

2021-2022  
**9th Grade H.S. Overview & Course Guide**

495 Buckwalter Parkway  
Bluffton, SC 29910  
Phone: (843) 706-2000 ☒ Fax: (843)706-2010  
[www.crossschools.org](http://www.crossschools.org)

# MISSION STATEMENT

At **Cross Schools**, we *inspire* future leaders to  
grow spiritually and academically by  
Intentionally designing opportunities for inquisitive learning and active service **all for  
the glory of God.**

Located in the heart of Bluffton, South Carolina, Cross Schools was established in 1998 to serve a growing community which was then void of an independent grade school. Since then, we have expanded to our campus on Buckwalter Parkway and now educate over 500 students in Preschool through 9th grade. In August 2020, we welcomed our first 9th grade class, with the addition of a full high school to follow.

Cross Schools is accredited by Cognia (formerly AdvancedEd) and the South Carolina Independent School Association.

# INTRODUCTION

The following pages contain information about the current and potential future 9th grade courses offered at Cross Schools.

## REGISTRATION PROCESS

**Cross High School** *intentionally* offers courses and opportunities that help students successfully prepare for their *individualized* post-secondary plans. The information outlined in this directory/guide will help students, parents/guardians, and educators make the best decisions considering course selection and graduation planning.

The Cross High School College Counselor will assist students in planning their program of studies based on current educational/graduation needs, teacher recommendations, and students' future goals.

## INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLANNING

Students in the 8th -11th grades along with their parents will attend a yearly **Individualized Graduation Planning (IGP)** Meeting with the College Counselor to discuss course selections. Appointment times will be determined and scheduled via the Counseling Department.

Students and parents are asked to review the updated Course Directory guide and are encouraged to review their transcript and listed requirements for graduation to help with course selection *prior* to their scheduled IGP meeting.

## COURSE PLACEMENT

Students and parents should make prayerful consideration before enrolling in advanced courses. These courses require more homework, research, and time for outside class preparation. In order to be successful, students are required to exercise more analytical reading skills, study skills, and initiative. Students are expected to commit the time and effort necessary to be successful.

A number of factors are considered in determining the appropriate course placement for a student. The student's performance in the preceding class is considered in the department recommendation. Test scores, the overall academic record, and the long-term goals of a particular student are other factors, which are considered by the College Counselor in making any final determinations.

For more detailed information on high school academic policies, please refer to the Cross Schools High School Parent-Student Handbook.

## **COURSE CHANGE/WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

Cross High School students must be enrolled full-time each semester and take courses that fulfill their promotion and graduation requirements.

Due to schedule constraints, it will not be possible to change levels after the first two weeks of a semester.

## **HIGH SCHOOL COURSES OFFERED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Cross Schools approves the implementation of credit bearing high school courses in English, Math, Science, Spanish, and Computer Science at the middle school level. *Course options may vary year to year and are dependent upon student needs and staffing availability.*

The purpose is to provide eligible middle schools students opportunities to enroll in accelerated courses in high school like Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment. Eligible students must meet the placement requirements set forth for each course offered. It does not permit students to graduate early from Cross High School.

A student who has taken a course for a Carnegie unit prior to his or her ninth grade year may retake that course regardless of the grade he/she has earned. The retake course must be taken during the 9th grade year and the student must be enrolled in the course within the first ten days in a semester course. Only the retake grade/credit will be awarded and factored into the student's cumulative grade point average and transcript. This rule applies whether the retake grade is higher or lower than the grade the student previously earned.

## **TRANSFER CREDITS**

Grades of students transferring to Cross High School from an accredited secondary institution outside of South Carolina will be converted to correspond with the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy (SCUGP). If numerical averages are provided, those averages must be used in converting the grades to the student's Cross High School record. If letter grades with no numerical averages are provided, this conversion will apply: A = 96, B = 88, C = 80, D = 73, F = 61. If the transcript shows that the student has earned a grade of P (passing), that grade will be converted to a numerical designation on the basis of information secured from the sending institution as to the appropriate numerical value of the P. If no numerical average can be obtained from the sending institution, the student's cumulative transfer GPA will be calculated, and the corresponding number equivalent will be assigned to replace the P.

## **RETAKEING COURSES / CREDIT RECOVERY**

Based on SC Uniform Grading Policies, students may retake a course at the same level of difficulty under the following conditions:

Only courses in which a grade of a D or F was earned may be retaken.

The course in which a D or F was earned may be retaken only during the current academic year or the following academic year.

The student's record/transcript will reflect all courses taken and the grades earned, with the following exception:

- Courses retaken and passed through Credit Recovery will receive a passing grade of 60 which will replace the previous failing grade.

A student may repeat a failed High School subject with a grade of 60 or below once and remain eligible for continued enrollment.

No more than two failed subjects may be made up through a Cross High School approved summer school or through Credit Recovery.

Administration reserves the right to evaluate and make decisions on continued enrollment.

## COURSE TYPES

**College Prep (CP) Courses:** These courses are designed for students who are four-year college-bound right out of high school. These courses are designed to fulfill requirements to earn a SC High School diploma. The courses will require an in-depth study of the material, independent study, and projects.

**Honors Courses:** These courses are designed to be academically challenging by requiring the use of critical and analytical thinking skills, rational decision-making and inductive and deductive reasoning, and may require independent study. With some exception, these courses are intended to be preparation for Advanced Placement Level courses offered at Cross High School.

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** These courses are designed to be academically challenging and are taught at the college level. AP courses follow the curriculum provided by the College Board. Students will take the College Board National AP Exams in May of each year. Students are required to take the AP exam in order to receive AP weighted credit for the course and will not be required to take an end of course / final exam.

**Dual College Enrollment for Credit:** Students who meet all high school and college eligibility requirements may participate with area colleges in the high school/college dual enrollment program. Dual-enrollment programs set-up high school students to take and earn college level courses while in high school. These courses serve as both high school and college courses and, therefore, are included on both the student's high school and college transcript.

**Online Virtual High School Courses:** Cross High School students may elect to take additional/approved classes online via VirtualSC or Sevenstar. Courses taken via an online program are recorded on the Cross High School transcript. Online learning requires a highly independent student who has demonstrated excellent time management skills. Students seeking an online course option must be pre-approved by the Cross High School Administration and may be responsible for additional course fees and tuition.

# CROSS HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Cross High School students must earn a minimum twenty-four units of credits to be awarded a college prep diploma. Credit units will be awarded (or accepted) as one-fourth, one-half, and a whole. One unit of credit is awarded for an academic standards-based course that requires a minimum of 120 hours of instructions; one-half unit of credit is awarded for an academic standards-based course requiring a minimum of 60 hours of instruction; one-fourth unit of credit is awarded for an academic standards-based course requiring a minimum of 30 hours of instruction.

SUBJECT	REQ. CREDIT UNITS	COLLEGE PREP COURSE <i>PREREQUISITE</i> REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTERING COLLEGE FRESHMEN
ENGLISH/ LANGUAGE ARTS	4.0	Students must enroll in an English course in grades 9-12. English courses must include English 1 and English 2 (courses that have strong grammar and composition components). All four units must have strong reading (including works of fiction and non-fiction), writing, communicating, and research components. It is strongly recommended that students take two units that are literature based, including American, British, and World Literature.
MATHEMATICS	4.0	Students must enroll in a Math course in grades 9-12. Math courses must include Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry. A fourth higher-level math course is required and may include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, or Statistics.
SCIENCE	3.0	Two units must be taken in two different fields of physical, earth, or life sciences and selected from among biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (biology, chemistry, physics, or earth science) or from any laboratory science for which biology, chemistry, physics and/or earth science is a prerequisite. Courses in general or introductory science for which one of these four units is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement. It's strongly recommended that students desiring to pursue careers in science, mathematics, engineering or technology take one course in all four fields: biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science.
U.S. HISTORY	1.0	One unit of U.S. History, a half unit of Economics, and a half unit of Government are required. World History or Geography is strongly recommended.
ECONOMICS	.5	
U.S. GOVERNMENT	.5	
OTHER SOCIAL STUDIES	1.0	

<b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b> <i>*2 world language credits in the same language required for college prep diploma</i>	<b>2.0</b>	Students are required to complete at least two units with a heavy emphasis on language acquisition. It is strongly encouraged that students verify the world language requirements with potential colleges as some require more than (2) units of world language.
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>1.0</b>	A college preparatory course in Computer Science is strongly recommended for this elective and should involve significant programming content. Other acceptable electives include college prep courses in English; fine arts; world languages; social sciences; humanities; mathematics; physical education; and laboratory science.
<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE</b>	<b>1.0</b>	
<b>ELECTIVES</b> <i>*includes 4 years of Faith Formation courses</i>	<b>6.0</b>	
<b>TOTAL REQ. CREDITS</b>	<b>24.0</b>	

## CLASSIFICATION OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The classification of a high school student will be determined by the number of high school units obtained at the close of the previous school term.

- Ninth Grade Students:** In order to be considered for promotion to the tenth grade, students must meet the following criteria:
  - Pass successfully at least **6** units
  - Minimum of 1 unit in English
  - Minimum of 1 unit in Mathematics
  - Minimum of 1 unit in Science
  - Minimum of 1 unit in Social Studies
- Tenth Grade Students:** In order to be considered for promotion to the eleventh grade, students must meet each of the following criteria:
  - Pass successfully at least **12** units
  - Minimum of 2 units in English
  - Minimum of 2 units in Mathematics
  - Minimum of 2 units in Science
  - Minimum of 2 units in Social Studies
- Eleventh Grade Students:** In order to be considered for promotion to the twelfth grade, students must meet each of the following criteria:
  - Pass successfully at least **16** units
  - Minimum of 3 units in English
  - Minimum of 3 units in Mathematics
  - Minimum of 3 units in Science
  - Minimum of 2.5 units in Social Studies
  - Minimum of 1 units in World Language



# SC UNIFORM GRADING SCALE

## 10 Point Grading Scale

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep Weighting	Honors Weighting	AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

# 9TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course descriptions are grouped by Department:

## **FAITH FORMATION**

*Bible 1*

## **ENGLISH**

*English 1*  
*English 1 Honors*  
*English 2*  
*English 2 Honors*

## **MATHEMATICS**

*Algebra 1*  
*Geometry*  
*Algebra 2*

## **SCIENCE**

*Physical Science*  
*Biology*

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

*Modern World History*  
*AP Human Geography*

## **WORLD LANGUAGE**

*Spanish 1*  
*Spanish 1 Honors*  
*Spanish 2*  
*Spanish 2 Honors*

## **HEALTH/PHYS. ED.**

*Health & P.E. 1*

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

*Fundamentals of Computing*

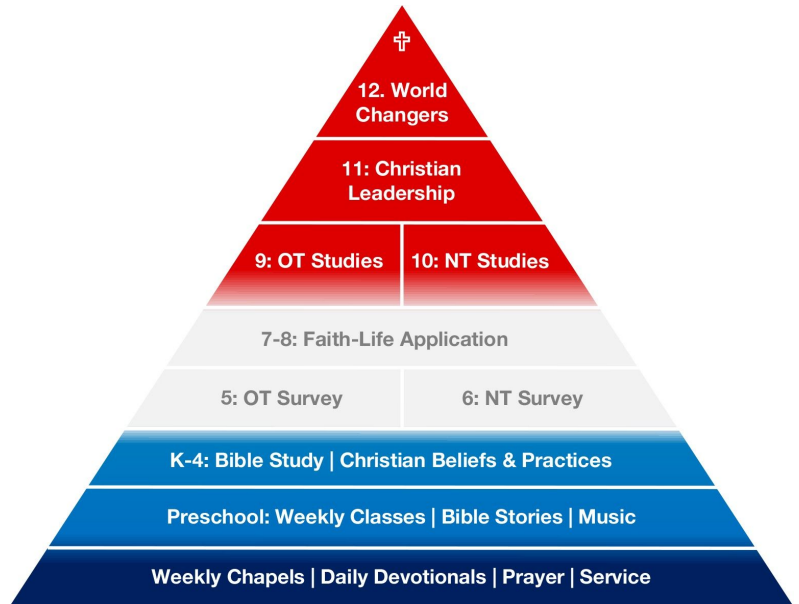
## **TENTATIVE ELECTIVES**

*Digital Art & Design*  
*Entrepreneurship*  
*Field Biology*  
*Personal Finance*  
*Psychology*  
*Youth in Government*

# FAITH FORMATION

Christian Formation is a pivotal component of the Cross Schools experience. Beginning in preschool and continuing through high school, students engage in Christian Formation through weekly Chapel services, daily devotionals, prayer, and service.

In high school, students begin to critically engage Scripture and reflect on theological and ethical issues from a Christian worldview. They will broaden their understanding of what it means to be a Christian leader as they prepare to leave Cross Schools. Finally, in 12th grade, seniors will have a capstone class and project designed to help them discern their purpose and calling moving forward into adulthood.



## Bible 1: Old Testament (Grade 9)

**.5 credit**

In this course students will approach the Old Testament from a theological and formational perspective. Weekly themes focus on issues such as Creation and the origins of Life, Sin and the nature of evil, and Ancient cultures and worldviews.

# ENGLISH

## ENGLISH PATHWAYS

	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
<b>College Prep</b>	8th English	English 1 CP	English 2 CP	English 3 CP	English 4 CP
<b>Honors / Advanced Placement</b>	8th English	English 1 HON	English 2 HON	English 3 HON AP Lang/Lit	English 4 HON AP Lit/Lang
	English 1 HON	English 2 HON	AP Language/Composition	AP Literature/Composition	Dual Enrollment

### English 1 Honors

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: 7th Grade English (GRADE) w/ Teacher Recommendation; 8th Grade English (GRADE) w/ Teacher Recommendation

Students taking English I Honors will accomplish all the tasks of those students in English I but with a more rigorous workload, reading and interpreting more challenging selections and creating more in-depth compositions and projects.

### English 1

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: None

The English I course provides a foundational study of literary genres (novels, short stories, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction) and informative/explanatory texts with a heavy emphasis on influential historical and literary American works to include a focus on argumentative, informational and explanatory writing as previously noted. Opportunities for rich discussions and conversations are provided along with academic vocabulary and conventions of language.

### English 2

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: English 1 or English 1 Honors

English II is an in-depth study of world literature and literary nonfiction, and foundational works. One play should be included. All high school courses should continue to include a focus on argumentative, informational and explanatory writing as previously noted. Opportunities for rich discussions and conversations should be provided regularly. Academic vocabulary, as well as other opportunities to explore the conventions of language should occur frequently.

### English 2 Honors

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: English 1 (GRADE) or English 1 Honors (GRADE)

Students taking English 2 Honors will accomplish all the tasks of those students in English II but with a more rigorous workload, reading and interpreting more challenging selections and creating more in-depth compositions and projects. The primary content of English 2 Honors is American Literature.

# MATHEMATICS

## MATHEMATICS PATHWAYS

	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
<b>College Prep</b>	8th MATH	Algebra 1 CP	Geometry CP	Algebra 2 CP	Statistics CP
<b>Honors/ Advanced Placement</b>	8th English	Algebra 1 HON	Geometry HON	Algebra 2 HON	Pre-Calculus HON AP Statistics
	Algebra 1 HON	Geometry HON	Algebra 2 HON	Precalculus HON AP Statistics	AP Statistics AP Calculus

### Algebra 1

**1.0 credit**

This course is designed to deepen and extend students' understanding of mathematics and prepare them for future learning. The units of this course focus on topics that include linear and exponential relationships, quadratic functions, polynomials, and factoring. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout this course and, together with the content standards, enable students to experience mathematics as a coherent, useful subject that makes use of their ability to apply mathematics to real world problem situations and develop critical thinking skills.

### Geometry Honors

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors

In Geometry (Honors), students explore geometric structure using constructions, logical reasoning, interactive software, and conjectures. Other topics of study include two- and three-dimensional geometric figures, coordinate geometry, transformations, measurement, similarity and congruence. The use of geometry software that supports a dynamic, interactive approach is essential to the instruction and assessment of geometry, especially in the exploration of multiple geometric relationships and the resulting analysis and proof. This course is designed for students preparing for academic or technical college experiences and for others desiring a formal background in mathematics. Honors Geometry is intended for students who have successfully completed Algebra I Honors, and are committed to independent learning.

### Algebra 2 / Algebra Honors

**1.0 credit**

Algebra II expands and strengthens the foundation skills established in Algebra I. Concepts included in this course include Equations and Inequalities, Algebraic, Exponential, Logarithmic, and Trigonometric Functions, Linear Algebra, Sequence and Series, and Statistical Analysis. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout this course and, together with the content standards, enable students to experience mathematics as a coherent, useful subject that makes use of their ability to apply mathematics to real world problem situations and develop critical thinking skills. Students extend their study of foundational algebraic concepts, such as linear functions, equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, absolute value functions, and exponential functions, from previous mathematics encounters. Additionally, students study new families of functions that are also essential for subsequent mathematical application and learning.

# SCIENCE

## SCIENCE PATHWAYS

	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
<b>College Prep</b>	Physical Science	Biology	Chemistry	Marine Biology	
<b>Honors/ Advanced Placement</b>	Physical Science Honors	Biology Honors	Chemistry Honors	AP Chemistry, AP Biology AP Physics	AP Anatomy-Physiology

### **Biology 1**

**1.0 credit**

This course covers the major concept areas of biological science including: the cell, molecular basis of heredity, biological change, diversity in living systems, and environmental relationships. The student will gain insight into the fundamental unity in the diversity of life forms and the concept that all organisms, including themselves, carry out the same life 39 functions. This course counts as a lab science.

### **Biology 1 Honors**

**1.0 credit**

This is a comprehensive, college-preparatory course that explores advanced concepts such as molecular biology. The course includes a detailed study of cytology, genetics, and diversity of organisms. Emphasis will be placed on research, independent study, and the development of science projects. Note: Students enrolled in this course will take a comprehensive End of Course exam. This course counts as a lab science.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## SOCIAL STUDIES PATHWAYS

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
<b>College Prep</b>	Modern World History	Government / Economics	United States History	
<b>Honors/ Advanced Placement</b>	AP Human Geography	AP World History	AP U.S. History	AP Government & Politics

### Modern World History CP or HON

**1.0 credit**

Modern World History Students will study the history of the Modern World in grade ten, beginning with the time period of 1300 to present. Students will begin by learning about the emergence of the Modern World from 1300–1500, global affairs and interactions (1450– 1815), the rise of the new governments and competition in the global community (1815–1918), the emergence of new world powers (1885–1950), and the world from World War II to present day (1933–present). Students will learn all Modern World History through the lens of inquiry in order to study the world that trade created, which led to the influence of interactions of various changes to culture, governments, ideas, innovation, people, religion, and revolution with an intent to create a citizen who has a global perspective.

### AP Human Geography

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: English 1 Honors w/ Teacher Recommendation

AP Human Geography is an introductory college-level human geography course. Students cultivate their understanding of human geography through data and geographic analyses as they explore topics like patterns and spatial organization, human impacts and interactions with their environment, and spatial processes and societal changes.

**Note: Students enrolled in this course will take a comprehensive College Board exam in May**

# WORLD LANGUAGE

**Students who are proficient in a world language may opt to be placed in a higher-level world language course based on performance on a proficiency exam, teacher and principal recommendation. Carnegie credit for any bypassed course will not be awarded unless the student takes the course through a school approved initial credit offering.**

## Spanish 1

**1.0 credit**

Spanish 1 is an elective one-year course offered to any junior or senior, or any freshman or sophomore who has maintained at least a C average in his/her previous English class. The primary objective of the course is the development of skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish on a basic level within a limited vocabulary context. The course will also instill in students an awareness of cultural similarities and differences with respect to the United States vis-à-vis Latin America and Spain. Techniques of language study are emphasized so that skills learned may be applied to subsequent study of other foreign languages. Although aural-oral methods of instruction are emphasized, some traditional methods are utilized.

Many students come into this first year class with a variety of exposure to Spanish. Some will have had Spanish in school before, some may speak it at home, and for others this may be your first introduction to the language. This course will be taught as if you had never had any previous introduction to Spanish. If you have previous knowledge of Spanish, please be helpful to the other students; and if this is your first exposure to Spanish, do not be intimidated by those who have that prior knowledge.

We will do many activities in class to help in your acquisition of Spanish. DO NOT be afraid to make mistakes! Mistakes come with learning a new language and are to be expected.

The objectives of this course are to develop students' abilities respecting the ACTFL standards for learning a modern language: Writing, Speaking, Listening and Comprehending Spanish at an academic level. Students will learn and improve the four important language tasks:

- 1) Writing: managing important writing resources such as grammar, vocabulary, rhetorical techniques for organizing information, and strategies for 'writing through' problems.
- 2) Reading: literary texts, articles, short stories, etc. and create discussion, critical thinking.
- 3) Listening
- 4) Comprehension: watching videos, creating videos, explaining and discussing critical points, expression and style.

## Spanish 2

**1.0 credit**

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 (CP or HON)

Spanish 2 is an intermediate course recommended for seniors and other students who are completing their two-year minimum world language requirement for admission to college or for students planning to continue study in the AP/IB strand. The primary objective is the continuing development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills begun in Spanish 1. Increased emphasis is placed on reading and writing skills as students explore more complex use of the language. Composition skills are developed to a limited degree. Growing emphasis is placed on the similarities and differences between Hispanic and North American cultural attitudes.



## Spanish 2 Honors

**1.0 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 1 (CP or HON) with Teacher Recommendation This course will provide a continuing development of students' abilities to speak and write Spanish at an academic level. This course will also provide opportunities to learn more about the Hispanic culture/artists as well as exploring the history of Spain. It combines content-based language instruction with an interactive approach in its orientation. It is designed for non-native speakers who took middle school / introductory Spanish. At Cross Schools, we inspire future leaders to grow spiritually and academically by intentionally designing opportunities for inquisitive learning and active service all for the GLORY OF GOD. The objectives of this course are to develop students' abilities respecting the ACTFL standards for learning a modern language: Writing, Speaking, Listening and Comprehending Spanish at an academic level. Students will learn and improve the four important language tasks: 1) Writing: managing important writing resources such as grammar, vocabulary, rhetorical techniques for organizing information, and strategies for 'writing through' problems. 2) Reading: literary texts, articles, short stories, etc. and create discussion, critical thinking. 3) Listening and 4) Comprehension: watching videos, creating videos, explaining and discussing critical points, expression and style.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

### Fundamentals of Computing

**1.0 credit**

Fundamentals of Computing is designed to introduce students to the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Through creativity and innovation, students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills to implement projects that are relevant to students' lives. They will create a variety of computing artifacts while collaborating in teams. Students will gain a fundamental understanding of the history and operation of computers, programming, and web design. Students will also be introduced to computing careers and will examine societal and ethical issues of computing.

## HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Health/ Personal Fitness 1 (Grade 9)

**.5 credit**

Students will explore all aspects of health education. They will learn about the importance of physical activity, good nutrition, mental and emotional health, and healthy relationships. Students will be introduced to team sports, lifetime sports skills, and personal fitness.

## ELECTIVES

**Courses listed are proposed. Some classes may not be offered due to the lack of enrollment or changes in budget or personnel.**

### **Digital Art & Design**

**1.0 credit**

The ever changing and global technological advancements offer new and broader opportunities in the creative industry. This course provides instruction in layout, computer design, electronic and physical art, color enhancement, and digital photography. Students use design concepts, principals, and processes using a variety of industry standard software.

### **Entrepreneurship**

**1.0 credit**

This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to develop an effective business plan for small business ownership. An important part of the course will be the corporation of economics, ethics, legal aspects, logistics, research, staffing, strategies for financing, and technology.

### **Field Biology**

**1.0 credit**

Learn about the plants, animals, and fungi that call the Lowcountry of South Carolina home. Taxonomy (naming and classifying), field research methods, and issues in conservation will be covered. Students should expect to spend significant amounts of time outside performing observations, setting up experiments, and collecting data. Students will participate in field trips to local points of interest to observe and survey species. Students will also prepare to compete in the South Carolina Envirothon as part of this class.

### **Personal Finance**

**1.0 credit**

Personal Finance introduces students to the fundamentals of personal finance, which include budgeting, credit and lending processes, maintaining accounts, evaluating investments, managing financial risk, computing taxes, and analyzing the basic elements of finance. Students will be exposed to the tools and knowledge to make sound financial decisions for life.

### **Psychology**

**1.0 credit**

Delve into the scientific study of behaviors with a focus on the structure and function of the brain and the nervous system. You will explore the hidden processes that allow you to experience and respond to the world around you through a combination of discussion, case-studies, lectures, and hands-on modeling. You will then learn how this knowledge enables you to better understand human development, perception, consciousness, learning, and thinking. This class will provide students with opportunities to hone critical thinking skills by providing students with opportunities to compare, critique, and debate current theories about human behavior.

### **Youth in Government**

**1.0 credit**

This course is designed to introduce students to various governmental processes through debate techniques, emphasizing citizenship. The primary focus will be on development of speech and debate skills. Students will learn parliamentary procedures and current event issues through various simulations dealing with the legislative and judicial branches. The course will culminate with a state simulation at the YMCA Youth in Government conference and a cumulative in-class group project. It is strongly recommended that students who want to attend the Youth in Government conference participate in the course before attending. Note: Students are responsible for any fees associated with the Youth in Government conference. Fundraising opportunities will be available to students throughout the course. Scholarships may also be available for students in finance.

# HIGH SCHOOL STANDARDIZED TESTING - 5 YEAR PLAN

8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
ACT Aspire PSAT 8/9  *PSAT/NMSQT (SC JUNIOR SCHOLARS)	ACT Aspire ACT 8/9 PSAT 8/9	Pre-ACT (fall) PSAT10 (spring)	PSAT/NMSQT  ASVAB (optional)  ACT & SAT (spring)	ACT & SAT (fall)  ASVAB (optional)
<b>AP:</b> Advanced Placement for students enrolled in AP Courses <i>(AP tests are administered in May of each year)</i>				

## ACT Aspire

The ACT Aspire Interim and classroom assessments are used throughout the school year to ensure students are on track for the next grade level. The data from these assessments allows educators to make evidence-based decisions when addressing students' strengths, areas for improvement, and growth potential. ACT Aspire can help indicate a student's likely readiness for future performance, while providing time to address areas where improvement is needed.

## ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)

The ASVAB is a timed multi-aptitude test given at schools or Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS) and is developed and maintained by the Dept. of Defense. Students' scores in four critical areas -- Arithmetic Reasoning, Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension and Mathematics Knowledge -- count towards students' Armed Forces Qualifying Test (AFQT) score, which determines whether students are qualified to enlist in the U.S. military. The other scores in the other areas of the ASVAB will determine how qualified students are for certain military occupational specialties and Enlistment Bonuses. A high score will improve student's chances of getting a specialty/job and signing bonus.

## PreACT

The PreACT provides students with a structured testing environment similar to what they will experience when taking the ACT, ACT test-quality questions, and predictive scores on the familiar 1-36 scale. This helps students get comfortable with the test and understand how they're doing in core subjects. It also helps parents and educators identify areas where additional support might be necessary.

## PSAT 8/9

The PSAT 8/9 measures the knowledge and skills your student is learning in school -- the same knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college. The information will give parents, students, and teachers details about students' academic performance while there is still plenty of time to improve skills.

## PSAT 10

Students in the 10th grade benefit from taking the PSAT 10 to identify their academic strengths and weaknesses, practice for the PSAT/NMSQT, connect them to the Student Search Service and scholarship opportunities.

## PSAT/NMSQT

The PSAT/NMSQT is a standardized test that 11th graders take in October. It measures the knowledge and skills in reading, writing, and math students learn in the classroom. Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT qualify for a chance to win scholarships and recognition from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and other scholarship partners.

Students in grades 6-12 have access to the Naviance Student, a web-based tool designed to help students make decisions about college and careers. Students will use the Naviance College and Career Readiness Curriculum to help them develop non-cognitive skills and college knowledge to develop their long-term goals. Seniors will use this platform to access and complete college and scholarship applications.

## Naviance Assessments

**StrengthsExplorer®:** Assesses 10 talent themes and identifies students' 3 strongest emerging talents.!

**Career Interest Profiler:** Career interest assessment for students based on Holland's Interest Codes. Students will gain access to their top Holland Code matches.

**Career Cluster Finder:** Online questionnaire that helps students discover career clusters that are most interesting to them.

**Career Key:** Career assessment for middle and high school students based on Holland's interest codes.

**Learning Style Inventory:** Assessment to help determine a student's ideal learning and productivity conditions.

**MI Advantage:** Empowers students to develop and make optimal use of their strengths in the pursuit of goals and interests, both in and out of school.

**\*Do What You Are:** Helps students identify their natural tendencies. They gain confidence and greater self-awareness to help them make better decisions and take advantage of their strengths.

*\*AchieveWorks Assessments*

## Career Planning Tools

**Road Trip Nation:** *A crowd pleaser and super engaging tool!* A career exploration tool that inspires students to discover new pathways, interests, and ambitions. Included are more than 3,500 full-length video interviews from thought and industry leaders, chronicling their narratives and personal journeys of success!

**Explore Careers and Clusters:** Students browse career and career cluster profiles to learn more about careers of interest! Students gain access to skill/degree requirements, typical job tasks, and average national wages from O\*NET and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

## College Planning Tools

**SuperMatch™:** An extensive search tool that helps students find the right fit for college. Students select from a list of college decision factors and rank their importance. As selections are made, the best-match colleges appear with information about why the college(s) is a good match.

**Colleges I'm Thinking About List:** Students can stay organized by adding their favorite schools they've researched to the *Colleges I'm Thinking About* list in Naviance student. This list is found under Prospective Colleges on the staff side.

**Colleges I'm Applying To List:** As students identify the colleges to which they will apply, they can add them to the *Colleges I'm Applying To* list in Naviance student. This list is found under Active Applications on the staff side.

**College Match: Universal Overlaps:** Matches students based on colleges on their lists, system will identify colleges that commonly overlap with the colleges in the student's list based on data from the entire Naviance Network.

**College Match: ActiveMatch:** Matches students to colleges seeking applicants like this student. \*\*Student names are not given to colleges when using this feature.

**College Resources:** Provides a list of web resources about colleges, financial aid and other key topics in the college admissions process.