

Course Catalogue

2015-2016

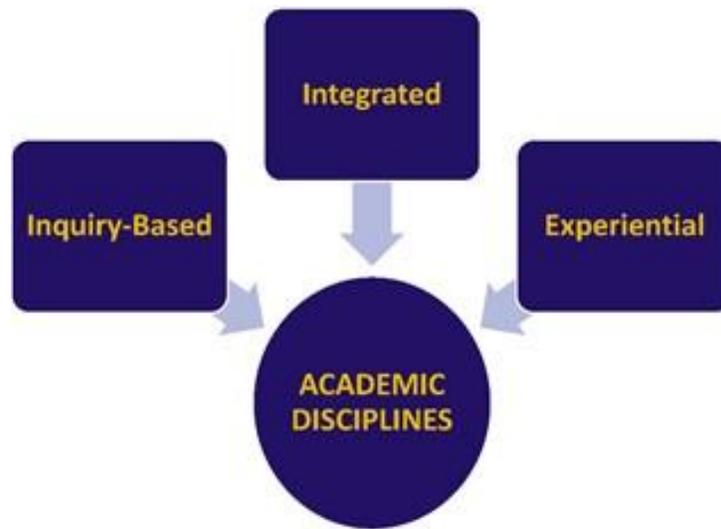
EPS Curricular Approach

A THINKING CURRICULUM

At Eastside Prep we prepare our students for their futures—for college, the work place, and life-long learning. We focus on critical thinking, exploration of current issues, and creative problem-solving. We practice thinking. We explore new ways of thinking. We value flexible thinking.

TRADITIONAL ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES/INNOVATIVE TEACHING & LEARNING

The EPS program is focused on preparing students to be academically engaged, college-ready thinkers. EPS students participate in a discipline-based curriculum fueled by an innovative instructional model that is inquiry-based, integrated and experiential.



1) INQUIRY

Critical thinking is emphasized through the use of essential questions in each course. Using the practice of inquiry, students and teachers pose questions worth asking, form hypotheses or working arguments, consider data, and draw conclusions.

2) INTEGRATED

Connections are encouraged between 1) students' personal experiences, 2) topics and skills in different courses, and 3) the world outside EPS. Using the practice of integration students and teachers employ analogy and metaphor, relate core discipline concepts, and explore relevant context to establish deeper understanding.

3) EXPERIENTIAL

Project-based and collaborative learning are utilized to create opportunities for students to practice thinking and doing like discipline experts (e.g. thinking/doing like scientists). Hands-on teaching and learning equip students to build their own knowledge.

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Y	Length of Course: (Y) Yearlong; (T) Trimester	-Information about courses offered for the coming school year is indicated on the Course Registration form circulated to students in the Spring Term each year. -Students and families are encouraged to communicate, first, with academic advisors, and next, with the Middle or Upper School Head, regarding registration or course requirements/credits questions.	
#	Credit Value of Course: 1 Credit = 1 Trimester		
GR	Grade Level of Students Who May Enroll in Course		

Middle School Program Philosophy

Middle School courses are designed to give students opportunities to practice the habits of mind employed in each academic discipline. Critical thinking skills are emphasized. Integration plays an important role in tying ideas together, and teachers collaborate on specific units when it makes sense to do so. Faculty infuse each day in (and out of!) the classroom with enthusiasm and hands-on learning.

Students arrive in the Middle School as children and leave as young adults, having progressed through profound biological, social, and cognitive changes. Our program is effective because it fosters and supports student growth in language use, problem solving, memory development, ethical maturity, and social presence.

Our courses coordinate not only with interdisciplinary content, but also to teach important skills consistently throughout the Middle School experience. Upon completion students are able to:

- Use the academic disciplines as a framework for critical thinking
- Solve complex problems within a variety of disciplines and topics
- Communicate written ideas thoughtfully and creatively
- Confidently present ideas to large and small audiences
- Effectively employ technology to enhance learning
- Lead compassionately as a respectful member of our global community

The ultimate goal of the Middle School Program is to equip students with the necessary academic and social skills for a more robust disciplinary study in the EPS Upper School.

MS Course Requirements

Distribution Requirements

All courses are required in the Middle School. Coursework is distributed between the following disciplines in the manner charted below:

Arts	10 Trimesters	Grade 5: 3 Trimesters
		Grade 6: 3 Trimesters
		Grade 7: 2 Trimesters
		Grade 8: 2 Trimesters
<p>-Students entering EPS for 5th and 6th grade will take a minimum of two Visual Arts, two Theatre, and two Music courses over their MS career. Students entering as 7th graders must take one course from each Fine & Performing Arts area. Students entering as 8th graders must take one course from two different areas (e.g. one course from Visual Arts and one course from Theatre).</p>		
English	4 years	4 Year-long courses taken grades 5-8
Environmental Practices	2 Trimesters	Grade 7: 1 Trimester
		Grade 8: 1 Trimester
History	4 years	4 Year-long courses taken grades 5-8
Technological Literacy	3 Trimesters	Grade 6: 1 Trimester
		Grade 7: 1 Trimester
		Grade 8: 1 Trimester
Spanish	4 years	4 Year-long courses taken grades 5-8
Math	4 years	4 Year-long courses taken grades 5-8
Physical Education	9 Trimesters	Grade 5: Year-long
		Grade 6: 2 Trimesters
		Grade 7: 2 Trimesters
		Grade 8: 2 Trimesters
Participation in Sports		
<p>-Credit can be earned through participation on EPS teams. -Credit may be waived by participation on outside teams or activities on a case-by-case basis.</p>		
Science	4 years	4 Year-long courses taken grades 5-8

The mission of Eastside Preparatory School's English Discipline is to empower students in self-directed exploration and analysis of literature and writing. In Middle School, students learn to approach writing as a process while acquiring foundational skills in grammar conventions and basic research techniques. Additionally, Middle School students examine and identify different literary genres while learning how to read critically. In Upper School, students continue to build on these skills and processes and begin collegiate-level analysis of literature and writing across disciplines. Eastside Prep students graduate prepared for academic writing and thinking in every aspect of their future education.

Y	3	Introduction to Literary Thinking	5
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This course focuses on the four principle skill areas of reading, writing, group discussion and oral presentation. Students explore what it means to be literary thinkers in connection to their big question, *Who Am I?* Students have the opportunity to read, discuss, and analyze young adult fiction as they deepen their understanding of the interplay between the basic elements of fiction: character, plot, setting and themes. Through literature and writing students explore what makes a good story and practice telling their own stories, focusing first on the personal, and then expanding into fiction. Through experiencing the writing process, including generating ideas, developing drafts, revising for tone, word choice, and detail, and editing for grammar and other written conventions, students continually build their writers' toolbox. Regular work on vocabulary and grammar skills is incorporated throughout the year. Group discussion and oral presentation skills, including how to effectively express ideas, listen to others, and respond and build on ideas presented, are emphasized.

Y	3	Literary Thinking I	6
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Integrated with Historical Thinking I

Students examine what it means to be a literary thinker in this genre-study course as they are introduced to a diverse selection of literature and oral traditions (including poems, folktales and myths, contemporary fiction, and classics such as *Tom Sawyer*). Students explore their big question, *What Is The World Made Of?*, by examining the way texts have shaped the world while practicing reading skills such as making predictions and drawing comparisons and inferences. The course focuses on understanding story structure through reading and writing stories and the practice of story-telling techniques. Giving presentations and participating in class discussions are also an important part of the class. Students work regularly to build their vocabulary and hone their grammatical skills.

Y	3	Literary Thinking 2	7
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Integrated with Historical Thinking 2

Students build upon their knowledge of what it means to be a literary thinker as they compare readings to personal experience and understand readings in historical context. They have the opportunity to engage with texts from a wide range of genres and to participate in literary discussions with their peers. Texts may include *Of Mice and Men*, *Macbeth*, and *Brave New World* as well as contemporary young adult fiction. Students expand their vocabulary and sharpen their grammatical skills while concentrating on writing and presenting effectively for different audiences and purposes. As they explore the big question *How Did We Get Here?*, they focus extensively on writing as an ongoing process.

Y	3	Literary Thinking 3	8
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Integrated with Historical Thinking 3

Building upon the eighth grade question, *What Does It Mean To Be Human?*, this course challenges students to consider the diversity of the world around them while striving to define their place in it both as individuals and as thoughtful global citizens. The year is divided into three sections, Cultures of the World, Cultures in Conflict, and From Conflict to Consensus. Working from texts such as Martel's *Life of Pi*, Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, Weisel's *Night*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Orwell's *1984*, and Anaya's *Bless Me, Ultima*, students work to become more critical readers, deliberate and powerful writers, and considerate contributors to class and to the larger global community. In this course, students work with grammatical concepts and vocabulary acquisition weekly, and they hone writing skills through creative pieces, journals, personal narratives, and textual analyses.

Through creative participation in the arts, students develop the skills and the courage to become self-actualized: to be aware of, connected to, and able to attain their goals in an increasingly complex world. Students are introduced to the disciplines within the Arts, such as visual arts, music, theatre, and dance, and taught the tools and concepts underlying each discipline. Above all, the goal of the program is an appreciation of the fine and performing arts that ultimately leads to an awareness of the role art plays in one’s life and an understanding of its cultural importance. In all cases, the way to truly know an art is to do the art.

THEATRE

T	1	Intro to Theatre	5-6
<p>This course lays a foundation of concepts and skills central to an understanding and appreciation of theatre. Students learn about basic script analysis, the fundamentals of how directors stage plays, how technical theatre supports the director’s vision, and how actors work as an ensemble. A public performance is included in the course. When schedules allow, students attend a live theatre performance.</p>			

T	1	Intro to Improv	5-6
<p>Through games, exercises, and “showings,” students learn what tools they have as actors and how they can sharpen and wield these skills on stage. Students develop confidence, vocal presence, physical dexterity, and imagination while making discoveries on stage and having fun. As a class, students begin to work as a team and explore the wonders of saying “Yes!” to anything that comes their way. The course includes a public performance of student improv games.</p>			

T	1	Acting: One Acts	7-8
<p>In this course, students integrate performance skills with text. They study and practice vocabulary derived from Stanislavsky’s System, and apply knowledge, personal experience, and imagination to a variety of scenes and dialogues. Students practice character development, textual analysis, and rehearsal methods. As a culmination of this class, students present a public performance of a one act play or series of one act plays.</p>			

T	1	Stagecraft (MS)	7-8
<p>There are many things that happen behind the scenes to bring a play to life. Production designers, carpenters, technicians and artisans spend many hours designing, building, and creating all aspects of what is seen and heard in any given production. This course introduces the basic concepts and skills needed to build for the stage. Students learn simple construction and design techniques, as well as how to identify the technical needs of a production. Since the best theatre-making is always collaborative in nature, students work together in “Production Teams” to create and design work. When possible, this course supports and builds for EPS Theatre Productions.</p>			

MUSIC

T	1	Introduction to Instrumental Music	5-12
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
In this introductory course students learn to play a traditional band or orchestra instrument. Geared toward beginning students, this course includes the basics of tone production and reading music notation including rhythm, pitch and articulation.			

T	1	Instrumental Music Ensemble	5-12
<i>Prerequisite: Enrollment is by Audition and/or Discipline Faculty Approval</i>			
Instrumental Music Ensemble explores music through rehearsal and performance on a traditional band or orchestra instrument. This is a course geared toward students with some experience. Students develop and refine skills of musicianship, instrument technique, music theory, and performance. This course culminates in one or more public performances.			

Y	3	Chamber Music Ensemble	5-12
<i>Prerequisite: Enrollment is by Audition and/or Discipline Faculty Approval. Class Meets Before School During "0" Period</i>			
Chamber Ensemble explores music through rehearsal and performance on a traditional band or orchestra instrument. Students refine skills of musicianship, instrument technique, and music theory. This course culminates in one or more public performances.			

T	1	Choir (MS)	5-8
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
This fun and engaging course for beginning and advanced singers explores the world of choral singing through practice with the human voice and its collective sound. Students develop healthy vocal technique, learn to sight-sing, and consider the influence of music in their lives. Musical selections encompass a wide range of languages and traditions, including classical, contemporary, folk, jazz, Broadway and multicultural music. The course culminates in one or more public performances. No experience is necessary and students of any skill level are welcome.			

VISUAL ARTS

T	1	The Magic of Art: Drawing, Painting, Printmaking	5-6
<p>This fun, hands-on course introduces students to various art processes and techniques, such as drawing, painting, and printmaking, exploring different methods of the two-dimensional visual arts and building skills in creating artwork.</p>			

T	1	Art Meets Tech	5-6
<p>An exploration of the wonderful world of digital imagery and storytelling. Students learn the technical skills to create and manipulate dynamic visual images, tell exciting digital stories, and learn how to share them through a variety of media. Both still and moving-image manipulation software are a major part of this class. Coursework emphasizes a creative, artistic approach in working with digital media and culminates in a digital portfolio.</p>			

T	1	Mixed Media (MS)	5-8
<p>This course emphasizes creativity using diverse materials such as wire, plaster cloth, tape, and found objects to create unique three-dimensional forms. The class is taught at two levels: 5th/6th Grade and 7th/8th Grade.</p>			

T	1	Drawing & Painting (MS)	7-8
<p>Students draw many different subjects in this class and explore techniques and methods of drawing and painting that depict three-dimensional forms in spaces such as landscape. They expand their knowledge of basic art and design elements (line, space, texture, form, and color) using a variety of media and surfaces to create artistic forms for visual communication. The course also involves digitizing student artwork, learning basic graphic design concepts and basic <i>Photoshop</i> techniques for image editing and manipulation.</p>			

T	1	Digital Filmmaking	7-8
<p>This course focuses on basic documentary film-making and editing techniques as well as scene development, interview styles, lighting, and combining still-images with moving footage. Students also learn how to add audio/music, titles, and voiceovers to video footage to tell a story. <i>Adobe Premiere Elements</i> software is used to learn these basic film-editing skills.</p>			

At Eastside Preparatory School a foundation of historical, cultural, ideological, and geographical literacy and the ability to *think like a historian* is fostered through a diverse curriculum and progressive pedagogical methods. A rigorous curriculum employs experiential learning and integrated course work to develop a broad historical perspective and to encourage active citizenship in a global society. Coursework focuses on critical analysis, effective written and oral communication, and strong research and study skills.

Y	3	Introduction to Historical Thinking	5
<p>This course focuses on North America from pre-history through the 19th century. Using primary source documents, secondary source texts, and hands-on research, students are introduced to what it means to be a historical thinker. The Big Question, <i>Who Am I?</i>, connects course topics to student experience through the researching and writing of family histories. Themes include: native cultures, early Native-European interactions, exploration, colonization, the formation of a new nation. United States geography and map skills are integrated throughout this study.</p>			

Y	3	Historical Thinking I	6
<i>Integrated with Literary Thinking I</i>			
<p>The thematic question of the 6th grade year, <i>What Is The World Made Of?</i>, guides this course. Study begins with a unit on World Geography which is followed by a comparative analysis of the history of the ancient civilizations of China, Egypt and West Africa, Greece, and Rome. The literary aspects of these ancient societies are examined concurrently in <i>Literary Thinking I</i> through the reading and writing of myths and folktales. Historical thinking skills practiced in this course include asking questions, analyzing evidence, drawing conclusions, and relating this information back to the thematic question.</p>			

Y	3	Historical Thinking 2	7
<i>Integrated with Literary Thinking 2</i>			
<p>The big question, <i>How Did We Get Here?</i>, guides this course. Study begins with a United States geography unit to give a physical foundation for later topics. A review of the core ideals of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights follows, establishing a framework through which to study American history from the mid-19th Century to the modern day. Thematic units explore the Constitution, Slavery & the Civil War, Immigration & the Industrial Revolution. Students also write a research paper that addresses the Big Question, receiving guidance from the <i>Literary Thinking 2</i> and <i>Historical Thinking 2</i> teachers. Midway through the year, emphasis shifts from United States to Washington State History, as students grapple with issues of the region. Historical thinking skills practiced in this course include: asking questions, analyzing evidence, and drawing conclusions that can be formed into histories. Readings include primary sources, secondary selections, and novels. Coursework is integrated throughout the year with the <i>Literary Thinking 2</i> course.</p>			

Y	3	Historical Thinking 3	8
<i>Integrated with Literary Thinking 3</i>			
<p>The big question, <i>What Does It Mean To Be Human?</i> guides this course. Study focuses on the roots of contemporary global issues and the development of a global perspective through research, discussion, and expression of personal perspectives. Concepts of cultural diversity and resolution dialogue are constructed within a deliberate progression of three units: Cultures of the World, Cultures in Conflict, and From Conflict to Consensus. Literary aspects tied to these topics are explored concurrently in the <i>Literary Thinking 3</i> course. Curriculum is intentionally designed as preparation for more rigorous Upper School coursework, and centers on respectful discussion and debate that fosters independent thought and expression.</p>			



TECHNOLOGICAL LITERACY

Technology is a placeholder word for tools which society is adopting. Currently that includes computers, 3D printers, video editing and countless other ideas and tools. Eastside Prep strives to offer students experiences with the current state of the art in technology whether that is the traditional courses of programming, web design or video editing (housed under the Fine and Performing Arts tab) or newer offerings such as the concrete Physical Meets Digital or more abstract Evolution of Society.

T	1	MAKE	6
<p>Since EPS created its maker-space in 2009, its tools have become robust and more accessible to a younger audience. Work in this course provides students the experience of using these resources to first build digital models and then bring their creations to life. This offers the opportunity to increase the sophistication of in-class and self-directed projects, and as well as leading to a general feeling of empowerment. Coursework is a mix of structured labs using 3D printing, 2D cutting (laser and vinyl cutter) and an introduction to microcontrollers and electronics. The course culminates in a final project using two or more techniques, informed by design thinking elements to either solve a problem or create something novel.</p>			

T	1	BOTZ	7
<p>The world is increasingly integrated with software; whether in your computer, your car, or your refrigerator. In this hands-on course, students explore the use of software and simple robotics to solve problems. Using the <i>LEGO Mindstorms</i> platform, students learn basic programming concepts like control flow and variable, as well as specifics for robotics, such as interacting with motors and sensors to manipulate objects, follow lights and other sensor input to navigate, solve simple tasks and play games. Programming will be done in a fun visual programming environment or in <i>ROBOTC</i> as students advance.</p>			

T	1	WEB (Formerly Communication in the Digital Age)	8
<p>Using digital tools and media, and focusing on public presentation, this course develops and refines students' ability to convey information in compelling ways; preparing students for the communication rigors of high school and beyond. Rooted in the art of storytelling, this course addresses the 8th grade Big Question, <i>What Does It Mean to Be Human?</i> Students employ the arts to create, gather, produce, and distribute well-crafted, quality content in a variety of electronic formats for specific audiences. Students become familiar with the digital tools available to express their ideas, including (but not limited to) <i>Publisher, PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere</i>. The holistic approach of this course requires that students be conscious and intentional decision-makers throughout the process of conceptualizing, researching, writing, discussing, promoting, collaborating, and constructing their work.</p>			

The purpose of the Math Discipline at Eastside Prep is to equip students with the number sense and problem-solving skills required to succeed in advanced work in math and other disciplines, to be discerning consumers of quantitative information, and put these to practical use in their lives. This is achieved through a combination of direct instruction and hands-on investigation, stressing process and context as much as solution. Understanding is assessed through the application of knowledge and skills to a new context, and whenever possible, stress is put on application to the real world.

*At the time of enrollment at EPS, students are tested and placed at a math level commensurate with their past math experience and current skills. Placement decisions are made based on a placement exam and/or the discretion of the Middle School Head and Math Discipline Faculty.

Y	3	Mathematical Thinking 1	5-6
<p>This course is designed to give students extensive exposure to working with fractions, decimals, and percentages. These concepts are built through hands-on methods and investigations, enabling students to develop standard procedures. Students are prepared for more advanced work in math by covering the fundamentals in these areas, along with topics in two-dimensional geometry. Students also receive a solid grounding in practical problem-solving. Covered topics include basic number theory, factors and multiples, operations with fractions and decimals and percentages, angles, polygons, and measurement of area and perimeter.</p>			

Y	3	Mathematical Thinking 2	5-7
<p>Pre-requisite: Mathematical Thinking 1 or Discipline Faculty Approval</p>			
<p>This course applies the basic operations of <i>Mathematical Thinking 1</i> to more complex problems. Fractions, decimals, and percentages are mastered and applied to the concepts of ratios and rates. The use of variables and algebraic concepts are introduced. Topics covered include: negative numbers, operating with fractions and mixed numbers, unit conversions, percentages, graphing, and time permitting, probability and statistics.</p>			

Y	3	Mathematical Thinking 3	6-8
<p>Pre-requisite: Mathematical Thinking 2 or Discipline Faculty Approval</p>			
<p>This course provides needed background for <i>Algebra</i>. An investigative approach is used to extend students' knowledge of operations on numbers to operations with variables. Students find ways to use variables and numbers to solve problems while working collaboratively with others. Use of exponents and square roots is also developed. Topics include equations and problem-solving with one variable, inequalities, proportions, further concepts in geometry and statistics.</p>			

Y	3	Introduction to Algebra	6-8
<p>Pre-requisite: Mathematical Thinking 2 & 3</p>			
<p>This course reviews important concepts from <i>Mathematical Thinking 2</i> and <i>3</i> before introducing beginning concepts of algebra within the context of solving problems. Students move from concrete problems and computation to beginning symbolic computation and abstract reasoning. Topics emphasized include operations with fractions (with and without variables); proportions; percentages; solving equations with one variable; and characteristics of linear equations.</p>			

Y	3	Algebra I	7-9
Pre-requisite: Mathematical Thinking 3 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>This introductory course explores the concepts of algebra, with emphases on an investigative approach and problem solving. Students explore patterns and develop algebraic methods for solving problems. Topics emphasized include linear, quadratic and exponential modeling; inequalities, systems of equations, exponents, and operating with polynomials.</p>			

Y	3	Geometry	8-10
Pre-requisite: Algebra I			
<p>An investigative approach is used to introduce students to the fundamentals of geometry and stress the relationship between geometric concepts and real applications. Topics covered include properties of parallel lines, all aspects of triangle geometry including congruence and similarity, the Pythagorean Theorem and its applications, areas of two-dimensional figures and volumes of three dimensional figures, and algebra review. Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on problem-solving, using known geometric properties to deduce solutions and proof techniques.</p>			

Y	3	Accelerated Algebra/Geometry I	7-9
Pre-requisite: Recommendation by Math Discipline Faculty and Middle School Head			
<p>Coursework includes content of <i>Algebra I</i> and portions of <i>Geometry</i>. Algebra topics include: symbolic reasoning, Cartesian coordinate graphs (including linear and quadratic functions and basic transformations), solving linear systems of equations, exponents and exponential equations, and an introduction to quadratic functions. Introductory geometry topics include: lines and angles, parallel lines, congruence, similarity, and the Pythagorean Theorem.</p>			

Y	3	Accelerated Algebra/Geometry 2	8-10
Pre-requisite: Accelerated Algebra & Geometry I			
<p>Coursework includes content of <i>Algebra 2</i> and portions of <i>Geometry</i>. Geometry topics include: quadrilaterals, proportions and similarity, right triangles, trigonometry, and circles. Advanced algebra topics include: systems of inequalities, quadratic functions, complex numbers, polynomials, transformations and inverses of functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, linear programming, and rational functions.</p>			

 **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

The mission of the Eastside Prep Physical Education Program is to inspire, prepare, and encourage students to develop a positive attitude toward participation in physical activity and healthy living. Team-building and development of athletic skills and knowledge encourage participation in lifetime sports and activities.

T	1	Physical Education (5-6)	5-6
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
In this course, students engage in sports, games and challenge activities from around the world. Classes focus on teamwork, sportsmanship, skills, technique, rules, court/field awareness, and overall fitness. Participants are also introduced to strategy and leadership opportunities. A goal throughout the trimester is to inspire and encourage students to participate in physical activity and healthy living outside of the classroom.			

T	1	Physical Education (7-8)	7-8
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
This course focuses on physical activity and personal fitness with an emphasis on promoting life-long training and overall health. It also incorporates a variety of sports, games and activities. Units cover three aspects of health awareness: 1) strength and agility; 2) cardiovascular conditioning and endurance training; and 3) team sports and games. Students develop spatial knowledge, teamwork, and leadership skills.			

The Science Discipline instills in its students a passion for inquiry and an understanding of science as a process. The goal is to produce scientifically literate citizens able to understand, appreciate, and analyze new discoveries. The focus is on the design and implementation of scientific experiments, the scientific approach to problem-solving, and the role of science in society.

Y	3	Introduction to Scientific Thinking	5
<p>Students are introduced to different areas of scientific thinking by exploring life, earth, physical and environmental science. Students examine topics such as ecology, sustainability, the scientific method, measurement, scientific models, and safety. Students learn to observe and analyze information and practice good lab techniques. Scientific writing is introduced as a skill with which students document and share information. In addition, students read works of both fiction and non-fiction that incorporate relevant scientific content. A key purpose of this course is to guide students in thinking and acting like scientists.</p>			

Y	3	Scientific Thinking I	6
<p>This physical science course provides an introduction to chemistry and physics. In this study of matter and energy, students consider from a scientific perspective, the 6th grade question, <i>What Is The World Made Of?</i> It is a fun, hands-on course that teaches appropriate use of laboratory equipment, lab safety, and the scientific method. Students design and conduct experiments, build models and incorporate math, history and writing as they continue to learn what it means to think like a scientist.</p>			

Y	3	Scientific Thinking 2	7
<p>Through lab activities, experiments, and research, students explore living things, cells, heredity, evolution, classification, simple organisms, plants, animals, ecology, human body systems and human health. Students gain a better understanding of the diversity of life on Earth. Students also practice with experiment design and techniques. In addition, students grapple scientifically with their big question, <i>How Did We Get Here?</i></p>			

Y	3	Scientific Thinking 3	8
<p>The course begins by exploring the universe and humans' place in it, and then narrows students' focus to studying the world through the fields of meteorology, oceanography, and geology. An emphasis is placed on gaining a better understanding of Earth, humans' relationship with the planet, and the relationship of the planet with the rest of the universe. Students are challenged to think about ethical questions by investigating current environmental issues. With challenging concepts, reading, discussions, and lab work, this course forms a strong foundation for later work in Upper School science courses.</p>			

T	1	Environmental Practices 7	7
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This is an experiential and inter-disciplinary continuation of the *Environmental Practices I* course. Taking place during the spring trimester, study is guided by the question *How Did We Get Here?* Students focus on human interactions with the environment and the effects of these interactions on ecosystem sustainability. Students engage an integrated project with the *Historical Thinking 2* course investigating the environmental history of the northwest. In addition to continuing restoration efforts at Watershed Park, the 7th Grade takes on responsibility for the EPS organic garden, composting, and native species collection.

T	1	Environmental Practices 8	8
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Coursework focuses on the question *What Does It Mean to Be Human?* (from the perspective of other organisms on earth) to help students explore local and global sustainability. The course starts with personal energy and water-use audits, and gradually expands to consider global issues connected to human impacts on the planet. Topics include global energy use and production, water use and irrigation, and sustainable farming practices. Course learning is applied to a culminating project where students design and build a sustainable island constrained by the environmental and technological challenges and advantages of our times.

All students at Eastside Prep study the Spanish language. Spanish is spoken in more than twenty three countries, is one of the official languages of the United Nations, and is the second most spoken language in the United States.

The goals of the Spanish Program at EPS are: (1) to introduce students to a foreign language and help them develop their communicative ability through consistent application of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing; (2) to prepare students to eventually live, work, or study in a Spanish-speaking environment; (3) to prepare students for placement into university-level Spanish classes; and (4) to develop intercultural awareness by exploring the diversity of the Spanish-speaking world.

*At the time of enrollment at EPS, students are placed at a Spanish level commensurate with their past Spanish experience and current skills. Placement decisions are based on a placement exam and/or at the discretion of the Middle School Head and Spanish Discipline Faculty.

Y	3	Spanish 1A	5-7
<p>Coursework provides an introduction to the Spanish language and to Spanish-speaking cultures. Each chapter in the book <i>¡Exprésate! 1</i> focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while it also introduces new information that helps build language skills and knowledge. This course covers the basics of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. Students learn how to speak about people’s names and feelings, the time of day, the date, phone numbers, personal traits, ages and birthdays, daily activities and responsibilities, preferred activities, school life and classes, social plans, relatives, and hometowns. Students also learn the grammar needed to make sense of these topics in the present tense. The emphasis during class-time is on spoken Spanish and much of the class is conducted in the target language. Chapters 1-5 of <i>¡Exprésate! 1</i> are covered.</p>			

Y	3	Spanish 1B	5-8
Pre-requisite: Spanish 1A or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>In this course, students continue studying the language by building and expanding on what they have learned in <i>Spanish 1A</i>. Each chapter in <i>¡Exprésate! 1</i> focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing new information to help increase language skills and knowledge. Students review content learned in <i>Spanish 1A</i> and learn how to speak about family, friends, school, food, health and fitness, shopping, holidays and travel. Much of the course is conducted in the target language and the emphasis during class-time is on spoken Spanish. Chapters 6-10 of <i>¡Exprésate! 1</i> are covered. New grammar topics include: pronominal reflexive verbs, giving advice, comparisons, direct object pronouns, and present progressive.</p>			

Y	3	Spanish 2A	5-8
Pre-requisite: Spanish 1B or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>Students thoroughly review the basics and continue studying the language by building and expanding on what they have learned in <i>Spanish 1A</i> and <i>1B</i>. Each chapter in the book <i>¡Exprésate! 2</i> focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing new information that helps build language skills and knowledge. Students continue to work on the basics of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish while learning how to speak about friends and relatives, neighborhoods, the city and the countryside, village, health and fitness, personal interests, and daily routines and activities. Students also learn the grammar needed to make sense of these topics in the present and preterite tenses. The emphasis during class-time is on spoken Spanish and the course is conducted mostly in the target language. Chapters 1-5 of <i>¡Exprésate! 2</i> are covered.</p>			

Y	3	<h2>Spanish 2B</h2>	5-8
Pre-requisite: Spanish 2A or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>In this course, students continue studying the language by building and expanding on what they learned in <i>Spanish 2A</i>. Each chapter in the textbook focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing new vocabulary and grammar that builds upon already learned language skills. Students continue to work on speaking, listening and reading comprehension, and writing. Students learn how to talk about childhood activities, life events, foods and food preparation, buying and selling, clothing and handicrafts, nature, outdoor activities, travel, places to visit and things to do while traveling. Grammar topics emphasize the use of past tenses. The emphasis during class-time is on spoken Spanish and the course is conducted mostly in the target language. Chapters 6-10 of <i>¡Exprésate! 2</i> are covered.</p>			

Y	3	<h2>Spanish I</h2>	7-10
Pre-requisite: For 7th Graders: Middle School Head Approval			
<p>In this course, each unit focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing grammar and vocabulary to help build skills in the Spanish language. Students learn how to greet people and make introductions, say where people are from, express how they are feeling, and talk about activities, food, clothes, houses, sports and more. The emphasis during class-time is on spoken Spanish. Units 1-5 of <i>¡Avancemos! 1</i> are covered, as well as other materials that may include books, magazines, film or other media. Grammar topics include present tense of regular, stem-changing and irregular verbs, <i>gustar</i>, possessive adjectives, comparatives, direct object pronouns and affirmative tú commands.</p>			

Y	3	<h2>Spanish 2</h2>	8-11
Pre-requisite: Spanish I. Upon completion of Spanish IB recommendation by Spanish Discipline Faculty and Middle/Upper School Head			
<p>In this course, each unit focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing grammar and vocabulary to help build skills in the Spanish language. Students build upon the skills they acquired in Spanish I, covering topics such as travel, sporting events, shopping, past events and activities, food, movies, plans and school-related issues. Main grammar points include present and past tenses, affirmative and negative words and expressions, double object pronouns, comparatives, superlatives and informal commands. The goal is to enhance oral and written communication skills while working toward natural expression in Spanish. The class is conducted primarily in Spanish. Units 1-5 of <i>¡Avancemos! 2</i> are covered as well as other materials that may include books, magazines, film or other media.</p>			



EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM (EBC)

Experiential education is an integral part of what we do at EPS. We believe that some of the greatest educational opportunities and some of the deepest learning occurs when students are exposed to the world beyond the classroom and are engaged in activities designed to elevate and accelerate their learning. Our Experiential Education program is rooted in the belief that learning should be fun, diverse, and hands-on. The EBC program includes leadership training, community building, outdoor education, service learning, and local, domestic, and international travel.

F	0	Fall Overnights	5-12
<p>Class orientation trips take place at the beginning of each school year. Grade-level groups visit different sites around the region, where students spend two days and one night with their classmates and teachers. The goal of these trips is to establish a sense of community and to set the tone for the upcoming school year. During these two days, students are engaged in a variety of activities and discussions as well as team-building projects. Destinations range from Camp Sealth on Vashon Island to the Senior whitewater rafting trip along the Tieton River.</p>			

Y	0	Service Experiences	5-12
<p>In pursuit of the EPS vision of “inspiring students to create a better world,” students engage in a service learning curriculum intended to introduce them to issues facing their community and world. With an emphasis on solution-based service, students are encouraged to develop an understanding of the issues at hand and to investigate solutions. The service learning program, however, is more than just thinking and learning about service, it is also – most importantly – about taking action. Students spend time each year serving the local community with classmates and teachers. During these Service Days students get hands-on experience as they work with service organizations throughout the region.</p>			

SP	0	EBC Week	5-12
<p>EBC week provides students the opportunity to engage in education beyond the classroom. Each spring the entire student body spends a week away from their regular school work as they participate in trips or experiences designed to give them the space and time to explore, discover, create, and reflect. Students join in a variety of activities and are exposed to different places, people, and possibilities. Each EBC week experience is intended to augment the regular curriculum, and students return to their classes with new energy and fresh perspectives that enlivens Eastside Prep. EBC week experiences have included Ashland’s Shakespeare Festival, exploring historical monuments in Washington D.C., language-based service in Guatemala and many more!</p>			

SU	0	EPSummer	5-12
<p>Experiential Learning is further enhanced by our optional EPSummer program for rising 5-12th grade students from both EPS and the wider community. Offerings and programs vary from year to year, but the purpose is always the same – to provide students with unique opportunities to further or accelerate their learning, to explore the world beyond the classroom, and to elevate their summer experience. Past options have included creative writing, photography, Lego® animation and domestic and international travel to destinations from the Olympic Peninsula, to Sweden, and nearly everywhere between. Each experience reflects and supports the school’s vision and mission.</p>			

Upper School Program Philosophy

As the “preparatory” part of our name indicates, a central intent of the Upper School experience at EPS is to prepare students for college. This process entails gaining mastery and command in the traditional academic disciplines, while developing skills to excel in today’s competitive institutions of higher education. To this end, Eastside Prep students:

- Become technologically literate, honing their ability to use tools effectively in research and presentation of knowledge
- Engage sophisticated, complex coursework as a preparation for the future, wrestling with questions of high complexity
- Integrate thinking from each of their classes, learning to apply knowledge mastered in one field to enhance learning in another
- Practice academic collaboration with teachers, with the expectation that this will be a continued and important part of their college experience
- Navigate a robust collection of course offerings, learning to discern their personal academic interests and choose relevant paths

These skills culminate in the 12th grade year, as each senior at Eastside Prep designs, engages, and presents a year-long project reflective of both previous knowledge and new learning experiences from multiple disciplines. In addition, some seniors take the opportunity to construct, propose and complete independent study courses (upon faculty approval): a process which prepares students for their college experience by allowing each to develop a strong idea of both their individual interests and strengths.

US Course Requirements

Total Course Credits

All EPS students are expected to earn a minimum of 72 total trimester credits. (six courses per trimester for a full four years). These trimester credits must be earned in enrollment at EPS. Work completed outside of EPS may be used toward advancement in specific subject areas, but not toward the total credit count.

Graduation Requirements

In addition to the total credits required, coursework must be distributed between the following academic disciplines in the manner charted below:

Arts	1 2/3 years	5 trimester courses in grades 9-12
English	4 years	12 trimester courses taken one per trimester in grades 9 to 12
History	3 years	9 trimester credits required in grades 9 to 11
Spanish	3 years or completion through Spanish 4	9 trimester credits (unless fewer are required to complete Spanish 4)
Math	3 years	9 trimester credits required in grades 9 to 11
Physical Education	1 2/3 years	5 trimester courses in grades 9-12 -PE Wellness must be one of these credits (required in the 9 th grade beginning with the Class of 2019)
Participation in Sports		
<p>-A student earning credit for participation on an EPS sports team is required to be enrolled in 6 academic courses during that term. -A portion of the 5 trimester PE distribution may be satisfied by substantive participation on: (1) an EPS sports team (may satisfy up to 3 trimesters of the 5 trimester PE distribution requirement) (2) a non-EPS sports team (may satisfy up to 2 trimesters of the 5 trimester PE distribution requirement) *Students must submit a written application (obtained through the Athletic Director) for this waiver. Approved waivers for non-EPS sports will not apply where a student has already earned 3 credits for participation on EPS sports teams.</p>		
Science	3 years	Required in grades 9 to 11
Senior Project	1 Year	Required for all seniors
Academic Electives	2/3 Year	2 trimesters credits required in grades 9-12

Students who enter EPS at a grade level of 10th or higher with previous high school credit earned will be allowed to have that work considered toward the total course credits and distribution requirements. In general, course requirements for the total course credits will be pro-rated over the remainder of the student's high school career (e.g. an entering 10th grader will be expected to earn 3/4 of the remaining credits or 75% of 72 = 54). All students new to the Upper School, who enter in the 10th grade or above, will receive from the Upper School Head a formal declaration of awarded credits for work done prior to enrollment at EPS. This declaration will be received around the close of the first trimester, and after the student (and family if desired) has met with the Upper School Head to discuss and clarify previous work. The determination of prior credit will be made jointly by the Head of School and the Upper School Head.

The mission of Eastside Preparatory School’s English Discipline is to empower students in self-directed exploration and analysis of literature and writing. In Upper School, students continue to build on these skills and processes and begin collegiate-level analysis of literature and writing across disciplines. Eastside Prep students graduate prepared for academic writing and thinking in every aspect of their future education.

LITERARY FOUNDATIONS (Fall)

T	1	Latin American Literature	9-10
<small>Paired and Integrated with The Historical Formation of Latin American Identity</small>			
<p>This course delves into the fantastic “magical realism,” a defining aesthetic of Latin American literature, and that literature’s commitment to the exploration of personal and national identities. Coursework includes a selective reading of some of the major Latin American authors of the 19th through 20th centuries, in addition to the narratives of indigenous cultures. Students read a selection of short fiction by writers such as Borges, Marquez, and Alvarez, poetry by Neruda and others, and Isabel Allende’s modern classic, <i>The House of the Spirits</i>.</p>			

T	1	Ancient Poetry	9-10
<small>Paired and Integrated with Pre-History: Building Blocks of Civilization</small>			
<p>This course provides an in-depth introduction to the exciting world of the earliest written texts--their arrogant but generous leaders, half-human best friends, hair-raising battles, and timeless love stories. These ancient epics remain some of the most influential epic poems in human history. Students read “the first poem,” <i>Gilgamesh</i>, and Homer’s <i>The Odyssey</i>, in addition to a selection of shorter Middle Eastern and Western lyric poetry, and Aristotle’s and Plato’s writings on the role of poetry and art in society.</p>			

T	1	Medieval Era: Literary Foundations	9-10
<small>Paired and Integrated with Medieval Era: Europe in Transition</small>			
<p>This course provides students with an introduction to some of the earliest literature in the Anglo Saxon canon, including <i>Beowulf</i>, the wonderful Arthurian adventure epic poem, <i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>, and Chaucer’s witty and fascinating portraits of ordinary English citizens on pilgrimage in <i>Canterbury Tales</i>. Students explore archetypes and motifs that carry throughout Western literature: the hero’s epic journey of self-discovery; the rise and consequences of hubris; the conflicts of the individual (male and female) in society; the relationships between the mystical, supernatural, and the everyday world.</p>			

WESTERN LITERATURE (Winter)

T	1	Revolutions in Thought: 19th Century British Literature	9-10
<small>Paired and Integrated with Revolutions in Thought: Enlightenment to Industrial Revolution</small>			
<p>This course introduces students to English literature between the French Revolutionary period and the Victorian era at the end of the 19th century. Alongside the French Revolution, English writers sought radical new modes of expressing individual identity in a world of increasing fragmentation and institutionalized power. Early 19th century Romantic and Victorian writers explored their own natures in response to a rapidly modernizing world. Authors include Blake, Dickens, and Charlotte Bronte.</p>			

T	1	Shakespeare	9-10
<i>Paired and Integrated with Renaissance History: The Cultural Epicenter</i>			
<p>This course introduces students to Shakespeare’s <i>œuvre</i>, covering both plays and sonnets. Shakespeare’s work examines and dramatizes issues explosive in any era: the relationship between individuals and the state; love and desire; gender roles, betrayal, loss. Additionally, students explore the qualities of Shakespeare’s poetic language. When possible, students attend a Shakespeare performance and /or work with performing arts faculty on the dramatic aspects of the texts.</p>			

T	1	Modern Perspectives: Late 19th and Early 20th Century European Literature	9-10
<i>Paired and Integrated with Modern Perspectives: Ideologies in Practice</i>			
<p>As the 19th century comes to a close and the 20th century begins, the Victorian desire for definition turns into a need for independence and the ability to set the course of one’s own life. This sets in motion a monumental battle between the rules of the old world and the desires of the new, intensified by the general sense of cultural dissolution following the World War I. Via Forester, Joyce, Camus, and others, this course explores the consequent aesthetic movement known as modernism.</p>			

MODERN GLOBAL LITERATURE (Spring)

T	1	Modern African Literature	9-10
<i>Paired and Integrated with Modern African History</i>			
<p>Modern literature in most African countries explores the continent’s richness of culture, landscape, and struggles for self-determination. This is a contemporary course founded on themes of traditional vs. modern and city vs. pastoral. Students read a novel by the contemporary Nigerian author Chimamanda Adichie, the classic South African novel, <i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i>, and a selection of essays from Ryszard Kapuscinski’s <i>Shadow of the Sun</i>.</p>			

T	1	Modern Asian Literature and Film	9-10
<i>Paired and Integrated with Modern Asian History</i>			
<p>Through 20th and 21st century literature about China, Japan, and Vietnam students explore themes such as China’s Cultural Revolution and the wizardry of martial arts. Humor and hope temper fatalistic sensibilities; the supernatural and natural worlds merge to create a multi-faceted realism in literature and in anime film. Students read <i>Samurai’s Garden</i>, <i>Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress</i>, <i>Paradise of the Blind</i>, and watch two modern Asian film classics, <i>To Live</i> and <i>Spirited Away</i>.</p>			

T	1	Middle-Eastern and Middle-Eastern American Literature	9-10
<i>Paired and Integrated with The Modern Middle East</i>			
<p>Responding to the new prominence of Middle Eastern geography, history, politics, and culture in the United States, this class incorporates works by Middle Eastern and Middle Eastern American writers: a selection of Israeli and Lebanese poets, Marjane Satrapi (<i>Persepolis</i>), Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Naomi Shihab Nye, and the Iranian-American writer Firoozeh Dumas. This course examines the political role of literature, particularly in relation to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, gender roles in Islamic culture, and the immigrant experience of Middle Easterners in the United States.</p>			

AMERICAN STUDIES

Y	3	American Literature	11
Paired and Integrated with United States History: The American Question			
<p>The 11th grade course of study in English provides a broad and diverse survey of works by North American authors representing a variety of historical periods and the vast number of perspectives that comprise the American cultural experience. Students address questions such as: <i>How has the notion of American “liberty” evolved since colonial times, and how is it still evolving, still unfinished? Who and what is “American?”</i> And, most broadly, <i>How does the literature of the United States both reflect and create its culture?</i> Authors include Hawthorne, Thoreau, Alexie, Fitzgerald, and DeLillo.</p>			

TOPICS IN OLDER LITERATURE

T	1	Emotion and Motive in Literature: Western Fiction and Drama	12
<p>Suzanne Langer wrote in <i>Feeling and Form: A Theory of Art</i>: “Art is a symbolic presentation of feeling.” This course examines one particular theme per year within selections of world literature such as: revenge, ecstasy, madness, love, guilt, jealousy, ambition. Course readings show how writers (in various genres and across time periods) explore and develop the connection between psychologies of emotion and intention. Major authors include a selection from the following: Hemingway, Eliot, Woolf, Shakespeare, and Faulkner.</p>			

T	1	The Early Modern and Modern Novel	12
<p>Today the novel is the most pervasive literary form in the English language, but before the 1700s it did not exist. This course provides an in-depth study of the novel form in the 18th through the mid-20th centuries. Students explore the rise of the novel through a thematic approach--not only the various elements that make up the novel (plot, characterization, style, genre, theme, etc.) but also its development in historical, cultural, and thematic contexts. Major authors include a selection from the following: Defoe, Fielding, Conrad, Austen, Salinger, McCullers, and Egan.</p>			

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE

T	1	The 1950s: Literature, Culture, and Film	12
<p>This course engages students in the study of literature and other arts in the United States during the high Modern period (World War I through the 1950s). During this period the general sense of cultural dissolution produced a desire to destroy older, established forms of artistic expression, thus giving rise to a modern “renaissance”—the molding of a new artistic consciousness. The course encourages students to examine the connections made through and by the literature, film and music of the period, critically extending their understanding of the ramifications of a brief period of time through to the perception of that time today. Major authors include a selection from the following: Kerouac, Hansberry, Ginsberg, and Chandler.</p>			

T	1	Critical Practices: Studies in Literature and the Natural Environment	12
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This course focuses on the tradition of environmental literature in America and contemporary critical and literary texts. Lawrence Buell, a major theorist in “eco-criticism,” describes his critical practice as one that relies on the notion of individual and societal accountability to the natural environment as a pressing ethical concern for contemporary society. Major authors include: Emerson, Thoreau, and Whitman (selected essays and poetry); Emily Dickinson (selected poetry); Rachel Carson, Leslie Marmon Silko.

T	1	Postmodern Theory and Literature	12
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This course is a critical exploration of major cultural and arts ideology of the past thirty years, with an emphasis on science fiction (or, as it’s sometimes called, “speculative fiction”). Students explore this cultural-aesthetic movement called Postmodernism, one fraught with fragmentation and ambiguity. Familiarity with postmodernism prepares students to address it in various college-level frameworks. Authors and philosophers studied include: Thomas Pynchon, William Gibson, Neil Stephenson, Jacques Derrida, Jean-Francois Lyotard, and Jean Baudrillard.

Through creative participation in the arts, students develop the skills and the courage to become self-actualized: to be aware of, connected to, and able to attain their goals in an increasingly complex world. Students are introduced to the disciplines within the arts, such as visual arts, music, theatre, and dance, and taught the tools and concepts underlying each discipline. Above all, the goal of the program is an appreciation of the fine and performing arts that ultimately leads to an awareness of the role art plays in one’s life and an understanding of its cultural importance. In all cases, the way to truly know an art is to do the art.

THEATRE

T	1	Stagecraft (US)	9-12
<p>This fundamental technical theatre course teaches basic set design and construction, as well as lighting design concepts. Topics include how to use a theatre scene shop, simple construction techniques, fundamentals of theatre design, fundamentals of lighting design, and identifying sound, prop, costume and make-up needs for productions.</p>			

T	1	Acting	9-12
<p>This course examines how actors develop a character using the basic actor’s tools: vocal work, body awareness, observation, and textual analysis with input from the director. Students analyze the meaning of the play, and how their character contributes to conveying the play’s message to the audience. Students present monologues and scene work in a public performance</p>			

T	1	Original Works	9-12
<p><i>What makes a piece of writing dramatic? What does it take to make engaging original work for the stage?</i> This course focuses on the theatre-maker as “creator.” Students examine how contemporary theatre-makers have created new work for the stage and apply what they learned to build their own original work. Class projects include composing and performing original monologues, using existing source material to build new work, and creating an original 10-minute play or performance piece.</p>			

T	1	Directing	11- 12
<p>Pre-requisite: Two previous US Theatre courses (Acting 1, Acting 2, Original Works, Stagecraft) or 10th Graders by Discipline Faculty Approval</p> <p>This advanced theatre course provides 11th and 12th grade students an opportunity to assume a creative position of leadership in theatre. A course in Directing is a “capstone” course for any theatre program, as it culminates in a student-directed production of a short theatre piece.</p>			

MUSIC

T	1	Choir (US)	9-12
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
This course examines the musical world of choral singing and explores the human voice and its collective sound. In this course students discover the fun of singing by developing healthy vocal technique, learning to sight-sing, and considering the influence of music in their lives. Musical selections encompass a wide range of languages and traditions, including classical, contemporary, folk, Broadway and multicultural music. The course culminates in one or more public performances. No experience is necessary and students of any skill level are welcome.			

Y	3	Chamber Choir	9-12
<i>Enrollment determined by audition and/or instructor permission. Class Meets Before School During "0" Period</i>			
Chamber Choir explores a variety of styles of vocal music through rehearsal and performance. Students refine skills of musicianship, vocal production and music theory. This experience is geared towards singers with some previous singing experience. The Chamber Choir culminates in one or more public performances.			

T	1	Introduction to Instrumental Music	5-12
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
In this introductory course students learn to play a traditional band or orchestra instrument. Geared toward beginning students, this course includes the basics of tone production and reading music notation including rhythm, pitch and articulation.			

T	1	Instrumental Music Ensemble	5-12
<i>Prerequisite: Enrollment is by Audition and/or Discipline Faculty Approval</i>			
Instrumental Music Ensemble explores music through rehearsal and performance on a traditional band or orchestra instrument. This is a yearlong course geared toward students with some experience. Students develop and refine skills of musicianship, instrument technique, music theory, and performance. This course culminates in one or more public performances.			

Y	3	Chamber Music Ensemble	5-12
<i>Prerequisite: Enrollment is by Audition and/or Discipline Faculty Approval. Class Meets Before School During "0" Period</i>			
Chamber Ensemble explores music through rehearsal and performance on a traditional band or orchestra instrument. Students refine skills of musicianship, instrument technique, and music theory. This course culminates in one or more public performances.			

VISUAL ARTS

T	1	Art Meets Science	9-12
<p>The practices of artists and scientists are often seen as polar opposites, but in reality are closely connected. This course explores the technical and conceptual space in which art and science overlap. Students use a variety of materials and tools to explore the common artistic/scientific practices of looking, thinking, testing, and telling as a vehicle for making art.</p>			

T	1	Mixed Media (US)	9-12
<p>In this course, students make a variety of sculptural forms using materials such as wire, plaster cloth, clay, recycled, and found objects. Students learn art techniques and build visual art skills by using a wide range of tools and materials. Coursework emphasizes creative thinking and problem-solving skills to initiate the creative process.</p>			

T	1	Paper Engineering	9-12
<p>Coursework introduces students to the world of paper engineering through an in-depth study of paper as a creative medium. Students learn about the rich history of paper engineering from Japanese origami to pop-up cards. Projects are guided by big picture themes and inspired by numerous artists. As an integral part of the course, students document their creative process in a sketchbook throughout the trimester, and develop visual literacy through individual and group critiques.</p>			

T	1	Printmaking	9-12
<p>This course introduces students to a variety of printmaking and book arts techniques including relief, monotype, & intaglio printing as well as accordion, one sheet & flip books. Students learn about the rich history of printmaking and book arts from the woodcuts and engravings of William Hogarth to the artist books of Esther K. Smith. Projects are guided by big picture themes, inspired by numerous artists and explore both direct observational skills and imaginative perspectives. As an integral part of the course, students document their creative process throughout the trimester in a sketchbook and develop visual literacy through individual and group critiques.</p>			

T	1	Drawing & Painting I	9-12
<p>This course explores different historical and contemporary styles and techniques of drawing and painting. These styles and techniques are important in learning the aspects of 2-dimensional art creation. Using a variety of materials and surfaces, students apply art elements of design and composition (line, space, texture, form, and color) to create personal expressions in visual communication.</p>			

T	1	Drawing & Painting 2	9-12
<i>Pre-requisite: Drawing & Painting I (US)</i>			
<p>Lessons in this course are geared to each student's individual drawing experience. Different historical and contemporary styles and techniques of drawing and painting are explored. Using a variety of materials and surfaces, students develop stronger technical skills and apply the art elements of design and composition (line, space, texture, form, and color) to create unique works of visual art.</p>			

T	1	Digital Reality I: Basic Image Editing, Filmmaking	9-12
<p>This course focuses on the basics of film-editing using the software <i>Adobe Premiere Elements</i>. Students also learn basic lighting techniques, interview styles and how to use a camcorder. Combining both moving and still-images, a short film is created including audio/music, titles, and voice-overs.</p>			

T	1	Digital Reality 2: Advanced Image Editing, Filmmaking	9-12
<i>Pre-requisite: Digital Reality I</i>			
<p>This course focuses on intermediate to advanced film-editing techniques using the software <i>Adobe Premiere Elements</i>. Students pursue in-depth techniques of using a camcorder, lighting and setting up specific scenes, and combining both moving and still images to create a unique short film. They also work with audio/music, titles, and voice-overs to enhance their film, and to save it in different formats.</p>			

T	1	Graphic Design	9-12
<p>Graphic design permeates our lives, surrounding us with products and publications that combine text and images to convey ideas. In this course, visual art is created using traditional art techniques and the digital tools of <i>Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Publisher</i>. Examples from publications, artwork, and videos, help students expand their understanding of graphic design, and how its use has evolved over time. Each project in this course enables students to create forms of visual communication by using their original art and digitizing it for use in poster, brochure, flyer, and CD cover formats.</p>			



MATHEMATICS

The purpose of the Math Discipline at Eastside Prep is to equip students with the number sense and problem-solving skills required to succeed in advanced work in math and other disciplines, to be discerning consumers of quantitative information, and put these to practical use in their lives. This is achieved through a combination of direct instruction and hands-on investigation, stressing process and context as much as solution. Understanding is assessed through the application of knowledge and skills to a new context, and whenever possible, stress is put on application to the real world.

*At the time of enrollment at EPS, students are tested and placed at a math level commensurate with their past math experience and current skills. Placement decisions are made based on a placement exam and/or the discretion of the Middle School Head and Math Discipline Faculty.

Y	3	Algebra I	7-9
Pre-requisite: Mathematical Thinking 3 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
This introductory course explores the concepts of algebra, with emphases on an investigative approach and problem solving. Students explore patterns and develop algebraic methods for solving problems. Topics emphasized include linear, quadratic and exponential modeling; inequalities; systems of equations; exponents; and operating with polynomials.			

Y	3	Geometry	8-10
Pre-requisite: Algebra I			
An investigative approach is used to introduce students to the fundamentals of geometry and stress the relationship between geometric concepts and real applications. Topics covered include properties of parallel lines, all aspects of triangle geometry including congruence and similarity, the Pythagorean Theorem and its applications, areas of two-dimensional figures and volumes of three-dimensional figures, and algebra review. Throughout the course, there is an emphasis on problem-solving, using known geometric properties to deduce solutions and proof techniques.			

Y	3	Algebra 2	9-12
Pre-requisite: Geometry or Discipline Faculty Approval			
Students deepen their knowledge of content learned in <i>Algebra 1</i> and explore more complex material. The investigative approach remains integral to this course, and developing problem-solving skills is a central goal in each topic area. The course focuses on the analysis of different types of functions, including linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic. Matrices, systems of linear equations and linear programming are also explored.			

Y	3	Pre-Calculus	9-12
Pre-requisite: Geometry & Algebra 2			
Pre-Calculus builds on topics explored in <i>Algebra 2</i> . Polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions are studied in detail and linear systems and matrices are explored in more depth--with a focus on manual rather than calculator-based solution. Students are introduced to trigonometry in all four quadrants. Analytic trigonometry including solution of triangles, trigonometric equations and identities is covered in detail.			

Y	3	Calculus	10-12
Pre-requisite: Pre-Calculus			
<p>Students are introduced to the fundamental principles of calculus, beginning with the relationship to limits and continuing with an exploration of the key concepts of differentiation and integration. Applications of these principles include: related rates, optimization, area beneath a curve and volumes of revolution. The course concludes with an introduction to differential equations. While not an AP course, the syllabus includes similar topics and can prepare students to take the AP Calculus AB exam in May of each year.</p>			

Y	3	Advanced Calculus	11-12
Pre-requisite: Calculus			
<p>Coursework expands on topics covered in Calculus, while also exploring applications of calculus to other coordinate systems. Topics covered include: integration by parts, the method of partial fractions, improper integrals and Infinite series including Taylor series. Alternate coordinate systems and vector-valued functions are studied extensively. The course concludes with a detailed investigation of the behavior of three-dimensional functions through multivariable calculus, including differentiation, rates of change and optimization of three-dimensional functions. Coursework can prepare interested students for the BC level AP Calculus exam.</p>			

Y	3	Statistics	11-12
Pre-requisite: Algebra 2			
<p>This course consists of three parts. The first part focuses on probability and prediction. Students look at the relationship between intuition and probability and investigate coincidence. Part Two examines the pros and cons of various statistical representations. The third portion of the course focuses on the practical applications of probability and statistics, investigating such topics as financial risk management, deciding who should win an election and how to divide scarce resources fairly.</p>			



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The mission of the Eastside Prep Physical Education Program is to inspire, prepare, and encourage students to develop a positive attitude toward participation in physical activity and healthy living. Team-building and development of athletic skills and knowledge encourage participation in lifetime sports and activities.

T	1	Physical Education (US)	9-12
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
<p>This Upper School physical education course focuses on sports and fitness with an emphasis on promoting life-long training and overall health. Classes cover two aspects of physical awareness: 1) strength and agility; and 2) cardiovascular fitness through cooperative team sports, personal fitness design, and advanced age-appropriate fitness activities.</p>			

T	1	PE Wellness	9-12
<i>Required at Grade 9 beginning with Class of 2019</i>			
<p>Coursework examines important issues facing Upper School students, and includes units on nutrition, drugs and alcohol, and sexuality. This course is largely discussion-based, and each unit uses materials and activities focused on making positive choices as a teenager and later as an adult.</p>			

T	1	PE Dance and Conditioning: Flamenco	9-12
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
<p>This movement class provides training for dance of all kinds, and specifically, for Flamenco--a traditional and very alive Spanish art form. Students improve overall strength, elegance and balance, without using equipment. Specific posture, technique, and choreography for flamenco dance are explored. This is a great introduction to dance for both males and females (no experience necessary), while also offering a challenge to seasoned dancers. Trimester culminates with an ensemble performance.</p>			

T	1	PE Yoga	9-12
<i>This course may be taken in multiple trimesters for credit</i>			
<p>This course focuses on yoga practice through experience of physical postures. Themes of lifelong health and wellness, along with connections to Eastern philosophies/religions, accompany physical instruction. This is an all-levels class where students learn the basics of yoga and expand their practice in a safe and supportive environment. Course program guides students to: 1) increase flexibility, 2) strengthen muscles, 3) coordinate movement with breath; and 4) deepen awareness of the mind-body connection.</p>			

The Science Discipline instills in its students a passion for inquiry and an understanding of science as a process. The goal is to produce scientifically literate citizens able to understand, appreciate, and analyze new discoveries. The focus is on the design and implementation of scientific experiments, the scientific approach to problem-solving, and the role of science in society.

Y	3	Biology	9
<i>Required at Grade 9 beginning with the class of 2019</i>			
<p>This hands-on lab course excites young scientists and prepares all students to be healthy, productive and scientifically literate citizens in an era of unprecedented advances in biology. The Theory of Evolution is presented throughout the year as a central unifying theme of biology. This lens allows for a rich understanding of a range of topics from biodiversity and heredity to the rise of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Biochemistry is presented in the context of nutrition and when students burn food to determine relative caloric content, they also learn to build spreadsheets that allow data sharing and analysis. Rather than memorize taxonomies, students consider how new understanding and technological advancements demand reorganization of dated classification systems. Students learn many ubiquitous lab procedures such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and gel electrophoresis. We also use online tools from the emerging field of bioinformatics. Whether in a case study of a family considering genetic testing for inherited disease or in lab projects such as “DNA Fingerprinting” and genetic modification of bacteria, students find ample opportunity to grapple with ethical issues and reflect upon the role of science in society.</p>			

Y	3	Advanced Biology: Topics in Human Biology and Biotechnology	11- 12
<i>Pre-requisite: Biology & Chemistry</i>			
<p>Building on foundations from chemistry and general biology, this course focuses on human health, medical science and biotechnology. Students develop a more sophisticated understanding of how homeostasis is maintained through interactions of the human body's systems. Investigation of specific applications of science in the diagnosis and treatment of human disease and injury is also engaged. CPR and First Aid training accompany a survey of anatomy and physiology. Numerous opportunities are provided to refine and expand laboratory techniques and skills sought after in university research labs and the biotech field.</p>			

Y	3	Chemistry	10
<i>Pre-requisite: Conceptual Physics or Biology</i>			
<p>This hands-on course explores the structure and behavior matter and its interaction with energy. Students will examine matter on an atomic and subatomic level and then apply this knowledge to explain phenomena they observe during experiments. Major concepts such as atomic structure, bonding, stoichiometry and nuclear chemistry will be explored using a mixture inquiry-based activities, projects and experiments. Students will also apply concepts they have learned in earlier math and science classes.</p>			

Y	3	Advanced Chemistry	11-12
Pre-requisite: Chemistry			
<p>This course builds on the topics covered in <i>Chemistry</i>. It provides motivated students with the opportunity to study more advanced topics primarily through experimentation. It remains a qualitative and quantitative introduction to the macroscopic chemical behavior of inorganic and organic substances based on molecular structure. Extensive laboratory work introduces, reinforces, and extends theoretical topics covered via reading and lecture. Topics include predicting and analyzing chemical changes, reaction kinetics, mechanisms, equilibrium, electrochemistry, nuclear chemistry, thermodynamics, coordination chemistry, along with a unit on organic reactions and associated spectroscopic analysis. Students also learn to analyze and interpret data using spreadsheets. While not an AP course, it prepares students to take the AP Chemistry exam if they desire.</p>			

Y	3	Physics	11
Required at Grade 11 starting in the 2015-2016 school year			
<p>Physics is an inquiry-based course in which students are asked to find and explore patterns in the most fundamental behaviors of matter and energy. Students look at models of motion, forces, energy, wave mechanics, and electromagnetism. In addition to developing a solid conceptual understanding of physical phenomena, students hone their skills in creating visual and mathematical models through lab activities that are increasingly self-directed. Students then apply these models to engineering design projects that demonstrate their understanding.</p>			

Y	3	Advanced Physics	9-12
Pre-requisite: Discipline Faculty Approval (Co-requisite: Calculus)			
<p><i>Why do things happen the way that they do? What misconceptions about the world exist in my mind?</i> In this course, students use observation, physical laws and mathematics to develop a more sophisticated worldview. Occasional diversions are taken into just how strange the universe actually is when viewed outside of the human scale (both very large and very small). Students make sophisticated, accurate, and confident predictions about physical interactions and observe everyday phenomena with refreshed curiosity. The course primarily covers Newtonian mechanics (force, motion, momentum, energy, rotational dynamics and simple harmonic motion); upon completion of that material other topics in physics such as sound, optics, relativity and quantum mechanics are selected --in part based on interest of enrolled students. Concepts and tools are used regularly with a focus on problem solving. While not labeled an AP course, Advanced Physics can prepare student for the AP Physics Mechanics C test.</p>			

T	1	Environmental Science	10-12
<p>What are the functions of an ecosystem in the Pacific Northwest, and how can we influence them? In this course ecosystems are investigated through student-designed research, and with students using their knowledge to affect positive change in our environment. Students gather data for use by city government and non-profits to better understand trophic levels, nutrient cycles, and the influence of human activity in natural environments. The course builds on scientific skills gained in Biology and Chemistry. Topics include the life history of salmon, succession in the Northwest, and stream ecology.</p>			

At Eastside Preparatory School a foundation of historical, cultural, ideological, and geographical literacy and the ability to *think like a historian* is fostered through a diverse curriculum and progressive pedagogical methods. A rigorous curriculum employs experiential learning and integrated course work to develop a broad historical perspective and to encourage active citizenship in a global society. Coursework focuses on critical analysis, effective written and oral communication, and strong research and study skills.

HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS (Fall)

T	1	Prehistory: Building Blocks of Civilization	9-10
Paired and Integrated with Ancient Poetry: The Oldest Literature			
<p>(1.5 MYA-900 CE) Humans and their immediate ancestors appeared 100,000 to 200,000 years ago and have gathered themselves into social groups for almost as long. The history of human civilization, however, stretches back only a little more than 5,000 years. This course addresses the vast expanse of time between the emergence of humans and the rise of civilization—Prehistory. Course topics focus on the development of technological, cultural, political, and economic features that characterize “civilized” human societies, and includes explorations of the origins of early Mesoamerican, Mesopotamian, Ancient Chinese, and Aboriginal Australian cultures.</p>			

T	1	The Historical Formation of Latin American Identity	9-10
Paired and Integrated with Medieval Era: Latin American Literature			
<p>(900-1950 CE) From the early Aztec and Mayan civilizations to contemporary nation-states, the identities of Latin American peoples evolved along multiple paths. Content in this course focuses on cultural elements unique to the peoples of Central and South America, and on the impact of transculturation from the time of first contact with European explorers and settlers to the modern day. Course topics include: the relationship between the indigenous, Spanish, and emergent mestizo culture as connected to the Catholic <i>encomienda</i> system; the roots of Latin American nationalism; Latin American independence movements.</p>			

T	1	Medieval Era: Europe in Transition	9-10
Paired and Integrated with Medieval Era: Literary Foundations			
<p>(300-1400 CE) Coined by the intelligentsia of the Renaissance, the term “medieval” suggests a cultural ebb between two great waves of change and development; yet this period saw the emergence of many of the European political, religious and economic institutions that influence the world today. Students examine the fall of Rome, life in the Dark Ages, the rise of the Catholic Church, and European monarchies. The period is examined by employing both the most recent scholarship on the era and primary source documents contemporary to the time.</p>			

WESTERN HISTORY (Winter)

T	1	Renaissance: The Cultural Epicenter	9-10
Paired and Integrated with Shakespeare			
<p>(1400-1650 CE) To shape and make sense of our past, historians feel compelled to divide it into time periods, each given a name that epitomizes the spirit of the era. First used by the French historian Jules Michelet in 1858, “Renaissance” (or rebirth) describes the period of transition between the medieval epoch, when Europe was “Christendom,” and the beginning of the Modern Age. Exploration in this course considers the specific advances and revolutions in thought that define the Renaissance period, with special focus placed on art history.</p>			

T	1	Revolutions in Thought: Enlightenment to Industrial Revolution	9-10
Paired and Integrated with <i>Revolutions in Thought: 19th Century British Literature</i>			
<p>(1650-1850 CE) The 18th and 19th centuries were revolutionary periods that saw the rise of social, political, and economic movements that continue to impact the world today. Investigation in this course examines revolutions in thought beginning with the Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment, and continuing through the French and Industrial Revolutions. Students examine Kuhn's concept of <i>Paradigm Shift</i> and Briton's <i>Anatomy of Revolution</i>.</p>			

T	1	Modern Perspectives: Ideologies in Practice	9-10
Paired and Integrated with <i>Modern Perspectives: 19th & 20th Century European Literature</i>			
<p>(1848-1945 CE) From the publication of the Communist Manifesto to the rise of Nationalist movements, European history is marked by the testing of a myriad of competing ideologies championed by individuals, groups, and nation-states. Study in this course traces the roots of modernity by investigating the economic and political philosophies that arose in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in Europe, including capitalism, communism, nationalism and fascism. These topics are studied in the context of World War I, the Russian Revolution, World War II and the emergence of the European Union.</p>			

MODERN GLOBAL HISTORY (Spring)

T	1	Modern Asian History	9-10
Paired and Integrated with <i>Modern Asian Literature and Film</i>			
<p>(1868 CE-Present) The histories of China, Japan and other Asian nations evidence some of the most ancient and rigidly structured cultural systems in human history. Many argue that departures from these same cultural structures are the driving force behind recent economic and political development. Subject matter in this course explores the history of Asia, and perhaps more importantly, considers questions regarding these countries' future trajectories. Focusing on the post-World War I time period, analyses in this course consider the complex interplay between economic development and cultural preservation.</p>			

T	1	Modern African History	9-10
Paired and Integrated with <i>Modern African Literature</i>			
<p>(1800 CE-Present) At the <i>Conference of Berlin</i> in 1885, European powers staked claim to virtually the entire continent of Africa. European leaders used maps to divide the continent describing vast areas as <i>terra incognita</i>, and drew arbitrary boundaries with little regard for the myriad of traditional monarchies, ethnicities, and social structures that existed within those borders. Work within this course explores the motivations of the European powers in the context of the colonization of Africa, and the subsequent effects of imperialism on modern African states. Case studies include the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Africa.</p>			

T	1	The Modern Middle East	9-10
Paired and Integrated with <i>Middle-Eastern and Middle-Eastern American Literature</i>			
<p>(1917 CE-Present) The history of the modern Middle East is a reflection of complex relationships between distinct peoples, cultures and religions. Investigation in this course begins with an examination of the origins of Islam, analysis of the modern Zionist movement, and a study of European involvement in the region after WWI. Coursework continues with a discussion of the reorganization of national boundaries by the United Nations following the British withdrawal from the region in the 1940's, and the resulting legacy of contemporary conflict. Finally, heavy focus is put on both the domestic and international significance of the region and its peoples today. Case studies include: the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the growth of the modern Iraqi state, the Iranian Revolution, and the recent social and political transformations in Egypt.</p>			

AMERICAN STUDIES

Y	3	United States History: The American Question	11
Paired and Integrated with American Literature			
<p>In this course, evolution of American democracy is considered as "a path and a project, not a destination." Examination of the Colonial Period through the modern day is framed by two approaches: (a) <i>case-study history</i>, where the context of select time periods is investigated and connected to contemporary American experience and issues; and (b) <i>historiography</i>, where the impact of the methodologies and biases of the historians who have written on these time periods is examined. Each segment of the course explores a different historical span and essential question: (1607-1810) How were imported European cultural, political, religious, economic values adapted and/or transformed in the early colonies and nation? (1830-Present) How does the historical experience of those originally excluded from the arc of human rights (because of race, class, and/or gender) show progress toward the ideals captured in the Declaration of Independence and Constitution? (1870-Present) As the complexity of contemporary American life has increased in the 20th and 21st centuries, how have leadership, technology, and media transformed the role of the American Citizen? *<i>Consideration of the history of Washington state in the context of national history is woven into the second and third segments of the course.</i></p>			

POLITICAL SCIENCE & ECONOMICS

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

T	1	Comparative Government	12
<p>Since the beginning of human history, with the development of communal living, humans have constructed, maintained and dismantled countless forms and functions of government. Study in this course analyzes various forms of international governmental and economic organization, including totalitarianism, communism, constitutional monarchy, democracy (republicanism), democratic Socialism, and fascism. More abstract constructs of political theory are also investigated including individualism, egalitarianism, and utopianism. Course work asks students to focus on the question: <i>What is the role of the individual in a corporate society?</i> This course is designed to educate and empower the next voting constituency of our country.</p>			

T	1	The Economics of Development	12
<p>Perspectives of economically developing countries are explored, using concrete, empirical data and case studies to illustrate economic concepts, patterns of human development, including growth and resource use. Course topics include: inequality and poverty, population, education, investment, productivity, growth, foreign aid, fiscal policy, production trade and sustainable vs. non-sustainable industrial development, foreign debt and financial crises. Coursework focuses on the questions: "<i>How does modern technology fuel global economic development?</i>" and "<i>What role should foreign aid and foreign investment play in nascent national economies?</i>" Student-driven seminars are a core component of this course.</p>			

T	1	International Relations	12
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(1938-Present) While the 20th century is often dubbed the American Century, the first decade of the 21st century has seen an increase in globalism and a “flattening” of the world. In this course students explore the role the United States has played in modern global history and contemporary global policy, and attempt to predict its future role in international relations. Through seminar and simulation students gain insight into the processes of foreign policy and diplomacy. Topics include: the Cold War, and the functions of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the United Nations. Students culminate their experience by playing the role of a United Nations delegate in a model UN Security Council simulation.

AMERICAN POLITICS

T	1	Democratic Theories and Civic Practices	12
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The origins of democracy trace back to the city-states of ancient Greece. At that time, democracy meant simply “rule of the citizens” (the demos), and was designed to allow citizens to have a voice in decisions that would affect all. Since its inception, democratic theory and its practical applications have evolved significantly. Coursework establishes the foundations of democratic theory, investigating its origins from the 5th century BCE to its resurgence in the early-modern political theory of thinkers like John Locke, Thomas Hobbes and Alexis deTocqueville. From this foundation analysis shifts to contemporary challenges to democratic values in the United States. Course topics include theories of direct, deliberative, and distributive democracy. A democratic philosophy and systemic model for later civic action is a culminating project for each student. In national election years specific attention is given to the American electoral process and party politics.

T	1	Jurisprudence: The History of Legal Precedent in the United States	12
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Jurisprudence is the philosophy and science of the law. Exploration in this course focuses on source and justification of the law, its scope and function in the human history, and contemporary legal frameworks in the United States. Classic U.S. Supreme Court cases include: *Plessy vs. Ferguson*, *Gideon vs. Wainwright*, and *Brown vs. Board of Education*. The purpose of this course is the creation and empowerment of informed citizens who are fully aware of both the rights and responsibilities granted them by the Constitution of the United States.

T	1	Public Policy: Race, Class, Gender and the Environment	12
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The lenses of Race, Class, Gender and the Environment are employed to investigate the underlying values and impacts of public policy on particular segments of American society. Policy topics may include: education, immigration, transportation, healthcare or environmental justice. Where possible, this course focuses on local, public policy in the Seattle-area. The culminating project requires students to advocate for a policy position of their choice on the local or national level. The roles of citizen and political leader are examined by employing the concept of competing goods within the public policy realm.

All students at Eastside Prep study the Spanish language. Spanish is spoken in more than twenty three countries, is one of the official languages of the United Nations, and is the second most spoken language in the United States.

The goals of the Spanish Program at EPS are: (1) to introduce students to a foreign language and help them develop their communicative ability through consistent application of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing; (2) to prepare students to eventually live, work, or study in a Spanish-speaking environment; (3) to prepare students for placement into university-level Spanish classes; and (4) to develop intercultural awareness by exploring the diversity of the Spanish-speaking world.

*At the time of enrollment at EPS, students are placed at a Spanish level commensurate with their past Spanish experience and current skills. Placement decisions are based on a placement exam and/or at the discretion of the Middle School Head and Spanish Faculty.

Y	3	Spanish 1	7-10
<p>In this course, each unit focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing grammar and vocabulary to help build skills in the Spanish language. Students learn how to greet people and make introductions, say where people are from, express how they are feeling, and talk about activities, food, clothes, houses, sports and more. The emphasis during class-time is on spoken Spanish. Units 1-5 of <i>¡Avancemos! 1</i> are covered, as well as other materials that may include books, magazines, film or other media. Grammar topics include present tense of regular, stem-changing and irregular verbs, <i>gustar</i>, possessive adjectives, comparatives, direct object pronouns and affirmative <i>tú</i> commands.</p>			

Y	3	Spanish 2	8-11
Pre-requisite: Spanish 1 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>In this course, each unit focuses on the culture of one Spanish-speaking area of the world while introducing grammar and vocabulary to help build skills in the Spanish language. Students build upon the skills they acquired in <i>Spanish 1</i>, covering topics such as travel, sporting events, shopping, past events and activities, food, movies, plans and school-related issues. Main grammar points include present and past tenses, affirmative and negative words and expressions, double object pronouns, comparatives, superlatives and informal commands. The goal is to enhance oral and written communication skills while working toward natural expression in Spanish. The class is conducted primarily in Spanish. Units 1-5 of <i>¡Avancemos! 2</i> are covered as well as other materials that may include books, magazines, film or other media.</p>			

Y	3	Spanish 3	9-12
Pre-requisite: Spanish 2 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>This course builds on the foundation acquired in <i>Spanish 1</i> and <i>2</i>, reviewing concepts already studied while adding new grammar, vocabulary and cultural information to accommodate the understanding of the Spanish-speaking world. Although students practice all skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking), oral communication is stressed during class time. Students are encouraged to speak only Spanish and engage in a variety of activities in class to practice. Units 1-5 of <i>¡Avancemos! 3</i> are covered, as well as other materials that may include books, magazines, film or other media. Main themes are camping activities, volunteer work, environmental issues, professions, travel and technology. New grammar topics include: future tense, present subjunctive, commands, and conditional tense.</p>			

Y	3	Spanish 4	9-12
Pre-requisite: Spanish 3 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>This fast-paced, college-prep class presents themes and language topics commonly included in a second-year Spanish college course and serves as a transition to content-based Spanish classes. Throughout the year students explore and discuss themes such as stereotypes, the human community, customs and traditions, the family, demography, geography, technology, and gender in today's world. The ability to use Spanish is improved through cultural readings, short stories and film. The main grammar points introduced in Spanish 1-3 are reviewed and students engage in deeper analysis of grammatical patterns. Grammar topics include: nouns and adjectives, all indicative mood tenses, some subjunctive mood tenses and their uses, sequence of object pronouns, relative pronouns, imperative, and positive, negative and indefinite expressions. Spanish is the language of classroom interaction and instruction. Chapters 1-6 of <i>Pasajes</i> are covered.</p>			

Y	3	Advanced Spanish: Language	10-12
Pre-requisite: Spanish 4 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>The study of the language is continued by building upon the content and skills learned in <i>Spanish 4</i>. This fast-paced, college-prep class also presents themes and language topics commonly included in a second-year college Spanish course. Media, literature, film and cultural readings in the target language are incorporated. The themes explored in the class are universal and encourage students to make connections between their own culture and the Spanish-speaking world. Topics include: the business world, beliefs and ideologies, Hispanics in the US, modern life, law and individual freedom, work and free time. A new layer of complexity is added to grammar topics and these include: a review of past indicative mood tenses, more tenses and uses of the subjunctive mood, prepositions, conjunctions, passive voice, special uses of future and conditional, sequence of tenses. Spanish is the language of classroom interaction and instruction. Chapters 7-12 of <i>Pasajes</i> are covered. Students may choose to prepare for and take the AP Spanish Language exam in the spring, though this course is not designed specifically for exam preparation.</p>			

Y	3	Advanced Spanish: Literature	11-12
Pre-requisite: Advanced Spanish: Language or Spanish 4 and Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>In this course students engage in critical analysis of literary works in Spanish including poetry, prose and drama. Coursework includes readings, in-class discussions, papers and presentations. Art, film, media and cultural studies are included as they relate to the literary pieces students study. Grammar review and practice is provided as needed. Students may choose to prepare for and take the AP Spanish Literature exam in the spring, though this course is not designed specifically for exam preparation.</p>			

T	1	Advanced Spanish: Conversation Through Cinema	10-12
Pre-requisite: Spanish 4 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>Coursework explores two themes of Hispanic culture through film as well as providing conversational tools to discuss film in Spanish. Students are equipped with vocabulary and cultural context to engage with film. Each cultural theme is examined through two films for approximately five weeks each. Themes include but are not limited to family relationships, identity, and/or social conflict. Expressive skills connected to giving instructions and writing synopses are developed.</p>			

T	1	Advanced Spanish: Conversation Through Music	10-12
<i>Pre-requisite: Spanish 4 or Discipline Faculty Approval</i>			
<p>Coursework explores Hispanic music through both evolutionary and historical lenses. Students learn to identify Latin instruments, genres, and the origins of both. Students develop language skills while exploring Spanish cultural influences on music including slavery, empires, and migrations. The second half of the trimester focuses on contemporary artists, songs, and genres, while practicing language concepts and expanding vocabulary.</p>			

T	1	Advanced Spanish: Conversation Through Current Events	10-12
<i>Pre-requisite: Spanish 4 or Discipline Faculty Approval</i>			
<p>Coursework explores the current Hispanic political and social climate through authentic sources in print and media, as accompanied by targeted language practice. Students use Spanish to review contemporary events developing the ability to talk about the economy, business, and education among other topics. During the second half of the trimester students explore topics of interest in more detail as they complete independent projects.</p>			

Technology is a placeholder world for tools which society is adopting. Currently that includes computers, 3D printers, video editing and countless other ideas and tools. Eastside Prep strives to offer students experiences with the current state of the art in technology whether that is the traditional courses of programming, web design or video editing (housed under the Fine and Performing Arts tab) or newer offerings such as the concrete Physical Meets Digital or more abstract Evolution of Society.

T	1	Programming I	9-12
<p>This course introduces the basic elements that exist in all programming languages. No prior experience is required. We begin with easy-to-get-into graphical programming system, then quickly move into textual programming in <i>JavaScript</i>, with a focus on manipulating visual elements in web pages. This course is designed to provide a smooth and fun introduction to programming and computer science. It consists of programming challenges, short reading assignments, unplugged activities, and a two week independent project period.</p>			

T	1	Programming 2	9-12
<p>Pre-requisite: Programming I or permission of Technology faculty based on previous coding experience</p> <p>Building off of the concepts learned in Programming I, students continue to learn techniques of procedural and object-based programming. The content of the course is taught in <i>JavaScript</i>, with students free to pursue individual projects in any modern object-oriented language. Concepts include: arrays, functions, modularity and interfaces, creating simple classes, and an introduction to the cycle of requirements/design/coding/testing. Final projects are done individually or in small groups and culminate in fully functional programs that range from statistical analyses to games.</p>			

T	1	Programming 3: Algorithms & Data Structure	9-12
<p>Pre-requisite: Programming 2 or permission of Technology faculty based on previous coding experience</p> <p>This course takes students beyond elementary flow control and simple logic, and into the tool set required to solve real programming problem efficiently. Major data structures including lists, queues, stacks, trees and graphs are discussed along with major algorithms starting with sorting and searching. Along the way, elementary complexity theory is used to judge the efficiency of the approach at hand. Time permitting, there will be units discussing operating system concepts, parallelism, databases, and transactions. The course culminates in a meaningful, real-world programming or modeling problem.</p>			

T	1	Physical Meets Digital	9-12
<p>For the majority of history, people of our culture manipulated only physical objects. In the last fifty years, people have developed the ability to manipulate digital objects as well. The boundary between physical and digital creation has started to blur. This course exists at the interface between physical and virtual. Students design objects on computers and create them using 3D printers and Laser Cutters. In addition, coursework involves taking physical inputs into micro-controllers and processing them with software by building digital sensors or personal USB devices. This course is focused on empowering students to bring ideas to life using all the modern tools at our disposal.</p>			

T	1	Web Design I: From the Ground Up	9-12
<p>The internet and the world wide web in particular are fulfilling a greater role in society. Through writing web pages, students are introduced to the underlying structure of the internet. The course provides instruction and practice on web page construction, employment of HTML, Cascading Style Sheets and JavaScript. This course is designed for both novice and experienced web designers and consists primarily of short lectures and labs culminating in each student building a personal web site.</p>			

T	1	Web Design 2	9-12
<p><i>Pre-requisite: Web Design I</i></p>			
<p>Building off of the concepts learned in Web Design, students continue their pursuit of higher level topics including techniques to reduce content duplication across pages, javascript (primarily using the <i>jQuery</i> library) and an introduction to web scripting (typically using PHP or Ruby). This course is primarily focused on mid-term and final projects which students work on individually or in groups. The projects are aimed at building web sites with consistent design elements and a quality user experience.</p>			

T	1	Introduction to Public Speaking	9-12
<p>Oral communication skills are as vital as written communication skills. This course enhances a student’s ability to express their creative thought, gives evidence of their ability to act responsibly, better positions them as leaders, and provides a tool to persuade others to consider and accept their wise innovations. Major units covered by the course include: learning a basic communication model, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, impromptu speaking, oration, fundamentals of effective speech structure, effective vocal and physical delivery techniques and the creation and effective use of visual aids.</p>			

T	1	Modern Mythology in American Film	9-12
<p>From the classic and contemporary American Western to the modern-day Disney production, the mythological components of American film are considered in the narratives of our time. In this course activities focus on identification of the formal components of the film-making process and of the critical consumption of contemporary media. A final storyboard project employs modern mythological themes and film-making techniques.</p>			

T	1	Truth in Film: The Crafting of Reality	9-12
<p>Documentary film performs multiple roles as historical chronicler, cultural commentator and social actor in our world. How filmmakers and their films capture and construct “truth” is investigated in depth in this course, along with the medium’s role as a social agent in the contemporary age. Films examined may include but are not limited to: <i>The Fog of War</i>, <i>Man on Wire</i>, <i>Life and Debt</i>, <i>Hoop Dreams</i>, <i>Fahrenheit 9/11</i>, <i>Roger & Me</i>, <i>This Is What Democracy Looks Like</i>, <i>King Corn</i>, <i>Hearts and Minds</i>, and <i>The Thin Blue Line</i>. Coursework focuses on discussion of film in literate and substantive ways, often using testimony from actual documentarians as a model. A short documentary film project on a student-chosen issue is required.</p>			

T	1	American Popular Music and Culture: From the Mississippi Delta to the Streets	11- 12
<p>Early in the 20th century, the <i>blues</i> was developing in the southern United States, and that raw sound eventually became rock & roll of the 1950's. Many of the original blues conventions are still heavily used today. Study in this course examines the cultural influences that created early American music, and how music and culture continue to interact today. Study is focused on major musical genres and artists who have had a profound impact on the American experience, as well as important local and world events that shaped the course of musical history. Exploration is framed by reading about and listening to important recordings from the 20th and 21st centuries, in addition to a written critique of a live performance, a biographical essay, and a formal research paper.</p>			

T	1	Media Literacy: Finding the Message in the Medium	9-12
<p>Media images and messages influence much of our thinking and acting in the contemporary world. Study in this course examines the structure of the media industry and a variety of media sources including: news, music, internet, art, entertainment, and advertising content. Exploration is framed by a course-long project where students construct their own media conglomerates based on real world models. Journalistic articles, ad campaigns, podcasts and internet content are created to facilitate the construction and deconstruction of the media messages that surround us. Questions like, <i>What does it mean to grow up online?</i>, introduce a growing branch of internet media studies and help to develop critical thinking habits.</p>			

T	1	Undercover Economics: Thinking at the Margin	9-12
<p>Rather than looking at economics as a “dismal science” of static cost-benefit analysis, this course uses economic thinking to investigate a myriad of interesting and unconventional questions, and to uncover economic logic in the everyday world. Economic thinking is modeled by asking and answering questions such as, <i>What do schoolteachers and sumo wrestlers have in common?</i>, <i>Do first names determine economic success?</i>, and <i>Who pays for your coffee?</i> Additional attention is dedicated to exploring everyday economic questions that many Americans are unable to answer such as, <i>What does it mean when the Fed raises rates?</i>, <i>How do mortgages and student loans work?</i>, <i>What are inflation and deflation?</i>, <i>How does the stock market work?</i>, and <i>Is recycling an economically efficient practice?</i></p>			

T	1	Economics and the Environment: Green and Green?	9-12
<p>Economic pursuits and environmental advocacy often are viewed as mutually exclusive practices. Exploration in this course works to marry these realms by building on core concepts of microeconomics, investigating the economic roots of environmental issues, and hypothesizing as to how capitalistic markets can be used to tackle modern environmental issues such as: climate change, pollution, and endangered species. Economic and environmental understandings are combined with personal interests to invent and design individual green business plans at the conclusion of the course.</p>			

T	1	Business and Commerce: From Start-Up to Bottom Line	10- 12
<p>Pre-requisite: Upper School Head Approval for 10th graders</p>			
<p>From world economic policy to the corner convenience store, the principles of business and commerce permeate our everyday lives. This course is designed to transition students from the theoretical setting of the classroom to the very practical and real life challenges they may face in the business world. Students investigate business theory and actually do business and entrepreneurship. Topics addressed are: banking, finance, the stock market, business regulation, taxation. A simulated stock market exercise is engaged throughout the term, where students actively trade a hypothetical \$10,000, track stock changes, and compete for the highest gains in portfolio value. Focus is placed on the process of starting a business: defining a product/service, evaluating market need, constructing “go to market” plan, and doing an “ask” of investors. The culminating experience has students pitching business ideas in front of actual angel investors. This course is intended to build from the core skills and ideas in EPS Mathematics, Economics and Social Science courses.</p>			

T	1	The Evolution of Society	10-12
<p>As technology and ideas progress, our society evolves to take advantage of new media and rapidly changing economic and technological landscapes. This course briefly explores history from the Big Bang Theory to the shifting media and economics paradigms of the last 20 years--from a point where the creation and distribution of media was a tightly controlled expensive endeavor, to our current system where anyone can create a blog, <i>YouTube</i> video, podcast or web page for little or no cost. The central pursuit of this course is an investigation of the economies of scale and advances in technology that now make it good business to give away services for free (projects like Wikipedia and TED Talks were laughable 10 years ago). Term long projects focus on our contemporary media, economic, and technological landscapes, and envisioning and creating the direction – or possible directions – that our society will evolve.</p>			

T	1	Contemporary South African Literature and Film	11-12
<p><i>How does a country come together, forgive, and move forward after 50 years devoted to a system designed to keep races and classes apart?</i> Through modern South African literature and film, students examine the complexities of the issues facing South Africa from the end of apartheid (1994) to today including: racial inequities, xenophobia, class polarization, urbanization, and the tension between traditional African values and the birth of a new society. Texts for the course include <i>Smell of Apples</i> by Mark Behr, <i>Disgrace</i> by J. M. Coetzee, <i>Coconut</i> by Kopano Matlwa, <i>Jewels and Other Stories</i> by Dawn Promislow, and <i>A Human Being Died that Night: A South African Woman Confronts the Legacy of Apartheid</i> by Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela.</p>			

T	1	Topics in Urban Planning and Community Design	9-12
<p>As human populations have expanded in modern times so has their need for well-designed communities and urban spaces. Study in this course focuses on conceptual understandings in the areas of sustainable urban design, architecture, and community planning through the examination of national/local issues and projects. Local issues examined include: the King County-Kirkland TOD Project (across the street from EPS), the Seattle viaduct debate, the SR-520 Bridge Project, the Save Our Valley v. Sound Transit lawsuit, green building, the use of LEED Standards in the Seattle area, architectural day-lighting, and urban greening. Activities focus on public meetings and role plays of different stakeholders and/or leaders for the purpose of considering the impacts of planning and design decisions on individuals and communities.</p>			

T	1	Experience: Seattle	10-12
<p>In this place-based course, students explore the area in which they live through historical study, cultural exploration, and field experiences. The first phase of the course includes an intensive study of local literature and historical texts to establish a baseline for understanding the history and composition of the Seattle Metropolitan area. The second phase of the course requires students to conduct an independent research project where they self-select and investigate an aspect of local history as a means to better understanding the region in which they live. Example project pursuits might include proposing solutions to modern challenges of the region (i.e. environmental issues, education, infrastructure), volunteering at MOHAI, or developing an exhibit. A key component of the course is three required Saturdays of place-based study in Downtown Seattle, the Snoqualmie Valley area, and Bainbridge Island.</p>			

T	1	Experience: Arches National Park	11-12
An additional fee for travel costs is required for each student enrolled in this course (amount determined prior to the start of the Spring Term)			
<p>Engaging in a rich, interdisciplinary perspective that is becoming increasingly vital in our world, students participate in a dynamic conversation between the humanities and environmental studies disciplines. Coursework examines the interactions of individuals, cultures, and nature through texts by contemporary and historical thinkers and writers, such as Leopold, Pinchot and Dillard. A one-week trip to the southwestern United States immerses students in these ideas, teaches wilderness and outdoor skills, and provides opportunity for students to consider the environment and their relationship to it. A willingness and excitement to fully engage in this off-campus wilderness week, and intensive reading and writing in the fields of creative non-fiction, philosophy, environmental studies, and literature is expected.</p>			

T	1	Math Beyond the Numbers	10- 12
Pre-requisite: Algebra 2 or Discipline Faculty Approval			
<p>Coursework investigates numerical patterns in nature, the significance of prime numbers, the mathematics of error correcting codes such as those in bar codes and methods of encryption. This course then delves deeper into irrational and real numbers finishing with an in-depth look at the concept of infinity and determining whether there are different sizes of infinities. Coursework investigates topics from one (or a combination) of the following three subject topic areas:</p> <p>(1) Number Contemplation and Infinity: exploring numerical patterns in nature, the significance of prime numbers, the mathematics of error correcting codes such as those in bar codes and methods of encryption, an exploration of irrational and real numbers, and an in-depth look at the concept of infinity and determining whether there are different sizes of infinities.</p> <p>(2) Geometric Gems and Contortions of Space: exploring the relationship of geometry to nature including architecture and aesthetics through the golden rectangle, Fibonacci series, and the platonic solids, and a look at the fourth dimension and topics in topology, such as rubber sheets, knots, and mobius strips.</p> <p>(3) Making Sense of Uncertainty and Deciding Wisely: exploring probability and prediction including the relationship between intuition and probability and an investigation of coincidence, and a look at the pros and cons of various statistical representations and the practical applications of probability and statistics, including financial risk management, deciding who should win an election and how to divide scarce resources fair.</p>			

T	1	Neurobiology of the Mind	11- 12
<p>This course is a collaboration between psychology, neuroscience, and mindfulness practice to confront some of the questions 11th and 12th graders are asking of themselves and the world. Questions range from understanding why we experience strong feelings such as sadness, anxiety, attraction, and joy, to questions about the fundamental nature of reality. The first portion of the course focuses on learning about the basics of neuroscience as it relates to: (a) interpersonal neurobiology; (b) emotions – what are they, where do they live in the brain, and how to recognize them and what they impact, and (c) empathy and compassion – how evolution has set us up for failure and success in this arena, and what we need to do to increase this interpersonally and on a global level. Theoretical learning through specific activities is designed to allow students to experience directly the content being explored. The major project for the class includes students asking themselves an essential question, and doing independent research and introspection to answer that question.</p>			

T	1	Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval Thinkers (Metaphysics)	11-12
<p>The purpose of this course is to introduce students to ideas and texts at the root of the development of western intellectual history. Ancient ideas about the nature of the world and how we know it in the writings of Plato and Aristotle are studied. The medieval period and beyond: from Thomas Aquinas (<i>Summa Theologica</i>) to Descartes (<i>The Meditations</i>), Kant (<i>Prolegomena to Any future Metaphysics</i>), Hegel (<i>The Science of Logic</i>), Sartre (<i>Being and Nothingness</i>), Wittgenstein (<i>Philosophical Investigations</i>), and Stephen Pinker (<i>How the Mind Works</i>). Student inquiry is guided by essential questions: What is reality? What is knowledge? How do we know? How do we know that we know? Is it possible for us to communicate what we think we know to others? This course provides an opportunity to consider ancient, modern, and contemporary theories about consciousness and epistemology within a context intended to motivate both understanding and original thinking.</p>			

T	1	Philosophy: Ethics	11-12
<p>The purpose of this course is to introduce students to ideas and texts at the root of the development of theories of ethics. Students will investigate questions regarding goodness, morality, and freedom and choice. Beginning with the ancient thinkers, who launched a debate that remains unresolved today, students will encounter medieval arguments in support of the existence of God as well as modern assertions that a divinity is unnecessary to the discussion about what constitutes right action. Finally, a review of some contemporary thinkers will challenge students to prove that “ethics” and ideas of goodness have any meaning at all. Students will reflect on their own processes of decision making and consider their assumptions about what constitutes “right” and “wrong,” “good” and “evil.”</p>			

T	1	Creative Writing	9-12
<p>Students write fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry. Students read and respond to both published writers’ and each other’s work. This course greatly strengthens aspects of student’s writing such as narrative structure, sentence fluency, and clarity of expression.</p>			

T	1	Advanced Creative Writing: Fiction and Poetry	9-12
<i>Pre-requisite: Creative Writing</i>			
<p>Building on the skills taught in creative writing, students perform high-level analysis of poems and short stories, explore complex poetic forms, and practice genre-specific techniques in writing their own creative works.</p>			

T	1	Advanced Creative Writing: Genre Study	9-12
<i>Pre-requisite: Creative Writing</i>			
<p>Building on the skills learned in <i>Creative Writing</i>, students in this course will engage in the exploration of a particular genre, such as science fiction/fantasy, graphic novels/cartoons, or playwriting/screenwriting. This class offers an in-depth exploration of topics within the larger field of creative writing via both reading and producing work in a particular genre. The class will run on a workshop model, which requires students’ investment in sharing their work with others, critiquing others’ work, and keeping on track with their writing process. Students will produce one large piece in the genre being studied, or a portfolio of shorter pieces.</p>			

PROGRAM FOR UPPERCLASSMEN

T	1	Independent Study (All Terms)	12
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One of the most exciting and challenging options offered to EPS students, independent studies provide seniors the opportunity to extend their academic exploration into topics that are not currently covered in the EPS course offerings. These efforts also give students practice working one-on-one with faculty members, similar to collaboration that will be expected by many of their professors in the college setting. Interested students identify a topic or subject area that they would like to examine; find a faculty mentor to work with; and construct a ten-week curriculum including weekly meetings with a faculty mentor. A text of appropriate complexity is required for all independent studies. Independent studies are a hallmark of EPS's most engaged and self-motivated students. Both initial proposal and final presentations are heard by the EPS Curriculum Committee.

T		Senior Project	12
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Seniors construct and publicly present individual projects reflective of both their personal passions and previous learning at EPS. Work during the fall and winter trimesters takes place during students' independent time, with support and instruction given in the context of senior advisories. Specifically, during the fall trimester, initial planning takes place with proposals made in front of peers and US faculty. In the winter trimester, extensive independent work (both on-campus and off-campus) outside of the EPS daily schedule is expected. Students also meet regularly with a faculty mentor. Project work culminates in the spring trimester with a 5-week seminar and continued meetings with mentors as students prepare for public presentations. Students may: 1) extend work from past/current EPS Upper School classes or independent studies; 2) explore new inter-disciplinary topics; 3) construct products in the fine and performing arts, creative writing, or technological development; 4) pursue service-learning opportunities; 5) participate in internships with professional organizations; 6) Combine academic pursuits with travel opportunities.

Pre-requisite: Students write, and discuss with their instructor(s), their reasons for taking each seminar.

Using a unique time structure, tightly constructed curricula, and driven by a single, guiding question seminars provide opportunities for students to (a) explore complex questions connected to our academic disciplines, or (b) take on questions that are relevant to the world but don't necessarily fit neatly into a single academic discipline. With the aim of preparing students for independent studies and their collegiate experiences, seminars are five-week experiences for groups of 3-6 students, and facilitated by one or two faculty members. They focus on topics in which our faculty are deeply interested.

***Students select seminar offerings during the second round of registration in May of each spring.**

2015-16 Seminar Topics

- ▶ How to Keep a Secret: How are Mathematics Used to Keep Data Communications Secret?
- ▶ The Art of the Sketchbook
- ▶ Show Me the Way to Go Home: GPS and Graph Theory
- ▶ The Physics of Sailing
- ▶ Can Technology Save Education?
- ▶ Bohemians, Bootleggers, Flappers and Swells (Published in Vanity Fair Magazine): Essays from 1920's and 30's in America
- ▶ Discrete Math: How to Count and Use Counting to Answer Questions
- ▶ Hemlock and the Philosopher
- ▶ The Signal and Noise: Forecasting and Predication in the Contemporary World
- ▶ Biomimicry
- ▶ Sacred Geometry: How Shape Shapes our Experience of the World
- ▶ Ethics or Emotions: Which is it?
- ▶ Understanding Computers from the Transistor Up
- ▶ A Theory of Everything: Integral Vision and Daily Life
- ▶ Documentary Photography
- ▶ Designing for Play: A Toy Design Challenge
- ▶ Understanding Baseball Through Statistics
- ▶ Algorithms: Music and Math
- ▶ Relational Databases
- ▶ Evolution of Society 2



EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM (EBC)

Experiential education is an integral part of what we do at EPS. We believe that some of the greatest educational opportunities and some of the deepest learning occurs when students are exposed to the world beyond the classroom and are engaged in activities designed to elevate and accelerate their learning. Our Experiential Education program is rooted in the belief that learning should be fun, diverse, and hands-on. The EBC program includes leadership training, community building, outdoor education, service learning, and local, domestic, and international travel.

F	0	Fall Overnights	5-12
<p>Class orientation trips take place at the beginning of each school year. Grade-level groups visit different sites around the region, where students spend two days and one night with their classmates and teachers. The goal of these trips is to establish a sense of community and to set the tone for the upcoming school year. During these two days, students are engaged in a variety of activities and discussions as well as team-building projects. Destinations range from Camp Sealth on Vashon Island to the Senior whitewater rafting trip along the Tieton River.</p>			

Y	0	Service Experiences	5-12
<p>In pursuit of the EPS vision of “inspiring students to create a better world,” students engage in a service learning curriculum intended to introduce them to issues facing their community and world. With an emphasis on solution-based service, students are encouraged to develop an understanding of the issues at hand and to investigate solutions. The service learning program, however, is more than just thinking and learning about service, it is also – most importantly – about taking action. Students spend time each year serving the local community with classmates and teachers. During these Service Days students get hands-on experience as they work with service organizations throughout the region.</p>			

SP	0	EBC Week	5-12
<p>EBC week provides students the opportunity to engage in education beyond the classroom. Each spring the entire student body spends a week away from their regular school work as they participate in trips or experiences designed to give them the space and time to explore, discover, create, and reflect. Students join in a variety of activities and are exposed to different places, people, and possibilities. Each EBC week experience is intended to augment the regular curriculum, and students return to their classes with new energy and fresh perspectives that enlivens Eastside Prep. EBC week experiences have included Ashland’s Shakespeare Festival, exploring historical monuments in Washington D.C., language-based service in Guatemala and many more!</p>			

SU	0	EPSummer	5-12
<p>Experiential Learning is further enhanced by our optional EPSummer program for rising 5-12th grade students from both EPS and the wider community. Offerings and programs vary from year to year, but the purpose is always the same – to provide students with unique opportunities to further or accelerate their learning, to explore the world beyond the classroom, and to elevate their summer experience. Past options have included creative writing, photography, Lego® animation and domestic and international travel to destinations from the Olympic Peninsula, to Sweden, and nearly everywhere between. Each experience reflects and supports the school’s vision and mission.</p>			