

**Sun Valley High School**  
**2010-2011**  
**Course Description Catalog**



## **Our Mission . . .**

Sun Valley provides a safe and supportive environment for accelerated education. Through personalized instruction, we incorporate our high academic standards with essential life skills. By meeting individual and academic needs, Sun Valley prepares students to become productive citizens.



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## Graduation Requirements

Listed below are the requirements for graduation from Sun Valley High School that meet all Arizona State Board of Education standards for both the standard and scholastic diplomas.

Subjects	Credits Required for <u>Standard Diploma</u>	Credits Required for <u>Scholastic Diploma</u> (and entrance to a 4 year university)
English	4	4
Mathematics	2	4
Science	3	3
Social Studies	2.5	2.5
Economics (SVHS Requirement)	.5	.5
Foreign Language	0	2
Fine/Practical Arts	1	1
Technology (SVHS Requirement)	.5	.5
Electives	6.5	3.5
Total Academic Credits Required	13	17
<b>Total Credits Required</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>



In addition to the 20 credits required for graduation, all 2011 graduates **must pass AIMS** Writing, Reading, and Mathematics assessments. *Students also need to consider whether they wish to earn a standard diploma or a scholastic diploma to plan their schedules.*



Please visit our campus **college and career center in Room 11D!** We can assist with college searches, campus visits, financial aid, scholarships, job placement, career exploration . . . and much, much more! Take advantage of this rich resource to take that next step in your life.



Finished your final credits? **Be sure to check out with Lori Galvan** in Student Services before you leave campus to make sure every requirement has been met and documented.



## English Department



### English 9A

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

This .5 credit course builds the language arts foundation necessary to be successful in high school. Through literature study and review, students explore universal themes, analyze core literary techniques, and begin to examine ties between literature, historical context, and point of view. A comprehensive study of grammar, sentence structure, and punctuation serves as the platform for short narrative writing assignments. Students also engage in a comprehensive vocabulary building program.

### English 9B

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

This .5 credit, second semester of freshman English continues the survey of grammar and writing conventions begun in 9A. Students complete more extensive writing assignments of persuasive, expository, and narrative nature, utilizing their conventional knowledge in practice. The five paragraph essay is mastered, and students are able to evaluate and draft writing using the '6 Traits'. Students continue to expand their vocabulary and build richer word choice capabilities.

### English 10A

Prerequisite: Freshman English

Grade: 10

This .5 credit course guides students to thoughtfully analyze a wide variety of literature with a tolerance theme. Using the literary technique knowledge covered in English 9A and 9B, students fine-hone their reasoning skills and engage in the critical analysis of novels, short stories, poetry, film, and expository texts. Proficiency in style, grammar, usage, and mechanics is emphasized. Through literature, students learn essential decontextualization strategies for vocabulary, working with common prefixes, suffixes, and root words.

### English 10B

Prerequisite: Freshman English

Grade: 10

Students create persuasive, expository, narrative, and business texts using a workshop method of writing in the .5 credit course. The process of writing, from pre-writing, to drafting, to self-editing, to peer-editing, to revision is utilized. Students use writing rubrics to evaluate the work product of their peers and themselves. The six traits of writing are incorporated into every writing assignment. Students continue to explore the theme of tolerance throughout the course reading and writing. Logical thinking is explicitly taught, and students are able to identify fallacies and manipulation.

### **English 11A**

Prerequisites: English 9 and 10

Grade: 11

This .5 credit course reinforces the mastery of reading strategies using American Literature. Literary techniques are reviewed, identified, and analyzed regularly. Students acquire new vocabulary connected to the literature they explore, and continue analyzing prefixes, suffixes, and root words. Students also review essential conventions of writing through formal literary response. Students connect the literature they read to critical moments in our history and are able to see the texts from a variety of cultural perspectives.

### **English 11B**

Prerequisites: English 9 and 10

Grade: 11

Students master writing in a variety of modes, ranging from persuasive assignments, to narrative storytelling, to letters, to dialogue in this .5 credit course. Students actively participate in a writing workshop, metacognitively assessing their own growth through their portfolios which provide evidence of their strengths and weaknesses. The MLA writing format is introduced in this course through a series of shorter writing assignments. Students receive highly individualized conventional instruction directly tied to their own work product.

### **English 12A**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and 11

Grade: 12

This .5 credit course focuses on student understanding of classical British literature, from Chaucer, to Shakespeare, to contemporary English authors. Students demonstrate speaking and listening skills by participating in class discussions, impromptu activities, and dramatic readings. Students continue to connect literature to its historical context and delve deeply into both character and thematic analyses. Vocabulary development is enriched through a survey of etymology.

### **English 12B**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and 11

Grade: 12

Students in English 12B earn .5 credits while immersing themselves into meaningful, project-based research and MLA writing. Biographies and autobiographies are read, shared, and analyzed, culminating in a comprehensive project and formal presentation. Current issues are explored, analyzed, debated, and reported. Business writing, with individualized conventional support, is also enhanced.

### **Creative Writing**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course encourages creativity and imagination in writing. Students will read, discuss, and analyze a variety of literary works. Students will develop their own writing style. Class work products will be shared and critiqued by peers. Emphasis is placed on poetic writing, creative plots, and character development. Narrative, descriptive writing, and comparison/contrast writing are developed, and writing conventions are strengthened.

### **Holocaust Literature I**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course is designed to explore the Holocaust through a multitude of venues while sharpening critical thinking skills. Various propaganda techniques are identified and applied to World War II artifacts. Students will use film, music, narrative novels, short stories, photography, advertising, and a wide range of non-fiction resources (including guest speakers). Students complete independent research projects/presentations and share them with the class to enrich learning experiences. Personal narrative and persuasive writing are explored. Students also make essential connections between the Holocaust and contemporary tragedies in Yugoslavia, Sudan, and Rwanda.

### **Holocaust Literature II**

Prerequisite: Holocaust I

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course continues to probe the Holocaust by delving more deeply into the literature, history, and discussions begun in the first class. The students continue to use a wide variety of media to expand their knowledge base. This course places an emphasis on resistance efforts by exploring personal narratives and primary historical sources from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. In addition, participants will conduct independent projects that reach out into the community to educate others and improve lives.

### **Literature and Cinema**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course examines film media as literary genre. Literary elements such as theme, plot, characterization, metaphor, symbolism, and narration are studied and analyzed in film clips and feature-length works. The course fosters an appreciation of film as a communicator of ideas and stories. Students learn cinematographic terminology and techniques. Throughout the course, students apply knowledge of cinematography and literary elements by creating their own storyboards and scripts. Students also compare written texts to their translations on film. In addition, students write various film critiques, persuasive essays, and five paragraph responses examining the class texts.

### **Women's Literature and Contemporary Issues**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and 11

Grade: 12

This .5 credit course surveys the literature and history of women worldwide. A variety of poetry, essays, short stories, novels, and non-fiction resources (including historical documentaries) are explored. Students will write MLA research papers, I-search papers, personal responses, and persuasive essays. Students will work cooperatively to create formal presentations regarding contemporary women's issues. Students will present work from research projects formally to their peers. This course also includes powerful speakers from the community who provide insight into critical issues for women today.

### **Literature of the 1960s**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course is designed to teach students literature essentials from the 1960s. Students learn about American and world politics, art, architecture, drama, and music of the era to establish a background for literary study. Students will read and analyze short stories, novel excerpts, and other quintessential texts of the era. The course reinforces composition skills through narrative essay, comparison/contrast works, and literary responses.

### **Poetry**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course explores the world of poetry through a multitude of instructional methods. Teacher directed decontextualization of famous poetry is focused to teach literary techniques through example. Students, through self-directed study, create their own anthologies of published works that combine literature, visual art, and personal analysis. Students explore poetry writing as a process and experiment with a wide variety of forms and voices.

### **Shakespeare**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, 11, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 12

This .5 credit course focuses solely on the work and historical background of William Shakespeare. A wide variety of plays and poems are read, and students practice working within the realm of Middle English. In addition, students watch portions of select Shakespearean adaptations, and compare/contrast them with each other and the original text. Students conduct self-directed independent studies about self-selected topics and present their findings formally. Students analyze formal literary and cinematic criticisms from the academic world and analyze themes of independent works.

### **Shakespeare II**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, 11, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 12

In this .5 credit course, students continue to study the works of William Shakespeare. They study three plays, various film versions, and literary criticism. Participants analyze Shakespeare's work in daily writing assignments and formal essays. Cooperative production teams are established to design, direct, and perform quintessential scenes for the class. Students also work on vocabulary activities to enhance the understanding of Middle English and contemporary linguistics.

### **Short Stories**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course teaches the elements of short fiction, including plot development, characterization, and tone. Students will analyze short stories by a variety of classic and contemporary authors. Students are able to compare literary techniques within genres, and identify patterns within them. Students are required to write essays evaluating and analyzing both content and literary techniques. Class discussion will develop ideas presented in the stories and apply them to students' lives.

### **Yearbook I, II, and III**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement, and teacher recommendation

Grade: 11 and 12

Students earn 1.5 credits learning the processes and techniques of publication in this three block course. Skills learned are reinforced and used repeatedly as the team works together to produce the final project, *The Horizon*. Collaborative interpersonal skills are developed as students tackle deadlines, coordinate photography days, raise funds, and market events.

### **Mythology**

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, and completion of AIMS Reading and Writing requirement

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course explores the tradition of mythology from a wide variety of perspectives. Myths from many different world cultures and time periods are surveyed. Students will complete independent and group projects, as well as creative art and writing projects that demonstrate their knowledge.

### **Reading & Writing Workshop I**

Prerequisites: English 9 and 10

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course stresses the '6 Traits' of writing while promoting writing as a process. Individualized instruction of conventional needs is a priority and is reinforced through editing and peer revision activities. Students read a variety of literary works and analyze them for literary techniques. Students write several papers of varying lengths that persuade, analyze, and compare and contrast.

### **Reading & Writing Workshop II**

Prerequisites: English 9 and 10

Grade: 11 and 12

This .5 credit course continues to emphasize the '6 Traits' of writing while promoting writing as a process. Individualized instruction of conventional needs is a priority and is reinforced through editing and peer revision activities. Student reading will focus on autobiography and will analyze the readings for contextual understanding. Students will write several papers that relate to contemporary social questions. The papers will be of varying lengths, and emphasize argumentation through analysis and compare and contrast.

### **Level I English Language Development**

Prerequisite: Dependent on AZELLA results

Grade: 9 – 12

This course covers the basic foundations of the English language. Concepts explored include grammar, listening, speaking, reading and writing. The writing component of the course will expose the student to prewriting, drafting, and editing skills. Proficiency in survival English (BICS) necessary for school and everyday situations is a critical component of listening and speaking activities. Poetry, simple literary texts, and expository passages are utilized in the reading portion of the class. Academic language is introduced, practiced, and assessed.

## **Level II English Language Development**

Prerequisite: Level I ELD or AZELLA results

Grade: 9 – 12

This course builds on the foundations of the English language covered in ELD I. Proficiency in grammar, usage, and mechanics are emphasized. The course covers grammar, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students apply a six trait writing rubric to the process of writing. The writing component of the course will expose the student to prewriting, drafting, and editing skills. Students will explore more challenging literature from a variety of genres. Students perfect their BICS mastery and transition into CALP usage. Academic language is introduced, practiced, and assessed.

## **Level III English Language Development**

Prerequisite: Level II ELD or AZELLA results

Grade: 9 – 12

This course further develops the foundations of the English language covered in ELD II. Note taking skills are fostered to provide SEI support. Proficiency in grammar, usage and mechanics is emphasized, as are the academic English skills needed to succeed in high school and beyond. Listening and speaking skills are built upon with the goal of achieving fluency in the social context. Students use a six trait writing rubric to create five paragraph essays. Reading proficiency and literary skills will be applied to reading an English language novel. Students engage in Internet research and prepare formal presentations utilizing technology, such as Power Point, web pages, and video.

## **Level IV English Language Development**

Prerequisite: Level III ELD or AZELLA results

Grade: 9 – 12

This course promotes the reading, writing, speech, and language concepts learned in ELD III and prepares students for the transitional course. Students apply knowledge of reading to the many forms of composition. The process of writing is emphasized and utilized: pre-writing, drafting, editing, revising, and proofreading. Students explore the six traits of writing and are able to evaluate essays for each trait. Essay content and writing skills are stressed. The development of academic language is emphasized. Students engage in Internet research and prepare more challenging, formal presentations utilizing technology.

## **Transitional English Language Development**

Prerequisite: Level IV ELD or AZELLA results

Grade: 9 – 12

This course promotes reading, writing, speech, and language concepts learned in ELD IV. Through literature study and review, students learn universal themes while applying all the forms and stages of composition. The six traits of writing are used to foster richer essays, and students assess their own writing using the six trait rubric. Transitional students will be exposed to mainstream English classes taught by English teachers who hold full ELL endorsements who appropriately support this transition. To fully move into mainstream courses, ELL students must pass AZELLA.

### **English Language Acquisition Lab**

Prerequisite: Based on AZELLA scores

Grade: 9 – 12

This mandatory, supplementary course is designed to provide more intensive language instruction for students who are English language learners. Students focus on vocabulary acquisition, grammar comprehension, speaking and pronunciation growth. Students will engage in self-directed projects individually tailored to their interests and needs. Innovative technology programs supplement learning and provide differentiated instruction. Social and academic English are explored in-depth and are extended into reading and writing assignments.

### **English Language Development Reading Workshop\***

Prerequisite: Placement in ELL program

Grade: 9 – 12

Students will read and study a variety of fiction and nonfiction works, including novels, short stories, poetry, and children's literature. Students will learn to apply basic literary terminology such as character development and plot. Students develop their grammar, spelling, and pronunciation skills.

\*This course is offered during the summer only.

### **English Language Development Writing Workshop\***

Prerequisite: Placement in ELL program

Grade: 9 – 12

Students will learn to write focusing on content, organization, conventions, fluency, word choice, and voice. Students will learn and practice the principles of prewriting, drafting, peer editing, and revising. Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage issues are addressed through an individualized model of instruction. Students apply rubrics to writing and use them as revision tools.

\*This course is offered during the summer only.



## Mathematics Department



### **Algebra Foundations**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9 or as recommended

This .5 credit elective course helps to build a strong computation background while covering foundational algebraic concepts. This is a great introductory course for students beginning their high school math education . . . and an effective refresher course for upperclassmen who have struggled with algebra. Students will write algebraic expressions, master properties, and understand probability. The topics will include basic operations, fractions, problem solving, absolute value equations, graphing, arithmetic sequences, percentages, ratios & proportions, and basic statistics.

### **Algebra IA**

Prerequisite: Algebra Foundations with 'C' or better or qualifying pre-test score

Grade: 9

This .5 credit course begins by solving one step and multi-step equations, solving inequalities, and graphing inequalities. Students then will master functions and rules, find slope, write and graph linear equations, and review probability.

### **Algebra 1B**

Prerequisite: Algebra IA completion with 'C' or better

Grade: 9

This .5 credit course will build on the knowledge base created by IA and bring students through the rest of the Arizona State Standards for algebra. Students will solve systems of linear equations, convert scientific notation, apply properties of exponents, and understand geometric sequences. They will also master factoring, simplify polynomials, understand and solve quadratic equations, simplify radicals, solve radical equations, use the Pythagorean Theorem, and work with trigonometric ratios. Students will simplify rational expressions and predict possible outcomes.

### **Algebra IIA**

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry

Students will solve and graph equations, inequalities, linear relationships, and functions in this .5 credit course. Students will solve systems of equations and inequalities. Participants will add, subtract, and multiply matrices, as well as simplify polynomials. Students identify, simplify, and solve equations using irrational and complex numbers. Participants will be able to solve and graph quadratic equations, relationships, and functions. Radical functions and rational exponents will be mastered. Students will simplify and graph polynomial functions and simplify rational polynomial expressions.

## **Algebra IIB**

Prerequisite: Algebra IIA completion with 'C' or better

Exploring and graphing conic sections will be mastered. Graphing and solving exponential/logarithmic functions is covered. Students identify and predict patterns in geometric and arithmetic sequences and series. Participants graph quadratic relations and conic sections and understand rational functions. Probability is determined, and students find measures of central tendency using statistics. Students also identify standard deviation and apply it to the real world.

## **Geometry A**

Prerequisites: Algebra IA and IB with 'C' or better

In this .5 credit course, students will use tools of geometry to find perimeter and area of figures, measure segments and angles, and find patterns through inductive reasoning. Students learn to prove validity through deductive reasoning, review properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, prove triangle congruency, and find relationships within triangles.

## **Geometry B**

Prerequisite: Geometry A with 'C' or better

In this .5 credit course, students will learn how to classify quadrilaterals, find the area of polygons, circles, and sectors, and compare similar polygons through proportions. Participants also learn to solve basic trigonometry in right triangles. Students will finish the course learning to solve for surface area and volume of three-dimensional objects as well as transformations of shapes on the coordinate plane.

## **Trigonometry A**

Prerequisites: Algebra IIA and IIB with 'C' or better

In this .5 credit course, students will learn formulas for calculating trig ratios and be able to find the value of trig functions based on patterns and relationships. Participants will practice solving right triangles with trig functions and will also apply their knowledge of trig functions to unit circle using radian measurements. Students will interpret and create graphs of trig functions. Finally, students will end the course learning trigonometric identities and applying them in order to simplify equations.

## **Trigonometry B**

Prerequisite: Trigonometry A

The second semester of trigonometry begins with reviewing usage of trigonometric identities in order to simplify equations, then moves to solving equations using inverse trig functions. Students also have the opportunity to see real-world applications of trigonometry. Participants convert Cartesian coordinates to polar coordinates, and use parametric equations and complex numbers to solve trigonometric equations. Students earn .5 credits for completing this course.



## Science Department



### **ESSENTIAL SCIENCE**

#### **Essential Elements of Science A**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 and 10

This lab-based, .5 credit course introduces students to the scientific method of inquiry through the study of geology, time scales, radioactive dating, earthquakes, energy, plate tectonics, volcanoes, and rock cycles. Students explore water issues that affect our ecosystem. Social perspectives of environmental issues are surveyed, and major historical markers are identified and evaluated.

#### **Essential Elements of Science B**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 and 10

This lab-based, .5 credit course continues to explore topics of earth science, such as weather/climate, astronomy, the solar system, tidal effects, atmosphere dynamics, the Coriolis effect, and nuclear fusion. Students continue to evaluate the symbiotic relationship between man and nature and explore scientists and concepts of importance.

### **LIFE SCIENCE**

#### **Life Science A and Biology A**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 10 and 11

These lab-based, .5 credit courses utilize the tenets of the scientific method to explore the study of life science. Students collect, interpret, synthesize, and apply data, and relate findings to everyday life. Cell structure, function, and processes are mastered; repair and transport are learned. The basics of genetics are explored, as is the molecular basis of heredity. Students identify principles governing all living things and debate social issues in biology.

#### **Life Science B and Biology B**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 10 and 11

This lab-based, .5 credit course analyzes ecological relationships between the environment and living organisms. Major principles governing living things are applied to the study of evolution. Natural selection, adaptation, biodiversity, and classification systems are learned. Human history is surveyed, and controversial social issues are explored. Students continue utilizing the scientific method during lab experimentation.

## **CHEMISTRY**

### **Chemistry**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Grade: 10 – 12

This .5 credit, lab-based course will explore the major topics of chemistry as outlined by the Arizona State Standards. Students will gain knowledge of the chemical structure and properties of matter, investigate chemical reactions, and understand features of atomic structure. Students become very familiar with the periodic table, using it regularly to predict experimental outcomes. Students regularly utilize their algebra skills to balance chemical equations.

## **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

### **Physical Science**

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Chemistry

Grade: 10 – 12

This .5 credit course will provide students with the basic knowledge of physics as outlined by the Arizona State Standards. Students will explore energy, force, and motion in depth. Major topics include: properties and classification of matter, Newton's Laws of Motion, energy conservation, basic astronomy, and interactions of energy and matter. Laboratory investigation is a critical part of the course, as it relates to real life experiences.

## **SCIENCE ELECTIVES**

### **Introduction to Astronomy**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

This .5 credit course is a detailed study of the universe. It includes a survey of astronomical instruments, galaxies, solar systems, stars, and discusses the historical evolution of astronomy. Students research topics of interest and design instructional projects.

### **Anatomy & Physiology A**

Prerequisite: Life Science or Biology

Grade: 11 – 12

This .5 credit course is a laboratory based, advanced course in human anatomy and physiology. Major areas of study include cells, tissues, integumentary system, skeletal system, muscular system, and endocrine system. A research project is required for all students. This course includes mammal dissections.

### **Anatomy & Physiology B**

Prerequisite: Life Science or Biology

Grade: 11 – 12

This .5 credit course is a laboratory based, advanced continuation of Anatomy & Physiology A. Major areas of study include the nervous, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, and reproductive systems. A research paper is required of all students. This course includes mammal dissections.

### **Introduction to Epidemiology**

Prerequisite: Life Science or Biology

Grade: 11 – 12

This .5 credit course is a lab-based exploration of microbiological disease. Emphasis is placed on the historical and scientific significance of the Black Death, cholera, smallpox, influenza, polio, yellow fever, sexually transmitted diseases, and hemorrhagic fevers. Through the course, students will study the epidemiology of over 30 diseases. Major biological topics include: microbiology of cells, cellular processes, bacteria, and viruses. Other topics include a review of the cardiovascular, immune, and respiratory systems. A research project and dissection are completed by all students.

### **Oceanography**

Prerequisites: Biology A and B

Grades: 10 – 12

This .5 credit course provides a comprehensive review of the tenets of ecological relationships explored in Biology B . . . but in the context of marine ecosystems. Major principles governing marine life are applied, and the study of evolution is explored. Natural selection, adaptation, biodiversity, and classification systems are learned. Controversial social issues are explored that directly and indirectly impact marine life. Students continue utilizing the scientific method during lab experimentation and are pushed to be more discriminating consumers of information and think critically about data.

### **Marine Biology**

Prerequisite: none, but Oceanography is recommended

Grades: 9 – 12

Marine Biology is an introduction to the ocean's environment for life. This is a .5 credit, laboratory-based course emphasizing marine habitats, evolutionary adaptations, biological productivity, energy transfer, animals of the pelagic environment, and animals in benthic environments. This course includes dissections.



## Social Studies Department



### **World History A**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9-10

This .5 credit course explores the development of world cultures from the early civilizations through the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Era. Events are surveyed through a variety of perspectives, and a global view is emphasized. Students utilize a wide variety of media and are exposed to the art, literature, history, film, geography, and politics of events.

### **World History B**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9-10

This .5 credit course explores the historical events, from the Age of Exploration to the Cold War that impacted our modern world. A wide variety of historical perspectives are presented to students through a variety of media. Students enhance their knowledge while learning and utilizing effective research strategies. Students utilize a wide variety of media and are exposed to the art, literature, history, film, geography, and politics of events discussed.

### **US/Arizona History I**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 11

This .5 credit course examines the history of the United States, and Arizona specifically, from Early Civilizations through Reconstruction. In addition to text and lecture, students get the opportunity to explore American historical events from a wide variety of American and world perspectives.

### **US/Arizona History II**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 11

This .5 credit course examines the history of the United States, and Arizona specifically, from the Industrial Revolution through current events. Students study events from a multitude of national and international perspectives and have the opportunity to explore primary sources and a wide variety of media using research skills. Pattern identification and critical reasoning skills are developed.

### **Free Enterprise Economics**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 11 – 12

This .5 credit course familiarizes the student with the essentials of the free enterprise system, as well as other economic systems of the world. Included are the principles of supply and demand as well as the economic problems of resource allocation. Emphasis is placed on the economic life skills necessary for real world applications. Current events are also woven into classroom activities and applied to theoretical knowledge.

### **American Government**

Prerequisites: World History A and B and US/Arizona History I and II

Grade: 12

This .5 credit course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the foundation and organization of government. Emphasis is placed on the history of government, principles of government, the three branches of government, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship, and local government of Arizona. Students analyze both the Declaration of Independence and Constitution thoroughly and apply this knowledge to discussions about current events and controversial societal issues.

### **History of Vietnam (history elective)**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 11 – 12

This .5 credit course explores the history of Vietnam from 111BC to the immediate aftermath of the Vietnam War, emphasizing the period from the 1880s to the late 1970s. Topics of examination include: geographic concepts of the Southeast Asian Peninsula, Cold War hotspots that contributed to US involvement in the Vietnam War, the perspectives of politicians and soldiers, and the effects of the war on the American people. Students also explore possible comparative applications to current events.

### **Latin American Studies (history elective)**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 - 12

This course issues .5 credit for each section. The class will cover the history of the people of Latin America from early Mesoamerican civilizations through colonialism, nationalism, and revolution. Geographical concepts relating to historical events are emphasized. A wide variety of historical perspectives are presented to students through a variety of media. Students enhance their knowledge of these historical events while learning and utilizing effective research strategies.

### **The Middle Ages (history elective)**

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9 – 12

This .5 credit course surveys European history, geography, religion, art, society, and culture from 500AD to 1000AD. Students will develop strong research skills for self-selected projects and engage in problem-based learning. Students will participate in cooperative teams to explore the development of languages and their roles in European society.



## Fine and Practical Arts



### **Art History I and II**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 - 12

These .5 credit courses survey studies in art, styles, and movements from prehistoric times through present. Students trace development of artistic thought and analyze different cultures' effects on art. In addition, students create projects reflecting various styles and movements.

### **Ceramics I and II**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

These .5 credit courses teach language for clay and develops basic hand building techniques while exploring the manipulation of clay. Students also learn basic glazing techniques.

### **Drawing I and II**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

These .5 credit courses explores the media of graphite pencil, colored pencil, marker, and felt pens while using elements of lines, shapes, space, depth, and texture. Students will examine still life, landscape, and other styles. Advanced students will study principles of color and balance, and progress through quill pens.

### **Drawing & Design**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

This .5 credit course reviews drawing techniques such as shading, shape, form, texture, color, and lines. The course also builds practical applications of those techniques through layout and design principles.

### **Life Drawing I and II**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

Students draw from still life and models in these .5 credit classes. The course emphasizes 'life' drawing; it includes viewfinders, contour, and blind contour. Students do not draw from photographs or print. The course utilizes different mediums, such as: pencil, charcoal, chalk, pastels, pen, and ink. A brief summary of the major art periods and styles is conducted. Attention is given to improving drawing skill. Advanced students focus on the media of their choice and research an artist of interest.

## **Painting I and II**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

Using watercolor and tempera paint, student will explore different styles of art, such as Impressionistic, Cubist, and Realistic in these .5 credit courses. Students will manipulate lines, shapes, space, and texture. Advanced students will progress to acrylic, oil, pastel, and chalk pastel paints, and manipulate elements of art through painting many styles.

## **Printmaking**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

This .5 credit course introduces printmaking methods while developing students' creativity. The course explores the processes of relief, monotype, and silkscreen.

## **Computer Applications I**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

Students are introduced to the world of business through the use of current computer applications and technology in this mandatory, .5 credit course. Students will learn word processing, database management, Power Point, spreadsheets, Outlook, Internet basics, and key hardware concepts.

## **Computer Applications II**

Prerequisite: Computer Applications I or 'test out' equivalency

Grade: 9 - 12

This .5 credit continuation of the first semester delves deeper into the programs used in the initial course. Students continue their exploration of word processing, spreadsheets, database management, and Internet exploration. Students practice utilizing these applications during self-directed projects based on careers. Students will work on self-directed projects that explore career options and career opportunities using these business applications.

## **Desktop Publishing**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

This .5 credit course will introduce students to the world of desktop publishing and its function in modern society. Students will utilize all components of desktop publishing and engage in career exploration. Users will create documents that will combine both text and graphics. Emphasis on creation of student projects will include newsletters, flyers, brochures, and promotional materials. Principles of layout and design will be practiced.



## Elective Department



### **Yoga and Wellness**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9- 12

This .5 credit course builds the foundational knowledge needed to create a healthy yoga practice. Through anatomy and dietary study, coupled with a progressive yoga practice, students explore physical fitness. For all skill and fitness levels, this non-traditional yoga class focuses on strength, fluid connection of poses, balance, and flexibility. Loud, upbeat music, pushups, and intense postures are utilized to enhance the mind/ body experience.

### **Work Study**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 10 – 12

Our work study program allows students to earn elective credit for the hours spent learning workplace skills on-the-job. Students are required to track their work hours through weekly or bi-weekly pay stubs to verify their time commitment and need 128 hours to earn .5 elective credit. Supervisors are needed in the workplace who are willing to provide work skills evaluations each block. The paperwork for this program can be found in the front office. Completed hours and evaluations are to be submitted to Student Services.

Note: Student participation is limited to 2.0 total elective credits for their entire high school career.

### **Introduction to Psychology**

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 9 – 12

This .5 credit course surveys a wide variety of topics in the field of psychology. Child development, consciousness, motivation, personality, standardized testing, sensory perception, learning, intelligence, neurobiology, and social psychology are surveyed. Students analyze various personality and intelligence tests and explore the scientific method and sampling practices. Students apply their learning to everyday experiences and situations.

### **Abnormal Psychology I and II**

Prerequisite: none; but Intro to Psychology is recommended

Grade: 9 – 12

Students can earn .5 credits for each semester of this class. This two semester course surveys a wide variety of topics in the field of abnormal psychology. Students review the basics of psychology and neurobiology, and then endeavor to explore a broad spectrum of disorders by DSM IV nosology. Students learn about anxiety, psychotic, somatoform, dissociative, eating, sleeping, mood, personality, and developmental disorders. They also discuss mental health law, insurance protocol, and brain pathology. Students participate in independent research projects and read memoirs written by mental health care consumers.

### **Teaching Assistant**

Prerequisites: 'A' or 'B' in class offered and referral from teacher

Grades: 9 – 12

This .5 credit class allows students to earn credit for mentoring and tutoring their peers in a wide variety of classes. Assistants focus on working with students who have been absent or are struggling with new concepts. Students may also help organize instruction, prepare class materials, and facilitate group discussions.

### **AIMS Prep for Language Arts**

Prerequisites: English 9A, 9B, 10A, and 10B

Grade: 10 – 12

This .5 credit elective class comprehensively reviews the three strands of reading as outlined by ADE, providing intensive practice summarizing, predicting, comparing, contrasting, and evaluating varied reading selections. In addition, students engage in the writing process daily, creating weekly work products that are revised (using the six traits rubric), edited, and rewritten. Students continue to improve on their conventional mastery in an individualized format tied directly to their final drafts. This course explores test-taking strategies for students preparing to take their AIMS assessment, and allows students to complete practice exams using Buckle Down, Galileo, and Study Island assessments.

### **AIMS Prep for Mathematics**

Prerequisites: Algebra 1A, 1B, and Geometry A

Grade: 10 – 12

This .5 credit elective class comprehensively reviews the five strands of mathematics standards as outlined by ADE. Students comprehensively review Algebra and geometry concepts to create a deeper understanding. Teachers use significant differentiated instruction strategies to ensure that gaps in individual comprehension are remedied. This course explores test-taking strategies for students preparing to take their AIMS assessment, and allows students to complete practice exams using Buckle Down, ASSET, Barron's, Princeton Review, Galileo and assessments.

### **Service Learning**

Prerequisite: Pre-approval from the service learning coordinator, Ms. Hamilton

Grades: 9 – 12

This .5 credit class allows students to earn credit for volunteering their time and energies to valuable local non-profits. Students must log 128 service hours to earn .5 credit.

### **Conspiracy Theories**

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9 – 12

This class explores the most notorious conspiracy theories that affect Americans. The material begins with researching the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, then moves to the murders of John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King, and Malcolm X. The class explores the alleged US moon landing and The 9-11 'Truther Movement' is analyzed using a wide variety of media. Critical thinking and research skills are the core of this class, and students complete a wide variety of writing projects: expository, research, and persuasive.

## **Parenting & Child Development**

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9 – 12

The basic tenets of developmental psychology are covered as a foundation for the course. Students master best practices for the development of a child's social, emotional, and physical growth from infancy through childhood. Practical, hands-on strategies are shared for effective parenting. Students explore children's literature for purpose, structure, and technique, then write and illustrate their own creations. Research strategies are developed and self-selected projects are worked on in cooperative groups.

## **Criminal Justice**

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9 – 12

Students will explore the fundamental concepts of criminology in this introductory course. Students apply key knowledge of law and crime to the criminal justice processes and agencies. Participants grasp the evolution of our justice system and compare and contrast it to that of other societies. Basic concepts of psychology and sociology and criminal theory are discussed. Classes incorporate applicable current events and research careers and job outlook for the industry.

## **Women's Contemporary Issues**

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9 – 12

Students explore the social, political, and economic history of women in America to prepare for a contemporary focus. Participants compare and contrast women in America to women in other cultures around the world. Students delve into current issues women face today, including workplace rights, domestic violence, economic independence, eating disorders, academic performance, and equal access. Key sociological and psychological concepts are introduced and applied throughout the course.

## **Sociology**

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9 – 12

This course endeavors to help students use the study of sociology as a means of understanding our world. Students will view their experiences through the lens of sociological perspective. Classes will then broaden their view beyond their own lives and strive to understand why their own experiences are similar and different to other individuals. The course will explore sociological research, socialization, the purpose and structure of groups and organizations, crime and deviance, discrimination, urbanization, and social movements.



## Computer Based Education



SVHS recognizes that students learn in different ways . . . and at different paces. In an attempt to better serve our students, SVHS offers a computer-based education opportunity for students. Our CBE program utilizes the OdysseyWare online software and is actively proctored by SVHS teachers. Students work on the classes they choose, at their own pace. Many students use CBE as a credit-recovery tool, although some use it as an acceleration tool. Mr. Jon Zinger is the program director, and is happy to answer any questions you may have. All courses are aligned to the AZ State Standards.

**Note: CBE enrollment is reserved for juniors and seniors only.**

For the beginning of the 2010-2011 Academic Year, the following CBE courses will be available:

- World History A and B
  - US History I and II
    - Government
    - Economics
  - Geography I and II
  - Biology A and B
- Earth Science A and B
  - Chemistry A and B
    - Physics A and B
- Spanish 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B
- French 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B
  - Health (elective)
- Geography (elective)
- Vietnam War Era (elective)
- Civil War History (elective)
- Essential Elements of Communication (elective)
  - World Civilizations I and II (elective)
- Consumer Mathematics I and II (elective)
  - Psychology



## Independent Studies



Another program designed to assist students with credit recovery or program acceleration is SVHS's independent study program. Students may take these correspondence classes in addition to their full-time, teacher-led campus classes. The work may be completed outside of school and submitted for credit. Although the availability of these courses changes throughout the year, classes are always offered in English, social studies, science, art, and electives. Please see an independent study flier at the front office reception desk for current offerings.



## General Information



### Enrollment Process

Welcome to Sun Valley! New student enrollment is conditional upon a student/parent interview by an administrator and a completion of a student file with the below items:

- Completed enrollment packet
- Current immunization record
- Birth certificate
- Recent photo
- Unofficial transcript from last high school attended
- Withdrawal slip from last high school attended
- Custody papers (if applicable)
- AIMS test results (if available)

### Parent's Right to Know

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act [Section 111(h) (6)] gives parents the right to request and receive their child's assessment data in a timely fashion and understandable format. Additionally, parents have the right to review the qualifications of their student's classroom teachers. Please contact the school leader or assistant school leader to review this information.

### Equal Education and Employment Opportunity

SVHS provides a nondiscriminatory learning environment ensuring that all students and staff are free from discrimination regarding race, color, ethnicity, national origin, gender, religion, and disabilities. A lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in the vocational education program of the school. This commitment extends to all school programs and school sponsored events. In the event a student experiences discrimination, the student should report the incident to the principal within 10 school days. The inability of a student to speak English should not prevent the student from reporting a violation. Every reasonable measure to interpret a non-English speaker's concerns will be taken. Federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, or disability. If an alleged incident is not resolved at the school level, the complainant may contact SVHS's management company, The Leona Group Arizona. The VP for student services is the Leona Group's compliance officer for Title IX, Title VI, Section 504, and ADA. If a student or family member wishes to contact TLG offices, they may do so to 7878 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St. #150., Phoenix, AZ 85020. The phone is 602.953.2933 and the fax is 602.953.0831.

### Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords families and majority age students' rights to their education records. Among these rights are: the right to inspect and review a student's education record within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access, the right to an amendment of the student's education records that the student believes to be inaccurate or misleading and the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable consent. If a family or majority age student wishes to file a complaint alleging a FERPA violation, he or she should first contact the school leader. If a reasonable solution is not made at the school level, the family member or majority age student may contact the school's management company, The Leona Group Arizona. The VP academic services will review the complaint and attempt to resolve the situation with the complainant. The complainant has the right to file a complaint with the US

Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school concerning FERPA. If a student or family member wishes to contact TLG offices, they may do so to 7878 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St. #150., Phoenix, AZ 85020. The phone is 602.953.2933 and the fax is 602.953.0831.

### **English Language Development**

Arizona law requires that students with a home language other than English be assessed for proficiency in oral language, reading comprehension, and written communication. Based on the result of the assessment, students may be placed in the English Language Development program designed to aid them in acquiring English.

### **Special Education**

All students possess unique physical, intellectual, and cognitive characteristics that influence instruction. SVHS seeks to maximize the potential of all students regardless of ability. Every newly-enrolled child at SVHS undergoes a 45-day screening process to monitor for potential physical, cognitive, or emotional disabilities. If a student enrolls with active or expired special education documentation, such records are immediately given to the special education coordinator on-site. If a student is perceived to have a disability or documentation that indicates that the student has received services, the special education teacher may discuss further action needed with the staff and student's family.

If parents perceive that their child is not benefiting from the general education services, they may request, at no cost, an evaluation of their child's cognitive and intellectual ability. The special education coordinator in conjunction with school staff will review requests and respond to parents in a timely manner, in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. If an evaluation is warranted, the school will provide complete results in 60 calendar days of a written request. Students and families have the right to appeal decisions made by SVHS staff. Appeals or grievances will be directed to the school leader.

Students who are eligible for special education services will receive special education services in the least restrictive environment. Students will receive appropriate instruction in the least restrictive environment with the full implementation of their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Students who receive their education with guidance from an IEP may benefit from a range of scheduling options and small group instruction. The certified special education teacher serves as a consultative service to the general education teachers to ensure that appropriate levels of instruction, accommodations, or modifications are provided. Students and families who disagree with program or placement options may, in writing, file a grievance with the school leader. The school leader will review all concerns and respond in a timely manner. If a student or family member disagrees with the school-based decision, the student or family may contact the school's management company, The Leona Group Arizona. TLG's director of special education will attempt to resolve grievances. If a student or family member wishes to contact TLG offices, they may do so to 7878 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St. #150., Phoenix, AZ 85020. The phone is 602.953.2933 and the fax is 602.953.0831.