

Middle Years Program Course Guide

2024-2025 School Year



THE
I N T E R N A T I O N A L
SCHOOL OF TEXAS

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Individuals & Societies

Mythology

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 6

Credits: 1.0 MS

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Course Description:

In the course titled "Mythology," students embark on a captivating journey into the realm of ancient myths and legends from diverse cultures around the world, including Greek, Norse, and Egyptian. The curriculum explores the fascinating narratives of gods, heroes, and mythical creatures, shedding light on the cultural and historical contexts that gave rise to these stories. Students delve into the similarities and differences between myths, analyzing their symbolic meanings and cultural significance. Interactive activities, multimedia resources, and collaborative projects enhance students' understanding and critical thinking skills. The course not only fosters a love for mythology but also encourages students to draw connections between these ancient tales and the broader themes of human experience, promoting cultural appreciation and a deeper understanding of the rich tapestry of global traditions.

Intro to World History 2

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 7

Credits: 1.0 MS

Prerequisite(s): Intro to World History 1 or Mythology

Course Description:

Building upon the foundational knowledge acquired in Intro to World History I or Mythology, our Intro to World History II course takes students on a dynamic exploration of historical epochs. Students delve into advanced topics, including the continued study of civilizations such as the Macedonian Empire, British Empire, and colonial history with a focus on deeper analysis of their societal complexities and imperialist tendencies. This curriculum then moves into the Industrial Revolution and a detailed history of both World Wars, with emphasis placed on understanding the interconnectedness of historical events and the enduring impact on contemporary global issues, as well as the profound impacts of these events on generations. The course fosters critical thinking, cultural competency, and a nuanced understanding of world history, building on the prerequisite knowledge to provide a comprehensive and engaging educational experience.

World History 1

Duration: One Year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Intro to World History 2 (or equivalent)

Course Description:

The curriculum extends to the Enlightenment, and revolutions with greater depth and sophistication, meeting the criteria set by IB MYP for Year 4. Students will study wars and social upheavals in depth while also examining the profound effects of the Industrial Revolution and the complexities of modern globalization. The curriculum includes in-depth analyses of imperialism, decolonization movements, and the geopolitical repercussions of World War I and II that lead to the Cold War, with a detailed study of the Cold War's impact on countries around the world as well as technology and international relationships, including a study of the founding and function of the United Nations, focusing on contemporary global issues such as human rights, environmental challenges, and social justice are explored. The course also delves into modern political systems, cultural revolutions, and the impact of technology on societies, providing students with a nuanced understanding of the complex historical forces that have shaped the modern world.

History Through Film

Duration: One Year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Intro to World History 2 (or equivalents)

Course Description:

In the course "History Through Film," students will be asked to explore the medium of film, documentaries, and screenwriting to connect and engage with historical time periods, events, and famous figures. Students will learn about the factual background of each film before viewing through reading and analyzing primary sources, and conducting research on the people involved, before viewing chosen films and studying how the use of film elements (writing, sound, camera work, acting, and music) adds to their knowledge and increases their empathy for these individuals and societies. Students will report on how slight (or sometimes drastic) changes made to true stories during their transition to the screen can add to or take away from our enriched historical knowledge, as well as how the exposure to powerful film and screenplays place the viewer/reader into a period they might otherwise not have been able to envision. Students would be asked to create their own pitch for a film depicting a historical time and event and express how the use of film will add to the viewer's understanding of individuals and societies.

Language & Literature

Language & Literature Year 1

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 6

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In this IB MYP Year 1 Language & Literature course, students undergo a beginning exploration of language and literature, emphasizing critical thinking and effective communication. The curriculum covers the analysis of diverse literary genres, including fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry, focusing on elements such as plot, characterization, and thematic concepts. Language skills development extends to understanding rhetorical devices, figurative language, and persuasive techniques across various contexts, including multimedia and digital platforms. Writing proficiency is cultivated through the creation of essays, creative pieces, and formal analyses, emphasizing clarity, coherence, and organizational structure. Oral communication skills are honed through presentations, discussions, and debates. The course also incorporates media literacy, research skills, and an exploration of cultural contexts, fostering an understanding of diverse perspectives. The integration of critical thinking, effective communication, and cultural awareness provides students with the language arts proficiency needed for academic success and effective communication in diverse contexts.

Language & Literature Year 2

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 7

Prerequisite(s): Language & Literature MYP Year 1 or Teacher Recommendation

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In this IB MYP Year 2 Language & Literature course, students delve into a comprehensive study of language and literature. The curriculum further covers the analysis of literary genres such as fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry, focusing on key elements like plot, characterization, and theme. Language skills development includes an exploration of rhetorical devices, figurative language, and persuasive techniques across diverse contexts, including multimedia and digital platforms. Advanced writing skills are cultivated through the creation of essays, creative pieces, and formal analyses, emphasizing clarity, coherence, and organizational structure. Oral communication is fine-tuned through presentations, discussions, and debates. The course integrates media literacy, research skills, and an exploration of cultural contexts, fostering an understanding of diverse perspectives. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, effective

communication, and cultural awareness as essential components of language and literature studies.

Language & Literature Year 3

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 8

Credits: 1.0 MS

Prerequisite(s): Language & Literature MYP Year 2 or Teacher Recommendation

Course Description:

In the IB MYP Year 3 Language & Literature course, students undertake a deep study of language and literature. The curriculum encompasses the analysis of diverse literary genres such as fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry, emphasizing advanced elements including plot development, complex characterizations, and thematic concepts. Language skills development extends to a nuanced understanding of rhetorical devices, figurative language, and persuasive techniques across various contexts, including multimedia and digital platforms. Advanced writing skills are further honed through the creation of sophisticated essays, creative pieces, and formal analyses, with a focus on clarity, coherence, and organizational structure. Oral communication is further mastered through presentations, discussions, and debates. Media literacy, research skills, and an exploration of cultural contexts are integrated, fostering a deep understanding of diverse perspectives, placing a strong emphasis on critical thinking, effective communication, and cultural awareness as integral components of language and literature studies.

Language & Literature Year 4

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Language & Literature MYP Year 3 or Teacher Recommendation

Course Description:

In the IB MYP Language & Literature Year 4 course, students engage in a comprehensive exploration of literature and language. Through the analysis of diverse literary genres, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama, students develop advanced skills in literary interpretation, examining elements such as plot, characterization, and theme. Writing proficiency is cultivated across various genres, emphasizing clarity, coherence, and proper language conventions. The course integrates critical thinking through discussions and debates, while media literacy skills are honed in the analysis of various media forms and the creation of media-based projects. Research skills are introduced through independent inquiry projects, and oral communication is developed through presentations and collaborative discussions. Emphasizing cultural context, the curriculum fosters an appreciation for global perspectives and cultural influences on literature and language. This comprehensive approach aims to equip

students with the skills essential for effective communication, critical analysis, and cultural awareness.

Language Acquisition

Mandarin 1a

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 6 (new to Mandarin)

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In the Mandarin 1a course, students are introduced to foundational vocabulary and basic grammar structures essential for effective communication in Mandarin Chinese. Students engage in listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities to develop proficiency in Mandarin pronunciation, tones, and simple sentence construction. Cultural elements are integrated to foster intercultural understanding and appreciation of Chinese customs and traditions. This course moves students through Language Acquisition phases 1 and 2a.

Mandarin 1b

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 6/7

Prerequisite(s): Mandarin 1a or placement test

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 HS

Course Description:

In the Mandarin 1b course, students will be building upon foundational skills acquired in Mandarin 1a. Students expand their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge to engage in more complex conversations and written compositions. Emphasis is placed on refining pronunciation, mastering more nuanced grammatical structures, and developing reading comprehension skills. Cultural exploration continues to deepen students' understanding of Chinese society and its cultural heritage. This course moves students through Language Acquisition phases 2b and 3.

Mandarin 2

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 7/8/9

Prerequisite(s): Mandarin 1a and 1b, or placement test

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 HS

Course Description:

The Mandarin 2 course focuses on further developing linguistic proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, emphasizing advanced vocabulary acquisition, complex grammatical structures, and idiomatic expressions. Students engage in authentic listening and speaking activities, participate in debates, and analyze authentic written texts to enhance their language proficiency and critical thinking skills. Cultural inquiry deepens students' understanding of

contemporary issues and cultural trends in Chinese-speaking societies. This course moves students through Language Acquisition phase 4.

Mandarin 3

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 7/8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Mandarin 2 or placement test

Course Description:

This Mandarin 3a course is designed for students to refine their Mandarin proficiency to near-native levels, focusing on advanced vocabulary, sophisticated grammatical structures, and idiomatic expressions. Students engage in in-depth discussions, deliver presentations, and produce advanced written compositions to demonstrate linguistic fluency and cultural insight. Cultural exploration encompasses contemporary issues, literature, and art, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of Chinese language and culture. This course moves students through Language Acquisition phase

Spanish 1

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring Target

Grade: 6/7/8/9 (with Beginner/Upper Beginner proficiency)

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Course Description:

Embark on an exciting linguistic and communicative journey in this Spanish course. Students develop or expand essential vocabulary and grammar, strengthening their ability to express themselves and understand daily life Spanish. This high school-level course introduces or reinforces foundational language skills, encouraging students to make connections with their lives and environments and compare them to those of native speakers. Through practical tasks and real-world scenarios, students participate in projects such as interviewing a Spanish speaker about themselves and their likes or ordering at a restaurant in Spanish. Interactive lessons featuring multimedia resources provide insight into the daily lives of Spanish speakers, enhancing listening and comprehension. Key topics include introductions and self-description, the school environment, family, hobbies, vacations, daily routines, and food. Spanish 1 moves students through IB Phases 1 and 2, aligning with A1 to A2 levels of the Common European Framework, laying the groundwork for confident communication in Spanish. Completion of this course earns a high school Spanish 1 credit.

Spanish 2

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring Target

Grade: 6/7/8/9 (with Intermediate proficiency)

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): IST Spanish 1 or Placement Test.

Course Description:

Step into a new level of expression and creativity in Spanish. In this course, students delve into advanced vocabulary and grammar domains, using language creatively and descriptively to engage in more complex conversations and express detailed personal experiences. As students progress, they gain increased exposure to authentic materials in Spanish and begin to incorporate academic language into their communication. Through practical projects, students apply their skills in activities such as creating dialogues and stories using past tenses, understanding videos on environmental issues and sharing opinions, writing about professional plans and ambitions, or performing job interviews in Spanish. Interactive lessons and real-world applications enhance their ability to communicate naturally and confidently. Key topics include experiences, health, responsibilities and recommendations, environmental issues, the city and well-being, the world of work, and creative storytelling. Spanish 2 moves students through IB Phases 2 and 3, aligning with A2 to B1 levels of the Common European Framework, equipping them to interact with increasing fluency and confidence in a variety of familiar and academic contexts. Completion of this course earns a high school Spanish 2 credit.

Spanish 3

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 6/7/8/9 (with Upper Intermediate proficiency)

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): IST Spanish 2 or Placement Test.

Course Description:

Build on your foundation and unlock new levels of fluency in Spanish. This course challenges students to apply complex vocabulary and grammar in creative and meaningful ways, exploring topics such as personal relationships, travel, professional development, media and Hispanic culture. Through culturally rich, authentic materials and academic language, students refine their ability to analyze and respond to texts, express opinions, and craft narratives. Real-world projects, including performing telenovela scenes, writing travel posts, and presenting product or service descriptions, foster confidence and enhance fluency in Spanish. Students develop their listening, reading, speaking, and writing abilities, preparing to communicate effectively in diverse settings. Spanish 3 progresses learners through IB Phases 3 and 4, aligning with B1 to B2 levels of the Common European Framework, guiding them toward greater spontaneity, fluency, and cultural competence. Completion of this course earns a high school Spanish 3 credit.

Mathematics

Integrated Mathematics 1

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 6

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In the Integrated Math 1 course, students delve into a comprehensive exploration of 6th grade mathematical concepts. The curriculum encompasses number sense, operations, ratios, proportions, expressions, equations, beginning geometry, beginning statistics, and beginning probability. Students develop fluency in basic arithmetic, tackle algebraic expressions and equations, explore geometric shapes and transformations, and engage with statistical data. The course emphasizes problem-solving skills through real-world applications, fostering mathematical reasoning and communication. This course aims to provide a solid foundation in mathematical concepts, encourage critical thinking, and equip students with essential skills for further mathematical studies.

Integrated Mathematics 2

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 6/7

Prerequisite(s): Integrated Mathematics Year 1 or Placement Test

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In the Integrated Math 2 course, students engage in a comprehensive exploration of 7th grade mathematical concepts. The curriculum covers ratios, rates, and proportional relationships with real-world applications, along with a focus on rational numbers, expressions, equations, and inequalities. Geometric figures and their properties are explored, with emphasis on calculating area, volume, and understanding angles. Statistical analysis, probability concepts, proportional relationships, and percentages are further developed. The course fosters inquiry-based problem-solving, encouraging critical thinking and mathematical reasoning. Building on foundational skills, this course provides students with a robust mathematical foundation and the ability to apply their skills in various contexts.

Integrated Mathematics 3

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 7/8

Prerequisite(s): Integrated Mathematics Year 2 or Placement Test

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In the Integrated Math 3 course, students engage in a comprehensive exploration of advanced mathematical concepts. The curriculum covers the number system, expressions, equations, and functions, emphasizing the analysis and interpretation of linear and exponential functions. Geometric principles are applied to real-world problems, including Pythagorean theorem applications, congruence, and similarity. Students delve into statistical analysis, probability concepts, and conditional probability, gaining proficiency in interpreting data using statistical measures. Transformational geometry, including translations, rotations, reflections, and dilations, is introduced. The course fosters inquiry-based problem-solving, cultivating advanced critical thinking and mathematical reasoning skills. This course equips students with a robust mathematical foundation for continued success in higher-level mathematics.

Algebra 1

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Integrated Mathematics 3 or Placement Test

Course Description:

In the Algebra 1 course, students engage in an introductory study of Algebra, designed to provide you with a foundational understanding of essential algebraic skills, preparing you for success in Geometry and beyond. We will begin by delving into the symbolic language of variables. Developing proficiency in solving linear equations and the ability to substitute values into expressions and simplify algebraic expressions will be crucial for manipulating geometric formulas. Working with coordinates and understanding the coordinate plane will empower you to navigate the spatial aspects of our world. Additionally, the proficiency gained in translating word problems into algebraic expressions and equations will prove essential when tackling real-world challenges. This course will build a strong algebraic foundation, unlocking the door to a deeper understanding of geometry and setting the stage for your continued mathematical exploration.

Geometry

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 9/10

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Algebra 1

Course Description:

In this Geometry course, students will embark on an introductory exploration of fundamental geometric concepts and relationships. Mastery of basic elements such as points, lines, angles, polygons, circles, and triangles lays the groundwork for more advanced investigations. The course delves into criteria for congruent and similar figures, utilizing transformations to solidify

understanding. Properties of polygons and circles, including the relationships between angles, sides, and diagonals, are thoroughly explored. Proficiency in coordinate geometry and working with the Cartesian plane is emphasized. The study of geometric transformations, encompassing translations, rotations, reflections, and dilations, enhances spatial reasoning skills. Students will also calculate the area and volume of diverse geometric shapes, from polygons to cylinders and spheres. An introduction to trigonometric concepts, including sine, cosine, and tangent, further enriches the geometric toolkit. Throughout the course, an emphasis on problem-solving and geometric reasoning fosters a deep understanding of the interconnected nature of geometric principles, preparing students to further explore mathematics courses.

Sciences

Space Science & Astronomy

Duration: One year

Target Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisites

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

Welcome to the exploration of Space Science and Astronomy. Throughout this exploration, students will journey into the cosmos, starting with an introduction to basic astronomy concepts, celestial objects, and the vast scale of the universe. The course delves into the dynamics of our solar system, exploring the sun, planets, moons, asteroids, and comets, unraveling their orbits and unique characteristics. Stellar astronomy unfolds the life cycles of stars and the captivating properties that define these celestial entities. Venturing further, students will explore galaxies, their classification, and the broader field of cosmology, delving into the Big Bang theory and the expansion of the universe. Practical skills in observational astronomy, utilizing telescopes and technology, will be honed. Through scientific inquiry practices, including experimental design, data collection, and analysis, students will develop essential skills for a lifelong appreciation of the wonders of space. Join us on this cosmic journey as we explore the mysteries of the universe and unlock the secrets of the night sky.

Integrated Sciences 1

Duration: One Year

Target Grade: 6/7

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In Integrated Sciences 1, students embark on a comprehensive exploration of foundational concepts in both life sciences and chemistry. The curriculum delves into the intricacies of cell structure and function, heredity and genetics, and biological evolution. Students investigate the structure and function of diverse living organisms, ecosystem dynamics, and the interdependence of living organisms, including human impact on the environment. In the chemistry segment, students explore the properties of matter, the structure of atoms, and the periodic table. They delve into chemical reactions, balancing equations, and understanding different reaction types. The course covers chemical bonding, properties of acids and bases, and energy changes in chemical reactions. Through an integrated and hands-on approach, students develop scientific inquiry skills, including experimental design and data analysis. This course provides a profound understanding of both life sciences and chemistry, setting the stage for deeper exploration in 9th and 10th grades.

Integrated Sciences 2

Duration: One Year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 7/8

Credits: 1.0 MS

Prerequisite(s): Integrated Sciences 1 OR Space Science and Astronomy

Course Description:

Integrated Sciences 2 offers a comprehensive exploration of fundamental concepts in both physics and Earth science. In the physics segment, students delve into the principles of motion, investigating speed, velocity, acceleration, and the impact of forces. They explore different forms of energy, including kinetic, potential, and thermal energy, and gain insights into the properties of waves and electromagnetic radiation. The course also covers electricity and magnetism, including basic circuits and magnetic fields, as well as the structure of matter at the atomic and molecular levels. In the Earth science segment, students embark on a journey through Earth's structure, geological processes, and its place in the universe. They explore Earth's history, uncovering the geologic timeline and processes such as erosion, sedimentation, and fossilization. The course provides insights into weather and climate, examining atmospheric phenomena and the influence of human activities. Through hands-on scientific inquiry, including experimental design, data collection, and analysis, students develop essential skills for a lifelong appreciation of both physics and Earth science. This integrated approach lays the groundwork for a deeper understanding of the physical world and our dynamic planet.

Biology 1

Duration: One year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): MYP Integrated Sciences 2

Course Description:

Biology 1 is an immersive course that provides opportunities for students to delve into the intricate world of biology, starting with an investigation of cell structures, organelles, and the fascinating processes of cell division. The journey continues into genetics and heredity, unraveling the principles of Mendelian and molecular genetics, and exploring the structure of DNA, replication, and protein synthesis. Understanding the mechanisms of evolution, from natural selection to genetic variation, will be a central focus. Students will also explore ecosystems, populations, biodiversity, and the classification of organisms, gaining insights into the diverse tapestry of life. The course extends to human anatomy and physiology, delving into the structure and function of the human body systems. Through scientific inquiry, encompassing experimental design, data collection, and analysis, students will develop essential skills for a lifelong appreciation of biology and its real-world applications. This biological expedition lays the groundwork for a deeper understanding of life sciences.

Design

Coding & Robotics 1 & 2

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

Embark on a captivating journey into robotics and coding with our IB MYP Design - Robotics and Coding 1 & 2 course. This dynamic program integrates innovative platforms to introduce students to the fascinating world of robotics and coding. Through hands-on exploration and experimentation, students learn the principles of robotics design, construction, and programming robotics kits. They delve into essential topics such as sensor integration, motor control, basic programming logic, and problem-solving strategies. Moreover, students are introduced to fundamental coding concepts through engaging activities using block-based programming languages curriculum. Throughout the course, students develop critical skills in computational thinking, logical reasoning, and teamwork while gaining practical experience in designing and programming robots to tackle various tasks and challenges. Join us and unlock the boundless possibilities of robotics and coding in our stimulating learning environment.

Coding & Robotics 3 & 4

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 7-9

Prerequisite(s): Coding & Robotics 1 & 2

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 HS

Course Description:

Embark on an enriching exploration of robotics and coding with our IB MYP Design - Advanced Robotics and Coding course. Building upon foundational knowledge, this dynamic program delves deeper into the intricacies of robotics design, programming, and innovation. Students engage with advanced concepts in robotics, including sophisticated sensor integration, precise motor control, and complex programming algorithms, using platforms using robotics and coding platforms. Through hands-on projects and challenges, students hone their problem-solving skills and computational thinking abilities, delving into topics such as machine learning, artificial intelligence, and autonomous systems. Additionally, students explore advanced coding languages and techniques, extending their proficiency in computer languages to develop innovative robotics solutions. With a focus on creativity, collaboration, and innovation, this course empowers students to push the boundaries of robotics and coding, preparing them for the challenges of tomorrow's technological landscape. Join us and embark on an exciting journey of discovery and invention in the world of robotics and coding.

Digital Storytelling & Model It 1 & 2

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

In Digital Storytelling/Model It 1 & 2, students engage in a dynamic exploration of storytelling and model making, guided by the IB MYP Design Cycle. The course blends the art of digital storytelling with the technical skills of model creation, providing a comprehensive learning experience. Students delve into the fundamentals of storytelling through various digital mediums, including writing and illustrating comic books, and creating stop motion animation. They explore essential elements such as plot, setting, and character development, analyzing examples of digital storytelling to understand how these components contribute to engaging narratives. Using the stages of the IB MYP Design Cycle—inquiring, developing ideas, creating, and evaluating—students craft their own digital storytelling projects. This iterative process allows them to refine their narrative skills and gain insights into visual storytelling techniques and technical design. In the model making segment, students explore various aspects of creating physical and digital models. They are introduced to Computer-Aided Design (CAD) tools like Tinkercad, enabling them to develop digital models and understand 3D printing technology and its real-world applications. Students learn about architectural drawings, focusing on scale, proportion, and spatial design. Hands-on projects, such as designing Tiny Home or Treehouse models, allow them to apply their knowledge creatively and practically. Throughout both segments, students develop technical skills related to their projects while engaging in the iterative processes of inquiry, ideation, creation, evaluation, and reflection. This course fosters a profound understanding of both digital storytelling and model making, equipping students with the creative and technical skills necessary for future design challenges.

Digital Storytelling & Model It 3 & 4

Duration: Full Year

Target Grades: 7-9

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Digital Storytelling

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 HS

Course Description:

Digital Storytelling/Model It 3 & 4 builds on foundational skills, guiding students through advanced techniques in both digital storytelling and model making, following the IB MYP Design Cycle. Students further explore the intricacies of storytelling, mastering advanced technical skills in new mediums such as podcasts and video production. They create biographical and fictional narrative podcasts and videos, focusing on story elements like plot, setting, and character development. Through the stages of inquiry, ideation, creation, evaluation, and

reflection, students refine their storytelling techniques and expand their technical proficiency, deepening their understanding of effective digital narratives. In this segment, students delve deeper into model making, emphasizing advanced Computer-Aided Design (CAD) skills to create intricate digital models. They explore scale architectural drawings, translating design concepts into accurate representations. Hands-on projects, such as building scale models of schools, enable students to apply architectural principles and construction techniques. Additionally, students develop skills in customer relations, learning to cater to client preferences while maintaining design integrity. Throughout the course, students engage in iterative processes of inquiry, ideation, creation, evaluation, and reflection. This approach refines their technical expertise, storytelling abilities, and design thinking capabilities, preparing them for more complex design challenges.

Introduction to Stewardship

Duration: Full Year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 6/7

Credits: 1.0 MS

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Course Description:

In the IB MYP Design - Introduction to Stewardship course, students delve into the principles of stewardship education, drawing from resources such as the Stewardship Education Best Practices Guide. They explore the concept of stewardship as a commitment to responsible environmental management and community engagement. Through hands-on projects and experiential learning, students identify initiatives that promote conservation, sustainability, and environmental awareness within their school community. Activities include garden planting, harvesting, and maintenance, which allow students to connect with nature and understand the importance of sustainable agriculture. Additionally, students participate in grounds maintenance projects, learning about ecosystem health and the impact of human actions on the environment. Throughout the course, students engage in the IB Design Cycle, applying inquiry-based learning to identify environmental issues, ideate innovative solutions, and implement practical projects that promote stewardship values and foster a sense of environmental responsibility among peers.

Advanced Stewardship & Project Management

Duration: Full Year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grades: 8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): Introduction to Stewardship or Meets target grade level

Course Description:

In the IB MYP Design - Advanced Stewardship course, students immerse themselves in a range of hands-on activities aimed at enhancing environmental stewardship within their school community. Through garden planting, harvesting, and maintenance initiatives, they learn the

importance of sustainable agriculture and the practical aspects of nurturing plant life. By identifying and prioritizing projects that hold value for the school community, students develop decision-making and leadership skills, understanding how to effectively manage resources and engage others in collaborative efforts. Additionally, they explore the basics of leadership and people management, gaining insights into communication, teamwork, and motivation. Grounds maintenance tasks further reinforce their understanding of environmental conservation and responsibility. Drawing from the project management techniques, students learn to plan, organize, and execute stewardship initiatives with efficiency and effectiveness. Through these experiences, students emerge as proactive environmental leaders, equipped with the skills and knowledge to drive positive change and promote sustainability in their school and beyond.

Visual Arts

2-D Art

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

Welcome to the 2-D Art course, where students embark on an enriching exploration of visual expression. Throughout this dynamic journey, students delve into the fundamental elements of art, including line, shape, color, texture, and space, while mastering principles of design such as balance, contrast, and emphasis. Through hands-on activities and experimentation, students hone their drawing techniques, delve into painting methods, explore printmaking, and embrace the art of collage. This course fosters creative expression, encourages individual voice, and prompts critical analysis of artworks, drawing upon art history, cultural contexts, and contemporary practices. Students develop portfolios that reflect their technical skill, creativity, and conceptual understanding, culminating in a rich tapestry of artistic exploration and growth. Join us on this vibrant voyage where students discover the power and beauty of visual art as a means of personal expression and cultural reflection.

3-D Art

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

Welcome to the 3-D Art course, where students embark on an immersive journey into the realm of three-dimensional art forms. Throughout this dynamic exploration, students engage in a rich tapestry of sculpting techniques, ceramics, mixed media, and installation art, honing their skills and understanding of form, space, and composition. From wire sculpting to found object assemblage, students delve into the intricacies of environmental and site-specific art, integrating elements of nature and architecture into their creations. Through hands-on experimentation and reflection, students explore conceptual ideas and themes, fostering creativity and critical thinking. Participation in critiques encourages students to analyze and discuss artworks, promoting a deeper understanding of form, technique, and concept. Join us on this transformative journey where students discover the boundless possibilities of three-dimensional art, igniting their passion for creativity and self-expression.

Graphic Design

Duration: Full Year

Semester: Fall/Spring

Target Grade: 8/9

Credits: 1.0 HS

Prerequisite(s): 2-D Art or equivalent

Course Description:

Welcome to the Graphic Design course, where students embark on an enriching journey through the realm of Graphic Design. Throughout this dynamic exploration, students delve into the fundamentals of graphic design, mastering layout, composition, typography, color theory, and visual hierarchy. Through hands-on experiences with digital tools and software like Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, students develop proficiency in digital image editing, vector graphics, and layout design. They study typography principles, brand identity, logo design, and publication layout, crafting compelling visual narratives that captivate audiences. Ethical and cultural considerations underpin their exploration, fostering responsible design practices and sensitivity to representation and appropriation. Through the creation of a digital portfolio, students reflect on their design choices, processes, and growth as graphic artists, empowering them to communicate ideas effectively and ethically in a visually driven world. Join us on this transformative journey where creativity, critical thinking, and cultural awareness converge to shape the graphic designers of tomorrow.

Performing Arts

Band I & II

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 6-9

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

Welcome to IST Band, where students embark on a vibrant journey into the world of instrumental music. Throughout this immersive exploration, students master instrumental techniques specific to brass, woodwinds, and percussion, while delving into music theory, notation, and ensemble performance. Through rehearsals, students refine their musical expression, interpretation, and collaboration skills, engaging with diverse repertoire spanning classical, contemporary, jazz, and world music traditions. Opportunities for improvisation, composition, and musical analysis foster creativity and critical thinking, enriching students' understanding of musical styles and contexts. With concerts, recitals, and public performances, students display their musical achievements, developing stage presence and concert etiquette. Join us in this enriching adventure where students cultivate their musical talents, ensemble collaboration, and lifelong love for instrumental music.

Theater I

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 8-9

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 HS

Course Description:

Embark on a captivating journey of expression and creativity with the IB MYP Performing Arts Theatre course, where students explore the dynamic world of theatre and engage in immersive experiences that blend practical and theoretical approaches, delving into acting techniques, script analysis, stagecraft, and theatrical history fostering creativity and collaboration. Through performances, rehearsals, and scene work, students refine their skills in character development, directing, and stage presence, while also exploring diverse theatrical traditions and perspectives to develop empathy, cultural awareness, and appreciation for storytelling's power. With no prerequisites, this course welcomes all students interested in theatre arts, aiming to cultivate their artistic expression, critical thinking, and passion for the transformative nature of theatre.

Physical Education

Beginning Physical Education

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 6/7

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisite courses

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 MS

Course Description:

Welcome to Beginning Physical Education, a dynamic course with an engaging curriculum that is crafted to foster a comprehensive approach to physical well-being, skill development, and a positive mindset towards physical activity. Students will embark on a journey that includes fundamental movement skills, including running, jumping, throwing, and striking, coupled with an introduction to fitness concepts like cardiovascular endurance and muscular strength. The course explores team sports, emphasizing collaboration and sportsmanship, and delves into individual and dual sports like tennis and badminton, promoting skill development and fair play. Outdoor education brings a breath of fresh air with activities in natural settings, fostering environmental awareness. Throughout, students will develop personal and social responsibility, with an emphasis on positive attitudes, teamwork, and respect. Assessment methods and self-reflection round out the experience, ensuring a comprehensive and enjoyable introduction to physical education. Join us as we embark on a journey that not only builds physical prowess but also instills a lifelong commitment to a healthy and active lifestyle.

Advanced Physical Education

Duration: Full Year

Target Grade: 8/9

Prerequisite(s): Beginning Physical Education

Semester: Fall/Spring

Credits: 1.0 HS

Course Description:

Welcome to Advanced Physical Education, an exhilarating course and advanced curriculum that is designed to elevate students' physical prowess, refining, and mastering fundamental movement skills while introducing complex techniques in running, jumping, throwing, catching, and striking. The course delves into an in-depth exploration of fitness concepts, integrating advanced cardiovascular workouts, muscular strength training, flexibility exercises, and body composition assessments. Students engage in advanced team sports, honing their understanding of strategies, tactics, and teamwork, with specialized training in soccer, basketball, and volleyball. Individual and dual sports reach new heights with advanced techniques in tennis, badminton, and track and field. Adventure education introduces challenges that develop physical and mental abilities, fostering teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership skills in outdoor adventure sports. Personalized fitness plans empower students to

set and monitor goals, adapting exercises to individual needs. Advanced assessment methods and self-reflection strategies ensure a comprehensive approach to evaluating individual and group performance, fostering a lifelong commitment to physical well-being. Join us on this advanced journey, where physical education transcends boundaries and propels students to reach their full potential.