

Challenge Course Options 2017-2018

*All courses are year-long unless otherwise noted. Courses with an * require an application.*

Arts Courses	Prerequisite	Grade	You Should Sign Up for This Course if....
Creative Writing (Semester or Year-Long Course)	none	9-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You love to write creatively, or have an interest in developing Creative Writing skills. 2) You're open to writing poetry, short fiction, creative non-fiction, spoken word, and drama.
Drama 1	none	9-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You want to exercise your imagination. 2) You are interested in performing improvisations and scripted scenes. 3) You want to learn how to be more expressive with your body and voice.
Drama 2 or Theater Performance (Semester Course)	Drama 1	10-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You want to build on what you learned in Drama 1. 2) You want to rehearse and perform plays for public performances. 3) You want to explore making movies.
Guitar (Semester or Year-Long Course)	none	9-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You already play some guitar and/or want to learn how to play popular songs from the 1960's to the present. 2) You want to learn guitar basics and/or take what you know about playing chords, strumming and picking to the next level. 3) You have an interest in playing in small groups/bands.
Honors Creative Writing (Semester or Year-Long Course)	Creative Writing (or instructor approval)	11-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You have significant experience and/or talent in Creative Writing. 2) You're ready for in-depth work and a course that is run like a college writing workshop, including free verse poetry, spoken word, short fiction, drama and multi-genre projects.
Honors Visual Art 3*	Visual Art 2	11 th -12 th	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You have demonstrated an ability to work independently in Visual Art 2 2) You want to continue developing your visual language and build a portfolio of work. 3) You're willing to have your work shared publicly and engage in group critiques.
Video 1	none	9-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You want to learn about the evolution of film language. 2) You want to learn basic film techniques and editing. 3) You want to engage in short creative approaches to time based arts.
Visual Art 1	none	9-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You are curious about art materials. 2) You love to draw, paint, collage or build 3-dimensional forms. 3) You are interested in artists, their work and what inspires them.
Visual Art 2	Visual Art 1	10-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You passed Art 1 and loved it. 2) You want to expand your visual language and improve your technical skill. 3) You like to share ideas and get inspired by other artists.

Humanities Courses	Prerequisite	Grade	You Should Sign Up for This Course if....
AP English Literature*	Humanities 11 or HAMLIT	12th	1) You love reading and writing about literature. 2) Debating essential human needs floats-your-boat. 3) You're ready to experience a college course in a high school setting.
AP US History*	Humanities 10	11 th	1) You have a strong interest in figuring out how the U.S. came to be the way it is today. 2) You're not afraid of reading and trying to make meaning of contradictory perspectives. 3) You're deeply concerned about the challenges our society faces from social injustice, economic inequality, and corruption, but you also think the world can be an inspiring place.
Ethnic Studies	none	10-12	1) You're interested in learning about the historical context of racial relationships in the U.S. 2) You want to have safe and significant discussions about race issues in America. 3) You want to engage in the thought process to create actions that tackle racism, discrimination, and stereotypes in this country.
Honors American Literature*	Humanities 10	11 th	1) You love reading interesting, brave, funny, wonderful novels. 2) You enjoy making meaning out of the art around you (songs, stories, movies, etc.). 3) You want to improve your reading, thinking, and writing skills.

Math Courses	Prerequisite	Grade	You Should Sign Up for This Course if....
AP Calculus*	Pre-Calculus	12 th	1) You have a passion for mathematics, especially conceptual mathematics. 2) You are not afraid to struggle with new concepts and will be relentless trying to learn and improve the skills and comprehension of these concepts. 3) You have solid math intuition and a passion for accurate, in-depth problem solving.
Business Math (Semester Course)	Geometry	10-12	You hope to learn about how to manage your own finances, save money for retirement, and start up your own business in the future. Anyone can become a millionaire!
Honors Algebra 2 Compression*	Geometry	10 th -12 th	1) You like trying out challenging math problems & puzzles. 2) You have good Algebra operation skills (adding, multiplying, dividing, fractions, etc.). 3) You are willing to devote time & energy to figure out how a challenging problem works.

Honors Pre-Calculus*	Algebra 2	11 th -12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You have a passion for challenging mathematics. 2) You are willing to engage in more complex mathematical solving and applications, including attention to accuracy, memorization of skills and tools, and attention to detail. 3) You are interested in fields where higher math is used, like engineering architecture, navigation, computers, etc.
Pre-Calculus	Algebra 2	11-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You enjoy math and logic and puzzles. 2) You want to challenge yourself in preparation for calculus or college-level math. 3) You want to see how algebra and geometry join together to create one beautiful mathematical union.

Science Courses	Prerequisite	Grade	You Should Sign Up for This Course if...
AP Biology*	Completed Biology; completed/enrolled in Chemistry	11 th -12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You are curious about how life works (including cells, genetics, molecular biology, evolution, etc.). 2) You are ready for a fast-paced, challenging course that will also improve your writing and critical thinking skills. 3) You have an interest in studying science or medicine in college.
AP Environmental Science*	9th grade Environmental Science	10 th -12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You have a genuine interest in learning all the ways that humans' quest for food, energy, shelter, and entertainment affect Earth's systems and Earth's resources. 2) You want to learn more about current environmental issues and what we can do about them. 3) You want to be challenged to think critically about the state of our world today.
AP Physics*	Completed Algebra 2	11 th -12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You want to learn more about how about the world around you works. 2) You enjoy challenging labs that help you understand complex ideas. 3) You are interested in a science or engineering major at college.
Honors Chemistry*	Biology	11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You love science and learning 2) You enjoy a faster paced, focused, more challenging environment. 3) You enjoy designing your own labs.
Introduction to Computer Science (Semester Course)	none	9-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You want to understand how computers work. 2) You are interested in coding and basic programming skills. 3) You like to experiment and solve problems.
Physics	Geometry	11-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) You want to learn more about how about the world around you works. 2) You enjoy hands on labs that help you understand complex ideas. 3) You want an extra year of science to improve your college applications

Spanish Courses	Prerequisite	Grade	You Should Sign Up for This Course if....
AP Spanish Language*	Heritage B, Spanish 3H	10 th -12 th	1) You want to improve your Spanish reading, listening, speaking and writing skills. 2) You want to be able to write convincing essays and speeches. 3) You're interested in current events and global challenges.
AP Spanish Literature*	AP Spanish Language	11 th -12 th	1) You want to improve your Spanish reading, listening, speaking and writing. 2) You love reading fascinating stories and beautiful poems. 3) You're interested in the history of the Spanish-speaking world.

Additional Courses	Prerequisite	Grade	You Should Sign Up for This Course if....
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Office Aide & Teacher's Aide (Semester or Year-long Course)	none	10-12	1) You like to be helpful. 2) You want to learn professional skills for an office or educational setting 3) You're responsible and organized—or are committed to becoming mor so.
Peer Resources*	none	11-12	1) You like to motivate others. 2) You believe it is important to be aware of injustices and advocate for equality. 3) You like to try new things and discuss your thoughts with others.
Physical Education (Semester Course)	none	9-12	1) You need PE credits. 2) You want to learn about fitness and how to design and perform a workout with weights and gym equipment. 3) You want a chance to be consistently active during the regular school day.

Internships

Internships are a great way to explore potential careers with no commitment past 2 hours a week for 8 weeks during your junior and senior years. Earn two units for your transcript, build your resume for work and college and investigate an interest of yours. Some possibilities:

- **Afterschool Programs:** Sunset Neighborhood Ctr.
- **Automobiles:** SF Toyota
- **Art:** Kazoo Studios
- **Architecture Firm**
- **Dental Office**
- **Early Childhood Education:** Cow Hollow Preschool
- **Finance:** Wells Capital and Value Act
- **Journalism:** Tasting Panel Magazine
- **Law (Criminal):** San Francisco Public Defender
- **Non-Profit Administration:** Summerbridge
- **Physical Therapy:** Active Care
- **Veterinarian:** Presidio Way Veterinarian Hospital