Caravel Academy
Course Selection Handbook
2026-2027

The Purpose of This Handbook

The *Caravel Academy Course Selection Handbook* enables parents to have an active role in their child's course selections for next year. Before selecting courses, parents and students should review all information pertinent to required courses, grade promotion, and graduation requirements. You should also check specific college admission requirements.

Using the *Caravel Academy Course Selection Handbook*, parents and students should complete the course request online (directions will be provided.) **Students must select a minimum of six academic courses**. Be sure to **check prerequisites carefully** when selecting courses. In addition, students may select either one study hall or one student aide period per class day. They may not take study hall and student aide at the same time. Students must complete their course requests online and submit them electronically by **April 28, 2026**

We will prepare the final course schedule for 2026-2027 based upon course demand, course availability, and graduation requirements. *Please keep in mind that the course request completed online is not your final schedule, but it is used to expedite scheduling.*

Diploma Requirements for Caravel Academy

A Caravel Academy student is granted a diploma upon the successful completion of all required courses of study and accumulation of at least 23 credits. All students must complete four years of English and Math and should take four years of Social Science and Science. We strongly urge each student to complete at least two years of a world language since many universities and colleges have a world language requirement for admission. For example, the University of Delaware recommends that incoming freshmen have completed three years of a world language *in high school.* Many schools like the University of Delaware do not recognize world language credits obtained in middle school.

Under normal circumstances, upper school students will be required to meet the following minimum graduation requirements.

	College Preparatory Credits	Honors Credits
English	4	4
Writing	1	1
Social Science	3	4
Science*	3	4
Mathematics**	4	4
World Language	~~0~~ 2^	3
Physical Education	1	1
Health	½	½
Fine Arts	~~2~~ 1^	~~2~~ 1^
Computer Literacy	½	½

Electives	~~4~~ 3^	~~0~~ 1^
	23 credits	**24 credits**

* Most colleges recommend 3 credits to be sciences that include a lab which would be any of the Biology, Chemistry, or Physics courses.
**Math must be taken senior year regardless of completion of credits.
^ Updated graduation requirement beginning with graduating class of 2028.

Honors and High Honors Diploma

High Honors Diploma: GPA of 4.0 and at least *six* courses at the honors level or above (e.g. Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Enrollment, years IV or V of a foreign language)

Honors Diploma: GPA of 3.5 and at least *four* courses at the honors level or above (e.g. AP, Dual Enrollment, years IV or V of a foreign language)

Planning Tool/Graduation Checklist

Please use the link graduation worksheet to help plan your needed courses.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SmXsjQVACZR63GtkZTur7HGFuwJwPHh6/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=103683435165449311981&rtpof=true&sd=true

Additional Information

A Caravel Academy student is granted a diploma upon the successful completion of all required courses of study and accumulation of 23 credits. The student must have a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA). Students must complete their final courses at Caravel Academy. A Caravel Academy diploma will not be awarded to a student who completes final course work at a summer school or another school. Exceptions to this policy can be made with Board of Education approval. Students who wish to graduate in less than four years must submit a written request to the Headmaster before July 1 of the freshman year. A conference will be scheduled to determine whether the student meets the academic standards for early graduation.

Caravel no longer ranks students on the report card or transcript. However, a Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be selected prior to the graduation ceremony each year. Students will be selected based on the following factors: cumulative GPA, total number of credits, total number of AP courses, average of final grades in core courses, and average of AP exam scores.

Other Items to Consider

Waiver of Teacher Approval or Prerequisite:

Accurate course placement is critical to student success at Caravel Academy. As part of the scheduling process, pre-requisites are established based on specific curriculum requirements for subsequent courses. If a student feels there is a reason an exception should be made, he/she may submit a waiver through Google Forms to request an exception to the prerequisites if they can demonstrate a reason why. For courses that have prerequisites, students must fall within **three** grade points of the prerequisite. **This requirement is firm**. Students who fall below this do not have the option to request a waiver and must follow the course for which they qualify. Please follow the link below. Once the form is submitted, it will be reviewed by a committee. Completion of the form does **not** guarantee the waiver will be granted.

https://goo.gl/forms/joH7r9PJr5zB6zmo1

Off Campus/Original Credit Course Request:

Students who desire to complete a course outside of Caravel must **first** have this course approved by guidance or administration. Please follow the link below. Courses completed without prior approval cannot be guaranteed to be acceptable as part of prerequisites or graduation requirements.

https://goo.gl/forms/CpdJXoPxost8cH0e2

Dual Enrollment/Early College Credit Request:

Students who wish to take a Dual Enrollment and/or Early College Credit Courses must complete the Dual Enrollment/ECC Request form. Please follow the link below to submit the form.

https://goo.gl/forms/TNuPJca1YiB0XP0C2

UD recommends interested students have

- a high school grade point average of 3.6 or above; or
- a minimum SAT or PSAT score of 600 verbal and 600 math; or
- successful completion of and solid grades in rigorous high school classes, such as Advanced Placement, Honors or International Baccalaureate classes.

For more information regarding these options, please visit their perspective website at:

https://www.pcs.udel.edu/dual-enrollment-online/

DE Offerings:

ECC Course Offerings for 2026-2027.pdf

Dual Enrollment Course 2026-2027

Eligibility Requirements:

Students should be mindful of DIAA requirements when registering for classes. The DIAA has specific guidelines about grades and number of credits required to remain eligible. If you have any questions, please refer to the DIAA handbook:

https://www.doe.k12.de.us/cms/lib/DE01922744/Centricity/Domain/348/1006.pdf

It is also important to be mindful of Caravel's requirements of eligibility when registering for classes. These requirements are higher than DIAA requirements.

In addition, some courses may not meet NCAA requirements for those students considering playing for Division I or II schools. Please verify requirements and courses at:

http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/core-courses

What Next?

Students should complete their course requests online with all of the above in mind. **All scheduling questions or concerns can be submitted to the following email address: scheduling@caravel.org.** In addition, questions that cannot be answered by your teachers should be directed to Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Heuschkel, or Mrs. Brown.

As a reminder, students must complete the online scheduling worksheet by **April 28,2026**

The Purpose of This Handbook 1

Diploma Requirements for Caravel Academy 1

Honors and High Honors Diploma 2

Planning Tool/Graduation Checklist 2

Additional Information 2

Other Items to Consider 2

Waiver of Teacher Approval or Prerequisite: 2

Off Campus/Original Credit Course Request: 3
Dual Enrollment/Early College Credit Request: 3
Eligibility Requirements: 3
What Next? 3
COURSES 7
Computer Science and Media Literacy 7
AP Computer Science A 7
AP Computer Science Principles 7
Computer Applications 8
Digital Media 8
Digital Tools 8
Fundamental Programming Concepts 9
Game Design 9
Introduction to Robotics 9
Philosophy and Technology: Tools, Power, and Human Flourishing 10
Yearbook 10
Dual Enrollment/Early College Credit Courses 10
English 11
Advanced College Preparatory 11
Honors College Preparatory 11
Required Summer Reading 11
Introduction to Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced) 11
Writing and Composition 11
World Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced) 12
American Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced) 12
AP English Language and Composition through American Literature 12
British Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced) 13
AP English Literature 13
Creative Writing 13
The Cultural Alchemy of Harry Potter 14
Effective Speaking 14
Philosophy through Film 14
Mythology Around the World 14
Fine Arts 15
20th Century Music 15
3-D Design and Ceramics 15
Art I- Foundations 16
Art II- Foundations II 16
Art III - Drawing and Painting 16
Art IV –Studio Experience 16

Art Appreciation 17
Art History 17
Creative Writing 17
Digital Media 17
Digital Tools for Animation and Design 17
Effective Speaking 17
Elite Ensemble 17
Philosophy of Film 18
The Cultural Alchemy of Harry Potter 18
Guitar 18
Marching Band 18
Men's Ensemble 18
Mythology Around the World 19
Music Studies 19
Music Theory 19
Portfolio Preparation/Studio Art 19
Wind Ensemble (H) 20
Women's Ensemble 20
Yearbook 20
Mathematics 20
Advanced College Preparatory 20
Honors College Preparatory 21
Algebra I (Honors and Advanced) 21
Geometry (Honors and Advanced) 21
Algebra II (Honors and Advanced) 21
Pre-Calculus (Honors and Advanced) 22
Advanced Functions 22
Statistics 22
Calculus 22
AP Calculus 23
AP Calculus II 23
AP Statistics 24
Physical Education and Health 24
First Aid & Athletic Training 24
Health 24
Physical Education 25
Science 25
Advanced Biology 25
Honors Biology 25
Advanced Placement Biology 26

Advanced Chemistry 26
Honors Chemistry 26
Chemistry 2 26
AP Chemistry 26
Advanced Physics 27
Honors Physics 27
AP Physics 1 27
AP Physics 2 27
Anatomy 28
Astronomy 28
Ecology 28
Introduction to Engineering (Fall Semester) 28
Engineering Design (Spring Semester) 28
Introduction to Robotics 29
Psychology 29
Criminal Investigations and Forensics (1st semester only) Formerly Sci Topics A 29
S.T.E.M. Activities (2nd semester only) Formerly Sci Topics B 29
Science Notes: 29
Social Science 29
Advanced Global Studies: 1000-1800 30
Advanced World History 30
Advanced United States History 30
AP United States Government and Politics 30
AP United States History 31
AP World History: Modern 31
African American History 31
AP Capstone Seminar 32
AP Capstone: Research 33
Introduction to Economics 33
Philosophy: Thinking and Living Well 33
Psychology 33
AP Psychology 34
World Religions 34
Supplementary Electives 34
Driver's Education 34
Freshman Study Skills 35
Academic Assistance/Study Skills 35
Senior Thesis Project 35
Student Aide 35
Early Education Teacher Academy 36

Study Hall 36
World Language 36
Online World Language Course 36
Spanish I 36
Spanish II 37
Spanish III 37
Spanish IV/Spanish V 37

COURSES

Computer Science and Media Literacy

An understanding of computers and mastery of basic computer skills are essential in today's world. Caravel Academy strongly recommends that each student take at least one year of Computer Science. Earning a ½ credit in Computer Science and Media Literacy is required for graduation.

AP Computer Science A

1 credit

AP Computer Science A introduces students to college-level programming using Java. This engaging course emphasizes object-oriented programming, creative problem-solving, and the design of efficient algorithms. Students will master fundamental programming concepts while developing strong analytical skills through hands-on projects. Key topics include data structures, program design, and abstraction—essential skills valued by universities and employers alike. This College Board-certified course equips students with the computing knowledge needed to excel in today's digital world.

Prerequisite: 85% or higher in two semesters of Technology.

Note:

- Summer work will be assigned and graded. It is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher for the summer work.
- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are required to take the *AP Computer Science* examination. The cost is approximately $98.00.

AP Computer Science Principles

1 credit

AP Computer Science Principles opens doors to the dynamic world of computing. This innovative course explores the fundamental concepts driving today's digital revolution, from creative programming and algorithm design to cybersecurity and big data. Students discover how technology shapes our world while gaining hands-on experience with coding and problem-solving. Perfect for both future tech leaders and digital citizens, this Code.org course examines the powerful intersection of computing, creativity, and society and does not require any prior programming experience.

Prerequisite: 85% or higher in Algebra 1 ***or*** *an 85% or higher in one semester of Technology.*

Note:

- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are required to take the *AP Computer Science* examination. The cost is approximately $98.00.

Computer Aided Design

Semester **½ credit Tech or Fine Arts**

Computer Aided Design builds on Digital Tools' foundations. Students learn to design and create functional 3D objects using professional parametric-design software and our state-of-the-art 3D printers. Through hands-on engineering projects, students tackle real-world challenges while mastering industry-standard design tools. This dynamic course cultivates essential workplace skills including independent problem-solving, team collaboration, and professional communication. Whether you're interested in engineering, architecture, product design, or innovation, CAD provides the tools to bring your creative visions to life.

Prerequisite: An 85% or higher in Digital Tools ***or*** *two semesters of Technology.*

Computer Applications

Semester **½ credit**

Students will learn the importance of digital citizenship, which includes responsible and ethical use of technology. They will also gain proficiency in using office productivity tools for tasks such as text editing, presenting, and organizing information. Additionally, students will be introduced to programming, learning the basics of how computers work and how to write code. The course will cover hardware concepts, providing an understanding of computer components and their functions. Finally, students will explore the field of computer science, gaining knowledge about algorithms, problem-solving, and the impact of computing on society.

Digital Media

Semester **½ credit Tech or Fine Arts**

Digital Media empowers students to become digital content creators using professional tools like Audacity, GarageBand, iMovie, and the Affinity creative suite. Students will explore the exciting world of multimedia production through audio editing, video creation, and graphic design projects. Using industry-standard software, you'll learn to produce original audio tracks, create compelling videos with professional editing techniques, and design eye-catching graphics for various media platforms. Throughout the course, you'll build a portfolio of real-world projects while learning current industry practices and workflows. Whether you're interested in becoming a content creator, filmmaker, graphic designer, or multimedia artist, Digital Media provides the foundational skills needed in today's creative industries.

Digital Tools

Semester **½ credit Tech or Fine Arts**

Digital Tools bridges artistic vision with engineering precision, introducing students to essential design principles and modern manufacturing technologies. Starting with fundamental freehand sketching techniques, students progress to mastering direct-modeling software. Through hands-on projects, students learn to

transform their ideas from initial concept sketches to detailed digital models, culminating in physical objects created with 3D printing technology. This course empowers students to understand the complete design process, from creative concept to finished product, while developing crucial skills in spatial thinking, technical drawing, and digital fabrication. Whether pursuing engineering, architecture, product design, or other technical fields, students gain valuable experience with the tools and techniques that drive modern innovation and manufacturing.

Fundamental Programming Concepts

Semester **½ credit**

Fundamental Programming Concepts provides students with a foundation in computer science through the lens of programming. Using the Racket programming language, students learn systematic program design methods and develop structured approaches to problem-solving. The course emphasizes functional programming concepts, offering students an alternative to traditional object-oriented programming and broadening their understanding of computational thinking. Through carefully designed projects and examples, students explore how programming principles can be applied across disciplines, particularly in the humanities. This approach makes programming accessible to students from diverse academic backgrounds while maintaining rigor in computer science fundamentals. Students develop skills in logical thinking, problem decomposition, and algorithm design that are valuable both in further computer science studies and in other academic pursuits.

Game Design

Semester **½ credit Tech or Fine Arts**

Game Design guides students through the complete game development cycle, teaching both technical skills and design principles needed to create engaging digital games. Students work with industry-standard game engines and modeling software while learning the fundamentals of level design, gameplay mechanics, and user experience. The course covers game modification techniques, allowing students to understand existing game architecture by creating custom content and features. Through project-based learning, students develop practical skills in programming, asset creation, and collaborative development workflows. This course requires initiative and creative problem-solving, as students work independently and in teams to transform their game concepts into playable experiences.

Introduction to Robotics

Semester **½ credit Tech or Science**

Introduction to Robotics combines hands-on building with programming fundamentals to teach students core robotics concepts. Students progress from basic remote-controlled operations to developing autonomous behaviors, using C++ programming and applying object-oriented principles throughout the process. The course emphasizes practical skills including hardware assembly, maintenance, and troubleshooting. Students learn to design and 3D print custom components to enhance their robots' capabilities. Through structured projects, students develop technical problem-solving abilities while working with industry-standard tools and techniques. The robot kits used in class may be purchased by students at the end of the course.

Prerequisite: At least one semester of Technology.

Philosophy and Technology: Tools, Power, and Human Flourishing

Semester **½ credit Tech or Social Studies**

This course invites students to ask questions about the tools and technology that shape our daily lives: Who controls our tools? How do technologies influence our freedom, relationships, and thinking? Anchored in Ivan Illich's *Tools for Conviviality*, this discussion-based course explores how modern technologies can both empower and alienate. Through Socratic seminars and analysis of provocative primary texts, students will examine technology as more than innovation: as a cultural, ethical, and political force that shapes society and the self. The semester culminates in a "Tool Audit" project in which students critically evaluate a technology or tech-based practice and propose a more humane, community-centered redesign. This course is ideal for students who enjoy deep discussion, questioning assumptions, and imagining thoughtful alternatives to the status quo.

Yearbook

1 credit

See Fine Arts Section

Dual Enrollment/Early College Credit Courses

Caravel Academy is partnering with the University of Delaware to offer students the opportunity to further their learning. Students who successfully complete a dual enrollment course may earn both high school and college credit. Tuition rates are set by the University of Delaware and are required for these courses. Projected cost for is $550 per course for Dual Enrollment. Early College Credit Courses are typically offered at no cost by UD. Caravel Academy does not profit from these courses. We offer them for the sole purpose of furthering our students' opportunities to succeed. **The University does not offer all courses every semester. Students should indicate their desire to take a course during scheduling; however, Caravel cannot guarantee the University of Delaware will offer the course in the Spring or Fall semester. Please see links below to see courses offered.**

Note:

- Because this college level class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- Courses are available to high school **juniors** and **seniors** who are in good academic standing.
- The courses are offered online. They follow the class start and end dates set by the University of Delaware.
- Students should be aware that college courses may require certain materials that must be purchased. This may include textbooks. Caravel does not provide the materials for the online courses.
- Students may not take more than two courses per semester.
- Students interested in college courses should consult with Mrs. Harper for additional guidance.
- When requesting a college course, students must also submit a Dual Enrollment/Early College Credit Request form to be processed for approval to take the course.
  - https://forms.gle/3gUJXxwLdgwrgsai8

For more information regarding these options and to see what is offered, please visit their perspective website at:

https://www.pcs.udel.edu/dual-enrollment-online/

https://www.pcs.udel.edu/early-college-credit-program/

English

Students must complete four full credits of English to qualify for a diploma. Ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade English courses are required. To help students obtain their highest level of proficiency for college, we have devised the two following class designations:

Advanced College Preparatory

This class level uses a combined approach of student and teacher directed instructions to gain mastery. Outside novel reading is expected and required. Though emphasis will be upon mastery of participation, note taking, mnemonics, and improved writing skills, students will also be expected to use greater critical thinking skills.

Honors College Preparatory

This class level expects students to be self-directed and self-motivated so that more time is spent on discussion and less on teacher directed instruction and note taking, vocabulary, and reviews. Less time is offered for the completion of assignments and more reading at home is expected. In addition, these courses receive an extra ½ quality point for passing grades.

Required Summer Reading

Because a diverse knowledge of literature is required for college students, particularly for students who plan to take Literature and Language Advanced Placement tests in their junior and senior years, students must read the assigned books for all required core English classes. Please be sure to get a current copy of the summer reading list for any core English class.

Introduction to Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

In ninth grade, students will be introduced to analyzing literature as a work of art and how the crafting of the literary work reinforces themes. Elements such as setting, characterization, plot, inference, point of view, and tone of various literary works will be explored as to how they work together to develop theme. Students will also examine each author's background, historical context, and biographical influences in order to gain a broader understanding of the novel and its thematic meaning.The course will include vocabulary study, and one critical book reading will be assessed objectively or by essay each quarter. This is a required course for graduation.

Prerequisite: For Honors, students must earn a 93% or higher in 8th grade Reading and Language Arts.

Writing and Composition

1 credit

This course will utilize a writing workshop environment in which writing products will move from prewriting to publication. This composition class will familiarize students with grammar and mechanics and their application to writing skills. Students will concentrate on the "basics" of writing: organizational patterns of a composition; structure of a paragraph/sentence; and achievement of cohesiveness. Students will write various types of essays (narrative, descriptive, argumentative, persuasive, and informative) and model various writing styles. Students will have frequent opportunities to write for different audiences and purposes, using a process that includes: (1) prewriting, (2) drafting, (3) peer sharing, (4) revising, (5) editing, and (6) producing a final product. A research paper is required. An emphasis will be placed on preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). This is a required course for freshmen or new students to Caravel who do not earn at least a score of "4" on the entrance exam.

World Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

Tenth grade English involves a comprehensive study of literature from various world cultures. Thematically organized, this class will provide students with the opportunity to read and study literature that is both historical and contemporary. Grammar and composition skills will continue to be honed. A research paper on a topic pertaining to world literature is required. The course will include vocabulary study, and students will also read one book each marking period to be assessed objectively or by essay. This is a required course for graduation.

Prerequisite: For Honors, students must earn a 93% or higher in Advanced Intro. to Literature or an 83% or higher in Honors Intro. to Literature

American Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

Students in eleventh grade English read selections by major authors in the major movements of American literature. Students are acquainted with contemporary historical and intellectual events and learn to recognize major themes and symbols from American life in their readings. Essays and examinations will demonstrate knowledge of literary styles and movements, grammar, and composition, including a major research project, which will also be a part of the class material. Students will be required to read at least one book each marking period as assigned by the teacher. This is a required course for graduation.

Prerequisite: For Honors, students must earn a 93% or higher in Advanced World Literature or an 83% or higher in Honors World Literature.

AP English Language and Composition through American Literature

1 credit

AP Language is open to juniors who have received a 93% or higher in Honors World Literature. In this course, students will deconstruct other authors' arguments and construct their own arguments. In short, students will study how authors manipulate their audiences and how young writers can master those same rhetorical strategies. As such, AP Language requires an intensive amount of reading and writing in and out of the classroom. The course uses texts taken exclusively from American authors while emphasizing the diversity among writers within and across literary periods. The majority of the required reading is nonfiction, including academic essays, political documents, personal memoirs, autobiographies, and five full books throughout the year. While students will also study a few selected novels, short stories, and poems, the focus will always remain on analyzing rhetorical strategies and formulating original arguments. To prepare for the course, students will read three summer reading books. By the end of the first school week, students will submit one 1-2 page essay for each book analyzing how the text creates a particular argument, a focus that will continue throughout the course with other texts. Each quarter, students will write numerous essays in a variety of formats, complete extensive essay revisions and expansions, and take frequent practice tests. Throughout the year, students will be required to participate in frequent group conversations, share original writings for group revision, and provide honest peer feedback.

Note:

- This course, available only to juniors, fulfills the junior American Literature requirement for graduation.
- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are required to take the *AP Language and Composition* examination in May. The cost is approximately $98.

British Literature and Composition (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

Twelfth grade English includes a study of British authors from the origins of the English language to the modern era with an understanding how historical, social, and intellectual movements have affected different literary periods. The course will include vocabulary study and assessment of independent critical reading. Students will provide their own copies of the independent reading novels. Titles will vary by year and will be posted on the students' syllabi. All summer reading will be incorporated within the curriculum. This is a required course for all seniors except those taking Advanced Placement English Literature. The Honors class will move at a faster rate with more assignments, less extra credit, and higher expectations for assessment. Summer reading is required and will be tested in the first few weeks of school and then incorporated throughout the year. See summer reading lists for titles.

Prerequisite: For Honors, students must earn a 93% or higher in Advanced American Literature or an 83% or higher in Honors American Literature.

AP English Literature

1 credit

AP English Literature is open to seniors who have received a 93% or higher in Honors American Literature or an 86% or higher in AP Language. Requirements include three quarterly book readings, multiple timed essay prompts, one literary analysis project and one researched paper with annotated bibliography.. Students will be self-directed and motivated to write papers on a regular basis in class while also preparing papers for literature read outside of class. Literary material chosen is based upon AP recommendations and complexity of ideas and use of language resources. Class relies heavily upon discussion of readings assigned and sharing of papers written, so students are expected to keep up with all reading and writing. Focus of class is upon the quality of literary analysis rather than the quantity, but concern will be taken that the class moves at a 'good' pace. Novels to be studied include an intensive review of the summer reading, Gardner's *Grendel*, a Shakespeare play, and other novels as chosen by the class. Literary study will also include an intensive unit on poetry, test-taking skills for short passages, and literary terms. To begin the class with a good foundation for discussion, students will read four books (DeFoe's *Moll Flanders*, Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*, Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, and *Beowulf)* and write a minimum two-page paper for each novel during the summer. All three essays are due on the first day of school to be scored for personal critical thinking and grammatical errors. Summer reading essays that reflect outside literary research are not acceptable; these summer essays are to reflect the students' current understanding of what they have read and understood of the novels so that students' abilities are made clear. Concerns with plagiarism and the use of AI could result in immediate dismissal from the class. (These AP students read different books for summer reading than those required by the *British Literature* classes.) This class is geared toward performing well on the *Advanced Placement Literature and Composition* test.

Note:

- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are required to take the *AP Literature & Composition* examination in May. The cost is approximately $98.00.

Creative Writing

Semester **½ credit**

Writing creatively employs a variety of techniques beyond those used for analytical essay composition. In this course, students will study and craft an assortment of nonfiction and fiction pieces, manipulating traditional

narrative styles and sentence structures to develop unique voices in various works, including, but not limited to, poems, short stories, internal monologues, humor, horror, and descriptive pieces. The course will also focus on effectively employing literary and rhetorical devices that enhance theme and captivate readers. Through the writing process, students will share and critique compositions as they finalize drafts for their portfolios. *Credits for this course can be used as either English or Fine Arts credit towards graduation.*

The Cultural Alchemy of *Harry Potter*

Semester **½ credit**

Students will explore the cultural phenomenon of the *Harry Potter* series in the context of literary, social, cultural, and political archetypes and allusions. Through the study of text, supplemental literary analyses, and film, students will respond through written and oral discourse to evaluate the popularity and legacy of this well-loved bildungsroman. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores. Credits for this course can be used as either English or Fine Arts credit towards graduation.

*Prerequisite: Students will have either read/watched the entire Harry Potter series **prior** to class.*

Effective Speaking

Semester **½ credit**

This course will cover ways to improve speaking skills in many different situations including formal speech making as well as interviewing techniques and impromptu presentations. In addition to speaking within the classroom, students also deliver the morning announcements over the intercom system. The intent of the class is to build confidence in one's ability to communicate effectively with the spoken word. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores. *Credits for this course can be used as either English or Fine Arts credit towards graduation.*

Philosophy through Film

Semester **½ credit**

In Philosophy through Film, we will use movies to ask big questions about life, reality, morality, and what it means to be human. From sci-fi worlds that challenge reality to dramas that explore love, justice, and free will, we will treat films not just as entertainment, but as texts to analyze and argue about. Students will watch and discuss a range of movies, connect them to philosophical ideas and psychological theories, and practice critical thinking through class conversations, short written responses, and creative projects. This is a discussion-based course. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores.Students who enjoy asking "Why?" and "What if?" Credits for this course can be used as either English or Fine Arts credit towards graduation. Students who have already taken Film Analysis in the 25-26 school year are not eligible to take this course.

Mythology Around the World

Semester **½ credit**

In this course, students will study mythology from all around the world. We will read and discuss commonly known fairy tales and mythology from the Greeks, Romans, Norse, Native Americans, and many others. Oftentimes, these myths have shaped culture and society in the world at large and continue to impact the world today. Through the study of the different myths, students will gain an understanding of how these myths, often alluded to in literature, continue to be of great importance in society. Readers miss the power, and sometimes the entire point of the work, within literature that relies upon allusions for meaning. These stories are so ingrained within our culture that College Board testing assumes such allusions to be common knowledge. *Credit for this course can be used as either English or Fine Arts credit towards graduation.*

Writer's Workshop

No credit

This workshop is available during some study hall periods. It will provide one-on-one feedback for multiple revisions on any written work by a high school Caravel student. Based on appointment, students may sign up to discuss grammar, vocabulary study, rhetoric, writing skills, research skills, and reading comprehension. Appointment times will be available several periods throughout the day. If a student's time conflicts, arrangements can be made to meet. This opportunity is provided to offer students more one-on-one writing instruction.

Fine Arts

Students must have two full credits in the Fine Arts for graduation. The art courses listed below, band or choir, yearbook, set design, and the Upper School play may fulfill this requirement. An appreciation of the arts is essential for a well-rounded college-bound student. A chart is included to help break the art courses into categories. Please see full description for additional details.

Visual	Performing	Multi Department Opt	Others
3-D Design and Ceramics	Elite Ensemble	Creative Writing -English	20th Century Music
Art I- Foundations	Guitar	Digital Media- Tech	Art Appreciation
Art I- Foundations	Marching Band	Digital Tools for Animation and Design- Tech	Art History
Art II- Foundations II	Men's Ensemble	Effective Speaking- English	ART 204 - UD
Art III - Drawing and Painting	Wind Ensemble	Philosophy through Film -English	ARTH 101 - UD
Art IV- Studio Experience	Women's Ensemble	Harry Potter- English	
Portfolio Preparation/Studio Art		Mythology- English	Music Theory
			Music Studies
			Yearbook

20th Century Music

Semester **½ credit**

This course will investigate the technological and cultural advancements of music throughout the 20th century. We will learn to become active and educated consumers of music through exposure to a variety of styles and cultures.Students will be responsible for participating actively in each class, providing insight and expressing themselves through the music covered.

3-D Design and Ceramics

Semester **½ credit**

This is an introductory course featuring basic studio experiences in the creation of three-dimensional artwork. Students will design, create and finish sculptures using a variety of media and techniques including clay, paper,

cardboard, found objects, wire, plaster and recyclables. Various sculptors and ceramic artists will be studied as the basis of and inspiration for works of art. Students are required to create a sketchbook to keep work and supporting materials in. Students will keep an online portfolio of work created throughout the course as well as write statements about their work.

Art I- Foundations

Semester **½ credit**

This course is an introduction to the visual arts with concentrations in layout and design, drawing and painting. Studio experiences will include exercises in design and composition, drawing, color theory and painting. Varied media will be used. Basic concepts and techniques will be discussed and demonstrated prior to each assigned activity. Class discussions, written and oral critiques of student artwork will be included in class activities. Students are expected to develop a working art vocabulary in the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students are required to create a sketch book to keep assignments and sketches in by the end of the first week of classes. Sketches and layout exercises related to class projects may be assigned as homework to be completed in the sketchbook. Students will keep an online portfolio of work created throughout the course as well as write statements about their work.

Art II- Foundations II

Semester **½ credit**

This course is designed for students who have completed Art I -Foundations. Art II will provide more in-depth studies in drawing and painting. Units in drawing from observation and an introduction to various painting media will be included. Class discussions, oral and written critiques of student artwork will be included in class activities. Students are expected to continue to develop working art vocabulary. Students are required to create a sketchbook by the end of the first week of classes. Sketches and layout exercises related to class projects will be assigned. These assignments will be completed in the sketchbook. Students will keep an online portfolio of work created throughout the course as well as write statements about their work.

Prerequisite: 70% or better in Art I

Art III - Drawing and Painting

Semester **½ credit**

Drawing and Painting is designed for the student who would like to refine and perfect their skills in a studio setting. We will explore portraits, landscapes, still life and abstracts as well as a variety of historical periods and movements. Each student will be encouraged to explore and develop their own artistic style and creatively solve given problems or assignments. Students are required to create a sketchbook by the end of the first week of classes. Sketches and layout exercises related to class projects will be assigned as homework to be completed in the sketchbook. Students will keep an online portfolio of work created throughout the course as well as write statements about their work.

Prerequisite: 70% or better in Art II

Art IV –Studio Experience

Semester **½ credit**

Art IV is designed for the student who can work independently on projects within a supportive studio atmosphere. Curriculum for this course will be defined projects but choice based with each student finding their own artistic solutions to each problem through theme, materials and or concept for the first nine weeks. The second nine weeks students will design their own thematic assignment and complete a minimum of three projects based upon the chosen concept or materials. ie. Three portraits, three food illustrations or three

surrealist pieces. The student is expected to continue to develop their portfolio of work. The final curriculum will be established through a proposal by the student and approved by the teacher. Art IV will run as either a class or independent study.

Prerequisite: 80% or better in Art III

Art Appreciation

Semester **½ credit**

This course will introduce students to the practices and history of visual arts. Students will build a context for understanding the arts both structurally and culturally with the intention of understanding how art can be meaningful to the student's everyday life. Students will analyze and discuss different works of art as a way to gain an understanding of the arts as a method of communication and expression. They will also explore their personal aesthetics and style through small art projects, class discussions, and writing assignments.

Art History

Semester **½ credit**

This course is designed to introduce students to the diversity of ancient material culture and civilizations around the world. Students will examine the artifacts, architecture, and art of various cultural and historical periods. The lectures will follow a geographical and chronological framework, examining each culture from the early formative periods (third millennium BC), through classical antiquity, up through the medieval Roman periods. Students will gain a basic knowledge of ancient and developing civilizations, as well as the ability to analyze and compare the ancients' use of visual expression to our modern concepts of art and architecture.

Creative Writing

See English Department Section

Digital Media

½ credit

See Computer Science and Media Literacy Department section

Digital Tools for Animation and Design

½ credit

See Computer Science and Media Literacy Department section

Effective Speaking

Semester **½ credit**

See English Department Section

Elite Ensemble

1 credit

The Upper School Elite Ensemble is a mixed ensemble for male and female students. This ensemble is for students with exceptional behavior who also excel vocally and academically. Elite meets on Wednesdays during H Period from 2:20-3:30 PM. Students are held to a strict attendance policy due to the large performance schedule and the high level of choral literature that is studied. Rehearsal includes mandatory part testing assignments to be completed as homework throughout each quarter to ensure the highest quality of music learning. Elite Ensemble performs at the Fine Arts Festivals, Caravel sporting events, and other various

events throughout the year. The Elite Ensemble also takes part in an overnight music trip each spring. The locations of this trip vary year to year. Fundraisers are available during the year to defray the cost of this trip.

Prerequisite: Director Approval

Note: This class is being offered as pass/fail.

Philosophy of Film

½ credit

See English Department section

The Cultural Alchemy of *Harry Potter*

½ credit

See English Department section

Guitar

Semester **½ credit**

Guitar class covers the basics of the instrument and an application of essential music fundamentals. Students will learn how to warm up, practice, and perform on the guitar with the goal of developing a lasting appreciation. We begin with basics and cover a range of styles including folk, country, rock, pop, and more.. Students in Guitar perform regularly for one another

Marching Band

Semester **½ credit**

Marching band is open to all students in grades 7-12, with or without musical experience. Students with musical and technical experience include the following: Instrumentalists (woodwind, brass, percussion, electric and bass guitar (must audition and know how to read music); color guard members (flags and batons); and special technical assistants to the band director (students who want to learn and implement the many "behind the scenes" aspects of a marching band). Band, color guard members, and technical assistants are expected to attend and participate in band camp for two weeks in August. During the school year, rehearsals are every day during H period for the first two weeks, then once a week during Friday H periods to prepare for weekend games. Out-of-school rehearsals occur two evenings per week. The band will perform at all home and away varsity football games as well as regular Saturday competitions from September until November. In addition, we expect to participate in Newark's Halloween parade on Main Street and University of Delaware's Band Day. Buses will be provided by the school for all "away" events. Band members will be held to their marching band contracts.

Note:

- ALL Marching Band members and technical assistants must be in attendance at all Marching Band rehearsals and 80% of events to earn their credit unless previously excused.
- *This class is being offered as pass/fail.*
- *Grades 7-8 receive activity credit while grades 9 – 12 receive academic credit, either for fine arts or physical education.*

Men's Ensemble

Year-Long **1 credit**

Men's Ensemble

Semester **½ credit**

This is an entry level choir for male vocalists. Primarily geared towards beginning and advanced singers who will focus on principles of choral technique, choral repertoire, and performance. Rehearsals will take place on Mondays during H Period from 2:20-3:30 PM. Members are held to a strict attendance policy due to the large performance schedule and the high level of choral literature that is studied. Rehearsal includes mandatory part testing assignments to be completed as homework throughout each quarter to ensure the highest quality of music learning. Men's Ensemble members are required to participate in the Fine Arts Festival during the semester. The Men's Ensemble also takes part in an overnight music trip each spring. The locations of this trip vary year to year. Fundraisers are available during the year to defray the cost of this trip.

Note: This class is being offered as pass/fail.

Mythology Around the World

Semester **½ credit**

See English Department Section

Music Studies

Semester **½ credit**

Upper School Music Studies meets five times per week as an elective class for a semester. Students will learn a varied array of musical topics. Some topics which will be covered over the semester are: analyzing various Broadway productions and discussing them as a group, analyzing various styles of musical performances and discussing them as a group, exploring Garageband, Chrome Music Lab and similar music composing software, reviewing/ introducing basic musical concepts such as pitch, rhythm and other basic music theory which we will put to use playing Ukuleles and learning basic Piano Keyboarding skills. We will also touch on some historical music topics from the United States and around the World.

Music Theory

Semester **½ credit**

An intense music theory course, for musicians to thoroughly understand the components of music. This theory course will cover everything from the basics to music composition. This course is lecture and performance based. Students must be willing to play piano/keyboard as well as sing on a regular basis. Students are not required to take the AP exam.

Prerequisite: Teacher permission

Portfolio Preparation/Studio Art

Semester/Year-Long **½ credit**

This studio class is open to Juniors and Seniors who have a high level of interest in art and wish to further their study independently.

Portfolio Preparation is for those who wish to create a body of work with the intent to submit to art schools. This class is perfect for Juniors who know they will need a completed portfolio with a range of techniques and styles for schools in autumn of their senior year. Seniors are also welcome to complete final pieces for their portfolio.

Studio Art is for the independent artist who would like to pursue their interest and develop their creative skills at a more in-depth level within a studio setting and under the guidance of an instructor. Students will be expected to work with the Instructor to create an individualized program of study. Studio Art may be in ceramics, photography, drawing or painting.

Summer drawing assignments will be required.

Prerequisite: *See teacher to sign-up for the course, ART I and II*

Wind Ensemble (H)

Year-Long **½ credit**

Wind Ensemble will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:18 - 3:30.. Members are expected to practice at home to ensure readiness for ensemble rehearsals. Wind Ensemble students **must participate** in all required events listed in the syllabus. Students who are unable to attend events will be assigned a make-up assignment.

Wind Ensemble Class

Semester **½ credit**

The Wind Ensemble is a high school group, which meets five days a week and once a week from 2:18-4:00 to mix with H-period-only members. Wind Ensemble students **must participate** in the following three required events to earn their credit: Winter Fine Arts, Spring Fine Arts, and the annual spring competition (locations vary from year to year). Makeup assignments are available for students who must miss a performance. This course includes rehearsing our concert repertoire, expanding our theory knowledge, and reading music from throughout our culture's history.This course is graded as a standard class. **If you would like to participate in band but cannot fit it into your schedule, please see the band director at your earliest convenience to work out an arrangement – each and every part helps!*

Women's Ensemble

1 credit

The Upper School Women's Ensemble is an advanced ensemble for high school girls who excel vocally and academically. This ensemble meets on Fridays during H Period from 2:20-3:30 PM. Members are held to a strict attendance policy due to the large performance schedule and the high level of choral literature that is studied. Rehearsal includes mandatory part testing assignments to be completed as homework throughout each quarter to ensure the highest quality of music learning. The Women's Ensemble performs at Fine Arts Festivals, Caravel events, and competitions. There is also a choral overnight trip tripin the spring. The locations of this trip vary year to year. Fundraisers are available during the year to defray the cost of this trip.

Prerequisite: Director Approval
Note: This class is being offered as pass/fail.

Yearbook

See Yearbook Advisor for additional details.

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

Mathematics

All students must complete four full credits of Mathematics. In addition, seniors must take a full year of math regardless of four credits being completed. Mathematics courses must be taken in sequence. Continuation to the next level is dependent upon successful completion of the present course. Caravel Academy *requires* that all students take four years of mathematics to insure success on SATs and in college programs.

To help students obtain their highest level of proficiency for college, we have devised a two-tier system of class designations.

Advanced College Preparatory

This class level uses a combined approach of student and teacher-directed instructions to gain rudimentary mastery. Students will be assigned homework on a regular basis, notes and handouts will be given in class to help students understand the topics taught in each subject. The emphasis in each class will be on mastery of the material so that students can move on to the next level of math.

Honors College Preparatory

These courses are designed for students who have a particularly strong ability in mathematics. This class level expects students to be self-directed and self-motivated so that more time can be spent on discussion and less teacher-directed instruction and note taking. Though much of the core content of this class is similar to the Advanced classes, the Honors courses have a different book, move at a faster pace, and cover certain topics in greater depth or from a more advanced perspective. Homework will be more demanding, and evaluations will be more challenging. In addition, these courses receive an extra ½ quality point for passing grades.

Algebra I (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

This **required** course is structured toward the development of an understanding of the basic structure of algebra and transfers this knowledge into techniques for solving open sentences. The student will review pre-algebra and introductory algebra concepts, including evaluating expressions, combining like terms, operations with integers, characteristics of functions, and the basics of solving equations, leading to an extensive study of solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities and systems of linear equations and inequalities. The second half of the course is focused on performing operations on and factoring polynomials, identifying and graphing quadratic functions, solving quadratic equations, and an introduction to rational expressions and equations. Additional topics include data analysis and probability.

Prerequisite: end of year average of 70% or better in Into Algebra. ***To qualify for Honors Algebra I, a final average of 95% or better in Into Algebra is required.***

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 Plus Graphing Calculator

Geometry (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

This **required** course will develop reasoning skills as the student studies topics such as congruence and similarity, and applies properties of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals and circles. These topics will be used by students to construct geometric proofs based on deductive logic. The student will also inductively develop problem solving skills by using length, perimeter, area and volume to solve real-world problems. This course emphasizes the integration of Algebra skills as they relate to geometric concepts.

Prerequisite: end of year average of 70% or better in Algebra I. ***To qualify for Honors Geometry, a final average of 90 or better in Honors Algebra I is required or a final average of 95% or better in Advanced Algebra I.***

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 Plus Graphing Calculator

Algebra II (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

This **required** course is designed to review the foundation of *Algebra I* and to introduce the concepts of the following: linear systems, quadratic equations and inequalities, polynomials and factoring, fractional expressions and equations, exponents, powers and roots, logarithms, data analysis and statistics, sequences and series, and complex numbers and trigonometric functions.

Prerequisite: end of year average of 70% or better in Geometry. ***To qualify for Honors Algebra II, a final average of 90% or better in Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra I are required or a final average of 95% or better in Advanced Geometry and Advanced Algebra I.***

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 Plus Graphing Calculator

Pre-Calculus (Honors and Advanced)

1 credit

Pre-Calculus (Advanced and Honors) provides comprehensive analysis and practical, real-world applications of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions. In addition, the Honors course examines conic sections, number sequences, and the calculus concept of limits. The Advanced Pre-Calculus course is geared toward stronger-skilled math students who plan to pursue a field of study or career requiring advanced math skills. The more rigorous Honors Pre-Calculus course is designed for the strong, motivated math student who plans to take calculus next year. **Both courses require summer work.** It is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher for the summer work. It will be due the first day of school.

Prerequisite: end of year average of 70% or better in Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. ***To qualify for Honors Pre-Calculus, a final average of 90% or better in Honors Algebra II is required or a final average of 95% or better in Advanced Algebra II.***

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator

Advanced Functions

1 credit

Advanced Functions builds on the foundations of earlier algebra and geometry courses, with special emphasis on functions. Topics include elementary statistics and probability, as well as functions and applications of mathematics in the real world. With an emphasis on problem-solving strategies, this course will prepare students for upcoming standardized and college-placement tests. Advanced Functions is appropriate for students interested in the social sciences and humanities, who desire to strengthen and broaden their mathematical skills and reasoning before college.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry.

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator

Statistics

1 credit

This class is designed to expand upon lessons previously learned in prior math classes involving data analysis. The course includes topics of interpreting graphs, data distribution, probability, frequency tables, combinations, linear regression analysis, planning and analyzing experiments, and applying these skills to real world situations. This course heavily focuses on hands-on learning and applications based on real world situations. This course is not Advanced Placement Statistics and is designed for those students who have an interest in Statistics but do not qualify for AP Statistics.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II with a 76% or higher.

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator

Calculus

1 credit

Calculus Honors introduces students to the fundamental elements of calculus and its practical applications in the life sciences and business world. After a review of pre-calculus, this course examines the topics of number sequences, limits, differentiation and integration, with emphasis on analyzing functions' slope, area under a curve and volume of revolution. ***Summer work is required****, due the first day of school; it is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher for the summer work. This course qualifies for an extra ½ quality point as it is an Honors course.*

Prerequisite: Strong academic background in mathematics. Successful completion of Honors Pre-Calculus with an 86% or higher or Advanced Pre-Calculus with a 93% or higher.

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator

AP Calculus

1 credit

This course prepares students for the *AP Calculus AB* exam and is equivalent to the first semester of college calculus. It includes a brief review of pre-calculus and introduces the topics of limits (including L'Hopital's Rule), methods of differentiation, applications of derivatives, methods of integration, applications of the integral (emphasizing net change, area and volume, and numerical integration), separable differential equations, and slope fields. Students taking AP Calculus should expect to spend 5-7 hours on homework/studying each week.

Prerequisite: Strong academic background in mathematics. Successful completion of Honors Pre-Calculus with a final average of 93% or better.

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator, *The Princeton Review* Practice Exam Book

Note:

- Summer work will be assigned and graded. It is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher for the summer work.
- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are **required** to take the *AP Calculus AB* examination. The cost is approximately $98.

AP Calculus II

1 credit

This course prepares students who have successfully completed AP Calculus for the AP Calculus BC exam and is equivalent to the second semester of college calculus. It reviews all the material taught in AP Calculus and introduces new material involving the following topics: parametric, polar, and vector equations, integration by parts, the method of partial fractions, arc length, infinite sequences series, Euler's Method, logistic growth, and Taylor Series. Students taking AP Calculus II should expect to spend 5-7 hours on homework/studying each week.

Prerequisite: Strong academic background in mathematics and successful completion of AP Calculus with a minimum 86% average.

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator, *The Princeton Review* Practice Exam Book

Note:

- Summer work will be assigned and graded. It is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher for the summer work.
- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are **required** to take the *AP Calculus BC* examination. The cost is approximately $98.00.

AP Statistics

1 credit

This course prepares students for the *AP Statistics* test and for all of the topics covered in one semester of college statistics. Students will learn about the major concepts and tools used for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data through discussion and activities. The course includes the following topics: exploring data (observing patterns and departures from patterns), planning a study (deciding how and what to measure), anticipating patterns (producing models using probability theory and simulation), statistical inference (confirming models), and the use of technology.

Prerequisite: Strong background in mathematics and completion of Honors Algebra II with a minimum of an 82% or Advanced Algebra II with a minimum of an 87%.

Requirement: TI-83 or TI-84 calculator, The Princeton Review Practice Exam Book

Note:

- Summer work will be assigned and graded. It is the responsibility of the student to see the teacher for the summer work.
- This course will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- Because this Advanced Placement class is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
- All students are **required** to take the *AP Statistics* examination. The cost is approximately $98.00.

Physical Education and Health

Students must complete 1 full credit of Physical Education and one-half credit of Health to qualify for graduation. Students may fulfill the Physical Education requirement by taking Upper School Physical Education or by participating in extracurricular athletics. One-half credit (for a maximum of 1 credit) may be earned for each sport season completed if physical education class was not taken. Please note: Physical education credits earned by extra-curricular sports only count toward Caravel's Physical Education graduation requirement, not toward elective requirements.

First Aid & Athletic Training

Semester **½ credit**

This course is open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores. It offers a general overview and basic introduction to the many facets of athletic training, focusing on the care and prevention of athletic injuries. This course deals with the prevention, assessment, and management techniques of athletic injuries, including lectures, demonstrations, and practice in accident prevention and treatment of injuries.

Note:

- This course does not count towards the ½ credit Health or 1 credit Physical Education requirements for graduation.
- Preference is given to seniors for enrollment in course.

Health

Semester **½ credit**

Upper School health focuses on motivating students to take an active role in maintaining and improving their health. The purpose of this course is to assist young people in developing concepts and skills that foster individual health and well-being. Selected areas of study are mental and emotional health, personal health practices, consumer awareness, nutrition, physical fitness, disease prevention and control, substance abuse, safety and first aid and community health.
Note:

- This course is required for graduation and is added to the schedule of all 10th grade students.

Physical Education

Semester **½ credit**

The physical education course offers a program of physical fitness, team and individual activities that include a balance of traditional and lifetime activities. Each student is given the opportunity to master skills, learn rules, and learn strategies as they relate to each activity. The aim of the course is to develop active minds and bodies by promoting physical activities, skills, attitudes and knowledge to enable the individual to make quality adjustments in living now and the future.
Students are expected to be properly prepared and dressed for class, and participate in all activities.

- One-half credit (for a maximum of 1 credit) may be earned for each sport season completed if physical education class was not taken.
- Priority need is used for scheduling this class. Seniors who need PE credit for graduation get first priority followed by other seniors and then underclassmen. Students may be required to move out of the class if space is needed for students with higher priority.

Science

All students are required to earn at least three (3) full credits in Science –Caravel Academy ***strongly*** recommends that students take four years of science for optimum preparation for college. Students seeking an honors diploma must earn four (4) full credits in Science. Most colleges recommend at least three credits with lab experience which would be courses in Biology, Chemistry, and/or Physics.
*Students must take *Biology, Chemistry,* and one additional credit of science for graduation.

Advanced Biology

1 credit

Biology explores the diversity of life forms through a year-long comprehensive study that builds upon information covered in *Physical Science*. Class work includes basic chemistry, cell structure and function, homeostasis and stability, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, mitosis/meiosis, genetics, evolution, body systems, and dissections. Students will have a research project to complete during the year.

Honors Biology

1 credit

This course is designed for students who plan to enter a science related field in college. The course will use lectures, discussion, lab activities, research, microscope work, and student presentations to cover the concepts of biology in depth. The course will cover each of the following topics: Chemistry, Biochemistry, Cell Structure and Function, Homeostasis and Stability, Mitosis/Meiosis, Cellular Respiration, Photosynthesis, Genetics, Evolution, Kingdoms of Life, Body Systems, Ecology, and Dissections. Students will have a research project to complete during the year. See Science Notes for additional information.

Prerequisite: Final grade of 95% or above in Physical Science is required.

Advanced Placement Biology

1 credit

The *Advanced Placement Biology* course is the equivalent of a first-year college biology course. We will conduct in-depth studies of eight major areas: (1) Chemistry of Life; (2) Cell Structure & Function; (3) Cellular Energetics (4) Cell Communication & Cell Cycle; (5) Heredity; (6) Gene Expression & Regulation; (7) Natural Selection; and (8) Ecology. The course also contains a laboratory component in which 12 quantitative laboratory exercises will be conducted. The course requires summer work from the *A.P Biology* curriculum. The course also requires the student to acquire two books: *The Cartoon Guide to the Environment* and *The Cartoon Guide to Genetics*. See Science Notes for additional information.

Prerequisite: A strong science and math background is strongly encouraged. A grade of 90% or better in Honors Biology is required. Students who did not take Honors Biology may be enrolled in AP Biology if they had a final grade of 95% or better in Advanced Biology. In addition to the AP summer work students must complete an additional summer work packet by the first day of school.

Co-requisite: Algebra II (or successful completion of Algebra II)

Advanced Chemistry

1 credit

This course is designed to build on the basic chemistry concepts taught in Physical Science and Biology. Students will engage in a variety of activities including class discussion, problem solving, and laboratory investigations. Students will have a research project to complete.

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and *Algebra I*.

Honors Chemistry

1 credit

This course is designed for students who plan to enter a science related field in college. Students will engage in a variety of activities including class discussion, problem solving, laboratory investigations, and independent research. Emphasis is on quantitative relationships and requires a strong background in mathematics with strong word problem solving skills. Students will have a research paper to complete. In addition, this course receives an extra ½ quality point for passing grades. Graphing calculators are not permitted for tests and quizzes; a calculator will be provided in class.

Prerequisite: Final grade of 90% or better in *Honors Biology* and Honors Algebra 1 or a 93% in Advanced Biology or Advanced Algebra 1.

Chemistry 2

1 credit

This is a second year chemistry course designed for students who might have to take freshman chemistry in college. The course builds on the concepts of first year chemistry and will review key first year material, adding more depth and detail. New topics not covered in the first year program will be added. There is a heavy emphasis on chemical calculations and students must have a strong math background. Completion of Honors Chemistry is strongly recommended but not required. See Science Notes for additional information. In addition, this course receives an extra ½ quality point for passing grades.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or above in Honors Chemistry or 93% or above in Advanced Chemistry.

AP Chemistry

1 credit

The *Advanced Placement Chemistry* course is the equivalent of a first-year college chemistry course. In-depth studies in stoichiometry, bonding, kinetics, thermodynamics, chemical reactions, and equilibrium will be conducted. A significant amount of material will have to be covered in independent study. Students will be required to complete coursework over the summer. This material will be collected on the first day of class with

testing to follow. No class time will be devoted to this material although students will have an opportunity to ask questions outside of class. See Science Notes for additional information.

Prerequisite: A grade of 93% or higher in Chemistry II. Students taking AP Chemistry are expected to have taken 2 years of Chemistry.

Advanced Physics

1 credit

This course is for students who want to learn about Physics in a conceptual way and prepare for college-level science courses. Students will learn through lectures, demonstrations, and laboratories. Course content includes linear motion, projectile motion, vectors, Newton's Laws, momentum and collisions, work and energy including electricity, circular motion, and torque. This course requires a significant amount of mathematical problem-solving. All students must have a scientific calculator.

Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry with a 76% or higher.

Honors Physics

1 credit

Honors physics is a science elective suitable for any junior or senior who is interested in how objects interact with one another. The course will operate at a faster pace than advanced physics and will have more advanced math and problem-solving techniques. A strong math background is encouraged. There will be class discussion, lectures, group work, and laboratory investigations. Course content includes one- and two-dimensional motion, Newton's Laws and forces, momentum and impulse, energy, work and power, rotational motion, torque and angular momentum.

Prerequisite: 90% or better in Honors Algebra 1 or 95% or better in Advanced Algebra 1.
Requirement: Students must have a scientific calculator.

AP Physics 1

1 credit

The Advanced Placement Physics 1 course is for Juniors and Seniors and is equivalent to a first year algebra-based college physics course. This course emphasizes critical thinking and multi-step problem solving. It is appropriate for a student who is interested in majoring in science or health-related fields in college. The course will cover one- and two- dimensional motion, vectors, kinematics, Newton's Laws of Motion, momentum and collisions, simple harmonic motion, rotational motion, work and energy, and gravity. A significant amount of material will be covered as independent study. Students will be required to complete summer work. The packet will be collected on the first day of school with testing to follow.

Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Algebra II 90% or higher or Advanced Algebra II with 95% or higher.
Requirement: Students must have a scientific calculator.

AP Physics 2

1 credit

The Advanced Placement Physics 2 course is for Juniors and Seniors and is equivalent to a first year algebra-based college Physics II course. This course emphasizes critical thinking and multi-step problem solving (in word problems). It is appropriate for a student who is interested in a career in physics, engineering, or related science programs. The course will cover thermodynamics, electricity and magnetics, quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics. A significant amount of material will be covered as independent study. Students will be required to complete summer work. The packet will be collected on the first day of school with testing to follow.

Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Physics with a 90% higher, Advanced Physics with a 95% or higher, or completion of AP Physics I.

Requirement: Students must have a scientific calculator
This course will only be offered if there is enough interest and room in the schedule to accommodate it. Please keep this in mind when registering for the course that it may NOT be offered.

Anatomy

Semester **½ credit**

This course is designed for students who want to gain an introduction to the study of the human body. Lecture presentations and hands-on activities will focus students on five areas: Biology review, tissues, skin and the integumentary system, and body systems. Students will develop an understanding of the parts of the human body in great detail. They will also be able to explain how the human body functions. The course will also include practical lab experiments to reinforce topics. The course offers an open forum for discussion of injuries, illnesses, and physical abnormalities. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores.

Prerequisite: C*ompletion of Biology.*

Astronomy

Semester **½ credit**

This course is designed for students who are interested in the field of Astronomy. Presentations and hands-on activities provide students the opportunity to learn the basic ideas of Astronomy from looking at the night sky through trying to understand what makes up the universe. Students will work their way through understanding the motions of the stars, the Solar System, properties of light, and how the universe is organized.

Ecology

Semester **½ credit**

Ecology is the study of the interactions between living things and how they interact with their environment. Students will study the adaptations of individual species, the populations made by the species, how their population interacts with others in a community, and how the communities interact in the overall ecosystem. The course will look at the difference between the different global biomes. Other topics that students will explore would be succession, element cycles, population dynamics, and conservation of species. This course is open to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: C*ompletion of Biology.*

Introduction to Engineering (Fall Semester)

Semester **½ credit**

This course is designed for students who want a one-semester, project-oriented introduction to the engineering profession and an overview of the various engineering disciplines. The focus will be on in-class projects that will help students develop engineering skills such as problem solving, spatial visualization, written and oral communication, and teamwork. Students will also learn how to use spreadsheets for engineering analysis and to program Arduino microcontrollers. The course will culminate in a long-term design project in which students will aim to design, build, test, and improve interactive objects that meet a specific need. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores.

Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Algebra 1 with a 70% or higher or Advanced Algebra 1 with a 75% or higher.

Engineering Design (Spring Semester)

Semester **½ credit**

This course is for upperclassmen who are interested in learning about and experiencing the Engineering Design Process through a long-term design project that will culminate in a competition. Students will work in teams to design, build, and test a balsa wood bridge that will be entered into the annual DelDot Bridge Design Competition. As part of the project, students will increase proficiency in the entire Microsoft Office® Suite as they prepare competition documents and an oral presentation. They will also learn to use 3D modeling software to build and virtually test their designs and computer-aided drafting software to prepare competition drawings. In addition to the Engineering Design Process, students will learn about the engineering profession in general; cultivate engineering skills such as teamwork, oral and written communication, spatial visualization, and creativity; and participate in regular in-class design challenges.

Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Algebra 1 with a 70% or higher or Advanced Algebra 1 with a 75% or higher.

Note: Introduction to Engineering is NOT a prerequisite.

Introduction to Robotics

Semester **½ credit**

See Computer Science Section
Credit for this course can be used as either Computer Science or Science credit towards graduation requirement.

Psychology

Semester **½ credit**
See Social Science Department section
Criminal Investigations and Forensics (1st semester only) Formerly Sci Topics A

½ credit
This is a laboratory based course designed for the Senior year so they receive priority. The work will involve research into investigative techniques used during criminal investigations, and laboratory applications of those techniques to a real or simulated crime situation and evaluation of the outcome as it pertains to crime scenarios. Grades will be based on research assignments, laboratory and crime scene evaluations and tests.
Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry.

S.T.E.M. Activities (2nd semester only) Formerly Sci Topics B

½ credit
This is a hands-on course designed for the Senior year so they receive priority. The physics behind various activities will be investigated and the information used to design, construct and test a device. . Grades will be based on attendance, adherence to design parameters, quality of construction and performance.
Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Chemistry.

Science Notes:

- Honors level courses receive an extra ½ quality point for passing grades.
- Advanced Placement courses receive one extra quality point for passing grades.
- Advanced Placement courses will meet for a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period. Then, class will meet from 1:35 – 3:00 PM.
- All students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses are required to take the corresponding *AP* examination. The cost is approximately $99.00.

Social Science

Students are required to take three full credits in Social Sciences to earn a college preparatory diploma and four full credits to earn an honors diploma. Students must take the ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade Social Studies courses in sequence. In the eleventh and twelfth grades, elective courses may also be taken. Caravel Academy strongly recommends that all students complete four (4) years of Social Sciences for optimum preparation for college.

Advanced Global Studies: 1000-1800

1 credit

This course will explore and analyze World History beginning with the Middle Ages and continuing through the first wave of democratic revolutions. Important topics discussed will include but are not limited to cultural and religious conflict, scientific and philosophical reform movements, conquest and colonization, and democratization. Course of study will start at the fall of Rome and go through the Atlantic Revolutions. A research project will be required, and a book analysis will be completed during this course. This course is required for graduation.

Advanced World History

1 credit

This course will explore and analyze world history beginning with the end of the Napoleonic Era and continuing to the modern world. Important topics that will be discussed will include, but are not limited to, the following: the Industrial Revolution, European rivalry for world colonies and trade; the growing importance, and corresponding independence of nations in Africa, southern and eastern Asia, and the Americas; global conflicts including the First and Second World Wars, the conflicts in Asia and Latin America; the birth of Israel and the corresponding Arab and Israeli conflict. A research paper and a book analysis will be required. This is a required course for graduation.

Advanced United States History

1 credit

This course explores the major themes, influential figures, and pivotal events that shaped the United States from Reconstruction through the early 2000's. This course is designed to enrich student understanding of the complex narrative of United States history, examining the political, social, economic, and cultural developments that directed the nation's course. Emphasis will be placed on Reconstruction, Westward expansion, the Gilded Age, continued industrial growth, rise to world power, World War I, the 1920's, Great Depression and New Deal, World War II, the Cold War and Cold War conflicts including Vietnam, the Civil Rights Movement, Watergate, U.S. politics and culture of the 1960's and 1970's, the conservative turn in the 1980's, technological revolution of the 1990s, September 11th, responses to foreign terrorism, and beyond. Students will be exposed to a variety of instructional techniques including lectures, discussions, research presentations, debate, and simulations. Additionally, this course focuses on primary/secondary source inquiry through analytical writing. Research projects - group and individual - are required for this course, culminating with a final research paper in the fourth quarter of the year. This is a required course for graduation.

AP United States Government and Politics

1 credit

Open to juniors and seniors, AP United States Government and Politics is a one-year course that will give learners an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics. Learners should become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes.
This course will have a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period; on those days class will meet from 1:35-3:00 pm. Students enrolled in the course are required to take the exam and should be aware

that the estimated fee for the exam is $100.00. Because this course is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
Summer work is assigned for this course and is due the first day of school.
Prerequisite: 90% or above in the previous year's history class.

AP United States History

1 credit

AP United States History is an engaging and rigorous college-level course designed for Juniors and Seniors ready to explore the depths of American history from pre-Columbian Native American societies to the present. This course not only delves into the factual narrative of the United States, but also examines the themes, events, and figures that shaped the United States. Through a combination of primary source inquiry and analysis, critical discussions, and analytical essays, students will develop a nuanced understanding of the complex forces that influenced United States history. In addition, this course is designed to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement United States History Exam in May, which is a requirement for this course and costs approximately $100. Credits earned for the AP exam varies among institutions, but averages 6 credit hours (2 courses) for most regional universities. Therefore, this course is designed for students passionate about history who are seeking a challenging academic experience who are prepared for college-level coursework and interested in earning significant college credit at Caravel.
Throughout the course, students will practice stimulus-based multiple choice, Short Answer Questions (SAQ), Document Based Question (DBQ) essays , and Long Essay Question (LEQ) essays in and out of class. Homework - including textbook reading, writing, and analysis - is assigned daily. Students should expect to complete 4-8 hours of studying per week to be successful in this course.
This course will have a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period; on those days class will meet from 1:35-3:00 pm. Because this course is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for the course.
This course fulfills the United States History requirement for juniors. ***Summer work is assigned for this course - including a book analysis - and is due the first day of school.***
Prerequisite: 90% or above in the previous year's history class.

AP World History: Modern

1 credit

Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors who want a challenge, as well as an opportunity to earn college credits in History, this course is designed to prepare students to take the World History Modern Advanced Placement Exam in the spring. Students enrolled in the course are required to take the World History Modern Advanced Placement Exam and should be aware that the estimated fee for the AP exam is $100.00. Covering material from the 1200 to the present day in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, the course is intended to give the sort of broad coverage required to perform well on the Advanced Placement Exam. Students will practice AP-style multiple choice and essay questions. Each student will read, research, and examine a multitude of primary resources to gain historiographic knowledge. Students should expect to read 10-20 pages a day, take notes, discuss, and prepare and critique essays.
This course will have a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period; on those days class will meet from 1:35-3:00 pm. Because this course is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.
There is also **summer work** assigned for this course that is due the first day of school.
This course fulfills the World History requirement for sophomores.
Prerequisite: 93% or above in the previous year's history class.

African American History

Semester **½ credit**

The purpose of African American History class is to develop an understanding of the role and contributions of African Americans to the growth and development of the United States. The course offers opportunities to examine the historical significance of African Americans from African origins through present times. Units will be taught through the study of novels and through the lens of the unique cultural and political experiences of African Americans in the United States. The course promotes independent thinking about race, and other systems of difference that shape individual and group interactions, American identity, and culture.

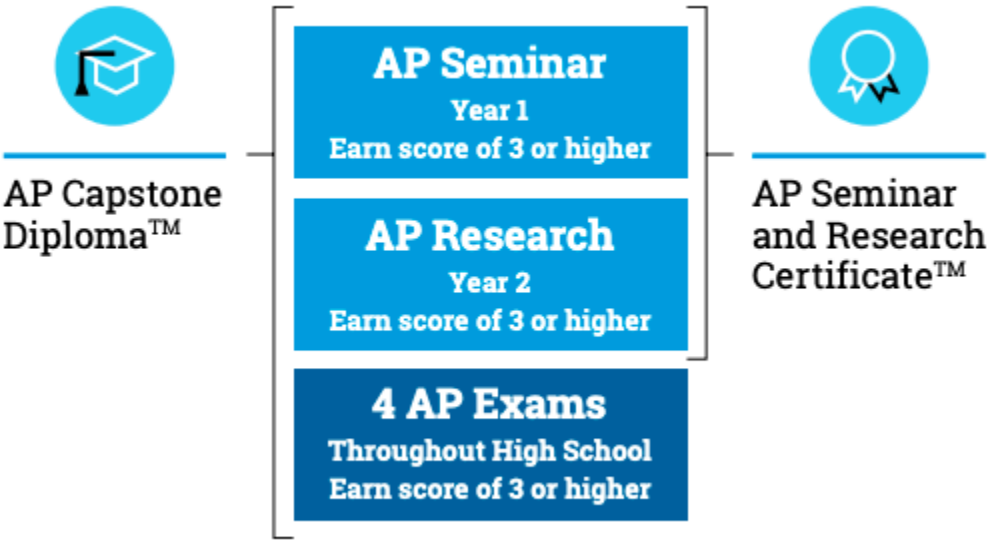
AP Capstone Seminar

1 credit

AP Capstone Seminar is a foundational course limited to upperclassmen that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.Students enrolled in the course are required to take the exam and should be aware that the estimated fee for the exam is $143.00.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate



Prerequisites: Successful completion of a previous honors or AP class with a final grade of 90% or higher.

AP Capstone: Research

Semester **1 credit**

Build on what you learned in AP Seminar to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, you will design, plan, and conduct a year-long research based investigation to address a research question.

AP Research is an interdisciplinary course that encourages students to demonstrate critical thinking and academic research skills on a topic of the student's choosing. To accommodate the wide range of student topics, typical college course equivalents include introductory research or general elective courses.

There is no end-of-course written exam for AP Research. Instead, you'll be assessed on performance tasks you complete that are based on your year long research project: an academic paper (which you'll submit online for scoring through the AP Digital Portfolio), a presentation, and an oral defense of your research. These components all contribute to your final AP score on a scale of 1–5. Fee for submission and scoring of your portfolio is $143.00.

Prerequisites: Must successfully complete AP Capstone: Seminar

Introduction to Economics

Semester **½ credit**

This course will cover the modern economics systems that people use every day. This includes the basics of personal finance, such as budgeting, financial decision-making and elements of the stock exchange. We will also discuss the larger themes of supply and demand, market equilibrium, international economics and financial theory. The major assignment for the course will be a group Entrepreneurship Project, which will span the entire semester and allow students to explore the steps to creating a business from the ground up. This project will incorporate business planning, budgeting, financing, marketing, and sales. Economic, political scenarios and simulations will be a focal point of higher level thinking activities. Moreover, this course will primarily utilize discussions, debates, graphs, reports, and group activities to better illustrate the concepts of economics today. We will also utilize the Internet, team activities, and other interactive strategies. This course is available for juniors and seniors.

Philosophy: Thinking and Living Well

Semester **½ credit**

Want a class that helps with life choices? In the first half of this course, students will go through a scientifically validated and research-backed method called "Becoming You," developed by NYU Stern professor, Suzy Welch, to help answer the questions "who am I?" and "what should I do with my life?" This process will help students identify their personal values, discover their aptitudes and strengths, examine major megatrends to spot areas of economic opportunity, and synthesize those findings into a draft of their life narrative. In the second half of the course, students will study classic and contemporary philosophical views about happiness, meaning, purpose, and flourishing, and then apply those ideas to real decisions. Expect daily and honest class discussions, readings, presentations, and projects that develop clear thinking and respectful conversations. The course is designed to support college and career readiness with clarity, character, and thoughtful action. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores.

Psychology

Semester **½ credit**

This course will explore and analyze the subject of Psychology. Through this course students will understand the development and function of the human mind. The topics to be investigated will include human development, heredity versus environment, psychological research, sensation and perception, and cognitive

bias. This course will also involve the student in research and research design to further their knowledge and understanding of the subject matter. Grades will consist of in-class assignments, research projects, tests, and quizzes.. *Credits for this course can be used as either Social Science or Science credits towards graduation requirements.*

AP Psychology

1 credit

Open to Juniors and Seniors who want a challenge as well as an opportunity to earn college credits in Psychology, this course is designed to prepare students to take the Psychology Advanced Placement Exam in the spring. Students enrolled in the course are required to take the exam and should be aware that the estimated fee for the exam is $100.00. The purpose of AP Psychology is to introduce the student to the systematic and scientific study of human and animal behavior and mental processes. Major topics will include: history and approaches, research methods, biological bases and behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, cognition, motivation and emotion, developmental psychology, personality, testing and individual differences, abnormal behavior, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Students will practice AP-style multiple choice and essay questions. Students should expect to read 10-20 pages a day, take notes, discuss, prepare and critique essays, and to have extensive homework and projects as this class is intended to be a college level course. The course will have a double period whenever the class rotates into the 7th period; on those days, class will meet from 1:38 – 3:00 pm. Because this course is accelerated and requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades. **There is also a summer packet that students must complete and turn in on the first day of school.** *Credits for this course can be used as either Social Science or Science credits towards graduation requirements.*

Prerequisites: 90% or above in the previous year's AP or honors class.

World Religions

Semester **½ credit**

In this discussion-based course, students will explore the foundational beliefs, texts, and historical development of major world religions, including but not limited to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Students will read and interpret sacred texts like the Bible, Qur'an, and Hindu and Buddhist writings, and examine religion through history, philosophy, and culture from an academic and objective perspective. Through Harkness-style conversations and close reading, you'll grapple with big questions about God, suffering and evil, religious diversity, and the role of spiritual teachers, while learning to develop and defend your own ideas respectfully and clearly. Open to grades 10–12. Priority enrollment is given to seniors, followed by juniors and sophomores.

Supplementary Electives

Driver's Education

Semester **½ credit**

According to the Delaware State Code, "Delaware nonpublic school (private and homeschool) students are entitled to **tuition-based driver education** at rates approved by co-chairs of the Joint Finance Committee, Delaware General Assembly." *Driver's Education* is open to grade 10 students, with parent permission, who wish to obtain their driver's license. This course consists of 30 hours of classroom work*, six hours of in-car observation, and six hours of behind the wheel experience. *Note: This course is scheduled in conjunction with the Department of Education, which supplies a teacher. Students may need to drive outside the regular classroom day.*

Note: This class is being offered as pass/fail.

*Following the classroom work for the Driver's Education class, students will participate in a mini Career Explorations course. See below for an explanation of the supplementary course.

***Career Exploration**

This mini-course will help 10th grade students begin planning for college and beyond. Through interest inventories and career assessments, students will realize how their strengths and interests can be used in career planning. We will also discuss the college admissions process and educational requirements for various careers.

Freshman Study Skills

First Semester Only **½ credit**

Learning how to learn is one of the most valuable tools available to help students achieve success in school and life. This course is designed to help incoming freshmen with the transition from middle school to high school. This class helps sharpen your study skills, such as organization, time management, test taking, etc., and develop habits that, in turn, will enable you to learn more efficiently and effectively. Class will also consist of preparing for future assignments, studying for tests, and beginning long term projects.

Academic Assistance/Study Skills

¼ credit each

This course is designed to help students academically. The class will focus on developing and maintaining study skills as well as helping students prepare for future assignments, studying for tests, and beginning long term projects. Students are placed in this class based on need and only with administrative approval.

Senior Thesis Project

1 credit

This specially created course will allow senior students to use all of their academic knowledge gained in the last twelve years to explore a subject of personal interest in great depth. This senior thesis and project will follow a set guideline of due dates to help students pace themselves as they begin to research and construct an idea from conception to birth. All final theses and projects will be publicly presented and displayed. Such theses could include any exploration from how the physical throw of a baseball pitch creates different spins on the baseball to how the use of herbs in the past have contributed to current pharmaceuticals. Subjects to be explored would be limited only by the student's interests. To facilitate guidance, the administration will have final approval for all topics and will find a teacher advisor who could best help the student within the chosen field of study.

This class is meant for serious, dedicated seniors only, but those seniors who do commit will develop a memory and experience that will last a lifetime. Students who choose this elective will be contacted before the start of school to begin the preliminary work for establishing their personal course of study. Enrollment in the course is extremely limited and students must receive permission of the Caravel Administration and a faculty advisor. Because this class requires intensive effort, an extra quality point will be awarded for passing grades.

Student Aide

Semester **½ credit**

Student Aide is an elective, which permits a student to work as a "Teacher's Helper" or as an office assistant. Being a student aide helps students develop a sense of responsibility, leadership, and supervision skills. Students who wish to be a student aide for the entire year must email scheduling@caravel.org.

Note: This class is being offered as pass/fail.

Early Education Teacher Academy

Semester **½ credit**

The demand for Early Childhood and Elementary Education is growing. Early Education Aides will have the opportunity to build their resume and to gain real life experience working with preschool through kindergarten students. The course will include supervision of developmentally appropriate activities for children.Other areas of study may include safety practices, first aid, human growth and development, community and social problems, basic psychology, program management, and professionalism. Students will have an opportunity to apply their skills and knowledge in Caravel's Early Education Center. In addition, students will be given the opportunity sign up to work the after-care program as part of a paid internship or service hours. Students will be evaluated and receive a grade as part of the Early Education Teacher Academy.

Prerequisite: Director Approval; 15-years-old or older (Upper Classmen)

Study Hall

Students should sign up for *Study Hall* once. Students who desire Study Hall for both semesters should email scheduling@caravel.org to indicate this.

Note: Students are allowed a combination of one full time Student Aide/Study Hall per semester with no more than five student aide/study hall periods per week.

World Language

Three years of study in the same world language are required for graduation in the Honors program. Caravel Academy strongly recommends that all students take at least two years of the same world language in upper school since many colleges and universities require this minimum for admission. Since acquisition of language skills is a cumulative process, continuing the world language sequence requires satisfactory completion of the preceding level. The school requires that students with a final grade of less than a 76% or 86% in some cases do summer work and take another examination before proceeding to the next level course. Caravel Academy follows guidelines outlined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) and Common European Framework of Reference of Language (CEFR).

Online World Language Course

1 credit

Beginning for the school year 2023-2024 as a TRIAL BASIS, Caravel will allow students to take World Language online IF the course is NOT offered in person at Caravel. Our hope is that this provides an opportunity for more variety in courses available to students at Caravel. Students taking a World Language through Educere will first need approval as an independent, self-paced course is not recommended for everyone. Students will be assigned a study hall time to complete the course, but they should have a history of strong academics that demonstrates a motivation and ability to complete a course(s) independently. For details on what courses are offered through Educere, please visit https://www.educere.net/coursefinder.asp?. Once the course is selected, please complete the attached form with your guardian to receive approval to take the course. Do NOT sign up for a course. Students should also be aware that World Language courses online as a default do NOT count towards NCAA requirements. To take NCAA approved World Language classes, please speak with Mrs. Harper or Mrs. Brown before registering.

Spanish I

1 credit

Spanish I stresses the development of reading, writing, listening, and conversational skills. Students will learn vocabulary for a variety of familiar topics (school, family, holidays, etc.) and will gain knowledge of Hispanic culture. Students will become proficient in the language by internalizing it, not just memorizing words or grammar points. Students who are proficient can communicate messages effectively. Students will frequently work in pairs and small groups to practice and create authentic conversations. This class will also read texts, research historical and cultural information, write original texts, and give presentations. In Spanish I, students will be aiming for Novice-Mid level proficiency (in accordance with ACTFL proficiency scale).

Prerequisite: Recommended for students who earned less than a 90% in Eighth Grade Spanish, scored lower than an 80% on the final, or have not studied Spanish previously.

Spanish II

1 credit

Spanish II is designed to further develop Spanish reading skills, writing skills, listening skills, conversational skills, vocabulary, and knowledge of Hispanic culture. Spanish II begins with a brief review of Spanish I, but students will quickly move onto new topics and grammar. Students will become proficient in the language by internalizing it, not just memorizing words or grammar points. Students who are proficient can communicate messages effectively. Students will frequently work in pairs and small groups to practice and create authentic conversations. The class will also read and discuss texts, research historical and cultural information, write original texts and stories, and give presentations. In Spanish II, we will be aiming for Novice High-Intermediate Low level proficiency (in accordance with the ACTFL proficiency scale).

Prerequisite: 70% or better in Spanish I; see prerequisite for Spanish I for recommendations for incoming 9th graders.

Spanish III

This course expands the students' grasp of Spanish through review of vocabulary and structure, introduction of more complex grammatical structures and reading and discussing articles and short texts. It is expected at this level that students will use Spanish as the primary means of communication in the classroom. Students are graded on written, spoken language, interpretive tasks like listening and reading. Additionally, grammar and vocabulary are assessed. Cultural study includes analysis of authentic resources such as videoblogs, emails, and letters from native speakers. Units have a cultural focus centered around a Spanish-speaking country and related grammar and vocabulary topics. Students will look at these topics from a cross-cultural perspective, with the goal being to draw comparison and communicate opinions from their own experiences.

The students goal is to reach a proficiency level of intermediate mid in accordance with the ACTFL proficiency scale. This class is conducted 80% in Spanish.

Prerequisite: 70% or better in Spanish II with a recommended completion of having an 80% or better.

1 credit

Spanish IV/Spanish V

This course is designed for motivated students who are looking to improve their overall proficiency in Spanish. A year 4 students' goal is to reach intermediate high proficiency, while a year 5 student aims to reach an advanced low proficiency level in accordance with ACTFL proficiency guidelines. The course is conducted 90% in Spanish and receives credit as an Honors course.

Vocabulary, structure, and more complex grammatical forms will be reviewed this year. Additionally, students will be introduced to reading longer literary passages such as short stories, articles, and excerpts from novels. The students will work hard to improve both speaking and listening skills. Students will continue to study culture through authentic resources and print media. Cultural units include higher level discussion of historical and current events in Spanish speaking countries.

Students are graded on written, spoken language, and interpretive tasks like listening and reading. Additionally, grammar and vocabulary are assessed. Summative integrated performance assessments (IPA) are expected at this level.

A booklet of our textbook EntreCulturas 4 may be reviewed by following this link https://assets.waysidepublishing.com/Corporate_Site/Customer-Downloads/Spanish/ECS2017_Booklet.pdf

Upon successful completion of this course, motivated *Spanish V* students are encouraged to take the Spanish Advanced Placement Examination. *In addition, this course qualifies for an extra ½ quality point* for passing grades. *Please Note: If the schedule permits, Spanish IV and Spanish V will be separated into two courses.*

Prerequisite: 80% or better in Spanish III/IV with a recommendation of 90% or higher.