

Prospectus of Offerings

Saipan International School

High School Course Descriptions

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Grade 9

Department: English

World Literature

World Literature Course is a survey course of English literature taught to the 9th grade class. It is a basic introduction to literary terms (like theme, plot, setting, etc.) and how these terms are applied to literature. The course uses novels, poems, essays, and short stories to achieve comprehension and evaluation of literature. Furthermore, the students will read classical literature to deepen the understanding and appreciation for great literature of the past.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Geometry

This course is designed to help students understand the development of a logical system of mathematics; to relate and apply concepts learned to real world situations; to develop concepts of spatial relationship and to relate algebraic and geometric concepts.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Language

Mandarin I

This Chinese Language program is designed for students who living in non-Chinese speaking communities. The most effective and enjoyable way to learn another language is through stories, conversation, and activities resonate with the learners. Listening and reading both are essential portions in this subject. In writing part, there are two forms of Chinese characters: Simplified and Traditional. Traditional characters are mostly used in Taiwan, Singapore, Korea, Japan and Hong Kong, and Simplified characters are used in mainland China. Most of our materials use Simplified character, but will introduce both forms to fit the specific use. This program designed and encouraged high school students to take ACT and SAT subject test on Chinese- Mandarin on their senior year. This program try to meet students' need and reflect ACTFL's 5C's: communication, culture, connection, comparison and community.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Biology

This course is designed to teach the fundamental concepts, principles and interactions of living systems using scientific inquiry, technological design to investigate questions, and experiments.

Furthermore students will gain an understanding of the relationships among science, technology, and society.

This course will cover the following concepts: physical and chemical properties of life, cellular organization and function, metabolic processes, cellular reproduction, genetics, the classification of living things, and human anatomy and physiology.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

Civics

American Civics is designed to educate SIS freshman about the foundations of the American governmental system; the major provisions of the U.S. Constitution; the structure and functions of the federal, state, and local governments; and the role of citizens in government.

Credits: .5

Geography

In this course students investigate the regions of the world, from tropical oceanic islands like Saipan to the frozen tundra of Antarctica. The course focuses on all aspects of geography, with special emphasis on political and physical geography. Students investigate the world's countries and regions while emphasizing such topics as biogeography, ecology, modern international relations, and recent political history.

Credits: .5

Grade 10

Department: English

American Literature and Composition

American Literature and Composition is a year-long survey course of reading and writing taught to the 10th grade class. In anticipation of the types of skills students will need in college and later on in their respective careers, SIS and the course instructor aim the course at increasing students' reading comprehension abilities and helping students write with more clarity and purpose in a variety of genres. We use several major works of American literature as vehicles to accomplish these very important tasks.

In part, this course is a basic introduction to some major authors and themes of American Literature. Utilizing novels, poems, essays, and short stories to improve comprehension and evaluation of literature, this course presents material in an historical sequence to enhance understanding of the relationship between literature and history. Furthermore, students in this course will use literature as a "springboard" for personal writing of journals, essays, poems, short narrative writings and short literary analysis essays. Twice each academic quarter, the instructor will meet with each student, individually, in order to pinpoint aspects of writing that need attention. This course also includes several mini-lessons on grammar and vocabulary in order to enhance students' reading and writing ability while improving their standardized test-taking skills.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Algebra 2

This course provides traditional math instruction with frequent practice while including options for students to communicate and explore content in ways that illuminate the transitions between concrete and abstract thinking. The program includes concepts of solving equations and inequalities, matrices, functions, conic sections, permutations and probability, series and patterns, statistics, trigonometric functions and fundamentals of trigonometry.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Language

Mandarin II

This course is designed for the students who are living in non-Chinese speaking communities. The most effective and enjoyable way to learn another language is through games and conversations which connected to our daily life, example: “Shopping” and “In restaurant”. Listening and reading both are essential portions in this subject. In writing part, there are two forms of Chinese characters: Simplified and Traditional. Most of our materials in our school are simplified characters, but in special use, I will still introduce the both forms to the class. This is based on the Simplified has less stroke counts, it is easier for non-Chinese students to start writing in Chinese characters.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Marine Biology

The course will serve as an introduction to the study of major marine ecosystem. Study will include, but not limited to, physical and biological aspects of marine environment. Emphasis will also be given to conservation and the proper use of marine resources. Laboratory works will include dissection of representative species of marine organisms and will be extended to field studies, generally on the beach side.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

Advanced Placement United States History (Honors Level Course)

AP United States History at Saipan International School is designed to be a college-level course and is intended to prepare students for the AP Exam in May. Students will be expected to interpret historical documents, master a great amount of factual information, and competently write essays in which they critically analyze various fundamentally important topics and events in American history. This course is comprehensive, and will cover events from prehistory to the present.

Throughout the school year we will discuss and analyze important themes, including historiography, the development of an American national identity, economic trends and crises, national and regional political institutions, social and political reform movements, demographic changes, ethnic and cultural diversity, international relations and warfare, the history and impact of slavery, and America’s position in the world.

Credits: 1.0

Grade 11

Department: English

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (Honors Course)

English Language and Composition is an advanced class of reading and writing taught to the 11th grade class with the end goal of preparing the students for the AP English Language and Composition Exam. The course uses works of different genres, such as graphics, visual images, novels, poems, essays, and short stories, to achieve comprehension, application, and evaluation of the effective use of rhetorical strategies in English. Furthermore, the literature is used as a springboard for personal writing of journals, essays, poems, and short narrative writings. Mini-lessons over grammar and vocabulary will be provided to develop students' test taking skills.

This course is designed to comply with the curricular requirements described in the *AP English Course Description* and to prepare students to pass the AP English Language and Composition Test. In the beginning of the class, students will take a practice AP test and go over the test, and at the end of every quarter students will take a practice AP test to familiarize with the test so students will not be surprised when they take the exam in early May.

The class will mainly follow the essays in the Riverside Reader and read 3-6 novels chosen based on students' level of competence and level.

Our year is divided into 9-week quarters. Students may expect to write 2–3 papers (3–6 pages each) outside of class, 2–3 in-class essays (rhetorical or literary analysis), and complete a variety of quiz/short test assignments per quarter. Any remaining days will be spent on test-taking strategies and practice tests.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Advanced Placement Statistics (Honors Course)

AP Statistics is an advanced class of mathematics taught with the end goal of preparing the students for the AP Statistics Exam. The course is designed to introduce to the major concepts and tools of statistical analysis, namely collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The course will address the four broad conceptual themes outlined in AP Statistics course description:

1. Exploring data
2. Sampling and Experimentation
3. Anticipating Patterns
4. Statistical Inference

The primary text provides the general layout of the course and the lessons will be planned accordingly. Students are required to read the appropriate text before the topics are discussed in class so that class time can be devoted to more active learning.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Languages

Mandarin III

This course offers essential vocabularies and patterns in a non-Chinese speaking community. Emphasis is on listening and comprehension. Rosetta Stone Classroom is used to provide individualized learning to improve listening comprehension and speaking accent. Essential minimal expectations include reading, speaking, and writing 350 essential vocabulary words, making short sentences, conduct basic conversation.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Chemistry

This course focuses on the concepts and theories that form the basis of modern chemistry. Students will study the basic properties of matter, atomic theory and structure, the periodic law, chemical compounds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, acids and bases and organic chemistry. Students will further develop problem-solving and laboratory skills as they investigate chemical processes, at the same time refining their ability to communicate scientific information.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

Ancient World History

In this course students will study the history of the ancient world, from human evolutionary beginnings up through the Renaissance and into early modern times. Students will use maps, primary documents, journal articles, and readings from various books to learn about the social, political, economic, and diplomatic history of human civilizations up to the 18th century. Students will use a main textbook as well as an ancillary textbook and excerpts from several popular works concerning ancient world history. Numerous articles from newspapers and magazines will also be handed out throughout the year. Special emphasis will be given to interpreting primary documents and graphic materials such as maps, charts, and graphs. This course is designed to lay a strong foundation for the A.P. World History course that SIS students take in their senior year.

Credits: 1.0

Grade 12

Department: English

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition (Honors Course)

English Literature and Composition is an advanced English literature class taught to the upper level high school students with the end goal of preparing the students for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam. Since this is AP Literature and Composition class, there will be a lot of writing, on the average a composition every two weeks, and a lot of critical reading. Students may expect to take a reading check or write short paper to assess their understanding of a reading assignment.

This course is designed to comply with the curricular requirements described in the *AP English Course Description* and to prepare students to pass the AP English Literature and Composition Test. In the beginning of the class, students will take a practice AP test and go over the test, and at the end of every quarter students will take a practice AP test to familiarize with the test so students will not be surprised when they take the exam in early May.

The class will follow the literary movements in English literature, from medieval literature to modern literature, and will cover representative prose and poetry selections from each literary movement.

Our year is divided into 9-week quarters. Students may expect to write 2–3 papers (3–6 pages each) outside of class, 2–3 in-class essays (rhetorical or literary analysis), and complete a variety of quiz/short test assignments per quarter.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Advanced Mathematics

This course provides the mathematical background needed for calculus. Concepts are presented and explored from algebraic, graphical, and numerical perspectives. Students are expected to participate actively in the development of all concepts. Basic concepts covered include numerical patterns, polynomial and rational functions, complex numbers, analytic geometry, systems of equations, statistics and probability, limits and continuity, and extensive coverage of trigonometry.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Languages

Mandarin IV

This course offers essential vocabularies and patterns in a non-Chinese speaking community. Emphasis is on listening and comprehension. Rosetta Stone Classroom is used to provide individualized learning to improve listening comprehension and speaking accent. Essential minimal expectations include reading, speaking, and writing 500 essential vocabulary words, making proper sentences, conduct intermediate conversation.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Physics

Physics, as a practical laboratory course, encourages scientific thinking and emphasizes the development of scientific concepts and generalizations. It familiarizes the students with the fundamental principles of physics and their applications while focusing on both quantitative problem-solving practice and qualitative conceptual study. The course content includes mechanics, electricity, magnetism, thermodynamics, optics, sound and an introduction to quantum physics. There is a strong emphasis on the mathematical problem solving.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

Advanced Placement World History (Honors Course)

AP World History at Saipan International School is designed to be a college-level course and is intended to prepare students for the AP Exam in May. Students will be expected to interpret historical documents, master a great amount of factual information, and competently write essays in which they critically analyze various fundamentally important topics and events in world history. This course is comprehensive and will cover events and themes up to the present from around the globe.

Throughout the school year we will discuss and analyze important themes, including historiography; cultural, intellectual, and religious developments; interactions among societies, including warfare, trade, and diplomacy; the effects of technological advances on societies and those societies around them; demographic change and continuity, including social class and gender structure; and political changes such as the rise of nation-states, absolutism, and other political structures and cultures.

Credits: 1.0