

OAK HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
ALL COURSES ARE YEAR LONG COURSES UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE!

Beg. Journalism: Introductory course concentrating on elements of journalistic style, including basic news and editorial writing and newspaper production. Preparation and production of the school newspaper will be taught.

Advanced Journalism: (10th – 12th only) (Teacher approval needed. Prerequisite: Beg. Journalism) This journalism laboratory is designed for students to participate in writing, planning and publishing the school newspaper. The course develops organization, management, and leadership skills.

Yearbook: (Need 3.0 GPA and Language Arts teacher recommendation) This course is designed to produce the school yearbook. Students work under the pressure of deadlines. Emphasizes copy writing, layout, photography, and other publication/production skills. Student practices information gathering methods, as well as creative thinking skills.

BIBLE AS LITERATURE (11th and 12th) Biblical literature focusing on the historical narrative, wisdom literature, poetic writings, epistles and prophecies will be studied. Students will examine major themes, authors, and historical perspectives contained in the Bible

Creative Writing: Poetry, short story, plays, screenplays and advertising are some of the formats that will be utilized in this course. Introduction, modeling, practice, group work, coaching will help the student to establish a writer's voice.

ARMY LET (JROTC)

Army LET I: The mission of Leadership Education and Training (LET) is to motivate first year JROTC cadets to be better citizens. To accomplish this purpose, the text discusses citizenship, leadership, and a number of other courses designed to help the cadets succeed in high school and after graduation. Cadets wear uniforms one time each week. Extracurricular activities include: Providing color guards, eating at concession stands, participating in community parades, drill and rifle teams. Course may satisfy other graduation requirements.

Army LET II: (Prerequisite: Successful completion of Army LET I) The second year of Leadership Education and Training provides more details about leadership situations. The program is split into units including: techniques of communication, leadership, cadet challenge, leadership lab, first aid, map reading, history, your American citizenship, career opportunities, and role of the U.S. Army. The wearing of the uniform and extracurricular activities are the same as for LET I.

Army LET III: (Prerequisite: Successful completion of Army LET II) The third year of Leadership Education and Training provides still more leadership situations. In this year students will not only be more involved as teacher and leaders within the cadet battalion, but they will also do more independent studies in the areas of communication, leader, first aid, history, map reading, career opportunities, and technology awareness. The wearing of the uniform and the extracurricular activities are the same as for LET I.

FINE / PERFORMING ARTS

FINE ARTS APPRECIATION

This course provides an exposure to the visual and performing arts in their historical, contemporary, and cultural context.

CULTURAL ART AND CRAFTS I

This course offers students the opportunity to explore a wide variety of materials and techniques. They are introduced to the elements and principles of design and color theory. These concepts will be used to create projects from various cultures and media which may include mask making; ceramic, hand-built pottery; sculpture; fiber artweaving; paper making; basketry; printmaking; batik; calligraphy; and Pysanka.

Art I*: This course is designed to explore two-dimensional arts through applications in drawing, design and media usage. Techniques involve use of line, value, shape, texture, color, perspective, and collage. Students will be introduced to a variety of media including pencil, charcoal, pastels, chalks, tempera paint, and ink. Measuring, proportions, composing, drawing, and painting will be introduced. Major time periods and movements in art as well as individual artists will be studied.

Art II*: ((10th – 12th only) This is a two-dimensional art course, which builds upon the basic principles learned in Art I. Course content may include painting, figure drawing, realistic and naturalistic methodologies. Portfolio development and art professions will be discussed.

Art III*: (11th and 12th only) This is a two-dimensional course in which students will achieve highly refined drawing and design skills. Further in-depth studies, including historical influences, in still life and figure drawing and painting will be examined. A variety of artistic styles will be modeled and students will be encouraged to explore career and college choices.

Sculpture I: (10th – 12th only) A course in 3 dimensional design where carving, fabrication and modeling of materials such as clay, plaster and wood will be introduced and explored.

AP Studio Art: (10th – 12th only) (Pre-requisite: Art III, teacher recommendation) This course is designed for the highly motivated and committed art students. Projects for the first semester will concentrate on a specific idea or type of art. The AP exam will consist of 21 good works of art and an artist's statement. (Some artworks for this exam can be used from previous years.)

AP Art History: (10th – 12th only) This course is designed to allow students to examine major forms of artistic expression relevant to cultures from the present to the past. The main focus is European Art but also includes studies of other areas.

Beginning Photography: (10th – 12th only) Using adjustable digital cameras, students will learn the fundamentals of lighting, exposure and composition. While learning the elements of action and still photography, as they relate to: portraiture, commercial subjects, sports, photojournalism, still life and nature.

Advanced Photography: (10th – 12th only) (Pre-requisite: Beginning Photography, with a "C" or better) Using adjustable digital cameras, students will produce photographs that meet professional standards. Problems of low and extreme light conditions will be addressed, along with multiple exposure and complex composition problems. May build a portfolio of ten to fifteen photographs around a theme.

Beginning Video Production: Students will learn professional video production techniques including the composition of good video work. Students will cover elements of good photography with camcorders. There will also be an emphasis on themes in video.

Concert Choir*: This course is designed for training students with no previous choral experience. Emphasis is placed on the development of singing skills, reading music, awareness of stylistic differences, and general musicianship. Public performance will be included.

Treble Choir*: (by audition) This is an intermediate level women's choral ensemble requiring an audition for admission. The course will emphasize the best in choral music, advanced vocal techniques and music reading. There will be extensive performing in concerts and festivals. **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

Vocal Ensemble*: (by audition) This is an advanced choral ensemble requiring an audition for admission. The course will emphasize the best in choral music, advanced vocal techniques and music reading. There will be extensive performing in concerts and festivals. **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

Concert Band (Drum-line)*: This course is a band course for students who play percussion instruments and is paired with pageantry students. Class counts for P.E. credit. (1 year = 5 P.E. credits) **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

Symphonic Band*: A selective advanced performing group whose repertory includes contemporary and classical music. Musicianship and music theory are emphasized. The group performs at athletic events and formal concerts and participates in both marching and concert festivals. Most HJH advanced students will be placed in Symphonic Band for 9th grade. **Students must own or rent an instrument. Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

Wind Ensemble*: (by audition) A selective performing organization whose repertory includes traditional and popular music from all periods. Musicianship and music theory are emphasized. The group (which serves as a concert band, marching band, and pop band) performs at athletic events, presents formal, concerts, and participates in parades, concert festivals, and marching festivals. **Students must own or rent instrument. Commitment beyond the normal school day is required**

String Orchestra*: This is a performance course for all string players from string bass to violin. May perform in concerts and festivals throughout the year. **Students must own or rent instrument. Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

Jazz Ensemble*: Students learn fundamentals of jazz and improvisation. Emphasis is placed on the development of style, interpretation and technical skills in sound and performance. **Students must be members of Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble and participate in marching band in order to be enrolled.**

Music Appreciation: Music Appreciation is an introduction to the ideas, values, and practices that have defined human music making throughout history. This course will cover the elements of music, historical musical periods and major musical landmarks. Students will also acquire a basic working knowledge of musical notation and terminology.

Beginning Drama: This course will introduce students to all aspects of the theater and its history. Students will learn the basics of character development, stage movement, and voice techniques in order to perform monologues and scenes. Students will acquire knowledge in all areas of theater production including technical theater (lighting, sound, costumes, and make-up)

Advanced Drama: (11th and 12th only) This course will emphasize modern playwrights and evaluating contemporary dramatic literature. Students will learn the basics of script writing for stage, film, and television. Final projects will include student-directed scenes and one-act plays. **Students will be required to assist with major school productions in a technical capacity (set, lights, sound, costumes, or make-up).**

Drama Production: This course is designed for those interested in the total drama production. May include lighting, sound and set design and construction.

Pageantry*: (By audition) This is designed to explore basic dance and drill techniques and rhythmic movements through the use of tall flags, rifles, and color guard equipment. **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

French I: Introduces students to basic structures of the French language, with emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course also introduces various cultural similarities and differences between France and the United States, including customs, work ethics, education, and leisure time activities.

French II: (10th – 12th only) (Prerequisite: Successful completion of French I, “C” or better and teacher recommendation) This intermediate course builds on the foundation of French I. Students will continue to expand vocabulary, knowledge of French language structure and French culture.

French III: (11th and 12th only) (Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II, “C” or better and teacher recommendation) An advanced course in which students expand their vocabulary and grammatical proficiency in the French language and begin the study of French literature.

Spanish I: Introduces students to basic structures of the Spanish language, with emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course also introduces various cultural similarities and differences between Spanish-speaking countries and the United States, including customs, work ethics, education, and leisure time activities.

Spanish II: (Need current Spanish teacher signature) This intermediate course builds on the foundation of Spanish I. Students will continue to expand vocabulary, knowledge of Spanish language structure and Hispanic culture.

Spanish III: (Completion of Spanish II; teacher approval) An advanced course in which students move towards fluency in the Spanish language by continuing to expand their vocabulary and making a more in-depth study of language structure. Spanish language literature is introduced.

Spanish IV AP: (Successful completion of Spanish III and teacher recommendation) Taught at the college level, this course prepares students to successfully pass the Advanced Placement Spanish Language examination. Students polish their skills in listening comprehension, speaking proficiency, reading and writing as well as continuing to expand their vocabulary and their knowledge of Hispanic culture. **Academically rigorous course requiring 3-5 hours of homework each week.**

Heritage Spanish I - II: Designed for students who already understand and speak Spanish but who may not read or write it. Students learn to express themselves more completely in both spoken and written Spanish. They reflect upon and discuss Hispanic culture in the context of the whole Hispanic world and make comparisons to their home cultures. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to develop oral fluency and competency in basic reading and writing skill. Students (other than ELD students) should be functioning well in English in order to undertake the rigorous study of a formal foreign language course. This course requires 3-5 hours of homework each week and regular participation in classroom discussions.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

ASE Automotive Technology I*: This is a course that blends theory and practice with the working principles of the modern automobile. All major systems of the engine and chassis are covered.

ASE Automotive Technology II*: (Completion of Automotive Technology I and teacher recommendation.) Hands-on skills are taught involving service and maintenance, shop safety equipment, engine service and lubrication, tire and wheel maintenance and repair, brake system service, tune-up, and electrical system service and repair. **May be a 2-period block.**

ASE Automotive Technology III*: (Completion of Automotive Technology II and teacher recommendation.) This is a hands-on performance course. Topics include air conditioning, service and repair, front-end alignment, suspension and steering repair, and engine overhaul. **May be a 2-period block.**

Drafting Tech I*: The purpose of this course is to help students learn to visualize in three dimensions; to develop and strengthen their technical imaginations and to read and write the language of industries. Computer aided drafting (CAD) is introduced.

Drafting Tech II - III*: (Teacher approval.) Students prepare complete architectural and mechanical drafting plans to industry standards. Advanced projects will prepare students for employment and build a professional quality portfolio.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL

AVID I - III: (by application) Advanced Via Individual Determination (AVID), provides a support system for students who want a chance at college. Students will focus on organizational skills, note-taking, test-taking tips, and writing-to-learn activities, to name a few. AVID students will be enrolled in the most rigorous academic schedule; therefore, tutorials for their academic classes will be an integral part of the AVID program. Students must possess a GPA of 2.0 or higher and go through an interview process.

AVID Tutoring: (11th – 12th only) (Teacher approval) The purpose of the AVID Tutoring course is to train peer-tutors to enhance the skills of AVID students by modeling and practicing effective tutorial group strategies, developing higher order questioning techniques, reviewing methods for working with students' writing, and providing an opportunity for tutors to discuss and solve problems.

Leadership: (Open only to students (all grade levels) who are elected or appointed to student body or class office.) This is a participation-oriented course offering opportunities for students to represent and report to their peers. The Leadership course provides training in parliamentary procedure, skills for planning and supervising student activities, skills in group dynamics and conducting effective meetings, and skills in preparing budgets.

Student Store Worker: (11th – 12th only) (Consent of supervisor, no attendance or discipline problems and must have passed the CAHSEE) Students will gain experience in marketing fundamentals, including sales, customer service, merchandising, pricing, cash handling, and cash register operations. . Students learn receiving, and inventory control.

Office Aides: (11th and 12th) This is an exploratory program designed to acquaint students with the activities and skills needed in a professional business setting. Students will perform duties while becoming aware of the variety of tasks that are a part of any business. Supervision will be by the classified person working with the student aide, and an administrator. **Students may take any combination of Teacher Assistant, Office Aide, and Computer Lab Assistant for a maximum of twenty (20) credits and maximum of one (1) per semester.**

Teacher Aides: (11th and 12th only) (Teacher approval, passage of the CAHSEE, 2.0 GPA, good attendance, no discipline referrals; parent permission.) This course designation is used for students who wish to aid teachers in the mechanical duties of classroom management and record keeping. Students will at all times attend their assigned class. **Students may take any combination of Teacher Assistant, Office Aide, and Computer Lab Assistant for a maximum of twenty (20) credits and maximum of one (1) per semester.**

Beg. Peer Assistance/Support: (10th & 11th only) (Teacher approval, 3.0 GPA, good attendance and no discipline referrals) Students receive training and experience with problem-solving skills, mentoring, and decision-making processes. Students learn about topics such as conflict mediation, suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, and many other teen issues. (1year course)

Advanced Peer Assistance/Support: (11th and 12th only) (Interview with advisor and counselor.) Students trained in Peer Counseling provide supervised on-campus peer support. Student will work in the counseling office one period a day.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sports Conditioning: The courses listed are designed to teach specialized skills to students who are participating on the freshmen, junior varsity, or varsity teams of the sport identified.

PE Cheerleading: (By audition, auditions held during Spring semester.) This course emphasizes development of muscular strength, coordination, agility, flexibility, and balance. Cheerleaders participate at most athletic events. They are responsible for pep rallies and assume other leadership roles on campus and at athletic events. **Students must be in good standing in grade 10 or 11. Requires commitment beyond the normal school day.**

REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM (R.O.P.)

R.O.P. Sports Therapy: (2 periods) This class is designed to prepare students with entry-level employment skills in the areas of fitness and exercise, physical therapy and athletic training. Instruction will include basic anatomy and physiology, vital signs, first aid, CPR and nutrition for fitness and sports. Specific topics such as training room management, theory and application of exercise (isometric, isotonic, isokinetic), injury prevention and rehabilitative exercises are also taught **Good health; good communication skills. Student's on-the-job training hours will be arranged by the instructor.**

R.O.P. Fundamentals of Law Enforcement: This course offers the student instruction in the theory of law and the criminal justice system, including crime prevention, delinquency, investigation, and traffic control. Course work includes theory and lab activities for learning the process and procedures for gathering and analyzing evidence, conducting criminal investigations, and writing reports. English language arts and math standards are reinforced throughout the course. Students participate in physical fitness, first aid, and CPR training.

R.O.P. Website Design*: This will provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to create and publish a website and for employment in business, industry or government using website technology. Students will learn the history, terminology, design and development skills in basic html as well as software applications for website creation. Legal and ethical issues will also be addressed.

R.O.P. Digital Design*: This course will provide students with the skills to develop a broad perspective of art, design, communication theory, processes and tools and their applications in Multimedia Communications and Design. Students will apply design elements and principles to projects such as print media publications, digital media and website design. Students will use technology tools that allow them to incorporate text, graphic, sounds, animation and video into their projects. Students that achieve competency will have an opportunity for employment as multimedia artist/ animator, graphic artist and cartoonist. **Abilities required; Keyboarding skills.**