



Course Catalog

High School 2026-2027

English Language Arts

Ancient Literature (1cr)

This course introduces students to the foundations of Western Civilization through the epic poetry of The Iliad, The Odyssey, and The Aeneid. These epic narratives elevate human struggles and conflicts to cosmic significance, and offer their listeners an all-encompassing portrait of divinity, humanity, and nature as well as a common cultural identity. Students will learn the language of epic poetry and wrestle with ancient questions about transcendent greatness, heroism, the centrality of the family, and the nature of the good life. As a complement to these works, students will read tragedies by Sophocles as well as William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.

Rhetoric (.5cr)

Among the marks of a well-educated person is the ability to articulate his or her thoughts clearly and concisely. While this is often emphasized in one's writing, this same ability is no less important in spoken discourse. Rhetoric aims to train students in the art of speaking well. Students will learn to identify and utilize the different modes of persuasion, craft superior speeches through the five canons of rhetoric, and judge speeches for their logical merit. Students will encounter and understand excellent examples of rhetoric through the study of historical speeches. Additionally, students will compose and deliver their own speeches, developing their powers of composition and public speaking.

Composition (.5cr)

This course is designed for students who have not taken the 7th and 8th grade Grammar and Composition classes or for students who need additional practice in grammar and composition skills. The purpose of the course is to improve students' ability to write by reviewing basic grammar and focusing on the essentials of the writing and editing process. Knowledge of grammar provides students with the building blocks of the English language, and, in this way, helps them to become better thinkers and better writers. The semester will begin by reviewing

the parts of speech, the process of sentence diagramming, and the basics of punctuation. Students will then be introduced to the invention, organization, style, and revision necessary for good composition.

British Literature (1cr)

This course continues the study of great works of literature that began with the Ancients, tracing the influence of the classical tradition on representative works of Medieval and British literature such as Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Paradise Lost, Macbeth, Pride and Prejudice, and A Tale of Two Cities. By engaging with the beauty, originality, and wisdom of these texts, students will come to reflect deeply upon questions concerning man's place in the cosmos, the struggle between good and evil, moral virtue, human freedom, and the dynamic interplay between love and reason in the pursuit of happiness. Throughout this course, students will be expected to read analytically, paying particular attention to the relationship between literary form and content, and they will develop strong habits of memorization, argumentation, and written composition.

American Literature (1cr)

This course introduces students to some of the greatest works of American literature, including The Scarlet Letter, Moby Dick, and Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, as well as short stories and poems by Bradstreet, Eliot, Emerson, Faulkner, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, O'Connor, and more. By engaging with the works of great American minds, students will develop a deeper understanding of the culture and spirit of the American people as they wrestle with questions concerning freedom, friendship, the relationship between the individual and society, the nature of art, and the meaning of suffering. Throughout this course, students will continue to develop their skills of literary analysis, Socratic discussion, and logical and eloquent written composition.

Modern Literature (1cr)

This course concludes the literature sequence with two main objectives. The first is to complete students' training in oral and written rhetoric, which also culminates in the successful presentation of the Senior Thesis. The second objective is to introduce students to modern literature in the context of the classical tradition. Modern literature, and modernism in particular, often challenges readers' notions of what a work of art is and its relationship to reality. To that end, students will expand their understanding of literary form and mimesis by reading works including The Metamorphosis, Heart of Darkness, Hamlet, and Crime and Punishment, as well as modern short stories and poems by Auden, Chekhov, Hopkins, Pound, Stevens, Yeats, and more.

Senior Thesis (1cr)

The Senior Thesis project requires students to choose one or more texts that have made a significant contribution to the development of knowledge and culture in Western civilization, and then to craft a lengthy argumentative essay that proposes an answer to real problems raised in those texts concerning human nature, the human good, and the natural order. The essay-writing process culminates in the oral presentation and defense of the thesis in front of a faculty panel and an audience of family members and friends. The senior thesis project is considered the capstone of students' entire classical K-12 education, insofar as it requires them to demonstrate their mastery over the liberal arts of grammar, logic, and rhetoric. In addition to being a capstone project, the senior thesis also represents a first step into a life of public discourse and civic virtue.

Mathematics

Algebra I (1cr)

This course is a study of the fundamental ideas and processes of elementary algebra, with emphasis placed on the structure of mathematics. This structure provides a mental framework on which more complicated ideas can be built and helps students to understand that mathematics is a unified and connected body of knowledge. This course will help to lay the foundation needed in subsequent courses in mathematics and in other subjects by helping the student develop logical thinking and reasoning skills. Major topics include properties and sets of numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, quadratic equations, and functions.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Geometry (1cr)

This course introduces students to Euclidean Geometry as a demonstrative discipline through proofs of geometrical propositions from certain and self-evident principles. In addition to exploring the foundations of geometrical knowledge, students are taught how to apply that knowledge to concrete problems and how to integrate pure geometry with algebraic reasoning and expression. This course places a special emphasis on the nature of demonstrative knowledge, the development of logical thinking skills, and the arts of analytic and synthetic reasoning. Major topics include lines and angles, triangles, polygons, quadrilaterals, circles, ratio and proportion, coordinates, and spheres.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Algebra II (1cr)

This course enables students to continue to build upon and unify their knowledge of algebra and geometry through the study of analytic geometry, while it also provides the mathematical foundation necessary for more advanced courses and higher order math. The course aims to strengthen students' conceptual understanding of mathematics and numbers, in addition to their logical and spatial reasoning, and it will continue to build students' mathematical intuition. Major topics covered include polynomials; linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, and systems; properties and graphs of functions; linear functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; quadratic functions; and circles and their equations. The end of the course includes a brief introduction to trigonometry in order to emphasize the unity of algebraic and geometric procedures.

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry

Precalculus (1cr)

Pre-Calculus, as its name suggests, helps to prepare students for Calculus, but it also builds extensively on ideas from Algebra II and Geometry. The course will review and dig deeper into major concepts from Algebra II before moving on to an in-depth study of Trigonometry, which is one of the most widely applicable topics in mathematics. The course ends with an introduction to Calculus and Discrete Mathematics, in order to prepare students for the highest-level math courses they will take in high school. The primary goals of the course are to solidify a foundation in algebra and trigonometry, to prepare students for calculus, business calculus, and finite mathematics, and to develop problem solving skills that can be applied to the real world.

Prerequisite: Algebra II and Geometry

Statistics (1cr)

The Nature of Statistics is explored in this course. Organizing Data, Descriptive Measures, Probability Concepts, and Discrete Random Variables will be taught. The Normal Distribution will be analyzed and applied to The Sampling Distribution of the Sample Mean, Confidence Intervals for One Population Mean, Hypothesis Tests for One Population Mean, Inferences for Two Population Means, and Inferences for Population Standard Deviations.

Social Studies

Ancient World History (1cr)

This course explores the foundations of Western civilization from the first cities in Mesopotamia to the end of the Western Roman Empire. While the teacher and secondary sources will help to

provide narrative history and explanations, the course readings will often let these ancient civilizations speak for themselves through the study of primary sources and artifacts. Major topics will include histories of the Mediterranean and Near East; the Hebrews; Ancient Greek culture, wars, and philosophy; Republican and Imperial Rome; Christianity and the early church; and the crisis and division of Rome. Students should leave this course with a working knowledge of the origins of Western civilization in the ideas, people, and institutions of the Greek, Hebrew, and Roman worlds and of early Christian history.

Logic (.5cr)

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles and rules of logic as first formulated in Aristotle's *Organon* and as further developed and systematized by ancient and medieval commentators. In addition, it introduces students to the philosophical principles that underlie traditional logic; therefore, it contains both a theoretical component as "the rational science" and a practical component as "the art of reasoning." The course proceeds according to the natural order of the three acts traditionally ascribed to the intellect: simple apprehension, judgment, and reasoning. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate: 1) an understanding of the traditional theory of human knowing; 2) the ability to implement this theory in determining the order and method proper to the various arts and sciences; and 3) the ability to analyze arguments for logical validity and to construct logical demonstrations.

European History (1cr)

This course spans the arch of European history from the fall of Rome through the exile of Napoleon Bonaparte, covering the various revolutions in theology, philosophy, law, and politics leading from the ancient world to the dawn of modern Europe. In due course students encounter the Early, High, and Late Middle Ages, followed by the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Age of Exploration, the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the French Revolution. As with other upper school history classes, this course will privilege the use of primary texts—an approach that better allows students to engage with the ideas, personalities, and cultures of the past. The teacher and supplementary secondary sources will help to guide students by providing narrative background and analysis.

Personal Finance (.5cr)

Personal Finance equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to make sound financial decisions in college, career, and adult life. Using the Council for Economic Education's Full-Semester Personal Finance Course: A Standards-Aligned, Turnkey Curriculum, students explore practical topics including earning income, budgeting and saving, banking, credit and debt, investing, insurance, taxes, and major financial decisions. Through real-world scenarios, decision-making activities, and financial planning exercises, students develop the ability to

evaluate options, understand financial consequences, and apply economic and personal finance principles to everyday life. The course prepares students to become responsible and informed financial decision-makers as they transition into adulthood.

Economics (.5cr)

This course will help young Americans appreciate and understand our free market system. Its primary goal is to introduce students to the economic way of thinking and to help develop mental tools that they can use to understand the complex interactions of a commercial society. The course begins by introducing students to the language of economics and teaches them to apply its principles and postulates to see conditions in a free market and to compare these conditions to alternative arrangements. After learning the basic foundations and uniqueness of the free market system, students will next study fundamental concepts of economics—including supply and demand, economizing actions, marginal decisions, opportunity costs, coordinating the actions of economizers, and market interventions—that will allow them to see the basic actions and interactions within the market. Finally, students will learn about the Keynesian model of macro-economics in order to help them understand current fiscal and monetary policy.

American History (1cr)

This course covers American history from the European Age of Exploration to the present day. Students will engage with the major persons, events, and ideas in important periods throughout American history. Most students will already have a working familiarity with American history from grades 7 and 8, enabling the class to move quickly through narrative history and biography with extra time and attention spent on primary sources and discussions of important and controversial ideas. This class will build upon the Western and European history from Grades 9 and 10 while helping to prepare students for the 12th grade class in American Government. Students completing this course should have a good sense of their country through knowledge of its history, ideas, and conflicts.

Philosophy (1cr)

The primary purpose of this course is to confront some of the most important philosophical, moral, and political questions that have troubled thoughtful people in all times and places. Students will learn to reflect deeply on human nature and the human good; the character of morality, justice, and freedom; the nature of politics and good government; and the place of human beings in the broader natural universe. They will do this by reading works written by some of the greatest minds ever to have reflected on these matters, and especially Aristotle, who will be their principal guide. This course will also help students better understand the intellectual foundations of the contemporary world, and it will help prepare them for prudent, responsible

citizenship. Authors studied include Aristotle, Niccolò Machiavelli, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and Karl Marx.

Modern World History (1cr)

This history course picks up where the Western Civilization II course finished by covering the political, economic, and philosophic history of modern Europe from Napoleon to the present day. As much of this history overlaps with the 11th grade course in American History, students will have the opportunity to revisit many of these historical events from a fresh angle. Students will encounter the Revolutions of the 19th Century, Industrialization, Late Modern Philosophies, World Wars I and II, the rise and fall of Communism in Russia, the Disintegration of the British Empire, the Cold War, and the ideas and institutions of Europe in the post-Cold War era. As students' final course in history, graduates of this class should be prepared for post-secondary education in history, and—much more importantly—have sufficient background to understand and engage with the ideas and events of the contemporary Western world.

Government (1cr)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge necessary to become responsible, prudent citizens. This task requires us to figure out the meaning of the American regime and the way of life it promotes. Students will acquire a serious understanding of the moral vision of the American Founding and the structure and purposes of the Constitution, and they will also study the most important ways in which our constitutional order has changed throughout our history. After exploring the very best arguments about American government and politics made by statesmen and political thinkers, students will be in a better position to judge what in our regime is worth preserving and what is worth changing. Authors studied include the American Founders, Abraham Lincoln, the Progressives and their successors, and Alexis de Tocqueville.

Science

Biology (1cr)

This course is a comprehensive survey of the science of biology. The course begins with a study of the basic chemical processes important to biology, and then works its way through the study of the cell, genetics, organisms, and the classification of organisms. The course then moves into a study of the human body and concludes with an introduction to environmental science and the interaction of biological communities and their ecosystems. In-class presentations and discussions are complemented by laboratory experiments that teach students the processes of science and data interpretations, while they also reinforce the factual content of the curriculum.

Chemistry (1cr)

This course offers a survey of major theories, models, laws, and concepts of modern chemistry. Through rigorous experimentation, measurement, data interpretation, and modeling, students will inquire about the nature and properties of matter, substance, substantial change, alteration, and material composition. Major units of study include modern atomic theory, the chemical elements, chemical bonding and formulas, stoichiometry, acid base reactions, kinetics and chemical equilibrium, and states of matter and gas laws. Throughout this course, a special emphasis is placed on understanding and applying the scientific method, acquiring rigorous habits of observation and experimentation, and learning how to use measurements of matter to inquire into the nature of matter.

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II

Physics (1cr)

This course provides an overview of the fundamentals of classical physics. Students will concentrate on understanding the physical reality of their everyday experiences of matter and motion and they will learn how to express these concepts through mathematical models and equations. Frequent discussions and lab-based inquiries about the principles of nature and physical phenomena will broaden and deepen students' realms of experience and knowledge. After completing this course, students will exhibit proficiency in explaining and applying the principles of kinematics, force, work and energy, gravitation and oscillation, light and sound, and electromagnetism. Students will also become more adept at examining evidence, identifying and manipulating variables, and testing their own hypotheses in a laboratory setting.

Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus

Anatomy and Physiology: Elective (1cr)

Anatomy and Physiology is the study of structure and function in the human body. Students will learn about the structural organization of the human body and the physiological systems that support life. Furthermore, students will learn how mechanisms within the body support homeostasis, which can be described as the optimal set of internal conditions that support life.

Latin

Latin I (1cr)

Latin I introduces students to the study of Latin while developing the habits, skills, and foundational knowledge necessary for continued success in the language. Using Wheelock's Latin, students progress through Chapters 1–17 while also studying Roman culture and history.

Major concepts include Latin vocabulary and study skills; English grammar; reading, parsing, and diagramming; verb and noun formation; subject-verb agreement; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th conjugation verbs; present, imperfect, future, perfect, pluperfect, and future perfect tenses in the active voice; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd declension nouns; 1st/2nd and 3rd declension adjectives; and grammatical concepts such as number and inflection. Through translation and analysis, students develop a strong foundation in Latin language and an appreciation for the language and culture of the ancient Romans.

Latin II (1cr)

This course continues the study of the Latin language and Roman culture and civilization begun in Latin I, covering chapters 18-27 of Wheelock's Latin. Primary focus is given to translating increasingly more complex adaptations of texts written by various Roman authors. Within each chapter, students learn new points of morphology and syntax, comparing Latin grammar and syntax to English. Major concepts that will be taught include the passive voice; 5th declension nouns; participles; the passive periphrastic; infinitives and indirect statements; and comparative and superlative adjectives.

Prerequisite: Latin I

Latin III (1cr)

Latin III reinforces concepts that students learned in Latin I-II and continues to build upon their skills in translation, their knowledge of linguistics, and their understanding of Roman culture. Additionally, this course enables students to begin reading more extended passages reworded from authentic Roman stories, as well as excerpts from authentic Latin texts. The course covers chapters 28-40 of Wheelock's Latin, together with readings from Ritchie's *Fabulae Faciles*. Major concepts that will be taught include the subjunctive mood; indirect questions and sequence of tenses; cum clauses; conditions; and the gerund and gerundive.

Prerequisite: Latin II

Latin IV: Elective (1cr)

The chief purpose of the Latin IV course is to cultivate a leisured enjoyment in reading authentic Latin literature. To that end, this course will focus on enabling students to appreciate the beautiful content and style of original Latin texts. Nevertheless, grammatical concepts and constructions will continue to be reviewed, reinforced, and refined, and students will develop a deeper and more extensive understanding of Latin rhetorical devices and poetic conventions. Traditionally, the first authentic work of Latin literature that students read after completing the introductory grammar sequence is Julius Caesar's *Gallic War* (*De Bello Gallico*). This is typically followed by Virgil's *Aeneid*, and then selected orations from Cicero.

Prerequisite: Latin III

Co-Curriculars

Art Studio (.5cr)

This is an introductory level studio art course, designed for students with all artistic ability levels and skills. Students will explore various materials, techniques, concepts, and processes essential to understanding the visual arts and the role of the artist, work on individual projects and studio studies to develop basic drawing and painting skills, learn design concepts, and further develop hand-eye coordination and fine-motor skills. The art assignments are designed to enhance and nourish such skills as creative problem solving and critical thinking, while developing the student's individual style. Students will demonstrate their ability to respond, to analyze, and to interpret their own artwork and the work of others through discussions and critiques. In addition, the class will provide an in depth study of art history and basic art concepts. Students will examine a variety of aspects of art history including themes and purposes of art; styles of art; the elements of art; and design principles.

Advanced Art (.5cr)

This is an advanced studio art course, designed for students with advanced artistic ability levels and skills. Students must have taken the introduction to art or have an outstanding portfolio to enter the class. Students will explore various materials, techniques, concepts, and processes essential to understanding the visual arts and the role of the artist, work on individual projects and studio studies to develop basic drawing and painting skills, learn design concepts, and further develop hand-eye coordination and fine-motor skills. The art assignments are designed to enhance and nourish such skills as creative problem solving and critical thinking, while developing the student's individual style. Students will demonstrate their ability to respond, to analyze, and to interpret their own artwork and the work of others through discussions and critiques. In addition, the class will provide an in depth study of art history and basic art concepts. Students will examine a variety of aspects of art history including themes and purposes of art; styles of art; the elements of art; and design principles.

Drawing and Sketching (.5cr)

Students will develop basic drawing skills, including the ability to perceive and express visual relationships, organize a two-dimensional composition, and depict and manipulate form, space, and light. Students work from direct observation of still life, interior space, and landscape.

Painting (.5cr)

This course will introduce current themes in painting and drawing and their historical antecedents. Technical issues will be discussed and practiced through a variety of materials,

methods, and imagery. Students will produce a series of paintings in a wide variety of styles and media. Through exhibition attendance, visiting artist presentations, readings, and studio activity this course will introduce students to the discipline of painting and drawing as currently practiced and prepare them for more rigorous exploration. Students learn basic techniques of under-painting, mixing, blending, building form, composition, and concept with effective use of texture and color. Studio projects are augmented with slide lectures, discussions, and analyses of great art.

Pottery and Sculpture (.5cr)

The purpose of this course is to provide a balanced visual arts program, which guides students to achieve the standards in the visual arts. In Pottery and Sculpture, students explore three-dimensional form in traditional and nontraditional materials. The student will study form, volume, and space relationships through the exploration of decorative, utilitarian, and conceptual approaches to sculpture. The study of sculptural form in a variety of media during various historical and cultural periods will guide the development of the student's ability to make personal aesthetic and critical judgments. Career opportunities in the arts and arts-related fields will be explored.

Physical Education (.5cr)

Iliad Athletics Physical Education develops students through purposeful movement, outdoor activity, and physical challenge. Students build strength, endurance, mobility, adaptability, and confidence through functional fitness, team-based activities, and appropriate competition. Drawing from historical physical education methods and modern practices, the course makes frequent use of natural environments and real-world challenges to promote physical and mental well-being, teamwork, and problem-solving. Through intentional challenges, reflection, and virtue-based activities, students cultivate resilience, discipline, courage, and leadership while developing habits that support lifelong health. At Iliad Athletics, students learn that growth comes through striving, not comfort.

Team Sports (.5cr)

Team Sports builds on the beginning Physical Education course by focusing on team-oriented sport activities. Various team sports will be explored in depth, including the skills, rules, scoring, and conditioning necessary for success.

Strength Training (.5cr)

This course will give students the skills to develop foundational strength and understanding of fitness principals. Students will learn how to apply bodyweight exercises using proper form and the role of nutrition, exercise physiology, and training periodization to achieve their fitness goals.

Wind Ensemble (.5/1cr)

This course introduces students to playing an instrument of their choice, music theory and history. Students will work on playing as an ensemble while blending the different sounds together. Students will work on music reading skills while learning their chosen instrument. Significant attention is paid to developing students' musical skills instrumentally and aurally. Students will grow as individual musicians as well as growing within the ensemble.

Choir (.5cr)

This course introduces students to singing in a choir, music theory and history. Students will work as a group and blend within the choir. Students will work on music reading skills. Significant attention is paid to developing students' musical skills vocally. Students will grow as individual musicians as well as growing within the choir.

Creative Writing (.5cr)

This course is designed to analyze and apply the use of literary devices and textual elements within a variety of written and spoken genres, including short stories, poems, and dramas. In this course, the purposes and processes of writing will be practiced and reflected upon, so students acquire skills in expression and characterization relevant to composing a work of creative literature.

Speech and Dramatic Interpretation (.5cr)

This course is designed to analyze and apply the use of interpretation, voice, and delivery, as well as textual elements such as literary and rhetorical devices found within spoken genres, including stories, songs, dramas, speeches, and poems. In this course the purposes and processes of effective speaking will be evaluated, practiced and reflected upon, so students acquire skills and techniques relevant to speech and dramatic performance of literature.

Journalism & Yearbook (1cr)

Journalism & Yearbook is an elective course that gives students marketable experience in print media publishing. This course engages students in multiple project-based goals, with real-world

deadlines, marketing, interviewing, creation, and editing. Students will compose, construct, and edit all elements of computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography for publication in both the school's annual yearbook, and the monthly student-focused newsletter *The Guardian Gazette*. Students will also be exposed to the conventions of digital data maintenance, and the use of both publications as an archival tool. Students are strongly encouraged to commit time outside of the classroom to attend a variety of school events for the purpose of collecting content for yearbook coverage. Students are responsible for the proper care and handling of our digital cameras.

Health (.5cr)

This course is provided by Michigan Virtual online schooling. Students are provided with a computer to engage in this self-paced online class. This course is designed with a focus on abstinence only (no contraceptives). In this course, students will learn to obtain, interpret, and apply health information and services in ways that protect and promote personal, family, and community health. Topics include nutrition and physical activity; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; safety; social and emotional health; personal health and wellness; HIV and other STIs prevention; and sexuality education. Health Education (Abstinence Only) is designed with a focus on abstinence only (not contraceptives) as a method of birth control.

Service and Leadership (.5cr)

This course gives students the opportunity to explore the teaching profession through direct participation with a mentor teacher in either a grade level or content-focused area.

Dual Enrollment (varies)

Students can earn college credit while in high school via this program. The courses are delivered through a Michigan college or university and the work is completed independently by the student. All courses must be approved by the principal and/or school counselor.

<i>LCA Course of Study Sample</i>				
8th Gr	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	Statistics or Dual Enrollment
	Ancient Literature	British Literature	American Literature	Modern Literature
	Rhetoric/Composition	Personal Finance/Economics	Philosophy	Senior Thesis
	Ancient World History	European History	American History	Modern World History
	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Government
Latin II	Latin III	Health/P.E.	Elective or Dual Enrollment	Elective or Dual Enrollment
	Co-Curricular	Co-Curricular	Co-Curricular	Co-Curricular