



Aspen High School

IB world school

Course of Study

2014-2015



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GENERAL INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

COURSE SELECTION

Students and parents must be the primary decision makers in determining a high school program leading to desired post-secondary school options. Please read all of the information in the *Course of Study*, attend the informational sessions offered, and ask for guidance from teachers, counselors, and administrators in order to facilitate your student's achievement of his/her future goals.

The choices made by students during our spring registration are the principal factors used to create the master schedule. A major effort is made to offer classes so that potential course conflicts are minimized. In addition, every attempt is made to balance the size of classes. ***For these reasons it is crucial that students and parents take time and care in planning the courses requested for next year. Although schedule changes are allowed at the beginning of each semester, it is entirely possible that such changes may not be feasible due to the conflicts imposed by the master schedule.***

ACCESSING TEACHERS AND ACADEMIC INFORMATION

The Aspen School District website, **www.aspenk12.net**, lists school phone numbers and email addresses for all Aspen High School staff. Students and parents are given an ID and password for our 2 online resources: Learning Management System (LMS) and PowerSchool. **LMS** is the District's website - www.aspenk12.net. Username and password information for LMS gives parents and students convenient access to the student's school activities, homework assignments, and athletic events from one, easy to use interface. Students and parents should check the website frequently as all the information related to the school will be available.

PowerSchool allows students and parents to check academic progress and attendance. Grades are not updated daily, therefore parents who have concerns about grades found on PowerSchool are encouraged to speak to their son/daughter before contacting teachers. Access to the PowerSchool log on screen can be found by visiting the District's LMS website: www.aspenk12.net.

GRADING SYSTEM

Aspen High School operates on a two-semester calendar year. Report cards are mailed home four times per year: 1st quarter, 2nd quarter (end of 1st semester), 3rd quarter, and 4th quarter (end of 2nd semester). Precise dates can be found on the district calendar. Mid-term progress reports are mailed to parents during the 4th to 5th week of each quarter if a student's work is near failing or below.

GRADING SCALE

Grade point averages (GPA) are recalculated each semester and **only the semester grades are reflected on the transcript**. Students' grades are reported as the percentages earned which are then converted to letter grades. For GPA purposes, point values are then assigned to these grades.

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>	<u>Weighted Points for IB*</u>
94-100	A	4.0	5.0
90-93	A-	3.7	4.7
88-89	B+	3.3	4.3
83-87	B	3.0	4.0
80-82	B-	2.7	3.7
78-79	C+	2.3	3.3
73-77	C	2.0	3.0
70-72	C-	1.7	2.7
68-69	D+	1.3	1.3
63-67	D	1.0	1.0
60-62	D-	0.7	0.7
59 & Below	F	0.0	0.0

AHS GRADING PHILOSOPHY

It is our belief at AHS, that high school grades should measure the quality of the work actually completed while in high school. **Therefore, no high school credit will be awarded for high school classes taken while in middle school.**

Our goal is to encourage all students to put forth their best efforts to meet the challenges of academic rigor. The grading "definitions" that follow will assist students in understanding the way in which their work is evaluated.

- A Highest standards met, mastery, and consistent achievement
- A- Near mastery of highest standards, excellent achievement
- B+ Very high standards, approaching mastery in many areas, very good achievement
- B Well above average, high level of achievement, approaching mastery in some areas
- B- Above average achievement, beginning mastery in some areas
- C+ High average, capable in all basic standards
- C Average, acceptable achievement in most basic standards
- C- Low average, acceptable but not consistent achievement
- D+ Below average achievement, gaps in basic standards
- D Near minimum level of achievement, marked by gaps in basic standards
- D- Lowest passing achievement, serious gaps in basic standards
- F Failing, very poor performance

CALCULATION OF THE GPA

Adding the total GPA points for all classes during a given semester and dividing by the number of classes attempted during that semester results in the ***Semester Grade Point Average***. Because grades for Experiential Education, Topics in Algebra, Topics in Geometry, Topics in Algebra II, Model UN, and Student Senate are granted .25 credits (half the credit given to a semester class), they should be counted as only half a class in the total number of classes attempted.

The ***Cumulative Grade Point Average*** reflects the student's average throughout high school. It is derived by adding the total GPA points earned *every* semester and dividing by the total number of classes attempted *throughout* high school.

ACADEMIC HONORS

Eligibility for **Honor Roll** is determined each semester and is based upon only that semester's grade point average. To be eligible, a student must earn a **semester grade point average of 3.50**. **Academic Letters** are awarded each semester to students who earn a **3.75 grade point average** during that semester.

Students in 11th and 12th grade with a 3.2 cumulative average or higher are eligible for nomination to National Honor Society. They must receive the nominations of four or more of their teachers, at which point they will be invited to join the organization. Students who join must commit to a program of school and community service totaling a minimum of 50 hours, *concurrent to the academic year*. Twenty-five of those hours must involve work with children, young people or peers in service efforts like tutoring, coaching, mentoring, or meaningful, supportive companionship.

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors are assigned to those seniors whose Aspen High School coursework cumulative GPA's rank numbers one and two in the senior class. To be considered for this honor, students must attend Aspen High School during the last four semesters of high school. The transcript grades of transfer students will be evaluated by the administration to determine eligibility for these honors. Valedictorian and Salutatorian are recognized at the graduation exercises.

No correspondence courses or high school courses taken during middle school are included in this GPA computation. Class rank for Valedictorian and Salutatorian determination will be computed at the end of second semester of the senior year.

**Aspen High School Graduation Requirements
for the Graduating Classes of 2015+ and Beyond**

Subjects	Required	Specific Required Courses	<u>AHS Recommended Credits for College Bound Students</u>
English	4.00	1 credit Literature & Composition 1 credit American Literature	4.00
Mathematics	3.00		4.00
Sciences	3.00	.5 credit Life Science & .5 Physical Sci.	3.00
Social Sciences	3.50	1 credit World Geography 1 credit U.S. History 1 credit World History .5 credit Civics (IB Global History I = World History)	3.50
World Languages	2.00		3.00
Health	0.50		0.50
Business	0.50	Any Business course	0.50
Physical Education	0.50		0.50
Fine Arts	0.50	Art, Music, or Theatre courses	0.50
Experiential Education	0.25		0.25
Electives	6.25		4.25+
Total	24.00		24.00+

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education approved revisions to its Admissions Standards Policy regarding admission to Colorado's four-year, public colleges and universities. The new pre-collegiate curriculum requirement refers to a combination of courses that students must complete prior to entering any of Colorado's four-year, public institutions.

The table below lists the course requirements that must be met by high school graduates before they will be considered for admission to any of Colorado's four-year, public colleges or universities.

**STATE Recommendations for Students Attending Colorado Four-Year Public
Colleges or Universities Graduating Classes of 2015+ and Beyond**

Subjects	Required Credits	Specific Required Courses
English	4.00	
Mathematics	4.00	2 years Algebra, Geometry, 1 year of college prep Math
Sciences	3.00	Natural/Physical Sciences (2 credits lab based), 1 year Chemistry or Physics
Social Sciences	3.00	1 credit U.S. or World History
Academic Electives	2.00	Includes additional courses from the above academic areas as well as courses in art, music, journalism, drama, and computer *CU does not accept Physical Education electives
World Languages	3.00	Consecutive years in the same language
Total	19.00 to 20.00	*Admission requirements may vary among colleges and majors

SCHEDULE CHANGES

APPROVED SCHEDULE CHANGES WILL BE MADE DURING THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF SCHOOL BOTH FIRST AND SECOND SEMESTERS

Changes in a student's course schedule should only be made when absolutely necessary. The following are acceptable reasons for schedule changes:

1. A student needs to add a course to an incomplete schedule
2. A course is overcrowded or has been cancelled
3. A student is inappropriately placed academically
4. An illness or injury prevents participation in class
5. A student is failing a course and the teacher recommends that he/she drop that class

DROPPED COURSES

Typically, students will not be allowed to drop a class after the first three days of the semester. In the unlikely event that such a request is granted, the change must be reflected on the transcript. The grade, therefore, will be determined as follows:

1. **If** the teacher recommends a student drop a course and the student is passing, a "WP" (withdraw pass) is recorded on the transcript. No credit is given and no points are figured in the grade point average (GPA). If the teacher does NOT recommend the course be dropped, a grade of "WF" (withdraw fail) is recorded on the transcript and an "F" (50%) is calculated in the GPA.
2. If a student is failing at the time of the drop, a "WF" is recorded on the transcript. No credit is earned and a grade of "F" (50%) is calculated in the GPA.

REPEATING COURSES

The following applies to **situations in which a teacher recommends** that a student repeat a class (there are a few elective courses that can be taken repeatedly):

1. Credit will only be granted ONCE for repeated courses.
2. Upon the second completion of the course, only the higher grade will be included in the grade point average.
3. Both grades will remain on the transcript although a notation will indicate that the course has been repeated.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students who transfer to Aspen High School from other accredited high schools will be placed in appropriate classes, as determined by the counselor after examination of available records and consultation with students and their parents/guardians. Class grades will be determined by averaging the marks of the sending school with those earned by the student while at AHS.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Any student who wishes to enroll in an Independent Study must seek initial approval from the teacher who will be facilitating the course. After that conversation has occurred, the student must see his or her counselor in order to obtain an Independent Study Request Form. Students must complete this Independent Study process within the first two weeks of the semester.

ALTERNATIVE COURSE OPTIONS

The expectation at Aspen High School is that students will enroll in a minimum of six Aspen High courses each semester. If we offer a particular course at our institution, students are expected to enroll in that course unless there is a circumstance that prevents them from doing so. These rare exceptions will be offered on a case by case basis. Students must obtain approval *prior* to enrollment in an alternative course not offered at Aspen High School. Alternate Education Course Request Forms are available in the Counseling Center.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

1. Eligibility

Any student who is under the age of 22 shall be eligible to apply to an institution of higher education for enrollment through post-secondary options program if he or she has met the following criteria:

- a. is deemed by the student and parent/guardian on the advice of the principal to be in need of course work at a higher academic level than that is available at school
- b. is deemed by school personnel to show a high degree of maturity and responsibility, especially with regard to potential for completing post-secondary courses
- c. is deemed by school personnel to be in need of a different environment
- d. has given two months' written notice to the school district specifying the courses in which the student intends to enroll

2. Academic Credit

Academic credit granted for course work successfully ("C" or better) completed by a student under this program shall count as high school credit toward graduation requirements unless credit is denied by the principal and the denial is upheld by the Superintendent and the Board of Education on the basis that such credit is inappropriate. An appeal procedure is provided in the event a student is denied high school credit. A student participating in this program shall still be considered as enrolled in the District and eligible for all high school activities. This program is not available for summer school.

GRADUATION PROCEDURES

Early Graduation: Although early graduation is discouraged in most situations, students who wish to graduate early must request permission from the principal prior to the completion of the first quarter of their proposed year of graduation. Early Graduation Request Forms are available in the Counseling Center. Approved students may participate in the graduation exercises at the end of the year.

Failure to Meet Graduation Requirements: Parents or guardians of students who do not fulfill requirements for graduation shall be notified as soon as possible. **STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION BEFORE THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE A PART OF THE GRADUATION EXERCISES.**

Graduation Exercises: Graduation exercises shall be held once each school year in the spring. Practice for graduation will be held the day before graduation. ***ATTENDANCE AT GRADUATION PRACTICE IS MANDATORY FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRADUATION CEREMONY.***

LIBRARY

AHS Library is an integral part of Aspen High School, dedicated to providing the best possible resources and services for our community of learners. The library supports and enhances the research, informational, reading, and instructional needs of students and staff.

The library's objectives are to:

- Provide resources, in print and online, to support the curriculum and interests of students and staff
- Provide a comfortable physical space where students may research, study and read, independently or collaboratively
- Encourage students to be independent critical thinkers by fostering effective, diverse, and ethical use of information
- Promote a life-long appreciation for reading and literature

The library staff provides assistance for a student's informational needs whether they are research projects, short papers, homework assignments, or simply answers to questions of interest. The library staff encourages students to use the library for study, reading, and research. Please be considerate of other students and staff who are using the library.

Collection

Books: 10,500, plus 58 reference eBooks and access to Overdrive, with more than 2000 eBooks and audiobooks

Periodicals: 60 subscriptions, including Spanish titles

Automated Catalog: Marmot Millennium, driven by Innovative Interfaces, Inc. and accessible from any computer. Materials, including many online audio and eBooks are also available from other libraries in Colorado through Marmot and Prospector.

Computers: 10

Electronic Resources: Links to Aspen School District online subscription databases include: *ABC-CLIO, Britannica Online, Culturegrams, Denver Post, EasyBib, EbscoHost, Encyclopedia Americana, Facts on File, Grolier's Online Encyclopedia, Gale Databases (including Virtual Reference Library), NetLibrary, Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre en linea.*

AV Materials: More than 400 videos and DVD's, approximately 300 music CD's

Policies

- Books may be checked out for three weeks and renewed for another three weeks. Fines are only imposed for lost or damaged materials.
- Videos may be checked out for five days.
- Periodicals may be checked out for one week; however, current periodicals may not be checked out.
- Reference materials may be checked out at 3:15 pm and returned by 8:10 am the next morning.

Hours

The library is open from 7:50am–3:50pm, Monday through Friday or may be accessed 24/7 through our website: <http://aspen.high.schoolfusion.us/>

PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS

COUNSELING SERVICES

Counselors at Aspen High School are responsible for participating in and maintaining a comprehensive program which promotes and enhances **academic, personal, social, and career development** for its students. AHS counselors provide individual counseling and mediation, academic advisement/scheduling, and crisis intervention to students, as well as supportive services to parents/guardians, faculty, and staff.

Our counselors coordinate group testing at AHS as well the development of individualized programs for students. In addition, they are involved in various aspects of community outreach as well as in-building and district committees. They are able to provide information about summer programs, community service opportunities, study abroad programs, and referral resources outside of the school.

Our counselors strive to know every student well in order to be as effective as possible in helping them reach their potential as developing young adults. Although the daily duties of the counselor will include committee meetings, phone calls, and paperwork, **they view being available to students as their primary and most important role.**

As students begin high school, they are assigned to a counselor who serves as the students' primary advisor throughout those years. Individual appointments are available to both students and parents/guardians. Josh Berro (jberro@aspenk12.net) is the counselor for students whose last names begin with "A-K", and Emily Weingart Farrell (eweingart@aspenk12.net) is responsible for students with last names that begin with "L-Z". The Counseling Department sends a newsletter four times during the school year. Please let us know if there is information you would like to see included in these mailings.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

The AHS College Counselors, Dr. Kathleen Klug and Melissa Lustig, along with the College Counseling Administrative Assistant, Terry Rigney, are dedicated to helping each student achieve admission to appropriate colleges of his/her choice through a process of thoughtful consideration of options. The target goal is to facilitate each student in finding the best college match and to assist the student and his/her family in all aspects of the application process.

The primary components of College Counseling are:

- ❖ College Planning Group Workshops for students and parents/guardians
- ❖ Communication through Naviance, AHS website, and e-mail
- ❖ Customized consultation with college counselors in individual student and parent/guardian meetings
- ❖ Coordination of the College Application and scholarship support
- ❖ The Colorado Western Slope College Fair

During each student's AHS years, a piece of the college planning process will be introduced. The **goal** is to make information and post-secondary options and opportunities known to every AHS student and support the student to reach their goal.

College Planning Emphasis by Year:

Freshman – Academic Preparation for College and Co-Curricular Interests, two Freshman & Parent meetings

Sophomore – Academic Preparation for College (Continued), Preliminary College Tests, Course Selection for Junior/Senior Years, two Sophomore & Parent Meetings

Junior – Discovery Class, College Fair, college admission test plan, College Visits, Developing the College List, four Junior & Parent Meetings

Junior to Senior Summer – Boot Camp Workshop and assignments is held in June between the junior and senior years. Workshop provides incoming seniors with assistance and support in preparing essential pieces of the college application.

It is expected that each incoming senior will attend this full-day session.

Senior – Final College Application List, Completing College Applications, and Paying for College, four Senior & Parent Meeting, two Financial Aid meetings - one addressing local scholarships, one Graduates Panel Perspective meeting

Dr. Kathleen Klug, Melissa Lustig, and Terry Rigney can be contacted at 970-925-3760, Ext. 1178, 1173, or 1174 or kklug@aspenk12.net, mlustig@aspenk12.net, and trigney@aspenk12.net, respectively.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI)

Aspen High School has a Response to Intervention Team in place to support students who are not succeeding at our school. The RTI model is an integrated approach based upon a three-tiered model that monitors student progress with different levels of intervention intensity. Parents or guardians who would like their child referred to the RTI Team should contact their son/daughter's counselor.

Teachers, counselors, and administrators serve on this team in an effort to evaluate how well students are responding to the classroom instruction being provided, to identify those who need additional support, and to provide a monitored, individualized support plan designed to increase student success. By providing interventions to students and monitoring the progress of these interventions, the RTI team can utilize the information to identify students who may be in need of more direct services. The goal of the RTI program is to ensure that we provide differentiated, high quality instruction that is matched to our students' specific needs.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Special Education services are available to students who qualify under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Determination of eligibility requires:

1. A body of evidence documenting the student's response to interventions that have already been provided.
2. If necessary, testing/data collection by any or all of the following: regular education teachers, special education teacher, school psychologist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, school nurse, other related service personnel identified by the team. If the parent has obtained outside evaluation information, the team will consider this as part of the eligibility process.
3. A multidisciplinary team meeting to review testing results/relevant data and determine a student's eligibility for special education services.
4. If a student is determined to be eligible for services under IDEA, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is developed by the multidisciplinary team to determine placement, services, and instructional supports related to the student's individual needs that have been identified by the team.

Students who are eligible for special education services receive services in an integrated setting in the regular education environment with support services, consultation, and collaboration where appropriate. Students with special needs may also receive remedial instruction and academic support in the **Student Achievement Center (see page 52), Topics in Algebra, Topics in Geometry, Topics in Algebra II, or other supplemental interventions identified by the school.**

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM AT AHS

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, has been operating worldwide for approximately 40 years. 800 high schools in the United States are among the approximately 2500 high schools representing over 200 student nationalities currently implementing the IB Diploma Program (IBDP). Aspen High School is currently one of the smallest public schools in the United States to offer the IB Diploma Program.

The IB Mission Statement and Learner Profile

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) has as its **Mission Statement:**

The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the IBO works with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Participation by students in the IB Program at Aspen High School implies that students are willing to strive for the ideals of the Diploma Program. These ideals are further clarified by the **IB Student Learner Profile**:

The aim of all IB programs is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners, we strive to be:

Inquirers: We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

Knowledgeable: We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

Thinkers: We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

Communicators: We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

Principled: We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of other people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

Open-Minded: We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

Caring: We show empathy, compassion, and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

Risk Takers: We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.

Balanced: We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives – intellectual, physical, and emotional – to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize the interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

Reflective: We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe that these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national, and global communities. **Consequently, students who enroll in IB courses should seriously evaluate their personal commitment. Students unwilling to demonstrate and further develop these attributes, or who fail to make adequate academic progress in their IB courses, will place their enrollment in jeopardy.**

The IB Curriculum and Examinations

The curriculum for IB classes is developed by IB, and IB courses are taught at two different levels: Standard Level (SL) and Higher Level (HL). Higher level courses cover more breadth and depth of content. Students in IB courses take externally marked examinations at the completion of each course. These examinations are marked on a scale from 0 – 7 with 4 being a passing mark and 7 meaning an exceptional mark. Part of a student’s IB overall mark is also based on teacher evaluations, moderated by IB. Marks on IB exams may determine whether students receive college credit for these classes.

The IB Diploma Program

The Diploma Program is IB’s most rigorous academic option, and requires a student to take at least one class in each of the 6 groups listed below **during the last two years of high school**. At least three, but no more than four of these IB classes are taken at the Higher Level (HL).

The following IB classes will be offered during the 2014-2015 school year.

Group 1: Studies in Literature	English (HL)
Group 2: Language Acquisition	French (SL/HL), Spanish (SL/HL)
Group 3: Individuals & Societies	Global History (HL), Economics (SL), Business and Management (SL)
Group 4: Experimental Sciences	Biology (SL/HL), Physics (SL/HL), Sports, Exercise, and Health Science (SL)
Group 5: Mathematics	Mathematics (HL/SL)
Group 6: Arts	Music (SL/HL), Art (SL/HL), Theatre (SL/HL), or a second course from Group 2, 3 or 4

Additionally, IB Diploma Candidates are required to complete the following:

- CAS Component - a 150 hour component of *Creativity, Activity, and Service* during junior and senior years
- The *Theory of Knowledge (TOK)* course taken during the second semester of junior year and the first semester of senior year
- *Extended Essay* - a 4,000 word essay on a topic of choice

Students who meet the IB requirements, and pass all of their examinations, earn an IB Diploma in addition to an Aspen High School Diploma. About 80 percent of IB Diploma Candidates world-wide qualify to receive an IB Diploma. This program is recognized by many institutions of higher learning as one of the world's premier high school diploma programs.

For more information on the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP), please see <http://www.ibo.org/diploma/index.cfm> Specific information relative to the implementation of the IBDP at Aspen High School can be found by going to the high school web page at <http://aspen.high.schoolfusion.us>, clicking on the Parent link on the left-hand side, then selecting International Baccalaureate Diploma Program Information from the drop-down menu. As an additional resource, contact the IB Diploma Program Coordinator at 970.925.3760 Ext. 1128.

IB Certificates

In lieu of the Diploma Program students at Aspen High School may take individual IB courses for IB Certificates. These students must meet the prerequisites and all of the IB requirements for the class. They do not, however, take the *TOK* class, submit the *Extended Essay*, and are not required to participate in *CAS*.

Enrolling in IB Course(s)

Students who are considering pursuing IB coursework (Diploma or Certificate Students) must be prepared to expect a significant amount of reading and writing. In addition, IB courses require some **coursework during the summer vacations** after both the sophomore and junior years.

Prior to enrolling in an IB course, students must:

- Complete all required course prerequisites
- Complete an IB Application Packet (see the IB Coordinator for packets starting March 14th) and return it to the IB coordinator. This packet includes a consent form, signed by his/her parent, the academic honesty policy, the IB learner profile, information on the philosophy and cost of the program, as well as course offerings. **Students will not be allowed to register for IB courses until this packet has been completed and submitted to the IB coordinator. Avoid registration delays by completing this requirement in a timely manner.**
- Additionally, students must pick up and complete an individual registration form for all courses in which the student intends to enroll. These will be available from each department starting April 1st and will be used by the counselors during the registration process. Course registration forms contain curriculum information, prerequisites, and require a recommendation from the teacher of the prerequisite course. Some courses require a skills assessment or other submitted work as part of the registration process, and may have other conditions for enrollment. Students who are not recommended or are conditionally recommended must develop a plan to overcome deficits and demonstrate presumed skills and knowledge before enrollment is official.

If a student drops an IB course during the final year of the course, the IB designation for the course will be removed from his or her transcript for that year. Furthermore, dropping IB courses beyond the second semester may require that Aspen High School notify the colleges or universities to which the student has applied that IB coursework was not completed.

PLEASE CONSIDER CAREFULLY YOUR COMMITMENT TO COMPLETE IB COURSE REQUIREMENTS BEFORE REGISTERING.

Consider taking IB courses if you:

- believe in the IB Mission Statement
- are willing to strive toward the ideals of the IB Learner Profile
- typically have good attendance records
- truly want a rigorous curriculum
- are excited by challenges & discovery
- are intellectually curious and motivated

Please DO NOT take IB courses if you:

- are doing it because of friends or parents
- are looking for academic “shortcuts”
- typically miss a good deal of school
- think IB ensures the college of your choice
- are just “giving it a shot” without real commitment
- value grades over learning and personal development

IB EXAM AND MATERIAL FEES

Please be aware of the financial responsibility of IB students. Some courses require students to purchase texts, and each course requires students to pay fees for mandatory exams taken upon course completion. Depending upon the number of IB courses taken, expenses could amount to several hundred dollars over the course of two years. Scholarships are available to assist students and families with the cost of examinations. For more information regarding financial aid, contact the IB coordinator directly at 970.925.3760 Ext. 1128.

Examination Fees for the 2014 - 2015 academic year will be announced in the fall, and can be expected to be very similar to the May 2014 fees listed below.

IB Exam Fees for the May 2014 Examination Session	
Number of Exams Taken	Student Cost
1	\$265
2	\$373
3	\$481
4	\$589
5	\$697
6	\$805

Each of the above totals includes a registration fee of \$157 and a fee of \$108 per examination. Diploma candidates pay the registration fee only once during the 2 years of their diploma program. All other students pay the registration fee each year in which they take exams. Note: the registration fee is paid once per examination *session*, not once per *exam*.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Each fall, students are offered a unique opportunity to pursue special interests and to be exposed to an exciting challenge in our high school's Experiential Education program. During "Ex-Ed Week" students participate in a wide range of activities that push them to learn new skills and concepts not typically studied in a classroom setting. These experiences generate rich social dynamics, new perspectives among students, and between students and staff. AHS students are required to participate in Ex-Ed once during high school, but they are strongly encouraged to do so each year. One fourth credit (.25) is earned for each Ex-Ed course and all of these courses require students to pay a fee. Scholarship money is available to students in need.

CLUB OFFERINGS

Aspen High School offers numerous club opportunities for students with passions in specific activities or those who seek new interests. Meeting times are determined each September following our annual **Clubs Fair**.

Club offerings change from year to year; examples of some of the clubs currently available are: H2O Club, Outreach Service Club, Health Careers & Hospital Volunteers Club, A Cappella Club, Literary Magazine Club, Booster Club, Speech and Debate Club, FBLA Club, Choreography Club, AERO Club, and Engineering Club.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM

AHS is a member of the Western Slope League and the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) and offers 23 interscholastic varsity sports teams plus many junior varsity and freshman teams. Athletic policies and guidelines may be picked up in our main office, or may be viewed online at: www.aspenk12.net.

Fall Sports: Football, Cross Country (B&G), Tennis (B), Volleyball (G), Soccer (B), Golf (B), Softball (G) and Dance. Practice for the boys' golf team begins August 4th and all other fall sports teams begin practice on **August 11, 2014**.

Winter Sports: Basketball (B & G), Nordic and Alpine Skiing (B & G), Swimming (G), Dance, and Ice Hockey. Practice for winter sports begins **November 12, 2014**.

Spring Sports: Track and Field (B & G), Tennis (G), Soccer (G), Golf (G), Baseball (B), and Lacrosse (B & G). Practice begins on **February 23, 2015**.

Students participating in any interscholastic sport must have a physical exam on file (valid for 365 days), register for the sport online, and pay a \$120.00 participation fee **before** beginning practice. To be academically eligible, all student athletes must be passing at least 6 classes (checked every 2 weeks/season). Students transferring to AHS must be approved through a waiver process of the Western Slope League and CHSAA. For more information, contact AHS Athletic Director, Carol Sams (925-3760, Ext. 1130).

COURSE OFFERINGS

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN BUSINESS

Aspen High School's Career and Technical Education in Business offers many invaluable courses listed below. Some courses recommend students to participate in **FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)**. This internationally recognized student leadership program combines education with business and provides competency based competitive events in specific occupational areas which are evaluated by professionals from those fields. Students who participate in FBLA are recognized by employers as having a highly desirable skill set which gives them a competitive advantage in the work force long after they leave high school.

All courses can be used to meet the one-half (.5) Business requirement.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING

Introduction to Finance

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course

This is an introductory course which provides you with the fundamentals of finance, applicable to your personal life as well as your career in business. It is one course you will use for the rest of your life – whether you are working a job in high school, buying a car, paying off a student loan, or saving for retirement – you will need to know the information being covered in this course. It is as “Real World” as it gets. Some of the things you will learn: an introduction to the American economic system; how to prepare your own federal tax form 1040EZ; the difference between W-4 and W-2; what a FICO score is and why it is important; why you need insurance to protect yourself and your assets; at least three different kinds of interest you will need to understand and other fundamental financial knowledge and skills useful for daily living. It is recommended that this course be taken PRIOR to IB Economics and/or IB Business and Management.

Entrepreneurship

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course

You're Hired! Learn and apply business skills through this exciting *Apprentice* style course! Discover the principles of business management, ethics, legal, financial, and marketing through competitive events and real world simulations. Be challenged to work in teams to complete tasks, build projects, and create a dynamic business plan incorporating all aspects of running a real business. Experience the benefits of being your own manager and learning how to effectively start, manage, and grow a business of your own. **Participation in FBLA is recommended.**

Sports and Entertainment Marketing

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course

Sports and Entertainment Marketing serves as the introduction to marketing for the AHS marketing program, using sports and entertainment as the basis for classroom discussion and instruction. Local leaders from businesses in the sports and entertainment industries are involved in the course. Units of study include: an overview of the marketing industry, advertising, promotion, budgets, sales, and sponsorships. Students plan, organize, solicit sponsorship for, and execute a promotional event revolving around sports at Aspen High School. **Participation in FBLA is recommended.**

IB Business and Management I (SL)

Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12 Textbook Purchase Required
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Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
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IB Business and Management SL is a Group 3 IB course which serves as the capstone course for the AHS business and marketing program. It can be used to fulfill the 6th core requirement for the IB Diploma or to prepare for the IB Business and Management Certificate. It is designed for students who are interested in pursuing business studies at the university level as well as those who might be interested in starting and/or owning their own business. We strive to develop an understanding of business theory, as well as an ability to apply business principles, practices, and skills. Emphasis is placed on strategic decision-making and the day-to-day business functions of marketing, production, human resource management, and finance. As with all IB courses there is an emphasis on international: the student will understand the implications of business activity in a global market. **Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19) Participation in FBLA is recommended.**

IB Business and Management II (SL)

Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12 Textbook Purchase Required
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Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
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Prerequisite:	IB Business and Management I
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This is the continuation of the IB Business and Management course used to fulfill the 6th core requirement for the IB Diploma or to prepare for the IB Business and Management Certificate. The students will review and prepare for the IB Business and Management exam as well as completing the Internal Assessment requirements. **Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)**

IB Economics I (SL)

Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12 Textbook Purchase Required
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Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
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This intensive, course can be used to fulfill the 6th core requirement for the IB Diploma or to prepare for the IB Economics Certificate. It is a rigorous pre-university course of study designed to meet the needs of highly motivated high school students. The first year of this course covers Micro and Macro Economics. The course content focuses on understanding, analyzing, and evaluating economic issues such as: supply and demand, the market system and structures, variable costs and fixed costs, profitability, fiscal and monetary policy, Keynesian economic theory, supply side economic theory, and monetary and fiscal policy. **Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)**

IB Economics II (SL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12 Textbook Purchase Required
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	IB Economics I
<p>This is the continuation of the IB Economics course used to fulfill the 6th core requirement for the IB Diploma or to prepare for the IB Economics Certificate. The second year of this course focuses on International Economics and Development Economics. The students will also review and prepare for the IB Economics exam as well as completing the Internal Assessment requirements. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY, COMPUTER, AND WEB PAGE DEVELOPMENT

Intro to Adobe Creative Suite and Web Design	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This class introduces the student to the components of the Adobe Creative Suite, including InDesign, Illustrator, and Photoshop. This class also emphasizes designing interactive web pages using HTML and DreamWeaver web page authoring software. This course allows for tremendous creativity in web page design through this Adobe Creative Suite. Before taking journalism or yearbook, it would be beneficial for you to understand how to use this software. Students interested in graphic design, publishing, and/or advertising careers will find that competency in this software will enhance their college preparation and employability after high school or college. Participation in FBLA is recommended.</p>	

SCHOOL-TO-CAREER

Basic Cooking Techniques	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-10
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$50.00
<p>This course is offered to students interested in gaining a basic overview of cooking. This will include breakfast foods, salads, sandwiches, vegetables, proteins, and desserts. Students will learn to properly use kitchen tools in a safe and sanitary manner. We will compile a recipe book throughout the semester. This course is designed for students who have little or no cooking experience and are interested in learning the basics.</p>	

ProStart I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$70.00
Prerequisite:	ProStart Application and Teacher Recommendation Form
<p>ProStart is a two-year career-building program for high school students. Whether students are looking to enter the job market directly after graduating, or if they plan to attend college, a ProStart graduate makes a solid candidate for success in the hospitality industry. During the first year of ProStart, we focus on basic to intermediate culinary techniques, sanitation skills, and food science. Also, we participate and compete in community events as well as the ProStart Invitational and DECA. Participation in these events is required.</p>	

ProStart II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$70.00
Prerequisite:	“C+” or better in ProStart I
<p>During the second year of ProStart, we will focus on intermediate to advanced culinary techniques and explore the business side of food service, as well as the hotel industries. We participate and compete in community events and as well as the ProStart Invitational and DECA. Participation in these events is required.</p>	

ELECTIVES

Yearbook	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
<p>Yearbook students learn journalistic techniques, basic book design, photography, and computerized layout to give them the skills to publish the <i>Silver Queen</i>, Aspen High School’s annual. In addition to creating the design concept, determining content, and producing the yearbook pages utilizing the online applications from Jostens, the student will also learn and demonstrate real life business and production skills such as advertising sales, fundraising, product distribution, budgeting, and meeting deadlines. These skills are integral aspects of the grading matrix leading to the successful completion, sale, and distribution of the yearbook product. Recommended prerequisite is Adobe Creative Suite. Additional work before or after school will be required.</p>	

**CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN CONSTRUCTION,
MANUFACTURING & AVIATION**

Woodworking Technology	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	Materials - \$20-\$200; varies with student project choice
This is an introductory course in woodworking processes and procedures using hand and machine tools. Students will become familiar with materials, finishes, metal fasteners, abrasives, and construction techniques used in woodworking. Lab time may be necessary.	

Drafting Technology	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
This is an introductory course to the world of drafting. Students will learn the use of basic drafting tools. Areas to be studied include orthographic and pictorial projection, lettering, sketching, practical geometry, and computer graphics. Drafting is a recommended prerequisite for Advanced Woodworking. Lab time will be necessary only if a student falls behind in his/her work.	

Advanced Woodworking Technology	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	Materials - \$50-\$300; varies with student project choice
Prerequisite:	Woodworking; Drafting Suggested
This course involves woodworking activities at a more advanced level. It presents the opportunity to gain more detailed information about tools, machines, methods, and materials. Those with large or complex projects are encouraged to enroll for two semesters.	

Cabinetmaking/Millwork	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course or Two Year Sequence
Class Fee:	Materials-\$300 or more; varies with student project
Prerequisite:	Woodworking and Advanced Woodworking
This course prepares students for work in the area of cabinetmaking and furniture construction. Students will work on personal projects as well as projects for others. Students may be required to spend additional time in the lab to meet necessary requirements.	

Advanced Drafting Technology

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Prerequisite:	Drafting
Students enrolling in Advanced Drafting Technology may choose their area of study in Architectural Drawing or Engineering Drafting. Both will involve Computer Aided Drafting as well as board drafting. The advanced courses may be repeated.	

AERO AV8R Private Pilot Ground School

Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12; Must be at least 15 years by the end of the course
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Application Required
Class Fee:	Materials-\$150.00 or more; dependent on purchase of \$170.00 flight bag
Students will see how math, science, and technology all converge in the field of aviation, preparing the pilot to navigate an aircraft through our nation's airspace and beyond. Whether your interests are in aviation, engineering, air traffic control, meteorology, or you just want to find out more about an exciting way to apply math and science in your life, this course is for you. In addition, this course will prepare the student to satisfy the mandatory requirements of passing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) written examination and oral exam.	

ENGLISH

Four credits of English are required for graduation, two of which must be met by successful completion of **Literature and Composition** and **American Literature**. All non IB seniors are required to take one semester of literature and one semester of writing senior year.

Literature and Composition	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9/Required for Graduation
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	<u>Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT (from 8th grade teacher) before leaving school in June.</u>
<p>This course provides an introduction to the rigors of high school English classes for students of all ability levels, including those students who plan to take IB English as juniors. The work in writing for this course has several focuses: critical writing (emphasis on sentence structure, conventions, and polish in mechanics), personal narrative/memoir, journal response writing, introduction to the thesis-driven paper, the test-essay answer, and writing about literature. Students will engage in a survey study of literary genres, work in vocabulary expansion, application of the M.L.A. format and style for documentation, as well as working to improve essential speaking skills with an emphasis upon developing an uncluttered, informal speaking style.</p>	

American Literature	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10
Credit:	1 Unit/Year course
Prerequisite:	<u>Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT before leaving school in June.</u>
<p>This sophomore level course fulfills the American Literature graduation requirement. American Literature emphasizes American identity in literature and a study of the American Dream as it has changed and evolved through time. Students study and analyze a variety of major classic and contemporary works from writers such as Bradbury, Cisneros, Krakauer, King, Hansberry, Thoreau, Emerson, and Fitzgerald. Assignments focus on projects and essays such as literary analysis, reflection, and oral commentary. Students will also explore a variety of genres and writing purposes in order to create their own original works. Students will compose reflective and persuasive essays, poems, short stories, and personal journals, and study models from contemporary authors in order to apply effective writing techniques to their own pieces. This course will prepare students who choose to take IB English junior year.</p>	

World Literature	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	<u>Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT before leaving school in June.</u>
<p>This junior level course will explore modern and classical world literature from a variety of time periods and genres. The major components of this course include: analysis of literature, oral and written commentaries, essays, personal responses, journals, vocabulary study, quizzes, and exams. Students should expect to read and write extensively.</p>	

IB English I (HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fees:	Textbook Purchase (\$50-\$60) same book for IB II
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in Am. Lit. & IB Application Packet <u>Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT before leaving school in June.</u>
<p>This challenging course is the first level of an in-depth study of world literature. Students analyze literature for its value, structure, social significance, and personal meaning. Literary works include novels, plays, poetry, and non-fiction essays. The study is grounded in both genre and thematic topics. Students will compare and contrast works that belong to our common heritage with that of other world cultures, and will present written and oral commentary, both prepared and spontaneous.</p>	

IB English II (HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in IB English I & IB Application <u>Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT before leaving school in June.</u>
<p>The second year of the two-year world literature study for IB English includes challenging readings in both world and American literature. The reading and class work in semester one focus primarily on developing and polishing the speaking skills and analytical insights necessary for effective oral commentary, leading up to the Formal Oral Commentary in February. Students will finalize their IB World Lit. 1 papers and write the required World Lit. 2 paper. The year finishes with intensive practice in written commentary and preparation for the final IB Exams in May. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

Classic Literature

Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Prerequisite:	<u>Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT before leaving school in June.</u>

This literature-based elective for seniors provides an excellent opportunity for a close-to-college exposure to “classic” English texts. Students will read and study selected works from American and British literature and polish their abilities in each of these areas: note-taking, close-reading, oral commentaries, and analytical essay writing. The work list for this course is varied and will reflect teacher background and student input. A sampling of the range of texts we can study includes: *Hamlet* by Shakespeare, selections from Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, selected American and British poetry, *The Scarlet Letter* by Hawthorne, *A Tale of Two Cities* by Dickens, *Antigone* by Sophocles, and Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* to name a few. **This course fulfills the literature requirement for senior year.**

Contemporary Literature

Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Prerequisite:	<u>Teacher Recommendation; Student is responsible for obtaining SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT before leaving school in June.</u>

This literature-based elective for seniors provides an excellent opportunity for a close-to-college exposure to contemporary literature. Students will read and study selected works from modern literature. Students will polish their abilities in each of these areas: note-taking, close-reading, oral commentaries, and analytical essay writing. The readings and assignments for this course are varied and will reflect teacher background and student input. Works may include the following: *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, *Slaughterhouse-Five*, *Ordinary People*, *Looking for Alaska*, and modern short stories by authors such as David Sedaris, Augusten Burroughs, Pam Houston, and Stephen King. **This course fulfills the literature requirement for senior year.**

Creative Writing

Recommended Grade: Level 12

Credit: .5 Unit/Semester Course

Creative Writing is a course for upperclassmen that explores descriptive writings of fiction, memoir, and poetry through a workshop approach. Readings are chosen to enhance writing topics. A personal writer's notebook provides the core of this class and polished pieces will be submitted to the high school literary magazine. Projects will reflect the students' personal interests in writing. **This course fulfills the writing requirement for senior year.**

Speech and Effective Communication

Recommended Grade: Level 12

Credit: .5 Unit/Semester Course

The focus of this course is improving both formal and informal speaking styles. Most assignments require thoughtful, substantial writing, and revision. There will also be several impromptu speaking assignments. Presentation, style, diction, and word choice are emphasized. Speech strategies include: the personal interview, disputation, "pet peeve," formal presentation, impromptu speaking, and the demonstration. Students learn how to develop critical listening skills, how to avoid the fallacies of reasoning, logic and evidence, how to make effective word choices, and how to avoid the distractions of cluttered speech, and unintended body language. Students evaluate their peers and practice with audio and video aids. This enjoyable course encourages an awareness of one's speaking habits and the audience that the speaker is trying to reach. **This course fulfills the writing requirement for senior year.**

Journalism

Recommended Grade: Levels 9-12

Credit: 1 Unit/Year Course

This elective course is open to all students who are interested in writing, layout, and the news. Students will read and write in a variety of journalistic forms including: opinion, features, local and world news, and will study a variety of topics covered including journalism ethics and responsibilities. Additionally, students are expected to produce the school newspaper in all aspects (layout, writing, editing, etc.) **Elective credit is awarded for this course.**

Writing Workshop

Recommended Grade: Levels 9-10

Credit: .5-1 Unit/Semester or Year

This skills-based course is designed to improve students' writing abilities. This course will include direct writing instruction and a workshop where students can get help on authentic writing assignments. The instruction will be individualized to help each student with his or her particular challenges, which may include organization, grammar and punctuation, syntax or word choice. Placement in this course is dependent upon TCAP writing scores and teacher recommendation.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING

The ELL program at Aspen High School is designed to accommodate the cultural and linguistic needs of non-English speaking students. At the introductory levels, the courses provide a cultural orientation to the classroom of public schools with a focus on building beginning listening and conversational skills, and emphasizes basic sentence structure and vocabulary. At more accelerated levels, the courses are designed to develop reading and writing skills, concentrating on more complex grammar skills and writing techniques.

Mainstream Support for the English Language Learner

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course

This course is designed for the non-proficient and limited proficient student who is in the ELL program. The course will emphasize study skills and include special tutoring in the classroom. Students will be required to bring homework, projects, reports, and papers to class every day and work under the supervision of the ELL teacher.

English Language I - Basic

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course

At this introductory level, the course provides a cultural and linguistic orientation to American life. Language skills are developed through a multi-kinesthetic approach whereby students are expected to participate in a variety of activities that develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English. Students will learn the following verb tenses: simple present, present continuous, future, and an introduction to the past and past continuous. Some instruction will also focus on keyboarding and an introduction to *Microsoft Office*.

English Language II - Intermediate

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course

ELL II is the intermediate stage of English language instruction. Oral and written skills are honed with a greater emphasis in reading and writing than in the basic course. Students will learn/review grammatical tenses including: the simple past, past continuous, present perfect, future, conditional, and past perfect. In the second semester, students will be introduced to a variety of writing genres in English as well as the 6-trait writing rubric.

English Language III - Advanced English Skills

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course

ELL III is the most advanced of English language instruction offered at the high school level. The course is especially designed for ELL students approaching language proficiency in writing. A rigorous course of grammar, spelling, and writing skills for the English language learner is offered at this level. Students will be expected to develop their writing skills using a variety of genres: essays, persuasive writing, personal compositions, business letters, newspaper articles, opinion pieces, and reports. Students will become familiar with the 6-Trait writing rubric. Certain MLA guidelines will be presented at this level.

FINE ARTS

One-half (.5) credit of a Fine Art is required for graduation.

THEATRE

Acting for Stage & Film: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course

A beginner's approach to acting for the stage and film, this class will teach students acting Technique and how to establish meaningful and honest relationships on stage and on-camera through the art of active listening and responding. Learn the tools necessary to be "believable." Develop your imaginative capacities, unleash your creative impulses, deepen your intuition, and sharpen the analytical skills necessary to "breakdown" a scene. The students' work will be explored through improvisation and scene study from plays, film and television scripts with some videotaping and playback for critique. We will talk about what makes a good headshot, how to create a resume, and discuss how to handle oneself in an audition or interview. We will focus on cold reads for Television/Film and Commercials as well as plays and musicals.

Fall Play Production: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course - Fall Semester ONLY
Class Fee:	\$40.00

This course provides an in-depth, hands-on practical training of all areas of producing and performing a play, emphasizing creative expression; including acting, costuming, make-up, lighting, scenic design and construction, stage management, sound design, and more. Students will be on stage and behind the scenes as the Tech Crew while working on the play chosen by the Director for the class. The class will culminate into a weekend of performances (required) for the school and community. NOTE: Although the majority of the rehearsals will be held during class, there will be some additional rehearsal time outside of school required as we get closer to the performances, TBD.

IB Theatre I: Advanced Theory and Practice

Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Fall Play Production and/or Acting for Stage & Film & IB Application Packet

In this course, students will delve into advanced theories and practices in classical and contemporary world theatre. Students will explore different theatre practices and the cultures from which they derive with the aims of understanding the countless forms theatre takes and the undeniable need for humanity's exploration of itself through art. Students will be required to study and perform selected theatre texts and traditions, analyze plays, and be involved in various aspects of theatrical production. Students with a passion for theatre will find the research projects, performances, and intensive journaling encompassing the student as artist, director, and audience member both challenging and rewarding.

IB Theatre II (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in IB Theatre I
<p>This course is a continuation of the development and execution of the advanced theories and practices developed in IB Theatre I. During the second year of IB, students will further develop performance skills and theatre production practice while working toward the IB exam components of the research investigation into an unfamiliar theatre practice, practical performance proposal, in which students create a pitch for an original piece of theatre, the independent project portfolio, in which students develop an independent project exploring an aspect of theatre which is of interest to them and document their experience in a portfolio, and the theatre performance and production presentation, in which students present an oral commentary reflecting upon their experience and growth during the two years of IB Theatre. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam at the completion of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

MUSIC

Drumline: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
<p>This course is for students wanting to learn to play marching and mallet percussion instruments. Students will learn marching cymbals, snare, tenor, and bass drums along with mallet instruments such as marimba and xylophone. Students will perform at athletic events and concerts. Students will learn to perform cadences, beats, grooves as well as ensemble pieces. Musical experience is beneficial, but not required.</p>	

A History of Rock and Roll	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This course will survey trends and styles in rock music, focusing first on the artists and groups who gave rise to this hybrid form of music from its country and blues roots. It will then track the rise of rock and roll in the 1950s and the corporate, political, and social backlash against it. The focus in the 1960s will be on music as an expression and extension of the social, cultural, and political changes of that decade. The class will experience the art rock, glam rock, disco, and early heavy metal that emerged in the 1970s. The 1980s will cover rap emerging into the mainstream music scene, the birth of MTV, and hair bands. Rock music has branched off in many different directions from the 1990s to present, and the course will finish up with a look into the divergent paths that artists/groups have taken, and where those paths may take them in the future.</p>	

Beginning Guitar

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course

This course is for the student who would like to learn how to play guitar. The course will focus on beginning technique, note reading, chord progressions, songwriting, and music theory. Students will have the opportunity to perform as an ensemble, and may also perform as soloists, or in small groups. Students will also have the opportunity to write and record their own songs.

Concert Choir

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course

This vocal group, open to all students with an interest in vocal music, concentrates on advanced vocal techniques (posture, breathing, tone production), as well as theory, improvisation, musical terminology, and sight singing. Students will perform a variety of vocal literature styles including music from other time periods and cultures. Participation is required in solo, ensemble, or large group festival (or completion of an alternate assignment). Students will have the opportunity to sing the Star Spangled Banner, either as a soloist or as part of a group, at home football, hockey, or basketball games. Students will be required to perform concerts. Concert Choir will raise money to go on tour when appropriate. Students may repeat this course for additional credit and must be enrolled in this class to be eligible for Vocal Solo/Ensemble.

Introduction to Music Theory, Form and Analysis, and Composition

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course

This class is designed to introduce students to the very basics of music notation and theory and will progress to composition and musical analysis. Students who are considering taking IB Music as juniors should take this class unless they have already developed this basic skill level and knowledge base through other means. This class will not assume previous musical background and will begin with learning basic music notation (clefs, note names, key signatures). The class will progress to beginning/intermediate music theory (intervals, chords, harmonic progressions, part writing), and ear training (taking melodic, harmonic rhythmic dictation). Students will learn to use Sibelius™ for notating their compositions and will also learn to analyze both written and performed music.

Concert Band	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Ability to read standard music notation required
<p>Concert Band is open to all students with prior experience playing a band instrument, which includes: piccolo, flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, string bass, and percussion (no guitar). Participants will be required to perform at various sporting events, concerts, and regional solo and ensemble festivals. Some sectional rehearsals before or after school may be required. Membership in this class is mandatory to be considered for advanced ensembles such as jazz band or the pit orchestra for the spring musical.</p>	

Jazz Ensemble	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Ability to read standard music notation required
<p>Jazz Ensemble is open to students taking Concert Band or Music Society with at least four years' experience playing a jazz instrument, such as: alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, trombone, bass trombone, guitar, piano, bass, drum set, and vibraphone. Participants will be required to perform at various event throughout the year, including fundraisers, concerts, contests, honor bands, etc. This group will learn to perform a variety of styles, from traditional jazz, swing, bebop, and fusion to rock, funk, and pop, to Brazilian, and Afro-Cuban. This class may be auditioned if necessary to maintain optimal instrumentation or skill level. This class meets outside the normal school day.</p>	

Roaring Fork Music Society (String Orchestra)	
Recommended Grade:	Level of Intermediate to Advanced Proficiency
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
<p>Orchestra is for the string player (violin, viola, cello, or string bass) wishing to expand their repertoire, technique, and expertise with other knowledgeable players. Mastering bowing styles and listening to the strings intonation will be emphasized. This class takes place outside of the school day.</p>	

IB Music I (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in music courses, Intro. To Music Theory & IB Application
<p>IB Music is a two-year comprehensive music course that meets the 6th core requirement for the IB Diploma and is also open to serious music students wishing to earn an IB Certificate in Music. Areas covered are: advanced music theory, ear training, music repertoire and history (music and culture of Western music from the Renaissance to contemporary), and investigations into the music of other cultures, form analysis, and composition. Year one students study part writing, arranging and beginning composition, as well as form and analysis from the Medieval to 20th century periods. Students choose a topic for musical investigation and may record either an original composition or a solo or group performance toward their final project.</p>	

IB Music II (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in IB Music I and IB Application Packet
<p>IB Music year two reviews the time periods from Medieval to the present and includes additional world music investigations. Form and analysis will expand to contemporary compositional practices. Music theory will include advanced chords and 20th century compositional techniques. Students will record their final selections for solo or group recordings and composition requirements, will complete their music investigation project, and take the IB final exam in May. IB Music may be taken either as SL or HL.</p>	
Standard Level:	Higher Level:
3 Options (choose one):	20 Min. Recording Solo Work
Solo Performance	20 Min. Recording/Original Compositions
Group Performance	
Original Compositions	
SL and HL: 2000 Word Mass Media Script (Musical Investigation)	
Student is responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)	

“Creativity can no longer be treated as an elective.”
John Maeda

Aspen High School Visual Art students develop technical abilities and personal vision through the study of traditional and digital media.

VISUAL ARTS CURRICULUM SEQUENCE

Freshman Year

Art I
Art II
Ceramics I (recommended 2nd semester)

Sophomore Year

Art II
Ceramics I and II
New Media I and II (pre req. Art I and Art II)

Traditional Art Sequence

Ceramics II
New Media I and II
Selected Topics in Art History
Graphic Design and Illustration
Advanced Studio I and II

IB Visual Art Sequence

Prior to enrollment in IB Visual Art, students must complete 3 art courses and maintain a GPA of 3.0. in art classes.

IB Art I (junior year)

IB Art II (senior year)

****Enrollment in more than one art class per semester requires instructor approval. Any changes in sequence of the Visual Arts Courses must be approved by the instructor.**

Art I: The Foundations Course

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-10
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00

Art I is the prerequisite course for all other art courses. Enrollment in Art I is required during grades 9 -10 to allow the interested student to continue in higher-level courses. This course is an introduction to the basic drawing and design techniques practiced in a studio environment. Work will concentrate on the elements of art and the principles of design. Color theory and basic painting are introduced and instruction includes the use and maintenance of tools and equipment. A variety of subject matter is utilized. Students will develop a sketchbook journal during this course.

Art II: 2nd Foundations Course

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-10
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Art I

Art II is a prerequisite course for IB Art and most of the other art courses. This course is a continuation of Art I. Emphasis is placed on an investigation of art elements and introductory design principles. This course stresses exploration of drawing techniques. Students continue to develop a sketchbook journal as a creative thinking habit.

Ceramics I

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Art I

This course provides instruction in the basic techniques for creating ceramic pottery and sculptural forms. Hand built and wheel thrown techniques will be learned. Emphasis is placed on the idea of concept and expression in clay as a medium. A sketchbook journal of ceramic ideas will be developed in this class.

Ceramics II

Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Art I, Ceramics I

This course is designed for those students who are capable of working independently. It is expected that the advanced student has a high degree of technical skill and clear goals for the semester. Mold making and modeling form will be added to the studies of ceramics. Positive/negative space, symmetry and proportion will be emphasized. A sketchbook of practical sculptural ideas and related drawing will be required.

New Media Art I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Art I, Art II
<p>The course introduces concepts and techniques that are contemporary to the art world. Assignments include Adobe Photoshop CS6, graphic design, airbrushing, stencil, and graffiti-inspired graphics. Additionally, this course introduces students to career options available in the field of media arts and provides college portfolio development.</p>	

New Media Art II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	New Media I, Art I
<p>This course is an extension of New Media Art I. Assignments include advanced Adobe Photoshop CS6 techniques. Graphic Design careers are explored. Portfolio worthy work is created.</p>	

Selected Topics in Art History: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Art I, Art II or by Instructor recommendation
<p>This studio based course will cover topics ranging from archaic technical processes to the impact of present day technology. Traditional approaches to subjects will focus on using mixed media or digital photography in large format finished work. Students will investigate cultural identity throughout history using group and individual research. Portfolio worthy work is a goal of this course. This course is strongly recommended for the IB Art student as well as the student who intends to major in Art in any post-secondary setting.</p>	

Graphic Design and Illustration: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Art I, Art II or by Instructor recommendation
<p>Students will create a series of graphics and illustrations involving freehand and technical drawing, rendering and composition using traditional and digital tools. Materials and media used in contemporary graphic design and illustration will be explored, and topics will relate to art foundations including the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. This course is intended for the student that has completed Art I and Art II and would like to develop a college ready portfolio or explore Graphic Design and Illustration as a potential career.</p>	

Advanced Studio I/II

Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course or ½ Unit/Semester course
Class Fee:	\$60.00 per year/ \$30.00 per semester
Prerequisite:	Art I, Art II, additional courses recommended

Advanced studio is recommended for the serious art student who is interested in developing a portfolio for college or art school. Assignments are student initiated and teacher directed. This course includes working with a variety of techniques and media, maintaining a sketchbook journal, and photographing personal work. The art student will leave this course with an organized portfolio, digital portfolio, and a strong written artist's statement.

IB Art I (HL)

Required Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$60.00
Prerequisite:	Art I, Art II, additional art courses, IB Application Packet & Required Summer Assignment

This is a year-long course for students working toward an IB Art Certificate or enrolled in the IB Diploma Program. The class is the first part of the two-year program which is continued in the 12th grade. Assignments focus on artists' concepts and techniques from a current and cultural perspective. IB art students are self-motivated and are required to keep an extensive investigative workbook. Teacher recommendation is encouraged. **A 3.0 GPA or higher average in this course must be maintained.**

IB Art II (HL)

Required Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$60.00
Prerequisite:	IB Art I, Senior IB Application Packet & Required Summer Assignment

This is the second course for students working toward an IB Art Certificate or IB Diploma. IB Art II is a continuation of IB Art I with development of a directed focus of art work. The emphasis is on individual, independent student development. The continuation of the Investigative Workbook is required. IB Art students are required to curate a show during the month of April. **A 3.0 GPA or higher in this course must be maintained. Students are responsible for the Visual Arts exam fee upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)**

MATHEMATICS

Three units of mathematics are required for graduation. It is highly recommended that all students complete four years of mathematics, including Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. A four-year education that includes IB courses will accomplish this, as will a four-year education that culminates in Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus BC, or Statistics.

The sequential nature of many of these courses makes it necessary to have a sufficient background before proceeding from one level to the next. The flowchart below provides **examples of typical class placements**, and should be used as a guideline after carefully reading the course descriptions and prerequisites on the pages that follow. The final course placement will be determined by teacher recommendation, grades in prior courses, and standardized test scores.

8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
8th Grade Math	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus or Statistics
	Advanced Algebra I	Advanced Geometry*	Advanced Algebra II or IB Math I	Pre-Calculus or IB Math II
Algebra	Advanced Algebra I	Advanced Geometry*	Advanced Algebra II or IB Math I	Pre-Calculus or IB Math II, supplement AP Calc BC
	Advanced Geometry	Advanced Algebra II	IB Math I	IB Math II, supplement AP Calc BC

***It can be beneficial for students to take Algebra II prior to entrance into IB Math I. Students may speak with the Math Department about “doubling-up” mathematics classes in 10th grade or alternative routes.**

Support Classes: Math Foundations, Topics in Algebra, Topics in Geometry, Topics in Algebra II

These courses are designed for students who are not reaching their full potential in their math class due to a need to develop basic or prerequisite skills, or because additional support is needed to learn new concepts. These classes would typically be taken in addition to a core mathematics class. Details are provided in the course descriptions that follow. You will find the “Topics” descriptions after the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II descriptions. Placement may be determined by standardized test scores. Students receive .25 of elective credit for the math support classes.

If you are looking for additional support in a challenging class, and the Topics courses do not work for you, please consider using the Student Achievement Center.

Taking more than one class at a time

If possible and practical, students may take a Geometry course and an Algebra II course concurrently, with the recommendation of a teacher. Recommendations will be made on a student-by-student basis.

Math Foundations	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course or 1 Semester Course
Prerequisite:	Teacher/Counselor Recommendation
The Math Foundations class is designed to assess and strengthen specific individual student needs within the high school mathematics curriculum. Through the use of cutting edge math support software like Voyager Math and Khan Academy, students will identify and work towards mastery of any mathematical concepts and skills needed for success in current and future math classes.	

Algebra I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-10
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	8th Grade Math, and Teacher Recommendation
This course covers the following topics: recursive rules for patterns and sequences; descriptive statistics; proportional reasoning; linear, exponential and quadratic functions; systems of equations and inequalities; transformations in the plane; and basic probability. The use of technology is integral to the course, and a graphing calculator is highly recommended. Problems are linked to real-world applications with an emphasis on multiple representations and problem-solving.	

Advanced Algebra I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-10
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“A” in 8th Grade Math and Teacher Recommendation
<p>This course will cover the same topics as Algebra I, at an accelerated pace, in more depth and with more difficult extensions. Additional topics include: rational equations and functions, polynomials, and matrices. Students will also be asked to complete a set of assignments that develop practices and habits of mind that are the foundation of academic or professional careers in or related to mathematics. The use of technology is integral to the course, and a graphing calculator is highly recommended.</p>	

Topics In Algebra	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-10
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course or .5/Semester Course
Prerequisite:	Algebra I Enrollment and Teacher Recommendation
<p>This course is designed to build student confidence within the High School Algebra I curriculum. Pre-teaching and re-teaching of Algebra I concepts, as well as specific skill building will take place daily, along with supported Algebra I assignment completion and assessment preparation. Students must be concurrently enrolled in an AHS Algebra I class.</p>	

Geometry	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“C” or above in Algebra I and Teacher Recommendation
<p>Geometry includes: inductive vs. deductive reasoning, recognition and creation of proof, plane geometry, describing/applying properties of congruent and similar figures; coordinate geometry; making/testing conjectures about geometric properties; right triangle trigonometry, transformations; and the properties of polygons, circles and three-dimensional figures.</p>	

Advanced Geometry	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“B” in Algebra I or “C” in Advanced Algebra I, and Teacher Recommendation
<p>Advanced Geometry will cover the same topics as Geometry in more depth and with extensions that have a greater degree of difficulty. Additionally, logic and trigonometric functions will be covered, as well as geometric probability. This course meets the prerequisite for IB Mathematics*. Students will also be asked to complete a set of assignments that develop practices and habits of mind that are the foundation of academic or professional careers in or related to mathematics. A small materials fee may be required.</p> <p>*We encourage students who intend to take the IB Mathematics course, especially the HL portion of it, to take as rigorous a mathematics course-load as is reasonable. If it is possible, students may take Geometry and Algebra II courses concurrently. Students have been successful in IB Mathematics after taking the Geometry course, but additional coursework or enrichment within the course can be helpful.</p>	

Topics In Geometry	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course or .5/Semester Course
Prerequisite:	Geometry Enrollment and Teacher Recommendation
<p>This course is designed to build student confidence within the High School Geometry curriculum. Pre-teaching and re-teaching of Geometry concepts, as well as specific skill building will take place daily, along with supported Geometry assignment completion and assessment preparation. Students must be concurrently enrolled in an AHS Geometry class.</p>	

Algebra II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“C” in Geometry and Teacher Recommendation
<p>The course includes additional algebra topics (matrices, exponential, logarithmic and rational functions, quadratic relations, conics, sequences and series, probability, statistics, trigonometry, and trigonometric graphs). The use of technology is integral to the course, and a graphing calculator is highly recommended.</p>	

Advanced Algebra II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“B” in Geometry or “C” in Advanced Geometry, and Teacher Recommendation
<p>Advanced Algebra II will cover the same topics as Algebra II but in more depth and with extensions that have a greater degree of difficulty. This course meets the prerequisites for IB Mathematics and Pre-Calculus. Students will also be asked to complete a set of assignments that develop practices and habits of mind that are the foundation of academic or professional careers in or related to mathematics. The use of technology is integral to the course, and a graphing calculator is highly recommended</p>	

Topics In Algebra II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course or .5/Semester Course
Prerequisite:	Algebra II Enrollment and Teacher Recommendation
<p>This course is designed to build student confidence within the High School Algebra II curriculum. Pre-teaching and re-teaching of Algebra II concepts, as well as specific skill building will take place daily, along with supported Algebra II assignment completion and assessment preparation. Students must be concurrently enrolled in an AHS Algebra II class.</p>	

IB Mathematics I (SL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in Advanced Geometry or Advanced Algebra II, Teacher Recommendation and IB Application. *Please see the note in the description for Advanced Geometry.
<p>This course is intended for students interested in careers requiring a sound mathematical background, such as chemistry, economics, psychology and business, though students in this course may also be interested in pursuing other scientific fields or applied fields such as engineering. Essentially, the students most likely to select this IB option will be those who expect to continue studying subjects that have some mathematical content. Students in this section should take the Standard Level examination at the end of the two-year course. IB Mathematics SL consists of the study of six core topics and an exploration.</p> <p>Core Topics Candidates study all six core topics: algebra, functions and equations, circular functions and trigonometry, vectors, statistics and probability, and calculus.</p> <p>Exploration The exploration is a piece of written work that involves independent investigation of an area of mathematics.</p> <p>Student purchase of textbook is highly recommended.</p>	

IB Mathematics I (HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in Advanced Algebra II, Teacher Recommendation and IB Application. *Please see the note in the description for Advanced Geometry.
<p>This course is intended for students interested in careers requiring significant mathematical background and aptitude. These students would be expecting to include mathematics as a major component of their university studies, either as a subject in its own right or within courses such as physics, engineering, and technology. Students will be eligible to take either the Higher Level or the Standard Level examination at the end of the two-year course and will make this decision prior to the start of the second year of the course. IB Mathematics HL consists of the study of six core topics, an option and an exploration.</p> <p>Core Topics Candidates study all six core topics: algebra, functions and equations, circular functions and trigonometry, vectors, statistics and probability, and calculus.</p> <p>Option One of the following subjects will be selected for study by HL students only: further statistics and probability; sets, relations and groups; further calculus; discrete mathematics.</p> <p>Exploration The exploration is a piece of written work that involves independent investigation of an area of mathematics.</p> <p>Student purchase of textbook is highly recommended.</p>	

Statistics	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation.
<p>This course consists of four core units that meet or exceed the Colorado standards for Statistics and Probability. Technology (such as graphing calculators and spreadsheet applications) will be leveraged heavily, so a graphing calculator is highly recommended. The four core units are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns • Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study • Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation • Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses 	

Pre-Calculus	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation.
<p>This advanced course is a continuation of Algebra II and will explore the topics in Algebra and Trigonometry in greater depth in order to prepare students to take a Calculus course in college. Additional topics related to functions and polynomials, complex numbers, partial fractions, systems of equations and inequalities, sequences, series, probability, and the binomial theorem will also be covered. The use of technology is integral to the course, and a graphing calculator is highly recommended.</p> <p><i>CU Succeed</i> college credit is offered as an option for students in this course. Contact the AHS mathematics department for questions about this program.</p>	

IB Mathematics II (SL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in IB Mathematics I
<p>This course is a continuation of IB Mathematics I. See course description for IB Mathematics I. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19) Student purchase of textbook is highly recommended.</p>	

IB Mathematics II (HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” in IB Mathematics I HL
<p>This course is a continuation of IB Mathematics I. See course description for IB Mathematics I. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19) Student purchase of textbook is highly recommended.</p>	

AP Calculus BC	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Pre-Calculus, take concurrently with IB Math II, or after completion of IB Math II
<p>AP Calculus BC consists of a full high school academic year of work and is comparable to calculus courses in colleges and universities. It is expected that students who take this course in calculus will seek college credit, college placement, or both from institutions of higher learning. The AP Program includes specifications for two calculus courses and the exam for each course. The course offered at Aspen High School is the second in the two class series. Calculus BC includes all topics taught in Calculus AB plus additional topics, including but not limited to: Functions, Graphs and Limits, Derivatives, and Polynomial Approximations and Series.</p>	

MISCELLANEOUS ELECTIVES

Freshmen Seminar	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9/Highly Recommended
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This semester course is an introduction to high school and is designed to help freshmen make an easier transition from Middle School to High School. This class will focus on positive decision making, goal setting, organizational skills, study skills, social skills, and relationship skills which freshmen need in their academic subjects and in their lives outside of school. There is also an emphasis on healthy decision making throughout the high school years. This class has weekly guest speakers. <u>Freshmen Seminar is highly recommended for all freshmen students.</u></p>	

Student Achievement Center	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.25 Unit/Quarter Course
<p>The Student Achievement Center is an academic support class available to all students, however preference is given to those students on RTI plans. Complete with computers, printers, textbooks, school supplies, and peer tutors, the Student Achievement Center is a structured environment where students receive support on their academic and behavioral goals. Students may receive direct instruction and interventions based on their individual goals and can complete assignments, make-up quizzes, and exams. Students who are struggling academically will be placed in the SAC. The class is graded as Pass/Fail.</p>	

Student Achievement Center - R	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.25 Unit/Quarter Course
<p>The Student Achievement Center - R is an academic support class available to students with goals relating to reading. Complete with computers, printers, textbooks, school supplies, and peer tutors, the Student Achievement Center is a structured environment where students receive direct instruction and support in reading fluency and comprehension. Students may receive direct instruction and interventions based on their individual goals and can complete assignments, make-up quizzes, and exams. The class is a graded class based on participation. Students who are struggling in reading will be placed in SAC – R. This class is graded as Pass/Fail.</p>	

Street Law	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This course introduces students to law enforcement and the court system. The class covers constitutional amendments, rights, and responsibilities. Students are able to visit the Pitkin County Jail, the Aspen Dispatch Center, and participate in police "ride alongs." This class is graded as Pass/Fail.</p>	

Discovery Class	
Recommended Grade:	Highly Recommended Level 11 Optional for Level 12 (Semester 1 only) Laptop computers and TI-84 Graphing Calculators are REQUIRED.
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This class offers an integrated approach to post-secondary planning that includes a combination of college counseling, ACT preparation, and career exploration. The class is taught by experts in the fields of college admission, college and career counseling, and test preparation and includes speakers from fields of high interest to the students. The College sessions focus on the development of a college list, the application process including writing resumes and letters of ask, making the most of a college visit, familiarity with Naviance, and financial knowledge; the Test Prep sessions focus on ACTs, test plans, and strategies to obtain target test scores; the Career sessions are designed to help students think about fields of interest and professions, and how interests and talents might affect plans for the future. Each day of class will be devoted to one of the three areas in roughly equal proportions.</p>	

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

The primary objective of the PE/Health program is to help each individual achieve his/her maximum potentials in mental, emotional, social, and physical fitness. *Students with excused absences in PE class are expected to make up excused absences with equivalent time in physical education activity. One half credit (.5) of Health and one half credit (.5) of P.E. are required for graduation.*

Health	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10/Required for Graduation
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
This class covers the following topics: mental and emotional health, physical health, drugs including alcohol and tobacco, and human sexuality.	

IB Sport, Exercise & Health Science: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015	
Recommended Grade:	IB Level; Level 11 & 12
Credit:	2 credits/2 Year Course (minimum of 150 hours SL)
Class Fee:	TBD, books, labs, and tests
This course is a 2-year IB science course, group 4. Main core topics include: anatomy, exercise physiology, energy systems, movement analysis, skill in sport, measurement and evaluation of human performance. Students are required to study two additional options (out of four) which include: optimizing physiological performance, psychology of sport, physical activity and health, and nutrition for sport, exercise, and health. Please fill out an IB course preapproval form if selecting this course.	

First-Aid, CPR, AED Certification	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
This course will be offered as the American Red Cross First-Aid, CPR, and AED Training course. It will include practicing first-aid and CPR skills with peers as well as reading and watching videos. If the student meets or exceeds all the requirements set forth by the American Red Cross they will receive a certificate from the American Red Cross in First-Aid/CPR/AED.	

Men's Weight Training	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
This course is open to all male students interested in learning proper techniques of strength training as well as improving their strength and fitness levels. Each student will develop a weight lifting program to meet his particular needs.	

Women's Weight Training	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
This course is open to all female students interested in learning proper techniques of strength training as well as improving their strength and fitness levels. Each student will develop a weight lifting program to meet her particular needs.	

P.E. Activities	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This is an activity class open to all who enjoy playing sports. These sports include: volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, whiffle ball, flag football, basketball, badminton, softball, pickle ball, table tennis, and others. Students are required to play these sports in a competitive and fun atmosphere, understand the rules of the game, be able to officiate the game, as well as teach the skills of the game. Presentations and live on court/field demonstrations and drills comprise the major academic requirements. This course covers the history of the sport, fundamental skills, strategies for playing, philosophy of coaching, and techniques for officiating.</p>	

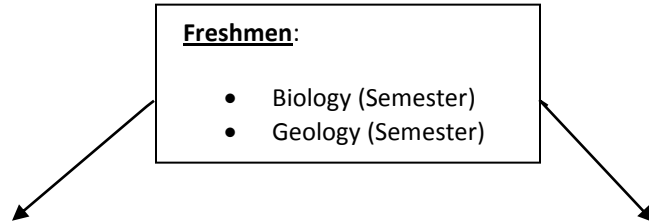
Lifeguard Certification Course	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$120.00 dollars The cost is based on certification cards, materials, books and pocket masks.
Prerequisite:	You must be age 15 by the start of the course, be able to swim 300 yards continuously, swim 20 yards surface dive to retrieve a 10 pound brick off the bottom of the pool (10-11 feet deep) and kick on your back with the 10 pound brick 20 yards in 1 minute 40 seconds, and tread water for 2 minutes without using your hands.
<p>The course is offered as the American Red Cross Lifeguard Training course, including first-aid, CPR, and AED. This course will also include swim conditioning, practicing rescue techniques and skills with peers, as well as videos and readings. If the students meet or exceed all the requirements set forth by the American Red Cross, they will receive a lifeguard certificate, which enables them to pursue work in an aquatic setting.</p>	

Swimming	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This course is for anyone interested in learning to swim, improve swimming techniques, or swimming for fitness. All levels of swimmers welcome! The following activities may be included water aerobics, hydro-riders (water spin bikes), water polo, stroke improvement, and distance swimming. The focus of this class will be to improve personal swimming technique.</p>	

Outdoor and Non-Traditional Activities	
Recommended Grade:	Levels 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
<p>This class is designed for students who like being outside during the fall and winter. Activities will take place outside and appropriate clothing will be required. Students will learn about snowshoeing, cricket, swimming, hiking, orienteering, lawn games, and other lifelong activities.</p>	

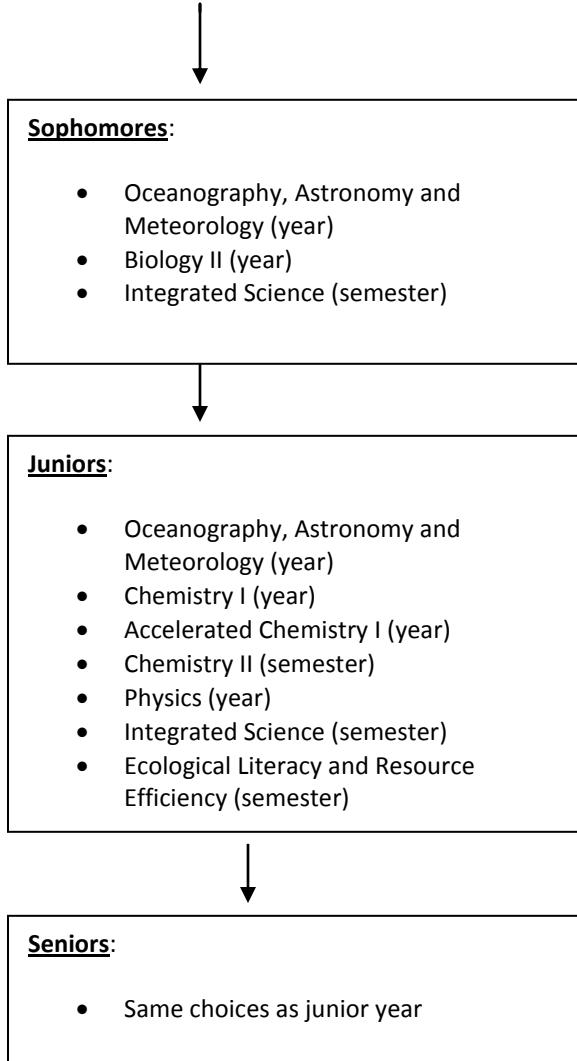
SCIENCES

Three credits of science are required for graduation. At least one credit (.5) must be earned in the Biology/Life Sciences and one credit (.5) in the Earth/Space or Physical Sciences.

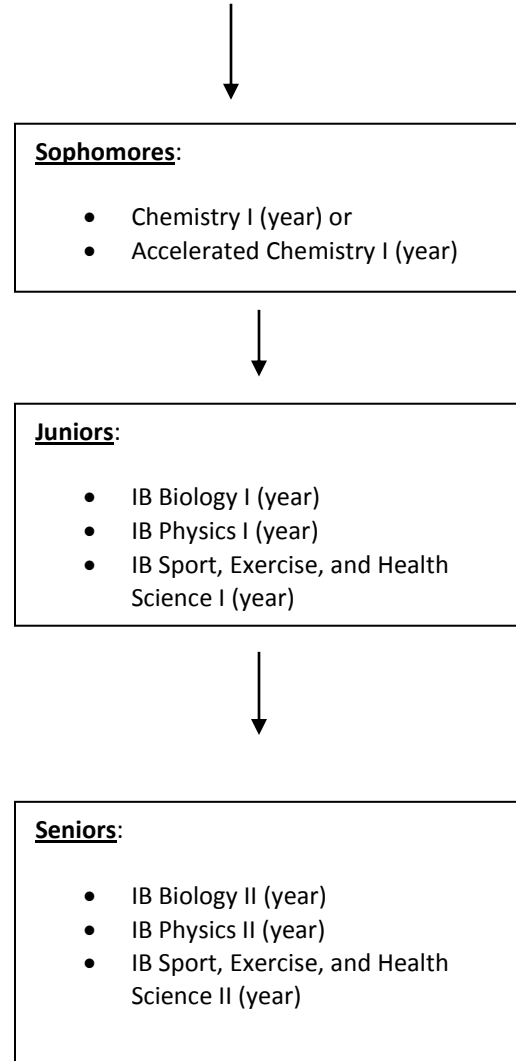


Only sophomores who are **certain** that they will pursue IB science in their junior year will take Chemistry during the sophomore year. At Aspen High School, Chemistry is traditionally a course taken in junior or senior year. Students may choose either a traditional science sequence or an IB science sequence, as outlined below.

Traditional Science Sequence



IB Science Sequence



BIOLOGY/LIFE SCIENCES

Biology I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Biology is a hands-on, laboratory-based study of life on earth. Local ecology will be emphasized, and students will spend a lot of time outdoors during the fall and spring. Topics include: biomes, ecosystems, evolution, cells, and a survey of local plant/animal life.	

Biology II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Biology I
This course focuses on human anatomy and physiology during the first semester. Body systems such as digestion, circulation and the nervous system are explored with lab activities and dissections. Second semester topics include genetics, and biotechnology. In genetics, students will learn how traits are inherited and what factors contributed to their own physical appearance. In the biotechnology unit students will participate in forensic DNA profiling. Do not sign up for this class if you plan to take IB Biology.	

IB Biology I (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00 & Optional Textbook Purchase
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or better in Chemistry and IB Application Packet
This course is an intensive study of life on earth. Core topics include, but are not limited to: the chemistry of life, cells, DNA and genetics, biotechnology, ecology, evolution, human anatomy, and neuroscience. Student work will be rigorously evaluated both by the teacher and by IB Program evaluators. Labs are a key component of this course, and students will be required to design and conduct their own experiments.	

IB Biology II (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00 & Optional Textbook Purchase
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” in IB Biology I and IB Application Packet
This course is a continuation of IB Biology I. See previous course description. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)	

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES

Geology

Recommended Grade:	Level 9
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Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
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This is a lab-based course with particular emphasis upon local geology. Topics covered include: local landforms, rocks, minerals, glaciations, volcanoes, earthquakes, mountain building, and plate tectonics.

Oceanography, Astronomy, and Meteorology

Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
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Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
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Stars, planets, and other aspects of the universe will be studied in depth in the astronomy portion of this class. Various theories about the formulation and the future of the universe will be examined as well as principles of rocketry. The Aspen High School planetarium will be used as a resource for the coursework. Meteorology is the study of the general concepts of weather. The class includes discussion of special weather phenomena and use of weather instruments. Oceanography is the general study of the planets' oceans and their life forms, currents, coastlines and deep seas, coral reef ecology, and connections to other science disciplines.

Ecological Literacy and Resource Efficiency

Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
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Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
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This is an environmental issues class based upon the analysis and study of our role in a larger ecological system. Topics to be investigated will include: basic principles of ecology; types of resources, uses and effects; sustainable development and building practices; examination of other cultures and their views/impacts/solutions; winter ecology based around Aspen; global change issues such as the greenhouse effect, ozone depletion, loss of biodiversity, and population and carrying capacity. The class is centered on student investigation, hands-on activities, field trips, lab work, and guest speakers. Students should be self-motivated and have an interest in environmental issues and possible solutions.

Integrated Science

Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
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Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester
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This is an activity-based course for students who would like more practice mastering fundamental science skills. The course will draw on both physical and life sciences, with an emphasis on experimental design, data collection (including the making of charts and graphs), and data analysis. Students will also learn how to use the metric system to take measurements with both precision and accuracy. Theme based units will explore the science of local rivers, matter, and objects in motion. The practical applications of these topics in everyday life will be emphasized.

HEALTH SCIENCES

IB Sport, Exercise & Health Science: NEW COURSE FOR 2014-2015	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	2 Credits/YR Course (minimum of 150 hours SL)
Class Fee:	TBD, books, labs, and tests
<p>This course is a 2-year IB science course, group 4. Main core topics include: anatomy, exercise physiology, energy systems, movement analysis, skill in sport, measurement and evaluation of human performance. Students are required to study two additional options (out of four) which include; optimizing physiological performance, psychology of sport, physical activity and health, and nutrition for sport, exercise, and health. Please fill out an IB course preapproval form if selecting this course. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam at the completion of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Chemistry I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12 (10th if Pre-IB)
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or above in Algebra I
<p>This is a junior or senior level course and should only be taken during the sophomore year by students who are <i>certain</i> they will pursue IB level science courses and are prepared for a rigorous math-based science course. Chemistry is the study of matter, how it really “looks,” and why it acts as it does. This course is designed to use laboratory experimentation to reinforce major chemistry concepts. Chemistry’s influence on modern life will be stressed by including several real-life applications. Solid algebra and problem solving skills are an integral part of chemistry, therefore <i>a strong background in mathematics is recommended.</i></p>	

Accelerated Chemistry I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12 (10th if Pre-IB)
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	\$20.00
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or above in Geometry or Co-requisite Algebra II
<p>This is an accelerated chemistry course for juniors, seniors, and sophomores who are certain they will pursue IB level science, and are prepared to investigate the subject in depth and at a fast pace. In this course we will investigate a variety of topics including atomic structure, periodicity, bonding, chemical equations, stoichiometry, and environmental chemistry. Laboratory experimentation related to each topic is an essential component of the course. This includes student designed and conducted research for lab assessments. Students will also participate in water quality analysis as part of the River Watch program.</p>	

Chemistry II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Class Fee:	\$10.00
Prerequisite:	Chemistry I
<p>Chemistry II provides an additional semester of chemistry topics in preparation for college level chemistry for students interested in pursuing a science major. Topics may include: Stoichiometry, Gas Laws, Reaction Rates, and Organic Chemistry. Emphasis will be on lab skills and techniques using AP and IB chemistry labs.</p>	

Physics	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or above in Algebra I
<p>Physics is the most fundamental of the experimental sciences as it seeks to explain the universe itself, from the smallest particles to the vast distances between galaxies. This is a lab-based course in classical physics. The first semester will cover kinematics of Galileo, mechanics of Newton as well as work, energy, and momentum. The second semester will look at concepts related to wave theory, sound, light, heat, electricity, and magnetism. Material will be investigated from both conceptual and mathematical perspectives. A strong foundation in Algebra and an exposure to Trigonometry are suggested prerequisites.</p>	

IB Physics I (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“B” in Chemistry and IB Application Packet
<p>This course in physics is for the student who is motivated and passionate about math and science. In this IB science course, the students will learn a thorough body of material in physics as well as the techniques required for laboratory work and the practice of scientific investigation. Student work will be rigorously evaluated both by the teacher and by the IB program evaluators. Topics to be studied will include: physics and physical measurement, mechanics, thermal physics, waves, electricity and magnetism, atomic and nuclear physics, the history and development of physics, and astrophysics. This course will be taught at the HL level, though students can take the SL exam if they choose</p>	

IB Physics II (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	“C” in IB Physics I
<p>This course is a continuation of IB Physics I. See previous course description. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam at the completion of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

SOCIAL STUDIES

Three and one-half units of Social Studies are required for graduation, and must include one year each of: World Geography, United States History, and World History. (IB Global History meets the World History Requirement). One semester of Civics is also required. Students who do not fulfill the two year requirement of IB Global History must take World History their senior year.

World Geography	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9/Required for Graduation
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Geography is the study of the earth, its features, its people, and the forces that shape it. The course emphasizes the distinct cultures of the world. Through this course the student will be better able to understand the world and the events that take place in it.	

United States History	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10/Required for Graduation
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
This is a history of the United States post-Civil War era to the present. The course will focus on political, economic, and social history. The specific themes include; cultural diversity, capitalism, democracy, conflict/cooperation, geography, beliefs, nationalism, and technology.	

Modern World History	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11/Required for Graduation
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
This course covers the basic chronology, major events, and trends of the world from Renaissance to the present. The main themes of this course will be conflict, governmental systems, human rights, nationalism, and the connections between past and present.	

American Democracy and Civics	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12/Required for graduation
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
This course provides students with a meaningful understanding of United States and Colorado government. Students will study constitutional issues, research domestic and foreign policy, and learn the fundamentals of the democratic process. <u>This course is a state mandated graduation requirement.</u>	

IB Global History I (HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11/ Meets World History Requirement
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” in U.S. History and IB Application Packet
<p>The aim of IB Global History is to explain trends and developments, as well as continuity and change through time and through individual events. The course is concerned with individuals and societies in the widest context: political, social, economic, religious, technological, and cultural. This is a two year course focusing on 20th century world history, including war, democratic and single party states, nationalist and independence movements, and the Cold War. <u>If the student does not compete both years of the course he/she will be required to take World History their senior year.</u></p>	

IB Global History II (HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or above in IB Global History I and IB Application Packet
<p>The aim of IB Global History is to explain trends and developments, as well as continuity and change through time and through individual events. The course is concerned with individuals and societies in the widest context: political, social, economic, religious, technological, and cultural. The senior year focuses on the IB Prescribed Subject <i>The Cold War, 1960-1979</i>, and the IB 20th Century World History Topics: <i>Causes, practices and effects of war, The Cold War, 1945-1995 and the rise and rule of single party states</i>. IB students are required to take an IB exam with a fee at the end of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

Theory of Knowledge I (TOK)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11/Required for IB Diploma Students
Credit:	.5 Unit/Second Semester Junior Year
<p>TOK is a year-long course starting the second semester of the eleventh grade and ending after the first semester of the twelfth grade. The Theory of Knowledge (TOK) program is central to the educational philosophy of the International Baccalaureate Organization. It challenges students and their teachers to reflect critically on diverse ways of knowing and areas of knowledge, and to consider the role which knowledge plays in a global society. It encourages students to become aware of themselves as thinkers, to become aware of the complexity of knowledge, and to recognize the need to act responsibly in an increasingly interconnected world.</p>	

Theory of Knowledge II (TOK)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	.5 Unit/First Semester Senior Year
This course is a continuation of Theory of Knowledge I. See previous course description.	

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

Comparative Religions	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Comparative Religions is a semester course designed to introduce the student to the basic beliefs, tenets, components, and history of the world's major religious traditions. Students are required to read religious texts, write about, reflect on, and discuss religious concepts in an open-minded environment. This course is not recommended for 9 th and 10 th graders.	

Introduction to Philosophy	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Introduction to Philosophy investigates the aims, nature and problems of philosophy with an emphasis on a historical survey of the various schools and genres of philosophy. Logic, theories of knowledge, and questions of ethics and morality are also studied and engaged by utilizing Socratic based discussion and readings from both classical and contemporary sources	

Argumentation & Debate	
Recommended Grade:	Levels 9-12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Effective argumentation skills are essential to civil society. The 'Debate' component of this class will explore the various forms and formats of argument and argumentation. Critical thinking, speaking, listening, researching, note taking, and organizational skills will be developed through classroom lecture, discussion, and debate.	

Film Studies Criticism	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
Introduction to Film Criticism is an examination of the history, role, impact, nature, and delivery systems of film media in the United States and the international community. We will survey genres of film, film history, and approaches to critical analysis of film and filmmaking. Students will also develop an understanding of the role of film in aesthetic, economic, and social life. Students will screen AspenFilm "ShortFest" submissions and make their own short film.	

Leadership: Aspen High School and Beyond: NEW COURSE 2014-2015

Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12 **Recommended for Student Senate Members
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Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
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This course will introduce students to the idea of leadership and will seek to foster skills that can be used to find academic, as well as personal success. Students will work toward developing/strengthening skills including, but not limited to, communication, problem solving, goal setting, and collaboration. This course is open to all, but will be working with Student Senate to create a positive school climate in which students feel they have a voice in shaping their school community. Major themes include: group dynamics and teamwork, goal setting, unity/school spirit, community service, democratic process, and building self-esteem and motivation. Students will be expected to participate in a variety of activities in and out of the school.

The Early Atlantic World 1510-1828: NEW COURSE 2014-2015

Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
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Credit:	.5 Unit/Semester Course
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This course offers a unique background into the origins of the American people. We are truly an Atlantic civilization linked via trade, warfare, servitude, slavery, genocide, and adventure to our origins in Africa and England. Together we will explore the causes of our thoughts (about religion, politics, and society), along with our treatment of ethnic minorities (Indians and Africans) through the scope of an Atlantic World. Finally, we will examine the slow breaking of the Atlantic World as each region (England, Africa, and North America) drifted slowly apart and yet, how common themes survived into the modern era.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Why study another language? A coherent program of study of a modern language offers a student distinct benefits, such as: understanding the language of other cultures, increased understanding of one’s own language and heightened sensitivity to the purpose of language, world vision, practical skills for the workplace, pleasure and travel experiences.

World language classes at Aspen High School are designed to develop proficiency in the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students study structure, vocabulary, pronunciation, culture, and material related to other content areas. Classes are conducted primarily in the target language.

College-bound students should select a course of study from one of these four options:

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
7 th		Level I A	
8 th		Level I B	Level II
9 th	Level I	Level II	Level III
10 th	Level II	Level III Advanced Level III	Begin another language or Level IV
11 th	Level III	IB Level 1*	IB Level 1*
12 th	Level IV	IB Level 2**	IB Level 2**

***Enrollment in IB courses requires completion of the IB Application Packet, including a signature from the instructor for a full or conditional recommendation**

****Enrollment requires permission from the instructor:**

Students completing Level IV as juniors who wish to continue in French or Spanish may register for IB II, provided they participate in an approved immersion language program during the summer. Any student wishing to take IB II without having taken IB I must take and pass an oral and written proficiency assessment prior to entering IB II.

FRENCH

French I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
This course is an introduction to the study of the French language and francophone cultures. The emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The content focuses on students’ lives and experiences and includes an exposure to everyday customs and lifestyles.	

French II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in French I at the high school or, for students new to the school, a grade of “C” or better on the French I final assessment.
<p>This is a continuation of the development and proficiency of students’ listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills gained in French I. The emphasis is on simple conversations and interactions in everyday life. Students will be able to understand the main ideas in the present, past, and future. This course is only available to those students who have successfully met the standards of French I.</p>	

French III	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or better in French II
<p>Students in the intermediate level continue to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills along with cultural awareness. In the third year, a greater emphasis is placed on grammatical accuracy and communicative proficiency than in the beginning levels. This course will prepare students to pursue studies in IB French or French IV. *</p>	

French IV	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in French III
<p>Students in level IV will listen, speak, read, and write on a variety of topics using complex structures. The course will focus on an overview of history, relevant literature, and culture. This is an intermediate course designed to increase the student’s proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. The curriculum, taught in French, includes French history, readings from books, periodicals and the internet, games, films, and cultural activities. Students in French IV will be expected to speak French in class.</p>	

IB FRENCH COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolled in IB courses are required to take the IB exam in the spring of the senior year. Most will register for the SL ("Standard Level") exam. Any students wishing to register for the very demanding HL ("Higher Level") exam must declare their intention to do so in the spring of their junior year and complete additional work over the summer. HL exam candidates are expected to participate in an approved summer language immersion program (4 weeks minimum), complete summer readings and writing assignments. Their progress will be assessed in August at school, prior to the start of classes, based on a timed essay, and an oral interview in French. Their performance on this assessment will determine their candidacy for the SL or HL exam.

IB French I (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	Possible Workbook/Magazine Purchase (Approximately \$45)
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or better in French III and completion of IB Application Packet
<p>Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the IB exam in May of their senior year after developing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing and the ability to communicate effectively in French in a variety of contexts. The curriculum includes reading short stories, articles from periodicals and the internet, music, films, games, and cultural activities which are designed to foster the student’s interest in the language and culture. This is a rigorous course conducted in French which prepares seniors for the SL exam and juniors for IB French II. *At the end of their junior year, students must declare their intent to take the SL or HL exam (see IB French Course Requirements).</p>	

IB French II (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	Possible Workbook/Magazine Purchase (Approximately \$45)
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or better in IB French I
<p>This senior level course is a continuation of IB French I. Students are expected to take either the Standard Level (SL) or High Level (HL) exam. (See IB French Course requirements). The class is conducted in French, and students registering for this course should be internally motivated with a strong work ethic. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)</p>	

SPANISH

Spanish I	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
<p>This course is an introduction to the study of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures. The emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The content focuses on students’ lives and experiences and includes an exposure to everyday customs and lifestyles.</p>	

Spanish II	
Recommended Grade:	Level 9-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in Spanish I at the high school or for those new to the high school, “C” or better on the Spanish I final assessment
<p>This is a continuation of the development and proficiency of students’ listening, speaking, reading, and writing skill gained in Spanish I. The emphasis is on simple conversations and interactions in everyday life. Students will be able to understand the main ideas in the present, past, and future. This course is only available to those students who have successfully met the standards of Spanish I.</p>	

Spanish III	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in Spanish II
<p>Students in the intermediate level will continue to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills along with cultural awareness. In the third year, a greater emphasis is placed on grammatical accuracy and communicative proficiency than in the beginning levels. This course will prepare students to pursue studies in IB Spanish or Spanish IV. However, students who are planning to take IB Spanish courses are strongly encouraged to take Advanced Spanish III.</p>	

Advanced Spanish III	
Recommended Grade:	Level 10-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “B” or better in Spanish II and teacher recommendation
<p>Students in the intermediate level continue to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills along with cultural awareness. In the third year, a greater emphasis is placed on grammatical accuracy and communicative proficiency than in the beginning levels. This course will prepare students to pursue studies in IB Spanish or Spanish IV. * We encourage students who intend to take the IB Spanish course to take this more rigorous version of Spanish III. The same topics will be covered as in regular Spanish III but in greater depth, with a higher level of difficulty, and at a faster pace.</p>	

Spanish IV	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11-12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of “C” or better in Spanish III
<p>This is an intermediate course designed to increase the student’s proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. The curriculum includes readings from a variety of sources, and, games, films, and cultural activities. The class incorporates a review of grammar studied at the lower levels and introduces more advanced grammar. Students registering for Spanish IV should have a good work ethic and be prepared to speak Spanish in the class. This rigorous class is conducted in Spanish and prepares students for IB Spanish.</p>	

IB SPANISH COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students enrolled in IB courses are required to take the IB exam in the spring of the senior year. Most will register for the SL ("Standard Level") exam. Any students wishing to register for the very demanding HL ("Higher Level") exam must declare their intention to do so in the spring of their junior year and complete additional work over the summer. HL exam candidates are expected to participate in an approved summer language immersion program (4 weeks minimum), complete summer readings, and writing assignments. Their progress will be assessed in August at school, prior to the start of classes, based on a timed essay, and an oral interview in Spanish. Their performance on this assessment will determine their candidacy for the SL or HL exam.

IB Spanish I (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 11
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	Workbook/Magazine Purchase (Approximately \$45)
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of "B" or better in Spanish III and IB Application
Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the IB exam in May of their senior year after developing proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing and the ability to communicate effectively in Spanish in a variety of contexts. The curriculum includes reading short stories, articles from internet variety of sources, music, films, games, and cultural activities which are designed to foster the student's interest in the language and culture. This rigorous class, taught in Spanish, prepares students for IB Spanish II and ultimately the IB exams. Seniors are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam. (see pg. 19) At the end of their junior year, students must declare their intent to take the SL or HL exam. (see IB Spanish Course Requirements)	
IB Spanish II (SL/HL)	
Recommended Grade:	Level 12
Credit:	1 Unit/Year Course
Class Fee:	Workbook/Magazine Purchase (Approximately \$45)
Prerequisite:	Recommended grade of "B" or better in IB Spanish I and IB Application
This senior level course is a continuation of IB Spanish I. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take either the Standard Level (SL) or High Level (HL) IB exam. (See IB Spanish Course requirements) The curriculum, taught in Spanish, includes reading short stories and plays, articles from periodicals and the Internet, music, films, games, and cultural activities which are designed to foster the student's interest in the language and culture. Students registering for this course should be internally motivated and have a strong work ethic. Students are responsible for the fee that IB charges for the required exam upon completion of this course. (see pg. 19)	

