

Course Descriptions: Ninth Grade

Course Type:

Course Title: Art 1-2, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Ms. Culver, cculver@ahsmail@aol.com

In this course, students will deepen their understanding that they are part of the Divine Design. They will learn the elements of design and how to observe the “Beauty of this World.” They are introduced to many mediums and styles of creating art images. They learn that partnering with the spirit; they may all become wonderful artists. The students develop their talents through persistent efforts in drawing and painting. They each have personal sketchbooks provided by our school, where weekly homework is required. We study Christian Character based master artists, such as Rembrandt, or contemporary artist like Greg Olsen and others known to portray Christian values. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through three events that will give each student an opportunity to display their art. These events include a gallery competition in December, a State-wide competition, that will challenge them, in developing Arbor Day posters, and the American Heritage School Art Show which will display all work completed during the year. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to complete assignments during class time, keep them organized, and remember their sketchbooks. To support your student, please consider checking your student’s sketchbooks and giving encouragement.

Course Type:

Course Title: Ballroom 2-3, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Mrs. Hester, bhester@ahsmail.com

This course is designed to give students more advanced technical and intellectual experience in American and Latin social dances. Students will learn social skills and etiquette and develop a desire for continuing participation in social dance events while demonstrating Christ-like conduct (American Heritage Mission Statement #7). The student will also gain an appreciation for the art of dance and how it may be utilized to help build the kingdom of God (American Heritage Mission Statement #1) through classroom demonstration, practice, rehearsal, and teacher-guided discussion of dance history and rhythmic concepts. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through participation in dance competitions involving other local schools; written exams; technique evaluations by teacher; self- and peer-assessments; written evaluations of an outside dance concert; participation in a ballroom showcase; research of videos, books, scriptures, and talks concerning how dance may help build the kingdom of God; recording findings in a notebook; and creating a ten minute presentation. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to remember dance sequences, master different ballroom styles, and exude self-confidence while performing. To support your student, please consider reviewing individual steps, step names, and the performance dances learned each day. You may also want to obtain copies of our music for practice at home by contacting the teacher.

Course Type:

Course Title: Chamber Singers, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Mr. Swenson, rswenson@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn basic vocal technique, music literacy, and ensemble skills by singing in a small group. High school and college level repertoire will be rehearsed in daily class sessions. Students will present two scheduled concerts per year and will participate in other performance opportunities as they arise. The most reliable way for parents to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the teacher's weekly email. For many students the most challenging part of class is to rise to demanding expectations during rehearsals. Students are expected to be attentive, engaged, and focused during the entire rehearsal. The students will need to do at-home practice assignments to learn their music. Parents may help their students by playing parts on the piano for them as they practice singing.

Course Type:

Course Title: Computer Technology 9

Instructor: Mrs. Morse, tmorse@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn about God's principles and purposes for technology, Microsoft Office software (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), Google Applications (e.g. Google Docs), and video creation and editing skills. The primary methods of instruction will be readings, in-depth functionality trainings, term projects, and applying these skills to authentic assignments given to them in other AHS classes. In addition to being able to discuss these topics, students will demonstrate their understanding through lab activities, small group activities, teaching the class an assigned skill, quizzes, and a video creation project. The most reliable way for parents to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the teacher's weekly email. For many students the most challenging part of class is to apply these skills to authentic projects in their other classes. To support your student, please ask your student to show you about what he/she is learning in Computer Technology.

Course Type:

Course Title: Debate 1-2, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Ms. Scholl, lscholl@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn public speaking skills, negotiation, and public forum debate through class discussions, speeches, debates, and in depth study of significant religious and historical speeches. Firsthand experience is a critical element of this course. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through daily quizzes which cover the previous day's material, word studies, speeches, and peer-evaluations. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the teacher's weekly email. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to overcome the fear of public speaking! To support your student, please consider listening to your student practice his/her speeches at home, discussing the current debate topic, and reviewing the weekly email verbally with your student.

Course Type:

Course Title: Earth Science 9

Instructor: Mrs. Logan, klogan@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn about the following subjects: air composition, atmosphere, properties of water, the hydrosphere, and layers of the Earth, Creation of the Earth, weather, physical motion, and Newton's laws of Motion, nature of waves, Light, and astrophysics. These

topics will be taught through lecture, hands-on experiments and labs, assessments, and student-created reports and projects. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through producing a Science Fair project and creating a student notebook, an experiment lab book, and word studies. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to create their Science Fair project and report. To support your student, please consider preparing your student to dedicate approximately three hours per week to the study of Earth Science through assignments, reports or study of the material.

Course Type:

Course Title: French 1-2, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Mr. Gentile, ngentile@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn religious French (including how to pray and read scriptures in French); French history, literature, culture, and geography; and verbs, vocabulary, and grammar for the following topics: language basics, greetings and introductions, work and school, shopping, travel, past and future, friends and social life, and dining and vacation through the Foundation for American Christian Education methodology, the Standard Works and words of modern prophets and apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, individualized Rosetta Stone “dynamic immersion” software, and teacher-led, textbook-guided exercises. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through individualized Rosetta Stone “dynamic immersion” language assessments, compositions, oral and written exams, multi-sensory activities, posters, presentations, and class plays. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to complete their individualized Rosetta Stone “dynamic immersion” activities at home. To support your student, please consider helping your student memorize French verb conjugations and vocabulary and giving them opportunities to speak to you in only French (even if you do not understand French!).

Course Type:

Course Title: Drama 1-2, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Mrs. Perry, jperry@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn about putting techniques and procedures into practice during all phases of rehearsal and performance of the current theatrical production. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through memorization and commitment. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to memorize. To support your student, please consider reviewing memorized parts with your student as needed and making sure they attend class consistently.

Course Type:

Course Title: English 9

Instructors: Mr. Carman, scarman@ahsmail.com, Ms. Scholl, lscholl@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn methods of communication (both written and oral). The course will focus on the history, syntax, and etymology of the English language. The five pieces of literature studied in depth include: Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Faerie Queen/Ivanhoe, Henry V, and Pilgrim's Progress. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through weekly essays, memorizations, oral presentations, word studies, and a research paper. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the teacher's weekly email. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to develop the higher-level reasoning skills necessary to understand these pieces of ancient literature. To support your student, please consider reading the texts along with your student, practicing the roots using flash cards, and reviewing the weekly email verbally with your student.

Course Type:

Course Title: History 9

Instructors: Mr. Carman, scarman@ahsmail.com, Ms. Scholl, lscholl@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn World History and Geography from the Creation to 1640 through the Notebook and Principle Approach Methods. The six major time periods studied are the Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman, Wycliffe-Chaucer, English Reformation, Elizabethan, and Puritan Era. Students will study the contributions of world civilizations through the study of geography, culture, and literature. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through weekly essays, mapping, word studies, oral presentations, and creative projects. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the teacher's weekly email. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to master the breadth of the historical time period spanning from the pre-mortal life to 1600s. To support your student, please consider reviewing the weekly email verbally with your student.

Course Type:

Course Title: Boys Physical Education 9-11

Instructor: Mr. Gentile, ngentile@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn about their bodies as temples of God, maintaining a healthy lifestyle (including wellness topics such as stretching and exercise, healthy eating, harmful substances, first aid, family recreation, managing stress, healthy sleeping, understanding and preventing heart attacks and cancer, and the interconnectedness of body, mind, and spirit), and various world sports and games (including Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, football, volleyball, team handball, badminton, basketball, capture the flag, and baseball) through Foundation for American Christian Education methodology, the Standard Works and words of modern prophets and apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the study and application of wellness topics, and the study and playing of sports and games. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through quizzes on wellness topics, quizzes on rules and skills needed to play various sports, and the tracking and evaluation of their results in the President's Challenge Health Test. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is

through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to implement what they learn about wellness topics. To support your student, please consider encouraging his implementation of a personal wellness program (i.e., ten minutes of stretching and thirty minutes of anaerobic or aerobic activity six days/week).

Course Type:

Course Title: Girls Physical Education 9-11

Instructor: Mrs. Jespersen, tjespersen@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn teamwork, sportsmanship, honesty, tolerance, flexibility, attitude, cooperation, self-discipline, and determination through a variety of sports and games, such as Ultimate Frisbee, soccer, flag football, dodge ball, volleyball, basketball, baseball, kickball, and capture the flag. We will stress the uniqueness, and value of each individual. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through active participation in the scheduled sport, game, or activity. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to work consistently to achieve their individual Presidential Fitness goals and individual exercise/health goals. To support your student, please consider encouraging your daughter to be physically active thirty to sixty minutes each day, checking Edline for the scheduled weeks for Presidential Fitness testing, and asking your daughter about the results of her test, then encourage her to set and work toward a goal.

Course Type:

Course Title: Spanish 1, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Ms. Nelson, anelson@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn the basic principles of speaking, reading, and writing Spanish through in-class grammatical, verbal, written, and vocabulary practice, as well as via the online Rosetta Stone Spanish language learning program. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through memorizations, worksheets, essays, and oral exams. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is the teacher's weekly email. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to learn proper pronunciation and discipline them to verbally practice what they are being taught. To support your student, please consider making the computer available at home for their online assignments (at LDS.org and ahs.RosettaStoneclassroom.com) for twenty to thirty minutes a night.

Course Type:

Course Title: Spanish 2, 9-11 grades

Instructor: Mr. Haymond, rhaymond@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn Spanish grammar for confident communication through in-class readings; discussions; writing in Spanish; using Rosetta Stone Software in class and at home; and field trips to restaurants, language fairs, and a local Spanish branch. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding through weekly progression through the Rosetta Stone Software, term projects, and practicing Spanish at home with a parent or neighbor. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through the teacher's weekly email. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to read and speak the language on a consistent basis. To support your student, please consider learning the language with them, using Rosetta Stone at home.