

Upper School Course Catalogue (Grades 8-12)

8th GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

Language Arts (8th Grade)

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Reading instruction focuses on the student's current reading level and extends word attack to syllabication and word analysis as needed. Reading comprehension instruction places emphasis on inferential and critical reading skills and vocabulary development coordinated with reading materials. Consistent reinforcement is provided through a variety of fiction and non-fiction materials and students participate in an independent reading program outside of the classroom. Students continue to improve the use of mechanics; spelling, punctuation, and grammar and focus on sentence writing, paragraph development and writing essays. Reinforcement is provided in a range of writing contexts, along with an emphasis on computer use in the writing process.

Math (8th Grade)

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This course provides individualized, reinforced units extending basic operations and problem solving including fractions, decimals, and percents. Students are introduced to early pre-Algebra and pre-Geometry concepts as well as continue to apply previously learned skills to real-life situations. Problem solving and reasoning skills are extended to include multi-step problems, graphing and measurements.

Movement II (8th Grade)

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed from a variety of curriculum resources, including SPARK Physical Education and FitnessGram, which give students the opportunity to learn through a comprehensive, sequentially planned program in accordance with the North Carolina Healthful Living Curriculum. Students will enhance their overall well-being by participating in movement classes that provide the knowledge, skills and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. With active participation and practice in a positive atmosphere, students will improve their physical skills, personal fitness levels, and social development.

North Carolina History (8th Grade)

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Within the backdrop of American history, students explore major people, events and issues of North Carolina's past and present. Concepts of geography, civics and economics are integrated throughout the course. Emphasis is placed on learning and applying historical thinking skills.

General Science C (8th Grade)

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Students in this course will study a variety of concepts from Earth Science, Physical Science, and Life Science. These topical units will prepare them to progress to High School Sciences. Discussion, projects, and experimentation - both hands on and digitally modeled - help students gather knowledge and apply that to the everyday world around them.

Applied Research Writing (8th Grade)

Length: 12 Weeks

Prerequisite: None

Students will begin this course with their language arts teacher with a focus on plagiarism; during each rotation, students will have the opportunity to explore various topics which will help them with a greater understanding of the nature of inquiry and research. Students will look at the importance of research in daily life, characteristics, process, and ethics of research, understand the difference between quantitative and qualitative research, and examine research in areas of interest (arts, humanities, sports, science, business, agriculture, social inquiry and current events). Goals of this course include improved research skills: gathering relevant information, analyzing data and information, forming logical conclusions, and writing and presenting a clear report(s).

History Through Music (8th Grade)

Length: 12 Weeks

Prerequisite: None

In this twelve-week rotation, students will look at how music has been used as a means to influence the world we live in and how artists and songs have impacted society. Students will explore historical events throughout the decades and look for themes and trends. We will learn about musicians, songs, and how music has evolved over time. An overview of the some of the historical events that will be covered includes the Civil Rights Movement, Rock's Greatest Tragedy, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and September 11th.

High School Course Offerings, Grades 9-12

ENGLISH & LANGUAGE ARTS

Elements of Literature

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on elements common to many types of literature: character, conflict, plot, setting, theme, and figurative language. Students are exposed to these elements at an appropriate reading level using a variety of reading materials. The goal is to help students understand common elements within a variety of genres: fiction (short stories and novels), drama, folklore, and nonfiction. Students are exposed to mechanics, sentence fluency, composition, and notes and research.

Genres of Literature

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This course involves a more in depth look at genre. Students learn the characteristics and begin an appreciation of the major genres such as short stories, novels, biographies, autobiographies, memoirs, drama, and poetry. Students refine writing mechanics; expand sentence fluency and composition as well as expansion of vocabulary. Examples from literature will be used to develop more mature writing assignments.

American Literature

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on American Literature. The goal of the course is to introduce students to major American authors through a variety of reading materials. Authors may include: Poe, Hawthorne, Twain, and Hemingway. Students apply knowledge of the elements of literature as well as genres. Composition is further developed with a focus on responses to literature, business and practical writing, creative and personal writing, and research writing.

British and World Literature

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

The foundation of this course is British Literature; however, students may be exposed to works by well-known authors from other countries to help broaden the student's perspective. Historical novels set in Great Britain or elsewhere in the world can also be incorporated to give a broader viewpoint. Composition focuses on refining and mastery of skills.

Advanced Literature

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Students in this course will be engaged in a concentrated study of reading that is representative of various genres with deeper application of skills required in prerequisite courses. One goal of the course is to help students better understand the ways writers use language by considering the writer's structure, style and themes as well as underlying social and cultural values. Students will develop arguments, provide critical perspectives and evaluate text.

Literature and Composition

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(counts as an English graduation requirement for the College Prep diploma)

This course provides students with an opportunity to strengthen their reading, writing and critical thinking skills. Students read, discuss, analyze and write about challenging works of recognized literary works to develop honest, concise, and effective use of language and the ability to organize ideas in a clear, coherent, and persuasive way. Goals of the course include analysis of literature at an independent level and sharpen writing skills.

English III – Foundations

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(counts as an English graduation requirement for the Tech Prep diploma)

This course focuses on American Literature. The goal of the course is to introduce students to major American authors through a variety of reading materials. Authors may include: Poe, Hawthorne, Twain, and Hemingway. Students apply knowledge of the elements of literature as well as genres. Composition is further developed with a focus on responses to literature, business and practical writing, creative and personal writing, and research writing. Students are exposed to these elements at an appropriate reading level using a variety of reading materials. The goal is to help students understand common elements within a variety of genres: fiction (short stories and novels), drama, folklore, and nonfiction. Students are exposed to mechanics, sentence fluency, composition, and notes and research. Materials used for this course may be adapted or abridged to meet their instructional level.

English IV – Foundations*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: None*

The foundation of this course is British Literature; however, students may be exposed to works by well-known authors from other countries to help broaden the student's perspective. Historical novels set in Great Britain or elsewhere in the world can also be incorporated to give a broader viewpoint. Composition focuses on refining and mastery of skills.

MATHEMATICS

Integrated Mathematics: Levels 1-4*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: None*

Provides students the opportunity to study traditional topics from algebra, geometry, probability, and statistics in a problem centered, connected approach. Appropriate technology, from manipulatives to calculators and application software is regularly used for instruction and assessment.

Consumer Math: Levels 1-3*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: None*

This course is designed for students to gain an understanding of mathematics as it relates to their everyday lives. Activities help students not only understand the underlying mathematical concepts and equations they may encounter day to day, but also helps them to be more financially aware and competent. Students will solidify basic math skills as well as study the mathematics of: work, banking and credit, personal finance and investments, trades and professions, automobiles and transportation, and housing and taxes.

Algebra I*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra*

Students learn the basic rules, methods, and concepts of Algebra by exploring linear equations, inequalities and polynomials, integrated with statistics and geometry. Students also learn to solve systems of linear equations and inequalities, along with properties of polynomials and an introduction to quadratic and exponential functions.

Algebra II*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: Algebra I*

Topics covered include solving systems of multiple linear equations and inequalities, and polynomial operations, exponents, roots and imaginary and complex numbers. Quadratic equations will be explored in detail.

Geometry*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: Algebra I*

Geometry includes an in-depth analysis of plane, solid, and coordinate geometry as they relate to both abstract mathematical concepts as well as real-world problems. Topics include logic and proof, parallel lines and polygons, perimeter and area analysis, volume and surface area analysis, similarity and congruence, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Emphasis will be placed on developing critical thinking skills as they relate to logical reasoning and argument. Students will be required to use different technological tools and manipulatives to discover and explain much of the course content.

Pre-Calculus*Length: Full Year**Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II*

Pre-Calculus weaves together previous study of algebra, geometry, and mathematical functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The course focuses on mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses. Topics include fundamental concepts of Algebra, functions and graphs, polynomials and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, topics in trigonometry, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices and determinants, conic sections and analytic geometry, sequences, induction, probability, and an introduction to Calculus.

Statistics*Length: Full Year**Prerequisites: Algebra II*

Statistics is designed as an introduction into the topics of analysis given certain events on sets of data including independent and dependent events, conditional probability, discrete random variables, probability distributions, measures of central tendency, normal distributions, and organization/display of data. Students will be in charge of collecting and modeling real world data to learn how statistics can be commonly used. Statistics will mainly use an online interface using web resources and materials to enhance the scope of data to be shared. With an emphasis on the base level this course will be a launching pad for students to increase their mathematical reasoning and logical thinking skills.

Introduction to College Math (ICM)*Length: Full Year**Prerequisites: Statistics and Pre-Calculus*

This course is designed to develop an understanding of topics, which are fundamental to the study of Calculus. Emphasis is placed on the analysis of trigonometric functions in multiple representations, right and oblique triangles, vectors, polar coordinates, and parametric equations. Upon completion, students should be able to select and use appropriate models and techniques for finding solutions to trigonometry-related problems with and without technology.

SOCIAL STUDIES

World History

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

In World History, students study major themes, people, places, and events that have played a significant role in shaping the modern world. Students explore cultural, economic, political and social developments beginning in the 13th century.

Rethinking History

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This year long course introduces the concept of political cartoons and investigates the unexplained events of history. For the political cartoons component, students delve into the background of political cartoons, their purpose, and their use as primary sources. A brief history is provided related to the development of the United States. Topics discussed include why political cartoons are used, where to find them, the tools used by cartoonists, and the interpretation of political cartoons. Students are encouraged to challenge messages conveyed, develop their own opinions, and create their own cartoons to comment on historical and current events. The Mysteries of History component delves into history's unsolved mysteries. Students learn that it is often difficult to interpret events because many times there are no right or wrong answers and secrets that the past is reluctant to reveal. Topics include who built Stonehenge and why, did the Chinese beat Columbus to the New World, what happened to America's "Lost Colony", and much more. Students are encouraged to challenge historians' interpretations and express their own opinions.

Economics Legal and Political Systems (ELP)

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(Requirement for Graduation)

ELP is divided into two separate components; Economics and Legal Political Systems. Economic principles and topics are explored including supply and demand, competition, income, capitalism, the free enterprise system, consumers, producers, businesses, business cycles, organized labor, money and banking, the Federal Reserve System, taxation, personal economic responsibility, and the stock market. The Legal and Political component features the American system, including state and local governments, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Presidency, the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, public policy, urban problems and public opinion. The importance of current events is emphasized throughout the year.

United States History

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(Requirement for Graduation)

The United States History is a study of geography, climate, natural resources, and foreign nations and the impact all have had on the settlement and development of the United States from pre-colonial times to the present. Topics include Colonial America, the War for Independence, the Constitution, various Presidencies, the development of the Factory System, the Crisis of the 1850s, the Civil War, Westward Expansion, the Gilded Age, World War I, World War II and current events. Students are encouraged to question compromises, strategies, and solutions to various historical problems, and devise alternatives using resources from that particular time period. They also examine the political, economic, social and cultural development of the United States throughout the course.

Financial Literacy

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Financially literate people use their knowledge and understanding of economics, money, credit, saving, investing, budgeting, etc. to make informed decisions about their personal finances. From everyday spending to long-term financial planning, effective management of money, credit, savings, and investments requires individuals to use their financial knowledge to plan for and further personal goals.

In today's automated global society financial literacy expands beyond balancing a checkbook and budget sheet. Financial literacy requires individuals not only be competent and fluent in personal finance but to also have a competent knowledge and understanding of national and global economics as well.

Introduction to Psychology

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Introduces the basic concepts of behavior and thought processes. Students will learn about research methods, learning, memory, intelligence, personality and social behavior. Class discussions, multimedia presentations, and hands-on activities/experiments are utilized to help students understand the importance of psychology and its impact on their past, present and future lives.

Modern America

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Starting with the Cold War, students will learn about how America has evolved and changed in the past 50 years. Topics will include nuclear warfare, how the rise of the internet has changed our society, the war on terror, and cultural evolution. Students will discuss ways in which the technological revolution has changed society to create a more global world.

SCIENCE

Physical Science

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(Requirement for Graduation)

An investigation of Physics and Chemistry that focuses on a hands-on use of the scientific method to plan and conduct experiments, gather and analyze data, and draw conclusions about the world around the student. Methods include the use of measuring instruments, graphing of information, and modeling of equations to help students understand five key concepts: matter, forces, chemical interactions, energy, and electromagnetic waves.

Biology

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(Requirement for Graduation)

Students in Biology will investigate living things and their interactions within environments. This course will include material on each of the major Kingdoms of living things (Bacteria, Protists, Fungi, Plants and Animals). A variety of topics will be covered including cellular structure and homeostasis, classification systems, adaptation and evolution, reproduction, and basic genetics. In addition, students will learn about the features and characteristics that differentiate various classes of living things from one another.

Earth/Environmental Science

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(Requirement for Graduation)

Students in Earth/Environmental science will build an understanding of concepts and develop skills in the natural sciences as they pertain to the interaction between people and the natural environment. An interdisciplinary study of the Earth's lithosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere, this course will use local, national, and global environmental issues to highlight the connections between humans and the planet they inhabit.

Chemistry

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course focuses on basic Chemistry concepts according to the Next Generation Science Standards. Students study matter and its properties and interactions by investigating chemical reactions, chemical bonding, and the structure and behavior of materials in all three physical states. Discussion, projects, and experimentation - both hands on and digitally modeled - help students gather knowledge and apply that to the everyday world around them.

Physics

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: Algebra II/Geometry

This course focuses on basic Physics concepts according to the Next Generation Science Standards. Physics is presented as a hands-on investigation of forces, matter, energy, and electromagnetic concepts. Students observe the world around them through data driven experiments to model reality through the lens of mathematics. Emphasis is placed on understanding the importance and impact of scientific concepts on everyday life.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education and Health

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

(Requirement for Graduation)

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn through a comprehensive sequentially planned Physical Education program in accordance with the North Carolina Healthful Living Curriculum. Students will be empowered to make choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness and movement activity for a lifetime. Units of physical education instruction will focus on personal fitness concepts and techniques as well as lifetime and team sports skills and strategies. Units of health instruction include: Health and Wellness; Stress Management; Exercise Prescription; Nutrition; Life-Saving Skills; and Substance Abuse.

Fitness/Conditioning I

Length: Semester

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness and movement activity for a lifetime.

Fitness/Conditioning II

Length: Semester

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to give students an advanced opportunity to further develop fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will begin to master the fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training and overall fitness training and conditioning. Students will be more deeply empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness and movement activity for a lifetime.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are introduced to the basics of the Spanish language within the context of Hispanic Culture. Topics include food, family, colors, school, home and weather vocabulary, gender definite and indefinite articles, subject pronouns, cardinal and ordinal numbers, conjugating the present and past verbs, 1st person vs. 3rd person, asking and answering simple questions, names of Hispanic countries, formal and informal greetings, possessive adjectives, days of the week, months of the year, and body parts. Increased responses in Spanish and more complex conversations are required as students progress.

Spanish II

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Reviews major topics addressed in Spanish I in order to improve skills for more complex subjects. New topics include more challenging irregular verbs in the present, past and future tense, stem changing verbs, present progressive, irregular verbs in the preterit and imperfect tense, idioms, shop, daily tasks, and a brief history of Latin America and Spain. An emphasis is placed on conversation as well as a more complex analysis of culture.

ELECTIVES

Technology I/II

Length: Semester

Prerequisite: None

Students will be exposed to the practical use of modern technology in higher education and the workforce, as well as the creative use in modern and popular media. The class will explore future concepts and applications of technology, as well as develop an understanding of how technology influences the evolution of human society. Students will be introduced to computing, manufacturing, medical, and aerospace technologies as part of this course.

Yearbook & Digital Content Creation

Length: Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Students will learn the principles of yearbook production, design, and development with the goal of creating a yearbook that documents student life in a realistic and inclusive manner that showcases our school community. Students will also be introduced to the overarching concepts and skills for modern digital content creation including video editing, graphic design, and photography.

Art I

Length: Half Year

Prerequisite: None

Art I will introduce students to visual arts language and the creation of works of art. Personal expression and creative problem solving is encouraged but with a focus on developing perception, skills, and quality. Students will learn how to use art media and tools, both traditional and digital, to create drawings, paintings, prints, collages and sculptures. Students will begin blogging on Edublog.com, to document their learning process, and to build a digital portfolio. On art history day, students will explore and learn how to critically examine the works of famous artists using video, readings, teacher and student led presentations.

Art II – Studio Drawing and Painting

Length: Half Year

Prerequisite: Art I

Art II builds on the skills and methods learned in Art I, which is a prerequisite. Art II provides an advanced level of drawing and painting instruction, using both traditional and digital media. Assignments will be thematic with an emphasis on personal, creative problem solving and how to communicate meaning through design. Students will learn how to effectively critique each other's and other artists' works on art history day, and continue to develop their portfolios on their blogs.

Art III – Portfolio Development

Length: Half Year

Prerequisite: Art II

This course is designed for the highly motivated student artist. Art I and II are both prerequisites and students are expected to have demonstrated skills and quality work in a range of methods and approaches. Students are required to demonstrate a strong work ethic while growing a coherent body of high quality work and organizing it into a college ready portfolio. This course is largely self-directed with the instructor serving as technical and critical advisor. Students will learn how to present and promote their works in in-school group and solo shows.

Theater

Length: Half Year

Prerequisite: None

In this course students will discover and explore the fundamentals of theater and performance. Classwork will focus on the exploration of both Classical and contemporary theatrical literature, an introduction to performance techniques and the basics of technical theater. Theater games and exercises will be used to introduce students to acting and character development. Basics of theatrical performance will be explored through projects including work on selected scenes and monologues and various ensemble acting projects. Also included in the course will be a trip to a local theater to watch a play and observe drama performed on a professional level.

Culinary Arts I – Introduction

Length: Half Year

Prerequisite: None

This course teaches the basics to the culinary and baking and pastry field; sautéing, baking, broiling, frying, boiling, basic knife skill. Students will also learn important temperatures, kitchen vocabulary, and measuring utensils along with plate presentations. There will be lots of hands-on cooking experience, all types of cooking methods, and tasting their creations.

Culinary Arts II – Advanced*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: Culinary Arts I*

In this course, the student will make their own recipes, with assistance, generate the ingredient list, understand cost control and create their own cookbook based on their ideas. Students will also practice with different flavors of the world, cook 3-4 recipes per unit with authentic recipes from different countries of the world, as well as regions of the United States. Completed recipes will be taste tested and critiqued by the entire class.

Cultural Studies*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

This course will explore varied dimensions of cultures around the globe, focusing on their historical and present-day culture, tradition, values, language, cuisine, and other cultural aspects documented through art, literature, music, and film. The study of each of these cultures will be supplemented by analytical techniques and interpretative strategies commonly employed in cultural studies. Students will also employ strategies to connect cultural knowledge to everyday life and practices.

Creative Expression*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

This course is designed for students to develop their creativity. Over the course of the semester, students will be introduced to new and traditional forms of creative expression. Creative expression seeks to awaken students to their own creative abilities. This course covers an introduction to creative writing, writing in response to different genres, research into different cultures' creativity, and art appreciation.

Elements of High School Writing*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

Throughout the course of this elective, students will discuss plagiarism with more in depth instruction, produce expressive, informational, argumentative, critical and literary writing to benefit all high school English classes. Goals of the course include increased use of elements of style in the students' written work in addition to a more advanced approach to the writing process, revising, editing and proper use of grammar.

Film Studies*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

This course provides a general introduction to the study of film and focuses on the key terms and concepts used to describe and analyze the film experience. As we put this set of tools and methods in place, we will also explore different modes of film production (fictional narrative, documentary, experimental) and some of the critical issues and debates that have shaped the discipline of film studies. A variety of films will be watched and reflected upon, including several noted cinematic masterpieces from a variety of genres. Journaling, discussion, and debate are required practices in this class, as they will be used to deepen students' critical understanding of the myriad complexities presented through the use of various storytelling structures.

Independent Living Skills*Length: Full Year**Prerequisite: None*

This course will focus on helping students become more independent in their everyday lives. Emphasis will be on establishing positive relationships, investigating careers, applying nutrition and wellness knowledge, health and safety, accessing community resources and self-advocacy. Students will learn through hands on activities in the classroom and in the community.

Skills for Life*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

In this course, students will increase their knowledge and skills in an assortment of activities of daily living as well as be exposed to challenges and tasks they may face in their day-to-day lives beyond high school. Topics include work safety, basic power tool usage, home upkeep, vehicle maintenance, and professional communication. Students will be involved in multiple hand-on projects designed to introduce and develop their practical abilities. The purpose of this course is to provide additional foundational knowledge in everyday, practical, and social skills.

Intersession Courses*Length: 5 days**Prerequisite: None*

For up to one week during the Spring semester, each High School student attends one of several Intersession Course options. These courses are designed to create powerful hands-on learning, leadership, and service experiences beyond the classroom. Opportunities for in-depth study and exploration are central to the Intersession experience. TFA offers both tuition inclusive and additional fee-based Intersession Course options for students. Those students who choose a fee-based course option are required to pay in full all associated course fees by the Fall registration deadline, so the business office may confirm all travel arrangements and other booking details.

Leadership: Believe & Achieve*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

What does it mean to believe in yourself? This course is designed to investigate this question by developing understandings of social emotional wellness. Special focus is spent on exploring and overcoming social challenges and establishing yourself as one who leads by example. Students will study a variety of potential hazards associated with the information age in which we live, and special emphasis will be placed on considering ways to establish yourself as a good digital citizen. Additional explorations will help students better understand how current events impact them and shape their beliefs. Students will also practice the art of self-advocacy while investigating real-life examples of perseverance and grit. Achieving to one's potential requires a variety of skills, including study skills, self management & organization. Students will explore various techniques and ideas that may help them be more proficient in these areas. Students will also explore and understand various learning modalities while investigating their own learning strengths and weaknesses. A special focus will be placed on investigating real-life examples of personal integrity, from which questions will arise - What is it? How do you establish it? How do you preserve it? Students will also study and consider various case studies where examples of personal responsibility, critical self-reflection, and effective problem solving can enhance one's sense of personal happiness and success. Importantly, students will also practice and develop improved public speaking skills as they strive to more effectively communicate their ideas.

Leadership: Explore & Soar*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None*

What are you curious about? How do your curiosities impact you as you learn more about them? How does what you learn shape future goals? Students will explore various interests and career paths and work to discern if those ideas may be a good match to one's individual skills. Special focus will also be given to learning how to create a personal resume, develop interviewing skills, and practice workplace etiquette. Students will also take time to research and consider a variety of higher education opportunities. The act of creating and exploring these critical questions are intended to better inform each student's future goals and pursuits.

What are you curious about? How does what you learn shape your future goals? Are you working to your full potential? Do you have personal integrity? In this course, you will explore various interests and career paths and work to discern if those ideas may be a good match to one's individual skills set. Special focus will be given to learning how to create a personal resume, develop interviewing skills, and practice workplace etiquette. Students will also study and consider various case studies where examples of personal responsibility, critical self-reflection, and effective problem solving skills can enhance one's sense of personal happiness and success. Importantly, students will practice and develop improved public speaking skills as they strive to more effectively communicate their ideas and thoughts.

Applied Leadership*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None**Senior requirement for graduation*

TFA seniors in Applied Leadership will enhance their understanding of skills learned in foundational leadership classes by engaging with the local community in a variety of ways. Through active community service, researching the purposes of non-profit work, and engaging with guest speakers, students will work towards creating a meaningful mission statement and setting goals in how they can continue to demonstrate active leadership in their life after TFA.

Speech and Debate*Length: Half Year**Prerequisite: None**Senior requirement for graduation*

This course creates confident and informed communicators by focusing on debate as a critical thinking AND listening activity. Students will use reliable research to establish a well-supported position and effectively present that position to an audience. During this process students will gain the ability to look at both sides of an issue, as well as an appreciation for opposing viewpoints, and will craft logical arguments to explain their conclusions. The projects will also sharpen oral presentation skills, such as voice projection and inflection, posture, eye-contact, gestures, etc.
