

2025-26 Academic Course Catalog

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Graduation Requirements

To earn a diploma from Portland Adventist Academy, students must:

- ❑ Earn a minimum of 250 credits
- ❑ Meet all subject requirements (see below)
- ❑ Take a minimum of five academic courses each semester of senior year (a full schedule of seven classes is recommended)
- ❑ Make up credit for any failed semester of a required course

Subject Requirements

Religion - 5 credits for each semester student attends an Adventist school

English - 40 credits

Mathematics - 30 credits

Students must complete three years of mathematics at the Algebra 1 level or higher while in high school. Four years is recommended. Students who enter PAA's math program as 9th graders at an advanced level are still required to complete three years of mathematics while in high school to meet the graduation requirement. Students who have taken a math class during their senior year have shown a significantly higher success rate overall in college.

Science - 30 credits

Social Studies - 30 credits

Students are required to complete World History (or AP World History), US History, and Government & Economics.

Physical Education - 10 credits

Health - 10 credits

Practical Arts & Technology - 10 credits

Seniors are required to pass the Senior Seminar class in 12th grade.

Art - 10 credits

Modern Language and/or Electives - 40 credits

Students are strongly encouraged to take a Modern Language course. Two or three years of the same modern language is an entrance requirement for many colleges and university degree programs.

Senior Project - Seniors are required to successfully plan and complete their senior project and earn a passing grade.

To earn an Advanced Curriculum Diploma from PAA, students must meet additional requirements:

- ❑ Earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25
- ❑ Earn 20 credits in Modern Language in the same language
- ❑ Successfully complete two advanced curriculum courses
- ❑ Earn 40 credits in Math, Algebra I and higher
- ❑ Earn 40 credits in Science
 - ❑ AP Psychology may satisfy 4th year science requirement, if three traditional science classes have been completed successfully.

Graduation Planner

Graduation requires earning 250 credits. Seven classes is considered a full schedule. Courses are year-long and grant ten credits, except Band, Choir, Bells, Orchestra and Independent Spanish Reading, which meet for shorter times.

Choir, Band and Bells classes meet before school, Orchestra meets after school. Those elective classes may be taken **in addition** to the seven classes in your regular schedule.

When requesting classes each year, it is very important to list alternates in case a class is not available and must be scheduled for the following year.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	FRESHMAN COURSES	SOPHOMORE COURSES	JUNIOR COURSES	SENIOR COURSES
250 total credits Required	60-70 credits Max of 7 classes	60-70 credits Max of 7 classes	60-70 credits Max of 7 classes	50-70 credits Minimum of 5 classes
Religion 40 credits	Bible I (required)	Bible II (required)	Bible III (required)	Bible IV (required)
English 40 credits	English I (required)	English II (required)	English III AP Eng. Language & Comp. [^] AP Eng. Literature & Comp. [^]	English IV AP Eng. Language & Comp. [^] AP Eng. Literature & Comp. [^]
Mathematics 30 credits Algebra I & above ACD 40 credits	Fundamentals of Algebra Algebra I* Geometry*	Algebra I* Geometry* Algebra II	Geometry Algebra II Precalculus AP Calculus AB [^]	Algebra II Precalculus AP Calculus AB [^] Probability & Statistics
Science 30 credits ACD 40 credits	Biology (required)	Biology Physical Science	Physics Chemistry Intro To Engineering Projects [^] Anatomy & Physiology [^]	Physics Chemistry Intro To Engineering Projects [^] Anatomy & Physiology [^]
PE & Health 10 credits PE 10 credits Health	PE & Health I (required)	PE & Health II (required)	Independent PE & Health I & II (for transfer students)	Independent PE & Health I & II (for transfer students)
Social Studies 30 credits	World History AP World History ^{^**}	World History AP World History [^]	U.S. History	Government/Economics (required)
Modern Language ACD 20 credits	Spanish I	Spanish I/II	Spanish I/II/III	Spanish I/II/III Independent Spanish Reading [^]
Practical Arts & Technology 10 credits	Auto Mechanics Computer Applications	Auto Mechanics Computer Applications Game Design & Robotics	Auto Mechanics Computer Applications AP Psychology [^] Game Design & Robotics AP Comp. Science Principles [^] Publications [^]	Senior Seminar (required) Auto Mechanics Computer Applications AP Psychology [^] Game Design & Robotics AP Comp Science Principles [^] Publications [^]
Art 10 credits	Drama Music Theory & Guitar I & II Visual Arts, Foundations	Drama Media Arts, Foundations Music Performance & Production [^] Music Theory & Guitar I & II Visual Arts, Found./Advanced	Drama Media Arts, Found./Advanced Music Performance & Production [^] Music Theory & Guitar I & II Visual Arts, Found/Adv./College [^]	Drama Media Arts, Found./Advanced Music Performance & Production [^] Music Theory & Guitar I & II Visual Arts, Found/Adv./College [^]
Additional Performing Arts 3 - 4.5 credits	Band Choir Hand Bells [^] String Orchestra [^]	Band Choir Hand Bells [^] String Orchestra [^]	Band Choir Hand Bells [^] String Orchestra [^]	Band Choir Hand Bells [^] String Orchestra [^]

Students may opt for the Advanced Curriculum Diploma (ACD) by completing more rigorous academic requirements.

[^]Advanced Curriculum Courses require an approved Advanced Curriculum Application, available from the registrar.

*Placement into Algebra I or Geometry is determined by previous coursework and test scores.

Freshmen must have completed the Summer World History course to be eligible for **AP World History in fall of 9th grade. Otherwise, this course can be taken in 10th grade without a prerequisite.

Religion Courses

Graduation Requirement - 5 Credits for each semester,
while attending an Adventist school

Change Agent Project (CAP)

All students enrolled in Bible classes are asked to spend ten hours per quarter serving the community. This is called Change Agent Project or CAP. The project is designed to encourage students to develop a lifestyle of service, challenge themselves, and create positive change for God's Kingdom. CAP constitutes ten percent of the overall Bible grade. Students who plan to log volunteer hours in the summer are encouraged to contact their Bible teacher prior to beginning their project.

Bible I

9th Grade, 10 credits

This course explores the reality of God. Is He real? What is His character? Can He be trusted? Other topics include: the Sabbath, the Life of Christ, the gift of grace, and finding identity in Christ.

Bible II

10th Grade, 10 credits

Bible II engages with the topics of God's Love through Old Testament narratives, Jesus' Teachings, Book of Acts, and Abiding in Christ.

Bible III

11th Grade, 10 credits

This course begins with a study of the reliability of Scripture as the Word of God. It then provides an overview of the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation. Focus then turns to the way the Holy Spirit has guided the Seventh-day Adventist church throughout history.

Bible IV

12th Grade, 10 credits

This course explores World Religions, Ethics and Morality, Interpersonal Relationships, and the Good News found in the Gospel of John.

English Courses

Graduation Requirement - 40 Credits

English I

9th Grade, 10 credits

This Introduction to Literature course concentrates on expanding students' skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics. The literature includes a broad exploration of multiple genres and time periods. In the composition component of this course, students write formal essays each quarter, learn research skills and MLA style formatting.

English II

10th Grade, 10 credits

This World Literature course is designed to encourage critical thinking and writing skills through close reading of literature from various cultures around the world, ancient to present day. As a result, students gain a better understanding of the world, learn to embrace differences, and more clearly define their own identity. A strong emphasis is placed on assisting students to expertly write to analyze, explain, and express a particular point of view all in relation to the literature being explored. In addition, research writing skills and use of the 6+1 Trait writing model are further developed.

English III

11th Grade, 10 credits

In this American Literature course students read a variety of American novels, short stories, poems, and essays spanning the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries. The purpose of this course is to improve reading and critical thinking skills, as well as writing and speaking skills. Through engagement in close reading, writing, discussion, critical analysis, and debate, students gain an understanding of how literature is intricately tied to history and culture. Additionally, students are taught to identify and respond to the style (diction, syntax, figurative language, and mechanics), structure, themes, and rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, logos) of any given work.

English IV

12th Grade, 10 credits

This British Literature and Academic Writing course is designed to assist students in academic writing skills through essays and research papers, as preparation for college writing. Students learn to analyze a writer's logic and progression, and then echo or improve upon those skills in their own writing. The basic writing process and the 6+1 Traits are utilized with a focus on rationale and purpose; finding, evaluating, and referring to relevant literature; organization; and expert use of the MLA style of source documentation. In addition, time is spent surveying selected works of British literature ranging from the Anglo-Saxon period through the twentieth century. Emphasis is placed on historical background, cultural context, and literary analysis of poetry, prose fiction, nonfiction, and drama.

AP English Literature & Composition - Fee \$100

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 3 college credit hours, Advanced Curriculum Course

This is a college-level course taught under the guidelines of the College Board in preparation for the AP examination in May. PAA values and invests heavily in AP opportunities. Students scoring well on the AP exam often earn college credit or advanced college placement. This course engages students in the careful reading of imaginative literature, one in which students experience, interpret, and evaluate literature. Students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As students engage in close reading of selected texts - from the 16th to the 21st century, they consider the work's structure, style and themes, as well as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The writing component of this course includes honing persuasive language, research skills, compare and contrast of differing perspectives, and critical analysis - all within the exploration of literary works. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Each student must apply to our dual credit university partner to be eligible for the optional dual credit. Enrollment in dual credit is a separate process and does not nullify the AP exam requirement or the expectation that students will do their best on the exam.

AP English Language & Composition - Fee \$100

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 3 college credit hours, Advanced Curriculum Course

The student in an Advanced Placement or Honors English course is expected to do a greater amount of work than is normally done in that year of English studies. The student who selects, with the approval of the instructors and his/her parents, an advanced section is willing both to approach the subject at a more sophisticated level and to devote additional time to study at home. They must be able to work at an independent level.

Advanced Placement English is a college-level class taught under the guidelines of the College Board in preparation for the AP examination in May. PAA values and invests heavily in AP opportunities. Students scoring well on the AP exam often earn college credit or advanced college placement. It will engage students in becoming skilled readers of American literature written in a variety of periods, genres, and rhetorical contexts. Students will be expected to read widely and deeply while considering a work's structure, style, theme, syntax, diction, and tone. Students will focus on becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Each student must apply to our dual credit university partner to be eligible for optional dual credit. Enrollment in dual credit is a separate process and does not nullify the AP exam requirement or the expectation that students will do their best on the exam.

Applied Writing & Critical Thinking

For English Language Learners, 10 credits

This course provides a systematic and focused approach to English language development, using rigorous and coherent instruction that motivates students with relevant literature and strategic skills. Instruction focuses on the 9-10th grade English Language Development Standards.

Applied Writing and Critical Thinking takes students from basic knowledge and understanding of English standards and concepts to a deeper understanding of and the ability to apply those concepts to all genres of writing and methods of communication. The class emphasizes writing, speaking, and presentation skills according to the genre of each unit. Each unit has a writing component focus correlated with the Six Traits of Writing in order to strengthen the components of writing while still addressing the process as a whole. Each unit also has a speaking/presentation component which teaches students to appropriately differentiate writing and speaking skills.

Mathematics Courses

Graduation Requirement – 30 Credits

Advanced Curriculum Diploma Requirement – 40 Credits

Fundamentals of Algebra

9th grade, 10 elective credits

Algebra is an essential class that helps develop a student's thinking and reasoning skills. It serves as a base of many other math classes and is a required class for graduation. The goal of Fundamentals of Algebra is to provide students with the needed foundation to succeed in Algebra 1. The class will cover basic operations of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and integers. These operations will be used in dealing with ratios, proportions, percents, and simple geometry. As students master these basic concepts, they will move into basic algebra including solving equations.

Algebra I

9th-10 Grade, 10 credits

This course supplies the necessary algebra base for further study in all other mathematics classes. Content includes operations with real numbers and polynomials, factoring, solving equations and inequalities in one and two variables, and graphing linear equations and solving systems of equations, as well as other concepts, as time allows.

Geometry

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course develops an understanding of two dimensional space by using deductive reasoning and proof. Topics covered include: triangle congruence, properties of parallel lines, planes, polygons, similar triangles, circles, and coordinate geometry, as well as other concepts, as time allows. A review of algebra, including problem solving and applications, is integrated throughout. Geometry is required before the taking of any college level mathematics classes at many colleges and universities, including Walla Walla University. The prerequisite for this class is a passing grade in Algebra I on a high school transcript.

Algebra II

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This second year algebra course reviews fundamental Algebra I skills and concepts, followed by chapters on systems of equations and inequalities, polynomial and rational functions and their graphs, as well as other concepts as time allows. A graphing calculator is strongly recommended and will be utilized throughout this course. Algebra II is required before taking college level mathematics classes at many colleges and universities, including Walla Walla University. The prerequisite for this class is a grade of C or better in both Geometry and Algebra I, unless this class is being taken concurrently with Geometry which would make the prerequisite a grade of B or better in Algebra I.

Precalculus

11th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course covers topics such as trigonometric functions and identities, analytic trigonometry, linear and quadratic functions, complex numbers, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic

functions, systems of equations and inequalities, as well as other concepts, as time allows. This class has a graphing approach as a main emphasis, so a Texas Instruments TI-84 graphing calculator is required. A class set of TI-84 CE graphing calculators are available for student use during class time and also during tests. The prerequisites for this class are a grade of C or better in both Algebra II and Geometry.

AP Calculus AB - Fee \$100

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 4 college credit hours, Advanced Curriculum Course

AP Calculus AB is a college level Advanced Placement (AP) course that is equivalent to the first semester or most of the first two quarters of college Calculus. The content of the class includes both differential and integral Calculus in preparation for the national AP Calculus AB exam in May. This is a rigorous course that requires significantly more time and dedication than the usual high school mathematics course, at least to be successful in the class and score highly on the national exam. A graphing calculator is required for the class (Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus CE is recommended). A class set of TI-84 CE graphing calculators is available for student use during class time and also during tests. NOTE: There is homework, in advance of taking the class, totaling about 4 – 8 hours, which is required during the summer prior to taking the class. The prerequisite for this class is a grade of B or better in Precalculus. Students must also submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. The student is responsible for applying to our dual credit university partner in order to be eligible for optional dual credit. Enrollment in dual credit is a separate process and does not nullify the AP exam requirement or the expectation that students will do their best on the exam.

Probability & Statistics

12th Grade, 10 credits

This senior-only mathematics course is available for those students who plan on taking statistics in college (as required by various majors) or for those students who do not wish to proceed with Algebra II. Subjects covered in this class include permutations, combinations, independent and dependent events, conditional probability, compound events, describing data numerically and graphically, random samples, normal distributions, standard deviation, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, and other areas of both probability and statistics. Spreadsheets will be developed as a tool to solve problems involving real life situations. Assignments are expected to be completed in class.

Science Courses

Graduation Requirement – 30 Credits
Advanced Curriculum Diploma Requirement – 40 Credits

Biology

9th-10th Grade, 10 credits

This course introduces the student to the fundamentals of structure and functions of living things. Emphasis is placed on topics that are relevant to modern research in Biology. The primary topics covered include the nature of science and biochemistry, cell structure and function, energy flow through photosynthesis and cellular respiration, genetics and heredity, the organization of life, and ecology. Students will engage in a variety of learning modalities including labs, research design, problem based learning, and projects.

Physical Science

10th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course will introduce students to two major sciences: chemistry, and physics. Development of knowledge competencies and critical thinking skills will be emphasized through: class work, lectures, projects, laboratory experiments, and field trips. This course may not be taken concurrently with physics or chemistry or after completion of either of those classes. This course sets the foundation for success in the advanced classes currently being offered.

Physics

11th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course is a conceptual approach to the study of physics, designed to produce an understanding of the physical laws used to explain natural occurring events such as motion, force, heat, light, sound, and electricity. Through different projects, laboratory experimentation, and a blend of lecture, class demonstrations and discussion, the concepts will be applied toward solving everyday problems. This class is structured toward more comprehension than computation. The prerequisites for this class are a passing grade in Geometry and Algebra II, or be concurrently enrolled in Algebra II.

Chemistry

11th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course will involve the study of matter, its compositions, properties and reactivity with other elements and is the foundation of matter ranging from atoms, molecules, compounds and the measuring units of matter. This course is highly recommended for students planning a professional career in chemistry, a related science, a health profession or engineering. Students will learn from classroom lectures, laboratory experiments, demonstrations and other educational learning activities associated with the textbook and other resources. The prerequisite for this class is C or better in Biology and Algebra I.

Anatomy & Physiology - Fee \$300.00

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 4 college credit hours, Advanced Curriculum Course

This course promotes an understanding of the systems of the human body. The various organs are studied in detail as to their structure and function and how they relate to the operation of the body as a complete entity. The theme and context of the course is to point the student to a greater understanding of their Creator by studying the miracle of life. Students will experience classroom lecture, laboratory investigations, readings, projects and field trips. The prerequisite for this class is a grade of B or better in Biology and all previous science classes, and instructor approval. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Students must apply to George Fox University to be eligible for dual credit.

Introduction To Engineering Projects

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 4 college credits if student applies to WWU

This course is designed to take real-world connections and apply them to science, mathematics, and engineering as a part of a student's everyday world. Students take on the role of engineers and apply the engineering design process to define and solve problems by inventing and improving products, processes, and systems. Students will begin to understand the relationships among STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) concepts and practices through hands-on project based learning. Student must apply to Walla Walla University to be eligible for dual credit.

Social Studies Courses

Graduation Requirement – 30 Credits

World History

9th-10th Grade, 10 credits

This course begins with a review of the cultural foundations of early civilization and proceeds with an analysis of the development of Western Civilization and its interaction with African, Asian, Middle Eastern and Native American cultures. After a review of classical Greek and Roman society, emphasis is placed on the major turning points in modern world history from the Renaissance and Reformation through today, with special focus on studying the connections between past developments and contemporary issues.

AP World History: Modern - Fee \$100

9th-10th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 3 college credit hours, Advanced Curriculum Course

In this course students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change. The course provides six themes that students explore in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. This course requires regular readings from a college-level textbook as well as other sources. Significant focus is given to analytical, document-based, historical writing. PAA values and invests heavily in AP opportunities. AP classes are designed to prepare students to take the AP exam in May. Students scoring well on the AP exam often earn college credit or advanced college placement. The prerequisite for 9th grade students is Summer World History. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Students must apply to our dual credit college partner to be eligible for optional dual credit. Enrollment in dual credit is a separate process and does not nullify the AP exam requirement or the expectation that students will do their best on the exam.

United States History

11th Grade, 10 credits

In this course students will explore United States history from colonial beginnings to the present, with special emphasis on the 20th and 21st centuries. The growth of American democracy is the central theme. After exploring our founding events and documents, students will focus on the emergence of the United States as a world power, emerging technologies, the changing ethnic composition of society, the movement toward equal rights for all Americans and the inherent tension between the individual and the state. The central purpose of this course is to better understand the issues and events happening around us today. The prerequisite for this class is World History or Global Studies.

Government & Economics

12th Grade, 10 credits

This course focuses on the development and function of the United States Government with emphasis on the principles set forth in the U.S. Constitution. Students will analyze the history and changing interpretations of the Constitution and the current state of the legislative, executive and judicial branches actions and policies. Students will explore the economy of the U.S. with focus on the effects of supply and demand, income distribution, employment, poverty, inflation, the environment, business functions and comparative economic systems. This course is a culmination of civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in their community, and assume the responsibilities of citizenship. The prerequisite for this class is U.S. History.

Physical Education Courses

Graduation Requirement – 10 Credits of PE, 10 Credits of Health

Physical Education & Health I - Fee \$15

9th Grade, 10 credits

This course is designed to build a foundation for fitness proficiency and social and physical skills. Students are introduced to all aspects of a structured physical education program. The intent is to make physical activity fun while presenting material that demonstrates the importance of physical education. Each quarter consists of pre and post fitness tests, calisthenics, fitness training, and a variety of sports/game units. The course is designed to develop skills in recreational and carryover sports that may be used later in life and to develop an awareness of the role of fitness in daily life.

Instruction in health is approached through the concept of wellness. This class is designed to give the students an awareness of all aspects of healthy living (mental/emotional, physical, social and spiritual), enabling them to integrate this awareness into everyday life. The curriculum is designed to show that the student is responsible for his/her health. Emphasis is placed to some degree on five dimensions of wellness: stress management, nutritional awareness, physical fitness, personal health and safety, and self-image. This is a required class for all freshmen.

Physical Education & Health II

10th Grade, 10 credits

This course continues where the previous course leaves off. This is a required class for all sophomores.

Independent Health I & II

10th-12th Grade, Semester, 5 credits each

These courses are designed for transfer students who have PE credit but have not earned ten credits of Health. Instruction in health is approached through the concept of wellness. This class is designed to give the students an awareness of all aspects of healthful living (mental, emotional, physical and spiritual), enabling them to integrate this awareness into everyday life. The curriculum is designed to show that the student is responsible for his/her health. Emphasis is placed to some degree on five dimensions of wellness: stress management, nutritional awareness, physical fitness, personal health and safety, and self-image.

Advanced Physical Training

11th-12th Grade, First and Fourth Quarters, 1 credit each

This course is designed to acquaint students with the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain an active lifestyle including movement, physical fitness and conditioning. Students will be expected to complete weekly runs, conditioning drills and weight training. Drills will include basketball and soccer.

Modern Language Courses

Recommendation – 20+ Credits
Advanced Curriculum Diploma Requirement – 20 Credits

Testing for credit - Fee \$75

High School Credit: A comprehensive exam covering listening, reading, writing and speaking skills is offered once a year for students who speak Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, Polish, Mandarin, Korean, Japanese, Italian, Hindi, Hebrew, German, French, or Arabic. Students must meet an established minimum score to receive credit.

Spanish Classes

The Spanish program is based on communicative language teaching. Rather than studying about how the language works, Spanish is used as the vehicle to learn about one another, about current events and about the Spanish-speaking world. The teacher and students seek to speak Spanish about 90% of the time in class, using English to clarify meaning and to assess comprehension. Proficiency goals for each level are guided by ACTFL standards, which value communication over accuracy. (ACTFL is a national organization of language teachers).

Placement

Students with previous Spanish experience should meet with the Spanish teacher to determine appropriate placement.

Spanish I

9th-12th Grade, Full Year, 10 credits

Students with little or no background in Spanish develop skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking Spanish as they co-create and read stories from paragraph to novel length. Culture and history of Spain and Mexico are infused throughout the curriculum. Students learn a Bible verse each quarter and basic geography of the Spanish-speaking world. Proficiency goals: ACTFL Novice High (Input) and Novice Mid (Output).

Spanish II

9th-12th Grade, Full Year, 10 credits

Students continue to develop skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking Spanish through reading and storytelling. A semester-long focus on a Spanish-speaking country allows students to explore history, culture, people and issues from that country. Students learn a Bible verse each quarter and reinforce the geography of the Spanish-speaking world. Proficiency goals: ACTFL Intermediate Low (Input) and Novice High (Output).

Prerequisite for this class is a grade of C or better in Spanish I or instructor approval.

Spanish III

10th-12th Grade, Full Year, 10 credits

Spanish III is blended with Spanish II on a two-year curriculum cycle. This class is appropriate for students who wish to continue to higher levels of proficiency as well as those who did not achieve the proficiency targets in Spanish II and need more time to reach that level. Proficiency goal: ACTFL Intermediate Mid (Input) and Intermediate Low (Output).

Prerequisite for this class is a grade of C or better in Spanish II or instructor approval.

Independent Spanish Reading

10th-12th Grade, 2 credits, Advanced Curriculum Course

Students read independently in Spanish and complete a brief reflection form for each book. Book selection must be approved by the instructor. Students who have completed Spanish III or who have similar proficiency in Spanish may take this course. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes.

Practical Arts & Technology Courses

Graduation Requirement - 10 Credits

AP Computer Science Principles - Fee \$100

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, Advanced Curriculum Course

Computer Science Principles introduces students to foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology impact the world. The course focuses on creative problem solving using JavaScript. The prerequisite for this class is a B or better in Algebra I. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes.

Computer Applications

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course introduces Google Workspace as a productivity platform with extensive development of word processing, spread sheeting, presentation, and forms. Image editing is introduced using Adobe Photoshop. Computer programming is introduced using JavaScript in code.org.

Game Design & Robotics

10th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course provides an introduction to computer programming with an emphasis on robotic systems for students with no programming background. Students will learn programming and critical thinking through a variety of coding opportunities and investigations. An introduction to, and exploration of, block and procedural programming languages provides a foundation for eventual programming of TEXTRIX robots. Students will learn to construct, control and program robots.

Auto Mechanics

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course emphasizes those facets of the automotive field which relate to car service. Through a combination of classroom discussion, demonstration and laboratory experience, the student becomes aware of the complexity of the modern automobile. Lab time during the year looks at various systems: fuel, ignition, braking, lubrication, cooling, charging and starting systems. Other activities include, but are not limited to, diagnosis, tune-up, brake system repairs, and oil change.

AP Psychology - Fee \$100

11th-12th Grade, 10 PAA credits, 3 college credits, Advanced Curriculum Course

This college level course will familiarize and engage students with the history, theories, and understandings of the human mind through the science of psychology. All work will be structured toward achieving the goal of truly understanding the inner workings of human behavior and mental processes. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with psychology's major subfields. Throughout the course, students will explore and appreciate God's amazing design in the creation of our minds. PAA values and invests heavily in AP opportunities. AP classes are designed to prepare students to take the AP exam in May. Students scoring well on the AP exam often earn college credit or advanced

college placement. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Each student must apply to our dual credit university partner to be eligible for optional dual credit. Enrollment in dual credit is a separate process and does not nullify the AP exam requirement or the expectation that students will do their best on the exam.

Independent Study Period

9th-12th grades, No credit

Independent Study Period is a structured class for students to receive individual support with organization and study skills, to work on assignments and projects from their other classes, and to study for quizzes and tests. Independent Study Period is also a time to organize your school work and develop good study skills. This is not a free period and should be treated like any other class. Placement is determined by the Student Services Director and class size is limited to maximize productivity.

Publications

11th-12th Grade, 10 credits, Advanced Curriculum Course

This course is designed to teach the skills necessary to produce a variety of publications in a deadline-driven environment. Students will learn organization and communication skills in a team/group oriented environment. A major focus of the class is designing the school yearbook. The focus of projects will be effective, high quality design, writing, and photography. Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Lightroom will be the main software used, as well as Josten's Monarch for yearbook production. The prerequisite for this class is Computer Applications, Visual Arts, or Media Arts with InDesign instruction and instructor approval. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum.

Senior Seminar

12th Grade, 10 credits

This course incorporates six areas of learning as follows:

Senior Project is a culminating experience designed to allow students to choose, plan, and manage a project of 50+ hours which demonstrates learning while exploring an area of interest. The student's experience and the physical project are shared in a formal presentation to a panel, utilizing technology and speaking skills.

College Preparation helps students identify the college options available in order to make informed choices with an emphasis on criteria to choose a college, the application process, and the financial aid process.

Speech gives students an opportunity to learn and practice the fundamentals of public speaking in preparation for their Senior Project presentation.

Career Exploration gives students an opportunity to evaluate current and future career trends with the help of career testing with an emphasis on exploring options for their own future careers.

Personal Finance provides seniors with information, practical skills, and decision-making skills that will enable them to manage money effectively and responsibly.

Life Management concepts including an introduction to habits of highly effective people.

U.S. Culture & History

First year international students, 10 credits

This course is designed to enhance the student's academic ability within a variety of subject areas. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in the fields of the arts, music, geography, literature, and social science to help them better understand themselves and society. Frequent writing assignments, critical thinking, open discussion, speaking skills, individual presentations, and independent research are strongly emphasized.

Art Courses

Graduation Requirement - 10 Credits

Visual Arts, Foundations

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course is designed to give every student the fundamentals and the technical skills, creative process and principles of creative thinking to express and communicate visually. The course will prepare the student who wants to pursue an advanced education in a creative field. Creative process we believe is an attribute of character that will enhance the students' abilities in all parts of their lives and expands their abilities to imagine with empathy their privilege to serve others.

Visual Arts, Advanced

10th-12th Grade, 10 credits

In this elective course, students will focus on producing 2 and 3 dimensional work of portfolio quality. Students will be required to participate in the national portfolio review as preparation for portfolio presentations for acceptance to third year advanced education prep course. Creative Process, Portfolio Creation, Advanced Projects in Drawing, Acrylic Painting, Ceramics, Fused glass, Metals Sculpture, Fabric Design, 3D Imaging and Printing. The prerequisite for Advanced Visual Arts is Foundations of Visual Arts class. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Class size is limited to 15 students.

Visual Arts, College Portfolio Projects & Preparation

11th-12th Grade, 10 credits, Advanced Curriculum Course

The College Portfolio Projects and Preparation course is the third in a sequence beginning with the Foundations of Visual Arts and progressing to Advanced Visual Arts. This course will facilitate the organization and preparation of projects of those students wanting to pursue a higher education in a creative discipline by helping students to hone their skills and prepare a professional portfolio. Class members will apply to college and university art programs and participate in the annual National Portfolio Days to present their portfolios to as many national and international art programs as they can. The prerequisite for this class is two years of art and departmental approval. Students must submit an application for Advanced Curriculum classes. Class size is limited to 15 students.

Media Arts, Foundations

10th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This elective course takes an extensive look into digital photography and principles that guide us through the delicate balance of exposure, aperture, shutter speed and ISO. Students will learn about design and composition principles, studio lighting basics, subject identification and composition and then practice their application through various assignments that help you hone your skills. In addition to basic camera usage and settings management students spend significant time working in Adobe Lightroom, Photoshop, and Premier. In the Adobe products students work through an assortment of assignments that equip them to creatively use Adobe in illustration, photo editing, creating unique visual spaces and video editing. Class size is limited to 15 students.

Media Arts, Advanced

11th-12th Grade, 10 credits

In this elective course, students will learn how to analyze and criticize art and its aesthetics. They will build upon the skills learned in the Foundations course, producing a final project, portfolio or footage reel highlighting their strongest works. The Advanced students will have an 'independent study' type of environment where they will explore and produce art that interests them most. They will also be exposed to ethical and legal issues in visual art, digital media and broadcasting. The prerequisite for Advanced Media Arts is Computer Applications and Foundations of Media Arts class. Class size is limited to 15 students.

Drama

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This elective course is designed to give students a graduated growth experience on the stage, from simple beginning activities and skits to the more complex plays. Students begin with imagination stretching, simple pantomimes, characterization, improvisation, simple vocal production, memorized scene work and beginning auditioning techniques. Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances.

Music Theory & Guitar I

9th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This elective course covers basic music theory as it applies to the guitar. In this class, students will learn how to play rhythm (chords) and how to play lead (melody, soloing, improvisation). You can join Guitar I without ever having touched a guitar... as long as the desire to learn is there! Students will need a guitar.

Music Theory & Guitar II

10th-12th Grade, 10 credits

This class expands upon Guitar I. The same concepts are reinforced with greater depth. Students should be familiar with all of the basic chords, understand how to improvise over various chord progressions, and be ready to perform a growing repertoire of songs. Students should also be able to read and play a chord/lyric chart (such as a praise song). Students in Guitar II should be seen performing in chapel and /or other school events. The prerequisite for this class is Music Theory & Guitar I or instructor approval. Students will need a guitar.

Music Performance & Production

10th-12th Grade, 10 credits, Advanced Curriculum Course

Music Performance and Production covers the live and studio aspects of playing the guitar or instrument of your choice. Proficiency is required. Topics covered include: Guitar/instrument sounds and styles, repertoire development, stage presentation, studio playing and comprehension, and multi-track recording. The prerequisite for this class is proficiency in the instrument of your choice. Students must submit an Advanced Curriculum Application.

Additional Performing Art Courses

Band - Uniforms Required for Performances – Uniform Fee \$90.00

9th-12th Grade, 4.5 credits

Band is a non-auditioned elective course offered to students who wish to continue playing their instruments in an award-winning band. Students are exposed to a broad range of musical styles including classical, contemporary, swing, popular, and sacred pieces. Performances include our Christmas & Spring concerts, Featured Church performances, Feast and Fanfare Fundraiser, and a required Music Tour each spring. Music tour cost is approximately \$425 and can be fundraised through our Feast & Fanfare concert. In addition, some years the band competes in the regional and state competitions. Students are advised to have their own instruments; however, some are available for minimal rent through the school. Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is required. The prerequisite for Band is some instrumental/music experience.

Bell Canto - Uniforms Required for Performances – Uniform Fee \$90.00

9th-12th Grade, By Audition Only, 4.5 credits

Handbells is an auditioned group of between 11-14 students, and focuses on a wide range of medium to advanced music for handbells and handchimes. Most students that play in Handbells have previous experience. Handbells performs frequently at Featured Church performances, community events, Christmas and spring concerts, a fundraiser concert, Alumni weekend, and music tour. Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is required, and entrance into the group is a year-long commitment. Students must submit an Advanced Curriculum Application.

Choir - Uniforms Required for Performances – Uniform Fee \$90.00

9th-12th Grade, 4.5 credits

Choir is a non-auditioned elective course offered to students who wish to continue singing and developing their voice and ear-training. Students are exposed to a broad range of musical styles including classical, contemporary, swing, popular, and sacred pieces. Choir performs approximately 10 times per year at Featured Church performances, community events, Christmas and Spring concerts, Feast and Fanfare Fundraiser, and during the required Music Tour. Music tour cost is approximately \$425 and can be fundraised through our Feast & Fanfare concert. In addition, some years the Choir competes in the regional and state competitions. Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is required.

Alegria - Uniforms Required for Performances – Uniform Fee \$90.00

9th-12th Grade, By Audition Only, 4.5 credits

Alegria is the select choral group at Portland Adventist Academy. The group size ranges from 12-20 singers and focuses mainly on a capella vocal technique. To become a member of Alegria, you must be a member of Choir, complete an audition, and be selected by the director. Alegria performs approximately 15-20 times per year at Featured Church performances, community events, Christmas and spring concerts, Feast and Fanfare Fundraiser, PAA Day, Alumni Weekend, and during the required Music Tour. Music tour cost is approximately \$425 and can be fundraised through our Feast & Fanfare concert. In addition, some years the Choir competes in the regional and state competitions. Attendance at all rehearsals and concerts is required and entrance into the group is a year-long commitment. Students must submit an Advanced Curriculum Application.

String Orchestra (PASO) - Uniforms Required for Performances – Uniform Fee \$90.00
9th-12th Grade, 3.5 credits

Portland Adventist String Orchestra is an audition-based group. The String Orchestra's mission is to provide music for sacred and secular events both on and off campus, to provide an opportunity for string musicians to learn ensemble technique, to improve personal skill, to learn music theory and history, and to build teamwork. Students will be required to prepare individually to participate in weekly rehearsal which is held after school hours, take private lessons with an instructor of their choice, and perform in all scheduled concerts. All players will need to provide their own instruments. Music will be provided. Students must submit an Advanced Curriculum Application.