students will progress in their ability to acquire and apply historical and theoretical knowledge about the music literature being studied. Requirement for extracurricular activities outside of the curricular day and include concerts open to the public, festival performances and community events.

Chapel Band

Grades 9-12

4 Credits

Prerequisite: *Entrance into Chapel Band requires an audition and instructor permission.*

Chapel Band is a performance oriented instrumental and vocal group designed to lead the students in worship through music weekly in SCCS High School Chapel. The group meets twice a week to practice the music that will be presented in chapel that Friday. Chapel Band consists of, but is not limited to electric guitar, acoustic guitar, bass, piano, drums, percussion, and vocals. Students will learn valuable skills such as planning a worship service, performing in a group, playing as one mind, chart reading, exploring various expressive melodic techniques, and dealing with performing in front of peers. A student involved in Chapel Band must have a deep understanding of the great responsibility and privilege of leading God's people into His very throne room. As a result, if any member's moral or spiritual character comes into question, appropriate Biblical steps will be taken and involvement in Chapel Band may be terminated.

Theater Art 

Grades 9-12

10 Credits

This interactive course offers an introduction to the theatre arts elements. The actor's goal is to embody a character such that the audience sympathizes with the character's struggles, suspending its disbelief. The major focus of this course, therefore, is the faithful rendition of a variety of characters and archetypes. As close analysis of the dramatic works of others inspires our own dramatic performances, students read the texts--and view filmed and live stagings--of various playwrights--of various eras and genres--to carefully study the art we call "dramatic performance."

Culinary Arts 

Grades 9-12

10 Credits

Culinary Arts is an introductory course, which will cover the basic concepts of nutrition, food preparation, food safety, and related consumer decisions. During the course students will learn the science behind menu making and portions, the hospitality of international cuisines, the science of food preparation, the history of food and its cultural importance, the importance of critical assessments, and artistic expression through food presentation and menu design. Through lecture and laboratory activities students will learn how to create edible masterpieces, practice nutritional adequacy, maintain a safe and sanitary work environment and serve food in an aesthetically pleasing manner.

Speech

Grade 12

5 Credits

NOTE: Seniors are required to complete this class for graduation

Students will learn to outline, prepare, and present several speeches over the course of the semester. They will learn to be confident and comfortable speaking in front of an audience. Students will come to clearly convey ideas and beliefs and will learn that strong speaking techniques will be beneficial for them in the future.

Senior Writing Seminar

Grade 12

5 Credits

NOTE: Seniors are required to complete this class for graduation

Senior Writing Seminar is a workshop course in which we discover, analyze, and apply methods and forms used in various types of writing. We emphasize experimentation and practice, taking our cues from successful writers, journalists, novelists, and technical writers. Sentence fluency, word choice, diction, form, idea generation, and idea editing are exercised to generate excellent writing in the following projects: feature story, children's storybook, memoirs, speechwriting, advertising, letters, and weekly prompts.

Bible Department

Minimum Graduation Requirement: 1 class per year; up to 40 Credits

All Bible classes are split into boys and girls.

Bible 9: Life of Christ Grade 9 10 Credits

By studying the *Apostle John's Gospel*, students will survey the life of Jesus with an emphasis on His redemptive work. By encountering the life of our Savior in all facets of His person and work, young men and women will be encouraged to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bible 10: Christian Theology Grade 10 10 Credits

This class will introduce students to basic Christian beliefs according to *Classical Christianity*. Efforts will be made to help students be able to present biblical reasons for the defense of these truths, to understand alternative views, and to be able to dialogue with others in a gracious, humble and informed manner.

**Bible 11:
Worldview, Apologetics, Ethics** Grade 11 10 Credits

Students will be exposed in this class to basic non-Christian worldviews so that they may be able to recognize them and evaluate them from the perspective of the Christian worldview. They will also consider how they might best communicate the Christian worldview to others in an attractive and informed way. Finally, some attention will be given to understanding and learning how to handle current ethical issues.

**Bible 12:
Biblical Manhood/Womanhood,
Counseling** Grade 12 10 Credits

During this final year of instruction, students will consider the basic roles of a biblical man and woman including the roles of a husband and wife. They will also learn and practice the basics of biblical counseling in an effort to understand how to affect biblical change in their own lives and in the lives of others.



University of California approved course. Please note, though, that the UC system only recognizes the honors designation for 11th and 12th grade courses.



College Board approved AP course. Only course approved by the College Board can be labeled as AP, and only AP approved courses will be recognized by colleges and universities