

Arroyo Valley High School

Elective Course Descriptions for 2010-2011



Visual and Performing Arts

(See VAPA brochure for details)

Visual Arts: Art 1-2, Animation 1-2 / Adv. Studio Art / Sculpture 1-2 / Ceramics 1-2-3 / Adv. Studies in Art

Performing Arts: Piano 1-2-3 / Guitar / Band / Jazz

Ensemble / String Ensemble / Music Appreciation / Concert Choir / Adv. Choir / Dance / Theatre / Tech. Theatre / Film Appreciation / Film & Video / Short Feature / Video Documentary / Video ENG / Indie Film

Foreign Language

French 1-2-3-4AP – Beginning through advanced courses for understanding, speaking, reading and writing French as a 2nd language

Spanish 1-2-3-4AP – Beginning through advanced courses for understanding, speaking, reading and writing Spanish as a 2nd language.

Spanish for Native Speakers 1-2 – Courses designed for students already fluent in Spanish. (Year 2 counts as Spanish 4AP.)

Spanish 5 AP – Course to expand understanding and appreciation of the customs, culture, and history of the Hispanic world. Includes grammar review, reading comprehension, written assignments, and aural/oral comprehension through the study of Hispanic literature.

Technology/Business

Intro to Business Technology – Utilizes a multimedia curriculum and is a comprehensive, integrated overview of seven content areas: marketing, economics and personal finance, business law, international business, accounting, management, and entrepreneurship. The core business themes of career development, communications, computation, and information systems are woven in.

MOUS Word – This course prepares individuals for the Microsoft Office User Specialist exams in Word. Hands-on projects and testing simulations will be completed. Students will use critical thinking to plan, design and create presentations, web pages, designs and newsletter layouts.

MOUS Excel - This comprehensive course teaches the basic and advanced features of Microsoft Excel, a spreadsheet application used for common business application such as budgeting, forecasting, data analysis, and reporting.

Adobe Certified Expert Prep 1-2 – Provides students with the concepts and skills to use Adobe Photoshop CS, Adobe InDesign CS, and Adobe Acrobat Professionally effectively. Students will get hands-on practice working with basic through advanced techniques to get the most out of their experience. Students will learn a foundation in digital photography, photographic composition, photo retouching, image editing, and page layout design. With the skills they have acquired they will be able to design flyers, brochures, business stationary, etc.

ROP Office Occupations (1 period; must be 16 or in 11th grade) – Prepares students in clerical aspects of office operation, including business math, use of reference tools, telephone techniques, duplicating processes, composition of business documents, office reception techniques, mail procedures, computer functions and terminology. A Certificate of Completion will be awarded upon successful completion.

ROP (must be min. 16 years old or in 11th grade)

Catering (2 periods) - An in-depth, hands-on experience that emphasizes food industry awareness, sanitation and safe food handling, food and beverage

production and service, nutrition, food service management, presentation, and customer service.

Food Occupations (2 periods)- This competency-based course prepares students for entry-level positions common to the commercial food preparation industry, such as a cook, waiter/waitress and cashier. Classroom instruction and practical experience will include general sanitation, safety, menu planning, cooking techniques, inventory control, the proper use of kitchen tools and applications, food preparation and customer service.

Child Care Occupations (2 periods) – Teaches students about curriculum, developmentally appropriate practices for young children and other related topics. Students meet *both semesters* for two periods daily, earning 20 career development or elective credits. Starting second quarter they leave campus 4 days each week to work with young children during class time. Students can earn a certificate that qualifies them to work as a preschool teacher ("C" or higher and 150 work experience hours) and/or receive college credits at Valley or Crafton Hills ("B" or higher and a "C" on the college test administered at AVHS).

Intro to Health Care Professions (1 period, 1 semester only) - Prepares students for a variety of medical careers while exploring specific career choices.

Medical Assistant (2 periods) – Prepares students to work in a medical office or clinic. (Prerequisite: Medical Terminology)

Medical Terminology (1 period, 1 semester only) – This course is a prerequisite to all medical courses offered in the ROP. By the end of the course, the student will be able to identify, spell, pronounce and define root words, prefixes and suffixes common to medical careers. The student will also be able to use common abbreviations and appropriate reference materials.

Physical Education & Team Sports

PE Survey 1-2 – Standard PE classes offering a sampling of sports.

Dance – Athletic – A course in dance with an athletic focus (2nd-year PE credit)

AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) – Designed to assist students to be successful in college preparatory courses in high school, including at least one AP/IB course, and to apply successfully for entrance and for financial aid to a four-year university. Increases career awareness, provides instruction and other support for college success. This includes preparing students for senior portfolio projects, writing as a tool for learning, preparing for a professional career and visiting college campuses. Applicants should have the determination and desire to go to college, good attendance, a minimum 2.0 GPA, and a willingness to commit to at least 2 hours of homework a night.

Calif. Teaching Academy

Teacher Training 1-2-3 – (reserved for students accepted in the Teaching Academy. See Ms. Lucey in the Career Center or Ms. Smith in E-105.) An overview of the educational process, focusing on different learning methods and teaching styles, human development, and observation of students of different ages and abilities. Students will design and plan age-appropriate learning activities in a variety of subject areas and be introduced to educational law, classroom management and environment. The students will participate in off-site educational experiences.

Special Programs / Misc. Electives

Psychology – An introduction to the principles and techniques used for developing a better understanding of basic factors that shape and influence human intellect, emotions and social behavior. Class will include active involvement in experiments, observations, interviews, role-play and simulations

to explore the development of human personalities. Includes an overview of career path options in the field of psychology.

Law and Justice (Mock Trial) – Students study and act out one side of a court case in competition with other schools.

CAHSEE English Support – Study support for passing the high school exit exam in English.

Writing to Communicate – Allows students to express themselves and develop their talents in writing stories, poetry and essays, while helping them refine the skills they need to pass the high school exit exam in English.

CAHSEE Math Support – Study support for passing the high school exit exam in mathematics.

Library/Office/Teacher Aide – Students work as aides to the library staff. (Application required.)

Student Government – Offers ASB officers guidance, in-service training, and practical experience in student government and democratic leadership.

Army JROTC 1-2 – Leadership, education and training will focus primarily on increasing self-esteem, developing responsibility, as well as discipline. This will be done by exploring areas of citizenship, communication, leadership development, physical fitness, map reading, marksmanship, drill and ceremonies, inspections, military history, drug and alcohol awareness, and key health issues. JROTC is not designed to teach military combat skills or recruit for military service. The experience gained will be useful in any career choice.

Academic Teams – Academic Decathlon® is a team competition wherein students match their intellects with students from other schools in 10 categories: Art, Economics, Essay, Interview, Language and Literature, Math, Music, Science, Social Science and Speech

Annual – Students must be able to meet deadlines as they learn skills in organization, writing, photography, and design in creating the school yearbook. (Students must apply and interview with yearbook advisor and have a B or better in English, and be approved by the instructor, Mr. Thayer, in E108..)

Journalism – Provides students with the unique opportunity to achieve and learn in a production environment (producing the school newspaper). This works to build students' writing and copy production skills, and provides an arena for students to have their writing published. (Must be recommended by an English teacher, have a B or better in current English class, and be approved by the instructor, Mr. Thayer, in E108.)

Ballet Folklorico – A course in traditional Latin American dances emphasizing folk local culture. (elective credit)

Cafeteria Work. Experience – See Ms. Lucey in the career center to apply for a job in the Hawk cafeteria.

Pep Squad – Dance with our nationally award-winning cheerleading team.

Specialty Science Electives

These courses count as science credit toward high school graduation, but satisfy the "G" (not "D") elective requirement for UC/CSU.

Forensic Science – Students observe, gather and analyze physical evidence to solve criminal investigations. Students will learn and apply basic forensic science concepts through the discussion of realistic scenarios and by engaging in learning activities. Students working in teams will complete laboratory investigations to solve crimes using scientific knowledge and reasoning.

Biotechnology – Students develop and practice important laboratory skills used in biological sciences. These skills include pipetting, solution preparation, serial dilutions, cell culturing, aseptic techniques and DNA extraction.

For more info on electives, please visit
arroyovalleyhighschool.net/counseling.