The following courses have both an honors and non honors section available. All DSA students will be put in the honors section. Students will have the first four weeks of each semester to decide if they want to switch to the non honors portion of the class. Their teacher and class period will stay the same – just the work load will lessen.

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**ENGLISH**

**English 1**
Grade Level(s): 9
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: Depending on class numbers, some novels may have to be bought or borrowed from the library.
Course Description:
This language arts class is designed to expose students to a wide variety of literary and nonfiction genres. It is their first high school English class, and thus focuses on the types of analysis and writing skills necessary to excel in DSA’s college prep high school classes.

**English 2**
Grade Level(s): 10
Prerequisites: English 1
Fees and Materials: Students may be asked to borrow “choice novels” from a library or purchase them.
Course Description:
A year long, required language arts course in which students read literature from a variety of genres with a focus on social, artistic, and literary movements, in order to ascertain prototypical American themes. Students work on composition, comprehension, oral communication, and reference skills. Grammar, vocabulary, and knowledge of literary terms will be emphasized as part of the composition exercises.

**LGBT Literature S1 (paired with Women’s Literature)**
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials:
Course Description:
Queer Literature Honors is an upper division English course that will explore the historical, political, economic, and cultural context of the LGBTQ+ community. The course will seek to improve understanding of how this context influences the experiences of the community.
Women’s Literature S2 (paired with LGBT Literature)
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials: Students will be asked to borrow books from the public library or buy personal copies.
Course Description:
This course provides a thematic approach to reading works written by and about women, focusing on the following themes: (1) “engendering language, silence, and voice” (2) “rethinking the maternal” (3) “identify and difference” and (4) “resistance and transformation.” It includes representative works from novels, poetry, plays, short stories, non fiction, visual art, film, and literary criticism. It offers students opportunities to write about the literature.

Creative Writing
Grade Level(s): 12
Prerequisites: None.
Fees and Materials: $25 course fee (technology, printing/paper)
Course Description:
Creative Writing is a year-long course designed for students with a passion for creative writing. In this class, you will be introduced to the major genres and forms of creative writing, including: fiction, poetry, dramatic writing, and creative nonfiction. We will experiment with the art of language, participate in a multitude of writing activities, close-examine the craft of experts, engage in journal exercises, workshop the work of peers, and complete a few major writing projects.
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-creative writing majors*

DSA Film Studies
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials: None
Course Description:
The course is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the discipline of film studies. Through screenings, readings, discussion, and writing, students will develop a formal and aesthetic appreciation of film, and acquire a general awareness of film history and its key movements. Students will learn to identify and make meaning of symbol, archetype, perspective, and structure- as well as many other tools that filmmakers use to create meaning. The course will also offer basic theoretical approaches to the various genres of narrative cinema as well as different modes of nonfiction cinema (documentary and avant-garde film practices), so that students will understand how cinema has developed, and how filmmaking reflects the changes in art, technology, and social norms in the world at large. The student will develop and apply critical viewing, thinking and writing skills in the study of film. As an honors class, students should expect a considerable amount of writing, and will be expected to participate in a number of film screenings outside of class time.
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-VCA majors*

AP Language & Composition
Grade Level(s): 11
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks. Students may be asked to borrow choice novels from a library or purchase them. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description:
Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is an AP course that high school students can take in place of the Freshman Composition courses offered at most colleges. This course is designed to extend your existing abilities to interpret and analyze a wide range of texts, to write and revise sustained arguments, to carry out independent research, and to integrate multiple sources into your essays. In addition to helping you become a skilled writer who can compose for a variety of purposes and audiences, the course is also designed to enhance your critical thinking skills. The focus is on rhetoric and argument, most clearly evinced in nonfiction.

AP Literature & Composition
Grade Level: 12
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials: Most of the required novels are available for checkout, unless the number of students requires that some students buy their own novels. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description:
Students learn to approach works of literature (novels, short stories, and a lot of poetry) from the kind of analytical perspective demanded of them in college. Through close attention to the text and carefully written essays, students will learn to develop the language skills to write about literature with the kind of insightful precision demanded of college freshmen.
CU Succeeds Language Arts – Composition 2 - S1

CU Course Title – Composition 2
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials: $250 per semester plus required CU text materials
Course Description:
The skills you learn in this course will be directly transferable to college courses, where you will have to write papers in a wide variety of styles. What college professors value are the kinds of questioning, analyzing, and arguing skills that this course will help you develop. Skilled writers are seekers. The primary objective of this course is to encourage you to question your ideas and the ideas of others and to probe the nature of what it means to be human. You will learn to write with a sense of personal purpose and connection.

Courses taken at CU will appear on both your DPS and CU transcript. These credits will “transfer” to most colleges and universities in the country. They are considered “transfer” credits. It would be just like if you switched colleges between your freshmen and sophomore year. Those credits “transfer” with you. Some highly competitive schools most likely will not accept transfer credits. You need to check on the admissions websites of the schools you are interested in attending.

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.

CU Succeeds Language Arts – Great Works in British and American Literature - S2

CU Course Title – Great Works in British and American Literature
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Required 9th and 10th grade English classes
Fees and Materials: $250 per semester plus required CU text materials
Course Description:
This course examines a variety of literary texts, studying the impact of different time periods and cultural movements on the evolving literary traditions. This course will enable students to make personal connections to literature and the arts and to use those connections to broaden their views of the world and to help solidify a sense of self as they prepare to experience the world beyond DSA. It emphasizes the importance of literature as an artistic force in personal, social, cultural and global awareness.

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.
**MATHEMATICS**

**Integrated Math 1**  
 Grade Level(s): 9 (math progression for students may vary)  
 Prerequisites: None  
 Fees and Materials: Graphing calculator, ruler and protractor  
 Course Description:  
 This beginning algebra class starts with a review of statistics and introduces the concepts of normal curves and standard deviation. The remainder of first semester reviews proportional reasoning, solving equations for numbers and variables, and analyzing scatter plots by writing equations for lines of best fit. Second semester begins with systems of equations and inequalities and progresses through exponential relationships, function notation, transformation, and quadratics.

**Integrated Math 2**  
 Grade Level(s): 10 (math progression for students may vary)  
 Prerequisites: Math 1  
 Fees and Materials: Graphing calculator and protractor  
 Course Description:  
 In the second year of this integrated curriculum, students develop a formula for calculating the area of regular polygons and the volumes of polygon-based right prisms. Students deepen their understanding of linear equations and inequalities as they solve linear programming problems in two variables to optimize a value. Students expand their understanding of algebra to include quadratic functions. Students connect different forms of quadratic functions to graphs and the special characteristics of quadratic functions while also developing fluency with algebraic skills. Students round out their algebraic work in study of exponent rules and introduction to logarithms. Students also begin to understand the Chi-squared statistic and chi-squared test for comparing two populations.

**Integrated Math 3**  
 Grade Level(s): 11 (math progression for students may vary)  
 Prerequisite: Math 2  
 Fees and Materials: Drawing compass, straight edge, protractor, and graphing calculator  
 Course Description:  
 In the third year of this integrated curriculum, students investigate circles and coordinate geometry, incorporating right triangle trigonometry and earlier geometric theorems, and study three- dimensional geometry. Students expand their algebra understanding of algebra to solve linear programming problems in more than two variables, eventually developing and using basic matrix algebra. Students expand their understanding of exponential and logarithmic functions as well as rate of change in non-linear functions and the underlying concepts of instantaneous rate of change versus average rate of change. Students also use combinatorics to develop the binomial distribution.

**Pre-Calculus**  
 Grade Level(s): 11, 12  
 Prerequisites: Integrated Math 3  
 Fees and Materials: Graphing calculator  
 Course Description:  
 Students develop a deep understanding of functions through investigation of families of functions and formal analysis of functions. In the process, students develop fluency of algebra skills. Students develop understanding of limits, complex numbers, and computations with complex numbers. Students develop understanding of radian measure, circular trigonometry, trigonometric functions, trigonometric identities and their application to modeling real data. Students investigate polar graphing and parametric equations which can model time-dependent situations. Students learn how to graph conic sections as well as the attendant algebraic equations and skills.

**Financial Algebra**  
 Grade Level(s): 12  
 Prerequisites: Integrated Math 3  
 Fees and Materials: Graphing calculator and textbook  
 Course Description:  
 This course explores various aspects of personal financial literacy including Personal Financial Identity, Income, Financial Institutions, Personal Budgets, Investments, and Careers in Finance through the lens of mathematics as called for by the Common Core State Standards and outlined in the Scope & Sequence.
AP Calculus AB
Grade Level(s) 11, 12
Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus with a grade of “C” or higher.
Fees and Materials: Graphing calculator, and textbook. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description:
In preparation for the AP Calculus AB exam, students study single-variable differential and integral calculus. Learning the rules of differentiation, students model situations and solve real problems with derivatives. Students develop graphical, numerical, and algebraic understanding of derivatives as well as the fluency to move easily between representations. Students then study integral calculus and its connection to differential calculus through the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Again, students develop numerical, graphical and algebraic understanding of antiderivatives, using all representations to model and solve real problems.

AP Statistics
Grade Level: 12
Prerequisites: Integrated Math 3
Fees and Materials: Graphing calculator. Students purchase their own textbooks. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description:
This two semester course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data; planning a study; anticipating patterns; and statistical inference.
Biology
Grade Level(s): 9, 10
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $10 lab science fee

Course Description
Biology focuses on cells, genetics, evolution, anatomy, homeostasis and biologically-based chemistry. The student will be able to apply these ideas to the real world and use them in inquiry based labs in the classroom. Students will be able to use the scientific method to create hypotheses that connect biological concepts to their own life. This class is based on hands on activities and labs based on life science principles.

Chemistry
Grade Level(s): 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $10 lab science fee

Course Description
This course includes studies in basic metric measures, physical and chemical properties, symbols and formulas, atomic structure, mole theory, chemical equations, electron configurations, and the periodic table. It is the intent of this course not only to study the theories of chemistry, but also to demonstrate the applications of those theories through laboratory experience and relate those theories to everyday uses.

Physics
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Completion of Math 1 and Math 2 (math 3 completion recommended)
Fees and Materials: $10 lab science fee.

Course Description
Physics focuses on the introduction of the basic concepts of measurement, graphing, vector analysis, dynamics, force analysis, energy, and heat through laboratory and mathematical analysis.

Forensics
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $40 in addition to the regular $10 lab science fee

Course Description
Forensic science is the application of science (chemistry, physics and biology) to the criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in the criminal justice system. It includes the investigation of fingerprinting, fiber analysis, ballistics, arson, trace evidence analysis, poisons, drugs, blood splatters, and blood samples students are taught the proper collection preservation and laboratory analysis of various samples of evidence.

Anatomy and Physiology
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $10 lab science fee

Course Description
This course is a comprehensive study of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Students will learn all the parts and systems of the human body, as well as being able to understand the workings of those systems together. There is dissection, microscopic study and hands on activities as well as group and individual projects. Topics include body organization; cytology; and the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems.

AP Biology
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: Chemistry
Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks. $105 AP exam fee.

Course Description
AP Biology is a rigorous Biology course, which is the equivalent of an introductory college biology course. Emphasis will be placed on interpretation and analysis of information as well as biology content. There are a variety of upper level labs including, but not limited to; DNA, food and water analysis, animal observations, and an extensive fruit fly breeding genetics lab. A significant amount of studying must be completed at home to allow time for discussion, labs, and inquiry during class time.
**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**National History Day**
*Grade Level(s):* 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** Be willing to commit to a yearlong research project.  
**Fees and Materials:** $25  
**Course Description:**  
History Day is a full year course. Students choose a historical topic and research it by looking through libraries, archives and museums, conduct oral history interviews, and visit historic sites. Then, they analyze and draw conclusions about the significance of the topic. Students present their work at a Regional competition in mid-March. Students may qualify for State (the first weekend in May) and Nationals (Mid-June). The class is an Honors class and counts for a year of social studies credit. Questions? Ask your counselor or Mr. Glassman Ed_Glassman@dpsk12.org

**Geography**
*Grade Level(s):* 9  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Fees and Materials:** None  
**Course Description**  
The high school geography course is based on the Colorado Model Content Standards and is broken down into two semesters. The first semester focuses on answering the question, “How does the interdependence between humans and physical systems affect Earth and its people?” and the second semester focuses on answering this question, “How does increasing globalization influence and affect the interaction of people on Earth?”

**AP Human Geography**
*Grade Level(s):* 9  
**Prerequisites:** see below  
**Fees and Materials:** $105 AP exam fee; Students must purchase their own textbooks  
**Course Description**  
This advanced Geography course discusses geographic perspectives on human activity and explores human understanding, use, and alteration of the earth’s surface from a cultural geographic perspective. Students will consider both the spatial character of human occupancy of the earth and the role of humans in shaping the earth’s environments and landscapes. Geographers study the way places and things are laid out, organized, and arranged on the surface of the earth. This advanced Geography course reinforces a student’s study of geography as a social science by emphasizing the relevance of geographic concepts to human problems.

* There will be 2 information sessions about this class on February 13. They will be held at 12:40 pm and 3:05 pm in the Concert Hall. The meeting is for either the student, the parent or both. We strongly suggest that both attend.  
* 8th graders on academic watch during the spring of 2020 may not enroll in this course  
* Students who receive a D or F in their 8th grade English or Social Studies class during first or second semester are not eligible for this class. Any exceptions to this rule will be in consultation with the counselor and teacher.

**US History**
*Grade Level(s):* 10  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Fees and Materials:** None  
**Course Description**  
US History is designed to help students understand the events, issues, and personalities that shaped our history from Reconstruction to Modern Day. The course looks at US history from the multiple perspectives of this diverse and ethnically rich nation. Students will develop analytic skills in historical inquiry, problem solving, cause-and-effect synthesis, and evaluation of historic information. Students will also gain the skills and knowledge needed to understand various connections and interdependence of political, economic, technological, and philosophical aspects of United States’ society.
AP US History
Grade Level: 10
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description
AP US History provides students with analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced courses in college by making demands equivalent to those made by a full-year introductory college course.

* There will be 2 information sessions about this class on February 13. They will be held at 12:40 pm and 3:05 pm in the Concert Hall. The meeting is for either the student, the parent or both. We strongly suggest that both attend.

Civics S1 (paired with Economics)
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: None
Course Description
This one-semester course provides an understanding of the American governmental system, including its historical and philosophical origins, its constitutional foundations, its basic institutions and their functions, and the ways in which citizens exercise influence on the system with special emphasis on the importance of citizen participation. This course is required for graduation from high school.

Economics S2 (paired with Civics)
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: None
Course Description
This semester long course provides an understanding of the American economic system; examines economic decision-making; compares basic features of different economic systems; and emphasizes individual participation through the understanding of scarcity, choice, cost, and the roles of labor and government.

AP World History: Modern
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description: AP World History: Modern is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university world history course. In this course, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from approximately 1200 CE to the present in the histories of civilizations in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures. While there are no prerequisites for the course, students should be able to read a college-level textbook and prepare for a rigorous schedule of reading, writing, and studying to prepare for the AP exam.

Holocaust and Human Behavior S1 (paired with World Religions)
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks.
Course Description: This course provides an opportunity for students to examine the events that led up to the Shoah, which is better known as the Holocaust, and the effects this calamity had on both the Jewish community and the world at large. Students will examine primary source documents, documentary footage and stories that were born out of the experience as a means of uncovering the lasting impact of this event on human kind.
World Religions in America S2 (paired with Holocaust & Human Behavior)

Grade Level(s): 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks.

Course Description: Experiencing religion in America is a journey through the history of world religious groups and movements as developed and shaped by the American experience. This course will consider historical, social, economic and political forces that account for all of the different religions in America. Students will endeavor to discover what it means to be religious. Students will contrast and compare religious convictions held by Americans of numerous faith or belief systems. Students will be given the opportunity to learn "hands-on" or "experientially" about the religions they study through visiting various houses of worship for religious services; holiday celebrations; pre-arranged seminars/visit; and, tours of varying sacred facilities.

CCD Psychology

Grade Level: 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Fees and Materials: $120 per semester

Course Description: College credit, with a C or above, will be awarded through CCD for this class. An introduction to the science of psychology. Broad themes include: the definition of psychology; the principle of learning and the process of thinking; the understanding of human behavior.

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.

CU Succeeds Social Studies – African American History - S1

CU Course Title – African American History

Grade Level(s): 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Fees and Materials: $250 per semester plus required CU text materials

Course Description: This course is an introduction to major themes in the history of people of African descent in the United States. We will study interpretations and analyses of problems, issues, and trends affecting African Americans along 400 years of their presence in North America.

The course incorporates literature, music, film, visual art and other cultural media as a way to more completely access both the facts and the ethos of African American history. Our intention is to ensure that students receive a well-rounded introduction to many of the principal topics and issues in African American experience. Arts and culture, religion/spirituality, family relationships, political organizing, and education are specifically explored for their role in creating a foundational impulse of “freedom seeking” in African American life and history.

The course also examines recent phenomena impacting the lives of many African Americans – such as mass incarceration, the Black Lives Matter movement and the diversity of origins among people of African descent living in the US. While some students may be familiar with the history and materials discussed in this course, for others, much of what we explore together will be new. Through lectures, discussions, films and supplementary materials, the professor attempts to provide resources and context for an understanding of the collective experience of African Americans and the ways in which that experience has deeply influenced life and culture in the US and internationally.

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.
CU Succeeds Social Studies – American Political Systems - S2

CU Course Title – American Political Systems
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $250 per semester plus required CU text materials

Course Description

Our study of American politics will be organized around an investigation into several fundamental questions about American political life. Each question poses a provocative puzzle about American politics that we will explore through lectures, readings, and active discussion. These are some of the fundamental questions facing political leaders, community activists and party strategists as they develop policy and strategy appropriate to our times, and are questions that college students of Political Science should feel confident in discussing among colleagues and family. Throughout the class, students will be expected to demonstrate engagement with these questions, which will help each student come to their own conclusion about the nature of the American experiment.

Though many of the questions deal with current affairs topics, we will use these questions and topics to address underlying theories about the nature of American politics, including such themes and theories as American Exceptionalism, Constitutional structure and Constitutional law, Social versus Civil Rights, Party History, Voter Behavior and Electoral Geography, and issues of Cultural/Political Deviance.

The most fundamental class goal is that students develop educated answers to these puzzles, deepen their humanistic understanding of their society, and build the intellectual skills to improve their community through informed analysis and civic engagement.

Courses taken at CU will appear on both your DPS and CU transcript. These credits will “transfer” to most colleges and universities in the country. They are considered “transfer” credits. It would be just like if you switched colleges between your freshmen and sophomore year. Those credits “transfer” with you. Some highly competitive schools most likely will not accept transfer credits.

You need to check on the admissions websites of the schools you are interested in attending.

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.

CU Succeed Social Studies – Art History - S1

CU Course Title – Art History Survey I
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $250 per semester plus required CU text materials

Course Description

From the earliest-known art to medieval times, this course provides an overview of Western and non-Western World Art, examining major artistic developments throughout world history. Through visual analysis, vocabulary acquisition, exploration, and discussion, students will develop skills for the understanding of art and human creativity. Art history, as a discipline of the humanities, studies visual culture as both an integral part of the human experience and as individual products of specific cultures. Because the pursuit of creative endeavor has always played a pivotal role in human nature, students will gain insight into their own lives through the work of others, though separated by thousands of years and miles.

Courses taken at CU will appear on both your DPS and CU transcript. These credits will “transfer” to most colleges and universities in the country. They are considered “transfer” credits. It would be just like if you switched colleges between your freshmen and sophomore year. Those credits “transfer” with you. Some highly competitive schools most likely will not accept transfer credits.

You need to check on the admissions websites of the schools you are interested in attending.

Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major study for non-VA majors

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.
CU Succeed Social Studies – Art History – S2

CU Course Title: Art History Survey II

Grade Level(s): 11, 12

Prerequisites: none

Fees and Materials: $250 per semester plus required CU text materials

Course Description

From the Renaissance to the present, this course examines Western and non-Western World Art, emphasizing major artists and periods. Through visual analysis, vocabulary acquisition, exploration, and class discourse, students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of historical development and a mature ability to appreciate the arts. As they become citizens of an increasingly globally-conscious society, art history intends to foster and develop a profound appreciation within students for art from around the world. By increasing their powers of observation and by deepening their knowledge of the language of art, they will become enthusiastic lifelong learners.

Courses taken at CU will appear on both your DPS and CU transcript. These credits will “transfer” to most colleges and universities in the country. They are considered “transfer” credits. It would be just like if you switched colleges between your freshmen and sophomore year. Those credits “transfer” with you. Some highly competitive schools most likely will not accept transfer credits. You need to check on the admissions websites of the schools you are interested in attending.

Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-VA majors

Double Credit: CU Succeed and CCD classes are worth 10 credits per semester – not five. In other words, by taking one year of class, you will receive 2 years of DPS credit. Nevertheless, please keep in mind that while this may take care of 2 years social studies or English credit for DPS requirements, many colleges may require 3-4 years. Please check the credit requirements for the college/universities you’re interested in attending.
FOREIGN LANGUAGE

French 1
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
French 1 focuses on the introduction to the spoken target language, learning to produce sounds and learned utterances, understanding what is heard, and the ability to use familiar speech patterns. There is emphasis on proficiency-based development of listening and speaking skills, with an introduction to reading and writing skills. Language content is related to meeting novice survival needs.

French 2
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: French I or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
French 2 focuses on the development of the spoken target language by improving the production of sounds and learned utterances, by expanding the understanding of what is heard, and by using basic but longer, more complicated speech patterns. Emphasis continues on proficiency-based development of listening and speaking skills. Irregular verbs and the past tense are introduced.

French 3
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: French 2 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
French 3 Honors continues to emphasize the development of listening and speaking proficiency. There is increased emphasis on reading and writing for communication across a variety of topics. The study of grammar is more intensive with the continued practice of irregular verbs and the addition of higher level verb structures, including compound tenses and the subjunctive.

French 4
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: French 3 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
French 4 Honors continues to heighten the development of listening and speaking skills. There is an increased emphasis on reading and writing for communication across a variety of topics. The study of grammar focuses on review and refinement of previously taught structures. There is an emphasis on French history and culture.

AP French Language and Culture
Grade Level(s): 11, 12
Prerequisites: French 3 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials. $105 for the AP test.
Course Description
The Advanced Placement French Language covers the equivalent of a third-year college course in advanced French composition and conversation. It stresses oral, listening skills, reading and writing for active conversations which may best reflect intellectual interests such as the arts, history, current events, literature, sports, and other cultural topics.

Spanish 1
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
Spanish 1 focuses on the introduction to the spoken target language, learning to produce sounds and learned utterances, understanding what is heard, and the ability to use familiar speech patterns. There is emphasis on proficiency-based development of listening and speaking skills, with an introduction to reading and writing skills.
Spanish 2
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: Spanish 1 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
Spanish 2 focuses on the development of the spoken target language by improving the production of sounds and learned utterances, by expanding the understanding of what is heard, and by using basic but longer, more complicated speech patterns. Emphasis continues on proficiency-based development of listening, speaking skills, reading and writing.

Spanish 3
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: Spanish 2 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
Spanish 3 Honors continues to emphasize the development of listening, speaking proficiency, reading and writing. The study of grammar is more intensive with the continued practice of irregular verbs and the addition of higher-level verb structures, including compound tenses and the subjunctive.

Spanish 4
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: Spanish 3 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students may be required to purchase books and supplemental materials.
Course Description
Spanish 4 Honors continues to heighten the development of listening, speaking skills, reading and writing. There is an increased emphasis on reading and writing for communication across a variety of topics. The study of grammar focuses on review and refinement of previously taught structures.

AP Spanish Language and Culture
Grade Level(s): 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: Spanish 4 or equivalent
Fees and Materials: Students purchase their own textbooks. $105 AP exam fee.
Course Description
The Advanced Placement Spanish Language covers the equivalent of a third-year college course in advanced Spanish composition and conversation. It stresses oral, listening skills, reading and writing for active conversations which may best reflect intellectual interests such as the arts, history, current events, literature, sports, and other cultural topics.
ELECTIVES
both academic and arts

**Dance (Christina Kaplan)**
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: n/a
Course Description
This class is meant for non-dance majors. This is a great class for students interested in dance!!!! In this class students will learn many different types of dance forms. Both beginning dancers and students are proficient at dance.

*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-dance majors*

**Photography (Higgins)**
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: $30 and camera with phone or a digital camera
Course Description
*This is a one semester only class*
Students in Photography will develop and expand their skills in producing both artistic and commercial photographs using digital cameras and equipment. Students learn to take artistic digital photos following rules of composition, light, exposure, elements of art and principles of design which also enhances their ability to produce quality commercial work. Adapting and updating student’s skill set to the ever changing software and hardware technology is a constant goal of the photography course.

**CTE Sewing (Kirksey)**
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: None
Fees and Materials: $50
Course Description
Students will learn about the foundational aspects of sewing and learn to apply those skills to the creation of soft sculpture, costuming, garment construction and accessories. What we will cover: The sewing machine, safety, hand stitches, measuring for proper sizing, applying math to practical sewing situations, buttons, zippers, accessories, garment/costume construction.

*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-stagecraft majors*

**Digital Design (Cliff)**
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $15
Course Description
This semester course offers a basic introduction to the appreciation of visual art and the creation of 2D art works. Studio emphasis is on basic drawing and painting skills enabling students from various majors to understand and appreciate how visual art is created and can be understood. A hardbound sketchbook, tools, and all consumable materials are provided with payment of fee. This class is not appropriate for VA majors

*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-VA majors*

**Art Craft (Loftus)**
Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Prerequisites: none
Fees and Materials: $25
Course Description
This is a foundations course for the DSA non-visual arts major. In this class, students will explore a variety of mediums and approaches to the creation of visual art. The course will include, but is not limited to drawing, painting, sculpture, and mixed media.

*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-VA majors*
**Keyboarding Skills** (piano – Alpaugh)

**Grade Level(s):** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** No prerequisites, may be repeated for credit  
**Fees and Materials:** $30  
**Course Description:**  
*This is a one semester only class*  
The Piano Skills class is designed to accommodate students at any skill level. Beginners will learn basic piano techniques and music reading. More advanced students will work at their own pace using materials provided by the teacher. Students with private teachers will be given guided practice to assist the student's private teacher. Not appropriate for piano majors.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-piano majors*

**Yearbook** (McGrath)

**Grade Level(s):** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** application with Mrs. McGrath  
**Fees and Materials:** none  
**Course Description:**  
*This is a year long commitment*  
The DSA Yearbook has a long-standing tradition of creative excellence. The class is comprised of a student-led editorial staff that develops a concept, designs, photographs, writes and produces every aspect of the DSA Yearbook and Spring Insert.

**DSA Vocal Jazz Ensemble** (Dr. Garrison)

**Grade Level(s):** 8-12  
**Prerequisites:** No students on arts probation may audition  
**Fees and Materials:** $150 for uniform  
**Course Description:**  
The Denver School of the Arts Vocal Jazz Ensemble (VJE) is an elite performance group comprised of multiple majors. VJE is an audition only, curricular group that focuses on solo and choral jazz as well as contemporary a cappella utilizing vocal percussion and original harmonizations. Vocal improvisation, small group arranging and music literacy training is incorporated into weekly rehearsals. VJE is regularly featured at the DSA POPS Show, Mercury Cafe, Dazzle and other venues in the Denver region. Auditions will be held in April.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-vocal majors*

**Show Choir (Chamber Ensemble/Vocal)** (Quigley)

**Grade Level(s):** 8-12  
**Prerequisites:** No students on arts probation may audition  
**Fees and Materials:** uniform  
**Course Description:**  
The emphasis of this class is to build the skills of choral singing and show choir dancing and choreography: posture, proper breathing, and breath control, basic vocal pedagogy, diction, phrasing, tone color, dynamics, part singing, musical performance techniques, ballet, jazz, hip hop, ballroom, modern, partner dancing, and musical theater. Students’ study will focus on areas of music education and dance according to Colorado state standards and national music education standards, the areas students will study include: expression of music, creation of music, theory of music and aesthetic valuation of music, as well as choreography, creation and performance of dance. Most of these skills will be accomplished through singing, dancing, and studying a variety of selections of choral music through show choir style with dancing. Basic dance and musical theater skills as well as sight singing, music theory, and aural theory skills will also be studied through various activities and written work.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-vocal majors*

**Full Orchestra – strings and winds** (Lasansky and Hammond)

**Grade Level(s):** 8-12  
**Prerequisites:** No students on arts probation may audition  
**Fees and Materials:** uniform  
**Course Description:**  
Full Orchestra is a year long course that provides students with opportunity to study and perform the great works of the orchestral repertoire from Vivaldi to living composers. The course will focus on performing pieces that are likely to appear in college and professional auditions. Students will also receive training on how to prepare for auditions. The course is open to all string, wind, percussion and piano players with the permission of Dr. Lasansky and Mr. Hammond.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-music majors*
**DSA Chamber Music** (Lasansky)

**Grade Level(s):** 8-12  
**Prerequisites:** Open to all majors with musical proficiency  
**Fees and Materials:** Voluntary contribution to fund “Master Mentors” (chamber music coaches)  
**Course Description:**  
This class is open to all majors. Band and Orchestra students do not need to audition. If you are in another major, please speak with Dr. Lasansky to set up an audition time. This course allows students to form small groups and choose from the vast chamber music literature for performance opportunities at DSA and community venues. The ability to play in a group where each instrument or voice has an independent part is an important experience for anyone who plans to continue the study of music after graduation. Students will receive regular coaching from professional musicians in the Denver area.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-music majors*

**DSAM Jazz Workshop** (Hammond)

**Grade Level(s):** 8-12  
**Prerequisites:** Familiarity with the jazz idiom.  
**Fees and Materials:** None  
**Course Description:**  
The purpose of this class is to provide a forum and venue to those who love making music and continued growth on a foundation of jazz knowledge. The Jazz Workshop Orchestra (JWO) is split into 2 big bands; one intermediate and one advanced. Work on improvisation, jazz arrangements, jazz technique and sound is worked upon. Participants of the Jazz Workshop Orchestra may be asked to travel as part of a tour or competition. It is understood that the students give this ensemble priority in their personal schedules. Participants of the Jazz Workshop Orchestra may be asked to teach other less experienced students within the program and outside the school. Participation in all performances is mandatory and an essential culmination of instruction. Please make all DSA Band rehearsals, activities, trips and performances a priority in your schedule.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-music majors*

**AP Music Theory** (Serianni)

**Grade Level(s):** 11,12  
**Prerequisites:** music reading experience  
**Fees and Materials:** $105 AP exam fee  
**Course Description:**  
In this course, students will explore the following topics: ear-training and sight-singing, philosophy and aesthetics of music, chord construction and chord progression analysis, score analysis and music composition and arranging.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-music majors*

**DSA Calliope** (Kaplan/Kohzadi)

**Grade Level(s):** 9-12  
**Prerequisites:** None. Students may repeat course year to year. **Please note:** For those who have not taken the class before, instructor permission is needed before signing up for the class  
**Fees and Materials:** $25 course fee (technology, printing/paper)  
**Course Description:**  
This is a year long class. This class is dedicated to producing Calliope, the award-winning DSA literary magazine. First semester is dedicated to learning the basic principals of layout design, promoting and organizing the submissions process. Second semester is dedicated to laying out the magazine, generating advance sales, and promoting the magazine to the public.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-creative writing majors*

**Music Composition** (Serianni)

**Grade Level(s):** 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** basic music reading knowledge  
**Fees and Materials:** $20 music composition text  
**Course Description:**  
Students will engage in structured projects in musical composition using specific compositional techniques. Students will establish a solid basis of ability using historical and contemporary composition techniques. Students will apply those techniques and ideas to the development of a personal methodology of composition and establish a focused pattern of experimentation.  
*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-music majors*
**CTE Audio Engineering (Howard)**

**Grade Level(s):** 10, 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** none  
**Fees and Materials:** $50

**Course Description**
This class offers Concurrent Enrollment credit with Community College of Denver (3 credits per semester). The class is designed to give students a basic understanding of the audio recording and production process. Students will learn about the use of microphones, digital/analog audio equipment, recording and mixing techniques.

*Will count for DSA Honors out-of-major-study for non-stagecraft majors*

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**MAJOR CLASSES**

Major class information is not listed in this guide. For information specific to a major, please look on that major’s website.