



# 2026-2027

## CURRICULUM GUIDE

*Middle and High School*



Founded in 1952, Pinewood Preparatory School is an independent, coeducational, college-preparatory day school. The school is accredited by The Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS), COGNIA, and the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA).

Pinewood holds membership in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

Pinewood Preparatory School admits academically qualified students without regard to race, creed, color, sex, religion, or national origin.

# Overview

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The Pinewood school year is composed of two semesters, each divided into two nine-week periods. A student's academic transcript records all courses he or she has taken at Pinewood Preparatory School and the grades earned in each course. The transcript also records numerical averages by year. Pinewood Preparatory School does rank its students. International students starting at Pinewood after 9th grade will not be included in the calculation of class rank. All students are enrolled in a college-preparatory program. Pinewood's numerical grades and GPA are reported on the transcript using the South Carolina uniform grading scale. Pinewood Preparatory School weights grades for Honors and AP classes in the Upper School. AP course grades are increased by 1.00 point to the GPA. Honors course grades are increased by 0.50 points. These weighted averages determine honor roll, and they are the numbers reported on the transcripts to colleges.

## Types of Diplomas

Pinewood grants five different types of diplomas. All students must complete community service hours, in addition to the academic requirements.

**Headmaster Diploma:** Students must achieve at least a 4.50 GPA on the South Carolina Weighted Scale. They must sit for four AP exams. Of the core courses in high school, ten must be Honors or AP courses.

**Honors Diploma:** Students must achieve at least a 4.00 GPA on the South Carolina weighted scale. Of the core courses in high school, ten must be Honors or AP courses.

**Pinewood Diploma:** Student must fulfill all credit hour requirements.

**Fine and Performing Arts Diploma:** In addition to fulfilling the requirements of a Pinewood diploma, students must earn six credits in both fine and performing arts. Students must also fulfill an outside-of-school requirement that is approved by the Head of the Fine and Performing Arts Department.

**Engineering Diploma:** The foundation of the engineering diploma at Pinewood is a considerable sequence of college-level mathematics and science, joined with specific courses in technology. Many of these courses will sync with existing graduation requirements in science, mathematics, and technology.

In addition to fulfilling the requirements of a Pinewood Diploma, requirements for the Engineering Diploma are:

- Advanced Placement Calculus (AB or BC)
- Honors or Advanced Placement Physics
- A combination of three technology-related year-long courses in engineering, robotics and computer science
- Internship in an engineering field

**Health Sciences Diploma** In addition to fulfilling the requirements of a Pinewood diploma, students must earn credits in two of the following three classes: AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and Honors Anatomy and Physiology. Students must also complete an internship in a medical field.

## Graduation Requirements

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Required Credits</b>
English	4
Math	4
Lab Science	3
Foreign Language <i>(same language)</i>	3
Social Studies	1
U.S. History	1
Government	½
Economics	½
Technology	1
Physical Education	1
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## English Curriculum

6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade English	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade English	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade English	Intro to Literature	British Literature	American Literature	Honors World Literature
Writing (9 week course)	Writing (9 week course)	Writing (9 week course)	Honors Intro to Literature	Honors British Literature	AP English Language	AP English Literature

	Middle School Course
	High School CP Credit Course
	High School Honors Credit Course
	High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirements: students must take an English course each year of high school.

# Math Curriculum

6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
			Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Algebra III
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	Pre Algebra	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Algebra III	Pre Calculus
		Honors Algebra I	Honors Geometry	Honors Geometry	Pre Calculus	Honors Pre Calculus
				Honors Algebra II	Honors Algebra II	AP Calculus AB
					Honors Pre Calculus	AP Calculus BC

  

	Middle School Course
	High School CP Credit Course
	High School Honors Credit Course
	High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirements - four high school level math courses.

# Science Curriculum

	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
	Earth Science	Life Science	Physical Science	Biology	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
				Honors Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Honors Anatomy and Physiology
					Honors Chemistry	Honors Physics	Honors Physics
						Honors Anatomy and Physiology	AP Biology
						AP Biology	AP Chemistry
						AP Chemistry	AP Environmental Science
						AP Environmental Science	AP Physics

  

	Middle School Course
	High School CP Credit Course
	High School Honors Credit Course
	High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirements - three high school lab sciences Biology, Chemistry and one elective science.

# History and Related Studies Curriculum

	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
	Geography	World History	US History	Western Civilization	AP European History	US History	Government
				Honors Western Civilization	AP Human Geography	Honors US History	Economics
						AP US History	AP Government
						AP European History	AP European History
						AP Human Geography	AP Human Geography

  

	Middle School Course
	High School CP Credit Course
	High School Honors Credit Course
	High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirements - US History, Government and Economics, and one additional social studies (Western Civilization).

# Language Curriculum

6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish	Spanish I	Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Honors Spanish IV
		Honors Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Honors Spanish IV	AP Spanish
			Honors Spanish II	Honors Spanish III		

-  Middle School Course
-  High School CP Credit Course
-  High School Honors Credit Course
-  High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirements - three high school level courses of the same language.

# Arts Curriculum

6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Art Music Theatre (Choice of one - see course descriptions for class offerings)	Art Music Theatre (Choice of one - see course descriptions for class offerings)	Art Music Theatre (Choice of one - see course descriptions for class offerings)	General Art	General Art	General Art	General Art
			Theatre I	Theatre I	Theatre I	Theatre I
			Music Technology	Music Technology	Music Technology	Music Technology
			Guitar	Guitar	Guitar	Guitar
			Vocal Music	Vocal Music	Vocal Music	Vocal Music
			Yearbook	Yearbook	Yearbook	Yearbook
			Creative Writing	Creative Writing	Creative Writing	Creative Writing
			Video Production	Video Production	Video Production	Video Production
			Communication	Communication	Communication	Communication
				Advanced Art	Advanced Art	Advanced Art
			Honors Guitar	Honors Guitar	Honors Guitar	Honors Guitar
				Honors Theatre	Honors Theatre	Honors Theatre

-  Middle School Course
-  High School CP Credit Course
-  High School Honors Credit Course
-  High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirement - one art credit.

Please see pages 42 and 43 regarding credit designations for each course.

AP Art

# Technology Curriculum

	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
	IDEA Lab	IDEA Lab	IDEA Lab	Computer Science Principles	Computer Science Principles	Computer Science Principles	Computer Science Principles
				Engineering / Robotics	Engineering / Robotics	Engineering / Robotics	Engineering / Robotics
				Video Production	Video Production	Video Production	Video Production
				Yearbook	Yearbook	Yearbook	Yearbook
				Music Technology	Music Technology	Music Technology	Music Technology
				AP Computer Science Principles			
					AP Computer Science A	AP Computer Science A	AP Computer Science A

-  Middle School Course
-  High School CP Credit Course
-  High School AP Credit Course

Graduation requirement - one technology credit.

Please see pages 42 and 43 regarding credit designations for each course.

# Physical Education Curriculum

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6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
2 Physical Education classes per week	2 Physical Education classes per week	2 Physical Education classes per week	Weight Training	Weight Training	Weight Training	Weight Training



Middle School Course



High School CP Credit Course

Graduation requirement - one P. E. credit.

## Other High School Electives

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Financial Literacy	Psychology	Weight Training	Teacher Cadet
Sports Analytics	Creative Writing	Sports Leadership	Communication



High School CP Credit Course



Dual High School/College Credit Course

*Please see pages 42 and 43 regarding credit designations for each course.*



# *Course Descriptions*



## *Department of English*

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**Sixth Grade English:** This course introduces students to more complex aspects of literature and writing. The course is divided into eight units of study, which include short fiction, folktales, novels, drama, historical fiction, nonfiction, biography, and poetry. Reading assignments include a variety of works taken from Holt's Elements of Literature: First Course in addition to selected novels and films. Major writing assignments will include a character analysis, a comparison and contrast essay, a personal narrative, a collection of original poetry, and an expository essay that involves synthesizing various sources of researched information. Vocabulary relevant to each unit and grammar from the Holt Handbook will be studied throughout the year. The material from this course will be further enriched by an organized summer reading assignment. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

**Seventh Grade English:** In this course, students will read a variety of genres; enhance critical reading skills; write in a variety of formats; enrich grammar, vocabulary, and expression skills; and collaborate and communicate with their peers. They will learn how to read a text for meaning; identify the writer's craft; and interpret and analyze language choices, narrative structure, and figurative language for effect. They will use technology to enhance their research and communication skills, and work on their speaking and

listening skills through independent and collaborative research presentations. Students will develop reading skills through reading for personal development and enjoyment, an independent reading program, a book log, and regular reading journal assignments. In-class reading will cover a broad range of texts, including historical and contemporary fiction, Greek mythology, poetry, and films. Seventh Grade English is a nurturing environment where students are encouraged to share their ideas and become lifelong readers and learners. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

**Eighth Grade English:** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary short fiction, poetry, essays, and selected novels and films. Reading assignments for this course also include a summer reading assignment and an outside reading program. The Eighth Grade course is designed to analyze literary elements, such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as the literary genres. Students will write a variety of formal academic papers, including the rhetorical modes of character analysis, definition, novel analysis, and poetry explication. Additionally, students will engage in many informal writing assignments and projects throughout the year. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

## *Department of English continued*

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**Middle Grades Writing Workshop:** During quarterly enrichment sessions, students will increase their understanding of the writing process and the importance of writing through lessons that reinforce the Traits of Writing, evaluating examples of writing by authors and other students, and through frequent informal writing pieces. They will write for different purposes and audiences, and have the opportunity to explore and develop their creative writing skills through independent and collaborative writing activities.

**Introduction to Literature (Ninth Grade College Prep):** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary fiction, poetry, essays, and plays, in addition to selected novels and films. Reading assignments also include a summer reading requirement. This course is designed to analyze literary elements, such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as the literary genres. Students will write a variety of take-home and in-class academic papers, including several research projects and a formal, MLA documented research paper. Students will also review grammar, improve their public speaking skills with class presentations, and enhance their vocabulary. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

**Honors Introduction to Literature (Ninth Grade Honors):** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary fiction, poetry, essays, plays, and prose. Reading assignments include a summer reading requirement. To enhance students' understanding of the reading selections, as well as the broad influence of literature, students will view excerpts from various films. This course is designed to analyze literary elements, such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as the literary genres. Students will write a variety of take-home and in-class academic papers, including several research projects and a formal, MLA documented research paper. Students will also review grammar, improve their public speaking skills with class presentations, and enhance their vocabulary. Students in this course will experience a curriculum enriched by higher-level works, literary criticism, and higher-level writing, analysis, and synthesis assignments. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions. To be considered for Honors or AP English classes, students must have an A average in their current English course, the recommendation of their current English teacher, and standardized test scores that suggest they can succeed in higher-level courses.

## *Department of English continued*

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**British Literature (Tenth Grade College Prep):** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary short fiction, poetry, and essays, in addition to selected novels, films, and plays and will be arranged in units that follow chronological literary movements. Reading assignments for this course include a summer reading requirement. This course is designed to analyze literary elements such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as literary genres. Students will write a variety of formal academic papers, including character analysis, novel analysis, comparison and contrast, and poetry explication. Additionally, students will engage in many informal writing assignments, presentations, and projects throughout the year. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

**Honors British Literature (Tenth Grade Honors):** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary short fiction, poetry, essays, and prose excerpts from Holt's Elements of Literature: Sixth Course in addition to selected novels, films, and plays and will be arranged in units that follow chronological literary movements. Reading assignments for this course also include a summer reading requirement. This course is designed to analyze literary elements such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as literary genres.

Students will write a variety of formal academic papers, including character analysis, novel analysis, comparison and contrast, and poetry explication. Additionally, students will engage in many informal writing assignments, presentations, and projects throughout the year. Students in this course will experience a curriculum enriched by higher-level works, literary criticism, and higher-level writing, analysis, and synthesis assignments. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stress skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions. To be considered for Honors or AP English classes, students must have an A average in their current English course, the recommendation of their current English teacher, and standardized test scores that suggest they can succeed in higher-level courses.

**American Literature (Eleventh Grade College Prep):** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary fiction, poetry, essays, plays, prose excerpts, and films. A summer reading assignment is an essential introduction to the course, and leads the first unit of study. This course is designed to analyze literary elements, such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as literary genre and form. Classes will focus on close readings of texts and Socratic-style discussion and debate, and will develop understanding and awareness of the rhetorical situation and the author's craft. Students will write a variety of take-home

## *Department of English continued*

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and in-class academic papers, including several research projects and a formal, MLA documented research paper. Students will also review grammar, improve their public speaking skills with class presentations, and enhance their vocabulary and expression. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

**Advanced Placement English Language and Composition:** This is a rhetoric-based, college-level course designed to help students become skilled readers, writers, and critical thinkers by examining primarily American literary styles such as formal and informal essays, speeches, novels, drama, and poetry. Entrance to the course is determined by previous grades, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendation. The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to help students become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of time periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and to become skilled writers who can compose for a variety of purposes. Students will learn how to analyze the persuasive tools authors use (e.g., diction, tone, voice, sentence structure, rhetorical devices) to compose both take-home and in-class essays. This course allows students to write in a variety of forms – specifically synthesis, analysis, and argument – and on a variety of subjects. In keeping with the current trends

of college composition courses and the AP Language and Composition course description, this course requires completion of a research paper and summer reading. More information is available through the College Board at [www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com). Students taking this course are required to take the AP English Language examination. Please note that students enrolled in Advanced Placement English classes may be required to purchase additional practice manuals throughout the year. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions. To be considered for Honors or AP English classes, students must have an A average in their current English course, the recommendation of their current English teacher, and standardized test scores that suggest they can succeed in higher-level courses.

**Honors World Literature (Twelfth Grade Honors):** This course will cover a broad range of classic and contemporary fiction, poetry, essays, plays, and prose in addition to selected novels, plays, and films. Reading assignments also include a summer reading requirement. This course is designed to analyze literary elements such as plot, character, theme, and point of view, as well as the literary genres. Students will write a variety of take-home and in-class academic papers, including several research projects and a formal, MLA-documented research

## *Department of English continued*

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paper. Students will also review grammar, improve their public speaking skills with class presentations, and enhance their vocabulary. As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions.

**Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition:** This college-level course for seniors is designed to help students become skilled readers, writers, and critical thinkers through close reading and critical writing analysis of classic and modern American, British, and international works from a variety of time periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. Students will learn how to analyze the elements of fiction, considering a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as language elements, such as diction, figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone through writing take-home and in-class essays. Students will also consider the historical contexts in which works are written and set. Assignments include several MLA-documented projects, a critical approach research paper, a seminar presentation, and summer reading. Students may be required to purchase additional practice manuals for this course and all who are taking this course are required to take the AP English Literature examination in May in order to earn college credit. More information is available through the College Board at [www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com).

As with all courses in Pinewood's English Department, this course focuses on critical reading, thinking, and writing that stresses skills in global awareness, leadership, and responding to essential questions. To be considered for Honors or AP English classes, students must have an A average and consistent attendance in their current English course, the recommendation of their current English teacher, and standardized test scores that suggest they can succeed in higher-level courses.

## *Department of History and Related Studies*

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**Sixth Grade Geography** combines elements of physical, human, and regional geography, as well as a strong component of history. In this globalizing world, it should be understood that the study of geography helps young citizens understand the spatial relationship between nature and human culture, and the processes that change environments. Students learn to read and create maps.

**Seventh Grade Social Studies** is designed to cover a selection of regions and events from ancient history to early modern history. It will show, through recurring patterns throughout the centuries, how historical events have helped to shape the lives of people throughout the world.

**Eighth Grade Social Studies** is designed to provide in-depth coverage of the United States history from its colonial period through Reconstruction. From that point forward, the course explores selected topics from the 20th century. This course includes a large-scale historical research project.

**Western Civilization** is an introductory, survey course of the history of Western Civilizations from the early modern period to the present. Students will also examine events in the Americas, Asia, and Africa to analyze their impact on the Western World. Ideally, this class will provide students with a working knowledge of the central beliefs, institutions, and events that have shaped our contemporary world. It strives to instill

in students an appreciation for historical context and perspective, realizing that only when they learn to objectively analyze the past can they begin to understand the present. In this endeavor, students will analyze primary documents, evaluate alternative interpretations, and informatively participate in debates. Student assessments will take a variety of forms, with much emphasis placed on writing clearly and effectively in various genres.

**Honors Western Civilization** is a fast-paced, introductory, survey course of the history of the Mediterranean World and Europe from the early modern period to the present. At the same time, relations with the Americas, Asia, and Africa will be included. The purpose of Honors Western Civilization is to prepare ninth-grade students who will participate in our Advanced Placement Programs with a solid foundation in the principal ideas, institutions, and events that have shaped Western Civilization. It seeks to promote an understanding of historical context and perspective and to encourage the skills essential to historical inquiry, including the capacity to define historical questions, analyze primary documents, evaluate alternative interpretations, develop coherent arguments, and write clearly and effectively. The course is organized in chronological sequence with emphasis given to the close relationship between economic, social, political, religious, and intellectual developments.

## *Department of History and Related Studies continued*

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**AP Human Geography** is a systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students also learn about the methods, tools, and technology geographers use in their science and practice. Human geography covers topics such as population, culture, political division of space, agriculture, urbanization, as well as industrialization and development. Students are required to take the AP exam in the spring and may be eligible to earn college credit. Students in grades 10-12 may be recommended for this course.

**United States History** provides a history of American social, political, and economic development from pre-European settlement and development through the Twentieth Century. It examines the colonial heritages of Spanish, British, and French America; the American Revolution; the establishment and growth of the new nation; the Civil War; the industrialization of the United States and its rise to a leading world actor. Additionally, the course covers the two World Wars, and other Twentieth Century conflicts through the Civil Rights movement.

**Honors United States History** is a course designed to help provide students with the analytical skills necessary to deal critically with information, facts, problems and events in United States History. This course provides an in-depth study of the history of the

American republic from the pre- European beginnings through the European legacy; the American Revolution and its significance; the establishment and growth of the new nation; The Civil War; the growth of industrial America and the rise to world power status. Additionally, the course covers the two World Wars, and other twentieth-century conflicts through the Civil Rights movement.

**Economics** is a one-semester course that emphasizes fundamental microeconomic, macroeconomic, and international economic concepts. Students will become familiar with basic economic definitions as well as the concepts driving the subject. Topics include supply and demand, economic decision making, the function of costs and prices, the Federal Reserve and monetary policy, unemployment, inflation, economic stability, international trade, and comparative economic systems.

## *Department of History and Related Studies continued*

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**Government** is a one-semester course designed to bring clarity to students regarding the function of government and the responsibility of the citizen. Students will examine the operation of major American institutions such as the presidency and the executive branch, the Supreme Court and lower courts, and the United States Congress. The course also focuses on the functions of bureaucracy, the roles of the political parties, the actions of interest and advocacy groups, and the impact of mass media. Students will discuss civil liberties, civil rights, civil responsibilities, and public policies.

**Advanced Placement United States History** is a survey, college-level course that covers United States History from colonization to the present. This course is a study of political, social, economic, and diplomatic events that have shaped our nation today. AP US History is a fast-paced course of study. Students are required to take the AP exam in the spring and may be eligible to earn college credit. This course is typically recommended for students in 11th grade who have received an A in previous history courses.

**Advanced Placement European History** is a survey, college course involving the study of European History from the Renaissance to the present. AP European History is a fast-paced study of social, political, economic and diplomatic developments. Students who successfully

complete the course work will be required to take the AP exam in the spring and may be eligible to earn college credit. This course is typically recommended for students who receive an A in Honors Western Civilization.

**Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics** will give students an analytical perspective of government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U. S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. Students will become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. Students will become familiar with various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U. S. government and politics. The curriculum outline of topics includes: constitutional underpinnings of United States Government; Political Beliefs and Behaviors; Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media; Institutions of National Government; Public Policy; and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Students who successfully complete the course work are required to take the AP exam in the spring and may be eligible to earn college credit.

## *Department of Languages*

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**Sixth Grade Spanish** builds on students' Lower School Spanish foundation and the development of the four integrated skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking. The course incorporates study skills and strategies, an introduction to basic grammar, and meaningful communication in the target language through the study of vocabulary, themes, and cultural elements of the Spanish-speaking world. No prior language study is required.

**Seventh Grade Spanish** is a continuation of beginning level vocabulary and grammatical structures of the Spanish language. It also introduces to the student the culture, geography, and history related to the Spanish-speaking world. Students expand knowledge through the study of literature and other media such as videos, sound recordings, news articles, periodicals and video penpals. Prior exposure to the language is not a prerequisite.

**Spanish I** Students study beginning level vocabulary and grammatical structures in the five linked skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing and thinking, with an emphasis on application of these skills. Communication in the target language is the ultimate goal. The course develops a fuller awareness of the nature of language and language learning. The culture, geography, and history of Spanish-speaking countries are incorporated in instruction. Students expand their knowledge through the study of literary selections and other media, e.g. videos, recordings, news articles, periodicals, Internet, etc. Prior exposure to the language is not a prerequisite.

**Honors Spanish I** covers similar topics and objectives as the college preparatory course, but the pacing of instruction and the academic treatment of each topic are more rigorous and comprehensive. Honors students are expected to respond more creatively and spontaneously to oral, aural, and written prompts in the target language during interviews and assessments, as well as during the course of normal instruction.

**Spanish II** Students strengthen their skills in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and thinking through the study of intermediate-level grammatical structures and verb tenses. Students broaden their vocabulary through exposure to various topics. Students continue to develop an appreciation for the language, culture, history, and geography of those countries where the Spanish language is spoken through literary and other supplemental materials and activities. All studies are cumulative. Prerequisite: Spanish I with a minimum average of 85.

**Honors Spanish II** covers similar topics and objectives as the C.P. course, but the pacing of instruction and the academic treatment of each topic are more rigorous and comprehensive. Honors students are expected to respond more creatively and spontaneously to oral, aural and written prompts in the target language during interviews and assessments, as well as during the course of normal instruction. Prerequisites: Completion of Honors Spanish I with a 90 average and teacher recommendation.

## *Department of Languages continued*

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**Spanish III** reinforces vocabulary, grammar, and skills acquired in levels I and II, in addition to introducing more topics/themes and advanced structures and tenses. Students continue to develop and strengthen their skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking in the target language, with communication as the ultimate goal. This course also incorporates the study of cultural elements of the Spanish-speaking world. All studies are cumulative. Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish II.

**Honors Spanish III** Conducted solely on the target language, this course encourages greater comprehension, proficiency, vocabulary acquisition and communication. Students strengthen the five language skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking) through the study of advanced grammatical structures and verb tenses, voices, and moods. Honors students are expected to respond more creatively and spontaneously to oral, aural, and written prompts in the target language during interviews and assessments, as well as daily instruction. Pacing of instruction and academic treatment of themes are more rigorous and comprehensive than Spanish III. This course also incorporates the study of cultural elements of the Spanish-speaking world. Prerequisites: Completion of Honors Spanish II with a 90 average and teacher recommendation.

**Honors Spanish IV** conducted solely in the target language, is a continuation of the Honors track. Students further develop and strengthen the five language skills through communication and the study of advanced grammatical structures, moods and tenses. Honors students are expected to respond more creatively and spontaneously to oral, aural and written prompts in the target language during interviews and assessments, as well as daily instruction. Pacing of instruction and academic treatment of topics are more rigorous and comprehensive. This course also incorporates the study of cultural elements of the Spanish-speaking world, as its principal goal is to prepare students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture course. All studies are cumulative. Prerequisites: Completion of Honors Spanish III with a 90 average and teacher recommendation.

**Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture** is an extension of Level IV. This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Language exam by further developing proficiency in the five integrated language skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking). Conducted solely in the target language, this course has a rigorous and comprehensive academic curriculum approved by the College Board. Students are required to take the AP exam. This class may have extended meeting times to complete certain activities. Prerequisites: Completion of Honors Spanish IV and teacher recommendation.

## Department of Mathematics

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**Sixth Grade Math** This course consists of applications of problem solving, properties, order of operations, arithmetic with fractions, decimals and percent, conversions between customary and metric units of measurement, proportions, probability and ratio, graphing, solving equations, and a foundation for geometry. It is intended to challenge students and prepare them for a pre-algebra course in Seventh grade. The advanced course will cover these topics plus additional pre-algebra concepts.

**Pre-Algebra** 7th Grade Pre-Algebra builds on the student's knowledge of and ability in arithmetic operations with rational numbers. Topics include: simplifying numerical expressions, simplifying expressions, solving equations and inequalities in one variable, solving systems of equations in two variables, and modeling and solving word problems. The course also includes graphing linear and nonlinear functions, approximating irrational numbers, simplifying exponential rational expressions, solving radical expression equations, statistics, and probability. Students will learn to solve problems involving perimeter, circumference, area, and volume. Other geometrical concepts that are taught include triangle properties, similar figures, slope and the Pythagorean Theorem.

**Algebra I** Algebra I (CP) is a course for students studying algebra for the first time or for those who need a review of basic algebra. It presents all of the topics associated with a first course in algebra, and provides students with a thorough foundation in the basic skills of algebra and problem solving. Topics include: Foundations of Algebra, Solving Equations, Solving Inequalities, An Introduction to Functions, Linear Functions, Systems of Equations and Inequalities, Exponents and Exponential Functions, Polynomials and Factoring, Quadratic Functions and Equations, Radical Expressions and Equations, Rational Expressions and Functions and Data Analysis and Probability.

**Honors Algebra I** This course is designed to give an understanding of the basic structure of algebra, to help students acquire a facility in applying algebraic concepts; particularly solving linear and simple quadratic equations; evaluate and graph linear, exponential, absolute value; and quadratic equations, graph one and two variable inequalities; solve operations with scientific notation; manipulate monomials and polynomials; create quadratic graphs; determine quadratic functions given three points; solve all quadratic equations; and to develop an appreciation for precise language. This course is restricted to eighth-grade students who meet the following criteria: Returning Pinewood students: recommendation of seventh-grade teacher. Average of 93 or above in the seventh grade and an average of 93 or above for the last 9-

## *Department of Mathematics continued*

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week grading period in the seventh grade.

New students entering Pinewood Preparatory School: average 93 or above in seventh grade and an average 93 or above for the last 9-week or trimester grading period in seventh grade; a score 90% or above on a placement test.

**Geometry** This course is designed to teach students to think logically and to learn practical application, as well as theory. The course will integrate and build on the understanding of mathematical concepts learned in Algebra I. Students will learn to use abstract ideas in proving many geometric theorems. Topics include logic, deductive arguments, and proofs; segments, lines, and angles; two and three dimensional figures; perpendicularity and parallelism; similarity; congruence; and perimeter, area, and volume. Ninth graders enrolling in this course must have achieved an 85% or above in Algebra I. Prerequisite: Algebra I or equivalent course

**Honors Geometry** This course emphasizes logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. Two-column proofs are introduced early in this course and used throughout the course. Understanding, ready recall, and proper/logical use of postulates and theorems is essential to the successful completion of this course. Students also use informal geometric techniques to solve problems involving complex plane shapes and solids. The geometry is connected to its algebra prerequisites through applications which include coordinate geometry and

transformational geometry.

Recommendations for this course are based on successful completion of Honors Algebra I with a 90 or above average or CP Algebra with a 93 or above average and teacher recommendation.

**Algebra II** This course is designed to extend the algebraic concepts developed in Algebra I. Students will also graph and solve quadratic, polynomial, exponential, rational and radical functions. Communication of algebraic ideas orally and in writing is emphasized. Problem-solving strategies are developed. Students must have a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator on the first day of class through the entire course. Prerequisite: Algebra I or equivalent course

**Honors Algebra II** This course builds on the algebra skills introduced and practiced in Algebra I and adds the skills needed for the student to be successful in advanced math courses. The course introduces trigonometric ratios and uses them to solve problems with right triangles. This course also introduces imaginary and complex numbers; polar coordinates; simplifying rational expressions containing radical and complex number denominators; fractional exponents; adding force vectors; systems of equations with three variables; non-linear systems; systems of linear inequalities; quadratic inequalities; rational expression

## *Department of Mathematics continued*

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inequalities; logarithmic and exponential functions; applications of quadratic and polynomial functions; coordinate geometry; conic sections; probability and matrices. Word problem topics added to those of Algebra I include chemical compounds, chemical mixtures, linear regression, joint and combined variation, and exponential growth and decay. A graphing calculator such as the TI-83, TI-83; plus, or TI-84 will be used throughout this course. Recommendations for this course are based on successful completion of Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry with a 90 or above average, and recommendation of Algebra I and Honors Geometry teachers.

**Algebra III** is a program of mathematical studies that focuses on developing the student's ability to understand and apply the study of functions and advanced mathematical concepts to solve problems. The course will include a study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. This course is designed for students who have taken Algebra II but want a deeper understanding before taking Precalculus. The course includes some of the culminating topics of Algebra II and some of the introductory topics of Precalculus. A graphing calculator such as the TI-83, TI-83; plus, or TI-84 will be used throughout this course.

**Pre-Calculus (CP)** This course is designed for students who are preparing to take calculus or other courses requiring background in advanced mathematics. There will be an emphasis on graphs and visualization. Problems will demonstrate the linkage between graphical, numerical, and algebraic viewpoints. A graphing calculator such as the TI-83, TI-83 plus, or TI-84 will be used throughout this course.

**Honors Pre-Calculus** This course is designed for students who are preparing to take AP Calculus or other courses requiring background in advanced mathematics. There will be an emphasis on graphs and visualization. Problems will demonstrate the linkage between graphical, numerical, and algebraic viewpoints. A graphing calculator such as the TI-83, TI-83plus, or TI-84 may be used throughout this course. Recommendations for this course are based on successful completion of Honors Algebra II with 90 or above average; recommendation of Honors Algebra II teacher.

**Advanced Placement Calculus AB** The AP Calculus course follows the description guide given by the College Board. It consists of a full academic year of work that is comparable to calculus courses in colleges and universities. It is expected that students who take this course will sit for the appropriate AP Exam. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts and outcomes being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and

## *Department of Mathematics continued*

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verbally. Technology will be used regularly by students to reinforce the relationships among the multiple representations of functions, to confirm written work, to implement experimentation and to assist in interpreting results. Recommendations for this course are based on successful completion of Honors Pre-Calculus with a grade of B or above; successful completion of Pre-Calculus with a grade of A or above; recommendation of Pre-Calculus teacher and AP Calculus teacher. Students are expected to take the AP exam. College course credit may be awarded if the student receives a grade of 3 or above on the College Board AP Calculus (AB) Examination.

**Advanced Placement Calculus BC** The topic outline for Calculus BC includes all of the topics covered in Calculus AB topics with additional topics of differential equations with logistic model, integration by parts, integration by partial fractions, parametric, polar and vector functions, sequences and series, Euler's Method, and series solution. Recommendations for this course are based on successful completion of Honors Pre-Calculus with a grade of A or above or successful completion of AP Calculus AB with a 3 or above scored on the AP Calculus AB exam. Students are expected to take the AP exam. College course credit may be awarded if the student receives a grade of 3 or above on the College Board AP Calculus Examination.

## *Department of Science*

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**Advanced Placement science courses may require occasional early report to class to complete labs.**

**Sixth Grade Science** Students primarily study Earth Science during the sixth grade year. Students study the fields of geology, oceanography, astronomy, and physical science. Specific instruction includes scientific method, the classification of rocks and minerals, the rock cycle, the Earth's structure, plate tectonics, volcanoes, oceanography, and composition of our solar system and the universe. Labs and group projects are an integral part of this course.

**Seventh Grade Science** Students primarily study life science during the seventh grade year. Specific instruction includes scientific method, classification of organisms, proper use of a microscope, cell theory, cell structure, comparison of plant and animal cells, cell division, genetics, chemistry of life, nutrition, and human body systems. Labs and group projects are an integral part of this course.

**Eighth Grade Physical Science** Physical Science is an introductory course that covers the basic concepts of chemistry and physics. The class is designed to prepare students for the rigors of upper level science courses. Specific instruction includes

scientific measurement, scientific method, algebraic manipulation of formulas, motion, forces, energy, electricity, waves, composition of matter, states of matter, atomic structure, Periodic Table, chemical reactions, and solutions. Labs and group projects are an integral part of this course.

**Biology** Students study the science of living organisms. Students will be challenged to develop the skills of making observations, gathering data, drawing inferences, solving problems creatively, and applying their knowledge of biology to real world problems. Topics include cellular biology, genetics, human systems, and ecology.

**Honors Biology** Students study the science of living organisms. Students are challenged to be independent thinkers and learners in order to master the principles of biology and to apply them both in a laboratory setting and the real world. The program aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to advance to higher level science courses. Topics include molecular biology, cellular biology, genetics, ecology and environment.

## Department of Science continued

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**Advanced Placement Biology** is to be a challenging and rigorous college level course. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology and to appreciate science as a process. The primary goals are to understand the concepts, gain personal experience in scientific inquiry, and recognize the unifying themes that integrate the major topics of biology. Students apply their knowledge and critical thinking skills to environmental and social concerns. The main areas of study are molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and populations.

*A full description of the course topics and labs can be found at:*

*<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-biology>*

*Students are required to take the AP exam and complete summer work for this course.*

*Pre-requisites: Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry.*

**Chemistry** Covers the following concepts and processes:

- Systems, order, and organization
- Evidence, models, and explanation
- Change, constancy, and measurement
- Evolution and equilibrium
- Form and function

Students are regularly asked to support conclusions and explanations with evidence from their investigations.

Students will develop skills associated with modeling chemical phenomena at the particulate level and will create and evaluate appropriate physical and mental models. This course covers concepts such as atomic structure, the kinetic theory and chemical bonding. Using the Periodic Table, these ideas are then developed into more advanced ideas including reaction kinetics, the role of energy and the theories of acidity and redox. Alongside the development of knowledge and understanding is the appreciation of the application of chemical ideas outside the laboratory. Students will consider economic applications such as the extraction of metals, the prevention of corrosion and the production of modern materials such as plastics. Some time will be spent studying environmental issues such as acid rain from a chemical viewpoint. Complementing this theoretical study is our experimental program that increases the skills of manipulation, planning, data handling and evaluation.

**Honors Chemistry** Covers similar topics as the C.P. course but the academic treatment of each topic is more rigorous and our approach is more mathematical. The honors course also covers the topics of moles and stoichiometry, equilibrium and acid-base chemistry. Students taking this course will be well prepared for AP Chemistry.

## Department of Science continued

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**Advanced Placement Chemistry** is designed to offer a rigorous and challenging course that covers the chemistry and chemical principles typical of college and university general chemistry courses. Students learn the usefulness and relevance of chemistry in both their intended areas of study and in the everyday world.

A full description of the course is available at <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-chemistry>

Students are required to take the AP exam and complete summer work for this course. Prerequisites: Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry

**Physics** Covers motion, energy, light and sound, and electricity. Laboratory work will be a central part of the learning experience. The course consists of a central core of knowledge and understanding for the physical world. Topics include mechanical energy, fluids, gases, electricity, and motion. Prerequisite: Algebra II and this course is typically taken after Biology and Chemistry.

**Honors Physics** covers similar topics as the C.P. course but the academic treatment of each topic is more rigorous and the approach is more mathematical. Laboratory work will be a central part of the learning experience. Students doing well in this course will be prepared for Advanced Placement Physics. Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II, Recommended Co-Req: Honors Pre-Calculus

**Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics** is a second-year Physics course that is the equivalent of the first semester college course in Calculus-based Physics that is typically taken by Physics and Engineering majors. The course covers all topics in the realm of Mechanics, including: one and two-dimensional kinematics, revolutionary and rotational dynamics, and oscillatory motions. Students are required to take the AP Physics C:Mechanics exam given in May. Prerequisites: Honors Physics, Honors Pre-Calculus,. Co- Requisites: AP Calculus.

**Advanced Placement Environmental Science** is a course designed to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, and it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study; yet there are several major unifying constructs, or themes, that cut across the many topics included in the study of environmental science. Students are required to take the AP exam. Pre-requisites: Biology and Chemistry

## *Department of Science continued*

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A full description of the course is available at <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-environmental-science>. Summer work is required for this course.

### **Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology**

This is a lab and discussion-based science class that focuses on the structure and function of the human body. This course will expand on biological principles to investigate the organ systems, including skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, respiratory, lymphatic, immune, and digestive systems. Labs will incorporate class knowledge with hands-on activities. This course is ideal for students interested in a healthcare field. Principles of sports medicine and emergency care (CPR and AED) will be included as part of the curriculum. Pre-requisites: Successful completion of biology and chemistry.

## *Department of Fine and Performing Arts*

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### **Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade Visual**

**Arts** This semester course is filled with projects and activities that will boost critical thinking habits, improve collaborative participation, grow creativity, and develop artistic skills through writing and talking about art. We will explore the world of art through art history, techniques, and different mediums with creativity. Students will create artworks using a variety of media and techniques; identify major artists and styles; begin to analyze their own and other student's artwork; analyze the work of well-known artists through critiques and in-class writing; develop their own style by creating sketches to plan for major art projects; create a portfolio of work throughout the course that demonstrates increasing skill and ability; maintain a visual journal in which to keep class notes notes, sketches, observational items, and vocabulary; and improve his/her verbal skills by learning the visual vocabulary and applying those terms during class discussions, critique and projects.

**Sixth Grade Theatre** This is a semester-long class in which students will be introduced to theatre arts. This class serves new young artists who are ready to take their first steps towards understanding the basics of theatre. Students will learn several components of the theatre machine: the importance of ensemble, the history of theatre, pantomime, theatre design and more! This class will provide a strong foundation to continue a pursuit of the arts, and is open to sixth-grade students.

**Sixth Grade Guitar** Students will learn how to play classical guitar alone and in ensemble. Focusing on reading music, proper technique, and playing with musicality. Specifically students will learn the following parts of the guitar, identify staff, time signature, read in first position (on strings 1, 2, 3), identify right hand letters/left hand numbers, free stroke, reading accidentals, read dotted rhythms, rasgueados with simple chords (G, G7, Am, Em, E, C, Dm), and play a G major scale. Attendance at the evening class performance is required.

**Sixth Grade Vocal Music** Students will learn how to read music vocally, proper vocal technique, and vocal musicality. Specifically, students will use solfege to read (low Sol, Do, Mi, Sol, La and High Do). Students will learn rhythm through counting simple, quadruple meter focusing on quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes. All techniques and concepts will be applied to appropriate vocal literature. Attendance at the evening class performance is required.

**Seventh Grade Guitar** Students will learn how to play classical guitar alone and in ensemble. Focusing on reading music, proper technique, and playing with musicality. Specifically, students will learn the following parts of the guitar, identify staff,

## *Department of Fine and Performing Arts continued*

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me signature, read in first position (on strings 1, 2, 3), identify right-hand letters/left-hand numbers, free stroke, reading accidentals, read dotted rhythms, asguedos with simple chords (G, G7, Am, Em, E, C, Dm), identify key signatures (C, G, and D major), alternate i and m fingers, read sixteenth notes, and play a G major scale. Attendance at the evening class performance is required.

**Seventh Grade Theatre** This is a semester-long class in which students will explore the art of theatre. This class serves young artists that are ready to take their next steps towards understanding the basics of theatre. Students will learn several components of the theatre machine: the importance of ensemble, the history of theatre, improvisation strategies, theatre design and more! This class will provide a strong foundation to continue the pursuit of the arts, and is open to seventh-grade students.

**Eighth Grade Theatre** This is a semester-long class in which students will explore the art of theatre. Students will learn several components of the theatre machine: the importance of ensemble, the history of theatre, theatre design, and voice. This class will provide a strong foundation to continue the pursuit of the arts, and is open to eighth-grade students.

**Eighth Grade Guitar** Students will continue the guitar that they learned in 7th grade. Focusing on reading music, proper technique, and playing with musicality. In addition to reviewing prior knowledge about playing the guitar, students will learn right hand string-crossing, play two octave g major scale, play a one-octave C major scale, play block chords using pima, read on strings 4-6, and play a one-octave D major scale. Attendance at the evening class performance is required.

**Eight Grade Vocal Music** Students will learn how to read music vocally, proper vocal technique, and vocal musicality. Specifically, students will use diatonic solfege (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, and Do) to read pitches. Students will learn rhythm through counting compound meter focusing on quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes. All techniques and concepts will be applied to appropriate vocal literature. Attendance at the evening class performance is required.

## *Department of Fine and Performing Arts continued*

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**General Art** General Art introduces students to the fundamental building blocks of visual art. Students experiment with both two- and three-dimensional media, including drawing, painting, collage, mixed media, and sculpture. Projects may be inspired by observation, photographs, and imagination, encouraging students to develop both technical skills and creative ideas. Over the course of the semester, students build a portfolio that reflects growth in craftsmanship, problem-solving, and artistic expression. Open to students in grades 9–12.

**Advanced Art** This course is an independent course preparing students for college portfolios or an AP Art course. Students must have demonstrated interest, ability and motivation in previous courses. Students must work independently, and must be able to propose their own project ideas (with guidance from the instructor). Students are required to keep a sketchbook demonstrating their art-making ideas/process. Students may have the opportunity to exhibit their work in shows, art competitions, and contests. Students are required to work independently to meet composition deadlines. Teacher recommendation is required for this course.

**AP Visual Arts** Students must have demonstrated ability, interest, and motivation in previous art courses. Students are required to work independently to meet composition deadlines, complete necessary research, and keep a sketchbook. Students must be prepared to work outside of class. AP courses offered are Drawing, 2D Design, and 3D. The course addresses three major concerns that are constants in the teaching of art: (1) a sense of quality in a student's work, (2) the student's concentration on a particular visual interest or problem, and (3) the student's need for breadth of experience in the formal, technical, and expressive means of the artist. AP work should reflect these three areas of concern: quality, concentration, and breadth. Teacher recommendation is required for this course. Completion of an AP portfolio is required.

**Theatre I** This is a year-long course in which students learn the basics of theatre history, acting methods, the elements of design, and performance. This class is designed for 9th and 10th grade students.

**Communication** This course is designed to help students not only learn how to speak effectively in front of an audience but also how to use their voice to lead, persuade, and inspire in numerous contexts.-academic, social, and professional. Additionally, students will explore traditional and modern forms of public speaking, including speeches, digital presentations, debates, podcasts, and spoken-word performances.

## *Department of Fine and Performing Arts continued*

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**Honors Theatre** This is a year-long advanced theatre class in which students will develop skills in theatre arts. Students will learn several techniques that will help them strengthen their art, working with both plays and aspects of musical theatre. Students are expected to attend the Thespian Festival in February. This course is open to students in grades ten through twelve.

**Guitar** In this course, students will learn how to play the guitar in an ensemble. Musical training is not required to take the course. All students of varying abilities and training are encouraged to join, as students will be appropriately challenged. This course is open to students in grades nine through twelve.

**Honors Guitar** This is a year-long, course in which students will continue the knowledge and skill set that they have obtained in previous guitar ensemble classes. This class will focus on more advanced, traditional and classical guitar material that will be performed during our regularly scheduled school concerts, as well as at music festivals, such as the SCISA Music Festival. Attendance at performances and festivals will be required. Students must be recommended for this course. This course is open to students in grades nine through twelve.

**Music Technology** This is a year-long course. This class focuses on songwriting, recording, audio mixing, and performing skills. This class is open to students in grades nine through twelve who already have some musical background.

**Video Production** This is a year-long course in which students develop skills in video, film, and television pre-production, production, and post-production. The emphasis is on the creative, hands-on production experience, through a variety of short video projects.

**Vocal Music** This is a non-audition vocal music course and is open to students in grades nine through twelve. Students will learn musical literacy, vocal techniques, choral techniques, and expressive techniques. Students will perform a variety of music from the Renaissance to the modern era. Performances throughout the year are mandatory.

**Yearbook** Students may earn their Technology Credit through creating yearbook pages by managing digital photos, creating templates, and collaborating with faculty as well as the student body to meet strict deadlines set by yearbook publishers.

## *Department of Technology*

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**Middle School IDEA Lab Grades Six, Seven, and Eight** Project and challenge-based class focusing on the design thinking and innovation process using Pinewood's model IDEA (Imagine, Design, Experiment, Apply). Students will use state-of-the-art hands-on technology and our MakerSpace to learn programming, robotics, 3D design, create and maintain a digital portfolio as well as an engineering notebook, how to use many hand tools, build models, sew, and work collaboratively.

**A variety of High school technology courses are offered. Students can combine courses throughout their high school years to meet the one-credit technology requirement for graduation. Students may earn their technology credit through a combination of Semester classes and "flex" tech offerings including Yearbook, Robotics, and Music Tech.**

**Computer Science Principles** Computer Science Principles introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. In this course, students will learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They will incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students will also explain how computing innovations and

computing systems, including the Internet, work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

**Engineering/Robotics** This course is designed to explore the many facets of engineering and discover how engineers use creativity and problem-solving to make the world a better place. The course is supplemented through participation in the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) robotics competition. This program gives students a hands-on, year-long activity that leads them through the engineering design process.. They will define the problem, brainstorm ideas, select a solution, build a prototype, test and evaluate their product, and iterate for optimization. Ancillary experience and skills developed include teamwork, use of CAD (computer-aided design) software, presentation and interview, and programming. Note that students are required to attend scrimmages and competitions on Saturday. This is typically 2 - 3 times a year late first semester and early second semester. Should the team qualify for the state event, there is a Friday/Saturday overnight stay. Only mitigating circumstances i.e. illness or family emergency, will excuse a student from attending.

## Department of Technology

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### **Advanced Placement Computer Science**

**Principles** Computer Science Principles introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. In this course, students will learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They will incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students will also explain how computing innovations and computing systems, including the Internet, work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical. Students taking Computer Science Principles for AP credit will complete all content of the course and take the AP exam. The AP Computer Science Principles Exam has two sections: an end-of-course exam and the Create performance task which is completed throughout the school year.

### **Advanced Placement Computer Science A**

introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. Because the Java language is extensive, with far more

features than could be covered in a single introductory course, the AP Computer Science A Exam covers a subset of Java.

**Prerequisites:** It is recommended that a student in the AP Computer Science A course has successfully completed a first-year high school algebra course with a strong foundation of basic linear functions, composition of functions, and problem-solving strategies that require multiple approaches and collaborative efforts. In addition, students should be able to use a Cartesian  $(x, y)$  coordinate system to represent points on a plane. AP Computer Science A builds upon a foundation of mathematical reasoning that should be acquired prior to taking this course.

**Yearbook** Students may earn a portion of their Technology Credit (.5) through creating yearbook pages by managing digital photos, creating templates, and collaborating with faculty as well as the student body to meet strict deadlines set by yearbook publishers.

**Video Production** This is a year-long course in which students develop skills in video, film, and television pre-production, production, and post-production. The emphasis is on the creative, hands-on production experience, through a variety of short video projects.

## *Department of Physical Education*

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**Middle School Physical Education** The primary objective of the middle school physical education program is to promote maximum participation. All middle school students are required to select two elective physical education classes per week. The students have the opportunity to participate in team sports such as volleyball, basketball, European handball or enhance their skills in individual sports such as tennis and running. All middle school students have access to a speed and strength conditioning class.

five days a week and the number of days the students will train per week will depend on their involvement in sports and activities outside of class.

**6th Grade Health** This course is designed for the teacher and students to have open communication and discussion about a variety of topics related to the experiences of teens and young adolescents. They study and discuss issues such as health and wellness, making good decisions, building self-esteem, nutrition, safety, and other related health topics.

**Weight Training** This course is designed to teach students the proper knowledge and mechanics of strength training and athletic development. The primary goal of the weight training class is to both decrease the likelihood of being injured and to speed up the return to play process after an injury. This course involves a physically demanding program of weight training and fitness activities designed to enhance speed, strength, agility, mobility, explosiveness, and coordination. This is a semester-long course

## Other Electives

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**Financial Literacy** Students learn how to navigate the financial decisions related to career exploration, budgeting, banking, credit, insurance, spending, taxes, saving, investing, mortgages, and inheritance. Development of financial literacy skills and an understanding of economic principles will provide the basis for responsible citizenship and career success. Instruction in personal finance as well as including an emphasis on leadership practices prepares students to function effectively as consumers, savers, investors, and entrepreneurs. On a personal level, students learn that their own human capital (knowledge and skills) is their most valuable resource. Ultimately, students will be able to specifically define what financial success will look like as they venture into adulthood.

**Psychology** This course is a science-based class that will explore the fundamental principles of human behavior. A focus will be on the nervous system including functions in memory, learning, and personality. The history of psychology, research methods, and abnormal behavior will also be investigated. Biology is a prerequisite for this course.

### **Teacher Cadet**

Credits: 1 Pinewood AP Credit / 3 Credit Hours through Charleston Southern University. Textbooks: *Experiencing Education* (TC Instructor provides course materials which are assembled in a large three-ring binder throughout the school year.) This course is designed to introduce students to the field of education. Students will focus on three themes: *Experiencing the Learning*, *Experiencing the Profession*, and *Experiencing the Classroom*. *Experiencing the Learning* helps the students become better acquainted with themselves as individuals, learners, and community members. *Experiencing the Profession* helps students develop a greater understanding of the history of education in our state and nation, as well as insights into the structure and functions of our schools and school systems. *Experiencing the Classroom* helps students become acquainted with the educator as both a person and as a professional. Interacting with students of various age levels will offer a unique and enjoyable experience. Students must have a 3.0 GPA or higher and submit an application to be considered for enrollment in this course. Class size is limited; therefore interview and/or letters of reference will be used if enrollment exceed class size.

## Other Electives

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**Sports Analytics** This course provides an introduction to sports analytics, including the collection, analysis, and visualization of sports data. Basic statistical analysis techniques will be introduced through questions arising in sports. We will also explore advanced statistical modeling and analysis techniques through the lens of sports. The course will conclude with a unit on basic probability. Pre-requisite: Student must have completed four years of high school math.

**Creative Writing** In this English Department elective class, students will gain experience writing in a variety of styles and genres, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, journalism, and marketing. Beginning with reading example pieces as models, students will have the opportunity to develop their voice and receive feedback through a supportive workshop setting. The class is open to high school students. A summative portfolio of student writing will be completed by the end of the course. This class is a great opportunity for students of all levels to enhance their written expression and the critical thinking and perspective skills necessary for success in all areas of the modern world.

**Sports Leadership** This is a practical course where students learn how to lead on and off the field of play. Through sports-based scenarios, projects, and service, students will examine leadership styles, communication, teamwork, goal-setting, and ethical decision-making, resulting in the application of these skills by planning and supporting real athletic or school events. This course blends classroom learning with hands-on experiences such as mentoring younger students and promoting sportsmanship within the school community.

**Communication** This course is designed to help students not only learn how to speak effectively in front of an audience but also how to use their voice to lead, persuade, and inspire in numerous contexts.-academic, social, and professional. Additionally, students will explore traditional and modern forms of public speaking, including speeches, digital presentations, debates, podcasts, and spoken-word performances

## Electives Credit Chart

This chart describes how elective credits may be used to fulfill graduation requirements. Courses may only count for one area to fulfill the requirement unless otherwise noted. Specifics will be discussed in scheduling meetings.

Course	Grade Level Availability	Technology	Art	General Elective
AP Computer Science Principles	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 Credit		1.00 Credit
AP Computer Science A	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 Credit		1.00 Credit
Computer Science Principles	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 Credit		1.00 Credit
Communication	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>		1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit
Creative Writing	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>		1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit
Engineering/ Robotics	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 Credit		1.00 Credit
Financial Literacy	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>			1.00 Credit
Music Technology	9 <sup>th</sup> by teacher recommendation 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup>		1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit

## *Electives Credit Chart*

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This chart describes how elective credits may be used to fulfill graduation requirements. Courses may only count for one area to fulfill the requirement unless otherwise noted. Specifics will be discussed in scheduling meetings.

<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade Level Availability</b>	<b>Technology</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>General Elective</b>
Psychology	10th, 11th, 12th			1.00 Credit
Sports Analytics	12th			1.00 Credit
Sports Leadership	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12th			1.00 Credit
Teacher Cadet	11th, 12th Must apply			1.00 Credit
Video Production	9th, 10th, 11th, 12th	1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit
Yearbook	9th by teacher recommendation  10th, 11th, 12th	1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit	1.00 Credit



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