

# **The Founders Academy Program of Studies**



**Academic Year  
2023 - 2024**

(Last updated - 5/4/23)

**High School Graduation Requirements**  
**(Class of 2021 through Class of 2026)**

As of 5/1/23

- ☐ **English (4 credits)**
  - ☐ [HS Composition](#) (0.5 credits)
  - ☐ [Rhetoric](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ American Literature [IIA](#) & [IIB](#) (1)      \_\_\_A \_\_\_B
  - ☐ Modern World Lit. [A](#) & [B](#) (1)      \_\_\_A \_\_\_B
  - ☐ English Electives (which can include Honors Amer Lit I) (1)
- ☐ **History (5 credits)**
  - ☐ [US History I](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Civics and Leadership](#) (1)
  - ☐ US History [II-A](#) & [II-B](#) (1)      \_\_\_A \_\_\_B
  - ☐ Modern World History [A](#) & [B](#) (1)      \_\_\_A \_\_\_B
  - ☐ History Electives (1)
- ☐ **Math/Science (7 credits)**
  - ☐ [Algebra I](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Geometry](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Alg II](#) **OR** Alg II/Trig **OR** [Probability and Statistics](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Integrated Physical Science](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Biology](#) (1)
  - ☐ Science Electives (1)
  - ☐ Math/Science Electives (1)
- ☐ **Fine Arts (1 credit)**
  - ☐ Band [2](#), [3](#), or [4](#) **OR** Chorus [2](#), [3](#), or [4](#) **OR** [Art I](#) + either [Art II](#) or [Ceramics I](#) **OR** [HS Theatre](#)
- ☐ **Technology/Business (3 credits)**
  - ☐ [Tech I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Economics](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Ethics](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Personal Finance I](#) (0.5) **OR** [Accounting/Entrepreneurship](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ Technology/Business Electives (1)
- ☐ **World Language (2 credits)**
  - ☐ [French I](#) **OR** [Found. of French 2](#) **OR** [Spanish I](#) **OR** [Found. of Spanish 2](#) **OR** other HS-level course
  - ☐ [French II](#) **OR** [Spanish II](#) **OR** other HS-level course (must be same language as previous course)
- ☐ **PE/Health (1.5 credits)**
  - ☐ [HS Health](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [PE I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [PE II](#) (0.5)
- ☐ **Senior Project (0.5 credits)**
- ☐ **Other Electives (2 credits)**

**26 TOTAL CREDITS**

**High School Graduation Requirements**  
**(Class of 2027 and later)**

As of 5/1/23

- ☐ **English (4 credits)**
  - ☐ [HS Composition](#) (0.5 credits)
  - ☐ [Rhetoric](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ American Literature [IIA](#) & [IIB](#) (1)      \_\_\_A    \_\_\_B
  - ☐ Modern World Lit. [A](#) & [B](#) (1)      \_\_\_A    \_\_\_B
  - ☐ English Electives (which can include Honors Amer Lit I) (1)
- ☐ **History (5 credits)**
  - ☐ [US History I](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Civics and Leadership](#) (1)
  - ☐ US History [II-A](#) & [II-B](#) (1)      \_\_\_A    \_\_\_B
  - ☐ Modern World History [A](#) & [B](#) (1)      \_\_\_A    \_\_\_B
  - ☐ History Electives (1)
- ☐ **Math/Science (7 credits)**
  - ☐ [Algebra I](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Geometry](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Alg II](#) **OR** Alg II/Trig **OR** [Probability and Statistics](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Integrated Physical Science](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Biology](#) (1)
  - ☐ Science Electives (1)
  - ☐ Math/Science Electives (1)
- ☐ **Fine Arts (1 credit)**
  - ☐ Band [2](#), [3](#), or [4](#) **OR** Chorus [2](#), [3](#), or [4](#) **OR** [Art I](#) + either [Art II](#) or [Ceramics I](#) **OR** [HS Theatre](#)
- ☐ **Technology/Business (3 credits)**
  - ☐ [Tech I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Economics](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Ethics](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Personal Finance I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ Technology/Business Electives (1)
- ☐ **World Language (2 credits)**
  - ☐ [French I](#) **OR** [Found. of French 2](#) **OR** [Spanish I](#) **OR** [Found. of Spanish 2](#) **OR** other HS-level course
  - ☐ [French II](#) **OR** [Spanish II](#) **OR** other HS-level course (must be same language as previous course)
- ☐ **PE/Health (1.5 credits)**
  - ☐ [HS Health](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [PE I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [PE II](#) (0.5)
- ☐ **Senior Project (0.5 credits)**
- ☐ **Other Electives (2 credits)**

**26 TOTAL CREDITS**

## **Minimum Requirements for Grade Levels**

*Founders Administration reserves the right to make exceptions to these minimum requirements in special circumstances approved by the Dean of School.*

### **7th Grade**

- ☐ Eligible to take (or have already mastered) **at least two** of the following courses:
  - ☐ English - English 2 (European Literature)
  - ☐ History - History 2
  - ☐ Math - Math 2
  - ☐ Science - Science 2

### **8th Grade**

- ☐ Eligible to take (or have already mastered) **at least two** of the following courses:
  - ☐ English - American Literature I
  - ☐ History - US History I
  - ☐ Math - Math 3
  - ☐ Science - Science 3
- ☐ Guidance/SPED should take special notice if student is still in a Level 1 “core” class

### **9th Grade**

- ☐ Eligible to take (or have already mastered) **at least two total credits** from the following list:
  - ☐ English
    - ☐ High School Composition (0.5 credits)
    - ☐ Rhetoric (0.5 credits)
  - ☐ History
    - ☐ US History I (1.0 credit)
    - ☐ Civics & Leadership (1.0 credit)
  - ☐ Math
    - ☐ Algebra I (1.0 credit)
  - ☐ Science
    - ☐ Integrated Physical Science (1.0 credit)
- ☐ Student is enrolled in at least 5 High School credits for the year at Founders
- ☐ Student is not in any Level 1 “core” classes
- ☐ Guidance/SPED should take special notice if student is still in a Level 2 “core” class

### **10th Grade**

- ☐ At least 5 Total High School Credits completed by the beginning of the school year

### **11th Grade**

- ☐ At least 12 Total High School Credits completed by the beginning of the school year
- ☐ Mastery achieved in Algebra I

### **12th Grade**

- ☐ At least 19 Total High School Credits completed by the beginning of the school year
- ☐ Mastery achieved in Algebra I, Geometry, HS Comp, US History I, and one HS credit completed in a World Language class

Students who meet the minimum requirements for the next Grade Level at the end of the year would automatically move up to that Level for the next school year. Students who find that they actually meet the requirements of the Grade Level two steps above can request to “skip” over a Grade Level - but only after a meeting between the student, parent(s), and administration to be sure that that is what is in the best interests of the student.

## **Sample Schedules**

This is to provide examples of typical schedules for each grade level. There will likely be variation in an individual student's schedule based on a student's initial placement, course selections, achievement of Course Mastery, and - in the case of high school students - credits earned at other schools. Students who do not make Mastery in a course will have to repeat that course, but it will likely not affect level advancement in other courses (unless there is a scheduling issue).

Unless otherwise noted, courses are for 5 blocks per week and last for the full year.

	<u><b>Grade 6</b></u>	<u><b>Grade 7</b></u>	<u><b>Grade 8</b></u>
<b>Round Table</b>	6th Grade Round Table	7th Grade Round Table	8th Grade Round Table
<b>English</b>	<a href="#">Ancient Literature</a> ; English Skills 6 (1 block)	<a href="#">European Literature</a> (½ year); <a href="#">Logic</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">American Literature I</a>
<b>History</b>	<a href="#">Ancient Cultures</a> ; Geography (2 blocks) (½ year)	<a href="#">Western Civilization</a>	<a href="#">U.S. History I</a>
<b>Math</b>	<a href="#">Math 1</a> ; Math Skills (1 block)	<a href="#">Math 2</a>	<a href="#">Math 3</a>
<b>Science</b>	<a href="#">Science 1</a> ; Science Skills/Health (2 blocks) (½ year)	<a href="#">Science 2</a>	<a href="#">Science 3</a>
<b>Art</b>	<a href="#">Art 6</a> (2 blocks)	<a href="#">Art 7</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">Art 8</a> (½ year)
<b>Music</b>	<a href="#">Band 1</a> (3 blocks) OR <a href="#">Chorus 1</a> (3 blocks) OR <a href="#">Band 1</a> and <a href="#">Chorus 1</a> (5 blocks)	<a href="#">Band 2</a> OR <a href="#">Chorus 2</a> OR Band and Chorus (5-7 blocks)	Band <a href="#">2</a> or <a href="#">3</a> OR Chorus <a href="#">2</a> or <a href="#">3</a> OR Band and Chorus (5-7 blocks)
<b>Tech/ Business</b>	6th Grade Computers (3 blocks)	<a href="#">MSCS (½ year)</a>	<a href="#">MSCS (½ year)</a>
<b>World Language</b>	NONE	<a href="#">Foundations of French 1</a> OR <a href="#">Foundations of Spanish 1</a>	<a href="#">Foundations of French 2</a> OR <a href="#">Foundations of Spanish 2</a>
<b>Other</b>	PE 6 (2 blocks)	NONE	NONE

	<b><u>Grade 9</u></b>	<b><u>Grade 10</u></b>	<b><u>Grade 11</u></b>	<b><u>Grade 12</u></b>
<b>Round Table</b>	9th Grade Round Table	10th Grade Round Table	11th Grade Round Table	12th Grade Round Table
<b>English</b>	<a href="#">HS Composition</a> (½ year); <a href="#">Rhetoric</a> (½ year)	American Literature <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a> OR Modern World Literature - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a>	Modern World Literature - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a> OR American Literature <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a>	English Electives
<b>History</b>	<a href="#">Civics and Leadership</a>	U.S. History <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a> OR Modern World History - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a>	Modern World History - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a> OR U.S. History <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a>	History Electives
<b>Math</b>	<a href="#">Algebra I</a>	<a href="#">Geometry</a>	<a href="#">Algebra II</a> OR Algebra II/Trig OR <a href="#">Probability and Statistics</a>	Math/Science Electives
<b>Science</b>	<a href="#">Integrated Physical Sci.</a>	<a href="#">Biology</a>	Science Elective (Most students take Chemistry)	
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<a href="#">Band 2, 3, or 4</a> AND/OR <a href="#">Chorus 2, 3, or 4</a> AND/OR <a href="#">Art I</a> + <a href="#">Art II</a> (or <a href="#">Ceramics I</a> )	Fine Arts Electives (Optional)	Fine Arts Electives (Optional)	Fine Arts Electives (Optional)
<b>Tech/ Business</b>	<a href="#">Tech I</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">Personal Finance I</a> (½ year) AND/OR <a href="#">Accounting/Entrepr.</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">Economics</a> (½ year) <a href="#">Ethics</a> (½ year)	Business or Tech Electives
<b>World Language</b>	French <a href="#">I</a> or <a href="#">II</a> OR Spanish <a href="#">I</a> or <a href="#">II</a> OR <a href="#">Latin I</a> (VLACS)	French <a href="#">II</a> or <a href="#">III</a> OR Spanish <a href="#">II</a> or <a href="#">III</a> OR <a href="#">Latin II</a> (VLACS)	Advanced Lang. (Optional)	Advanced Lang. (Optional)
<b>Other</b>			<a href="#">HS Health</a> (if not completed through VLACS)	Senior Project; <a href="#">PE I</a> and <a href="#">PE II</a> (if not completed through alternate means);

## **Important Notes for High School Students**

### **Overall**

- Students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of 4 “full-time” classes (20 total blocks in a 5-day week) at The Founders Academy per semester. Round Table, Study Halls, Lunch, Senior Project and courses not taken directly through The Founders Academy (such as VLACS courses or non-dual credit college classes) do NOT count towards this total. In the event that a student has signed up for fewer than 4 classes, they will be administratively placed in enough courses to reach that minimum. In rare situations, students with extenuating circumstances may be given permission to take fewer than the 4-class minimum, but only after meeting with the Founders Academy administration and developing a specific plan for graduation.
- Colleges and organizations that offer scholarships pay attention to a student’s course load. It is highly recommended that students sign up for at least 6 classes per semester - especially if they plan to go to college.
- Credits earned from classes can only be used to satisfy one graduation requirement.
- As required by the New Hampshire Board of Education, all high school students at The Founders Academy must take at least one Language Arts-experience course and one Mathematics-experience course each year during their 4-year high school career.
  - For Language Arts, all English and History courses at The Founders Academy satisfy this requirement.
  - For Mathematics, all Math, Science, Business, and Technology courses at The Founders Academy satisfy this requirement.
- Beginning with the Class of 2027, the State of NH will require one semester of Personal Finance to be eligible to graduate. This will mean that the Class of 2027 and later will not be able to choose between Personal Finance I and Accounting/Entrepreneurship. Accounting/Entrepreneurship will still be able to be taken to fulfill the elective requirements.
- The following courses must be completed at Founders with Founders staff and curriculum based on the charter: Rhetoric, High School Composition, US History I, US History IIA, US History IIB, Civics and Leadership, and Senior Project
- For Seniors looking to take VLACS classes to satisfy their Graduation requirements, there are certain deadlines that they need to be aware of.
  - If a Senior is taking a 0.5 credit VLACS course, it must be completed by the end of the 1st semester of their Senior year.
  - If a Senior is taking a 1.0 credit (or higher) VLACS course, the course must be at least 50% completed by the first day of school in September and the course must be completed by the end of the 1st semester of their Senior year.
  - If the Senior is taking a VLACS course for their own interests and not to fulfill a missing graduation requirement, then the deadline for completing the course is the day of graduation.



- **New for 2023-2024** - Advanced Placement and college level courses taken outside of Founders can be included in a student's GPA. The student must submit an Alternative Credit form to their school counselor and the scheduling committee must approve the request prior to registration. Students are responsible for providing an official transcript to the school counselor and the final letter grade for these course will be listed on the high school transcript and will be factored into the student's GPA.

**Please note:** High school level classes taken outside of TFA will receive credit (listed as a CR grade on the transcript) if approved prior to registration but will not be included in GPA.

**English** - Once a student has achieved Mastery for High School Composition, they are eligible to take American Literature II and Modern World Literature. These 2 courses are broken up into semester-long classes ("A" and "B") - which all must be completed for graduation. Most students will complete these courses using the following sequence:

- 1.) American Lit II-A (Fall)
- 2.) American Lit II-B (Spring)
- 3.) Modern World Lit A (Fall)
- 4.) Modern World Lit B (Spring)

However, because each semester is a self-contained unit, **this sequence is not required**. Students may take these courses in any order - including completing section "B" of a course before section "A" if necessary. These variations could be necessary due to a number of reasons - including scheduling conflicts or a student failing to pass an "A" section of one of the courses. Note that while a grade of a "C-" will allow a student to receive credit (but not automatic Mastery) for each of the semesters, Mastery in both the "A" and "B" sections of a course may be required in order to be eligible for certain electives - so it is highly recommended to complete the Mastery process for every course.

**History** - In addition to the requirement of one full credit of a History/Social Science elective, there are 4 specific courses that are required for graduation. Like the English classes above, two of the courses are broken up into "A" and "B" sections. The four required courses are typically taken in the following order:

- 1.) US History I
- 2.) Civics and Leadership
- 3.) US History II-A (Fall) and US History II-B (Spring)
- 4.) Modern World History A (Fall) and Modern World History B (Spring)

While US History II (both "A" & "B") does have the prerequisite of Mastery in US History I, both "Civics and Leadership" and Modern World History can be taken by high school students at the same time as US History I, so **students do not have to follow the "typical" sequence**. In addition, students may complete section "B" of a course before section "A" in US History II or Modern World History if necessary. This could be necessary due to a number of reasons - including scheduling conflicts or a student failing to pass an "A" section of one of the courses. Note that while a grade of a "C-" will allow a student to receive credit (but not automatic Mastery) for each of the semesters in US History II or Modern World History, Mastery in both the "A" and "B" sections of a course may be required in order to be eligible for certain electives - so it is highly recommended to complete the Mastery process for every course. Because these topics are core topics in our school's mission, **Mastery is required for graduation in both US History I and "Civics and Leadership"**.

**Math** - Students are required for graduation to reach Mastery in both Algebra I and Geometry. For their 3rd required Math course, students can choose between Algebra II and/or “Probability and Statistics”. **Note - For those students interested in attending a 4-year college/university, it is highly recommended that they take Algebra II.**

**Science** - While most students will take Integrated Physical Science before taking Biology, it is possible to take Biology first as long as the student is currently enrolled (or has already passed) Algebra I. This is usually done for scheduling reasons. **Note - For those students interested in attending a 4-year college/university, it is also highly recommended that they take at least one of the following combinations for their 3rd Science credit:**

- 1.) Chemistry A and Chemistry B; **OR**
- 2.) Chemistry A and Physics A; **OR**
- 3.) Physics A and Physics B

**World Language** - Students are required for graduation to complete two high school credits in a single language. This means successful completion of Spanish II, French II, or the equivalent in a different language. These courses can be completed at The Founders Academy or at another institution (such as VLACS) with prior approval from The Founders Academy Scheduling Committee. **Note - For those students interested in attending a 4-year college/university, it is highly recommended that they complete a third credit in a single language - such as Advanced Spanish or Advanced French.** In the event that those courses are not offered at The Founders Academy (or it does not fit in a student's schedule), it is suggested that the student explore taking that course on VLACS.

**Health/Physical Education** -

- At The Founders Academy, HS Health has a prerequisite of Biology - which means that it will be typically limited to Juniors and Seniors. If a student would like to complete this graduation requirement earlier (or would like to take it during a summer to free up more room for desired electives), it is recommended to submit an Alternative Credit Form to Student Services for approval to take “Life Management Skills” through VLACS.
- Space in Physical Education classes at Founders are limited and priority is given to Seniors and Juniors. It is recommended that students look into the Alternative Credit PE option to see if it is something that they can complete earlier.
- Physical Education credits can only be used for the Physical Education Graduation requirement. They cannot be used to satisfy any other elective requirements.

## **Senior Project Requirement**

Students must complete a “Senior Project,” which is a ½ credit course. All seniors will complete this capstone project that will represent a culmination of each student’s learning, research, and classical education. It will incorporate skills and understanding demonstrated through an act of exemplary leadership - assessed jointly by faculty, fellow students, and community volunteers. The senior project requirement can be satisfied by an outside internship, entrepreneurship endeavor, community service involvement, public service, business creation, work with or creation of a non-profit organization, or other creative project approved by the Senior Project Committee.

Founders will strive to identify business and community members who are available as mentors, providing guidance specific to students’ interests. As an option for achieving this goal, students will be strongly encouraged to work either independently or with a group of students to launch a small business or nonprofit venture, complete with a business plan, market analysis, an implementation period, and periodic reporting back to stakeholders. The student’s self-evaluation of success and opportunities for improvement will be essential to the success of this leadership demonstration project.

The senior project will require each individual student to reflect on his or her experiences, goals, and the feasibility of the selected idea. The project will be introduced during the student’s junior year, and students can begin the process of completion at the end of the school year before their graduation. Students will submit proposals to the Senior Project Committee for approval. The project must be completed and the requirement satisfied before graduation.

# **Course Catalogue**

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## **English**

### **English 1 (Ancient Literature)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - None

**Description** - This course focuses on the culture, values, and literature of the ancient world. Students will read, analyze, and discuss classic works of literature. They will demonstrate an understanding of ancient cultures and the way in which they relate to each other. Their reading, speaking, and writing skills will be strengthened through essays and presentations.

Students will also explore various genres of literature, including poetry, drama, myth, and the short story.

### **English 2 (European Literature)**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Ancient Literature or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Matching with the History 2 curriculum, this course introduces students to the literature and great ideas of European civilization. Readings will be selected from a wide range of genres, including poetry, primary source texts, legends, and historical fiction. Core texts include *Beowulf*, *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* by Howard Pyle, *The Arabian Nights*, and *Redwall* by Brian Jacques. To improve their writing skills, students will frequently write, revise, and edit short essay assignments. Vibrant classroom discussions will provide students with ample opportunities to improve their speaking skills.

### **Logic**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - English 1 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - In this course, students will explore logic and the art of argument. They will learn to reason with clarity, relevance, and purpose. Through a study and analysis of ethos, pathos, and logos, students will be able to see how rhetorical appeals play an important part in the construction of an argument. Studying logical fallacies will provide an essential framework for filtering good and bad reasoning as well as writing and speaking effectively.

## **American Literature I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - English 2 AND Logic or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Society grapples with its deepest controversies through literature, and it is through the study of literature that we can begin to understand the unique mindset of a culture. In America's earliest years writers were working to define what it meant to be American, alongside political figures and philosophers. The literature of this time period, from the early gothic literature of authors such as Charles Brockden Brown, Poe, and Hawthorne through to the transcendentalists reveal the difficulties in shaping and defining a new nation. We trace the path of the founding principle of liberty through its origins in the philosophy that influenced the framers of our constitution, its evolution as colonialism gave way to revolution, and its position at the center of the issues that divided the nation between north and south, leading up to the Civil War.

## **High School Composition**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I or American Literature Honors or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This course will prepare students for high school writing. Students will engage with the writing process through a series of writing assignments designed to teach the importance of revision, the value of clarity, and the critical elements of editing and style. Students will be exposed to a number of genres and will write a full-length research paper on an issue/topic of their choice.

***This course must be completed at Founders with Founders' staff and curriculum.***

## **Rhetoric**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I or American Literature Honors or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - In this course, students will explore rhetoric found both in great speeches and in great writing. With Aristotle's Rhetoric providing a foundation for the course, students will study the three rhetorical appeals: ethos, pathos, and logos. They will also examine and practice the five canons of rhetoric: invention, organization, style, memory, and delivery, through a study of the genres of rhetoric.

***This course must be completed at Founders with Founders' staff and curriculum.***

### **American Literature II-A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - In this course students will study American literature from the period of time involving the Civil War up through contemporary writings. Students will read about the American experience from the writings of authors such as Mark Twain and Harper Lee. They will read, analyze, and discuss these important works of literature which follow their history studies. Students will also explore various genres of literature, including poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel.

### **American Literature II-B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - This is a continuation of American Literature II-A. In this course students will study American literature from the period of time involving the Civil War up through contemporary writings. Students will read about the American experience from the writings of authors such as Mark Twain and Harper Lee. They will read, analyze, and discuss these important works of literature which follow their history studies. Students will also explore various genres of literature, including poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel.

### **Modern World Literature - A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - This course will study world literature from the Renaissance to Contemporary times. In this course, students will sample different genres of literature that make clear the wide range of cultural ideas, historical events, and other contexts that have helped to shape the issues and ideas that we encounter today. Through a variety of readings, writing projects, and other verbal and oral activities, students will have the opportunity to apply the insights and lessons from the world's most noteworthy authors to their own journeys. In this semester, students will focus their readings and conversations on works and events ranging from the Renaissance to the Revolutions in the early 1800s.

## **Modern World Literature - B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - This is a continuation of World Literature A. This course will study world literature from the Renaissance to Contemporary times. In this course, students will sample different genres of literature that make clear the wide range of cultural ideas, historical events, and other contexts that have helped to shape the issues and ideas that we encounter today. Through a variety of readings, writing projects, and other verbal and oral activities, students will have the opportunity to apply the insights and lessons from the world's most noteworthy authors to their own journeys. In this semester, students will focus their readings and conversations on works and events ranging from the mid-1800s to Contemporary times.

## **Heroes, Villains, and Monsters - the LONG Literary History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - Many are very aware of Iron Man's heroic sacrifice in Endgame and Frodo's destruction of the One Ring, or know of the Sanderson Sisters and their escapades in Hocus Pocus (and they return in Hocus Pocus 2 this year!) and Prince Hans's betrayal in Frozen, or have had to figure out who the Imposters are in Among Us and flee from the Basilisk in Harry Potter, but where do these stories of heroes, villains, and monsters come from? Why do we flock to the theater to see these characters in action? Or continue to buy comic books that chronicle their adventures and mis-adventures? In what ways do these stories and characters communicate our cultural anxieties and values? In this course, we will explore some of the origins of these iconic character types, as well as question why we get so invested in the stories of heroic triumphs, the origins of our favorite villains, and the weaknesses of the most terrifying monsters. We'll consider these questions and more as we carefully and critically examine a sampling of history's greatest hits of Heroes, Villains, and Monsters, ending with a student-driven final project exploring the effects of these stories on today's society. This course will take students through the great archetypal characters and plots that have framed much of literary imagination throughout history, using multiple lenses to understand authors' goals, these stories' effects on their target readers, and the ways they frame our modern understanding of heroism, virtue, and the values that have shaped our society from a historical and cultural perspective. We will investigate how the representations of these encounters between heroes and monsters, heroes and villains, and monsters and villains—in their various generic forms and historical contexts—engage notions of the self, the community, and, eventually, the nation. This course will be discussion-based, and will task students with critical reading, Socratic discussion, as well as analytical and research-based writing projects to inform their insights and conclusions.

## **Intro to College Writing**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course will go over the basic conventions that are typically taught in an Introductory Composition course at the university level. We will go over concepts of the rhetorical triangle and the rhetorical context while exploring logical fallacies to understand how arguments are created and deconstructed. We will be introduced to conducting scholarly research and understand what it means to use proper citation and provide examples within our writing. We will also look at examples of writing assignments that we might encounter at a university to practice this genre of writing. Students should take this course if they are interested in attending college upon graduation.

***This class can be taken for college credit through MCC's Running Start Program and acts as a prerequisite for many other dual credit courses.***

***With rare exceptions, students should be a Junior or Senior when taking this course so that they can receive college credit.***

## **Creative Writing**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible; Must have passed Intro to College Writing with college credit for Dual Credit option in this class***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course will cover the elements of craft typically found in creative writing. This includes things like tone, style, dialogue, character development, setting, detail, description, etc. (These skills are really important for other aspects of writing like arguments and analysis as well). In addition to learning these elements of craft, we will try these out on our own through writing our own stories. This class will be hands-on as we will have workshops where we are reading each other's work and learning how to give constructive feedback. Creative Writing is an opportunity for students to write creatively about their experiences, share those experiences with others, and learn how to talk about themselves in more informed ways.

***Students need to be a Junior or Senior when taking this course if they want to receive college credit.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Utopian and Dystopian Literature**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course examines literature's fascination with the end of the world. Great writers such as Ray Bradbury, Ursula La Guin, Lois Lowry, George Orwell and others create future worlds where humanity's worst nightmares have become reality, often in the guise of something that was supposed to be a utopia. Students will learn about the history and philosophy around utopian and dystopian thinking and how our ideas about a perfect society are expressed in Utopian and Dystopian fiction.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **The Young Adult Novel**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course provides a critical survey of all types and genres of contemporary young adult literature. It focuses on issues relating to selection, culture, gender, diversity, and response to an analysis of literature in both print and non-print forms. The primary responsibility is to ensure that you leave this class with a sound knowledge of the varied field of young adult literature. You will be held accountable in small- and large- group discussions to contribute your ideas. Individual projects, readings, and writings will also be required as major assignments/activities.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Public Speech and Debate**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Rhetoric

**Description** - This course is an introduction to speech communication which emphasizes the practical skill of public speaking, including techniques to lessen speaker anxiety, and the use of visual aids to enhance speaker presentations. This course's goal is to prepare students for success in typical public speaking situations and to provide them with the basic principles of organization and research needed for effective speeches. Types of speeches that are included but not limited to: opinions, toasts, motivational, pitches, informative, eulogy, debates, persuasive, and more. We will use some fun improv techniques to help us become comfortable as we prepare each speech and get rid of those public speaking jitters. You are taking this class because you want to become a better public speaker and don't mind talking in front of your peers!!

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Graphic Novel Writing**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course teaches students to delve into the medium of graphic novel creation. They will study the conventions of the genre, and become proficient at recognizing the elements that compose a visual page. They will study great works from various cultures and nations, including Greek, Japanese, and American publications.

Students will also read Making Comics by Scot McCloud, where they will learn to create a cohesive graphic novel publication of their own--from making concepts, to storyboarding, editing, penciling, inking, polishing, to publication. Students will understand that the writing process applies to more works beyond traditional texts, and that visual texts provide another way to learn from and communicate with society.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Yearbook & Literary Journal A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - In Yearbook class, you are historians, journalists, and artists putting together a photojournalistic book that will be on shelves for many, many years to come. What you do in this class directly affects every person in the Founders community. It is an honor and a big responsibility to be a part of the yearbook staff! A true journalistic product has credibility with its audience; it contains facts and can be used for record keeping. A journalistic approach will teach you skills in business, graphic design, visual communication, writing, photography, and collaborative relationships; all which will serve you in whatever field you decide to pursue in the future. When not working on the yearbook, students will also be working to put together a literary journal to showcase student writings and artwork.

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") or second ("B") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

## **Journalism**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - The Journalism class will look at the basics of reporting for a variety of mediums. It will teach students the unique style of journalistic writings, and it will provide students with the opportunity to explore a variety of styles. The class would cover writing skills, interview skills, and research skills. We would also look at how this type of writing translates to a variety of mediums: print, broadcast, radio, and online.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Shakespeare**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - Four-hundred years after his death, William Shakespeare remains the central author of the English-speaking world. If you have ever gone on a "wild-goose chase," had to "break the ice," experienced "too much of a good thing," been "tongue-tied," "hoodwinked," or "in a pickle," you are quoting Shakespeare. Why does he remain a widely discussed, produced, and quoted author? Why did audiences flock to performances in his time? What meaning can we find in his plays for modern audiences today? We'll consider these questions as we carefully examine a sampling of Shakespeare's plays from critical perspectives. In addition to discussions, we will also act out scenes from the plays as well as view live performances as we are able. Learning activities include scene-writing, group acting exercises, and writing pop song sonnets.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Classical Mythology**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course explores the beliefs, cultures, and history of ancient Greece and Rome. Students will interpret myths for their historical importance and analyze various motifs, symbols, and themes in myth. By the end of this course students will be able to decide if they would like to take the national Mythology Exam.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **World Mythology**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course explores the beliefs, cultures, and history of cultures from around the world. Students will interpret myths for their historical importance and analyze various motifs, symbols, and themes in myth. Possible topics include the mythologies of: the Middle East, the Far East, the Pacific Islands, Northern Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Learning activities include: individual research projects, acting exercises, and group re-enactments.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***



## **American Literature I Honors - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 8th Grade (or Amer Lit I); Satisfies English Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - English 2 or Initial Placement Exam and Permission of Instructors

**Description** - Society grapples with its deepest controversies through literature, and it is through the study of literature that we can begin to understand the unique mindset of a culture. In America's earliest years writers were working to define what it meant to be American, alongside political figures and philosophers. The literature of this time period, from the early gothic literature of Charles Brockden Brown, Poe, and Hawthorne through to the transcendentalists reveals the difficulties in shaping and defining a new nation. We trace the path of the founding principle of liberty through its origins in the philosophy that influenced the framers of our constitution, its evolution as colonialism gave way to revolution, and its position at the center of the issues that divided the nation between north and south, leading up to the Civil War.

***The Honors version of American Literature I is no longer offered as of the 2019-2020 school year.***

## **History/Social Studies**

### **History 1 (Ancient Cultures)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - None

**Description** - This course is the study of ancient civilization that begins with in-depth looks into the ancient river-valley civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India and China. It continues with an exploration of the classical history of Greece and the foundations of Rome and their legacies on the modern world, which sets the stage for Level 2. The course highlights the themes of the components of a civilization, the impact of geography, and the developments in complexities that allowed for civilizations like Ancient Greece and Rome to flourish. Students will be challenged to make informed connections between the civilizations studied and our modern world today. Students will develop refined skills in critical thinking, historical analysis, and fact-based writing that will serve as building blocks to their future as students and as informed citizens. This course places emphasis on developing the skills that are necessary and expected to be successful in subsequent history courses.

### **History 2 (Western Civilization)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Ancient Cultures or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This course studies the development of Western Civilization after the rise of Ancient Greece. Students will examine the development of laws and government while making connections with European Civilization and the creation of American thought and philosophy. Students will examine the relationship in achieving balance between interests of church and state. With a focus on leadership, the course will examine the lives of historic individuals, analyzing their impact on culture and community. Special consideration will be given to tracing the development of the philosophy of liberty, the influences on enlightenment thought, and how those influences affected the philosophies, writings, and actions of the founding fathers of the United States. With a focus on the development of political thought and governmental structure as it progressed from the Roman Empire to the Enlightenment, students will be challenged to view the different governments and political ideals examined through the lens of their influence on the creation of the United States and its founding documents. Special emphasis will be given to the political struggles of the Middle Ages, the lives of peasants and nobility in Europe under the feudal system, and the changes in philosophy that ultimately popularized the ideas of liberty, individualism, and the relationship between citizens and their government.

## **US History I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Western Civilization or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This history course will analyze the creation of the English colonies in America, the founding of the United States, and the development and expansion of the United States before the Civil War. The course will focus on particular primary source documents, people, and events for in-depth analysis. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and research through this analysis. The course will be divided into four units, with particular themes as the focus of each unit.

***This course must be completed at Founders with Founders' staff and curriculum.***

## **Civics & Leadership**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - US History I (can be taken at the same time)

**Description** - The Founders Academy prepares wise, principled leaders by offering a classical education and providing a wide array of opportunities to lead. One of the main components of this vision involves preparing students to be productive citizens. This comprehensive course examines our system of government on the national, state, county, and local levels. Students are required to comprehend and analyze constitutional concepts and the workings of government. The course also focuses on contemporary national and international politics, including New Hampshire's political impact. This is a writing intensive course which incorporates critical thinking and problem solving. At the conclusion of the course, students are required to demonstrate Mastery on the United States Citizenship Exam.

***This course must be completed at Founders with Founders' staff and curriculum.***

## **US History II-A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Description** - This history course will analyze Reconstruction after the Civil War, Industrialization, World War I, The Great Depression, World War II, The Cold War, Economic and Social Change and Contemporary Society in Post-9/11 America. The course will focus on particular primary source documents, people, and events for in depth analysis. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and research through this analysis. The course will be divided into five units, with particular themes as the focus of each unit.

***This course must be completed at Founders with Founders' staff and curriculum.***



## **US History II-B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Description** - This is a continuation of US History II-A. This history course will analyze Reconstruction after the Civil War, Industrialization, World War I, The Great Depression, World War II, The Cold War, Economic and Social Change and Contemporary Society in Post-9/11 America. The course will focus on particular primary source documents, people, and events for in depth analysis. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and research through this analysis. The course will be divided into five units, with particular themes as the focus of each unit.

***This course must be completed at Founders with Founders' staff and curriculum.***

## **Modern World History - A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Corequisites** - US History I (can be taken at the same time)

**Description** - This history class is a course that covers from 1500 A.D. - Present. The course will analyze events from the European Renaissance through the Collapse of the Soviet Union. The focus will be on the emergence of individualism in European thought, how scientific and geographic exploration influenced the globe, how colonization altered world economies, and how the European Enlightenment influenced politics and society in the Western Hemisphere. The course will also analyze how the ideas of Nationalism, Imperialism, as well as the event of the Industrial Revolution impacted the 19th and 20th centuries. The course will conclude with how global conflicts of the early twentieth century led to the Cold War and our contemporary setting.

## **Modern World History - B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Corequisites** - US History I (can be taken at the same time)

**Description** - This is a continuation of US History II-A. This history class is a course that covers from 1500 A.D. - Present. The course will analyze events from the European Renaissance through the Collapse of the Soviet Union. The focus will be on the emergence of individualism in European thought, how scientific and geographic exploration influenced the globe, how colonization altered world economies, and how the European Enlightenment influenced politics and society in the Western Hemisphere. The course will also analyze how the ideas of Nationalism, Imperialism, as well as the event of the Industrial Revolution impacted the 19th and 20th centuries. The course will conclude with how global conflicts of the early twentieth century led to the Cold War and our contemporary setting.

## **Roman Revolution**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I; Civics and Leadership

**Description** - This course covers the period of Roman history from its founding until its collapse. In the first quarter, students examine how a healthy republican government with strong checks and balances and social mores collapsed. In the second quarter, students study how the Julio-Claudians succeeded in establishing an authoritarian monarchy when earlier men had tried and failed. Students will then accelerate to the period of decline and collapse in the third, fourth, and fifth centuries. These cautionary stories inspired the Founding Fathers as they wrote our Constitution; students today who want to lead well would do well to study Cicero, Cato, Caesar, and Caligula. Students will read the primary sources for this era by Plutarch, Suetonius, Cicero, Caesar, Cassius Dio, Appian, and Sallust. Students will evaluate and debate different interpretations by scholars on the causes of the Roman Revolution. Students will also study Roman oratory, literature, art, and philosophy. ***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **American History Through Film**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - This course will move from the Revolutionary Era up to the end of the Present. For each different era of history, students will watch and then analyze 1-2 films. Films have the unique ability to depict the unfolding of events in a way that textual analysis cannot. This course is not a movies and popcorn course. This course seeks to add to Founders' historical content knowledge by accessing information through a different format, film. Analysis of film will range from analysis question assignments, reflection papers, and more formal essays.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **World History Through Film A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I; Civics and Leadership

**Description** - This course will seek to cover different major eras of World History from ancient times to the present. There is too much content across world history to cover every era, but this course will seek to focus in on eras that were pivotal in the history of mankind. This is not a sit down and watch movies and eat popcorn film course. Films have the unique ability to depict history in a way that text cannot. We will use films to bring a certain historical era to life, but we will then analyze these films and determine how well they convey history to the viewer. Film analyses will take the form of essays, reflections, projects, and questions.

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") or second ("B") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

*This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.*

### **History of the Cold War**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - This course will analyze the Cold War Era. We will take a close look at the major events and developments of this tumultuous period of history, largely through the lens of the American experience in this era. In addition to studying the major events and developments of the era, we will spend the second half of the semester taking a closer look at some of the more fascinating aspects of this era such as espionage, the media's role in the Cold War, important persons/figures of the era, momentous events, conspiracy theories, and others. Join me in delving into this fascinating period of modern history; you won't be disappointed!

*This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.*

### **Military History A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Description** - This course will trace the evolution of the United States military through its ancient and medieval roots through early colonial history and creation of the United States and throughout its history. This course will focus on strategic and technological advances of warfare and the role the United States has played throughout the world.

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") or second ("B") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

*This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.*

### **Native American History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - Native American History will cover different tribes from both North and South America. The course will be Geography focused, starting with South America and transitioning quickly to North America. The course will be lecture and research based. There will be presentations regarding specific tribes during specific times, and students will be doing additional research on the other aspects/peoples of the continent. Students will analyze the true consequences of colonialism across the United States of America and South America.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **AP United States History**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***AP Opportunity***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - AP U.S. History is an introductory college-level U.S. history course. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. history from c. 1491 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

**History of the American Presidency A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Co-requisites** - US History II A & B

**Description** - This course will examine the American Presidents from George Washington to Joe Biden. Looking at their administrations from a historical and political perspective will allow students to gain a deeper appreciation of the people who have held the office of the presidency. Plus, see American History through an entirely different lens than ever before! Seeing as though we have a Hall of Presidents, it only makes sense to dissect the people who have held the office and to understand the men in the hall!

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***



## **The Criminal History of America**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - The course Criminal History of America focuses on the psychology, history, and consequences of criminal acts. The course will start first with a short overview of crime before transitioning into the criminal history of America starting with colonialism and ending with the 1990's. The course will delve more into specific instances, trials, confessions and persecutions. This course is not one for the faint of heart, as the psychology behind the mind of a criminal is usually twisted. Each subject covered will end with how justice was served to the criminals of America.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Psychology**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This elective course is designed to promote an understanding of human behavior. Special areas of study include perception, personality, abnormal behavior, psychological testing, and theories of learning. Students will gain a better perspective about their behavior and the behavior of those around them by enrolling in this course. A substantial amount of reading and writing is expected. Class participation is essential for success in the course.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Spanish Culture**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Let's explore the world of Spanish and all it has to offer! This course will dive into the 20 different Spanish Speaking Countries and their unique cultures that make them so fascinating. Each week we will take a look at a different Country. We'll compare and make connections from our culture to theirs by watching videos, taking a look at their life styles and historical moments, trying some traditional foods, and partaking in traditional dances and fiestas to celebrate these cultures. This class is taught in English, but will reference several different traditions and customs in Spanish.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Cultural Geography**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Civics & Leadership

**Description** - In line with our school's mission and vision of fostering leadership skills and preparing students to be leaders in a global economy, Cultural Geography is a survey level course that will study the different cultures and countries of the world in order to enhance our students' awareness of their own global setting. The course will specifically analyze the cultures and geographic features of the major regions of the world. Students will learn and utilize the five themes of geography; Location, Place, Region, Human/Environment Interaction, and Movement in order to further understand the relationships that humankind have with their culture and landscape.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **The Medieval World**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course will examine Europe and the Middle East during the Medieval Era. It will begin in the seventh century and conclude shortly before the Renaissance - with the rise of the Tudors. In addition to studying events like the rise of Islam, the Magna Carta, and the Hundred Years War, it also will look at the art, society, economics, architecture, science, philosophical and religious ideas, and music of the Middle Ages. The overlap between subjects makes this course truly classical. This course will rely heavily on primary sources and would ask students to analyze, critique, and defend different interpretations by modern scholars. Classes will be discussion based and include debates and presentations. There is a lot of lively debate between scholars about various topics in the Middle Ages! The Middle Ages are a challenging time for we moderns to understand, so this course would stretch students' ability to understand other cultures - which good citizens must be able to do.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **World Religions**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible; Must have passed Intro to College Writing with college credit for Dual Credit option in this class***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course introduces the major religions of the world by surveying their origins, core beliefs, traditions and practices. The history and 'world view' of a number of religions is examined by way of themes, such as: sacred power; myths, art, and rituals; the problem of evil; and the relationship between cultures, ethics, and religions—with an emphasis toward observing the continuity and/or contrasts that exists between them. The key texts, figures, and ideas of major religions will be explored.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Athens and Sparta**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course covers the Greco-Persian Wars and the Peloponnesian Wars and how two different city states - democratic, energetic Athens and oligarchic, authoritarian Sparta - waged them. These wars were the backdrop for Greece's Golden Age, so this course also includes Greek art, drama, and philosophy. These wars influenced the works of great playwrights like Aeschylus and Aristophanes, philosophers like Socrates and Plato, and even the first Western historians Herodotus and Thucydides. This course asks several questions: Do democracies wage war differently than authoritarian governments? How did war shape the culture of Sparta and Athens? Why did democratic, freedom loving Athens end up ruling an empire? How did it lose that empire? And what lessons did the Founding Fathers learn from democratic Athens?

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Women in US History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Civics and Leadership

**Corequisites** - US History II

**Description** - This is a course that covers from American Colonialism - Present. The focus will be on the evolving role of women in American society, how women have influenced various periods in our nation, and how women have faced adversity in politics and society. The course will also analyze how the ideas of gender, religion, and politics have affected women in society. The course will conclude with recent developments in the Women's rights movement.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Liberty - The History of an Idea - Part A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I and "Civics and Leadership"

**Description** - This course will trace the history of the idea of liberty through classical antiquity to today. It will focus on how the idea has developed over time and the steps that humans have taken to secure liberty all over the world.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Liberty - The History of an Idea - Part B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I and "Civics and Leadership"

**Description** - This course will trace the history of the idea of liberty through classical antiquity to today. It will focus on how the idea has developed over time and the steps that humans have taken to secure liberty all over the world.

**(Part A covers different material and is NOT required to take Part B.)**

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Holocaust and Human Behavior (Half-year version)**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II-A and US History II-B

**Co-requisites** - Modern World History A

**Description** - This course leads students through an examination of the history of the Holocaust, while fostering their skills in ethical reasoning, critical thinking, empathy, and civic engagement. By focusing on the choices of individuals who experienced this history—through primary sources, eyewitness testimonies, personal reflections, poetry, and images—students are given a lens to thoughtfully examine the universal themes and questions about human behavior inherent in a study of the Holocaust. Students will engage in Socratic Seminars and Harkness discussions based upon complex primary and secondary source texts. Students are also prompted to draw connections between history and the world today.

***Students and parents should be aware that this course will cover mature and/or disturbing topics which will involve graphic material found in some of the documentaries.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Holocaust and Human Behavior (Full-year version)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II-A and US History II-B

**Co-requisites** - Modern World History A and Modern World History B

**Description** - This course leads students through an examination of the history of the Holocaust, while fostering their skills in ethical reasoning, critical thinking, empathy, and civic engagement. By focusing on the choices of individuals who experienced this history—through primary sources, eyewitness testimonies, personal reflections, poetry, and images—students are given a lens to thoughtfully examine the universal themes and questions about human behavior inherent in a study of the Holocaust. Students will engage in Socratic Seminars and Harkness discussions based upon complex primary and secondary source texts. Students are also prompted to draw connections between history and the world today.

***Students and parents should be aware that this course will cover mature and/or disturbing topics which will involve graphic material found in some of the documentaries.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

# **Math**

## **Math 1**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Math 1 begins to form the foundation of The Founders Academy mathematics curriculum. The emphasis as a department is in the area of skill-building and problem solving. Students will be given the opportunity to practice on previously learned skills as well as have the opportunity to be challenged with new concepts. As new skills are introduced, students will be expected to solve word problems and challenge problems as well. Students will learn to and be able to articulate their thoughts and explain how they arrived at their answers. Students will be exposed to the following concepts: Properties of Whole Numbers, Operations with Fractions/Decimals, Ratios, Introductory Geometry concepts (perimeter and area, volume, surface area), and Data Analysis.

## **Math 2**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Math 1 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Math 2 is a continuation of developing skills from Math 1. The emphasis as a department is in the area of skill-building and problem solving. Students will be given the opportunity to practice on previously learned skills as well as have the opportunity to be challenged with new concepts. As new skills are introduced, students will be expected to solve word problems and challenge problems as well. Students will learn to and be able to articulate their thoughts and explain how they arrived at their answers. Students will be exposed to the following concepts: Operations with Integers and Rational Numbers, Ratios/Rates/Proportions, Percents, and Introductory Geometry concepts (types of angles, volume, surface area).

## **Math 3 (Pre-Algebra)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Math 2 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Math 3 is a continuation of developing skills from Math 2 and serves as a preparation for Algebra 1. The emphasis as a department is in the area of skill-building and problem solving. Students will be given the opportunity to practice on previously learned skills as well as have the opportunity to be challenged with new concepts. As new skills are introduced, students will be expected to solve word problems and challenge problems as well. Students will learn to and be able to articulate their thoughts and explain how they arrived at their answers. Students will be exposed to the following concepts: Probability, Real Number System, Introductory Geometry concepts (transformations, volume, surface area), functions, exponents, and scientific notation.

## **Algebra I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th or 9th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Math 3 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This course involves all concepts needed to fulfill national requirements for Algebra I. The topics to include but are not restricted to: Arithmetic Review, Solving and Graphing Linear Equations/Inequalities and System of Equations, Properties of Exponents, Operations with Polynomials, Factoring Polynomials and Quadratic Equations. Other concepts may be covered if time allows.

## **Geometry**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th or 10th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I, Initial Placement Exam, or Special Permission

**Description** - This course features topics covered in a standard high school geometry course which include, but are not limited to: Geometry Basics, Reasoning/Proof, Parallel/Perpendicular Lines, Properties of Triangles(Congruence, Similarity), Polygons, Quadrilaterals, Circles, Surface Area, Volume and Transformations.

## **Probability & Statistics**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Math, Math Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**AP Opportunity Possible**

**Prerequisites** - successful completion (Mastery) of Geometry, Initial Placement Exam or Special Permission

**Description**-Students will work with probability, data collection, descriptive and inferential statistics, probability, and technological tools to analyze statistics. The main foci of the course will be exploring data, planning a study, producing models using probability theory, and making statistical inferences. Students will work with statistical measures of centrality and spread, methods of data collection, methods of determining probability, binomial and normal distributions, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals. Students will use multiple representations to present data including written descriptions, numerical statistics, formulas, and graphs.

**A Statistics Advanced Placement (AP) option is available. Students should expect somewhat different assignments and an increased pacing of the content/material.**

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete Algebra II.***

## **Algebra II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Math, Math Elective, or General Elective**

**Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I and Geometry or Special Permission of Instructors

**Description** - The topics to include but are not be restricted to: solving equations/inequalities, graphing equations/inequalities, systems of equations/inequalities, matrices, quadratic equations, polynomial functions, roots/radicals, intro to functions, exponential/logarithmic functions, and rational functions.

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete Algebra II.***

## **Pre-Calculus (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 11th/12th Grade Class; Can Satisfy Math Elective or General Elective**

**Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra II/Trigonometry

**Description** - Pre-Calculus is the next progression in the math program at The Founders Academy and is designed to prepare and challenge those students on track to attend college. The beginning of the school year will be designed to practice skills learned in prior math courses as well as provide students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge on previous learned skills and concepts. The students will be challenged on a daily basis and will often be asked to explain “why” their answers make sense. Some concepts students will be learning are, but not limited to: Types of Functions (Linear, Quadratic, Polynomial, Exponential), Trigonometry (Graphing, Identities and Equations, Triangles), Sequences/Series, Combinatorics and Introductory Calculus concepts (Limits, Continuity)

## **Calculus (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 12th Grade Class; Can Satisfy Math Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Pre-Calculus

**Description** - Calculus is designed to prepare and challenge those students on track to attend college. The beginning of the school year will be designed to practice skills learned in prior math courses as well as provide students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge on previous learned skills and concepts. The students will be challenged on a daily basis and will often be asked to explain “why” their answers make sense. Some concepts students will be learning are, but not limited to: Review of Functions, Limits/Continuity, Derivatives and their applications, and Integrals and their applications.

## **Algebra IA - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No



### ***Typical 8th/9th Grade***

**Prerequisites** - Math 3 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This covers the first half of Algebra I - but takes the full year to do so - which involves all concepts needed to fulfill national requirements for Algebra I. The topics to include but are not restricted to: Arithmetic Review, Solving and Graphing Linear Equations/Inequalities and System of Equations. Other concepts may be covered if time allows.

### **Algebra IB - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 8th/9th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra IA or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This covers the second half of Algebra I - but takes the full year to do so - which involves all concepts needed to fulfill national requirements for Algebra I. The topics to include but are not restricted to: Properties of Exponents, Operations with Polynomials, Factoring Polynomials and Quadratic Equations. Other concepts may be covered if time allows.

### **Consumer Math - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Can Satisfy Math Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I or Algebra IB

**Description** - This is a project based course which will include personal financing and managing daily expenses. The course project will culminate in a showcase of what they have learned. Students will use technology and other tools to investigate and develop a plan for daily consumer choices and living expenses.

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into the Personal Finance curriculum.***

# Science

## Science 1

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This science course will cover the study of living things. Through the study of cells, microorganisms, fungi, plants, animals, and ecosystems students will develop science literacy skills through science reading and science vocabulary development, and journal writing. This science course is designed to assist students in becoming lifelong learners who grow in their understanding of the world around them. It is designed to expose students to the Scientific Method, Inquiry, Modeling, and Science and Data Literacy. Students will experience science through a variety of demonstrations, projects, and experiments using a hands-on learning approach.

## Science 2

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Science 1 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This science course will cover an introduction to chemistry, physics and engineering. This course is designed to give students an introductory understanding of matter, energy, and motion as well as the engineering design process. Students will ask questions, construct explanations, design and carry out experiments, investigate patterns, explore cause and effect relationships and construct models. This science course is designed to assist students in becoming lifelong learners and grow in their understanding of systems in the world around them. Science 2 will also introduce students to using math in science and modeling the systems found in the physical sciences. Students will experience science through a variety of demonstrations, projects, and experiments using a hands-on learning approach.

### **Science 3**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Science 2 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This science course will cover an introduction to the study of earth science and space science. Topics will include fresh water, the water cycle, carbon cycle, water footprint, carbon footprint, oceans, weather and climate, and energy resources. Students will ask questions, construct explanations, design and carry out experiments, investigate patterns, explore cause and effect relationships and construct models. This science course is designed to assist students in becoming lifelong learners and grow in their understanding of the Earth and Space systems. Science 3 will continue to build on student's use of math in science and constructing models. Students will experience science through a variety of demonstrations, projects, and experiments using a hands-on learning approach.

***For 2023 - 2024 only, students will also be introduced to the engineering design process.***

### **Integrated Physical Science**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies Science Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Science 3 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This high school science course will cover the foundational sciences of chemistry and physics by studying matter, waves, energy and work. Throughout the year students will use mathematics as a language of science, with a focus on data literacy. Students will ask questions, construct explanations, design and carry out experiments, investigate patterns, explore cause and effect relationships and construct models as well as engage in argument by analyzing and interpreting data. This course is designed to provide students with the skills to use and interpret math in science to prepare them for higher level high school science courses. Students will experience science through traditional lecture, demonstrations, group work, experiments, project-based and hands-on learning.

***For the 2023-2024 school year, the course will have more emphasis on physics and engineering.***

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

## **Biology**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 10th Grade; Satisfies Science Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Science 3; Math 3

**Description** - Biology endeavors to challenge students to explore the living world around them. Students in this course will explore the principles of Biology: the study of life. Students will study the structure and processes of organisms, ecosystems, biodiversity and unity of living organisms, heredity and variation of traits. This course is integral in the experience and education of a high school student and will prepare them for further analytical instruction. Students will ask questions, construct explanations, design and carry out experiments, investigate patterns, explore cause and effect relationships and construct models as they explore the phenomena of living things in the world around them. This course will rely heavily on kinesthetic, visual and verbal learning styles in order to create a fluid learning environment capable of adapting and growing, much like that of the life we will study. Students will experience science through traditional lecture, demonstrations, group work, experiments, project-based and hands-on learning.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**

## **Chemistry A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I

**Description** - This course is a basic college preparatory course in Chemistry and provides an introduction to the nature of matter and change. This course is intended to help students understand the unseen processes at work in chemical phenomena. Students will ask questions, construct explanations, design and carry out experiments, investigate patterns, explore cause and effect relationships and construct models as they relate to the basic building blocks of matter: the atom. Students will construct models as well as engage in argument to obtain, evaluate and communicate information. This course is designed to provide students with the skills to use and interpret math in science using appropriate scientific notation and to research and construct a systems model of the atom, periodic table trends, and basic chemical reactions. Students will use appropriate scientific language. Students will experience science through traditional lecture, demonstrations, group work, experiments, project-based and hands-on learning.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**

## **Chemistry B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective***

***Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Chemistry A; Algebra I

**Description** - This is a continuation of Chemistry A. This course is intended to help students understand the unseen processes at work in chemical phenomena. Students will ask questions, construct explanations, design and carry out experiments, investigate patterns, explore cause and effect relationships and construct models as they relate to the basic building blocks of matter: the atom. Students will construct models as well as engage in argument to obtain, evaluate and communicate information. This course is designed to provide students with the skills to use and interpret math in science using appropriate scientific notation and to research and construct a systems model of the relationship between moles, mass and particles of matter in order to predict the results of chemical reactions. Students will use appropriate scientific language. Students will experience science through traditional lecture, demonstrations, group work, experiments, and hands-on learning.

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

## **Physics A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***AP Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisite** - Geometry

**Description** - This course is a general college preparatory introduction to physics. Its emphasis is divided between developing a conceptual understanding of the major topics of classical physics and practical application: Motion and Forces as well as developing problem solving skills in those topic areas. Algebra, geometry and some trigonometry will be used. A lab component accompanies the classroom element of the course. Students will be expected to undertake and report on lab projects related to the topics in the class.

***The AP option is a one semester course integrated into the regular physics course, with some additional work and topics. This semester course prepares a student for the AP algebra-based Physics A exam.***

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

## **Physics B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***AP Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisite** - Geometry

**Description** - This course is a general college preparatory introduction to physics. Its emphasis is divided between developing a conceptual understanding of the major topics of classical physics and practical application: Waves and Energy, Electricity, Magnetism, Optics as well as developing problem solving skills in those topic areas. Algebra, geometry and some trigonometry will be used. A lab component accompanies the classroom element of the course. Students will be expected to undertake and report on lab projects related to the topics in the class.

***The AP option is a one semester course integrated into the regular physics course, with some additional work and topics. This semester course prepares a student for the AP algebra-based Physics B exam.***

***Starting in 2023-2024 - Physics B can be taken as a separate course without a Physics A requirement.***

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

## **Space Sciences**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Integrated Physical Science; Biology

**Co-requisites** - Chemistry A

**Description** - Space Science is a semester-long course that will allow students to investigate past, current and future endeavors in space travel. Topics will include an overview of the history of space flight, the design and development of space probes and space telescopes (such as the Hubble and James Webb), and the current challenges of human space travel. Students will investigate distances in space, stars and their formation, formation of planets, and galaxies. A particular emphasis will be on current space travel projects including Artemis and plans for Mars. The class will be structured around project based learning using student led presentations and teacher lectures.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Anatomy and Physiology A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Biology; Chemistry A & B

**Description** - This course will allow students interested in going on to a career in the medical field to gain a better understanding of the inner workings of the human body. In the first semester, this course will look at the structures (anatomy) and functions (physiology) of the organ systems of the human body. Students will review basic chemistry and biology and gain a deeper understanding of how the body uses acids and bases, lipids, polymers and nucleic acids to support cell function and structure. An emphasis will be on understanding the cell and cell variation and specialization. This course will explore the integumentary, skeletal and muscular systems.

In the second semester, students will continue investigating the systems found in the human body: nervous, sensory, endocrine, circulatory, immune, respiratory, digestive, urinary and reproductive. Through a combination of lectures, projects, laboratories and discussion, students will develop critical thinking skills allowing them to apply the terms and concepts.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year. Students who have taken this previously through VLACS have completed the “A” semester.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Acoustics and Audio**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Math 3

**Description** - The study of Acoustics (the science of sound) is a large part of the knowledge required when working with instruments in live sound reinforcement and in a recording studio. Another important connected field is room and concert hall design and how it impacts sound. The first part of this course will focus on the physical properties of sound waves and how they travel and interact. This will give the student a solid understanding of frequency, wavelength, speed and other factors which impact live and recorded music. The second part will focus on the basics of audio in “live” and studio situations. These include types of microphones, the signal path, mixing console operation, phantom power and types of recording software. We will also study the history of recorded sound multi-track recording concepts.

***Note: Outside of the class meeting time, students in this class will be expected to help with sound management at school events, music concerts, and plays.***

## **Natural History of NH**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Biology; Algebra I

**Description** - In the Natural History of New Hampshire students learn about their state through the lenses of history of the land, marine, forest, freshwater, weather & climate, and the interactions of these ecological zones with human culture, especially in an urban environment. Founders Academy is fortunate to have on site an ample forest and stream environment to conduct laboratory testing. Students are expected to dress appropriately for outside labs.

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Natural Disasters**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Integrated Physical Science

**Description** - Natural Disasters will explore earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, ice storms, blizzards, hurricanes, flash floods, superbugs, pandemics, and other related topics. Topics will focus on specific historical events, New Hampshire related natural disasters, and predicting & mitigating future events. Students will explore the science, engineering, and human element of each natural disaster. Teaching and assessments will be research, activities, engineering projects, and video public service announcements.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***



## **Aviation Science A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I

**Co-requisites** - Integrated Physical Science

**Description** - Students will explore Aviation Science A and B through lecture, reading, performing research activities as well as conducting hands-on lab and engineering activities during each module.

In the first semester (A) - Introduction to Flight, students will begin with an exploration of the types of aircraft in use today before going on to learn how aircraft are made and how they fly. Students will understand how aircraft are categorized, be able to identify their parts, and learn about aircraft construction techniques and materials. They will gain an in-depth understanding of the forces of flight—lift, weight, thrust, and drag— including how to make key calculations. They will then touch on aircraft design, looking at stability, aircraft controls, and maneuvering flight. The course will conclude with a focus on career skills related to these topics.

In the second semester (B) - Aircraft Systems and Performance, students will take an in-depth look at the systems that make manned and unmanned aircraft work as well as the instrumentation powered by those systems. Beginning with aircraft powerplants and fuel systems, students will learn about the different options available and how they affect aircraft design and performance. They will go on to explore other key aircraft systems, including electrical, pitot-static, and vacuum systems. Throughout, they will learn about the flight instruments associated with each system and how to identify and troubleshoot common problems.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year.***

***This course is likely to be offered only once every two years.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Forensic Science I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisite** - Biology

**Description** - This course is designed to give students an overview of Forensic Science and how crime scenes are investigated. Students will learn the importance of the methodical gathering, investigating, and analyzing of the physical evidence found at a crime scene to establish facts that can be presented in a legal proceeding of the justice system. It will include an overview of the forensic analysis of firearms, fingerprints, drugs, blood, hair, fibers, etc. The procedures and principles of crime scene investigation applies many disciplines of science including, but not limited to, biology/anatomy, chemistry, and physics in order to solve crimes. It is a lab and project based course designed to have the students set up and solve various situational crime scenes.

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## World Language

### Foundations of French/Foundations of Spanish

**Duration** - Two semester-long classes

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - These introductory courses serve as an introduction to World Language courses. The goal is to provide students with a strong beginning foundation that incorporates the basics of speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing in French/Spanish and offers contextual themes in French-speaking and Spanish-speaking cultures. Along with geography, history, art, and literature, learning occurs in the context of the way of life, social customs, and current events.

***Students in the 7th Grade will take both of these courses - one in the Fall and the other in the Spring. Students are required to pass BOTH of these courses to be eligible to choose a language to focus on for 8th Grade. Failure to do so will result in the student repeating BOTH courses during their 8th Grade year.***

### Foundations of French 2

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Foundations of French 1

**Description** - This covers the second half of French I. This course will continue the exploration of the French Language with a focus on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. By studying more aspects of the target language and culture, students will have opportunities to build upon their learning in Foundations 1, and bring their linguistic and cultural understanding forward in preparation for entry into French II.

***The two-year "Foundations" program is currently being phased out. The 2023-2024 school year will be the final year that Foundations of French 2 will be offered.***

### French I

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th/9th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Successful completion of both Foundations of French AND Foundations of Spanish OR initial entrance to The Founders Academy in the 8th Grade or later

**Description** - French I will begin with basic language skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and grammar. For students who have not studied a language before, this will serve as an introduction to the material. For those students who have completed the 7th Grade courses, this will serve as a quick review. The class will then work to build on these skills and materials. This course will teach the main aspects of French culture and "daily life" customs. Students will acquire an appreciation of traditions and expressions of the French speaking world through use of the French language in thematic studies of history, art, current events, holidays, food, and more.

## **French II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th/10th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - French I or Foundations of French 2

**Description** - Students will build upon their grammatical foundation from French I in order to move forward into using multiple verb tenses and more advanced sentence structures. In addition to reading, writing, and listening, conversation skills will be emphasized, and students will learn intermediate grammar and vocabulary to facilitate exploration of world travel, history, literature, the arts, and current events.

## **Advanced French**

**Duration** - Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 10th/11th Grade; Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - French II

**Description** - This course focuses on further development of language proficiency at the advanced level (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and grammar. New aspects of French culture are introduced to allow students to acquire an appreciation of the customs, traditions and expressions of the French-speaking world. By introducing the French language through culture, (history, literature, art, news, etc) students will be able to make important interdisciplinary connections.

***Because the material will differ each time, Advanced French can be repeated for additional credits.***

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete 2 semesters of either Advanced French or Advanced Spanish.***

## **Foundations of Spanish 2**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Foundations of Spanish 1

**Description**- This is a full-year course that covers the second half of Spanish I. Students will continue to explore basic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also be introduced to a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, we will learn about culture, geography, history and; from a language learning perspective, work Spanish vocabulary in sentences while learning Spanish grammar. students will also develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression and creative thinking. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students will discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into their own native language.

***The two-year "Foundations" program is currently being phased out. The 2023-2024 school year will be the final year that Foundations of Spanish 2 will be offered.***

## **Spanish I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th/9th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Successful completion of both Foundations of French AND Foundations of Spanish OR initial entrance to The Founders Academy in the 8th Grade or later

**Description** - Spanish I will begin with basic language skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and grammar. For students who have not studied a language before, this will serve as an introduction to the material. For those students who have completed the 7th Grade courses, this will serve as a quick review. The class will then work to build on these skills and materials. This course will teach the main aspects of Spanish culture and “daily life” customs. Students will acquire an appreciation of traditions and expressions of the Spanish-speaking world through use of the Spanish language in thematic studies of history, art, current events, holidays, food, and more.

## **Spanish II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th/10th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Spanish I or Foundations of Spanish 2

**Description** - Students will build upon their grammatical foundation from Spanish I in order to move forward into using multiple verb tenses and more advanced sentence structures. In addition to reading, writing, and listening, conversation skills will be emphasized, and students will learn intermediate grammar and vocabulary to facilitate exploration of world travel, history, literature, the arts, and current events.

## **Advanced Spanish**

**Duration** - Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 10th/11th Grade Class; Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Spanish II

**Description** - Students will continue to focus on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also continue their studies of a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, students will develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression, creative thinking, correct use of vocabulary and grammar, and choice of vocabulary as it best expresses an idea and/or a feeling. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into the structure and makeup of their own native tongue.

**Because the material will differ each time, Advanced Spanish can be repeated for additional credits.**

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete 2 semesters of either Advanced French or Advanced Spanish.***

## **American Sign Language I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Successful completion of both Foundations of French AND Foundations of Spanish OR initial entrance to The Founders Academy in the 8th Grade or later

**Description** - This class will introduce students to Deaf culture and history, basic conversational sign, and a beginning American Sign Language vocabulary. Students will be expected to demonstrate their ability to utilize non-verbal communication in a variety of classroom experiences, including quizzes, student activities, teacher-student conversations, and student-student conversations. Students' progress will require building upon the previous week's vocabulary.

## **American Sign Language II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Sign Language I

**Description** - American Sign Language II is a full year course that will provide students with a more in-depth understanding of American Sign Language. The study of American Sign Language is a cumulative experience. The first year course stressed sign vocabulary, fingerspelling and numbers as well as expressive and receptive signing activities. The history of Deaf culture was also introduced. In this curriculum, students will add to their vocabulary and increase proficiency in expressive and receptive conversational skills using more complex grammatical structures. Students will continue to learn about and understand Deaf heritage, Deaf culture, and the Deaf community. Students will be encouraged to interact with Deaf people in social contexts and a variety of other situations. Language is best learned using an immersion model. Studies have shown that students learning with immersion had brain waves similar to native speakers/signers of the language. Students will be evaluated through various techniques including class participation, classwork, homework, expressive assignments, and receptive assignments.

## **Latin I-A**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This course will be hands-on and discussion based with minimal lecturing. As the year goes on, students will be asked to lecture about a grammar concept from time to time. By the end of the course, students will be ready to read unabridged passages by Latin authors such as Pliny, Vergil, and Caesar. Though there would be a lot of translating from English into Latin, the focus of the course would be on translating and analyzing passages by Classical authors.

In addition to learning the Latin language, students will read and discuss short but famous selections from the great Roman authors (e.g., Livy, Cicero, Virgil, and Caesar) and some short selections from Medieval and Renaissance authors in Latin. Latin also overlaps with history, art, logic, rhetoric, science, music, and philosophy. Finally, when Latin is taught classically, it solidifies a students' knowledge of the English language. Since word order doesn't matter, it forces the student to think logically about how the English language works.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Latin I-B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Latin I-A

**Description** - This course is a continuation of Latin I-A. This course will be hands-on and discussion based with minimal lecturing. As the year goes on, students will be asked to lecture about a grammar concept from time to time. By the end of the course, students will be ready to read unabridged passages by Latin authors such as Pliny, Vergil, and Caesar. Though there would be a lot of translating from English into Latin, the focus of the course would be on translating and analyzing passages by Classical authors.

In addition to learning the Latin language, students will read and discuss short but famous selections from the great Roman authors (e.g., Livy, Cicero, Virgil, and Caesar) and some short selections from Medieval and Renaissance authors in Latin. Latin also overlaps with history, art, logic, rhetoric, science, music, and philosophy. Finally, when Latin is taught classically, it solidifies a students' knowledge of the English language. Since word order doesn't matter, it forces the student to think logically about how the English language works.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Foundations of French 1 - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This introductory course covers the first half of French I. The goal is to provide students with a strong beginning foundation that incorporates the basics of speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing in French and offers contextual themes in French speaking culture. Along with geography, history, art and literature, learning occurs in the context of the way of life, social customs, and current events. Foreign language study is a great way for students to learn more about the target language by way of cultural and linguistic comparison.

***The 2-year "Foundations" track in French or Spanish is recommended for most middle school students and for 9th/10th Grade students who want to move at a more relaxed pace.***

### **Foundations of Spanish 1 - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This is a full-year course that covers the first half of Spanish I. Foundations of Spanish is an introductory exposure to the Spanish language. It is intended for students who have very little to no foreign language experience. Students will begin to explore basic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also be introduced to a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, we will learn about culture, geography, history and; from a language learning perspective, work Spanish vocabulary in sentences while learning Spanish grammar. Students will also develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression and creative thinking. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students will discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into their own native language.

***The 2-year "Foundations" track in French or Spanish is recommended for most middle school students and for 9th/10th Grade students who want to move at a more relaxed pace.***

### **French III - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 10th/11th Grade; Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - French II

**Description** - This course focuses on further development of language proficiency at the advanced intermediate level (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and grammar. New aspects of French culture are introduced to allow students to acquire an appreciation of the customs, traditions and expressions of the French speaking world. By introducing the French language through culture, (history, literature, art, news, etc) students will be able to make important interdisciplinary connections.

***After the 2022-2023 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into Advanced French.***

### **Spanish III - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 10th/11th Grade Class; Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Spanish II

**Description** - Students will continue to focus on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also continue their studies of a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, students will develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression, creative thinking, correct use of vocabulary and grammar, and choice of vocabulary as it best expresses an idea and/or a feeling. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into the structure and makeup of their own native tongue.

***After the 2022-2023 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into Advanced Spanish.***



## Visual Arts

### Art 6

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Description** - Students will learn and demonstrate the fundamental Elements of Art and Principles of Design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create individual and collaborative art. Projects will cover drawing, painting, and three-dimensional design. Students will learn and utilize color theory in their art making process. Students will also learn to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Many influential artists throughout history will be examined as students explore various artistic movements.

### Art 7

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Description** - Art 7 students will demonstrate and continue the development of the fundamental Elements of Art and Principles of Design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create individual and collaborative art. Specifically, students will develop painting and drawing skills and will begin to explore three dimensional work and mixed media. Students will also practice the skills needed to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Influential artists throughout history will be examined as students explore various artistic periods.

### Art 8

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Description** - Art 8 students will demonstrate the fundamental Elements of Art and Principles of Design and continue to build their understanding. They will learn to implement these ideas in their artworks. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create a range of different art projects. Students will practice the skills needed to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Influential artists will be examined as students explore various artistic styles and periods.

## **HS Art I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Student must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Students will demonstrate the fundamental Elements of Art and Principles of Design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create artwork. Students will develop technical skills in drawing, painting, and other 2D techniques. Students will also learn to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Many influential artists throughout history will be examined as students explore and develop technique.

## **HS Art II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will demonstrate a strong understanding of the fundamental Elements of Art and Principles of Design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create individual artworks for presentation. Students will develop technical skills in 3D materials such as clay, cardboard, paper and other building materials. Students will work to create, revise, and present their work. Students will start to conceptualize their own projects and coordinate project timelines. Influential artists throughout history will be examined as students develop their techniques and ideas.

## **HS Ceramics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - In this course students will become familiar with basic handbuilding techniques such as pinch building, coil building, and slab building. Students will explore surface design by utilizing different underglaze and glaze techniques in this class. This class is great for students who enjoy working with their hands and enjoy working abstractly.

***Because students can create new and different projects each semester, this class may be repeated for credit.***

## **Intro to Fiber Arts**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will be introduced to weaving, knitting, felting, and techniques for making repeating patterns. They will begin the course by learning to make a frame loom and weave a small tapestry. Students will also be introduced to basic dry felting to create 2D and 3D objects. The class will also cover how to knit and crochet. The last assignment will focus on using their new fiber art skills to design repeat patterns. As an added bonus, if time allows, the whole class will work collaboratively on a t-shirt design and I will demo the screen printing process. Each student will get to print their own shirt using the collaborative design. This course is great for students who like to work with their hands and enjoy tactile objects.

## **Photography I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - In this course, students will learn about the basics of photography including understanding aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. The course will introduce the history of photography and basic camera functions. In this class, participants will get to use both digital and film processes in this class to express their ideas in their photographic work. Students will draw inspiration from historic photographers and from current trends. Students will participate in class critiques and work on building their artistic vocabulary.

***Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, this course will no longer count as a Technology/Business class.***

## **Photography II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Photography I

**Description** - Photography II will take the next step in "developing" interested students in the art, science and skills in Photography. This course will start to move students away from exclusively using their cell phone and using a DSLR camera and learning how to use that as a tool that will enhance their eye. Additionally, students will learn about more detailed editing, professional lighting and the many careers in Photography. This will be a very hands-on course where we will shoot more varied topics and subjects, many times off campus.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

***Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, this course will no longer count as a Technology/Business class.***

## **Sketchbook & Journal Making**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I and HS Art II

**Description** - In this class students will learn how to make their own journals. They will be given different prompts to help them explore and experiment with a variety of mediums in art. In the first part of the class, students will be introduced to the basics of bookbinding and bookbinding tools of the trade. I will demonstrate 1 non-adhesive structure and 1 adhesive structure so that students can choose which sketchbook/journal they would like to construct. After students have constructed their sketchbooks/journals, we will focus on idea-generating techniques, discuss the role of sketchbooks as tools in art-making practices, and students will begin to fill their sketchbooks/journals. Students will participate in short exercises using materials and processes they may not be comfortable with such as collage, printmaking, and sewing. They will also have the freedom to explore and experiment with the different mediums of their choosing. Students will be encouraged to work in their sketchbooks everyday throughout the semester as a way to strengthen their artistic practice. Students will informally share a page from their sketchbooks with the class weekly and have group discussions about the work. Throughout the semester, we will also be looking at contemporary artists making art right now and what their artistic practice looks like. This class is great for students who don't think they're "good at art" because it is all about practice, growth, and experimentation. It would also be a great class for artistically gifted students who want to improve their daily sketchbook practice.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Printmaking and Design**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will go over color theory, print and patten design, creating various 3D and textured stencils in many styles of art. From tie dying, screen printing, and vinyl sticker making they will be able to create their own style while learning technique. Students will have to become familiar with new art terms, watching slides, video and doing some worksheets. Students must develop a decent understanding of the new vocab terms and learn about the new equipment. Everything else offered in the course would be hands-on projects and group activities.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Art History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Art History will primarily be taught through lecture and video lectures. Art History will look at Art from the hunter gatherer era, medieval era, Renaissance, impressionist/post-impressionist, and close with modern art if time permits. Art History will be partially taught from a text, but it will not be required for class.

Students who like learning about History, but love art will enjoy this class. We will analyze the use and symbolism of color, how certain artists used their environments to convey political and personal strife.

***Please note that this course will NOT count towards the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement, but it can be used towards the History Requirement.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Art Portfolio Development**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I and HS Art II

**Description** - Portfolio Development offers insight into building a portfolio and into the art school admissions process. These studios are meant to help students increase both their inventive and expressive portions of their artistic portfolio while focusing on observational skill in section 1 and on elements of design in section 2. The goal is to invite professional artists to speak and art college representatives to give feedback to student work. We may even go to National Portfolio day in Boston as a Field Trip. Students will have all the tools they need to apply to an art school and/or scholarships. Students will have a complete portfolio when they leave the course including an artist statement.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Painting I - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art II or Permission of Instructor

**Description** - Students will acquire painting skills. There will be experimentation with several painting mediums, including watercolor, gouache, acrylics, and oils. Tools and techniques will be demonstrated, examined, and used. Students will also discover a variety of historical and contemporary artists as they move through each media, technique, or subject.

### **Painting II - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Painting I

**Description** - Students will build on their knowledge from Painting 1 to create new artwork. While studying painters from the past, students will study new subjects, including the human form, portraiture, still-life, and abstraction. Students will practice critique to make revisions and learn from others. Paintings produced from this course may be utilized in a portfolio for college applications.

***This class can be repeated for additional credits.***

### **Ceramics I - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will be proficient in basic handbuilding techniques including pinch building, coil building, and slab building. Students will become familiar with and appropriately use tools to achieve desired results. Working collaboratively and independently students will discover the strengths and limitations of ceramics. This will be a fast paced class that will get messy!

***After the 2020-2021 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Ceramics.***

### **Ceramics II - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Ceramics I

**Description** - Students will build upon their knowledge learned Ceramics I. Students will develop long term projects with multiple parts that demonstrate a variety of hand building skills. While studying historical ceramic artists and time periods, students will work toward consistency, set making, and sculptural abstraction. Students will practice programming the kiln and demonstrate an understanding of ceramic chemistry.

***After the 2020-2021 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Ceramics.***

# Performing Arts

## Special Note about the Band and Chorus levels

Most levels in the Band and Choral programs are designed to be multi-year experiences. The specific curricula and concert music for each ensemble will change from year to year, allowing students who are repeating levels to continue to learn new material. High school students can receive credit for ensembles that are Level 2 or higher and can receive additional credits for repeated levels. All groups will participate in night-time concerts in December and at the end of the year. The Level 3 and Level 4 ensembles are considered to be "audition-level" ensembles and will have an extra concert in March, along with some optional travel opportunities. Level 4 ensembles are considered to be Honors courses, so students will receive a boost to their GPA.

At the end of the year, students who have successfully demonstrated Mastery (as defined in the Student Handbook) will be eligible to be placed in a higher level band or chorus for the next school year. **Achieving Mastery in a level, however, does NOT guarantee promotion.** Promotion will be decided by a number of factors including, but not limited to: Playing/Singing Ability, Classroom Behavior, Practice Habits, Instrumentation/Balance of the Ensembles, Concert Dependability, and the student's schedule. While uncommon, it is possible for a student to be moved down to a lower level if they do not meet the standards and expectations of their current level or if they would be a better "fit" at the lower level.

### **Band Level 1 - Foundations Band**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th/7th/8th/9th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Instruments in the standard Band Program include woodwind, brass, percussion, and orchestral string instruments, but **do NOT include piano, guitar, or full drum set**. Parents will need to supply their child's instrument. The Foundations Band consists of all 6th Grade band students, band students in upper grades who need more work on the fundamental skills and concepts of instrumental music performance. Level 1 Band classes are separated by experience level (and sometimes also by instrument). Students in the "Experienced" classes are students who have already been studying their instrument either privately or in group lessons. The "Beginner" classes are designed for students who have either never played an instrument before or are learning a completely new instrument. No musical experience is necessary for the "Beginner" classes. Those students will be introduced to the different instrument options for them to choose from in September. Students will participate in two evening concerts - one in December and one in the Spring. High school students are welcome to take this class, but they will not start receiving HS credit until they reach Level 2.

***Note: It is highly recommended that beginning string students take additional private lessons.***

## **Band Level 2 - Concert Band**

## **Band Level 3 - Symphonic Band**

## **Band Level 4 - Wind Symphony (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor

**Description** - Instruments in the standard Band Program include woodwind, brass, and orchestral string instruments, but **do NOT include piano, guitar, or full drum set.**

Parents will need to supply their child's instrument. Experienced students will review material that they were taught in previous years, learn new material, and work on improving their music reading skills, playing ranges, and stamina. Literature will include traditional and contemporary music written for concert band, "classical" music originally written for orchestra, and music written for films and Broadway shows.

*These classes meet at the same time as their high school counterparts.*

## **Band Level 2HS - Concert Band**

## **Band Level 3HS - Symphonic Band**

## **Band Level 4HS - Wind Symphony (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Instruments in the standard Band Program include woodwind, brass, and orchestral string instruments, but **do NOT include piano, guitar, or full drum set.**

Parents will need to supply their child's instrument. Experienced students will review material that they were taught in previous years, learn new material, and work on improving their music reading skills, playing ranges, and stamina. Literature will include traditional and contemporary music written for concert band, "classical" music originally written for orchestra, and music written for films and Broadway shows.

*These classes meet at the same time as their middle school counterparts. High School Band classes can be repeated for additional credits.*



## **Percussion Techniques**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Level 1 Band and/or Placement by Instructor

**Description** - This course is designed and intended to be a multi-year experience for students. This performance-based class is for students who have some experience on one or more percussion instruments and experience with reading music. Students will work on a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments including snare drum, bass drum, xylophone/bells, and drum set. Students will learn both aurally and with written music. Literature will include music composed specifically for percussion ensembles and music for concert bands. Students in this class will form the Percussion sections in concerts for the Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Bands in December, March, and the Spring. Students will also be eligible for any optional travel opportunities that are offered to the Level 3 and Level 4 Bands.

*Students interested in this class should sign up for "Experienced Band" and list Percussion as their instrument. This class meets at the same time as its high school counterpart.*

## **HS Percussion Techniques**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Level 1 Band and/or Placement by Instructor; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This course is designed and intended to be a multi-year experience for students. This performance-based class is for students who have some experience on one or more percussion instruments and experience with reading music. Students will work on a variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments including snare drum, bass drum, xylophone/bells, and drum set. Students will learn both aurally and with written music. Literature will include music composed specifically for percussion ensembles and music for concert bands. Students in this class will form the Percussion sections in concerts for the Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Bands in December, March, and the Spring. Students will also be eligible for any optional travel opportunities that are offered to the Level 3 and Level 4 Bands.

*Students interested in this class should sign up for "Experienced Band" and list Percussion as their instrument. This class meets at the same time as its middle school counterpart. This class can be repeated for additional credits.*

### **Chorus Level 1**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th/7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Centering on The Founders Academy mission, our Choral Program supports a performance-based curriculum of classical and popular music in the Western tradition. Lessons include analyzing the lives and times of composers as well as musical styles of various eras of the music being sung. Students will: Learn to sing accurately with understanding of breath control and vocal technique; Sing with expression; - songs performed by memory in small and large ensembles; Perform music with at least 2 vocal parts; Work with basics of musical notation, rhythm, sight singing, and dynamics.

### **Chorus Level 2**

### **Chorus Level 3**

### **Chorus Level 4**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor

**Description** - The Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Choruses build upon the skills that students have learned in past years. The music becomes more sophisticated and complex as students progress through the different levels. Students will: Begin singing in multiple foreign languages; Perform music with several vocal parts; Start to evaluate, analyze, and describe music and musical performances; Study the foundation of Western music in a general overview.

*These classes meet at the same time as their high school counterparts.*

### **Chorus Level 2HS**

### **Chorus Level 3HS**

### **Chorus Level 4HS**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - The Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Choruses build upon the skills that students have learned in past years. The music becomes more sophisticated and complex as students progress through the different levels. Students will: Begin singing in multiple foreign languages; Perform music with several vocal parts; Start to evaluate, analyze, and describe music and musical performances; Study the foundation of Western music in a general overview.

*These classes meet at the same time as their middle school counterparts. High School Chorus classes can be repeated for additional credits.*

## **Jazz Ensemble**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.6

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Placement by audition only

**Description** - Jazz Ensemble is an advanced instrumental music performing arts class dedicated to the study and performance of American Jazz. The great Duke Ellington said: "In the beginnings, the United States of America spawned certain ideals of freedom and independence through which, eventually, jazz was evolved." This course will focus on teaching students the fundamental skills necessary to translate music notation into the musically expressive styles of jazz, rock, Latin, and ballad expressions.

***Note - This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement. This class can be repeated for additional credits.***

## **Music Theory and Composition**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Corequisites** - Level 2 music ensemble or higher

**Description** - This course covers traditional common practice harmony and voice leading of the 18th and 19th centuries. Topics include scales, intervals, triads, rhythm, dominant 7th chords and secondary dominants. We use traditional figured bass and analysis. Students will have access to the Sibelius music notation program. There are daily homework assignments along with frequent quizzes and tests.

In Semester 2, traditional voice leading gives way to contemporary pop-style harmony, song writing, and lyric writing. Mastery of the material in Theory and Composition I is required. Topics include a review of secondary dominants followed by modulation and harmonic tensions. We will also cover minor keys as well as chords borrowed into major keys from the parallel minor. Also included is an introduction to instrumentation and arranging. A unit on song forms and another on lyric writing will prepare the student for the final project which will be a complete song. A showcase of the completed songs in a public concert is planned. (The songs may be performed by the composer or by a singer of his/her choice.)

***Note - This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement. While not required, it is recommended that students continue to participate in their Band or Choral ensembles when taking this class.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **History of Rock & Roll**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This is a "listening & analysis" style class which will cover the history of popular music from 1957 approximately 2010. Students will take their notes in a companion workbook which will be handed out in the first class. Using audio and video examples, we will begin with the historical roots of rock music including the changes in popular music in the post-WWII era. We will then examine the music, the artists, the dance crazes, and the culture that developed since Ohio radio disc jockey Alan Freed coined the term "rock and roll" in the early 1950s. Special attention is paid to the social and political events which influenced songwriters, singers, and bands in each decade. You will need to take notes in each class and we will give you a workbook for organizing your notes. A major final research project is required and each unit will end with an appropriate assessment.

***Please note that this course will NOT count towards the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement, but it can be used towards the History Elective Requirement.***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **HS Theatre**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Student must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - In this fine arts elective, students will learn a variety of elements in theatre. Topics of learning include: the history of the theatre, genres of theatre, acting techniques, and technical theatre. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances. They will also be required to participate in hands-on learning projects throughout the course, often working on projects for the middle school and high school shows. As this course is eligible to be repeated, the topics will rotate on a year-to-year basis. Learning activities include: attending theatre workshops, viewing and discussing live and filmed theatre, small scene acting, small group directing, costume designing, props designing, makeup designing, set design and model building.

***Because the material will differ each time, HS Theatre can be repeated for additional credits.***

## **Theatre I: Introduction to Theatre - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I or American Literature I Honors

**Description** - In this course, students will receive an overview of theatre. Topics of learning include: the history of the theatre, genres of theatre, and acting techniques. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. They will be required to participate in hands-on learning projects throughout the course.

***Note - This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement***

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

## **Theatre II: Introduction to Technical Theatre - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Completion of Theatre I or permission from instructor

**Description** - In this elective, students will receive an overview of technical theatre. Topics of learning include: set construction, costume design, lighting design, and acting. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. They will be required to participate in hands-on learning projects throughout the course, which includes assisting with the Drama Club productions.

***Note - This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement***

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

### **Theatre III: Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers -**

#### **RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Completion of Theatre II or permission from instructor

**Description** - This course focuses on the analysis of the basic elements of the script and the application of script study in performance tasks such as acting and directing. As a part of this course, students will read the works of great playwrights, such as Chekhov, Wilde, Miller, Ibsen, Aeschylus, and Williams. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. Students will also view live theatre and write their own short script adaptations. We will bring in speakers who work in theatre to provide their insight in how they interpret a script and go about their craft. Theater III builds on the skills which students have learned in Theatre I and II. Students will be able to partake in more in-depth study of areas in theatre, including: costuming, scenic design, directing, and acting.

***This class can be repeated for additional credit.***

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

### **Theatre IV: Special Projects in Theatre - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Completion of Theatre II or permission from instructor

**Description** - This course builds on the skills which students have learned in Theatre I and II. Students will be able to partake in more in-depth practice of areas in theatre, including: costuming, scenic design, directing, and acting. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. This will be a special course for those students who want to have the experience of directing their own show, writing their own script, heading up their own design element, organizing a theatre workshop or festival event, or conducting an author/theme study in dramaturgy. In addition to regular presentations to the group, students will also be required to conduct interviews with theatre professionals. This course will culminate in a student showcase performance, and throughout the course, students will be expected to present and receive feedback from their peers on their work.

***This class can be repeated for additional credit.***

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

## **Business**

### **Personal Finance I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Student must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This is a financial literacy curriculum designed to engage students in learning the personal and business finance skills they will need to succeed in high school and beyond. Personal and Business Finance is an introduction to individual responsibility in financial decisions for teenagers. It is intended for students who have very little experience in financial matters. Students will learn basic considerations in daily financial choices and will progress to the study of financial markets as complex systems. They will learn historical examples of repeated financial crises and the events that led up to or followed the event. Students will learn budgeting techniques, distinguish wants from needs, learn to write a check and enter transactions in a checkbook register. They will learn of the different types of risk in financial markets and their own lives and what it means to be credit worthy as a person or a company. They will study simple and compound interest scenarios affecting banking and investing.

**Beginning with the Class of 2027, this course will be required for graduation.**

### **Personal Finance II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I; Personal Finance I or Consumer Math

**Description** - This course will go deeper into the topics of Retirement Planning, Mortgage Planning, Investing and Insurance where Personal Finance I only scratches the surface. We will talk about how the image of retirement has changed over the decades and where it may be going in their lifetime, the use of leverage in home ownership or real estate investment, the strategic use of annuities and life insurance, as well as trading stocks, bonds, options, and commodities in actual practice. This course will put students in a position to reach for mastery on topics that will benefit them for their lifetime. Content will be mostly in lecture form but they will be introduced through class real time trading and potential visits to different locations where trading, investing, and planning is actually taking place.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Entrepreneurship & Accounting**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Math 3

**Description** - This is a financial/business course centered around accounting practices and starting and operating a business. Students who have very little experience in financial matters will learn basic accounting conventions and practices and business operations as complex systems. Students will learn elements of the fundamental accounting equation, the double entry system, the accounting cycle, posting journal entries, general ledger preparation and financial statements. Students will learn about external forces that affect their choices like inflation, taxes, and human behavior's impact on the business. Students will learn to control inventory, cost of goods sold, depreciation and taxation. Students will learn to diagnose and prevent irregularities in business operations through forensic accounting techniques.

**Beginning with the Class of 2027, this course will only count as an elective that can be used to satisfy the Technology/Business or General Elective Graduation Requirements.**

## **Economics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Civics and Leadership

**Description** - Economics is a survey course that will explain the determinants of aggregate economic activity in the United States. The course examines the standard formulas to measure the nation's production and income and spending; analyzes unemployment and inflation, aggregate demand and supply, fiscal policies, investment and financial markets, money and banking and the Federal Reserve and monetary policies. This course will also help students with their understanding of fundamental economic principles and tools. It presents economic analysis with respect to demand and supply, consumer utility theory, elasticity, costs of production, perfect and imperfect competition and resource markets.



## **Ethics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Civics and Leadership

**Description** - Ethics will explore the history and development of the systems that people use to rationalize behavior. The course will first sketch out the categories that ethicists tend to fall into - virtue ethics or consequentialist ethics - and it will then explore how these categories have manifested across history and culture. Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with concepts such as Aristotle's ideas on virtue, Confucian social roles, Kant's categorical imperative, Bentham's and Mill's utilitarianism, Nietzsche's übermensch, and more modern techno-ethics. These ideas, along with others, have and continue to impact the world we find ourselves in, and this course will equip students with the tools they will need to navigate it in a way that allows for a development of their own ethical journey.

## Technology

### Computer Science 1

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works.

### MSCS - Middle School Computer Science A & B

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade or above**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This course will provide students with an understanding of basic computer science concepts and the tools to understand and work with the modern-age technology around them.

Course “A” Topics include topics such as 3D Modeling/Printing, Artificial Intelligence, and Computer/Data Ports.

Course “B” Topics include topics such as Digital Writing, Software, WebDev, and Hardware.

***This course is designed to be taken over multiple years. Most students will take this in both 7th and 8th Grades - with different topics covered in each year.***

### Technology I

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies Technology Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - MSCS A & MSCS B or permission of administration

**Description** - This course will provide students an introduction to computer science. Students will work in 3D environments and learn computer logic through the use of Alice 3. By the end of this course students will be able to program and manipulate objects in Alice and understand how those concepts can be applied outside of the classroom. Tech introduces students to programming and computer logic.

### **Coding in Java A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***AP Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisites** - Mobile App OR Coding in Python B

**Co-requisites** - Algebra II

**Description** - In this course you will learn computer science by building socially useful mobile apps. In addition to programming and computer science principles, the course is project-based and emphasizes writing, communication, collaboration, and creativity. Students who have taken this course in the past have gone on to compete in Hackathons at Facebook, applied for the Congressional App Challenge, won NCWIT awards, and secured internships through a partnership with UNH STEM Discoveries lab.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credits with AP possibilities).***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Intro to Website Design A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - This course will provide students with the basic XHTML skills necessary to construct a web site. Students will acquire a working knowledge of all aspects of XHTML construction. CSS construction and design is a fundamental part of this course. This course emphasizes the programming, as opposed to the design, aspect of web development. Students will use text editors to complete all tasks.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Coding in Python A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - This is an interactive introductory course for students brand new to python programming that teaches the foundations of computer science using the Python language. This course will teach students how to think computationally and solve complex problems - skills that are important for every student. This course may also include physical computing of Micro:bits, CodeBots, and programmable Drones.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Graphic Design**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - The foundations of two-dimensional design—the basis of art, graphic design, typography, and visual communication—are taught to students in this Graphic Design course. This course focuses on how points, lines, planes, gestalt, and color may communicate and convey meaning through straightforward yet deliberate visual manipulation.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Game Development**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - Video Games are often thought of as a childish endeavor and while that might be true for some games, the design and development that goes into game design is anything but. Game development can encompass the entire spectrum of programming fields, and the business concepts that govern how games are made are applied to many different careers across disciplines. This course would touch on topics ranging from object-oriented programming, the business of game studios, the ethical responsibilities for both players and creators, and of course how to make a video game. For students, this is a great way for them to learn and gain a passion for programming while creating something they can be proud of and invested in. This course would be a hands-on course where students will learn about game development and design, and then directly apply those concepts into projects that give them a tangible example of their success.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **MakerSpace**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - In this course students will explore the following topics at a deeper level: 3DPrinting, PaperCircuits, E-Textiles, Engineering, and Game Design. Additional projects will be added based upon student interest for further exploration.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Animation**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Satisfies Technology/Business Elective, Fine Arts Elective, or General Elective**

**Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - Animation is a form of art that can express motion, stories, and ideas in a way that few other art forms can capture. From its humble beginnings to modern day cinematography, animation is an art form that opens the mind to explore new ideas and forms of sharing our imaginations. This course would cover how to create well polished animations that come to life and tell a story, students will learn animation tools, techniques, and principles. For students, this will give them skills that will allow them to express their imaginations in a new and dynamic art form. Learning how to animation also has transferable skills that are useful and applicable to a variety of careers.

This course would be a hands-on course where students will learn animation principles and techniques as well as the concepts of motion behind them, all while creating animations that they will use as milestones for their progress and success.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Cybersecurity - Part A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - Part A of the course aims to give students a basic understanding of cybersecurity through technical reading, videos, podcasts, class discussions, hands-on applications, simulations, and board games. The course begins with an introduction to ethics, examining the ways in which values shape societies, ethical questions surrounding the use of technology, and the privacy/security trade-off. Next, the course discusses the CIA triad and gives a basic introduction to computer hardware, which are knowledge units needed for the rest of the course.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

## **Mobile App Development A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

**Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**AP Opportunity Possible**

**Prerequisites** - Technology I

**Corequisite** - Algebra I

**Description** - In this course you will learn computer science by building socially useful mobile apps. In addition to programming and computer science principles, the course is project-based and emphasizes writing, communication, collaboration, and creativity. Students who have taken this course in the past have gone on to compete in Hackathons at Facebook, applied for the Congressional App Challenge, won NCWIT awards, and secured internships through a partnership with UNH STEM Discoveries lab.

***This course is not offered every year. It **WILL NOT** be offered in 2023-2024.***

### **Intro to Computer Science - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade or above**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to "dissect an app," or learn how the Internet works.

*This course was required for all students new to Founders. This course covered most of the material in Computer Science 1, but in a one-semester format to allow it to fit in the schedules of non-6th Grade students. After the 2021-2022 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its material has been incorporated into MSCS.*

### **Computer Science 1s - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade or above**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to "dissect an app," or learn how the Internet works.

*This course was required for all students new to Founders. This course covers most of the material in Computer Science 1, but in a one-semester format to allow it to fit in the schedules of non-6th Grade students.*

*After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Instead, returning students will take "MSCS" while new students will take "Intro to Computer Science".*

### **Computer Science 2 - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Computer Science 1 or Computer Science 1s

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to "dissect an app," or learn how the Internet works. This will incorporate the curriculum for CS Discoveries in a partnership with the UNH STEM Discoveries Lab.

*After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. The material has been combined with the material from "Computer Science 3" to form "MSCS".*

### **Computer Science 3 - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Computer Science 2 or Permission of Instructor

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works. This will incorporate the curriculum for CS Discoveries in a partnership with the UNH STEM Discoveries Lab. This will also incorporate additional units from Exploring Computer Science curriculum to enhance the focus on computer science skills as the focus rather than digital literacy.

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. The material has been combined with the material from “Computer Science 2” to form “MSCS”.***

## **Health & Physical Education**

### **PE/Health 6**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This course is designed to give students the basic knowledge and tools that are important in making choices for a healthy lifestyle. Students will be exposed to a variety of activities, demonstrations, projects, and discussions that will help them determine what a healthy lifestyle is and why it is important. Maintaining a healthy way of living requires a balance of physical, mental-emotional, and social well-being. This course will be discussing each of those aspects and what it means to have a healthy lifestyle in each area.

### **High School Health**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies Health Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Biology

**Description** - The Founders Academy High School Health course consists of a variety of topics which focus on providing students information to aid them in making healthy choices. This course is designed to give students basic knowledge and tools that are important in making choices for a healthy lifestyle. Students will be exposed to a variety of activities, projects, and discussions that will help them determine what a healthy lifestyle is and why it is important. They will examine past leaders in the field and the impact of their discoveries and contributions. Maintaining a healthy way of living requires a balance of physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being. Each of these will be addressed throughout the course.

**Note** - *Many of our students choose to take "Life Management Skills" through VLACS (with prior approval from our Scheduling Committee) to satisfy this graduation requirement. This allows students to have more room for electives in their Junior and Senior years.*



## **High School Alternative Credit PE I/II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies PE Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - prior approval from the Scheduling Committee

**Description** - Many students at The Founders Academy choose to fulfill the NH requirements for Physical Education through ways other than a scheduled class. This option allows a student to receive credit for physical activities that they were likely to participate in while also freeing up room in their schedule in order to take more classes that match their interests. One season of a school-sponsored high school sport (Freshman, Junior Varsity, or Varsity) from the student's sending district can count for one semester of PE with documentation from the coach confirming that the student participated in good standing for the season. Other *organized* sports and activities (dance, karate, etc) can possibly be counted with 50 hours of participation equalling one semester worth of credit. (It is important that these organized activities are approved by the Scheduling Committee before participation.) Signed documentation (and possibly a log tracking the hours) from a coach or instructor will likely be required as proof of completion.

***This option can be taken twice for one total credit in order to meet the PE Graduation Requirements. It cannot be used to fulfill any other elective requirements.***

## **High School PE I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies PE Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Student must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Students will be exposed to a variety of activities to encourage lifelong participation and to promote a physically active lifestyle.

***This class is taken in order to meet the PE Graduation Requirements. It cannot be used to fulfill any other elective requirements. Class size is limited and preference will be given to Seniors and Juniors who need to complete the Graduation Requirement.***

## **High School PE II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies PE Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - High School PE I

**Description** - Students will be exposed to a variety of activities to encourage lifelong participation and to promote a physically active lifestyle.

***This class is taken in order to meet the PE Graduation Requirements. It cannot be used to fulfill any other elective requirements. Class size is limited and preference will be given to Seniors and Juniors who need to complete the Graduation Requirement.***

## **General Education**

### **Life Skills 101**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 10th Grade or above

**Description** - Looking for an elective that is going to teach you how to do everyday tasks? Wondering how to do laundry? What is a crock pot? How do I mail a letter? What is empathy? Leading by example in all that you do, what is a planner and how do I use it? I have a credit score? I have a gym membership, now what? How to sew a button on pants. How to set goals and work towards achieving goals. How do I check the oil in my car? How to prepare for a job interview; Proper nutrition and food prepping; Making your own Dr. appointments; what in the world are utilities? .. and many MANY more... Well then, Life Skills 101 is the class for you! Come join as each week we dive into a new unit with several topics that will teach you and give you the tools you need to carry out at times simple, yet necessary and practical skills. This class will be a semester-long hands-on class where students will have the opportunity to try and complete many of these tasks. Having these skills under your belt will help you with life everyday, life after high school and how to continue being a future leader by being able to lend a helping hand. Life skills 101, you won't just learn it, you'll experience it!

### **Teaching Assistant**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 11th Grade or above; Permission from Scheduling Committee

**Description** - The teaching assistant position is intended to provide an opportunity for students to go beyond the classroom experience to pursue or develop an interest in the field of education. We recognize the value of self-discovery and self-teaching, and we wish to encourage the responsibility and growth which is involved in this process.

***Students interested in this option must set up an appointment with their HS counselor to discuss the requirements and expectations.***