

# **The Founders Academy Program of Studies**



**Academic Year  
2022 - 2023**

(Last updated - 5/12/22)

## **High School Graduation Requirements**

### **(Class of 2021 and later)**

As of 5/12/22

- ☐ **English (4 credits)**
  - ☐ [HS Composition](#) (0.5 credits)
  - ☐ [Rhetoric](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ American Literature [IIA](#) & [IIB](#) (1) \_\_\_\_A \_\_\_\_B
  - ☐ Modern World Lit. [A](#) & [B](#) (1) \_\_\_\_A \_\_\_\_B
  - ☐ English Electives (which can include Honors Amer Lit I) (1)
- ☐ **History (5 credits)**
  - ☐ [US History I](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Civics and Leadership](#) (1)
  - ☐ US History [II-A](#) & [II-B](#) (1) \_\_\_\_A \_\_\_\_B
  - ☐ Modern World History [A](#) & [B](#) (1) \_\_\_\_A \_\_\_\_B
  - ☐ History Electives (1)
- ☐ **Math/Science (7 credits)**
  - ☐ [Algebra I](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Geometry](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Alg II](#) **OR** Alg II/Trig **OR** [Probability and Statistics](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Integrated Physical Science](#) (1)
  - ☐ [Biology](#) (1)
  - ☐ Science Electives (1)
  - ☐ Math/Science Electives (1)
- ☐ **Fine Arts (1 credit)**
  - ☐ Band [2](#), [3](#), or [4](#) **OR** Chorus [2](#), [3](#), or [4](#) **OR** [Art I](#) + either [Art II](#) or [Ceramics I](#) **OR** [HS Theatre](#)
- ☐ **Technology/Business (3 credits)**
  - ☐ [Tech I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Economics](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Ethics](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [Personal Finance I](#) (0.5) **OR** [Accounting/Entrepreneurship](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ Technology/Business Electives (1)
- ☐ **World Language (2 credits)**
  - ☐ [French I](#) **OR** [Found. of French 2](#) **OR** [Spanish I](#) **OR** [Found. of Spanish 2](#) **OR** other HS-level course
  - ☐ [French II](#) **OR** [Spanish II](#) **OR** other HS-level course (must be same language as previous course)
- ☐ **PE/Health (1.5 credits)**
  - ☐ [HS Health](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [PE I](#) (0.5)
  - ☐ [PE II](#) (0.5)

☐ Senior Project (0.5 credits)

☐ Other Electives (2 credits)

**26 TOTAL CREDITS**

## Sample Schedules

This is to provide examples of typical schedules for each grade level. There will likely be variation in an individual student's schedule based on a student's initial placement, course selections, achievement of Course Mastery, and - in the case of high school students - credits earned at other schools. Students who do not make Mastery in a course will have to repeat that course, but it will likely not affect level advancement in other courses (unless there is a scheduling issue).

Unless otherwise noted, courses are for 5 blocks per week and last for the full year.

	<u><b>Grade 6</b></u>	<u><b>Grade 7</b></u>	<u><b>Grade 8</b></u>
<b>Round Table</b>	6th Grade Round Table	7th Grade Round Table	8th Grade Round Table
<b>English</b>	<a href="#">Ancient Literature</a> ; English Skills 6 (1 block)	<a href="#">European Literature</a> (½ year); <a href="#">Logic</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">American Literature I</a>
<b>History</b>	<a href="#">Ancient Cultures</a> ; Geography (2 blocks) (½ year)	<a href="#">Western Civilization</a>	<a href="#">U.S. History I</a>
<b>Math</b>	<a href="#">Math 1</a> ; Math Skills (1 block)	<a href="#">Math 2</a>	<a href="#">Math 3</a>
<b>Science</b>	<a href="#">Science 1</a> ; Science Skills/Health (2 blocks) (½ year)	<a href="#">Science 2</a>	<a href="#">Science 3</a>
<b>Art</b>	<a href="#">Art 6</a> (2 blocks)	<a href="#">Art 7</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">Art 8</a> (½ year)
<b>Music</b>	<a href="#">Band 1</a> (3 blocks) OR <a href="#">Chorus 1</a> (3 blocks) OR <a href="#">Band 1</a> and <a href="#">Chorus 1</a> (5 blocks)	<a href="#">Band 2</a> OR <a href="#">Chorus 2</a> OR Band and Chorus (5-7 blocks)	Band <a href="#">2</a> or <a href="#">3</a> OR Chorus <a href="#">2</a> or <a href="#">3</a> OR Band and Chorus (5-7 blocks)
<b>Tech/ Business</b>	6th Grade Computers (3 blocks)	<a href="#">MSCS (½ year)</a>	<a href="#">MSCS (½ year)</a>
<b>World Language</b>	NONE	<a href="#">Foundations of French 1</a> OR <a href="#">Foundations of Spanish 1</a>	<a href="#">Foundations of French 2</a> OR <a href="#">Foundations of Spanish 2</a>
<b>Other</b>	PE 6 (2 blocks)	NONE	NONE

	<b><u>Grade 9</u></b>	<b><u>Grade 10</u></b>	<b><u>Grade 11</u></b>	<b><u>Grade 12</u></b>
<b>Round Table</b>	9th Grade Round Table	10th Grade Round Table	11th Grade Round Table	12th Grade Round Table
<b>English</b>	<a href="#">HS Composition</a> (½ year); <a href="#">Rhetoric</a> (½ year)	American Literature <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a> OR Modern World Literature - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a>	Modern World Literature - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a> OR American Literature <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a>	English Electives
<b>History</b>	<a href="#">Civics and Leadership</a>	U.S. History <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a> OR Modern World History - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a>	Modern World History - <a href="#">A</a> & <a href="#">B</a> OR U.S. History <a href="#">II-A</a> & <a href="#">II-B</a>	History Electives
<b>Math</b>	<a href="#">Algebra I</a>	<a href="#">Geometry</a>	<a href="#">Algebra II</a> OR Algebra II/Trig OR <a href="#">Probability and Statistics</a>	Math/Science Electives
<b>Science</b>	<a href="#">Integrated Physical Sci.</a>	<a href="#">Biology</a>	Science Elective (Most students take Chemistry)	
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<a href="#">Band 2, 3, or 4</a> AND/OR <a href="#">Chorus 2, 3, or 4</a> AND/OR <a href="#">Art I</a> + <a href="#">Art II</a> (or <a href="#">Ceramics I</a> )	Fine Arts Electives (Optional)	Fine Arts Electives (Optional)	Fine Arts Electives (Optional)
<b>Tech/ Business</b>	<a href="#">Tech I</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">Personal Finance I</a> (½ year) AND/OR <a href="#">Accounting/Entrepr.</a> (½ year)	<a href="#">Economics</a> (½ year) <a href="#">Ethics</a> (½ year)	Business or Tech Electives
<b>World Language</b>	French <a href="#">I</a> or <a href="#">II</a> OR Spanish <a href="#">I</a> or <a href="#">II</a> OR <a href="#">Latin I</a> (VLACS)	French <a href="#">II</a> or <a href="#">III</a> OR Spanish <a href="#">II</a> or <a href="#">III</a> OR <a href="#">Latin II</a> (VLACS)	Advanced Lang. (Optional)	Advanced Lang. (Optional)
<b>Other</b>			<a href="#">HS Health</a> (if not completed through VLACS)	Senior Project; <a href="#">PE I</a> and <a href="#">PE II</a> (if not completed through alternate means);

## **Important Notes for High School Students**

### **Overall**

- Students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of 4 “full-time” classes (20 total blocks in a 5-day week) at The Founders Academy per semester. Round Table, Study Halls, Lunch, Senior Project and courses not taken directly through The Founders Academy (such as VLACS courses or non-dual credit college classes) do NOT count towards this total. In the event that a student has signed up for fewer than 4 classes, they will be administratively placed in enough courses to reach that minimum. In rare situations, students with extenuating circumstances may be given permission to take fewer than the 4-class minimum, but only after meeting with the Founders Academy administration and developing a specific plan for graduation.
- Colleges and organizations that offer scholarships pay attention to a student’s courseload. It is highly recommended that students sign up for at least 6 classes per semester - especially if they plan to go to college.
- Credits earned from classes can only be used to satisfy one graduation requirement.
- As required by the New Hampshire Board of Education, all high school students at The Founders Academy must take at least one Language Arts-experience course and one Mathematics-experience course each year during their 4-year high school career.
  - For Language Arts, all English and History courses at The Founders Academy satisfy this requirement.
  - For Mathematics, all Math, Science, Business, and Technology courses at The Founders Academy satisfy this requirement.
- For Seniors looking to take VLACS classes to satisfy their Graduation requirements, there are certain deadlines that they need to be aware of.
  - If a Senior is taking a 0.5 credit VLACS course, it must be completed by the end of the 1st semester of their Senior year.
  - If a Senior is taking a 1.0 credit (or higher) VLACS course, the course must be at least 50% completed by the first day of school in September and the course must be completed by the end of the 1st semester of their Senior year.
  - If the Senior is taking a VLACS course for their own interests and not to fulfill a missing graduation requirement, then the deadline for completing the course is the day of graduation.

**English** - Once a student has achieved Mastery for High School Composition, they are eligible to take American Literature II and Modern World Literature. These 2 courses are broken up into semester-long classes ("A" and "B") - which all must be completed for graduation. Most students will complete these courses using the following sequence:

- 1.) American Lit II-A (Fall)
- 2.) American Lit II-B (Spring)
- 3.) Modern World Lit A (Fall)
- 4.) Modern World Lit B (Spring)

However, because each semester is a self-contained unit, **this sequence is not required**. Students may take these courses in any order - including completing section "B" of a course before section "A" if necessary. These variations could be necessary due to a number of reasons - including scheduling conflicts or a student failing to pass an "A" section of one of the courses. Note that while a grade of a "C-" will allow a student to receive credit (but not automatic Mastery) for each of the semesters, Mastery in both the "A" and "B" sections of a course may be required in order to be eligible for certain electives - so it is highly recommended to complete the Mastery process for every course.

**History** - In addition to the requirement of one full credit of a History/Social Science elective, there are 4 specific courses that are required for graduation. Like the English classes above, two of the courses are broken up into "A" and "B" sections. The four required courses are typically taken in the following order:

- 1.) US History I
- 2.) Civics and Leadership
- 3.) US History II-A (Fall) and US History II-B (Spring)
- 4.) Modern World History A (Fall) and Modern World History B (Spring)

While US History II (both "A" & "B") does have the prerequisite of Mastery in US History I, both "Civics and Leadership" and Modern World History can be taken by high school students at the same time as US History I, so **students do not have to follow the "typical" sequence**. In addition, students may complete section "B" of a course before section "A" in US History II or Modern World History if necessary. This could be necessary due to a number of reasons - including scheduling conflicts or a student failing to pass an "A" section of one of the courses. Note that while a grade of a "C-" will allow a student to receive credit (but not automatic Mastery) for each of the semesters in US History II or Modern World History, Mastery in both the "A" and "B" sections of a course may be required in order to be eligible for certain electives - so it is highly recommended to complete the Mastery process for every course. Because these topics are core topics in our school's mission, **Mastery is required for graduation in both US History I and "Civics and Leadership"**.

**Math** - Students are required for graduation to reach Mastery in both Algebra I and Geometry. For their 3rd required Math course, students can choose between Algebra II and/or "Probability and Statistics". **Note - For those students interested in attending a 4-year college/university, it is highly recommended that they take Algebra II.**

**Science** - While most students will take Integrated Physical Science before taking Biology, it is possible to take Biology first as long as the student is currently enrolled (or has already passed) Algebra I. This is usually done for scheduling reasons. **Note - For those students interested in attending a 4-year college/university, it is also highly recommended that they take at least one of the following combinations for their 3rd Science credit:**

- 1.) Chemistry A and Chemistry B; OR
- 2.) Chemistry A and Physics A; OR
- 3.) Physics A and Physics B

**World Language** - Students are required for graduation to complete two high school credits in a single language. This means successful completion of Spanish II, French II, or the equivalent in a different language. These courses can be completed at The Founders Academy or at another institution (such as VLACS) with prior approval from The Founders Academy Scheduling Committee. **Note - For those students interested in attending a 4-year college/university, it is highly recommended that they complete a third credit in a single language - such as Spanish III or French III.** In the event that those courses are not offered at The Founders Academy (or it does not fit in a student's schedule), it is suggested that the student explore taking that course on VLACS.

**Health/Physical Education** -

- At The Founders Academy, HS Health has a prerequisite of Biology - which means that it will be typically limited to Juniors and Seniors. If a student would like to complete this graduation requirement earlier (or would like to take it during a summer to free up more room for desired electives), it is recommended to submit an Alternative Credit Form to Student Services for approval to take "Life Management Skills" through VLACS.
- Space in Physical Education classes at Founders are limited and priority is given to Seniors and Juniors. It is recommended that students look into the Alternative Credit PE option to see if it is something that they can complete earlier.
- Physical Education credits can only be used for the Physical Education Graduation requirement. They cannot be used to satisfy any other elective requirements.



# Course Catalogue 2022-2023

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## **English**

### **Ancient Literature (English 1)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - None

**Description** - This course focuses on the culture, values, and literature of the ancient world. Students will read, analyze, and discuss classic works of literature. They will demonstrate an understanding of ancient cultures and the way in which they relate to each other. Their reading, speaking, and writing skills will be strengthened through essays and presentations.

Students will also explore various genres of literature, including poetry, drama, myth, and the short story.

### **European Literature (English 2)**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Ancient Literature or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Matching with the History 2 curriculum, this course introduces students to the literature and great ideas of European civilization. Readings will be selected from a wide range of genres, including poetry, primary source texts, legends, and historical fiction. Core texts include *Beowulf*, *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* by Howard Pyle, *The Arabian Nights*, and *Redwall* by Brian Jacques. To improve their writing skills, students will frequently write, revise, and edit short essay assignments. Vibrant classroom discussions will provide students with ample opportunities to improve their speaking skills.

### **Logic**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - English 1 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - In this course, students will explore logic and the art of argument. They will learn to reason with clarity, relevance, and purpose. Through a study and analysis of ethos, pathos, and logos, students will be able to see how rhetorical appeals play an important part in the construction of an argument. Studying logical fallacies will provide an essential framework for filtering good and bad reasoning as well as writing and speaking effectively.

## **American Literature I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - English 2 AND Logic or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Society grapples with its deepest controversies through literature, and it is through the study of literature that we can begin to understand the unique mindset of a culture. In America's earliest years writers were working to define what it meant to be American, alongside political figures and philosophers. The literature of this time period, from the early gothic literature of authors such as Charles Brockden Brown, Poe, and Hawthorne through to the transcendentalists reveal the difficulties in shaping and defining a new nation. We trace the path of the founding principle of liberty through its origins in the philosophy that influenced the framers of our constitution, its evolution as colonialism gave way to revolution, and its position at the center of the issues that divided the nation between north and south, leading up to the Civil War.

## **High School Composition**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I or American Literature Honors or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This course will prepare students for high school writing. Students will engage with the writing process through a series of writing assignments designed to teach the importance of revision, the value of clarity, and the critical elements of editing and style. Students will be exposed to a number of genres and will write a full-length research paper on an issue/topic of their choice.

## **Rhetoric**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I or American Literature Honors or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - In this course, students will explore rhetoric found both in great speeches and in great writing. With Aristotle's Rhetoric providing a foundation for the course, students will study the three rhetorical appeals: ethos, pathos, and logos. They will also examine and practice the five canons of rhetoric: invention, organization, style, memory, and delivery, through a study of the genres of rhetoric.

### **American Literature II-A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - In this course students will study American literature from the period of time involving the Civil War up through contemporary writings. Students will read about the American experience from the writings of authors such as Mark Twain and Harper Lee. They will read, analyze, and discuss these important works of literature which follow their history studies. Students will also explore various genres of literature, including poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel.

### **American Literature II-B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - This is a continuation of American Literature II-A. In this course students will study American literature from the period of time involving the Civil War up through contemporary writings. Students will read about the American experience from the writings of authors such as Mark Twain and Harper Lee. They will read, analyze, and discuss these important works of literature which follow their history studies. Students will also explore various genres of literature, including poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel.

### **Modern World Literature - A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - This course will study world literature from the Renaissance to Contemporary times. In this course, students will sample different genres of literature that make clear the wide range of cultural ideas, historical events, and other contexts that have helped to shape the issues and ideas that we encounter today. Through a variety of readings, writing projects, and other verbal and oral activities, students will have the opportunity to apply the insights and lessons from the world's most noteworthy authors to their own journeys. In this semester, students will focus their readings and conversations on works and events ranging from the Renaissance to the Revolutions in the early 1800s.



## **Modern World Literature - B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies English Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - High School Composition

**Description** - This is a continuation of World Literature A. This course will study world literature from the Renaissance to Contemporary times. In this course, students will sample different genres of literature that make clear the wide range of cultural ideas, historical events, and other contexts that have helped to shape the issues and ideas that we encounter today. Through a variety of readings, writing projects, and other verbal and oral activities, students will have the opportunity to apply the insights and lessons from the world's most noteworthy authors to their own journeys. In this semester, students will focus their readings and conversations on works and events ranging from the mid-1800s to Contemporary times.

## **Heroes, Villains, and Monsters - the LONG Literary History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - Many are very aware of Iron Man's heroic sacrifice in Endgame and Frodo's destruction of the One Ring, or know of the Sanderson Sisters and their escapades in Hocus Pocus (and they return in Hocus Pocus 2 this year!) and Prince Hans's betrayal in Frozen, or have had to figure out who the Imposters are in Among Us and flee from the Basilisk in Harry Potter, but where do these stories of heroes, villains, and monsters come from? Why do we flock to the theater to see these characters in action? Or continue to buy comic books that chronicle their adventures and mis-adventures? In what ways do these stories and characters communicate our cultural anxieties and values? In this course, we will explore some of the origins of these iconic character types, as well as question why we get so invested in the stories of heroic triumphs, the origins of our favorite villains, and the weaknesses of the most terrifying monsters. We'll consider these questions and more as we carefully and critically examine a sampling of history's greatest hits of Heroes, Villains, and Monsters, ending with a student-driven final project exploring the effects of these stories on today's society. This course will take students through the great archetypal characters and plots that have framed much of literary imagination throughout history, using multiple lenses to understand authors' goals, these stories' effects on their target readers, and the ways they frame our modern understanding of heroism, virtue, and the values that have shaped our society from a historical and cultural perspective. We will investigate how the representations of these encounters between heroes and monsters, heroes and villains, and monsters and villains—in their various generic forms and historical contexts—engage notions of the self, the community, and, eventually, the nation. This course will be discussion-based, and will task students with critical reading, Socratic discussion, as well as analytical and research-based writing projects to inform their insights and conclusions.

## **Writing Practicum**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition and Permission of Instructor

**Description** - This course would consist of a group of students who have done very well in their writing courses at Founders and would like to help other students at school succeed, too. In the first 8 weeks, students will learn about tutoring, tutoring theory, how to provide feedback, and how to have writing conferences/tutoring sessions with their peers. From there, the class will do some outreach at the school and let the student body know we exist. Then, we spend class time offering tutoring sessions during our class time block. Students in the class could get hands-on experience tutoring their peers at Founders. This could help them if they wanted to be a teacher in the future, or help showcase their leadership skills for the workforce. We will write reflection papers on each conference and talk about how to grow our skills.

## **Intro to College Writing**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course will go over the basic conventions that are typically taught in an Introductory Composition course at the university level. We will go over concepts of the rhetorical triangle and the rhetorical context while exploring logical fallacies to understand how arguments are created and deconstructed. We will be introduced to conducting scholarly research and understand what it means to use proper citation and provide examples within our writing. We will also look at examples of writing assignments that we might encounter at a university to practice this genre of writing. Students should take this course if they are interested in attending college upon graduation.

***With rare exceptions, students should be a Junior or Senior when taking this course so that they can receive college credit.***

## **Creative Writing**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible; Must have passed Intro to College Writing with college credit for Dual Credit option in this class***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course will cover the elements of craft typically found in creative writing. This includes things like tone, style, dialogue, character development, setting, detail, description, etc. (These skills are really important for other aspects of writing like arguments and analysis as well). In addition to learning these elements of craft, we will try these out on our own through writing our own stories. This class will be hands-on as we will have workshops where we are reading each other's work and learning how to give constructive feedback. Creative Writing is an opportunity for students to write creatively about their experiences, share those experiences with others, and learn how to talk about themselves in more informed ways.

***Students need to be a Junior or Senior when taking this course if they want to receive college credit.***

## **Utopian and Dystopian Literature**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course examines literature's fascination with the end of the world. Great writers such as Ray Bradbury, Ursula La Guin, Lois Lowry, George Orwell and others create future worlds where humanity's worst nightmares have become reality, often in the guise of something that was supposed to be a utopia. Students will learn about the history and philosophy around utopian and dystopian thinking and how our ideas about a perfect society are expressed in Utopian and Dystopian fiction.

## **The Young Adult Novel**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course provides a critical survey of all types and genres of contemporary young adult literature. It focuses on issues relating to selection, culture, gender, diversity, and response to an analysis of literature in both print and non-print forms. The primary responsibility is to ensure that you leave this class with a sound knowledge of the varied field of young adult literature. You will be held accountable in small- and large- group discussions to contribute your ideas. Individual projects, readings, and writings will also be required as major assignments/activities.

## **Public Speech and Debate**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Rhetoric

**Description** - This class will provide students the opportunity to hone their public speaking skills and apply them in various genre specific contexts. Whereas Rhetoric had them produce a single extensive proposal, Topics in Rhetoric will have them present on a variety of subjects that include: various formal debate styles, informative presentations, eulogies, after-dinner speeches, improvised speeches, and public addresses. This course builds on the skills developed in Rhetoric while also showing students how to refine and craft what they have learned to fit the wide-ranging contexts of public speaking they may find themselves in.

## **Graphic Novel Writing**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course teaches students to delve into the medium of graphic novel creation. They will study the conventions of the genre, and become proficient at recognizing the elements that compose a visual page. They will study great works from various cultures and nations, including Greek, Japanese, and American publications. Students will also read Making Comics by Scot McCloud, where they will learn to create a cohesive graphic novel publication of their own--from making concepts, to storyboarding, editing, penciling, inking, polishing, to publication. Students will understand that the writing process applies to more works beyond traditional texts, and that visual texts provide another way to learn from and communicate with society.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Journalism**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - The Journalism class will look at the basics of reporting for a variety of mediums. It will teach students the unique style of journalistic writings, and it will provide students with the opportunity to explore a variety of styles. The class would cover writing skills, interview skills, and research skills. We would also look at how this type of writing translates to a variety of mediums: print, broadcast, radio, and online.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Shakespeare**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - Four-hundred years after his death, William Shakespeare remains the central author of the English-speaking world. If you have ever gone on a "wild-goose chase," had to "break the ice," experienced "too much of a good thing," been "tongue-tied," "hoodwinked," or "in a pickle," you are quoting Shakespeare. Why does he remain a widely discussed, produced, and quoted author? Why did audiences flock to performances in his time? What meaning can we find in his plays for modern audiences today? We'll consider these questions as we carefully examine a sampling of Shakespeare's plays from critical perspectives. In addition to discussions, we will also act out scenes from the plays as well as view live performances as we are able. Learning activities include scene-writing, group acting exercises, and writing pop song sonnets.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Classical Mythology**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course explores the beliefs, cultures, and history of Greek and Roman culture. Students will interpret myths for their historical importance and analyze various motifs, symbols, and themes in myth. Learning projects include: researching myths from other cultures, acting exercises, and group re-enactments. By the end of this course students will be able to decide if they would like to take the national Medusa Mythology Exam.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **World Mythology**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy English Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course explores the beliefs, cultures, and history of cultures from around the world. Students will interpret myths for their historical importance and analyze various motifs, symbols, and themes in myth. Possible topics include the mythologies of: the Middle East, the Far East, the Pacific Islands, Northern Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Learning activities include: individual research projects, acting exercises, and group re-enactments.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **American Literature I Honors - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th Grade (or Amer Lit I); Satisfies English Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - English 2 or Initial Placement Exam and Permission of Instructors

**Description** - Society grapples with its deepest controversies through literature, and it is through the study of literature that we can begin to understand the unique mindset of a culture. In America's earliest years writers were working to define what it meant to be American, alongside political figures and philosophers. The literature of this time period, from the early gothic literature of Charles Brockden Brown, Poe, and Hawthorne through to the transcendentalists reveals the difficulties in shaping and defining a new nation. We trace the path of the founding principle of liberty through its origins in the philosophy that influenced the framers of our constitution, its evolution as colonialism gave way to revolution, and its position at the center of the issues that divided the nation between north and south, leading up to the Civil War.

***The Honors version of American Literature I is no longer offered as of the 2019-2020 school year.***

## **History/Social Studies**

### **Ancient Cultures (History 1)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - None

**Description** - This course is the study of ancient civilization that begins with in-depth looks into the ancient river-valley civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India and China. It continues with an exploration of the classical history of Greece and the foundations of Rome and their legacies on the modern world, which sets the stage for Level 2. The course highlights the themes of the components of a civilization, the impact of geography, and the developments in complexities that allowed for civilizations like Ancient Greece and Rome to flourish. Students will be challenged to make informed connections between the civilizations studied and our modern world today. Students will develop refined skills in critical thinking, historical analysis, and fact-based writing that will serve as building blocks to their future as students and as informed citizens. This course places emphasis on developing the skills that are necessary and expected to be successful in subsequent history courses.

### **Western Civilization (History 2)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Ancient Cultures or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This course studies the development of Western Civilization after the rise of Ancient Greece. Students will examine the development of laws and government while making connections with European Civilization and the creation of American thought and philosophy. Students will examine the relationship in achieving balance between interests of church and state. With a focus on leadership, the course will examine the lives of historic individuals, analyzing their impact on culture and community. Special consideration will be given to tracing the development of the philosophy of liberty, the influences on enlightenment thought, and how those influences affected the philosophies, writings, and actions of the founding fathers of the United States. With a focus on the development of political thought and governmental structure as it progressed from the Roman Empire to the Enlightenment, students will be challenged to view the different governments and political ideals examined through the lens of their influence on the creation of the United States and its founding documents. Special emphasis will be given to the political struggles of the Middle Ages, the lives of peasants and nobility in Europe under the feudal system, and the changes in philosophy that ultimately popularized the ideas of liberty, individualism, and the relationship between citizens and their government.

## **US History I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 8th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Western Civilization or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This history course will analyze the creation of the English colonies in America, the founding of the United States, and the development and expansion of the United States before the Civil War. The course will focus on particular primary source documents, people, and events for in-depth analysis. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and research through this analysis. The course will be divided into four units, with particular themes as the focus of each unit.

## **Civics & Leadership**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I (can be taken at the same time)

**Description** - The Founders Academy prepares wise, principled leaders by offering a classical education and providing a wide array of opportunities to lead. One of the main components of this vision involves preparing students to be productive citizens. This comprehensive course examines our system of government on the national, state, county, and local levels. Students are required to comprehend and analyze constitutional concepts and the workings of government. The course also focuses on contemporary national and international politics, including New Hampshire's political impact. This is a writing intensive course which incorporates critical thinking and problem solving. At the conclusion of the course, students are required to demonstrate Mastery on the United States Citizenship Exam.

## **US History II-A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Description** - This history course will analyze Reconstruction after the Civil War, Industrialization, World War I, The Great Depression, World War II, The Cold War, Economic and Social Change and Contemporary Society in Post-9/11 America. The course will focus on particular primary source documents, people, and events for in depth analysis. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and research through this analysis. The course will be divided into five units, with particular themes as the focus of each unit.



## **US History II-B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Description** - This is a continuation of US History II-A. This history course will analyze Reconstruction after the Civil War, Industrialization, World War I, The Great Depression, World War II, The Cold War, Economic and Social Change and Contemporary Society in Post-9/11 America. The course will focus on particular primary source documents, people, and events for in depth analysis. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and research through this analysis. The course will be divided into five units, with particular themes as the focus of each unit.

## **Modern World History - A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Corequisites** - US History I (can be taken at the same time)

**Description** - This history class is a course that covers from 1500 A.D. - Present. The course will analyze events from the European Renaissance through the Collapse of the Soviet Union. The focus will be on the emergence of individualism in European thought, how scientific and geographic exploration influenced the globe, how colonization altered world economies, and how the European Enlightenment influenced politics and society in the Western Hemisphere. The course will also analyze how the ideas of Nationalism, Imperialism, as well as the event of the Industrial Revolution impacted the 19th and 20th centuries. The course will conclude with how global conflicts of the early twentieth century led to the Cold War and our contemporary setting.

## **Modern World History - B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Satisfies History Graduation Requirement***

**Corequisites** - US History I (can be taken at the same time)

**Description** - This is a continuation of US History II-A. This history class is a course that covers from 1500 A.D. - Present. The course will analyze events from the European Renaissance through the Collapse of the Soviet Union. The focus will be on the emergence of individualism in European thought, how scientific and geographic exploration influenced the globe, how colonization altered world economies, and how the European Enlightenment influenced politics and society in the Western Hemisphere. The course will also analyze how the ideas of Nationalism, Imperialism, as well as the event of the Industrial Revolution impacted the 19th and 20th centuries. The course will conclude with how global conflicts of the early twentieth century led to the Cold War and our contemporary setting.

## **Roman Revolution**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I; Civics and Leadership

**Description** - This course covers the period of Roman history from its founding until its collapse. In the first quarter, students examine how a healthy republican government with strong checks and balances and social mores collapsed. In the second quarter, students study how the Julio-Claudians succeeded in establishing an authoritarian monarchy when earlier men had tried and failed. Students will then accelerate to the period of decline and collapse in the third, fourth, and fifth centuries. These cautionary stories inspired the Founding Fathers as they wrote our Constitution; students today who want to lead well would do well to study Cicero, Cato, Caesar, and Caligula. Students will read the primary sources for this era by Plutarch, Suetonius, Cicero, Caesar, Cassius Dio, Appian, and Sallust. Students will evaluate and debate different interpretations by scholars on the causes of the Roman Revolution. Students will also study Roman oratory, literature, art, and philosophy.

## **American History Through Film**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - This course will move from the Revolutionary Era up to the end of the Present. For each different era of history, students will watch and then analyze 1-2 films. Films have the unique ability to depict the unfolding of events in a way that textual analysis cannot. This course is not a movies and popcorn course. This course seeks to add to Founders' historical content knowledge by accessing information through a different format, film. Analysis of film will range from analysis question assignments, reflection papers, and more formal essays.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **World History Through Film A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I; Civics and Leadership

**Description** - This course will seek to cover different major eras of World History from ancient times to the present. There is too much content across world history to cover every era, but this course will seek to focus in on eras that were pivotal in the history of mankind. This is not a sit down and watch movies and eat popcorn film course. Films have the unique ability to depict history in a way that text cannot. We will use films to bring a certain historical era to life, but we will then analyze these films and determine how well they convey history to the viewer. Film analyses will take the form of essays, reflections, projects, and questions.

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") or second ("B") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

## **History of the Cold War**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - This course will analyze the Cold War Era. We will take a close look at the major events and developments of this tumultuous period of history, largely through the lens of the American experience in this era. In addition to studying the major events and developments of the era, we will spend the second half of the semester taking a closer look at some of the more fascinating aspects of this era such as espionage, the media's role in the Cold War, important persons/figures of the era, momentous events, conspiracy theories, and others. Join me in delving into this fascinating period of modern history; you won't be disappointed!

## **Military History A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I

**Description** - This course will trace the evolution of the United States military through its ancient and medieval roots through early colonial history and creation of the United States and throughout its history. This course will focus on strategic and technological advances of warfare and the role the United States has played throughout the world.

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") or second ("B") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit). Students who have taken this previously have completed the "A" semester. This course is likely to be offered only once every two years.***

## **Native American History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - Native American History will cover different tribes from both North and South America. The course will be Geography focused, starting with South America and transitioning quickly to North America. The course will be lecture and research based. There will be presentations regarding specific tribes during specific times, and students will be doing additional research on the other aspects/peoples of the continent. Students will analyze the true consequences of colonialism across the United States of America and South America.

## **The Criminal History of America**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II (both Parts A & B)

**Description** - The course Criminal History of America focuses on the psychology, history, and consequences of criminal acts. The course will start first with a short overview of crime before transitioning into the criminal history of America starting with colonialism and ending with the 1990's. The course will delve more into specific instances, trials, confessions and persecutions. This course is not one for the faint of heart, as the psychology behind the mind of a criminal is usually twisted. Each subject covered will end with how justice was served to the criminals of America.

## **Psychology**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This elective course is designed to promote an understanding of human behavior. Special areas of study include perception, personality, abnormal behavior, psychological testing, and theories of learning. Students will gain a better perspective about their behavior and the behavior of those around them by enrolling in this course. A substantial amount of reading and writing is expected. Class participation is essential for success in the course.

## **Spanish Culture**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Let's explore the world of Spanish and all it has to offer! This course will dive into the 20 different Spanish Speaking Countries and their unique cultures that make them so fascinating. Each week we will take a look at a different Country. We'll compare and make connections from our culture to theirs by watching videos, taking a look at their life styles and historical moments, trying some traditional foods, and partaking in traditional dances and fiestas to celebrate these cultures. This class is taught in English, but will reference several different traditions and customs in Spanish.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Cultural Geography**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Civics & Leadership

**Description** - In line with our school's mission and vision of fostering leadership skills and preparing students to be leaders in a global economy, Cultural Geography is a survey level course that will study the different cultures and countries of the world in order to enhance our students' awareness of their own global setting. The course will specifically analyze the cultures and geographic features of the major regions of the world. Students will learn and utilize the five themes of geography; Location, Place, Region, Human/Environment Interaction, and Movement in order to further understand the relationships that humankind have with their culture and landscape.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **The Medieval World**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course will examine Europe and the Middle East during the Medieval Era. It will begin in the seventh century and conclude shortly before the Renaissance - with the rise of the Tudors. In addition to studying events like the rise of Islam, the Magna Carta, and the Hundred Years War, it also will look at the art, society, economics, architecture, science, philosophical and religious ideas, and music of the Middle Ages. The overlap between subjects makes this course truly classical. This course will rely heavily on primary sources and would ask students to analyze, critique, and defend different interpretations by modern scholars. Classes will be discussion based and include debates and presentations. There is a lot of lively debate between scholars about various topics in the Middle Ages! The Middle Ages are a challenging time for we moderns to understand, so this course would stretch students' ability to understand other cultures - which good citizens must be able to do.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **World Religions**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible; Must have passed Intro to College Writing with college credit for Dual Credit option in this class***

**Prerequisites** - HS Composition

**Description** - This course introduces the major religions of the world by surveying their origins, core beliefs, traditions and practices. The history and 'world view' of a number of religions is examined by way of themes, such as: sacred power; myths, art, and rituals; the problem of evil; and the relationship between cultures, ethics, and religions—with an emphasis toward observing the continuity and/or contrasts that exists between them. The key texts, figures, and ideas of major religions will be explored.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Athens and Sparta**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I

**Description** - This course covers the Greco-Persian Wars and the Peloponnesian Wars and how two different city states - democratic, energetic Athens and oligarchic, authoritarian Sparta - waged them. These wars were the backdrop for Greece's Golden Age, so this course also includes Greek art, drama, and philosophy. These wars influenced the works of great playwrights like Aeschylus and Aristophanes, philosophers like Socrates and Plato, and even the first Western historians Herodotus and Thucydides. This course asks several questions: Do democracies wage war differently than authoritarian governments? How did war shape the culture of Sparta and Athens? Why did democratic, freedom loving Athens end up ruling an empire? How did it lose that empire? And what lessons did the Founding Fathers learn from democratic Athens?

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Women in US History**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Civics and Leadership

**Corequisites** - US History II

**Description** - This is a course that covers from American Colonialism - Present. The focus will be on the evolving role of women in American society, how women have influenced various periods in our nation, and how women have faced adversity in politics and society. The course will also analyze how the ideas of gender, religion, and politics have affected women in society. The course will conclude with recent developments in the Women's rights movement.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

### **Liberty - The History of an Idea - Part A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I and “Civics and Leadership”

**Description** - This course will trace the history of the idea of liberty through classical antiquity to today. It will focus on how the idea has developed over time and the steps that humans have taken to secure liberty all over the world.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

### **Liberty - The History of an Idea - Part B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History I and “Civics and Leadership”

**Description** - This course will trace the history of the idea of liberty through classical antiquity to today. It will focus on how the idea has developed over time and the steps that humans have taken to secure liberty all over the world.

**(Part A covers different material and is NOT required to take Part B.)**

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

### **Holocaust and Human Behavior**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Can Satisfy History Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - US History II-A and US History II-B

**Co-requisites** - Modern World History A and Modern World History B

**Description** - This course leads students through an examination of the history of the Holocaust, while fostering their skills in ethical reasoning, critical thinking, empathy, and civic engagement. By focusing on the choices of individuals who experienced this history—through primary sources, eyewitness testimonies, personal reflections, poetry, and images—students are given a lens to thoughtfully examine the universal themes and questions about human behavior inherent in a study of the Holocaust. Students will engage in Socratic Seminars and Harkness discussions based upon complex primary and secondary source texts. Students are also prompted to draw connections between history and the world today.

***Students and parents should be aware that this course will cover mature and/or disturbing topics which will involve graphic material found in some of the documentaries.***

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

# Math

## Math 1

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Math 1 begins to form the foundation of The Founders Academy mathematics curriculum. The emphasis as a department is in the area of skill-building and problem solving. Students will be given the opportunity to practice on previously learned skills as well as have the opportunity to be challenged with new concepts. As new skills are introduced, students will be expected to solve word problems and challenge problems as well. Students will learn to and be able to articulate their thoughts and explain how they arrived at their answers. Students will be exposed to the following concepts: Properties of Whole Numbers, Operations with Fractions/Decimals, Ratios, Introductory Geometry concepts (perimeter and area, volume, surface area), and Data Analysis.

## Math 2

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Math 1 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Math 2 is a continuation of developing skills from Math 1. The emphasis as a department is in the area of skill-building and problem solving. Students will be given the opportunity to practice on previously learned skills as well as have the opportunity to be challenged with new concepts. As new skills are introduced, students will be expected to solve word problems and challenge problems as well. Students will learn to and be able to articulate their thoughts and explain how they arrived at their answers. Students will be exposed to the following concepts: Operations with Integers and Rational Numbers, Ratios/Rates/Proportions, Percents, and Introductory Geometry concepts (types of angles, volume, surface area).

## Math 3

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Math 2 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Math 3 is a continuation of developing skills from Math 2 and serves as a preparation for Algebra 1. The emphasis as a department is in the area of skill-building and problem solving. Students will be given the opportunity to practice on previously learned skills as well as have the opportunity to be challenged with new concepts. As new skills are introduced, students will be expected to solve word problems and challenge problems as well. Students will learn to and be able to articulate their thoughts and explain how they arrived at their answers. Students will be exposed to the following concepts: Probability, Real Number System, Introductory Geometry concepts (transformations, volume, surface area), functions, exponents, and scientific notation.



## **Algebra I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th or 9th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Math 3 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This course involves all concepts needed to fulfill national requirements for Algebra I. The topics to include but are not restricted to: Arithmetic Review, Solving and Graphing Linear Equations/Inequalities and System of Equations, Properties of Exponents, Operations with Polynomials, Factoring Polynomials and Quadratic Equations. Other concepts may be covered if time allows.

## **Geometry**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th or 10th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I, Initial Placement Exam, or Special Permission

**Description** - This course features topics covered in a standard high school geometry course which include, but are not limited to: Geometry Basics, Reasoning/Proof, Parallel/Perpendicular Lines, Properties of Triangles(Congruence, Similarity), Polygons, Quadrilaterals, Circles, Surface Area, Volume and Transformations.

## **Integrated Algebra & Geometry - Part A**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th or 9th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Math 3 or Initial Placement Exam; Permission of Instructor

**Description** - This integrated math offers the opportunity to focus on developing conceptual understanding and help students see how the disciplines of mathematics intertwine. It will include algebra and geometry. The theory underlying this approach is that, In the real world, problems do not come in a box labeled “algebra” or “geometry.” By using an “integrated” approach, students can decide what skills to call upon to solve a particular problem, no matter the content area. Students can use a combination of skills from algebra and geometry to solve problems.

***This is a 2-year course, but students will receive credit for both Algebra I and Geometry if both years are successfully completed. It is an alternative pathway to complete these graduation requirements. If a student has already received credit for Algebra I, then they cannot receive an additional credit for Part A. They will Audit Part A and then take Part B for credit the next year.***

## **Probability & Statistics**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Math, Math Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**AP Opportunity Possible**

**Prerequisites** - successful completion (Mastery) of Geometry, Initial Placement Exam or Special Permission

**Description**-Students will work with probability, data collection, descriptive and inferential statistics, probability, and technological tools to analyze statistics. The main foci of the course will be exploring data, planning a study, producing models using probability theory, and making statistical inferences. Students will work with statistical measures of centrality and spread, methods of data collection, methods of determining probability, binomial and normal distributions, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals. Students will use multiple representations to present data including written descriptions, numerical statistics, formulas, and graphs.

**A Statistics Advanced Placement (AP) option is available. Students should expect somewhat different assignments and an increased pacing of the content/ material.**

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete Algebra II.***

## **Algebra II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 10th or 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Math, Math Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I and Geometry or Special Permission of Instructors

**Description** - The topics to include but are not be restricted to: solving equations/inequalities, graphing equations/inequalities, systems of equations/inequalities, matrices, quadratic equations, polynomial functions, roots/radicals, intro to functions, exponential/logarithmic functions, and rational functions.

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete Algebra II.***

### **Pre-Calculus (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 11th/12th Grade Class; Can Satisfy Math Elective or General Elective**

**Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra II/Trigonometry

**Description** - Pre-Calculus is the next progression in the math program at The Founders Academy and is designed to prepare and challenge those students on track to attend college. The beginning of the school year will be designed to practice skills learned in prior math courses as well as provide students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge on previous learned skills and concepts. The students will be challenged on a daily basis and will often be asked to explain “why” their answers make sense. Some concepts students will be learning are, but not limited to: Types of Functions (Linear, Quadratic, Polynomial, Exponential), Trigonometry (Graphing, Identities and Equations, Triangles), Sequences/Series, Combinatorics and Introductory Calculus concepts (Limits, Continuity)

### **Calculus (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 12th Grade Class; Can Satisfy Math Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Pre-Calculus

**Description** - Calculus is designed to prepare and challenge those students on track to attend college. The beginning of the school year will be designed to practice skills learned in prior math courses as well as provide students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge on previous learned skills and concepts. The students will be challenged on a daily basis and will often be asked to explain “why” their answers make sense. Some concepts students will be learning are, but not limited to: Review of Functions, Limits/Continuity, Derivatives and their applications, and Integrals and their applications.

## **The History of Math A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Can Satisfy Math/Science Elective, History Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Join me to investigate where it all began with math. Why do we need these wild equations?. Who came up with these crazy math ideas? Didn't they have better things to do with their time? We will begin our investigation with how math was developed and continue until the death of Pierre de Fermat in 1665. After he died, a message was found in the margins of a math textbook stating he had proved that in the Pythagorean Theorem,  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$  only works for the exponent of 2. He left no proof. What? No - that is not acceptable. We need proof. This proof is where the second semester of course will start. Semester two does not depend on taking semester one. We will use the book "Fermat's Last Theorem" by Simon Singh. This book follows all the mathematicians through the years who worked on proving this theorem using math of the time. Different mathematicians worked years trying to prove it. Finally in 1995 Andrew Wile produced his theorem that proved Fermat was correct. We will investigate the work it took to finally come up with this proof and how it evolved through the years.

***This course can be taken for just the first ("A") or second ("B") semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

## **Algebra IA**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

***Typical 8th/9th Grade***

**Prerequisites** - Math 3 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This covers the first half of Algebra I - but takes the full year to do so - which involves all concepts needed to fulfill national requirements for Algebra I. The topics to include but are not restricted to: Arithmetic Review, Solving and Graphing Linear Equations/Inequalities and System of Equations. Other concepts may be covered if time allows.

***This option is not being offered for the 2022-2023 school year.***

## **Algebra IB**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 8th/9th Grade; Satisfies Math Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra IA or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This covers the second half of Algebra I - but takes the full year to do so - which involves all concepts needed to fulfill national requirements for Algebra I. The topics to include but are not restricted to: Properties of Exponents, Operations with Polynomials, Factoring Polynomials and Quadratic Equations. Other concepts may be covered if time allows.

***This option is not being offered for the 2022-2023 school year.***

## **Consumer Math - RETIRED**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Can Satisfy Math Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I or Algebra IB

**Description** - This is a project based course which will include personal financing and managing daily expenses. The course project will culminate in a showcase of what they have learned. Students will use technology and other tools to investigate and develop a plan for daily consumer choices and living expenses.

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into the Personal Finance curriculum.***

# Science

## Science 1

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This Integrated Science Course is the first part of a three part program designed to assist students in becoming lifelong learners who grow in their understanding of the world around them. It is designed to expose students to the content areas of Scientific Inquiry, Physical Science, Earth Science, and Life Science. With an approach of hands-on learning, students will be introduced to a variety of demonstrations, projects, and experiments.

## Science 2

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Science 1 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This Integrated Science Course is the second part of a three part program and will introduce students to a variety of core science topics in the subjects of chemistry, physics, biology, and earth science. Additionally, students will continue to develop their understanding of the scientific method as they build off the knowledge they gained in 6th grade. Students will learn to apply the scientific method as a means for solving problems and making decisions, two key responsibilities of leadership.

## Science 3

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Science 2 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - This Integrated Science Course will build upon knowledge gained in Levels 1 and 2 while reinforcing those same concepts. We will be focusing upon important researchers, theories, and models which have shaped our understanding of science through the present so that students will understand the impact of critical thought and responsible research. We will often be working in cooperative groups as a tool with which to encourage accountability to others, expressing oneself responsibly and diplomatically, and the importance of communicating with and helping one another.

## **Integrated Physical Science**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies Science Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Science 3 or Initial Placement Exam

**Description** - Geology (quarter 1) probes evidence of layers of the Earth, theory of plate tectonics, and the timeline of Earth. Space Systems (quarter 2) covers origins of the Universe, how stars create all elements greater than hydrogen, nuclear fusion, fission, and radioactive decay, and orbits. Time is also devoted to learning about the American exceptionalism of space exploration. Earth System Energy & Carbon Cycling (quarter 3) analyzes thermal energy, the role of carbon, and how it cycles throughout the Earth system. Climate & Our Future (quarter 4) looks at ocean acidification, greenhouse effect, climate change, and sustainability. Student leadership as global citizens is a major component of this unit. Our understanding of these topics is supported by using the foundation sciences of chemistry and physics. Throughout the year we will use mathematics as a language of science, including a focus on data literacy. Students will explore through traditional lecture, group work, lab activities, project-based learning, peer/self assessments, and citizen science.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**

## **Biology**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 10th Grade; Satisfies Science Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Science 3; Math 3

**Description** - Biology endeavors to challenge students to explore the living world around them. Students in this course will aspire to understand the principles of Biology through relevant and contemporary assignments and laboratory exercises. Through practical experience and rigorous instruction, students will master the content provided in all five units of the course. From cellular biology to ecology, they will take a look at all major aspects of the field of Biology and build their scientific knowledge. This course is integral in the experience and education of a high school student and will prepare them for further analytical instruction. Students will earn High School credit through this course. Key topics covered include cellular biology, DNA, genetics, evolution, natural selection, animal form and function, ecology and conservation biology. This course is structured to be academically challenging, asking students to think critically and apply their understanding in various contexts. This course will rely heavily on kinesthetic, visual and verbal learning styles in order to appeal to all learners and to create a fluid learning environment capable of adapting and growing, much like that of the life we will study.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**

## **Chemistry A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective***

***Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I or Algebra IB

**Description** - Chemistry provides a basic introduction to the nature of matter and change and is intended to help students understand the unseen processes at work in chemical phenomena. Major topics covered include Scientific Measurement, Unit Conversions, Atomic Structure, Nuclear Chemistry, Bonding, Nomenclature, Chemical Reactions, The Mole, Stoichiometry, States of Matter, Intermolecular Forces, Periodic Trends, Gas Laws, Acids & Bases, Equilibrium, Oxidation & Reduction, and Electrochemistry. The course will also include a survey of Nuclear Chemistry, Electrochemistry, Organic Chemistry and Environmental Chemistry.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**

## **Chemistry B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical 11th Grade; Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective***

***Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Chemistry A; Algebra I or Algebra IB

**Description** - This is a continuation of Chemistry A. Chemistry provides a basic introduction to the nature of matter and change and is intended to help students understand the unseen processes at work in chemical phenomena. Major topics covered include Scientific Measurement, Unit Conversions, Atomic Structure, Nuclear Chemistry, Bonding, Nomenclature, Chemical Reactions, The Mole, Stoichiometry, States of Matter, Intermolecular Forces, Periodic Trends, Gas Laws, Acids & Bases, Equilibrium, Oxidation & Reduction, and Electrochemistry. The course will also include a survey of Nuclear Chemistry, Electrochemistry, Organic Chemistry and Environmental Chemistry.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**

## **Physics A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisite** - Algebra I or Algebra IB

**Description** - This course is a general college preparatory introduction to physics. Its emphasis is about equally divided between developing a conceptual understanding of the major topics of classical physics, Newtonian motion, Waves and Energy, Electricity, Magnetism, Optics, State of Matter, and Modern Physics as well as developing problem solving skills in those topic areas. Algebra, geometry and some trigonometry will be used. A lab component accompanies the classroom element of the course. Students will be expected to undertake and report on lab projects related to the topics in the class.

**Note - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.**



## **Physics B**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science, Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisite** - Physics A

**Description** - This is a continuation of Physics A. This course is a general college preparatory introduction to physics. Its emphasis is about equally divided between developing a conceptual understanding of the major topics of classical physics, Newtonian motion, Waves and Energy, Electricity, Magnetism, Optics, State of Matter, and Modern Physics as well as developing problem solving skills in those topic areas. Algebra, geometry and some trigonometry will be used. A lab component accompanies the classroom element of the course. Students will be expected to undertake and report on lab projects related to the topics in the class.

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

## **Natural History of NH**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Biology; Algebra I

**Description** - In the Natural History of New Hampshire students learn about their state through the lenses of history of the land, marine, forest, freshwater, weather & climate, and the interactions of these ecological zones with human culture, especially in an urban environment. Founders Academy is fortunate to have on site an ample forest and stream environment to conduct laboratory testing. Students are expected to dress appropriately for outside labs.

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

## **Natural Disasters**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Integrated Physical Science

**Description** - Natural Disasters will explore earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, ice storms, blizzards, hurricanes, flash floods, superbugs, pandemics, and other related topics. Topics will focus on specific historical events, New Hampshire related natural disasters, and predicting & mitigating future events. Students will explore the science, engineering, and human element of each natural disaster. Teaching and assessments will be research, activities, engineering projects, and video public service announcements.

## **Aviation Science A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

**Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I

**Co-requisites** - Integrated Physical Science

**Description** - In the first semester - Introduction to Flight, students will begin with an exploration of the types of aircraft in use today before going on to learn how aircraft are made and how they fly. Students will understand how aircraft are categorized, be able to identify their parts, and learn about aircraft construction techniques and materials. They will gain an in-depth understanding of the forces of flight—lift, weight, thrust, and drag—including how to make key calculations. They will then touch on aircraft design, looking at stability, aircraft controls, and maneuvering flight. The course will conclude with a focus on career skills related to these topics. In the second semester - Aircraft Systems and Performance, students will take an in-depth look at the systems that make manned and unmanned aircraft work as well as the instrumentation powered by those systems. Beginning with aircraft powerplants and fuel systems, students will learn about the different options available and how they affect aircraft design and performance. They will go on to explore other key aircraft systems, including electrical, pitot-static, and vacuum systems. Throughout, they will learn about the flight instruments associated with each system and how to identify and troubleshoot common problems. This unit also covers airplane flight manuals, the pilot's operating handbook, and required aircraft documents. Finally, students will learn about the factors that affect aircraft performance and how to determine critical operating data for aircraft.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year. Students who have taken this previously have completed the "A" semester. This course is likely to be offered only once every two years.***

## **Space Sciences**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Can Satisfy Science Elective, Math/Science Elective, or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Integrated Physical Science and Algebra I

**Description** - This course goes through the history of astronomy with an emphasis on spaceflight, including current and future endeavors; cosmology; astronomy; and topics of student interest. These topics may include Sun, Earth, and moon relationships; telescopes; Kepler and Newton's laws; distances and magnitudes; stellar evolution (in greater depth than IPS); constellations and asterisms; dark energy; extrasolar planets; and astrophysics. This course will discuss not only individuals but also the historical context in which their contributions were made.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Forensic Science I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Science Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisite** - Biology

**Description** - This course is designed to give students an overview of Forensic Science and how crime scenes are investigated. Students will learn the importance of the methodical gathering, investigating, and analyzing of the physical evidence found at a crime scene to establish facts that can be presented in a legal proceeding of the justice system. It will include an overview of the forensic analysis of firearms, fingerprints, drugs, blood, hair, fibers, etc. The procedures and principles of crime scene investigation applies many disciplines of science including, but not limited to, biology/anatomy, chemistry, and physics in order to solve crimes. It is a lab and project based course designed to have the students set up and solve various situational crime scenes.

**Note** - At The Founders Academy, this is a Lab Science course.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

# World Language

## Foundations of French 1

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This introductory course covers the first half of French I. The goal is to provide students with a strong beginning foundation that incorporates the basics of speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing in French and offers contextual themes in French speaking culture. Along with geography, history, art and literature, learning occurs in the context of the way of life, social customs, and current events. Foreign language study is a great way for students to learn more about the target language by way of cultural and linguistic comparison.

***The 2-year "Foundations" track in French or Spanish is recommended for most middle school students and for 9th/10th Grade students who want to move at a more relaxed pace.***

## Foundations of French 2

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Foundations of French 1

**Description** - This covers the second half of French I. This course will continue the exploration of the French Language with a focus on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. By studying more aspects of the target language and culture, students will have opportunities to build upon their learning in Foundations 1, and bring their linguistic and cultural understanding forward in preparation for entry into French II.

## French I

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Similarly to Foundations 1 and 2, French I focuses on introducing basic language skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and grammar. This course presents the French I material as one full-year course. Main aspects of French culture and "daily life" customs are introduced to allow students to acquire an appreciation of traditions and expressions of the French speaking world. By introducing the French language through culture (history, art, news, etc), students will be able to make important interdisciplinary connections.

**This introductory course will move at a rapid pace and is designed for high school students and advanced middle school students.**

## **French II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 9th/10th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - French I or Foundations of French 2

**Description** - Students will build upon their grammatical foundation from French I in order to move forward into using multiple verb tenses and more advanced sentence structures. In addition to reading, writing, and listening, conversation skills will be emphasized, and students will learn intermediate grammar and vocabulary to facilitate exploration of world travel, history, literature and the arts, and current events.

## **French III**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 10th/11th Grade; Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - French II

**Description** - This course focuses on further development of language proficiency at the advanced intermediate level (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and grammar. New aspects of French culture are introduced to allow students to acquire an appreciation of the customs, traditions and expressions of the French speaking world. By introducing the French language through culture, (history, literature, art, news, etc) students will be able to make important interdisciplinary connections.

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete either French III or Spanish III.***

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023. It can be taken through VLACS.***

## **Foundations of Spanish 1**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This is a full-year course that covers the first half of Spanish I. Foundations of Spanish is an introductory exposure to the Spanish language. It is intended for students who have very little to no foreign language experience. Students will begin to explore basic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also be introduced to a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, we will learn about culture, geography, history and; from a language learning perspective, work Spanish vocabulary in sentences while learning Spanish grammar. Students will also develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression and creative thinking. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students will discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into their own native language.

***The 2-year "Foundations" track in French or Spanish is recommended for most middle school students and for 9th/10th Grade students who want to move at a more relaxed pace.***

## **Foundations of Spanish 2**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Typical 8th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Foundations of Spanish 1

**Description**- This is a full-year course that covers the second half of Spanish I. Students will continue to explore basic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also be introduced to a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, we will learn about culture, geography, history and; from a language learning perspective, work Spanish vocabulary in sentences while learning Spanish grammar. students will also develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression and creative thinking. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students will discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into their own native language.

## **Spanish I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Spanish I is intended for students who have very little to no foreign language experience. Students will begin to explore basic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also be introduced to a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, we will learn about culture, geography, history and; from a language learning perspective, work Spanish vocabulary in sentences while learning Spanish grammar. Students will also develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression and creative thinking. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students will discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into their own native language.

**This introductory course will move at a rapid pace and is designed for high school students and advanced middle school students.**

## **Spanish II**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 9th/10th Grade; Satisfies World Language Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Spanish I or Foundations of Spanish 2

**Description** - Students will continue to focus on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also continue their studies of a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, students will develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression, creative thinking, correct use of vocabulary and grammar, and choice of vocabulary as it best expresses an idea and/or a feeling. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into the structure and makeup of their own native language.

### **Spanish III**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Typical 10th/11th Grade Class; Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Spanish II

**Description** - Students will continue to focus on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. They will also continue their studies of a variety of cultural and historical aspects of some Spanish-speaking regions and countries. By studying Spanish, students will develop their personal communication skills, including self-expression, creative thinking, correct use of vocabulary and grammar, and choice of vocabulary as it best expresses an idea and/or a feeling. By exploring a different language and culture from their own, students discover even more about their own lives and culture which provides great insight into the structure and makeup of their own native tongue.

***It is highly recommended that those students who plan on attending a 4-year college complete either French III or Spanish III.***

### **American Sign Language I**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This class will introduce students to Deaf culture and history, basic conversational sign, and a beginning American Sign Language vocabulary. Students will be expected to demonstrate their ability to utilize non-verbal communication in a variety of classroom experiences, including quizzes, student activities, teacher-student conversations, and student-student conversations. Students' progress will require building upon the previous week's vocabulary.

***Important note - While the goal would be to have a 2-year program of ASL taught at Founders which would satisfy the graduation requirement (that students receive two high school credits in a single World Language), we cannot guarantee that. If a student chooses to take this course to satisfy that graduation requirement, and ASL II is not offered at Founders in the future, it will be the responsibility of the student and their family to find (and pay for) an accredited and Founders-approved ASL II course. Otherwise, they will need to choose a different language (and complete 2 full credits) to satisfy the requirements.***



## **Intro to Linguistics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - In this semester-long course, students will discover the guiding principles, philosophies, theories, and hypotheses that are the work of individuals who, for over two and a half millennia, have attempted to study language and how it impacts, governs, and embellishes our world, as well as its function and utility within a society and how it may be employed to solve various social problems. Through the study of linguistics, students will be able to learn about the development of other disciplines, including: philosophy, history, archeology, literature, anthropology, sociology, psychology, neuropsychology, biology, physics, mathematics, information technology (computer programming), and criminology. This may also be a useful course for those interested in foreign languages, foreign language teaching, teaching abroad, history, translation and interpreting, proofreading and editing, sociology, psychology, forensics, and employment in the government, and other careers. Lastly, students will be presented with case studies, undertake projects, and have the opportunity to bridge the gap from theory to practice and engage in field work to experience on a minimal level the invaluable work of linguists.

## **Latin I-A**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This course will be hands-on and discussion based with minimal lecturing. As the year goes on, students will be asked to lecture about a grammar concept from time to time. By the end of the course, students will be ready to read unabridged passages by Latin authors such as Pliny, Vergil, and Caesar. Though there would be a lot of translating from English into Latin, the focus of the course would be on translating and analyzing passages by Classical authors.

In addition to learning the Latin language, students will read and discuss short but famous selections from the great Roman authors (e.g., Livy, Cicero, Virgil, and Caesar) and some short selections from Medieval and Renaissance authors in Latin. Latin also overlaps with history, art, logic, rhetoric, science, music, and philosophy. Finally, when Latin is taught classically, it solidifies a students' knowledge of the English language. Since word order doesn't matter, it forces the student to think logically about how the English language works.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Latin I-B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies World Language or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Latin I-A

**Description** - This course is a continuation of Latin I-A. This course will be hands-on and discussion based with minimal lecturing. As the year goes on, students will be asked to lecture about a grammar concept from time to time. By the end of the course, students will be ready to read unabridged passages by Latin authors such as Pliny, Vergil, and Caesar. Though there would be a lot of translating from English into Latin, the focus of the course would be on translating and analyzing passages by Classical authors.

In addition to learning the Latin language, students will read and discuss short but famous selections from the great Roman authors (e.g., Livy, Cicero, Virgil, and Caesar) and some short selections from Medieval and Renaissance authors in Latin. Latin also overlaps with history, art, logic, rhetoric, science, music, and philosophy. Finally, when Latin is taught classically, it solidifies a students' knowledge of the English language. Since word order doesn't matter, it forces the student to think logically about how the English language works.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## Visual Arts

### Art 6

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Students will demonstrate the fundamental principles of visual art and learn the elements of design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create individual and collaborative art. Projects will cover drawing, painting, and three-dimensional design. Students will learn and utilize color theory in their art making process. Students will also learn to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Many influential artists throughout history will be examined as students explore various artistic movements.

### Art 7

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Art 6 or Initial Placement

**Description** - Art 7 students will demonstrate the fundamental principles of visual art and continue to learn and practice the elements of design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create individual and collaborative art. Specifically, students will develop painting and drawing skills and will begin to explore three dimensional work and mixed media. Students will also practice the skills needed to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Influential artists throughout history will be examined as students explore various artistic periods.

### Art 8

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Art 7 or Initial Placement

**Description** - Art 8 students will demonstrate the fundamental principles of visual art and continue to build on their understanding and practice implementing the elements of design in their work. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create a range of different art projects. Students will practice the skills needed to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Influential artists will be examined as students explore various artistic styles and periods.

## **HS Art I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Art 8 or Initial Placement

**Description** - Students will demonstrate the fundamental elements and principles of art and design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create artwork. Students will develop technical skills in drawing, painting, and other 2D techniques. Students will also learn to critique and analyze their own artwork, as well as their peers'. Many influential artists throughout history will be examined as students explore and develop technique.

## **HS Art II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will demonstrate the fundamental elements and principles of art and design. They will utilize a variety of mediums and materials to create individual artworks for presentation. Students will develop technical skills in 3D materials such as polymer clay, cardboard, and other building materials. Students will work to create, revise, and present their work. Students will start to conceptualize their own projects and coordinate project timelines. Influential artists throughout history will be examined as students develop their techniques and ideas.

## **HS Ceramics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - In this course students will become familiar with basic handbuilding techniques such as pinch building, coil building, and slab building. Students will explore surface design by utilizing different underglaze and glaze techniques in this class. This class is great for students who enjoy working with their hands and enjoy working abstractly.

***Because students can create new and different projects each semester, this class may be repeated for credit.***

## **Intro to Fiber Arts**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will be introduced to weaving, knitting, felting, and techniques for making repeating patterns. They will begin the course by learning to make a frame loom and weave a small tapestry. Students will also be introduced to basic dry felting to create 2D and 3D objects. The class will also cover how to knit and crochet. The last assignment will focus on using their new fiber art skills to design repeat patterns. As an added bonus, if time allows, the whole class will work collaboratively on a t-shirt design and I will demo the screen printing process. Each student will get to print their own shirt using the collaborative design. This course is great for students who like to work with their hands and enjoy tactile objects.

## **Sketchbook & Journal Making**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I and HS Art II

**Description** - In this class students will learn how to make their own journals. They will be given different prompts to help them explore and experiment with a variety of mediums in art. In the first part of the class, students will be introduced to the basics of bookbinding and bookbinding tools of the trade. I will demonstrate 1 non-adhesive structure and 1 adhesive structure so that students can choose which sketchbook/journal they would like to construct. After students have constructed their sketchbooks/journals, we will focus on idea-generating techniques, discuss the role of sketchbooks as tools in art-making practices, and students will begin to fill their sketchbooks/journals. Students will participate in short exercises using materials and processes they may not be comfortable with such as collage, printmaking, and sewing. They will also have the freedom to explore and experiment with the different mediums of their choosing. Students will be encouraged to work in their sketchbooks everyday throughout the semester as a way to strengthen their artistic practice. Students will informally share a page from their sketchbooks with the class weekly and have group discussions about the work. Throughout the semester, we will also be looking at contemporary artists making art right now and what their artistic practice looks like. This class is great for students who don't think they're "good at art" because it is all about practice, growth, and experimentation. It would also be a great class for artistically gifted students who want to improve their daily sketchbook practice.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Art Portfolio Development**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I and HS Art II

**Description** - Portfolio Development offers insight into building a portfolio and into the art school admissions process. These studios are meant to help students increase both their inventive and expressive portions of their artistic portfolio while focusing on observational skill in section 1 and on elements of design in section 2. The goal is to invite professional artists to speak and art college representatives to give feedback to student work. We may even go to National Portfolio day in Boston as a Field Trip. Students will have all the tools they need to apply to an art school and/or scholarships. Students will have a complete portfolio when they leave the course including an artist statement.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Painting I - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art II or Permission of Instructor

**Description** - Students will acquire painting skills. There will be experimentation with several painting mediums, including watercolor, gouache, acrylics, and oils. Tools and techniques will be demonstrated, examined, and used. Students will also discover a variety of historical and contemporary artists as they move through each media, technique, or subject.

## **Painting II - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Painting I

**Description** - Students will build on their knowledge from Painting 1 to create new artwork. While studying painters from the past, students will study new subjects, including the human form, portraiture, still-life, and abstraction. Students will practice critique to make revisions and learn from others. Paintings produced from this course may be utilized in a portfolio for college applications.

***This class can be repeated for additional credits.***

### **Ceramics I - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - HS Art I

**Description** - Students will be proficient in basic handbuilding techniques including pinch building, coil building, and slab building. Students will become familiar with and appropriately use tools to achieve desired results. Working collaboratively and independently students will discover the strengths and limitations of ceramics. This will be a fast paced class that will get messy!

***After the 2020-2021 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Ceramics.***

### **Ceramics II - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Ceramics I

**Description** - Students will build upon their knowledge learned Ceramics I. Students will develop long term projects with multiple parts that demonstrate a variety of hand building skills. While studying historical ceramic artists and time periods, students will work toward consistency, set making, and sculptural abstraction. Students will practice programming the kiln and demonstrate an understanding of ceramic chemistry.

***After the 2020-2021 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Ceramics.***

# Performing Arts

## Special Note about the Band and Chorus levels

Most levels in the Band and Choral programs are designed to be multi-year experiences. The specific curricula and concert music for each ensemble will change from year -to -year, allowing students who are repeating levels to continue to learn new material. High school students can receive credit for ensembles that are Level 2 or higher and can receive additional credits for repeated levels. All groups will participate in night-time concerts in December and at the end of the year. The Level 3 and Level 4 ensembles are considered to be "audition-level" ensembles and will have an extra concert in March, along with some optional travel opportunities. Level 4 ensembles are considered to be Honors courses, so students will receive a boost to their GPA.

At the end of the year, students who have successfully demonstrated Mastery (as defined in the Student Handbook) will be eligible to be placed in a higher level band for the next school year. **Achieving Mastery in a level, however, does NOT guarantee promotion.** Promotion will be decided by a number of factors including, but not limited to: Playing/Singing Ability, Classroom Behavior, Practice Habits, Instrumentation/Balance of the Ensembles, Concert Dependability, and the student's schedule. While uncommon, it is possible for a student to be moved down to a lower level if they do not meet the standards and expectations of their current level or if they would be a better "fit" at the lower level.

### Band Level 1 - Foundations Band

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th/7th/8th/9th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Instruments in the standard Band Program include woodwind, brass, percussion, and orchestral string instruments, but **do NOT include piano, guitar, or full drum set**. Parents will need to supply their child's instrument. The Foundations Band consists of all 6th Grade band students, band students in upper grades who need more work on their fundamentals, and all Beginning Band students. Classes are separated by experience level (and sometimes also by instrument). Students in the "Experienced" classes are students who have already been studying their instrument either privately or in group lessons. The "Beginner" classes are designed for students who have either never played an instrument before or are learning a completely new instrument. No musical experience is necessary for the "Beginner" classes. Those students will be introduced to the different instrument options for them to choose from in September. Students will participate in two evening concerts - one in December and one in the Spring. High school students are welcome to take this class, but they will not start receiving HS credit until they reach Level 2.



### **Band Level 2 - Concert Band**

### **Band Level 3 - Symphonic Band**

### **Band Level 4 - Wind Symphony (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor

**Description** - Instruments in the standard Band Program include woodwind, brass, and orchestral string instruments, but **do NOT include piano, guitar, or full drum set.**

Parents will need to supply their child's instrument. Experienced students will review material that they were taught in previous years, learn new material, and work on improving their note -reading skills, playing ranges, and stamina. Literature will include traditional and contemporary music written for concert band, "classical" music originally written for orchestra, and music written for films and Broadway shows.

*These classes meet at the same time as their high school counterparts.*

### **Band Level 2HS - Concert Band**

### **Band Level 3HS - Symphonic Band**

### **Band Level 4HS - Wind Symphony (Honors)**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Instruments in the standard Band Program include woodwind, brass, and orchestral string instruments, but **do NOT include piano, guitar, or full drum set.**

Parents will need to supply their child's instrument. Experienced students will review material that they were taught in previous years, learn new material, and work on improving their note -reading skills, playing ranges, and stamina. Literature will include traditional and contemporary music written for concert band, "classical" music originally written for orchestra, and music written for films and Broadway shows.

*These classes meet at the same time as their middle school counterparts. High School Band classes can be repeated for additional credits.*

## **Percussion Ensemble**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Level 1 Band and/or Placement by Instructor

**Description** - This class is for students who have some experience on one or more percussion instruments and experience with reading music. Students will work on a variety of tuned and non-tuned percussion instruments including snare drum, bass drum, xylophone/bells, and drum set. Students will learn both aurally and with written music. Literature will include music written specifically for percussion ensembles and music for concert bands. Students in this class will form the Percussion sections in concerts for the Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Bands in December, March, and the Spring. Students will also be eligible for any optional travel opportunities that are offered to the Level 3 and Level 4 Bands.

***Students interested in this class should sign up for "Experienced Band" and list Percussion as their instrument. This class meets at the same time as its high school counterpart.***

## **HS Percussion Ensemble**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Level 1 Band and/or Placement by Instructor; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This class is for students who have some experience on one or more percussion instruments and experience with reading music. Students will work on a variety of tuned and non-tuned percussion instruments including snare drum, bass drum, xylophone/bells, and drum set. Students will learn both aurally and with written music. Literature will include music written specifically for percussion ensembles and music for concert bands. Students in this class will form the Percussion sections in concerts for the Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Bands in December, March, and in the Spring. Students will also be eligible for any optional travel opportunities that are offered to the Level 3 and Level 4 Bands.

***Students interested in this class should sign up for "Experienced Band" and list Percussion as their instrument. This class meets at the same time as its middle school counterpart. This class can be repeated for additional credits.***

### **Chorus Level 1**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th/7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Centering on The Founders Academy mission, our Choral Program will support a performance-based curriculum of classical music studies that includes analyzing the times and lives of great men and women of music, mining the rich classical ideals of the Western tradition within our musical history, and bringing these precepts to the varied music we will discover, share, and perform. Students will: Learn to sing accurately with understanding of good breath control and technique; Sing with expression - songs performed by memory in small and large ensembles; Perform music with 2 – 3 vocal parts; Work with musical fundamentals including musical notation, rhythm, sight singing, and music dynamics; Study the foundation of Western music in a general overview; Begin singing in multiple foreign languages; Start to evaluate, analyze, and describe music and musical performances

### **Chorus Level 2**

### **Chorus Level 3**

### **Chorus Level 4**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th/8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor

**Description** - The Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Choruses build upon the skills that students have learned in past years. The music becomes more sophisticated and complex as students progress through the different levels.

*These classes meet at the same time as their high school counterparts.*

### **Chorus Level 2HS**

### **Chorus Level 3HS**

### **Chorus Level 4HS**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

**Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Placement by Instructor; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - The Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 Choruses build upon the skills that students have learned in past years. The music becomes more sophisticated and complex as students progress through the different levels.

*These classes meet at the same time as their middle school counterparts. High School Chorus classes can be repeated for additional credits.*

## **Jazz Ensemble**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.6

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Placement by audition only

**Description** - Jazz Ensemble is an advanced instrumental music performing arts class dedicated to the study and performance of American Jazz. The great Duke Ellington said: "In the beginnings, the United States of America spawned certain ideals of freedom and independence through which, eventually, jazz was evolved." This course will focus on teaching students the fundamental skills necessary to translate music notation into the musically expressive styles of jazz, rock, Latin and ballad expressions.

***Note - This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement***

## **HS Theatre**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Student must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - In this fine arts elective, students will learn a variety of elements in theatre. Topics of learning include: the history of the theatre, genres of theatre, acting techniques, and technical theatre. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances. They will also be required to participate in hands-on learning projects throughout the course, often working on projects for the middle school and high school shows. As this course is eligible to be repeated, the topics will rotate on a year-to-year basis. Learning activities include: attending theatre workshops, viewing and discussing live and filmed theatre, small scene acting, small group directing, costume designing, props designing, makeup designing, set design and model building.

***Because the material will differ each time, HS Theatre can be repeated for additional credits.***

## **Music Theory and Composition**

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - 1.0

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Placement in a Level 3 or 4 music ensemble; Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Corequisites** - Level 3 or 4 music ensemble or Jazz Ensemble

**Description** - This High school level course is designed for students who are highly interested in music and looking to expand the knowledge they already have through serious study of Music Theory. This class will allow students not only to more deeply understand the music that they play and enjoy but also why the music they enjoy sounds the way it does and how it was created. This class is open to all students looking to further their appreciation of music, but is also recommended for students looking to study music on a higher level or those considering a career in music.

Students will learn to understand and apply music fundamentals. Students will learn to be able to identify intervals, scales, and chords by ear as well as write them. Students will learn to be able to analyze chords, keys, and other components of written music. Students will learn to compose simple melodies and harmonize them. Students will perform their compositions as a cumulative project.

**Note** - *This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement*

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Theatre I: Introduction to Theatre - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - American Literature I or American Literature I Honors

**Description** - In this course, students will receive an overview of theatre. Topics of learning include: the history of the theatre, genres of theatre, and acting techniques.

Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. They will be required to participate in hands-on learning projects throughout the course.

**Note** - *This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement*

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

## **Theatre II: Introduction to Technical Theatre - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Can Satisfy General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Completion of Theatre I or permission from instructor

**Description** - In this elective, students will receive an overview of technical theatre. Topics of learning include: set construction, costume design, lighting design, and acting.

Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. They will be required to participate in hands-on learning projects throughout the course, which includes assisting with the Drama Club productions.

**Note** - *This course can not be used to satisfy the Fine Arts Graduation Requirement*

*After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.*

## **Theatre III: Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Completion of Theatre II or permission from instructor

**Description** - This course focuses on the analysis of the basic elements of the script and the application of script study in performance tasks such as acting and directing. As a part of this course, students will read the works of great playwrights, such as Chekhov, Wilde, Miller, Ibsen, Aeschylus, and Williams. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. Students will also view live theatre and write their own short script adaptations. We will bring in speakers who work in theatre to provide their insight in how they interpret a script and go about their craft. Theater III builds on the skills which students have learned in Theatre I and II. Students will be able to partake in more in-depth study of areas in theatre, including: costuming, scenic design, directing, and acting.

***This class can be repeated for additional credit.***

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

## **Theatre IV: Special Projects in Theatre - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Fine Arts Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Completion of Theatre II or permission from instructor

**Description** - This course builds on the skills which students have learned in Theatre I and II. Students will be able to partake in more in-depth practice of areas in theatre, including: costuming, scenic design, directing, and acting. Throughout the course, students will be expected to attend or view theatre performances and to develop a critical perspective through writing performance reviews. This will be a special course for those students who want to have the experience of directing their own show, writing their own script, heading up their own design element, organizing a theatre workshop or festival event, or conducting an author/theme study in dramaturgy. In addition to regular presentations to the group, students will also be required to conduct interviews with theatre professionals. This course will culminate in a student showcase performance, and throughout the course, students will be expected to present and receive feedback from their peers on their work.

***This class can be repeated for additional credit.***

***After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its topics have been combined into HS Theatre.***

## **Business**

### **Personal Finance I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Student must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - This is a financial literacy curriculum designed to engage students in learning the personal and business finance skills they will need to succeed in high school and beyond. Personal and Business Finance is an introduction to individual responsibility in financial decisions for teenagers. It is intended for students who have very little experience in financial matters. Students will learn basic considerations in daily financial choices and will progress to the study of financial markets as complex systems. They will learn historical examples of repeated financial crises and the events that led up to or followed the event. Students will learn budgeting techniques, distinguish wants from needs, learn to write a check and enter transactions in a checkbook register. They will learn of the different types of risk in financial markets and their own lives and what it means to be credit worthy as a person or a company. They will study simple and compound interest scenarios affecting banking and investing.

### **Personal Finance II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Algebra I; Personal Finance I or Consumer Math

**Description** - This course will go deeper into the topics of Retirement Planning, Mortgage Planning, Investing and Insurance where Personal Finance I only scratches the surface. We will talk about how the image of retirement has changed over the decades and where it may be going in their lifetime, the use of leverage in home ownership or real estate investment, the strategic use of annuities and life insurance, as well as trading stocks, bonds, options, and commodities in actual practice. This course will put students in a position to reach for mastery on topics that will benefit them for their lifetime. Content will be mostly in lecture form but they will be introduced through class real time trading and potential visits to different locations where trading, investing, and planning is actually taking place.



## **Entrepreneurship & Accounting**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Math 3

**Description** - This is a financial/business course centered around accounting practices and starting and operating a business. Students who have very little experience in financial matters will learn basic accounting conventions and practices and business operations as complex systems. Students will learn elements of the fundamental accounting equation, the double entry system, the accounting cycle, posting journal entries, general ledger preparation and financial statements. Students will learn about external forces that affect their choices like inflation, taxes, and human behavior's impact on the business. Students will learn to control inventory, cost of goods sold, depreciation and taxation. Students will learn to diagnose and prevent irregularities in business operations through forensic accounting techniques.

## **Economics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement**

**Corequisites** - Civics and Leadership

**Description** - Economics is a survey course that will explain the determinants of aggregate economic activity in the United States. The course examines the standard formulas to measure the nation's production and income and spending; analyzes unemployment and inflation, aggregate demand and supply, fiscal policies, investment and financial markets, money and banking and the Federal Reserve and monetary policies. This course will also help students with their understanding of fundamental economic principles and tools. It presents economic analysis with respect to demand and supply, consumer utility theory, elasticity, costs of production, perfect and imperfect competition and resource markets.

## **Ethics**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School; Satisfies Business Graduation Requirement**

**Corequisites** - Civics and Leadership

**Description** - Ethics will explore the history and development of the systems that people use to rationalize behavior. The course will first sketch out the categories that ethicists tend to fall into - virtue ethics or consequentialist ethics - and it will then explore how these categories have manifested across history and culture. Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with concepts such as Aristotle's ideas on virtue, Confucian social roles, Kant's categorical imperative, Bentham's and Mill's utilitarianism, Nietzsche's übermensch, and more modern techno-ethics. These ideas, along with others, have and continue to impact the world we find ourselves in, and this course will equip students with the tools they will need to navigate it in a way that allows for a development of their own ethical journey.

## Technology

### Computer Science 1

**Duration** - Full Year

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works.

### MSCS - Middle School Computer Science A & B

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade or above**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works.

***This course is designed to be taken over multiple years. Most students will take this in both 7th and 8th Grades - with different topics covered in each year.***

### Technology I

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical 9th Grade; Satisfies Technology Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - MSCS A & MSCS B

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works. This will incorporate the curriculum for CS Discoveries in a partnership with the UNH STEM Discoveries Lab. This will also incorporate additional units from Exploring Computer Science curriculum to enhance the focus on computer science skills as the focus rather than digital literacy.

### **Coding in Java A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***AP Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisites** - Mobile App OR Coding in Python B

**Co-requisites** - Algebra II

**Description** - In this course you will learn computer science by building socially useful mobile apps. In addition to programming and computer science principles, the course is project-based and emphasizes writing, communication, collaboration, and creativity. Students who have taken this course in the past have gone on to compete in Hackathons at Facebook, applied for the Congressional App Challenge, won NCWIT awards, and secured internships through a partnership with UNH STEM Discoveries lab.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credits with AP possibilities).***

### **Intro to Website Design A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

***Dual Credit Opportunity Possible***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - This course will provide students with the basic XHTML skills necessary to construct a web site. Students will acquire a working knowledge of all aspects of XHTML construction. CSS construction and design is a fundamental part of this course. This course emphasizes the programming, as opposed to the design, aspect of web development. Students will use text editors to complete all tasks.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

### **Coding in Python A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - This is an interactive introductory course for students brand new to python programming that teaches the foundations of computer science using the Python language. This course will teach students how to think computationally and solve complex problems - skills that are important for every student. This course may also include physical computing of Micro:bits, CodeBots, and programmable Drones. Students in Python B (2nd semester) will be highly encouraged to participate in a coding competition held at UNH each spring.

***This course can be taken for just the first semester (for 0.5 credits) or for the full year (1.0 credit).***

## **Photography I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective, Fine Arts Elective, or General Elective***

***Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - In this course, students will learn about the basics of photography including understanding aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. The course will introduce the history of photography and basic camera functions. In this class, participants will get to use both digital and film processes in this class to express their ideas in their photographic work. Students will draw inspiration from historic photographers and from current trends. Students will participate in class critiques and work on building their artistic vocabulary.

## **Game Development**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - Video Games are often thought of as a childish endeavor and while that might be true for some games, the design and development that goes into game design is anything but. Game development can encompass the entire spectrum of programming fields, and the business concepts that govern how games are made are applied to many different careers across disciplines. This course would touch on topics ranging from object-oriented programming, the business of game studios, the ethical responsibilities for both players and creators, and of course how to make a video game. For students, this is a great way for them to learn and gain a passion for programming while creating something they can be proud of and invested in. This course would be a hands-on course where students will learn about game development and design, and then directly apply those concepts into projects that give them a tangible example of their success.

## **Animation**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective, Fine Arts Elective, or General Elective***

***Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - Animation is a form of art that can express motion, stories, and ideas in a way that few other art forms can capture. From its humble beginnings to modern day cinematography, animation is an art form that opens the mind to explore new ideas and forms of sharing our imaginations. This course would cover how to create well polished animations that come to life and tell a story, students will learn animation tools, techniques, and principles. For students, this will give them skills that will allow them to express their imaginations in a new and dynamic art form. Learning how to animation also has transferable skills that are useful and applicable to a variety of careers.

This course would be a hands-on course where students will learn animation principles and techniques as well as the concepts of motion behind them, all while creating animations that they will use as milestones for their progress and success.

## **Photography II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Intro to Photography

**Description** - Photography II will take the next step in "developing" interested students in the art, science and skills in Photography. This course will start to move students away from exclusively using their cell phone and using a DSLR camera and learning how to use that as a tool that will enhance their eye. Additionally, students will learn about more detailed editing, professional lighting and the many careers in Photography. This will be a very hands on course where we will shoot more varied topics and subjects, many times off campus.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **MakerSpace**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - In this course students will explore the following topics at a deeper level: 3DPrinting, PaperCircuits, E-Textiles, and Graphic Design for Making. Students will create a variety of projects from PaperCircuit Cities, Advanced E-Textiles projects, create graphics for paper crafts and t-shirt design. Additional projects will be added based upon student interest for further exploration.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Cybersecurity - Part A**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Tech I

**Description** - Part A of the course aims to give students a basic understanding of cybersecurity through technical reading, videos, podcasts, class discussions, hands-on applications, simulations, and board games. The course begins with an introduction to ethics, examining the ways in which values shape societies, ethical questions surrounding the use of technology, and the privacy/security trade-off. Next, the course discusses the CIA triad and gives a basic introduction to computer hardware, which are knowledge units needed for the rest of the course.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Mobile App Development A & B**

**Duration** - One Semester or Full Year

**HS Credit** - 0.5 or 1.0

**Satisfies Technology/Business Elective or General Elective Graduation Requirement**

**AP Opportunity Possible**

**Prerequisites** - Technology I

**Corequisite** - Algebra I

**Description** - In this course you will learn computer science by building socially useful mobile apps. In addition to programming and computer science principles, the course is project-based and emphasizes writing, communication, collaboration, and creativity. Students who have taken this course in the past have gone on to compete in Hackathons at Facebook, applied for the Congressional App Challenge, won NCWIT awards, and secured internships through a partnership with UNH STEM Discoveries lab.

***This course is not offered every year. It WILL NOT be offered in 2022-2023.***

## **Intro to Computer Science - ~~RETIRED~~**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade or above**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works.

***This course was required for all students new to Founders. This course covered most of the material in Computer Science 1, but in a one-semester format to allow it to fit in the schedules of non-6th Grade students. After the 2021-2022 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Its material has been incorporated into MSCS.***

### **Computer Science 1s - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade or above**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works.

*This course was required for all students new to Founders. This course covers most of the material in Computer Science 1, but in a one-semester format to allow it to fit in the schedules of non-6th Grade students.*

*After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. Instead, returning students will take “MSCS” while new students will take “Intro to Computer Science”.*

### **Computer Science 2 - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 7th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Computer Science 1 or Computer Science 1s

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works. This will incorporate the curriculum for CS Discoveries in a partnership with the UNH STEM Discoveries Lab.

*After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. The material has been combined with the material from “Computer Science 3” to form “MSCS”.*

### **Computer Science 3 - RETIRED**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 8th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - Computer Science 2 or Permission of Instructor

**Description** - Computer science opens more doors for students than any other discipline in today's world. Learning even the basics will help students in virtually any career—from architecture to zoology. Just as we teach students how to dissect a frog, or how electricity works, it's important for every 21st century student to have a chance to “dissect an app,” or learn how the Internet works. This will incorporate the curriculum for CS Discoveries in a partnership with the UNH STEM Discoveries Lab. This will also incorporate additional units from Exploring Computer Science curriculum to enhance the focus on computer science skills as the focus rather than digital literacy.

*After the 2019-2020 school year, this course will no longer be offered. The material has been combined with the material from “Computer Science 2” to form “MSCS”.*

## **Health & Physical Education**

### **PE/Health 6**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - No

**Typical 6th Grade**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - This course is designed to give students the basic knowledge and tools that are important in making choices for a healthy lifestyle. Students will be exposed to a variety of activities, demonstrations, projects, and discussions that will help them determine what a healthy lifestyle is and why it is important. Maintaining a healthy way of living requires a balance of physical, mental-emotional, and social well-being. This course will be discussing each of those aspects and what it means to have a healthy lifestyle in each area.

### **High School Health**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies Health Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - Biology

**Description** - The Founders Academy High School Health course consists of a variety of topics which focus on providing students information to aid them in making healthy choices. This course is designed to give students basic knowledge and tools that are important in making choices for a healthy lifestyle. Students will be exposed to a variety of activities, projects, and discussions that will help them determine what a healthy lifestyle is and why it is important. They will examine past leaders in the field and the impact of their discoveries and contributions. Maintaining a healthy way of living requires a balance of physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being. Each of these will be addressed throughout the course.

**Note** - *Many of our students choose to take "Life Management Skills" through VLACS (with prior approval from our Scheduling Committee) to satisfy this graduation requirement. This allows students to have more room for electives in their Junior and Senior years.*



### **High School Alternative Credit PE I/II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies PE Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - prior approval from the Scheduling Committee

**Description** - Many students at The Founders Academy choose to fulfill the NH requirements for Physical Education through ways other than a scheduled class. This option allows a student to receive credit for physical activities that they were likely to participate in while also freeing up room in their schedule in order to take more classes that match their interests. One season of a school-sponsored high school sport (Freshman, Junior Varsity, or Varsity) from the student's sending district can count for one semester of PE with documentation from the coach confirming that the student participated in good standing for the season. Other *organized* sports and activities (dance, karate, etc) can possibly be counted with 50 hours of participation equalling one semester worth of credit. (It is important that these organized activities are approved by the Scheduling Committee before participation.) Signed documentation (and possibly a log tracking the hours) from a coach or instructor will likely be required as proof of completion.

***This option can be taken twice for one total credit in order to meet the PE Graduation Requirements. It cannot be used to fulfill any other elective requirements.***

### **High School PE I**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies PE Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - none

**Description** - Students will be exposed to a variety of activities to encourage lifelong participation and to promote a physically active lifestyle.

***This class is taken in order to meet the PE Graduation Requirements. It cannot be used to fulfill any other elective requirements. Class size is limited and preference will be given to Seniors and Juniors who need to complete the Graduation Requirement.***

### **High School PE II**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

**Typical High School Class; Satisfies PE Graduation Requirement**

**Prerequisites** - High School PE I

**Description** - Students will be exposed to a variety of activities to encourage lifelong participation and to promote a physically active lifestyle.

***This class is taken in order to meet the PE Graduation Requirements. It cannot be used to fulfill any other elective requirements. Class size is limited and preference will be given to Seniors and Juniors who need to complete the Graduation Requirement.***

## **General Education**

### **Life Skills 101**

**Duration** - One Semester

**HS Credit** - 0.5

***Satisfies General Elective Graduation Requirement***

**Prerequisites** - Must be in 9th Grade or above

**Description** - Looking for an elective that is going to teach you how to do everyday tasks? Wondering how to do laundry? What is a crock pot? How do I mail a letter? What is empathy? Leading by example in all that you do, what is a planner and how do I use it? I have a credit score? I have a gym membership, now what? How to sew a button on pants. How to set goals and work towards achieving goals. How do I check the oil in my car? How to prepare for a job interview; Proper nutrition and food prepping; Making your own Dr. appointments; what in the world are utilities? .. and many MANY more... Well then, Life Skills 101 is the class for you! Come join as each week we dive into a new unit with several topics that will teach you and give you the tools you need to carry out at times simple, yet necessary and practical skills. This class will be a semester long hands on class where students will have the opportunity to try and complete many of these tasks. Having these skills under your belt will help you with life everyday, life after high school and how to continue being a future leader by being able to lend a helping hand. Life skills 101, you won't just learn it, you'll experience it!

## **Revision History**

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