

OAK HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
2010/2011 FRESHMAN ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

JROTC 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 satisfies one year of the PE graduation requirement.**

FINE / PERFORMING ARTS

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.

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 \$: These are courses in advanced two-dimensional and three dimensional design in art with emphasis on native cultures. Advanced projects from various countries will be explored, building upon skills developed in previous courses. Form and function of a culture's arts and crafts will be studied, along with indigenous artists. Indian beadwork, clay storyteller dolls, ceramics, papermaking, and jewelry-making techniques will be included.

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 signing skills, reading music, awareness of stylistic differences, and general musicianship. Public performance will be included.

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.**

Music Appreciation*: This course 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.

Jazz Ensemble*: Students learn fundamentals of Jazz and improvisation **must be in marching band to participate.** Experience in the following instruments is required. (Saxophone, Trombone, Trumpet, Bass, Guitar, Drum-Set and Piano.)

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.**

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.**

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)

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. *Special Comments:* commitment beyond the normal school day is required.

*** Meets the UC/CSU Visual Performing Art Requirement**

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Child Development and Guidance: This course focuses on the serious, vital role of the parent in today's society. The three main components included are prenatal and infancy, early childhood, and effective parenting.

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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. **Students must be enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher.**

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. **Students must be enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher.**

Heritage Spanish I: 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. Students must be enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher.**

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

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.

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.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL

AVID: (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. **Students MUST be enrolled in English 1 PreAP and Biology.**

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.

Creative Writing: Poetry, short story, play, screenplay, and advertising are some of the creative writing formats this course will use to develop writing process skills. Instruction, modeling, practice, group work, and coaching will help the student to establish a writer's voice.

Beginning 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.

Yearbook: 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. Students practice information gathering methods as well as creative thinking skills. **Students must have an A or B in current English course.**