

FORT DALE ACADEMY
COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOK

NINTH GRADE ENGLISH

In this course, students will build on their knowledge of literature, grammar, and writing. Using various short stories, poems, and novels, the students will learn to analyze literature and improve critical thinking skills, as well as understand the historical connections of literature. The students will also learn to recognize and explain various literary and syntactic devices. The students will review basic grammatical skills and expand on them as they develop more complex writing styles.

Prerequisites: Eighth grade literature and grammar.

Graduation Credit: Required, English

TENTH GRADE ENGLISH

In this course, students will build on their knowledge of literature, grammar, and writing. Using various short stories, poems, and novels, the students will learn to analyze literature and improve critical thinking skills, as well as understand the historical connections of literature. The students will also learn to recognize and explain various literary and syntactic devices. The students will review basic grammatical skills and expand on them as they develop more complex writing styles.

Prerequisites: Ninth grade English.

Graduation Credit: Required, English

TENTH GRADE ENGLISH HONORS

Honors English at the tenth grade level covers all material in tenth grade English as well as rigorous study in vocabulary development and composition skills. The course also covers required novels as well as short stories, plays, and poems that will be studied for an understanding of literary devices, themes and the value of each work as literature. Students in this course should be prepared to meet the challenges of an advanced level of study.

Prerequisites: Yearly B average in English 9 and teacher approval.

Graduation Credit: Required, English, Advanced Diploma

ELEVENTH GRADE ENGLISH

Students study a wide range of American literature beginning with the works of the early settlers and continuing through the late twentieth century authors. The course provides students with an understanding of the cultural heritage of the United States and focuses on the ability to read and write critically about the themes and values that reflect this heritage.

Prerequisites: Tenth grade English.

Graduation Credit: Required, English

ELEVENTH GRADE ENGLISH HONORS

For students who excel in reading and writing, are highly motivated, and possess superior study skills, the honors level of eleventh grade English is recommended. This course covers a greater depth and breadth of the standard curriculum at a faster pace. Throughout the year, students follow a chronological survey and an in-depth analysis of American writers from the colonial period to the twentieth century. Students study the development of American literary styles, techniques, themes, and philosophies. The course also provides students with an understanding of the cultural heritage of the United States and focuses on the ability to read and write critically about the themes and values that reflect this heritage.

Prerequisites: Yearly B average in English 10 and teacher approval.

Graduation Credit: Required, English, Advanced Diploma

TWELFTH GRADE ENGLISH

English at the twelfth grade level reviews and reinforces those skills in the eleventh grade English course. This course provides continued advancement in composition, vocabulary development, and improved language usage. The literature in this course focuses on British writers. Students study the development of the British literary styles, techniques, themes, and philosophies. Students will be expected to prepare both written and oral reports, and they will have required reading assignments as well.

Prerequisite: Eleventh grade English.

Graduation Credit: Required, English

TWELFTH GRADE ENGLISH HONORS

This course is recommended for students who excel in reading and writing, who are highly motivated, and who possess superior study skills. The course offers a greater depth and breadth of the standard curriculum at a faster pace. Grammar is reviewed quickly and with increasing complexity during the first nine weeks of the year.

Vocabulary per se is emphasized for one semester, though vocabulary is also incorporated into the study of literature. The course provides a chronological survey and an in-depth analysis of British writers. Students study the development of the British literary styles, techniques, themes, and philosophies. Require reading is expected of all students. Students in this course should be prepared to meet the challenges of an advanced level of study.

Prerequisites: Yearly B average in English 11 or Honors English 11 and teacher approval.

Graduation Credit: Required, English, Advanced Diploma

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Science is a process that uses observation and investigation to gain insight and knowledge about events in nature. This course deals with matter and energy, its composition and changes. Subjects from Physics and Chemistry will be studied during the year, making the course an ideal preparatory course for either High School Physics, Chemistry or both. Emphasis will be placed on mathematical methods for solving problems in general science.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Required, Science

BIOLOGY

To gain knowledge of the basis for life. Subjects include: molecular and cellular biology, biochemistry, genetics, microbiology, botany, invertebrates and vertebrates. Taxonomy, anatomy, physiology, life cycles and genetics of organisms of the major phyla will be studied.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Required, Science

CHEMISTRY

This course will assist students in understanding the structure and composition of matter, the change of matter, and what causes the changes. This is done through observation, laboratory experimentation, and lecture activities. Students should be aware of chemically oriented occupations when completing the course.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Science

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

HONORS

This course encompasses the study of the macroscopic, microscopic and physiological functions of the system of the human body. After an introduction to cell biology and cytology, students will explore the structure and function of the basic tissues and major organ systems of the body. Cat dissections, light microscopic examination of prepared sections, and physiological experiments will supplement lectures.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Science

PHYSICS
HONORS

This course treats selected topics from the area of mechanics, kinetic theory and heat, waves and optics, electricity and magnetism and modern physics with the emphasis placed on the concept of energy and on the conservation laws of physics. Student should have a strong understanding of Algebra and Geometry before entering this course.

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra and Geometry

Graduation Credit: Science

ADVANCED BIOLOGY
HONORS

This course provides students with the conceptual framework, future knowledge and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with this changing field of study. Microbiology and forensics are studied. Laboratory experiences are an integral aspect of the instruction and are incorporated into class activities.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Science

GENERAL SCIENCE

This course covers chemistry, physical science, earth and space science, life science, and conservation topics.

Prerequisites: Senior

Graduation Credit: Science, not Advance Diploma

HEALTH

FOUNDATIONS OF ALGEBRA

A continuation of the Introduction to Algebra I course for students not prepared for Algebra I. Algebra material is covered at a much slower rate and not as in depth.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Algebra I

Graduation Credit: Math

ALGEBRA I

Algebra I is designed to introduce applications of the real number system in problems involving equations, inequalities and geometric concepts. Exponents and factoring are covered in detail. Concepts related to functions and graphing techniques will be introduced.

Prerequisites- Introductory Algebra I

Graduation Credit: Required, Math

GEOMETRY

This course is a study of geometric ideas involving points, space, congruence, similtude, proportionality, and measurement. It is an integrated study of one, two, and three-dimensional geometry.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Graduation Credit: Required Math

ALGEBRA II

Algebra II provides a more in depth treatment of Algebra I, while introducing several higher-level topics. Quadratic equations, function graphing and systems of equations and inequalities are topics expanded in this course.

Prerequisite: Algebra I, required

PRE-CALCULUS

HONORS

Pre-Calculus provides an introduction to topics that will be expounded upon in Calculus. These topics include functions and their graphs, multivariate linear systems, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices, and determinants. Students will also learn about trigonometric concepts and extend these concepts into real life situations.

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry

Graduation Credit: Math, Advanced Diploma

AP CALCULUS
HONORS

This course is a study of the properties of algebraic, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions; limits, the derivative and its applications; the techniques of integration and the definite integral and its applications.

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus

Graduation Credit: Math, Advanced Diploma

ADVANCED MATH

Advanced Math is designed to provide a more in depth treatment of some Algebra II topics and provide an introduction to several higher level Pre-Calculus topics. Conic Sections, Logarithmic Functions, Trigonometry, Statistics, and Matrices are expanded in this course.

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Senior

Graduation Credit: Math, not Advanced Diploma

WORLD HISTORY

SINCE 1500

An interpretation of events of World History from the Scientific Revolution to the present time will be explored. The main purpose of this course is to provide students with historical background that shaped the world as we know it. This will help the students to understand the struggles that people and nations have gone through to maintain the existence and place in the world.

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Credit: Required, History

UNITED STATES HISTORY I

The history of the United States from the prehistoric age through the Reconstruction Era is covered in this class. The main purpose of this course is to provide students with the necessary background in American history so that they may apply it to their future studies and roles as American citizens

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Credit: Required, History

UNITED STATES HISTORY II

U.S. History 1900 to Present

The history of the United States from the Reconstruction Era to the present day is covered in this class. The main purpose of this course is to provide students with the necessary background in American history so that they may apply it to their future studies and their roles as American Citizens.

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Credit: Required, History

AP-UNITED STATES HISTORY

HONORS

GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Credit: Required, History

GEOGRAPHY

A study of world geography which includes solving maps, charts, and graphs, as well as learning about the land forms, climates and economics of specific world regions.

Prerequisite: Senior

Graduation Credit: Elective

SPANISH I

The first year of Spanish introduces students to the concept of studying a foreign language and to basic Spanish grammar. Vocabulary drawn from everyday life is enhanced through idiomatic study to highlight cultural differences. All four communicative skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing—receive equal attention.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Required, Foreign Language

SPANISH II

The second year of Spanish continues the examination of the structure of the language begun the previous year. Emphasis is placed on the mastery of grammatical patterns, while continuing the emphasis on oral communication and cultural enrichment.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Spanish I.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish I

Graduation Credit: Required, Advanced Diploma

SPEECH AND DRAMA

In this course, students will learn about a variety of speaking styles, functions, and purposes. Using a variety of methods, the students will write and perform a number of speeches. Also, the students will learn a broad overview of theatre. Each student will contribute in some way i.e., lead roles, minor roles, extras, choreography, set constructions, sound, lighting, staging, publicity, ticket sales, props, etc. to the drama club's spring production.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Fine Art

THEATRE

CHORAL MUSIC

SECONDARY

In regular choral class, the student is given the opportunity for expression through playing, listening and singing. The class familiarizes the student with music through music theory and music history, making the student aware of music's place in the past and present life of man. Each student is given the opportunity to learn to sing in churches, community choirs, and to compete in Alabama Vocal Association competitions and AISA competitions.

Grading is by classroom participation and written test. Choral uniforms are required.

Class meets on even numbered days during PE.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Fine Art $\frac{1}{2}$ credit

COMPUTER

This course is an introduction to computers using Microsoft Office 2007 for Windows. Students are introduced to Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Publisher, FrontPage and PowerPoint through practical, hands-on activities. The student will learn to use the computer for school, personal, and career projects.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: $\frac{1}{2}$ credit, required

ADVANCED COMPUTER

This course concentrates on computer programming using Visual Basic, which increases the student's understanding of the computer's operation and software development. Also, included in this course is a continuation from Computer I of Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher and the Internet.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Elective

ACCOUNTING

Students learn the principles of the basic accounting cycle from the point of opening a set of books to the post-closing balancing of accounts for a service and merchandising business. The combination journal, subsidiary ledgers, and special journals are used in the cycle. While completing the accounting cycle, students also learn to reconcile a bank statement, write checks, figure time cards, and compile a payroll. This course is very similar to a first semester accounting course in college and exposes the student to the possibility of accounting as a career.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Elective

YEARBOOK

A 168-page yearbook is planned, funded, and designed during this one-year course. Students learn to manage sales records, keep track of production schedules, determine design formats, write consistent copy and to layout pages using Adobe PageMaker.

Prerequisites: Sponsor Approval

Graduation Credit: Elective

PSYCHOLOGY

The main purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad overview to the field to psychology. Course study will address the biological bases of behavior, the drives and needs that direct behavior, how we perceive the social world, and how it impacts everyday life.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Elective

SOCIOLOGY

This course will help students make a connection between the social forces around them and their own life. Students will go beyond looking for psychological roots of why things happen; they will look for social causes as well.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: Elective

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GRADES 9-12

The focus for grades 9-12 is health-enhancing physical activity. Lifelong Individual Fitness Education (LIFE) capitalizes on high school students' increased ability to accept responsibility for their own actions. LIFE reinforces what has been learned in earlier grades and teaches students how to construct a personal lifelong plan for physical activity. In this course, students will learn how to make physical activity a part of their lives beyond high school.

Prerequisites: None

Graduation Credit: 1 PE Credit required, others are elective

OFFICE AIDE

Aides are assigned to the office, PE, or a teacher to help with miscellaneous work as needed. They are required to have parental permission to leave campus.

Prerequisites: Senior

Graduation Credit: none