

**WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY  
ACADEMIC COURSE  
DESCRIPTIONS  
2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR**



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# ALL COURSES 2023-24

## ENGLISH

Foundations of Text  
Explorations in Analysis  
Angles in Writing  
Contemporary Native American Voices  
Contemporary Fiction  
Creative Writing: Fiction  
Detective Fiction: →  
Film Studies  
Identity Crisis  
Literature of the Road  
Nature Writing  
Revision & Remix  
Social Justice in Literature  
Speculative Fiction  
Storytelling & Sports  
Writing for Publication  
CL American Literature & the Free Market Economy  
CL Deep Dive: Author Study  
CL Deep Dive: Text Study  
CL Divided by Class  
CL Power of Language  
CL Women in Fiction  
CL Shakespeare: Comedies  
CL Shakespeare: Tragedies →  
CL Writing Memory

## FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

Art 1  
Art 2  
Advanced Art/Portfolio  
3D Art  
Ceramics 1  
Ceramics 2  
Advanced Ceramics  
Environmental Art  
Photography  
Advanced Photography  
Advanced Photography: Teaching Practicum  
Book Arts and Printmaking →  
Dance 1  
Dance 2  
Advanced Dance  
Choir  
String Orchestra  
Symphonic Winds  
CL Music Theory  
Studio Music  
Jazz Ensemble  
Digital Music Production  
Advanced Digital Music Production  
Song Writing  
Musical Theater Performance  
Advanced Musical Theater Performance  
Acting  
Advanced Acting

Costume Design  
Stagecraft 1  
Stagecraft 2

## INTEGRATED STUDIES & DESIGN

Learn to Code  
Learn to Make  
Learn to Live Well  
Learn to College  
Learn to Lead  
CL Compass  
Automotive Engineering Design  
Engineering and Fabrication  
Advanced Engineering and Fabrication  
CL Robotics & Automation  
CL Fab Academy  
Graphic Design and Illustration  
3D Printing and Design  
E-textiles and Fabrics  
Idea to Product: How to Start a Business  
Digital Video Editing and Effects  
Architectural Restoration →  
Digital Fabrication Capstone  
Service-Learning Engineering →  
Advanced Technology Practicum  
Advanced Technology Teaching Practicum  
Speech  
So, You Want To Get Published →  
Principles of Athletic Training  
Advanced Principles of Athletic Training  
Mission in Action  
Mock Trial  
Introduction to Law

## MATHEMATICS

Math 11 Algebra 1  
Math 15 Algebraic Concepts & Applications  
Math 21 Geometry  
Math 31 Algebra 2  
Math 32 Honors Algebra 2  
Introduction to Statistics  
Discrete Mathematics  
Financial Mathematics  
Math 41 Precalculus  
Math 42 Honors Precalculus  
Math 43 Honors Accelerated Precalculus  
CL Statistics  
Math 51 Calculus  
Math 52 CL Calculus AB  
Math 53 CL Calculus BC  
CL Calculus-Based Probability & Statistics  
CL Multivariable Calculus  
CL Linear Algebra  
CL Computer Science  
Computer Programming: Python

→ indicates course will not be offered in the 2023-2024 school year

# ALL COURSES 2023-24

## MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

French 1  
French 2  
French 3  
Honors French 3  
French Language & Culture  
CL French Language & Culture 1  
CL Advanced French Language and Culture 2  
Latin 1  
Latin 2  
Latin 3  
Honors Latin 3  
Latin Literature  
Ancient Greek  
CL Latin Literature  
Mandarin Chinese 1  
Mandarin Chinese 2  
Mandarin Chinese 3  
Chinese Language & Culture  
CL Mandarin Chinese 1  
CL Advanced Mandarin Chinese Language & Culture 2  
Spanish 1  
Spanish 2  
Honors Spanish 2  
Spanish 3  
Honors Spanish 3  
Spanish Language & Culture  
CL Spanish - Spain/Latin America  
Introduction to German →

CL Economics  
CL Philosophy  
CL Frederick Douglass  
CL Civil Rights: Revolutionary War Through Reconstruction  
CL Civil Rights: Twentieth Century  
CL Art History/Art History 1  
CL Art History/Art History 2  
CL Art History/Art History 3 →  
United States Government  
Arabic and Arab Cultures  
Middle East Studies  
Women of Color in American History  
International Relations  
Space Race →  
Vietnam War →  
Global Health  
Global Mental Health  
Native American Heritage & Culture  
History of Hudson and WRA  
1968 - The Unraveling of America  
History Through Hollywood: American Film and the McCarthy Era  
East Asian History →  
Introduction to Geography  
Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

## SCIENCE

Biology  
Chemistry  
Honors Chemistry  
Conceptual Physics  
Physics  
Honors Physics  
CL Microbiology  
CL Chemistry  
CL Physics  
Cancer Immunology  
Honors Cancer Immunology  
CL Cancer Immunology  
Ecological Sustainability  
Astronomy →  
Advanced Astronomy →  
Exercise Physiology  
CL Synthetic Biology 1  
CL Synthetic Biology 2  
Ocean Topics

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

Exploring Global Foundations  
Building the Modern World  
United States History and Government  
CL United States History and Government

→ indicates course will not be offered in the 2023-2024 school year

# COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES 2023-24

## **ENGLISH**

American Literature and the Free Market  
Economy  
Deep Dive: Author Study  
Deep Dive: Text Study  
Divided by Class  
Power of Language  
Women in Fiction  
Shakespeare: Comedies  
Shakespeare: Tragedies →  
Writing Memory

## **FINE & PERFORMING ARTS**

Music Theory

## **INTEGRATED STUDIES & DESIGN**

Compass  
Robotics & Automation  
Fab Academy  
Automation Engineering

## **MATHEMATICS**

Statistics  
Calculus AB  
Calculus BC  
Calculus-Based Probability & Statistics  
Multivariable Calculus  
Linear Algebra  
Computer Science

## **MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES**

French Language & Culture 1  
Advanced French Language and Culture 2  
Latin Literature  
Mandarin Chinese 1  
Advanced Mandarin Chinese Language and  
Culture 2  
Spanish - Spain/Latin America

## **SCIENCE**

Microbiology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Cancer Immunology

Synthetic Biology 1  
Synthetic Biology 2

## **SOCIAL SCIENCE**

United States History and Government  
Economics  
Philosophy  
Frederick Douglass  
Civil Rights: Revolutionary War Through  
Reconstruction  
Civil Rights: Twentieth Century  
Art History 1: Ancient Art, Architecture  
and Archaeology  
Art History 2: Renaissance through  
Nineteenth Century  
Art History 3: Modern Painting,  
Architecture and Photography →

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## ENGLISH

**Foundations of Text (1.0 Credit):** Open to freshmen and sophomores, this course introduces students to the study of composition and literature at WRA. The focus of this class is primarily on texts in written form; however, students will engage in various modes of storytelling in an effort to learn and solidify reading and discussion strategies. Teachers encourage and promote active reading, including but not limited to paying attention to details and recognizing how those details contribute to the overall story. In addition, this class emphasizes effective annotation, class discussion, textual analysis, and thematic and aesthetic appreciation. Writing instruction is centered on grammar, compelling statements, and logical development—all in the context of students' own expository paragraphs (exemplification, definition, classification and division, comparison and contrast). Students write a short composition most weeks of each semester; moreover, they engage in the writing process, including revision. In the spring, students take a common grammar assessment that tests their mastery of language skills covered over the course of the year.

**Explorations in Analysis (1.0 Credit):** Open to sophomores and juniors and mid year new upperclassmen students, this course emphasizes various techniques and approaches for exploring and discussing literature. Students will learn how to engage with the text, discern meaning, formulate an argument, and present their argument in clear and constructive ways. Building on skills that were taught in Foundations of Text, students will continue to work on developing their close reading and discussion skills, while also strengthening their ability to develop, coordinate, and organize their ideas. Students submit writings to be assessed every two to three weeks, and most assignments challenge students to present analyses of the literary text under consideration. Readings and explorations include (but are not limited to): human fallibility and resilience; identity; freedom and confinement; the power of language; and memoir, voice, and storytelling. Students develop the vocabulary to handle the course's increasing literary and rhetorical sophistication. In the spring, students take a common grammar and style assessment that tests their mastery of writing skills covered over the course of the year.

**Angles in Writing (1.0 Credit):** Open to juniors, new seniors, and post-graduates, this course emphasizes a variety of approaches to critical thinking and effective communication. All aspects of Angles in Writing revolve around the choices authors make and the effects those choices have on the text. Readings feature notable works in fiction, nonfiction, and poetry that underscore and examine the frame of the storyteller/speaker. Throughout the year, students will learn various strategies for exploring, analyzing, and discussing perspective and bias, and they will be challenged to share and present their findings in scholarly and academic ways. They study style and vocabulary to enhance their written and spoken expression of ideas. Throughout the first semester, students write three to four longer responses — mainly expository in nature — and midway through the year, students participate in the WRA Writing Exam (WRA-WE), an analytical essay written about a work of prose or poetry. After the WRA-WE, students progress to more independent engagement with the presented texts, culminating in a written project. Students are required to pass the WRA-WE in order to graduate from WRA.

### **Studies in Literature Electives**

*Designed specifically for returning seniors (allowing students to pursue specific interests while*

satisfying their English requirement for graduation), these elective offerings are also open to juniors and select sophomores. The goal of the English Department's electives is to provide students with opportunities to engage in material that facilitates, fosters, and expands on their developing relationship with literature and on their abilities to discuss literature on academic and persuasive levels. Offerings vary greatly with regard to style, sequence, and themes; however, all offerings present compelling perspectives on the human experience and on writing in the world. Each of these electives will promote attentive reading, engaged discussion, critical analysis, and other forms of composition. Moreover, students will gain experience with other forums for the presentation of their ideas about literature. Please note that certain classes and topics may be too mature for younger students.

**Contemporary Fiction (.5 Credit):** Students in this course will explore several contemporary novels, including one of their own choosing. Our primary goal in this class is to use literature to understand who and how we are in the world, and to use our own understanding of the world and ourselves to illuminate literature. While we are going to spend the semester creating inquiry together, we will always keep the following questions at the front of our minds: How do we come to be, and to understand ourselves as, individual selves in a world made up of other selves? What do we find fascinating, beautiful, new, illuminating (in literature and in the world)? How do contemporary writers answer these questions, and how can we use their works to answer them for ourselves? In the last unit of the semester, you will partner with another student in the class to choose a recently published book that interests you and that you think will in some way connect to an idea or question that has sparked your curiosity in our class. Possible texts include Groff, *Matrix* and Lockwood, *No One Is Talking about This*.

**Contemporary Native American Voices (.5 Credit):** This course emphasizes modern Native American authors and their works. It argues that Native American voices—in both fiction and nonfiction—offer a unique perspective among English language works. By examining works by such thinkers as Tommy Orange, Natalie Diaz, Joy Harjo, and Louise Erdrich, we will consider two important lines of inquiry. First, we will discuss how indigenous authors use the “invader’s language” to subvert and recreate the meanings derived from the English language. Second, we will study how indigenous voices examine, formulate, and develop the fabric of indigenous identity. As David Treuer correctly notes, “So-called ‘Native American fiction’ has not been studied, as literature, as much as it should be.” In a small way, this class intends to begin remedying that rightful critique by providing Native American literature the close reading it deserves. Following our study of present-day voices, students will offer a rhetorical critique of a current issue facing Native American peoples and culture. By analyzing the language of Native American voices—rather than what is said about Native American voices—we will come to better understand how a mascot, skin tone, or geographical area becomes imbued with meaning. Through seminar discussion and argumentative writing, our class will enter into lively discourse, interrogating these meanings, as we explore and argue about how each of us molds an identity within the context of our lives.

**Creative Writing: Fiction (.5 Credit):** Noted American author Jack Kerouac once said, “It ain’t whatcha write, it’s the way atcha write it.” In this course, students will be introduced to the basic elements of short fiction and short plays, with in-class writing, take-home reading and writing assignments, and substantive discussions of craft. Students produce, experiment, and react to a range of creative forms as a means of developing different imaginative approaches to experience and conveying that experience. The emphasis will be on generating raw material specific to short stories and playwriting, getting familiar with some of the essential strategies for reading and discussing the writing of others, and understanding and recognizing the techniques and tools of effective writing and editing. Throughout the semester, classes will be structured as a workshop, where students receive feedback from both the instructor and their fellow writers in a round-table setting, and students should be prepared to offer their classmates responses to their work. To ground our study, students will be expected to read 1-2 full-length collection(s) of short stories (selections change yearly). For the course final, students are required to submit for publication a polished work of any genre.



**Detective Fiction (.5 Credit):** This course is an exploration of the development of and alteration to the genre of detective fiction. Most interesting will be studying the origins, techniques, and characterizations that have made this one of the world's most read forms of literature. In this course, students will read, analyze, and respond to the texts often and in different ways. This is not a course for the faint of heart: murder and the human heart can be messy, disturbing, and often grotesque. Students will examine archetypes like Dupin, Holmes, Spade, and Marlowe, and will explore the seedier side of human nature and detecting. Potential texts: "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," Edgar Allan Poe; old-time radio programs; *The Sherlockian*, Graham Moore; Sherlock Holmes stories, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; and *LA Confidential*, James Ellroy. Also open to sophomores with departmental permission. Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.

**Film Studies: (.5 Credit):** Whether you consider yourself a cinephile or you just like to watch movies, chances are that knowing more about film history and craft would heighten your viewing experience. While this course makes no pretense of providing you with a comprehensive overview of either, it does seek to introduce you to some of the most game-changing movies of all time. Looking at 13 films across the span of over 100 years, you will learn to "read" film as text. To help you understand how, we will learn and discuss introductory concepts in Film Studies, as well as review more advanced scholarship on the material. Expect to develop a working knowledge of film's formal features (e.g. genre; mise-en-scène; cinematography; performance; sound; editing; and, of course, narrative). Expect to dabble in major theories about consuming moving pictures. And expect to write about what you learn—whether it be in your dialectic notebook, online discussion boards, on quizzes, or for your final project. Ultimately, you will appreciate why auteurs like Charlie Chaplin, Marlon Brando, and Alfred Hitchcock persist in our cultural capital. Texts may include *The Kid* (Chaplin, 1927); *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (Mamoulian, 1931); *Pinocchio* (Disney, 1940); *Rashomon* (Kurosawa, 1950); *Dial M For Murder* (Hitchcock, 1954); *West Side Story* (Wise and Robbins, 1961); *Harlan County, USA* (Kopple, 1977); *Apocalypse Now* (Francis Ford Coppola, 1979); *Do the Right Thing* (Lee, 1989); *Goodfellas* (Scorsese, 1990); *Lost in Translation* (Sofia Coppola, 2003); *There Will Be Blood* (Anderson, 2007); *Moonlight* (Jenkins, 2016). Also open to sophomores with departmental permission.

**Identity Crisis (.5 Credit):** Noted psychiatrist and psychoanalyst Carl Jung famously described the shadow that lives within us, a dark force confusing our desires and influencing how we act upon them. But light and dark never cleanly align with good and bad; the line between is blurry and always shifting, and sometimes disappears altogether. This course begins with the prototypical tale of one man torn between the push-and-pull of identity formation: Batman. From there, we turn to characters who feel culturally dislocated. Both real and imagined, our characters cannot make sense of the chaos around and especially within. Our subjects feel alienated from the past and constantly grapple with the present. They have no idea where they belong in the future. Literally and figuratively, they have been removed from home. They were from Vietnam, Pakistan, Mexico, Jamaica, or Iran before they (or their parents) were here. Or, like Qöyawayma, they (and their ancestors) were here, far before any of us were. Questions guiding our inquiry: How does shared history inform our understanding of who we are? What happens at sites of cultural collision? What is lost? Gained? Changed? And how do uneven dynamics of power factor into cultural confusion and its aftermath? Possible texts include: *The Dark Knight Returns* (Miller); *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* (Vuong); *No Turning Back: A Hopi Indian Woman's Struggle to Live in Two Worlds* (Qöyawayma); *Persepolis* (Satrapi).

**Literature of the Road (.5 Credit):** No one is quite sure who Homer was, or even if such a person truly existed. However, *The Odyssey* has intrigued readers for centuries, in great part because it tells the story of a man whose ten-year journey to return home forces him to learn who he truly is and what is really valuable in life. Since then, authors and, later, filmmakers of all cultures have continued to explore "the journey" as a means of helping characters discover who they are, what society means to them, and how they fit into their world. These authors use the world as a testing ground for their characters, sharing with us the struggles, enlightenment, and joy that can come with seeking. This course will consider a selection of "road literature" and films from the 1960s to present day. While the specific pieces are still under consideration, we will evaluate each piece in its own right while also



comparing and contrasting the works to develop a fuller understanding of this wonderful genre.

**Nature Writing (.5 Credit):** This course attempts to explore the natural world and our relationship with it. There will be two types of nonfiction readings for this class. One will be what is known as “nature writing”: personal essays that explore the natural world for truths that apply to our lives. This style encourages students to evaluate their individual definition of nature and to think carefully about what they can learn from our natural surroundings. The other type of reading can sometimes be emotionally charged and will deal with ethical issues related to our natural world. These essays tend to be expository in style and will hopefully help us better understand the political and cultural pressures which can influence our natural world and us. Writing will be exclusively personal in form, and students will have the opportunity to address issues raised through class and to practice nature writing itself. Additionally, throughout the course students will research an ethical issue with personal meaning, presenting their findings at the end of the course.

**Revision & Remix (.5 Credit):** During the twenty-first century, a boom of remakes and remixes of literature has occurred. From television and film to comics and board games, societal nostalgia has led to a rise in adaptations (sometimes brilliant, other times a bit cringe-worthy). While the originals are great, these remakes are often unexplored and rich with opportunities for analysis. This course focuses on original works and the remakes that have come after. As a collective, the class will explore various forms of media and the works they are based on. Through both discussion-based learning and individual exploration, students will explore how writers and other artists re-use and remix stories and what these adaptations tell us about self, culture, and this moment in time.

**Social Justice in Literature (.5 Credit):** This course will focus on the impact of literature on social justice issues throughout history to the modern day. Students will explore questions such as: How is literature distinctive in depicting the ways we grapple with questions surrounding social justice? How does literature reinforce or challenge dominant perspectives? How can literature create practices that allow the reader to imagine different demographics flourishing and adapting rather than just surviving? How do literary works influence a reader’s emotions in ways that might promote or undermine social justice? How can literature impact social justice movements? A range of reading, writing, and discussion-based learning will be employed to develop a deeper understanding of a diverse set of social justice issues such as capitalism, addiction, homelessness, exploitation, poverty, racism, women’s rights, health care, the criminal justice system, and more. At the end of this course, students will be able to utilize their skills and understanding to facilitate change in social justice areas they are passionate about. Students will show mastery by reading a chosen text and presenting on the history of the social justice issue it depicts, along with how the text addresses said issues and/or has facilitated, or could be used to facilitate, social change.

**Speculative Fiction (.5 Credit):** One appealing feature of science fiction is that it explores that frontier of the unknown: the future. At our best, we imagine an improved tomorrow. But too often the anxieties of modern life produce in us a fear of the worst. In the face of ongoing technological change and imbalances of power, how might our future unfold? What will happen to human society? Will individual agency suffer? The nightmarish—or maybe dreamlike—possibilities are the concern of the seminal works we will examine in this course. Be prepared to think about how the world is now through the lens of how we imagine the world could be. Possible texts include: *The Time Machine* (Wells); *Brave New World* (Huxley); *1984* (Orwell); *The Lathe of Heaven* (Le Guin); *A Clockwork Orange* (Burgess); *The Parable of the Sower* (Butler); *A Children’s Bible* (Millet).

**Storytelling & Sports (.5 Credit):** When it comes to good stories, sports has it all: the glory of winning, the agony of defeat, heroes, underdogs, human characters with their strengths and frailties. The sports’ world harbors diverse personalities, features natural narrative frameworks, and intersects with topics from business to education to race. In this class, we will first explore the various ways that stories of sport(s) are told and consumed (i.e. attending a live sporting event, watching a match on “TV,” listening to a broadcast on the radio, reading a beat-writer’s article, etc.) and then we will expand

our scope and lens to consider how sports storytellers move “outside the lines” to discuss specific athletes, illuminate important issues, and present unique tales. Throughout the semester, students will learn to write publishable sports stories while exploring other ways to tell stories that matter to them. If you don’t like sports, then this class may not be ideal for you. *Note: Although the focus of the class is on how stories are told within the world of sports, some subject matter and material may not be suitable for all students, including, but not limited to issues of race, sexism, trauma, toxic masculinity, and domestic violence.*

**Writing for Publication (.5 Credit):** This course serves a dual function: it introduces students to the field of journalism, and it provides students with first-hand opportunities to take part in the field. To that end, students will learn many of the how to’s of successful and effective journalism: how to recognize stories worth telling; how to gather facts through the practice of skillful interviewing and research; how to identify and draw upon sources; how to craft strong ledes; how to create both news and feature articles in order to inform and engage readership; how to independently practice the art of revision; how to understand the difference between hard and soft news; and how to develop, structure, and achieve strong storytelling. Please note that this course requires that student articles be both for and about the WRA community — each of your pieces will be submitted for publication in our school newspaper, *The Reserve Record*.

## College Level Courses

*College Level Studies in English courses are designed to challenge and engage the most proficient and passionate WRA English students at the college level. Exploring literature, composition, and rhetoric on deep and profound levels, CL seminars are offered as half-year electives, and seniors must enroll in English both semesters in order to graduate. All CL offerings will engage a range of literary expression—from fiction to poetry to nonfiction to text in performance—and assume facility with literary and rhetorical terms. The creativity, research, and synthesis necessary for such exploration will demand that students go well beyond the conventions of standard literary essays. Students will write in a variety of modes, including argumentative, reflective, and persuasive forms. Independence and initiative are essential (and assumed) for success in this course. Students—having demonstrated a serious commitment to and interest in the advanced study of English—wishing to enroll in the CL seminars must have earned the recommendation of the Department. Students who are not initially recommended may petition, and their application will be reviewed by our internal College Level Committee.*

**CL American Literature and the Free Market Economy (.5 Credit):** What is the true worth of the dollar? What is the cost of that worth? In recent decades, the human cost of the free market has been often in the news, from international currency wars that have put the market on high alert to how inflation affects people’s day-to-day lives. In this course, we will first work to understand what money means to human experience, and then we will take a look at the way literature offers a lens to focus on our relationship with money—first from the American perspective, and then from a more global one. From Saul Bellow’s tale of a day-in-the-life of a man who loses everything in the commodities market to Jewell Parker Rhodes’s novel depicting the Tulsa massacre that destroyed generations of Black wealth, we will explore how capitalism has shaped American culture and how the global economy continues to reshape it. Possible Texts: *Seize the Day*, Saul Bellow; *Magic City*, Jewell Parker Rhodes; “Bartleby the Scrivener,” Herman Melville; the documentary series *This Giant Beast That Is the Global Economy*, Orson Welles’ *Citizen Kane* and other essays.

**CL Deep Dive: Author Study (.5 Credit):** Pick any reason you like to study Toni Morrison’s work deeply: because Morrison hailed from not an hour away from our beloved campus, and reading literature rooted in our locality matters; because in spite of Morrison’s widely vetted critical acclaim, her work remains woefully underread (or in some places, banned) in secondary school classrooms; or because though you are weary of difficult texts about difficult topics in what is already a difficult time of your life, you want to trouble your assumptions—if only for the sake of reifying the same. Whatever

your reason(s), electing this class means choosing ambiguity. It means saying YES to the call to #disrupttext. Depending on the inclinations of the group, we will read either a smattering of Morrison's literature, or "deep dive" into one of her beloved, breathless novels. You will have to trust yourself to go through the experience of not knowing to reach a place of *better* knowing.

**CL Deep Dive: Text Study (.5 Credit):** This class will take it slow. Where many English classes end up being a sprint through multiple texts, we will read one book for an entire semester. Our goal is to get to know that book as intimately and thoroughly as possible, to examine it from all sorts of angles, to allow ourselves the opportunity to truly understand it, and to allow it the opportunity to change us. As we go along, we will read a number of related texts; we will place the book in the artistic and historical context of its setting and of its writing. Supplemental material will include readings from Kant, Bentham, Gilligan, Althusser, and Foucault, among others. We will develop this course together, from essential questions to activities to opportunities for student voices to be heard. Students will have freedom to create their own responses, written and otherwise, to the various topics the book raises and the feelings it inspires; assignments will range from the critical to the creative and may involve traditional essays, visual art, creative writing, film, audio, and more. So while we will "only" be reading one novel in this semester, we will also be learning about a whole world, whole new ways of looking at that world and our own; we will practice the arts of concentration and taking care. Our methods will be diverse and interdisciplinary, but our aim will be simple: to know, to feel, to connect.

**CL Divided by Class (.5 Credit):** America—the land of opportunity. If you can dream big and work hard, it'll all be there for the taking. Really? This class examines the "pull yourself up by the bootstraps" narrative to consider to what extent America really is the land of opportunity. We will look at narratives of the filthy rich and the dirt poor, and we will think about the middle classes in between. How fixed are these divisions of social class? Is there any chance of upward mobility? Or are the haves and have-nots socially determined? And what about outside of our borders? Does the world at large operate on a meritocracy? Alongside these questions, we will think about high- and low-brow culture. Is the Metropolitan Opera more tasteful than the rap stylings of Megan Thee Stallion? You decide. Texts include: "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction" (Benjamin); *Bastard out of Carolina* (Allison); *Educated* (Westover); *The White Tiger* (Adiga).

**CL Power of Language (.5 Credit):** This course explores the role language plays in the creation of ourselves and our societies; how language reinforces our conceptual understanding of the perceivable world; and how effective rhetoric can alter, reinforce, or remake those understandings. If, as George Orwell flatly stated, language corrupts thought, how does the English language manifest and reinforce those meanings we derive? By examining nonfiction work by such thinkers as Louis Althusser, James Baldwin, George Lakoff, Toni Morrison, and Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, students will explore how language formulates ideas and institutions. Following our theoretical study, students will learn to act as effective rhetoricians. Within the framework of the American Civil Rights Movement, students will listen to and read powerful uses of language, such as *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, before moving to more contemporary questions. By analyzing how language is used in everyday life, students may come to better understand how a flag, statue, or monument becomes imbued with meaning. Through class discussion and argumentative essay writing, our class will enter into a lively and analytical discussion of these topics.

**CL Women and Fiction (.5 Credit):** We begin with Virginia Woolf's groundbreaking thesis that "a woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction." Our aim is first to understand Woolf's vantage point, and then to "flip it and reverse it," à la Missy Elliott. In other words, we turn back to an earlier pioneering work: *Pride and Prejudice*. Would Jane Austen have been even more prolific, shown even greater genius had she enjoyed Woolf's requirements of money and space? Next, we tackle work that came in the wake of Woolf's claim — all novels firmly positioned in the canon of English literature, irrespective of the gender of their authors. Our aim is to apply pressure to Woolf's claim, to test for its relevance in a contemporary sense. Yes, all the work we examine was borne from women. If you appreciate why — perhaps especially if you do not see why — I invite you

to enroll in this course. Possible Texts: *A Room of One's Own* (Woolf); *Pride and Prejudice* (Austen); *The Bloody Chamber* (Carter); *The Outsiders* (Hinton); *The God of Small Things* (Roy); *The Handmaid's Tale* (Atwood); *Girl, Women, Other* (Evaristo). Films: *Pride and Prejudice* (Leonard); *Daughters of the Dust* (Dash); *Little Women* (Gerwig).

**CL Shakespeare: Comedies (.5 Credit):** This course might be called "Shakespeare in Context(s)." We will attempt to understand Shakespeare in his time and place, historicizing him and his works theatrically, culturally, and politically. But more crucially, we will also use Shakespeare to think about our own 21st-century world: what can these plays teach us about who and how we are now, and what new light can our own lives and selves shed on these old plays? This semester's course will focus on one of the major genres of Shakespeare's early career, the comedy. This focus will allow us to think about plays individually and as comments on or negotiations with the traditional forms of comedies and the expectations of audiences who pay to see them, in the 1590s and now. We will read *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Measure for Measure* and watch recent productions of each; we will also read critical essays, again of recent vintage, that ask us to (re-)examine these plays through a variety of lenses informed by new and exciting research in the fields of, e.g., critical race studies, gender studies, queer theory, genre studies, performance studies, and ecocriticism. The ultimate goal of the class is to introduce students to the work that professional literary scholars and historians do, and to give them experience doing the kind of literary investigation they will be asked to do in college Shakespeare classes.

**CL Shakespeare: Tragedies (.5 Credit):** Shakespeare's plays are not "universal," as is sometimes claimed; rather, we can bring our diversity of voices and perspectives to bear on those plays and in doing so change how we think of them, and of ourselves. Many of the questions and goals of this course are the same as those of the Comedies course, but we will turn our attention now to another important group of Shakespeare's plays, the tragedies. You have read *Macbeth* and *Hamlet*, so you're familiar with the genre, but what makes a tragedy a "tragedy," other than death? What sorts of meanings and feelings does the form of the tragedy allow? How does the audience's foreknowledge of the ending—no tragic hero survives their play in Shakespeare's works, after all—affect how we understand the events, characters, and language that constitute the play? As we ask these questions about genre and form, we will watch several modern productions of and read a range of scholarship about the plays we consider. (Texts under consideration include *Othello*, *Richard II*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *King John*, *Coriolanus*, and *Antony and Cleopatra*.) Just as in the Comedies course, we will be asking how we can learn about our own world by studying Shakespeare, and so we will read criticism from fields such as critical race studies, disability studies, queer theory, ecocriticism, and more. By the end of the semester, students will write their own works of literary criticism that allow them to enter into scholarly conversations about Shakespeare, his plays, and his place in our world. Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.

**CL Writing Memory (.5 Credit):** We are amalgamations of our remembered experiences. Memory shapes our understanding of who we are and what the world is around us. Memory can be hard to quit. Sometimes, we cradle sweet memories. Other times, we mull over sad, even traumatic memories. Either way, the effects can be crippling. Yet it is often productive to not forget, to learn from what has happened. To complicate matters, memory is not infallible. If anything, it is woefully marred. This course requires you to think, read, and write about memory in all its nuances. We will encounter fictional characters who process private memory, and non-fictional voices that shape public memory. In these latter instances, we will ask: Who is doing the remembering, and why? Zadie Smith borrows from Shakespeare in her epigraph to *White Teeth*: "What's past is prologue." Let's decide if we agree with her. Texts may include: "Autobiographical Digression #3: Why We Write" (Markley); *Heroin/e* (Strayed); *No Name Woman* (Hong Kingston); "Brokeback Mountain" (Proulx); *The Sense of an Ending* (Barnes); *My Father's Brain* (Franzen); *Beloved* (Morrison).



# FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

## VISUAL ARTS

**Art 1 (.5 Credit):** In this introductory course, students will practice and develop drawing skills, and experiment with a range of both wet and dry media. Students will keep a sketchbook, participate in critique, build a portfolio website, and exhibit work in the Moos Gallery at the end of the semester. Focus is on idea development, skill building, and learning good studio habits in order to improve one's abilities, no matter a student's level of experience. This course is required for all other 2-D art classes.

**Art 2 (.5 Credit):** Students will build upon the foundation they have gained in Art I, and utilize this knowledge base to further develop their skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. This class will emphasize the importance of the implementation of the art proposal. Students will embark on a personalized journey focusing on areas in which they are most passionate. Sketchbook required. Prerequisite: Art I and/or departmental permission.

**Advanced Art/Portfolio (.5 Credit):** This course requires substantial commitment and a willingness to explore new ideas and the ability to express personal artistic vision. Students enrolled in this class are seeking opportunities to further their art education after WRA at the collegiate level or are deemed appropriate by instructors and have shown considerable growth, drive, and commitment in the art studio previously. Sketchbook required. Prerequisite: Art 1 and Art 2 or departmental permission.

**3D Art (.5 Credit):** The 3D Art student will be introduced to the following materials, but not limited to: wire, a variety of woods (balsa wood and toothpicks), papers, cardboard, found objects, and recycled materials to name a few. Students will learn from direct observation and use these materials to show their understanding of the Principles of Design: Pattern, Contrast, Emphasis, Balance, Proportion, Harmony (unity) and Rhythm and Movement.

**Ceramics 1 (.5 Credit):** Students in Ceramics I will learn the fundamentals of clay as well as how to ideate, create, finish, and reflect on their process. Techniques will include hand-building, carving, using additive and subtractive processes, as well as exploring texture, shape, and form. Students will learn trimming, glazing, and finishing techniques, and throwing on the wheel will be introduced. Process journals will be used to plan, document, and reflect on their projects, and peer and self-evaluations will allow students to improve their craft. Prerequisite: Art I or 3D Art or departmental permission.

**Ceramics 2 (.5 credit):** Ceramics 2 continues the exploration of expression using clay. Students will hone their craft and learn new techniques including wheel-work and using molds to create their pieces. The course will continue to help students advance their comfort using clay, and will encourage more exploration into experimentation with shape, form, and finish. Students are expected to document their process, use test tiles to determine glaze processes, and research different artists in order to perfect a chosen technique for their final project(s). Students must have taken Ceramics I as a prerequisite.

**Advanced Ceramics (.5 Credit):** Advanced Ceramics is for students who have completed both Ceramics 1, Ceramics 2, and have been approved by the instructor to continue on in Ceramics for a more independent exploration of the medium. Projects include explorations of new techniques and processes, research and deep-dives into artists' works for inspiration and understanding, mixed media using clay as the base, then adding additional materials and processes to create unique and thoughtful works. This class is very self-driven, with the majority of projects/units devised by the students

themselves, with support and guidance provided by the instructor. Students will be encouraged to enter their work into relevant competitions and scholarship consideration. This class may be repeated for credit.

**Environmental Art (.5 Credit):** Students will use the outdoors as their canvas. Using different natural materials, students will create installations indoors and outdoors. The elements and passage of time will change and affect these art forms. Students must be prepared to work outside in the elements. Rain boots, rain/warm coats, and gloves are all required. Sketchbook required. 3D Art, Junior or Senior status, and/or approval of instructor

**Photography (.5 Credit):** Students will learn the basics of capturing images using DSLR cameras to control focus, shutter speed, and composition. Post-processing, and photo manipulation will take place in Adobe Lightroom Classic and Photoshop to create both realistic and artistic effects. Students will delve into idea development, design implementation, technical skills, creative risk-taking, and personal expression. Students will also participate in hanging photographs in the hallways, and in the Moos Gallery. Prerequisite Art I, Junior or Senior status and/or approval of instructor

**Advanced Photography (.5 Credit):** Advanced Photography is for a student who wants to strengthen basic skills learned in Photography, and explore more in-depth shooting, editing, idea development, and the history of photography. Guided by prompts and choice boards, students will investigate subjects, styles, themes and concepts based on personal interest, and continue to hone both the technical and artistic aspects of making images. Prerequisites include one Photography class and permission of the instructor. Prerequisite: Photography and/or permission of instructor

**Advanced Photography Teaching Practicum (.5)** Students in Advanced Photo Teaching Practicum will assist other students, complete studio maintenance tasks, teach a lesson, and gain other practical skills in running the Digital Media Lab. In addition, students will continue to build their photography portfolio based upon personal interests, and guided by sustained investigation. The course will culminate in a personal exhibition, presentation or installation. Prerequisite: Advanced Photography and permission of instructor

**Book Arts and Printmaking (.5 Credit):** With the written word so available and easy to spread via the internet, artists have co-opted the now obsolete tools of the craftsman to create artist books and book-like structures. Students in this class will not only employ traditional tools to make prints, they will also learn adhesive and non-adhesive bindings, as well as create original book structures, tapping into their own personal ideas. This class is great for those who want to add to their art skills, but also for those who are interested in creative writing, sequential imagery, lettering, graphic arts, or journaling. This course may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Art I or 3D Art. Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.

## DANCE

**Dance 1 (1.0 Credit):** This course is intended for students who have no previous dance experience. This is a full year course. Dance is a performance art that incorporates mind and body. It takes discipline, dedication, and hard work. The focus of the course will be technique, which gives students a strong foundation for dance. Students will be given the opportunity to work on their technique in the areas of ballet, modern, jazz, and hip hop. While studying technique, the learning, understanding and practice of dance vocabulary is stressed. Students are required to participate in two performances, which are at the end of the first and second semesters.

**Dance 2 (1.0 Credit):** This intermediate level course continues the study and work covered in Dance 1. This course is intended for students who have reasonable dance experience at WRA or from an outside source. Students will be moved into this level after a completed year in Dance 1 or earlier if recommended by the dance teachers. This is a full year course. Dance is a performance art that



incorporates mind and body. It takes discipline, dedication, and hard work. The focus of the course will be technique, which gives students a strong foundation for dance. Students will be given the opportunity to work on their technique in the areas of ballet, modern, jazz, and hip hop. While studying technique, the learning, understanding and practice of dance vocabulary is stressed. Over the course of the year, students will study other areas of educational dance such as kinesiology, history, composition, and how to analyze/ critique. Students are required to participate in two performances, which are at the end of the first and second semesters.

**Advanced Dance (1.0 Credit):** Students must audition prior to enrolling in this course or be recommended by the dance teachers. This is a full year course. Advanced Dance is appropriate for students with proficient dance experience within the techniques offered through our program. Dance is a performing art that incorporates both mind and body. It takes discipline, dedication, and hard work. The focus of the course will be technique, which gives students a strong foundation for dance. Students will be given the opportunity to work on their technique in the areas of ballet, modern, jazz, and hip hop. There will also be opportunities to experience other forms of dance such as pointe, tap, and contemporary. While studying technique, the learning, understanding and practice of dance vocabulary is stressed. Over the course of the year, students will study other areas of educational dance such as kinesiology, history, composition, and how to analyze/critique. Students are required to participate in two performances, which are at the end of the first and second semesters. Students enrolled in Advanced Dance may also perform at events outside of WRA and have opportunities to work with guest teachers and choreographers throughout the year.

## MUSIC

*Music students find ample opportunity for the study and performance of music at all levels at Western Reserve Academy. Courses are offered in choir, string orchestra, symphonic winds, music theory, studio music, jazz ensemble, and digital music production. Students may elect to take our performance courses — choir, string orchestra and symphonic winds — repeatedly for credit and are strongly encouraged to do so.*

**Choir (.5 Credit):** The Academy Choir is WRA's traditional mixed chorus and is open to all students regardless of level of experience. While emphasis is placed on developing vocal skills and independent music reading, the primary focus of this group is performance. The choir performs music of many style periods and genres and is particularly proud of its history of multicultural works. Performance opportunities include a mid-winter Madrigal Feast, Vespers, a major work with chamber orchestra, singing at numerous WRA events and occasional off-campus opportunities. Students seeking a more selective opportunity may also audition for Chamber Choir and/or unReserved, our a cappella group. The course can be taken as a semester elective or a year-long course.

**String Orchestra (.5 Credit):** The Academy String Orchestra brings together students who play violin, viola, cello, and bass. The ensemble primarily plays classical repertoire for string orchestra, occasionally combining with members of Symphonic Winds to play music written for full orchestra. String players will also have the opportunity to play chamber music and partner with The Academy Choir. The course can be taken as a semester elective or a year-long course.

**Symphonic Winds (.5 Credit):** The Reserve Symphonic Winds is WRA's ensemble for students who play brass, woodwinds or percussion instruments. This group plays standard concert band repertoire as well as working in jazz, film, and contemporary music. WRA has a small selection of instruments for students to borrow who may not have their own. While most students have prior experience, students who are new to their instrument are welcome and encouraged to join. The course can be taken as a semester elective or a year-long course.

**CL Music Theory (1.0 Credit):** This course is intended to help students master the tools necessary for understanding the building blocks of music; they will gain fundamental understanding in musical

notation, rhythm and meter, scales and chords. Some prior music experience (playing an instrument or singing) is helpful; students will gain expertise in active listening and do some composing as well as focusing on building aural skills. During the second half of the year, the focus will be on extensive work in harmonic analysis and writing music using the rules of the Common Practice Period.

**Studio Music (.5 Credit):** Open to serious musicians looking to develop their skills and explore performance in a sophisticated way. Students will work on repertoire illustrative of developing excellence in their particular instrument/voice. Students must be able to practice independently and will be expected to demonstrate exemplary progress towards their targeted goals through performance. A final program/ recital to showcase progress will be expected during each semester of participation. Prerequisite: Departmental permission and demonstrated expertise via audition or participation in WRA's ensembles.

**Jazz Ensemble (.5 Credit):** This course is offered to students who want to develop and grow in their performance and understanding of jazz. Instrumentation is open to any and all interested. Band members will learn advanced scales, sight-reading and elements of jazz theory. Band Members will perform varying styles underneath the umbrella of Jazz Literature, which can include swing, bebop, big band, blues, funk, pop, rock, gospel, fusion and multi-ethnic repertoire. This is a performance-based ensemble where concerts take place both on campus and off campus. The course can be taken as a semester elective or a year-long course.

**Digital Music Production (.5 Credit):** This course will introduce students to the realm of music production and the necessary skills needed in this digital age. The focus of this course will be honing students' ability to listen and analyze professional productions, ranging from Michael Jackson to Randy Newman to Avicii. Topics covered will include stereo processing, analog and digital processing, compression, limiting, filtering, panning, reverb, and EQ. Mixing and creating a final mastered product will provide students the ability to actualize the different components in producing commercial level music. All D.A.W.'s (Digital Audio Workstations) will be explored with the main use of Apple's Logic Pro. Both live streams, D.A.W.'s, and production courses will be made available to the students.

**Advanced Digital Music Production (.5 Credit):** This course builds upon the foundations learned in Digital Music Production. Advanced mixing techniques are explored along with the techniques needed in creating commercial media music. Students will create music for advertisements, film trailers, and their own EP Album. A wider range of music analysis will be examined along with creating special audio effects within Logic Pro X. Prerequisite: Digital Music Production.

**Songwriting (.5 credit):** This course highlights the many paths and combinations by which artists, performers, songwriters, and producers create their original sounding music. Learning the beginning basics of piano and/or guitar will parallel learning to create original music. Beginning music theory, arranging, melody writing, and genre analysis will be explored along with writing effective song titles and lyrics. No prior instrumental experience is required.

**Musical Theater Performance (.5 Credit):** In this semester-long course, students will study the history of Musical Theater, will experience live theater and/or video performances of important pieces, and will study some of theater's superstars. The real purpose of this workshop, however, is actual performance informed by contextual study! Singers, actors, and dancers will prepare solos and/or ensemble pieces for performance and critique. The workshop will culminate in a showcase open to the public.

**Advanced Musical Theater Performance (.5 Credit):** Musical Theater Intensive is designed to provide an opportunity for serious Musical Theater practitioners to deepen their experience. In addition to revisiting all of the genres performed in the Performance class (with different repertoire), students taking MT Intensive will be expected to participate at an advanced level by creating their own Showcase. They will also be expected to participate in masterclasses with guest artists, prepare mock auditions, and develop a portfolio. Prerequisite: Musical Theater Performance

## THEATER

**Acting (.5 Credit):** This course uses both improvisational work and scene study to teach the student-actors how to effectively prepare for and perform a theatrical role. It introduces the basic idea of acting being grounded in utilizing an individual's inner and outer resources. Coursework will focus on the same characterization development as explored in Stanislavski's method of physical action. The course is also grounded in textual analysis and the development of certain physical techniques to create a character.

**Advanced Acting (.5 Credit):** This course in acting will use scene study as the principal vehicle by which to continue exploring and expanding upon the concepts and methods introduced in Acting for the Stage. Using contemporary methodologies and eclectic techniques, such as the Uta Hagen and Stanislavski methods, direction and guidance will be individualized and based on the needs of each individual student actor. Depending on the number and attributes of the students enrolled in the course, there may also be a segment devoted to ensemble acting--a student driven performance of a chosen one-act play that will incorporate the entire class. This course will provide a place for those students who would like to experience a more intensive, serious approach to learning the craft of acting. Prerequisite: Acting for the Stage or departmental approval (audition). This course may be repeated for credit.

**Costume Design (.5 Credit):** Students will learn the elements of costuming including organization, design, and construction, and participate in a living Costume Shop. Focus is on preparing or making garments and accessories for theatrical productions on campus. Focus is on sewing, where students will learn how to cut and alter a pattern, operate a sewing machine, and adjust existing garments. Students will also assist in costume maintenance and care. More advanced students may be involved in designing costumes or working backstage. This course may be repeated for credit.

**Stagecraft 1 (.5 Credit):** This course blends theory with practice regarding the technical aspects of live events, and provides an opportunity to learn skills in carpentry, painting, lighting, sound, shop safety and design techniques. Students will explore the similarities and differences of mounting and enhancing performances of Theater, dance and music, and then experience these distinctions first hand as they help prepare for events in the Knight Fine Arts Center.

**Stagecraft 2 (.5 Credit):** This course offers a fully hands-on production practicum experience for students interested in the theater arts. Throughout the semester, participants will learn and apply scenic construction and painting techniques as they engage in the process of preparing the full school musical. Additionally, students will explore lighting and sound production for both theater and dance

**Musical Theater Performance (.5 Credit):** In this semester-long course, students will study the history of Musical Theater, will experience live theater and/or video performances of important pieces, and will study some of theater's superstars. The real purpose of this workshop, however, is actual performance informed by contextual study! Singers, actors, and dancers will prepare solos and/or ensemble pieces for performance and critique. The workshop will culminate in a showcase open to the public.

**Advanced Musical Theater Performance (.5 Credit):** Musical Theater Intensive is designed to provide an opportunity for serious Musical Theater practitioners to deepen their experience. In addition to revisiting all of the genres performed in the Performance class (with different repertoire), students taking MT Intensive will be expected to participate at an advanced level by creating their own Showcase. They will also be expected to participate in masterclasses with guest artists, prepare mock auditions, and develop a portfolio. Prerequisite: Musical Theater Performance performances. They will discover the practical nuances inherent to these two companion art forms as they assist in mounting multiple live events in the Knight Fine Arts Center. Prerequisite: Stagecraft I

# INTEGRATED STUDIES & DESIGN

**Learn to Code (.5 Credit):** While exploring the digital world, students learn how data is digitally encoded and transmitted. They deepen their understanding of the internet and the underlying structure of digital devices. Students consider the power of current technology and the possibilities for the future. Together, students discuss the societal impact and challenges of our digital technologies. Throughout the course, students will learn basic programming skills and concepts that will translate to any programming language and will work individually and collaboratively to create dynamic applications to solve a variety of problems using the JavaScript language.

**Learn to Make (.5 Credit):** This course is a hands-on introduction to personal fabrication and innovation in the Wang Innovation Center (WIC). The course specifically looks at design thinking, computer-aided design, computer controlled cutting, electronics production, 3D scanning and printing, electronics design, machining, molding and casting, input devices, output devices, composites, mechanical design, invention, and intellectual property. Students in this course can explore their own interests to develop creative projects that foster critical thinking, entrepreneurship, communication, and collaboration while engaged in active learning with others. Students will demonstrate their competence by completing a series of projects utilizing the full capabilities of the WIC. Open only to freshmen.

**Learn to Live Well (.5 Credit):** This course introduces students to the dynamic processes of change and growth so that they make informed, healthy decisions about their self-care. Students learn the risks associated with certain behaviors and understand when to seek help for themselves and others. Completion of this course satisfies the State of Ohio health graduation requirement.

**Learn to College (.5 Credit):** Designed to assist WRA juniors as they embark on the college process, this course seeks to prepare students for all aspects of their journey to higher education. Interpersonal, professional, and academic skills are merged in this course to ready students to be best prepared for college visits, interviews, application completion, and major/program selection.

**CL Compass (1.0 Credit):** Compass aims to connect students with the world beyond the walls of Western Reserve Academy by cultivating their unique interests and talents and applying them to a “real-world” setting. A second, but not secondary, aim of Compass is to bring coherence to WRA students’ broader academic pursuits. Over the course of the academic year, enrolled students will meet regularly with the compass coordinator and work to develop skills in the areas of project design, collaboration, scheduling and implementation, budgeting, proposal development, making a pitch, leadership and resilience, process reflection, professionalism, marketing, research, interviewing, and presentation. At the end of the academic year, students will present their work for assessment before a chosen assembly. In order to be eligible for this program, students must submit an application, which will be evaluated by members of the program’s steering committee. Only rising juniors and seniors are eligible to apply.

**Automotive Engineering Design (.5 Credit):** This course will introduce the fundamental principles that constitute good engineering practices through a series of projects, culminating in the construction of a push powered Go Kart. These engineering best practices include the importance of specifying the objectives of the design, carefully documenting the design process, and continual evaluation and iteratively refining the design through well controlled testing. Although not typically thought of as “creative”, engineering often allows many successful alternative solutions to a single problem, and this will also be an emphasis of the course. Relevant scientific principles (center of mass, forces and moments, rotational inertia) will be introduced as appropriate in a classroom setting. Other days will be spent in the WIC actually building and testing components of design. The course will



culminate in a race day, where students' cars will be evaluated on a number of performance criteria (handling agility, stopping distance, odometer accuracy, drop test).

**Engineering and Fabrication (.5 Credit):** This course builds upon the principles and applications of engineering and fabrication. It is an immersive hands-on class designed around rapid prototyping and fabrication machinery. The course focuses on, but is not limited to computer aided design, computer controlled cutting, 3D printing, molding and casting, electronics production and design, CNC milling, water jet cutting, robotics, microcontrollers and welding. Each student will complete a series of projects illustrating their competence in each process.

**Advanced Engineering and Fabrication (.5 Credit):** This course builds upon what students learned in the Digital Engineering and Fabrication course while maintaining an immersive hands-on approach to the exploration of digital fabrication tools and methods. The course focuses on an introduction to CNC milling, CNC lathe, CNC router, CNC plasma cutting, water jet cutting, advanced electronics, robotics, microcontrollers, printed circuit boards, molding, casting and welding. The student should have some familiarity with CAD design.

**CL Fab Academy (.5 Credit):** The Fab Academy is a fast paced, hands-on learning experience where students learn rapid prototyping by planning and executing a new project each week, resulting in a personal portfolio of technical accomplishments. It teaches the principles and applications of digital fabrication by proving ability on each project. There are 20 projects the student must complete to earn the Fab Academy diploma from the Fab Foundation. Those areas are project management, computer-aided design, computer-controlled cutting, electronics, CNC, molding and casting, composites, embedded programming, 3D printing and scanning, input devices, application programming, mechanical design, output devices, networking, machine design, invention, intellectual property, and income. The course is a global course where students spend one day each week learning with FabLabs from around the world and the remaining days working on the projects for each week. The course culminates with the student creating a final project. Students who complete the requirements are eligible to earn the Fab Academy diploma and attend the global graduation in early August. Students must take Engineering and Fabrication or Advanced Engineering and Fabrication to enroll in Fab Academy.

**Graphic Design and Illustration (.5 Credit):** This course focuses on graphic design and designing innovative digital media using Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. Students will engage in a peer based interactive design curriculum that will focus on the skills essential to graphic design. The course will split time working on projects in Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign and then applying those designs to the machines in the Wang Innovation Center (WIC). Photoshop is the industry leader in digital photo manipulation. Illustrator is the industry leader in vector based graphic illustration. InDesign is desktop publishing software used to create professional posters, brochures, magazines, newspapers and books. Students will be prepared to take the Adobe certification exam at the completion of the course.

**3D Printing and Design (.5 Credit):** This course introduces students to the principles of designing and printing 3D models using additive manufacturing. The course provides an in-depth understanding of the technical and advanced design principles that make up additive manufacturing while exploring the fundamental materials, technologies and applications of 3D printing and scanning. The course will also spend time learning design principles and considerations for 3D printing. The class will allow students to print on fused deposition, stereolithography and selective laser sintering printers. They will also assemble their own 3D printer. Students will be prepared to take the industry additive manufacturing certification exam.

**E-textiles and Fabrics (.5 Credit):** This interdisciplinary course exposes students to the world of fashion through sewing, embroidery, weaving, textiles, wearables and e-textiles. Using the resources in the Wang Innovation Center, students also will explore embedded electronics with textiles and

fabrics to create interactive wearables and e-textiles. Students will spend time learning about fashion and fabrication roles. Students will learn the fundamentals of a sewing machine, fabric types, seams, stitches, looms, electronics, microprocessors, and programming as they complete projects demonstrating their understanding of each.

**Idea to Product: How to Start a Business (.5 Credit):** This course uses the entrepreneurship process to teach and reinforce a wide range of academic skills. In small groups or solely, students will identify their own innovative product idea and then follow all the steps to product launch using the resources in the Wang Innovation Center (WIC). They will develop the idea, design the product, and finally market it. The class will focus on an introduction to innovation and entrepreneurship, securing intellectual property, patents, product research, collaborative brainstorming, engineering, 3D printing, packaging, graphic design, product modeling, marketing and presentation. Each student will produce a product. Guest speakers and visits to local businesses will connect the students to other entrepreneurs and innovators in Northeast Ohio.

**Digital Video Editing and Effects (.5 Credit):** This course introduces the student to the art and craft of digital media production through the creation and editing of videos. The course will explore the techniques that are applied in editing programs and allow the student to create their own video projects. The course will be designed to explore how to successfully edit and create video using Adobe Premiere Pro and Adobe After Effects. A special emphasis will be placed on using green screen techniques, chroma keying and After Effects to create Hollywood caliber special effects. Students will be prepared to take the Adobe certification exam at the completion of the course.

**Architectural Restoration (.5 Credit):** This course, an homage to the classic PBS restoration and renovation series *This Old House*, will be a project-based learning experience, driven by student leadership and initiative, to oversee and execute the multi-phase restoration of a historic barn on the WRA campus. Students will participate in each step of the process, from developing a budget, to writing grants and designing opportunities for fundraising, to understanding supply chain management and adhering to restoration laws and regulations. Students will also partake in creating blueprints for the redesign; learning techniques of electrical wiring and hanging drywall; and hiring contractors while considering budget and quality assurance. Throughout the process, they will learn to negotiate with one another and businesses through effective conflict-resolution techniques. Ultimately, students will gain firsthand experience in the financing, management, marketing, and operations of a multi-year, multi-step project: restoring *This Old Barn*. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

**Digital Fabrication Capstone (.5 Credit):** This course is an opportunity to develop an in-depth fabrication project in the Wang Innovation Center. Students will create a project plan, hone project management skills and develop a final project using various skills, technologies and techniques of fabrication. Students will have the opportunity to present their final project either internally or externally at a Maker Faire. Prerequisite: one course in Technology Arts or Learn to Code/Learn to Make.

**Service-Learning Engineering (.5 Credit):** Students will participate in an organized service activity that meets an identified community or global need and reflect on the service activity in such a way as to gain further understanding of the root of the issue at hand. After identifying the need, students will use their creativity and apply science concepts relevant to the project in order to design, produce, and deliver real products that will be used by the community being targeted for the project. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

**Advanced Technology Practicum (.5 Credit):** A student may apply to work as a member of the Technology team. The students will learn and refine skills around hardware and software troubleshooting, installation, and repairs while gaining valuable employment skills. Interested students will email Matt Gerber who will invite promising candidates to interview with the Technology team.



**Advanced Technology Teaching Practicum (.5 Credit):** A student may apply to be a student teacher for the Learn to Make class. Students will be paired with a mentor teacher to observe and develop rapport with the class, learn teaching techniques, and then plan and teach lessons towards the end of the semester. Interested students will email Matt Gerber who will invite potential candidates to interview with the Technology team.

**CL Robotics & Automation (.5 Credit):** This course introduces students to the field of robotics. Students will build and program various robots including autonomous, arm, delta, and SCARA style robots. Emphasis will be given to automation and how robotic automation is transforming industry with visits to several companies who have implemented robotic automation. Students will learn to program industrial FANUC robots and have the opportunity to take industry certification exams in robotic safety and tool handling.

**Speech (.5 Credit):** Ever needed to demonstrate a specific skill clearly and concisely? Want to persuade a friend to change his or her mind about something? Need to express thoughts without words? Hope to impress classmates and teachers with an excellent presentation? This course is made to improve and mold one's confidence, content, and delivery when speaking in front of others. Public speaking is an elemental skill every student needs in order to function in today's world inside the classroom and beyond. Students concentrate on preparing and delivering a variety of speeches, culminating in a persuasive speech they have written and researched, using the skills of logical thinking, organization, research, and expository writing.

**So, You Want To Get Published...(.5 Credit):** Did you ever think it would be "easy" to get published? Did you give your dad your first manuscript to read (pretending it was a friend's) and he said it "wasn't his cup of tea?" Did you land your first literary agent, buy a business suit and plane ticket and rush to NYC to meet her? Did publishing chew you up and spit you out? Just me? Oh. My ten years in publishing were definitely memorable. There were some lows (the above), some highs (a whirlwind, nationwide book tour) and some lessons learned (how to navigate, the crazy, ever-changing publishing industry). So, you want to get published? Buckle up. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

**Principles of Athletic Training (.5 Credit):** Students will get a thorough introduction to the profession of Athletic Training as well as its different areas of study and practice. This course will provide students with a blend of formal classroom lectures (on topics such as anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, etc.) as well as a hands-on lab component to give students real world experience on the concepts that they will be learning (i.e. injury evaluation, taping, therapeutic modalities, etc.). Students will be graded on attendance, various homework assignments, quizzes, the ability to properly perform lab competencies, and a final written exam.

**Advanced Principles of Athletic Training (.5 Credit):** This course builds upon the foundational knowledge that was laid for students in the Principles of Athletic Training class. This course will cover advanced topics such as upper body injury evaluation and rehabilitation, a comprehensive look at concussions and the current state of research on head trauma, take a more in-depth look at medical terminology, cover more unique aspects of sports such as proper protective equipment, as well as the administrative components and considerations of sports medicine (emergency action plans, legal implications, etc). This will be achieved through a combination of classroom lectures as well as hands-on learning in the athletic training room.

**Mission in Action (.5 Credit):** It's time to 'Think Globally and Act Locally' even beyond 'Excellence, Integrity, and Compassion'! Using the Global Goals established by world leaders in 2015 as a starting point for our study and discovery, students will explore how purposeful individual action can be a catalyst for societal change. This is an academic enterprise as well as a hands-on, down-and-dirty, get-er-done kind of class!

**Mock Trial (.5 Credit):** This course will prepare students to participate in a statewide high school mock trial competition that is sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (<http://www.oclr.org>). Students will assume the role of either lawyer or witness in a trial that is based on a hypothetical case file. The trial will consist of opening statements, direct and cross-examination of witnesses, and closing arguments. The mock trial competition will take place on selected days during the spring semester (January-March), and students must be available to participate in the competition. Class size is limited to 18 students.

**Introduction to Law (.5 Credit):** This course will examine the role of law in our society, the structure of the American legal system, civil and criminal trial procedure, selected issues of constitutional law, aspects of business law and criminal law/juvenile justice. The goal of the course is to give students an overview of foundational legal principles, many of which are taught in core courses taken by law school students in their first year of law school. This course may also prepare students to participate in a statewide high school mock trial competition that is sponsored by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (<http://www.oclr.org>). Students will assume the role of either lawyer or witness in a trial that is based on a hypothetical case file. The trial will consist of opening statements, direct and cross-examination of witnesses, and closing arguments.

# MATHEMATICS

**Math 11 Algebra 1 (1.5 Credit):** This first-year algebra course builds upon foundational algebra skills through the study of linear, absolute value, and quadratic functions. Emphasis is placed on fluently manipulating equations, recognizing and using patterns in mathematics, and using math to make meaning through real-world applications.

**Math 15 Algebraic Concepts & Applications (1.0 Credit):** This course is designed to strengthen fundamental algebra skills required for the study of more rigorous high school mathematics. Topics include linear equations, applications and graphing, operations with exponents, absolute value, linear and quadratic functions. Emphasis is placed on the development of a solid foundation of core skills as well as effective habits related to the study and application of mathematical concepts. Prerequisite: Algebra I

**Math 21 Geometry (1.0 Credit):** This course combines geometry and spaced-interval practice of algebra to draw upon the abstract reasoning and spatial visualization skills necessary for future success. Students discover geometric theorems and explore constructions to develop an in-depth understanding of geometric concepts while increasing their algebraic proficiency. This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra 1. Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or departmental permission.

**Math 31 Algebra 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course allows students to expand their view of algebra. Topics include composite and inverse functions, quadratic and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and rational functions. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the behavior and graphs of the functions studied as well as their applications. Extensive use of the graphing calculator is expected. Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry or Departmental permission.

**Math 32 Honors Algebra 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course is designed for students who have consistently demonstrated strong reasoning skills, an ability to grasp concepts quickly and a desire to seek deeper understanding of mathematical concepts. Topics include composite and inverse functions, quadratic and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and basic trigonometry. Emphasis will be placed on applications, extension problems and connections between and among topics. Collaboration and inquiry during class are especially important. Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry and departmental permission.

**Introduction to Statistics (.5 Credit):** This course is offered to students seeking an introduction to meaningful data gathering. Students will learn probability and counting principles before exploring potential sources of bias and valid methods of gathering representative data. Students will explore and pose questions, develop data-gathering tools, and summarize data. Elements of experimental design will be explored through the lens of acquiring unbiased statistics. Prerequisite: Algebra 2.

**Discrete Mathematics (.5 Credit):** The Discrete Mathematics course will provide a foundation in non-calculus-based mathematics focused on finite-natured topics such as sets, matrices, optimization and probability. Applied topics will include voting theory, fair division, apportionment and schedule design. Students will organize and analyze information in order to analytically and critically think about outcomes. Prerequisite: Algebra 2.

**Financial Mathematics (.5 Credit):** This course immerses students in personal finance concepts while preparing them to make informed financial decisions. Students will develop skills and knowledge related to money management; spending and credit; saving and investing; becoming a critical consumer; financial responsibility and decision making; and risk management and insurance.

Additionally, students will participate in simulations that replicate real-world budgeting and personal-finance decision making. Designed for upperclassmen. Prerequisite: Algebra 2

**Math 41 Precalculus (1.0 Credit):** This course provides an in-depth study of elementary functions with an emphasis on the mathematics of change. Familiar topics will be investigated in new ways, honing the algebraic skills needed for continued study with and application of familiar families of functions: polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric. Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and departmental permission or Honors Algebra 2.

**Math 42 Honors Precalculus (1.0 Credit):** This is a rigorous precalculus course designed to prepare students for CL Calculus AB. This course examines polynomial and rational functions and their applications, trigonometric functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, conic sections, polar coordinates and complex numbers, and introductory limit theory. Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Honors Algebra 2 and departmental permission.

**Math 43 Honors Accelerated Precalculus (1.0 Credit):** This course examines the elementary functions in depth, with an emphasis on graphing and modeling applications. Particular attention is paid to the trigonometric functions. In addition, a study of conic sections, sequences and series, polar coordinates, parametrics, probability and statistics, vectors, matrices, and limits will round out the precalculus syllabus. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for CL Accelerated Calculus. Accelerated Precalculus is designed for students who have successfully completed Honors Algebra 2 and have demonstrated the ability to learn independently at an accelerated pace. Prerequisite: Honors Algebra 2 and departmental permission.

**CL Statistics (1.0 Credit):** This course is comparable to a typical non-calculus based introductory college statistics course. Topics covered include data exploration, sampling and experimentation, probability and simulation, and statistical inference. Technology will be incorporated for simulation and calculation. Prerequisite: Precalculus. Honors Precalculus or Honors Accelerated Precalculus may be taken concurrently.

**Math 51 Calculus (1.0 Credit):** This introductory calculus course provides students with an in-depth treatment of limits, continuity, derivatives, and an introduction to integrals. A variety of applications are incorporated into this course designed for students likely to study business, economics, or social sciences, as well as those preparing to study science or engineering. This course is designed to prepare students for more rigorous study of calculus at the university level. Prerequisite: Precalculus.

**Math 52 CL Calculus AB (1.0 Credit):** CL Calculus AB is intended for students who have successfully completed Honors Precalculus and have demonstrated proficiency with graphing and algebraic manipulations including trigonometry. This course will focus on limits, derivatives and integrals. Topics will include a calculus-based analysis of graphs, computation and applications of the derivative (graphing functions and calculating rates of change), computation and application of the integral (Riemann sums and accumulated change), and differential equations. Prerequisite: Honors Precalculus and departmental permission.

**Math 53 CL Calculus BC (1.0 Credit):** Primary topics include a calculus-based analysis of graphs, computation and applications of the derivative (graphing functions and calculating rates of change), and computation and applications of the integral (Riemann sums and accumulated change). Other areas of study include slope fields, differential equations, sequences and series, Taylor series, and the analysis and calculus of parametric, polar and vector functions. Prerequisite: Honors Accelerated Precalculus and departmental permission.

**CL Calculus-Based Probability & Statistics (1.0 Credit):** Statistics is the art and science of drawing conclusions from data. Probability is the study of chance behavior, while Calculus provides a methodological basis in both disciplines. This course blends probability theory and mathematical

statistics with real-world applications. Students will apply the principles of data analysis, probability models, and inference in a variety of settings; use calculus and other mathematical techniques to develop key results; and communicate statistical and probabilistic reasoning both orally and in writing. Prerequisite: CL Calculus AB or BC and departmental permission.

**CL Multivariable Calculus (1.0 Credit):** Multivariable Calculus is a course intended for students who have successfully completed CL Accelerated Calculus. While designed in part to maintain skills developed in CL Accelerated Calculus, CL Multivariable Calculus also extends the calculus to higher dimensions and further explores connections to the sciences, in particular physics. The course deals primarily with the techniques and applications of multivariable differentiation and integration, differential equations, physics applications and problems in three-space. Prerequisite: CL Calculus BC and departmental permission.

**CL Linear Algebra (1.0 Credit):** Linear algebra is a branch of mathematics that studies vectors. Linear algebra has a concrete representation in analytic geometry and is central to modern mathematics and its applications. It has extensive applications in engineering, computer science, physics, the natural sciences and social science. Topics include systems of linear equations, matrix theory, linear transformations, basis and eigenvectors, and vector spaces. Prerequisite: CL Calculus AB or Accelerated Precalculus and departmental permission.

**Computer Programming: Python (.5 Credit):** Students will learn to develop algorithmic thinking and write programs that help them problem solve everyday tasks as well as delve into techniques to create programs that use classical approaches. Students will use Python to create a portfolio of projects demonstrating mastery of computer science topics and techniques. This class will offer students the opportunity to delve deeper into the field of computer science and its applications for arts, math, and science. Prerequisite: Geometry.

**CL Computer Science (1.0 Credit):** CL Computer Science emphasizes object-oriented programming methodology, with a concentration on problem solving and algorithm development and also includes the study of data structures, design, standard algorithms, program analysis and abstraction. This course is open to students who have completed a computer science course or who have previous programming experience and receive the permission of the instructor. Prerequisite: Algebra 2.

# MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

*The modern language program at WRA aims to develop fluency in our students in the most effective way. To that end, classes are taught in immersion and value is placed on communication across all four skill areas. Students listen and speak every day in every class. Reading and writing in the target language are key elements of all of our language courses. Students learn through practice and are taught to take ownership of their learning and to understand the meaning they convey through language. Using an intensive structure driven curriculum, students learn grammar and vocabulary and use it to communicate with one another from the start. Learning a language is a cumulative process. In order to build and consolidate language skills, students study and practice language every day in the first semester of level 1. Students who demonstrate a facility for language are recommended to study on the honors track, which sustains the same level of intensity. On the other hand, students who need more practice to develop fluency are placed at the standard level of study.*

## **FRENCH**

**French 1 (1.5 Credit):** This is the foundational course in French. It introduces students to grammar essentials and basic vocabulary with conversation, oral composition, reading and some writing. Emphasis is placed upon comprehension, pronunciation, and self-expression. It also provides an introduction to Francophone culture.

**French 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course is the continuation of the foundational course. It introduces students to complex grammatical structures and focuses on strengthening communication skills through written compositions, readings, oral reports, and discussions. The cultures of Europe, Africa and the Caribbean will be explored. Prerequisite: WRA French 1/placement test.

**French 3 (1.0 Credit):** The focus of the third-level course is the development of proficient expression in the language and the review of essential grammar structures. This goal is achieved through the reading of French and Francophone literature and the use of authentic materials from electronic and audio-visual resources. Prerequisite: WRA French 2/placement test.

**Honors French 3 (1.0 Credit):** This course concentrates on the development of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Through class discussion, oral presentations, and written compositions, students will learn how to interpret the materials critically and continue to improve their oral and written expression in French. While fluency is of utmost importance, students are expected to be precise in their use of grammar and vocabulary. The development of vocabulary and grammatical sophistication will also be cornerstones of the course. The class will be taught entirely in French. Prerequisite: WRA French 2 and departmental permission/placement test.

**French Language & Culture (1.0 Credit):** This course explores how current global challenges, and social, technological and environmental issues are treated and experienced in the French-speaking world. Authentic materials include essays, short stories, novels, radio programs, films, podcasts, newspapers, and magazine articles. Students collaborate on research and evaluation of the sources, form and express opinions, discuss these issues with their peers and make presentations to the community. Prerequisite: French 3/placement test.

**CL French Language & Culture 1 (1.0 Credit):** This course explores how current global challenges, and social, technological, and environmental issues are treated and experienced in the French-speaking world. Authentic materials include essays, short stories, novels, radio programs, films, podcasts, newspapers, and magazine articles. Students collaborate on research and evaluation of the sources,



form and express opinions, discuss these issues with their peers and make presentations to the community. Prerequisite: WRA Honors French 3/placement test and departmental permission.

**CL French Language and Culture 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course will focus on the culture and civilization of the Francophone world. History, politics, literature, art, and social structures will be explored to help understand the contemporary French speaking world. Students in this course will discover treasured works of French prose, poetry and drama. Critical analysis of texts will follow the historical and sociopolitical contexts that formed the backdrop of each author. Students will be required to take turns leading class discussions and conduct research on authors. Students will be required to write regular compositions, give oral presentations and lead class discussion. This course is taught entirely in French. Prerequisite: WRA CL French Language and Culture.

## **LATIN & ANCIENT GREEK**

*Latin 1 and Latin 2 are spent in mastering the vocabulary, forms and grammatical structure of Latin, and in reading sentences and extended passages of graded difficulty. Toward the second half of Latin 2, students make the transition from a predominantly grammar-centered class to a predominantly reading-centered class, and students of all sections finish their second year in reading genuine Latin authors, usually either Caesar or Vergil. The reading of Latin authors of different genres continues into Latin 3, in which students move beyond simple translation to the understanding and appreciation of the several poems, orations and histories as works of literature set in specific historical contexts. After completing Latin 2, students move on to Latin 3/Honors Latin 3. Students receiving instructor permission may enroll in CL Latin Literature.*

**Latin 1 (1.5 Credit):** The fundamentals of vocabulary, forms and syntax are stressed to promote accurate reading comprehension and translation.

**Latin 2 (1.0 Credit):** The course begins with a review of the material covered in Latin 1. The remaining vocabulary, grammar and syntax required to read Latin authors are introduced during the remainder of the first semester. The second semester is spent reading extended passages of Latin. By the end of the year students will begin reading work by a Latin author. Prerequisite: WRA Latin 1/placement test.

**Latin 3 (1.0 Credit):** Students read a selection of authors from the Late Republic and Early Empire and make the transition from simple translation to the close reading of the texts as works of literature set in specific historical contexts. Prerequisite: WRA Latin 2/placement test.

**Honors Latin 3 (1.0 Credit):** Students in Honors Latin 3 will spend the first semester reading and analyzing a diverse array of selections from the canon of Latin literature, prose and verse alike. Authors will include Caesar, Cicero, Pliny the Younger, Tacitus, and Apuleius, among the prose authors, and Catullus, Horace, Vergil, Ovid, and Martial, among the poets. The second semester will be devoted to a close and careful study of one author in particular, with the intention of achieving a strong familiarity with the work of that author and its place in the history of Western literature generally. This course is intended for students who hope to move on to CL Latin Literature. Prerequisite: WRA Latin 2 and departmental permission.

**Latin Literature (1.0 Credit):** This course is designed for those students who wish to pursue the study of Latin beyond a third year, but who are disinclined to commit themselves to the rigors of CL Latin Literature. Students in this course will continue their exploration of Latin texts, with emphasis given to the exploration of the historical and cultural backgrounds to those texts. As they engage with Caesar's commentaries of the Gallic and civil wars, for instance, they will supplement those texts with more contemporary accounts of the fall of the Roman Republic. Prerequisite: Latin 3.

**CL Latin Literature (1.0 Credit):** This course will focus on a particular genre, e.g., history, philosophy, epic poetry. Representations of that genre will be explored in great depth. Prerequisite: Honors Latin 3

and departmental permission/placement test.

**Ancient Greek (1.0 Credit):** Students in this course will begin the study of ancient Greek with an emphasis on reading and word roots in addition to grammar. In Greek I our reading will focus primarily on a wide selection of classic stories from the collection of Aesop's fables before moving on to more challenging grammatical concepts. We will end the year with edited selections from a number of different authors represented in canonical ancient Greek literature. Authors to be covered include Demosthenes, Xenophon, Thucydides, Lysias, Arrian, Aristotle, and Plato.

## **MANDARIN CHINESE**

**Mandarin Chinese 1 (1.5 Credit):** The first year of Chinese study introduces Hanyu Pinyin and basic characters as well as simple grammar structures. It helps learners build solid communicative skills as they discuss a wide variety of topics. Graded activities on essential topics such as greetings, dates and times, family, food and sports are quickly introduced. Students will study Hanyu Pinyin, the internationally recognized system of phonetic spelling for Chinese, above Chinese character texts, as an aid to speaking and pronunciation. Films, songs, Chinese cuisines and culture activities are part of the curriculum to foster Chinese culture awareness.

**Mandarin Chinese 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course is a continuation of Mandarin Chinese 1 designed for students who have a command of the material in the first-year textbook Integrated Chinese (Level One). The course introduces 450 more characters and contains topics such as family life, social issues, and aspects of Chinese culture. It expands learners' understanding of Chinese grammar by focusing on important linguistic structures. It introduces the more formal written-style expressions, which are used in news broadcasts and speeches. Films, songs, Chinese cuisines and culture activities are part of the curriculum to foster Chinese culture awareness. Prerequisite: WRA Mandarin Chinese 1/ placement test.

**Mandarin Chinese 3 (1.0 Credit):** This course continues the development of the skills and focuses on reading, writing, speaking, and listening, with special emphasis on effective oral communication with native speakers of the language. Video clips, news and authentic materials created for native Chinese speakers will be frequently used in class. Chinese art, history, films, music and culture will also be discussed. Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese 2/ placement test.

**Chinese Language & Culture (1.0 Credit):** The emphasis of this course is on communicative skills and cultural exposure. Formal expressions and structures will be introduced through class discussions, oral responses, presentations, and email responses as well as short story writing. Topics studied include college life, Chinese holidays, geography, relationships, and performance art. Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese 3/ placement test.

**CL Mandarin Chinese Language and Culture 1 (1.0 Credit):** The emphasis of this course is on communicative skills and cultural exposure. Formal expressions and structures will be introduced through class discussions, oral responses, presentations, and email responses as well as short story writing. Topics studied include college life, Chinese holidays, geography, relationships and performance art. Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese 3/ placement test and department recommendation.

**CL Mandarin Chinese Language and Culture 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course will focus on Chinese culture, current events on campus and in the world, and discuss students' study at WRA as well as their academic plans in college. Students will create a list of topics to discuss at the beginning of each semester. BBC Chinese and other online resources are supplementary materials. Every two weeks, students will be required to compose an essay of a chosen topic and make a 3-4 minutes long video regarding the topic. The videos will be posted on the closed Facebook group specifically for WRA students in Chinese programs or be shared on students' YouTube channel. Students will present two of the videos in CL Chinese class and lead the discussions. This course is taught in Mandarin Chinese.

## SPANISH

**Spanish 1 (1.5 Credit):** This is the foundational course in Spanish. It introduces students to grammar essentials and basic vocabulary with conversation, oral composition, reading, and some writing. Emphasis is placed upon comprehension, pronunciation, and self-expression.

**Spanish 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course is the continuation of the foundational course. It introduces students to complex grammatical structures and focuses on strengthening communication skills through writing, readings, and dialogues. Prerequisite: WRA Spanish 1/placement test.

**Honors Spanish 2 (1.0 Credit):** This course is the continuation of the introductory course, which builds on the grammatical structures and vocabulary previously learned and completes the presentation of all rudimentary elements of the Spanish language. The focus in the course is on strengthening communication skills through writing, readings in literature, and dialogues. The cultures of the Spanish speaking world will also be explored. As an honors course, it is differentiated from the standard course in the pace, breadth and selection of materials used. This course is taught entirely in Spanish. Prerequisite: WRA Spanish 1/placement test and departmental permission.

**Spanish 3 (1.0 Credit):** This course involves an intensive overview of prior grammar as well as introduction of the remaining tenses and compound structures. The communication skills are further refined through short essays, oral presentations, and readings of well-known Hispanic authors. Prerequisite: WRA Spanish 2/placement test.

**Honors Spanish 3 (1.0 Credit):** This course concentrates on the development of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students read literature in Spanish. Through class discussion, oral presentations, and written compositions, students will learn how to interpret the materials critically and continue to improve their oral and written expression in Spanish. While fluency is of utmost importance, students are expected to be precise in their use of grammar and vocabulary. The development of vocabulary and grammatical sophistication will also be cornerstones of the course. This course is taught entirely in Spanish. Prerequisite: WRA Honors Spanish 2/placement test and departmental permission.

**Spanish Language & Culture (1.0 Credit):** This course examines a wide variety of geographic, cultural and historical settings, as well as current topics and important figures in Latin America and Spain. Students will explore the roles of men, women and children in different societies, immigration, human rights and issues of social justice. Students will also learn grammar in context, and complete writing activities related to their daily lives and the world around them. To meet the course objectives, the class will draw upon Spanish-language movies and videos, short stories, novels and many other sources. Prerequisite: Spanish 3 or Honors Spanish 3.

**CL Spanish - Spain/Latin America (1.0 Credit):** These courses will focus on culture and civilization. History, politics, literature, art, and social structures will be explored to help understand the contemporary world in Spain/Latin America. Students in these courses will discover treasured works of Spanish prose, poetry and drama. Critical analysis of texts will follow the historical and sociopolitical contexts that formed the backdrop of each author. Students will be required to take turns leading class discussions and conduct research on authors. Students will be required to write regular compositions, give oral presentations and lead class discussion. These courses are taught entirely in Spanish. Prerequisite: Honors Spanish 3 and departmental permission. These courses will alternate with Latin America being taught in odd numbered graduation years (2023, 2025, etc.) and Spain in even numbered graduation years (2022, 2024, etc.)

**Introduction to German (.5 Credit):** This course is designed for students with an interest in learning German. It will introduce students to grammar essentials, conversation practice, and oral production, as well as an introduction to writing and reading practice in German. Students have the choice of many topics from culture and civilization. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

# SCIENCE

**Biology (1.0 Credit):** This is a life science course designed as the first science course most students will take upon entering Western Reserve Academy. Biology introduces students to the study of living things at many different levels of organization. Overriding biological themes include continuity and change over time, the complementary nature of structure and function, and energy relationships. Major topics included are biochemistry, cellular structure and function, metabolism, cell reproduction, genetics, and evolution. Classroom activities combine learning and doing; including laboratory exercises and investigations, data collection and analysis, laboratory report writing, and varied hands-on activities. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand and confidently use the vocabulary and methodology of modern life science in their everyday life.

**Chemistry (1.0 Credit):** The purpose of this course is to provide students a strong scientific experience through the reading, writing, problem solving and practice of chemistry. Students will become more literate in the sciences and extend their understanding of science as an important component of our world. The educational goals of Chemistry include learning the processes of chemistry, chemistry's connections to other disciplines, and how chemistry relates to life. All fundamental chemistry concepts regarding the structure and function of matter and its energy are studied. Laboratory work emphasizes laboratory techniques, concept application, and chemistry problem solving. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors not intending to pursue extensive mathematics and science studies at the college level. This is a two semester year-long course. Prerequisite: Biology. Students taking Math 32 or higher, and have earned at least a B+ in Biology, should enroll in Honors Chemistry.

**Honors Chemistry (1.0 Credit):** This course offers a theoretical approach to the structure of matter, the changes it undergoes and the energy involved. The course provides a scientific experience through the reading, writing, and problem solving of chemistry. Laboratory work emphasizes conceptual application and advanced chemistry problem solving. This course is typically taken during the sophomore year. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors intending to pursue extensive mathematics and science studies at the college level. Prerequisite: Math 32 or higher (may be taken concurrently) and Biology.

**Conceptual Physics (1.0 Credit):** This course will emphasize doing physics to learn physics rather than using math to learn physics. Early on, the scientific method will be emphasized, as well as the structured and deliberate process required to conduct a well controlled experiment. Once these skills are developed, the fundamental principles of Newtonian Mechanics will be explored - primarily through open ended lab activities. Is that car moving with a constant velocity? How can you tell? What is the evidence? Students will be encouraged to observe carefully and then use their observations to form coherent/consistent explanations to explain the behavior. Best suited for the less mathematically inclined student who is still curious about why the world behaves as it does. Department recommendation required.

**Physics (1.0 Credit):** This course is an algebra-based introduction to the study of physics that emphasizes conceptual understanding, problem solving skills, and laboratory exposure. Students will study topics in mechanics including one and two-dimensional kinematic motion, Newton's Laws, force, work, energy, and momentum. Modern physical ideas such as electricity and electronic circuits may be covered during the second semester. Through in-class lectures and discussions, nightly homework sets and frequent laboratory experiments, students will receive a solid introduction to the study of physics.

**Honors Physics (1.0 Credit):** This is an honors introductory physics course. Algebra will be used extensively in this course and basic calculus concepts will be introduced and utilized with appropriate topics. Lab work is integrated throughout the curriculum as necessary. Physics topics include: kinematics (1 and 2 dimensions); Newton's Laws-Dynamics; work and energy; linear momentum; rotational motion; gravitation; simple harmonic motion and waves. Mathematics topics include: differential calculus; vectors and vector operations. Honors Physics is recommended for students who have a firm grasp of algebra and an interest in the sciences. This is a two-semester year long course. The student who plans to take CL Physics should select this course. Prerequisite: Concurrent Math 42.

**CL Microbiology (1.0 Credit):** Students explore the world of microbes, including the diversity of microbes and the impact of microbes on the world around them within this course. CL Microbiology is a hybrid course; part in-depth exploration of specific topics, part survey, with a significant emphasis on research, projects, presentations, and laboratories. Students develop an appreciation of microbes while revealing the complexities of these supposed simpler life forms and how this information has allowed us to better understand more complex forms of life. Students learn the foundational laboratory skills employed by microbiologists and build a toolbox of laboratory skills throughout the year while also learning how to mine and interpret primary sources of scientific literature. Many concepts familiar to students from biology class are deeply explored on both a molecular and organismal level, focusing on their pertinence to bacteria, viruses, and their hosts. Immunology, antibiotics, antibiotic resistance, biotechnology, and the ethical concerns specific to microbiology are also studied. Students do a substantial amount of independent work within this course and hone their presentation skills throughout the year. Prerequisite: An A in Biology.

**CL Chemistry (1.0 Credit):** This course builds upon the chemical principles learned from Honors Chemistry. Students will experience a variety of college-level chemistry topics (kinetics, equilibrium, electrochemistry, and introduction to organic chemistry) to apply their knowledge of chemical principles to real-world scenarios. Laboratory work will focus on experimental design, inquiry based learning, and the conceptual application of chemistry. This course is open to juniors or seniors who are intending to pursue mathematics, science, or pre-med in college or beyond. Prerequisite: Math 42 (may be taking concurrently) and A- in Honors Chemistry.

**CL Physics (1.0 Credit):** A college level calculus-based course that emphasizes the fundamental laws and basic concepts of physics. The use of calculus will be explored and utilized where appropriate. Labs are integrated throughout the curriculum when appropriate to aid understanding of the concepts explored. The topics covered include: kinematics in one- and two-dimensions; dynamics; work and energy; impulse and momentum; rotational motion and angular momentum; gravitation; simple harmonic motion; electric forces and fields; electric potential; electric circuits; magnetic forces and fields; electromagnetic induction. Prerequisite: CL Physics is open to juniors and seniors who have received the recommendation of the Science Department, have completed Honors Physics and have completed or concurrently enrolled in CL Calculus BC. Students enrolled in CL Calculus AB may take the course with the instructor's permission. This course is ideal for students who are interested in pursuing more advanced studies in the natural/physical sciences, mathematics, or engineering.

**Cancer Immunology (1.0 Credit):** This course covers basic methods in biotechnology. Emphasis is placed on techniques commonly employed in most research institutions including prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell culture, nucleic acid technologies, and protein purification along with the use and care of common laboratory instruments. Upon completion, students should have an understanding of the theory, practice, and application of these techniques. Students will demonstrate competency in these objectives by performing experiments in the laboratory, by performing well on laboratory practicals, and by participation in class discussions. Prerequisite: Biology and recommendation from Biology teacher

**Honors Cancer Immunology (1.0 Credit):** During the second year as investigators, students will continue to work on their research projects and on the further sharpening of the basic laboratory skills



learned in Cancer Immunology. These include but are not limited to bacterial, cancer, nucleic acid and protein work. These young investigators will also be expected to help teach these skills to first year students. They will develop their scientific communication skills through assigned research articles and an end of the year PowerPoint presentation. Prerequisite: Cancer Immunology and a well-established research project.

**CL Cancer Immunology (1.0 Credit):** During the third year as investigators, students will continue to work on their developed projects and on the maintenance of the basic laboratory skills learned in the first two levels of Cancer Immunology. These investigators will also be expected to help teach these skills to other students and assist with the development of their new research projects. They will continue to advance their own scientific communication skills through assigned research articles, PowerPoint and poster presentations. Prerequisite: Advanced Cancer Immunology and a second-year research project with propitious data submitted for evaluation.

**Ecological Sustainability (.5 Credit):** This course explores the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. With a focus on community dynamics, students will begin to understand the delicate balance of factors seen in different terrestrial ecosystems. Students are asked to examine and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made, related to abiotic factors, humans, and other organisms. Students in this course are exposed to the social and environmental implications of consumer and sustainable development behaviors, population patterns and associated geopolitical implications, and the impact these have on climate change. Evaluation of the relative risks associated with these problems and examining alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them is a key idea for the course. Concepts and skills are applied to campus, regional, national, and international contexts. The course is designed to be taken as a semester elective or a year-long course, with different topics covered each semester. Prerequisite: Biology

**Astronomy (.5 Credit):** Astronomy is designed to develop a basic understanding of the universe from the small to the very large. The main emphasis of this course will be in understanding astronomical processes and the basic science involved in these processes. An emphasis will also be placed on the history of science and how to use scientific evidence to answer questions. Topics covered include the constellations and motion of the sky, the solar system including our planet and the sun, light and telescopes, the lives and deaths of stars, neutron stars, black holes, galaxies, and cosmology. Students will have the ability to use the telescope at the school's Frost Observatory during stargazing nights. Prerequisite: Chemistry, Physics (may be taken concurrently), or departmental permission. Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.

**Advanced Astronomy (.5 Credit):** This course will focus heavily on astronomical observations, data collection and data processing. It will begin with the basic optics, the branch of physics that deals with light and its properties. This course will explore the mathematics and physics of lenses and mirrors, equipment used in optics to focus or gather light. The main goal of this portion of the course will be for students to design and build their own telescopes. The second portion of this course will focus on data analysis using data generated by other observatories around the world and in space. Students will have the opportunity to contribute, through their analysis of the data, to the larger field of astronomy. Other special topics are explored as well. This course will be more mathematical in nature than Astronomy and is intended as a follow up to that course, however students do not need to have completed Astronomy prior to taking this course. Prerequisite: Physics (may be taken concurrently). Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.

**Exercise Physiology (.5 Credit):** This course is designed to be an introduction to the physiology of exercise. Students will be exposed to the major concepts surrounding the anatomy and composition of the human body, nutrition and the processing of energy by various bodily systems, and the mechanics of the stress of exercise on the body. The concepts of writing exercise prescriptions, evaluating cardiovascular health, and preventing and managing injuries will also be covered. The laboratory experience will be an essential component of this course. Hands-on activities will include techniques



on assessing body composition, strength-testing, cardiovascular fitness, and maximal oxygen consumption. All students enrolling in this course will be expected to participate in labs involving exercise testing. Prerequisite: Biology.

**CL Synthetic Biology 1 - Invention and Design (1.0 Credit):** This full-year course immerses students in the cutting- edge convergence of biology, engineering, and invention known as synthetic biology. Through an iterative process, students research issues, genes, and various organisms to create a novel genetically engineered machine to address a challenge of their choice. While amassing varied laboratory skills, including DNA analysis, cloning, and the manipulation of microbes, students become adept scientific literature researchers and creative problem solvers. Students work collaboratively to generate ideas, design solutions, and identify research that supports their ideas. The goal of this course is a solid and well-vetted design of an invention ready for publication. Prerequisite: An A in Biology.

**CL Synthetic Biology 2 - Bioengineering and Piloting (1.0 Credit):** This full-year course immerses students in the cutting- edge convergence of biology, engineering, and invention known as synthetic biology. Over the course of the year, students learn to source materials and build their formalized inventions from Synthetic Biology I while honing their biotechnology and bacteriology skills. As students build their inventions, they learn the complexity of gene regulation and expression - the ins and outs of how DNA is read by organisms to create a product. Students aim to have a fully functional build completed by the end of the year, with their build documented and submitted for publication. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Synthetic Biology I.

**Ocean Topics (.5 Credit):** In this course students will learn about the diverse groups of marine organisms, their ecosystems and habitats, and current events in today's oceans such as overfishing, ocean acidification, climate change, restoration, and marine protected areas. Through discussion, readings, projects, and labs, students will learn about the diversity of ocean environments and how the creatures that live there are adapted to best survive. Students will learn theories pertinent to ecology as a whole, as well as the specifics to the ocean. The course is designed to be taken as a semester elective or a year-long course, with different topics covered each semester. Prerequisite: Biology.

# SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Exploring Global Foundations (1.0 Credit):** This course, required for freshmen, provides students with an introduction to topics relating to the origins and developments of today's global societies while building the essential seminar skills of reading critically, asking insightful questions, presenting and speaking gracefully and writing effectively. The histories of great civilizations will be viewed through various lenses. Our approach will encourage students to understand seminal texts - religious, philosophical, political, and literary - as an expression of universal human aspirations and cultural development. The seminar format will encourage students to find their voices and express their views on the essential questions the course will pursue. Furthermore, they will work collaboratively to discover a better understanding of the foundations of the past that shape our world today as well as the responsibilities of global citizenship.

**Building the Modern World (1.0 Credit):** This course, required for sophomores, begins its historical focus circa 1750, moves through the 19th and 20th centuries, and finally, ties into current events today. It seeks to develop students' abilities to think and question analytically through the study of the crafting of modernity in religious systems, developing political structures, emerging economies and technologies. Students focus on political, economic, and social concepts in association with a selective survey of world cultures and also apply a comparative lens. The teaching of skills will include the analysis of both primary and secondary sources, to acquiring geographical knowledge and learning research methodology. In the second semester, students will conduct a major research project on a modern topic of their choosing which culminates in a research paper, teaching session, and participation in a poster conference featuring their research subjects.

**United States History and Government (1.0 Credit):** This course, required for juniors, employs the inquiry method and a thematic approach to studying the history of the United States. Each semester students will explore a different theme that has influenced the development of our nation's history across time periods. Possible themes include migration, religion, gender/race, personal liberty vs. civic responsibility, and industry. The investigation into each theme will be organized around the asking of a number of central questions that will help guide students through their study. Students will examine essential moments and/or crucial problems within the American experience from colonial times through to the current era. In addition, the US History course will seek to have students better understand the global forces and interactions that have affected our nation's people, influenced its institutions, and shaped its ideals. Emphasis will be placed on gaining a better understanding of the notion of citizenship and the incumbent responsibilities of a citizen within a democratic republic.

**CL United States History and Government (1.0 Credit):** This course, intended for juniors but open to seniors, requires departmental recommendation. CL US History provides a chronological survey of the history of the United States of America, starting from the colonial period and continuing to the present day. This college-level survey introduces students to the major themes, events, and people that comprise the history of the United States of America; however, it also trains students to do the research and inquiry work of historians so as to interpret historical and modern events. As such, CL US History employs a seminar format to allow students the opportunity to find and develop their voices. In addition to gaining a better working knowledge of key historical events, individuals, and movements, emphasis will be placed on analyzing primary source documents and understanding the nature of historical causation. Additionally, a clear emphasis is placed on understanding the essence and evolution of American democracy. Finally, students will pursue a research question of their own choosing and will share their findings in one of three formats--a research paper, documentary film or website. This research component culminates with all students in CL US History participating in the National History Day Contest held in February and their projects serve as their final exam. Prerequisite: An 'A' or higher in BMW and departmental recommendation or permission.

**CL Economics (1.0 Credit):** The aim of this course is to provide an advanced introduction to the basic principles of micro and macroeconomics. The course will begin with a general overview of the nature of “economic thinking.” It will then relatively quickly transition into an investigation of the basic microeconomic concepts of demand, supply, market equilibrium, market regulation, market failure, the effects of taxation and subsidies, the four basic product markets, and the operation of resource markets. After this, the remainder of the course will be devoted to gaining understanding of the workings of the macroeconomy: GDP, unemployment, inflation, the banking system, the operations of the Federal Reserve System, fiscal and monetary policy, and international exchanges of currency, capital, and goods. Students will also acquire understanding as to how various schools of economic thought have arisen, and compete with one another over time, to explain the driving forces at work within the macroeconomy, guiding it either to stability or erratic behavior. Much of the course will entail gaining a working knowledge of the basic graphic models used to describe and explain all of the aforementioned concepts.

**CL Philosophy (1.0 Credit):** The objective of this course is twofold: first, to gain an initial understanding of the principal contributions to the “great conversation” of philosophy, beginning with the presocratics in the ancient Greek world and continuing to our own era; second, to acquire a strong familiarity with the driving questions of philosophy, such as those concerning ultimate reality, knowledge, freedom, morality, God, the soul, et al. Emphasis will be given to primary sources, but secondary materials will on occasion be consulted as well. Discussion will play a central role in the course, but two substantive papers will also be written, one toward the end of each semester. It is hoped that in addition to achieving the course’s twofold objective, students will come away from the experience with the conviction that philosophy is not only a worthwhile endeavor, but an inherently valuable one. Prerequisites: A- in both US History and Angles in Writing.

**CL Frederick Douglass (.5 Credit):** This course uses the writings of Frederick Douglass and other contemporary primary sources to examine the work and impact of this iconic writer and abolitionist who once spoke in our school’s Chapel. Students will work closely with his texts and engage in research projects related to this important figure and period of American history. Prerequisite: US History.

**CL Civil Rights: Revolutionary War Through Reconstruction (.5 Credit):** Students will explore the civil rights movement from the Revolution through the Civil War. The course will focus on African American leadership, particularly the impact of Frederick Douglass, in efforts to attain civil and political equality in the United States. Special attention will be paid to the evolving understanding of citizenship; the U.S. Constitution; and the expansion of democracy. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with major leaders, organizations and events of the Civil Rights Movement and be able to think critically about the social ramifications of race and justice in this country. Prerequisite: US History.

**CL Civil Rights: Twentieth Century (.5 Credit):** This course will be a thorough exploration of the Civil Rights movement from the late 19th century to the present. Students will be introduced to a general overview of the chronology, landmark cases, and themes of the modern African American struggle for civil rights. Additional emphasis will be placed on the voices of those involved in the struggle via documentary films, including the Eyes on the Prize series, which will be utilized to create a more holistic understanding of both the personal and historical significance of this era. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with major leaders, organizations and events of the Civil Rights Movement and be able to think critically about the social ramifications of race and justice in this country. Prerequisite: US History.

**CL Art History/Art History 1 (.5 Credit):** This course will examine the art and architecture of the ancient world as discovered through archaeological investigations and how that knowledge can be celebrated and preserved through responsible heritage management. We will examine UNESCO World

Heritage sites such as the Great Wall of China, the Xi'an Terracotta Warriors, Machu Picchu, Chichen Itza, Pompeii, Stonehenge, and the Pyramids of Egypt. Those enrolled as CL students should expect heavier assignment/assessment requirements.

**CL Art History/Art History 2 (.5 credit):** This art history course examines major art movements and innovations of both Europe and Asia with focal points being the myriad works of the Italian Renaissance, Ming & Qing Chinese Art, various Baroque Movements, the world of Japanese Ukiyo-E, and Impressionism which in many ways brings Western and Eastern art together. The emphasis is on painting and sculpture. Those enrolled as CL students should expect heavier assignment/assessment requirements.

**CL Art History/Art History 3 (.5 credit):** This course focuses on artistic achievements of the 20th and 21st centuries through the lens of modern painting, architecture, photography, installation art, and innovative materials art (working with non-traditional materials such as plastics, recyclables, string, cardboard, coins; the list is endless!). From Picasso to Zaha Hadid to Ai Wei, we will study the mavericks of the art world and how they have created modern aesthetics. Those enrolled as CL students should expect heavier assignment/assessment requirements. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

**United States Government (.5 Credit):** Intended for students who have already taken US History (potentially at another institution) but who need a course addressing US government, or for students who would like to pursue a more in-depth understanding of the workings of governance in the United States and globally, this semester-long course provides a deeper dive into the set-up, evolution, and workings of governance at the federal, state, and local levels in the US, and then examines the structure of governments in other nation-states for comparison. Students gain a complex perspective on how structures, principles, organizations, constituencies and individuals impact the efficacy of a government.

**Arabic and Arab Cultures (.5 Credit):** Introduction to Arabic and Arab Culture is an exposure to the Arabic language similar to a first semester university Elementary I course. Using the first text of the popular Al-Kitaab Arabic language program entitled Alif Baa: Introduction to Arabic Letters and Sounds students learn the alphabet, both by writing Arabic script and correct pronunciation. Emphasis is placed on the development of basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Classroom teaching is accompanied by online drills and exercises in addition to cultural notes. With the introduction of new vocabulary, simple conversations and dialogues will be practiced. The second component of the course focuses on the culture of the Middle East through viewing films and popular media, attending a Friday prayer service at a local mosque, tasting the regional cuisine, and listening to popular music artists from Egypt and Lebanon.

**Middle East Studies (.5 credit):** A survey of Middle East/North African history from the beginning of Islam to the present day with particular emphasis on the period since 1800. A comprehensive review of the emergence and expansion of Islam and its impact on the region will be an integral component of the course. Selected topics such as Arab nationalism, the impact of western expansionism and colonialism, and the strategic and economic importance of this region will also be examined. In order to gain an understanding of the varied and rich cultures, complex history, and tensions in this region of the world, current events, art, film and poetry will also be introduced. Students will be assigned secondary and primary source readings in history and current events. They will also select a particular issue in a Middle Eastern country to explore in depth, which will culminate in a final presentation to the class.

**Women of Color in American History (.5 credit):** This course aims to revisit key moments in American history and emphasize the role of women of color, often rendered invisible despite the integral part they often played in moving society in new directions. We aim to explore the ways African American, Latina, Asian American, and Native American women have challenged patriarchy within and outside of their own communities through both feminist organizations and within movements

for racial and class justice. We will also interrogate the mechanisms of policing used against women of color that have served to target and silence women of color who deviate from the norm. At the culmination of the course, we will look at the contemporary moment and examine the ways in which women of color today are reclaiming and redefining feminism and continuing to lead social justice movements and make history.

**International Relations (.5 credit):** How can we understand the challenges modern powerful nations face in advancing their interests, security, and ambitions? How do rapid changes in global strategic, economic, and geopolitical environments challenge nations to preserve their threatened standing or to seek opportunistic advancement? This class will employ conceptual tools to understand the nature of superpower rivalry, both past and present. The course uses case studies and scenarios to develop decision-making skills in real world situations. It will focus on America's involvement in international relations and important foreign policy decisions beginning with World War One, moving through the Cold War, and then focusing on Post-9/11. This course prepares students to analyze and respond to assertions made about U.S. foreign policy and to posit foreign policy plans for a selected countries or regions.

**Space Race (.5 Credit):** Open to juniors and seniors and PGs interested in exploring the American reaction to the Soviet's launching of Sputnik I in October of 1957 and the historical context of the subsequent establishment of NASA and this agency's development of the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo space programs designed ultimately to land men on the moon and bring them safely back to earth. The course will entail a close reading of Tom Wolfe's epic piece of New Journalism, *The Right Stuff*, as well as a detailed study of a more conventional narrative history of the early American space program. The viewing of documentary films will, likewise, be a principal feature of the course. Students will be asked to take a lead role in planning and conducting some of the group discussions centered on the aforementioned source material. Finally, students will complete an independent research project based on a related topic of their own choosing that will serve as the final "exam" for the course. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

**Vietnam War (.5 Credit):** Open to juniors and seniors and PGs, this course seeks to study the causes and consequences of the United States' post-World War II involvement in the Vietnamese civil war. Through an exploration of various media—a formal historical monograph, films, contemporary music, art, fiction and primary sources—students will come to better appreciate both the international and domestic politics and cultural impacts of this seminal event in modern American history. Students will be asked to take a lead role in planning and conducting some of the group discussions centered on the aforementioned source material. Finally, students will complete an independent research project based on a related topic of their own choosing that will serve as the final "exam" for the course. *Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.*

**Global Health (.5 Credit):** This course provides students with various lenses through which to view global health examining historical phenomena like the bubonic plague, the Spanish flu, the invention of vaccinations and antibiotics, and determine how these inform future ways of tackling disease and ensuring public health. Additionally, students will look at post-disaster relief efforts, the creation of sanitation systems, and the building of refugee camps with an emphasis on thoughtful and ethical design. Students should leave this class with the skills to assess crisis situations and to fashion efficient solutions that respect human life, resources and the environment. The course will focus on collaboration and is perfect for those interested in the intersection of history, medicine, science, social justice and public policy.

**Global Mental Health (.5 Credit):** This course will look at the impact of historical trauma and efforts, both successful and failed, of restoration and recovery. Students will examine the impact of slavery in North America and proposed reparations programs; the genocide of Native Americans (and attempted amalgamation of remaining tribal members) through Indian boarding schools and the relocation of populations to reservations in the U.S. and Canada; the generational trauma of Cambodian refugees



and programs to help with resettlement; survivor guilt and the generational trauma of Holocaust victims; the genocide of Rwanda and truth/reconciliation trials; the impact of apartheid and the work of the truth/reconciliation commission; and proposed similar actions (justice trials) in Armenia and Bosnia and why they've not come to fruition.

**Native American Heritage & Culture (.5 Credit):** This course examines the variety of indigenous cultures that existed in the Americas prior to European contact and settlement and how those societies have fared and endured since the arrival of colonists and the creation of new nation-states. Students will focus on regional tribal cultures and their traditions including mythology, relationships to ecosystems, arts and technology, and food and folkways. Students will seek out native voices to understand the conflicts that have occurred with conquest and occupation, and how Native Americans have responded by re-invigorating their heritage and re-establishing their rights. Film, literature, poetry, music and art will be used in addition to historical treatments and primary sources to comprehend the Native American experience.

**History of Hudson and WRA (.5 Credit):** Anyone who has attended WRA knows that Hudson, Ohio played a role in the historic Underground Railroad; but most can not say much more than that. Beginning with David Hudson's settling in the town that now bears his name, this course will survey the history of the Western Reserve of Connecticut, the town of Hudson, and the school we all call our Second Home, Western Reserve Academy. On-site research will be performed in both the WRA Archives and the Archive Room at the Hudson Library & Historical Society. And, weather permitting, a good portion of the spring semester will be spent out-and-about Hudson, exploring some of its historical sites.

**1968 - The Unraveling of America (.5 Credit):** The Vietnam War, protests and assassinations were on the news. Peace signs, love-ins, Andy Warhol's pop art, and psychedelic rock were on the scene. There were assertions of Black Power at the Olympic Games and feminist demonstrations at the Miss America pageant. The social forces that swirled through the turbulent 1960s crested in 1968. It was a turning point for a generation coming of age and a nation at war.. From the darkest hours to the incredible highs, the year 1968 comes alive in this interdisciplinary history elective. Exploring topics that range from generational conflict and counterculture to race and gender, this course aims to improve students' ability to analyze textual and visual sources critically, write clearly and coherently, and articulate their thoughts confidently.

**History Through Hollywood: American Film and the McCarthy Era (.5 Credit)** This class will look at the intersection between art and cultural context by examining an historical era during which the film community became directly intertwined with politics - the years when the fear of communism governed Hollywood and the nation. Films viewed will range from the Cold War classic *Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (Kubrick, 1964) to the sci-fi thriller *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (Siegel, 1956) to the tense political thriller *The Manchurian Candidate* (Frankenheimer, 1962). Students will learn how to use film quite literally as a lens through which to view history and culture.

**East Asian History (.5 Credit):** This survey course will introduce the modern history of East Asia (China, Japan, and Korea). The course will begin in the 17th century with challenges to the dynasties of each country and examines how East Asia emerges through war, commerce, interregional cultural exchange, the impact of the west (imperial expansion and colonialism), revolutionary movements and nationalism. Students will use primary and secondary source material to analyze the major themes of the region's history. Students will also consider several global issues facing the region today. Not offered in the 2023-24 school year.

**Introduction to Geography (.5 Credit):** This course is an introduction to how geographers view the world and contribute to our understanding of it. Geography fosters systems thinking and a global perspective. The following three fundamental questions guide our thinking: What do we observe? Why is it there? What is the significance of its occurrence? These questions help to explain the world in

its physical appearance (physical geography) and the phenomena of the human experience (human geography) at different scales from the global to the local. The course covers the following topics: landforms, weather and climate, natural resources, population and culture. Maps and mapmaking are introduced.

**Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (.5 Credit):** This course is an introductory course. GIS transforms static maps into dynamic and interactive multimedia and reflects the integration of technological innovation and vast amounts of geographic data. Students learn the use of ArcGIS to process location-based data and apply spatial thinking. They will learn to integrate spatial concepts, spatial representations, and spatial reasoning to solve a sequence of applied problems across a wide range of topics. Fundamental concepts and methods of ArcGIS such as data structures and operations, geographic frameworks, and principles of cartographic design are addressed. Prerequisite: Introduction to Geography



# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

WRA graduates must complete a four year program of study. Four year students earn a minimum of 27 credits, while meeting specific departmental requirements, listed below. Transfer students take a full course load earning a minimum of 21 credits and must meet specific departmental requirements.

**ENGLISH:** (4 credits) Four-year sequence and successful completion of the Junior Writing Exam.

**FINE & PERFORMING ARTS:** (2 credits) Any Fine & Performing Arts courses.

**INTEGRATED STUDIES & DESIGN:** (2 credits) Including Learn to Live Well, Learn to Make and Learn to College.

**MATHEMATICS:** (4 credits) Four years of mathematics including one credit at Algebra 2/Level 30 or higher.

**MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES:** (3 credits) with completion of level three of a language.

**SCIENCE:** (3 credits) Three full credits in science; Biology, Chemistry and Physics required.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE:** (3 credits) Three full credits in history including US History and Government.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** Students earn physical education credit by athletic participation or conditioning at WRA for each academic year.