



ACADEMY OF TUCSON HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2019-2020

It is the purpose of the Academy of Tucson to Provide, Prepare and Graduate.

- Provide - A faculty of respected, encouraging and caring educators in a safe and supportive learning environment.
- Prepare - Students for a knowledge-based, multicultural global economy.
- Graduate - Students who are educated, responsible future leaders, contributors to society and lifelong learners.

The School Board employs the following School System's administrative staff to operate the School System:

Academy of Tucson High School

10720 E. 22nd Street

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Wendi Allardice M.Ed, Principal

Jennifer Dool, Office Manager

Lindsay Figueroa, College/Career Adviser

Academy of Tucson Schools Administration

10720 E. 22nd Street

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Jose E. Garcia M.Ed, Superintendent

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Policy Notification Statement

It is the policy of Academy of Tucson Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability, marital status, political affiliation, or veteran status in its education program, activities or employment policies as required by federal and state laws. The School System abides by federal and state laws regarding people with disabilities. If you have a special need, reasonable accommodations will be made in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Academy of Tucson High School and the State of Arizona have specific requirements for graduation from high school. Students must have 22 credits. A credit is defined as a passing mark of “D” or higher in a state-approved class.

Students at the high school have the opportunity to earn a college preparatory diploma that requires the completion of 25 credits. See the breakdown of graduation requirements below:

General Diploma	Credits	College Preparatory Diploma	Credits
English	4	English	4
Math*	4	Math*	4
Science**	3	Science**	4
World History OR Geography	1	Social Studies	4
US History	1	Foreign Language***	2
American Government AND Economics	1	Art/Technology	1
Art/Technology	1	Electives	6
Electives	7		
TOTAL	22	TOTAL	25

*Must include one (1) credit of Algebra 2, or an equivalent course

**Must include one (1) credit of Biology, or an equivalent course

***Must be two (2) credits of the *same* foreign language

Beginning with the Class of 2017, all students must pass a civics test with a 60 percent or better to graduate. (The civics test is the test given to people who apply for American citizenship.)

ACADEMICS

Education & Career Action Plan (ECAP)

“Effective for the graduation class of 2013, schools shall complete for every student in grades 9-12 an Arizona Education and Career Action Plan” (R7-2-302.05). “An ECAP reflects a student’s current plan of coursework, career aspirations, and extended learning opportunities in order to develop the student’s individual academic and career goals. Ideally, the initial plan will be developed in middle school and updated on a yearly basis throughout high school and the postsecondary years” (Arizona Department of Education).

Academy of Tucson High School students are expected to complete activities for their ECAP on a quarterly basis. These activities are assigned and graded by the College/Career Adviser. Each quarterly assignment is worth 25 points (or 50 points each semester) in the students' English classes (exception: Senior Brag Sheet is worth 50 points).

Students use AzCIS (Arizona Career Information System) and Google Classroom to keep track and build their ECAPs. Please refer to the [Advisory website](#) for more information.

Credit Transfer

Academy of Tucson High School will accept the following credits from outside institutions:

- Credit granted from previously attended, regionally accredited high schools
- Summer school credit earned from regionally accredited institutions upon administration approval (credit will be Pass/Fail only and will not count toward the student's GPA)
- Credit from CTE courses taken at Joint Technical Education District (JTED) or its equivalent
- Dual enrollment credit from nationally or regionally accredited community colleges or universities

Official transcripts for transfer coursework must be received before the start a new school year to ensure graduation status. Seniors will not be permitted to retake classes over the summer after graduation; therefore, all deficient credits must be resolved before the start of their senior year.

Middle School Credit Transfer

Incoming freshmen who take Algebra 1 or higher and/or Spanish 1-2 or higher for high school credit in grades 7 or 8 will have the grade posted on their high school transcript as a Pass/Fail grade. (Students must have earned a C or better in the class.)

In order for any course from the above list to be used for transferable high school credit, it MUST have been taught by a secondary certified and highly qualified teacher.

Summer School

Summer school classes are offered for students who need to recover credit for a failed class or to make room in their schedule for additional classes. The College/Career Adviser must be consulted prior to summer school enrollment in order to ensure proper placement in courses.

Students may only retake or take one full-year class in summer school. There are two summer school sessions that extend through the month of June.

Dual Enrollment Classes

All Academy students will apply to and take assessments at Pima Community College (PCC) during their junior year of high school. Students who test into Writing 101 will have the opportunity to take the class on The Academy's campus their senior year. This class is paid for and facilitated by The Academy.

Students may take classes other than Writing 101 for dual enrollment credit through PCC or Grand Canyon University (GCU). Any other courses and fees must be paid directly to PCC or GCU by the parent and/or student. For guidance on which classes to take, contact an academic adviser at PCC or GCU.

At the end of each dual enrollment course, students must request an official transcript to be sent to the high school office. Transcript requests should be made at the PCC/GCU campus or website.

Four-year University Admissions

Students planning to attend a university are encouraged to meet with the College/Career Adviser multiple times throughout their junior and senior years. They should also consult the college admissions adviser at their college-of-choice to learn more about admissions requirements, merit-based scholarships, honors college admissions, financial aid, etc.

Arizona Schools: The college preparatory requirements for Arizona universities include the following courses and credits (commonly known as the Sweet 16) for high school graduates and are subject to change by the Arizona Board of Regents:

Arizona Board of Regents Competency Requirements (the Sweet 16)	
English	4 credits
Mathematics (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 and advanced math for which Algebra 2 is a prerequisite)	4 credits
Laboratory Science (Arizona Board of Regents approved courses)	3 credits
Social Studies (including US History)	2 credits
Modern Language (two credits of the same language)	2 credits
Fine Arts or CTE	1 credit

Out-of-State and Private Schools: Students interested in attending out-of-state and/or private colleges should consult college websites for information regarding application deadlines and admissions requirements. This process begins early in students' high school careers and is supported by the College/Career Adviser and ECAP process.

Grading

The Academy of Tucson's grading scale is as follows:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 and below

All grades, and therefore student GPAs, are unweighted, despite level of course rigor.

Advanced Placement (AP)

AP courses follow a nationally recognized curriculum, which is designed to be college level. Placement in AP courses is determined by teacher recommendation and/or PSAT scores.

Each May, a comprehensive test is offered in each subject where students, if they score well, may earn college credit. College credit is determined by each college or university and varies in the type and amount of credit. Students should check colleges and universities of their choice for information as to whether credit is given, and if so, the amount of credit available.

SCHEDULING INFORMATION

Course Load

Students must carry seven (7) classes in their schedule each semester during their freshman, sophomore and junior years. Seniors may be approved for an early out, as long as they are on track for graduation. However, they must take a minimum of five (5) classes. Seniors with an early out may not have an open period within their class schedule and will not be allowed to remain on campus during unscheduled class time.

Freshman and sophomore students must enroll in a study hall. Juniors and seniors may opt out of a study hall period if they can demonstrate that they do not need the extra time to complete assignments on time. Seniors have the opportunity to serve as teacher aides (TAs) for elective credit, as long as they have demonstrated respect and responsibility as underclassmen.

Pre-registration

Pre-registration for the following school year is held in the spring of each year and is facilitated by the College/Career Adviser. Students are placed in core courses based on teacher recommendations and are allowed to choose electives based on interest level and availability in the master schedule.

Enrollment numbers are used to create the master schedule each school year. Parents and students need to understand the following limitations:

- Some classes may not be offered as a result of insufficient enrollment.
- Some classes may be canceled due to programmatic needs.
- Class schedules are typically determined by seniority of grade. As a result, freshmen may not receive their first elective choice.
- Some classes offer limited enrollment due to facility restrictions.
- Oftentimes, schedule conflicts are unavoidable when classes are offered only once or twice in the school day.

Registration

In late July/early August, students and parents complete the registration process. At this time, students will turn in all necessary paperwork, pay applicable fees, and receive their class schedule.

Schedule Changes

Parents and students should be aware that there are limited opportunities for making changes to a student's schedule, and, at times, this eliminates the opportunity for changes. Note: Administration reserves the right to change student schedules at any time (i.e., leveling class size, etc.) without parent permission.

Acceptable requests include:

- Administrator or teacher recommendation
- Student received credit for the class
- Student failed a class required for graduation
- Student did not complete prerequisite class(es)

Unacceptable requests include:

- Student prefers a different teacher
- Student prefers a class with a friend
- Student prefers classes in a different order

Dropping & Adding Classes

Students who wish to change their schedule must do so during times determined by the administration. The times are as follows:

- Schedules may be changed upon availability during the first seven (7) days of the school year. However, priority will be given to students with incomplete schedules and/or new student registration.
- Second semester course changes are encouraged to be made prior to Winter Break.

Academic schedule changes, including level changes, require parent and teacher input. When registering for a year-long classes, students are strongly reminded of the year-long commitment they are making to those classes.

Students must continue to attend their scheduled classes until their new schedule has been processed by administration.

Level Changes

It is imperative that students choose classes carefully. If students are experiencing difficulty with placement in the rigorous curriculum of a particular class, students and parents will work with the teacher toward improvement.

Following the first seven (7) days of the school year, only teacher-initiated level changes may be allowed, provided that the Problem-Solving Process (see below) has been followed.

Problem-Solving Process

It is expected that students and parents will work with the teacher when encountering difficulties with the course content. Requesting a schedule change should not be the first option. Schedule changes after the first seven (7) days of the semester will only be considered by administration if it has been documented that:

- The student is making a sincere effort to do the work in the class.
- The student is regularly making contact with the teacher in the classroom and during Extended Day Tutoring to ask questions.
- The student and parents have worked with the teacher to understand the scope and nature of the problems causing difficulties.
- The student and parents have consulted with the College/Career Adviser, so he/she can offer general support and take to the teacher with the student.

If it is agreed upon that there has been consistent effort by and communication between the student, parents, teacher, and adviser, and yet no improvement in the situation is evident, then an administrator may deem that a schedule change is warranted.

Joint Technical Education District

JTED offers polytechnic programs to all Pima County high school students. Visit the district's website to learn more: <https://pimajted.org/>. Academy students who participate in JTED are expected to have good attendance and to stay academically eligible at both schools.

ENGLISH COURSES

Successful completion of four full years of English is required for graduation in Arizona and necessary for admission to most major universities. The English curriculum at Academy of Tucson High School is designed to offer each student a balance of literature and composition, aimed at developing proficiency in the College and Career Readiness Standards. On-level courses are designed to serve the majority of our students, and include preparation for both college and the workforce. Alternately, we offer honors credit at the freshman level to help prepare students for AP classes.

Grade 9 (Full-year)	English 1-2
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
Dedicated to creating effective and adaptable readers and writers, this course provides rigorous training in the foundations of English Language Arts skills and strategies. Using the core foundation, the course expands on and applies traditional concepts to modern, 21st-century demands. Offering practical lessons in techniques such as visualizing, making inferences and predictions and recognizing, organizational patterns in online and offline texts, this course delivers hands-on training in applying the writing process, evaluating essays, and using MLA style and documentation. Over the course of two semesters, interactive grammar lessons will strengthen students' grasp of language and improve writing skills. This class is also offered at the honors level.	
Grade 10 (Full-year)	English 3-4
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of English 1-2</i>	
Focused on application, this sophomore English course reinforces literary analysis and 21st-century skills with superb pieces of literature and literary nonfiction. Each thematic unit focuses on specific literary analysis skills and allows students to apply them to a range of genres and text structures. As these units meld modeling and application, they also expand on training in media literacy, 21st-century career skills, and the essentials of grammar and vocabulary. Students will also compose descriptive, persuasive, expository, literary analyses, research, narrative, and compare-contrast essays.	
Grade 11 (Full-year)	English 5-6
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of English 3-4</i>	
This junior-year English course invites students to delve into American literature from early American Indian voices through contemporary works. Students will engage in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of great texts, the centerpieces of this course. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and expository nonfiction, students will master the comprehension and literary analysis strategies that the Common Core State Standards require. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are tasks that encourage students	

to strengthen their oral language skills and produce creative, coherent writing. Students will read a range of short but complex texts.

Grade 11 (Full-year)

AP English Language & Composition

Prerequisites: *Grade of "B" or higher in prior English coursework or a strong teacher recommendation*

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

Grade 12 (Full-year)

English 7-8

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of English 5-6*

Part 1: This senior-level English course offers fascinating insight into various genres of literature, including literary nonfiction, as well as a focus on research and argumentation strategies in writing. With interactive introductions and a variety of textual forms, students will engage in multiple modes of communication and sharpen their critical thinking skills throughout this course.

Part 2: Individual offerings of this topics course teach skills and strategies for writing in a specific professional or public context or for improving in a specific type of writing. The focus is on the texts, genres, conventions, habits, and critical questions salient to recent high school graduates entering the workforce. The course emphasizes researching career paths and professions, understanding the differences between academic and professional business writing, developing a professional portfolio, and understanding the writing demands of the workplace. Students are expected to engage in prewriting, researching, drafting, revising, finalizing, and presenting within the course and collaboration and participation is paramount to success in the class. This course is offered to second-semester seniors only.

Grade 12 (Semester)

Writing 101

Prerequisites: *Placement into REA 112 and WRT 101 on ACCUPLACER*

Principles and practices of college-level writing. Includes using rhetorical principles in analyzing and creating texts, employing critical thinking skills, practicing multiple writing processes, using conventions in creating and revising texts, composing using appropriate technology, and writing college-level essays with an emphasis on argumentation. This class is designed specifically to teach students how to succeed at producing college level work by using the principles of good writing and by focusing on technique and methods of practice. To that end, students will engage in the process of writing via a series of steps involving in-class writing practice exercises, prewriting, drafting, revision, rewriting, and editing. You will develop your skills in grammar, sentence structure, organization, and editing by working independently and in small groups. In-class writing and peer workshops are mandatory and extensive in Writing 101.

Grade 12 (Semester)

Writing 102

Prerequisites: *C or better in Writing 101*

Continuation of WRT 101. Includes reading, analyzing, and discussing various types of text; writing analytical or critical papers; and developing research skills. Also includes writing a research paper.

Grade 10-11 (Full-year)

Communications (Elective credit only)

Prerequisites: *None*

This yearlong elective course will touch upon all the different ways we communicate with each other. Units will be broken down into the following categories: persuasion (debate), organizational communication, group communication, mass media, interpersonal communication, and public speaking.

MATHEMATICS COURSES

Successful completion of four full years of mathematics is required for graduation in Arizona and necessary for admission to most major universities. The mathematics curriculum at Academy of Tucson High School is aimed at developing proficiency in the College and Career Readiness Standards. Students entering as freshmen should be proficient in the basic skills of math with a pre-algebra background. A math placement test will be administered to determine the appropriate level of entry, regardless of middle school math courses completed. The normal progression is Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Precalculus or Intermediate Algebra, and AP Calculus. All classes are one-year courses.

Grade 9 (Full-year)	Algebra 1
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>This course begins with a brief review of what students should already know about linear equations, with a focus on analyzing and explaining the process of solving equations. Students develop a strong foundation in working with linear equations in all forms, extending solution techniques to simple equations with exponents. Students explore functions, including notation, domain and range, multiple representations, and modeling. Through the comparison of linear and exponential functions, students contrast the concepts of additive and multiplicative change. Students then apply what they have learned to linear models of data, analyzing scatterplots and using lines of best fit to apply regression techniques. The course closes with an exploration of rational exponents, quadratic and exponential expressions, and an introduction to nonlinear functions, with a heavy emphasis on quadratics. This class is also offered at an honors level.</p>	
Grade 9-10 (Full-year)	Geometry
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Algebra 1. Incoming freshmen must have earned a "B" or higher in Algebra 1 or have a teacher recommendation.</i>	
<p>This course formalizes what students have learned about geometry in the middle grades, with a focus on reasoning and making mathematical arguments. Mathematical reasoning is introduced with a study of triangle congruence, including exposure to formal proofs, and geometric constructions. Then students extend what they have learned to other essential triangle concepts, including similarity, right triangle trigonometry, and the Laws of Sines and Cosines. Moving on to other shapes, students justify and derive various formulas for circumference, area, and volume, as well as cross-sections of solids and rotations of two-dimensional objects. Students then make important connections between geometry and algebra, including special triangles, slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and parabolas in the coordinate plane, before delving into an in-depth investigation of the geometry of circles. The course closes with a study of set theory and probability, as students apply theoretical and experimental probability to make decisions informed by data analysis. This class is also offered at an honors level.</p>	
Grade 10-11 (Full-year)	Algebra 2

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry*

This course focuses on the four critical areas of the Common Core model pathway for Algebra II: functions, polynomials, periodic phenomena, and collecting and analyzing data. The course begins with a review of linear and quadratic functions, to solidify a foundation for learning these new functions. Students will make connections between verbal, numeric, algebraic, and graphical representations of functions and apply this knowledge as they create equations and inequalities that can be used to model and solve mathematical and real-world problems. As students refine and expand their algebraic skills, they will draw analogies between the operations and field properties of real numbers and those of complex numbers and algebraic expressions. The Common Core practice standards are embedded throughout the course, as students solve novel problems, reason abstractly, and think critically. This class is also offered at an honors level.

Grade 11-12 (Full-year)

Precalculus

Prerequisites: *Grade of "C" or higher in Algebra 2 or teacher recommendation*

With an emphasis on function families and their representations, Precalculus is a thoughtful introduction to advanced studies leading to calculus. The course briefly reviews linear equations, inequalities, and systems and moves purposefully into the study of functions. Students then discover the nature of graphs and deepen their understanding of polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Scaffolding rigorous content with clear instruction, the course leads students through an advanced study of trigonometric functions, matrices, and vectors. The course concludes with a short study of probability and statistics. This class is also offered at an honors level.

Grade 12 (Full-year)

AP Calculus AB

Prerequisites: *Grade of "C" or higher in Precalculus or teacher recommendation*

Calculus AB is a college-level, yearlong course designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement® Calculus AB exam. The goal of this course is to provide students with new tools to solve problems. Through a combination of direct instruction, videos, and readings, students will explore limits, derivatives, and integrals and the ways to apply them to mathematical and real-world problems. Topics covered include graphs of functions, limits, differentiation, and integration. Students will demonstrate their understanding and acquisition of skills through practice problems, discussion questions, and practice AP exams.

Grade 12 (Full-year)

Intermediate Algebra

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of Algebra 2*

Intermediate Algebra is designed to broaden and expand the concepts of Elementary Algebra/Algebra I. This course covers all the essential topics needed to be successful in College Algebra or Precalculus. Topics include: algebraic techniques with polynomials, rational expressions, exponents, radical expressions and equations, factoring, linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, logarithmic and exponential functions, solving systems of two or more linear equations, mathematical modeling, complex numbers, counting, sequences and series, functions and their graphs. Upon completion, students will be able to progress to College Algebra or Precalculus. (Please note: This course is intended for students who lack the skills necessary for Precalculus, have passed Algebra 2 and are deviating from the standard College Preparatory Curriculum.)

SCIENCE COURSES

Successful completion of three full years of lab science is required for graduation in Arizona, and necessary for admission to most major universities. The science curriculum at Academy of Tucson High School is at developing proficiency in the College and Career Readiness Standards. At Academy of Tucson High School, students take four full years of science coursework. The regular track for an incoming freshmen is as follows: Introduction to Lab Science, Biology, Chemistry or Physics, and Honors Physics or Environmental Science.

Grade 9-10 (Full-year)	Biology
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Intro to Lab Science. Incoming freshmen must have earned a “B” or higher in 8th-grade science or have a teacher recommendation.</i>	
This is a yearlong course that encompasses traditional concepts in Biology and encourages exploration of new discoveries in this field of science. Course topics are aligned with Arizona State Science Standards and focuses on fostering an interest on biological systems through hands-on exploration and experimentation. Curricular components include biochemistry, cell biology, cell processes, genetics and heredity, forensics, diversity of living organisms (dissection unit), the evolution of life, and ecology. This class is also offered at the honors level.	
Grade 10-12 (Full-year)	Chemistry
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Biology and teacher recommendation</i>	
This rigorous full-year course engages students in the study of the composition, properties, changes, and interactions of matter. The course covers the basic concepts of chemistry and includes laboratory experiments that encourage higher-order thinking applications. The components of this course include chemistry and its methods, the composition and properties of matter, changes and interactions of matter, factors affecting the interactions of matter and study of the periodic table. Atomic structure, stoichiometry, acids, gas laws, nuclear chemistry, mathematical applications, and applications of chemistry in the real world are also included. This class is also offered at the honors level.	
Grade 10-12 (Full-year)	Physics
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Biology and teacher recommendation</i>	
Combining scientific inquiry with advanced mathematics, this yearlong course will challenge students to understand and explain how energy, matter, and motion are all related. Engaging lessons introduce theories and experiments and encourage students to develop the knowledge and understanding necessary to support conclusions with numerical results. Inspiring students to relate knowledge to real-world applications, the course connects basic principles to more complex ideas in many fascinating areas: gravity and projectile motion, vibrations and waves, light and refraction, sound and electricity.	
Grade 11-12 (2 years)	Classical/Modern Honors Physics
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry and teacher recommendation</i>	
Honors Physics is a two-year course. The two parts may be taken in any order. Year 1 is called Classical Newtonian, which covers equations and concepts related to Newton’s laws of motion. This includes velocity, acceleration, projectile motion, forces in 1 and 2 dimensions, conservation of work, potential energy, kinetic energy and power. This course also includes gravity and rotational motion. Year 2 is called Modern, which	

explores concepts more fully developed after Newton. Students will look at electromagnetic waves, vibrations, colors and optics and cover topics in static and current electricity, and nuclear and quantum physics.

Grade 12 (Full-year)

Environmental Science (online and blended)

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of Chemistry/Physics and teacher recommendation*

Environmental science is a captivating and rapidly expanding field, and the course offers compelling lessons that cover many different aspects of the field: ecology, the biosphere, land, forests and soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Through unique activities and material, high school students connect scientific theory and concepts to current, real-world dilemmas, providing them with opportunities for mastery in each of the segments throughout the semester.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

At Academy of Tucson High School, students take four full years of social studies coursework. The regular track for an incoming freshmen is as follows: Geography, World History, US History and American Government\Economics. However, social studies courses may be taken in any order, depending on scheduling needs.

Grade 9 (Full-year)	Geography
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>Designed to introduce students to the study of geography, this course helps students master important concepts in physical and human geography. Students analyze and evaluate the ways in which the physical environment affects human development and the ways in which human activities modify the physical environment. While studying humans around the world, students compare development, standards of living, systems of government, population patterns, and economic factors around the world. In addition, students gain a rich understanding of global cultures and the historical factors that have shaped the world around them. This class is also offered at the honors level.</p>	
Grade 10 (Full-year)	World History
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>This course covers major events in world history from prehistory to modern times. Students are challenged to use critical thinking skills while studying key developments and innovations that connect the story of human history. Students apply basic social studies skills with national historical thinking standards to learn about social, political, and economic developments through maps, charts, primary and secondary sources, technology, and research. This class is also offered at the honors level.</p>	
Grade 11 (Full-year)	US History
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>This course presents a cohesive and comprehensive overview of the history of the United States, surveying the major events and turning points of U.S. history as it moves from the Era of Exploration through modern times. As students examine each era of history, they will analyze primary sources and carefully research events to gain a clearer understanding of the factors that have shaped U.S. history. In early units, students will assess the foundations of U.S. democracy while examining crucial documents. In later units, students will examine the effects of territorial expansion, the Civil War, and the rise of industrialization as they assess the outcomes of economic trends and the connections between culture and government. As the course draws to a close, students will focus their studies on the causes of cultural and political change in the modern age. Throughout the course, students will learn the importance of cultural diversity while examining history from different perspectives. This class is also offered at the honors level.</p>	
Grade 12 (Full-year)	American Government/Economics
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>Government: Providing students with the opportunity to learn about the historical events, philosophers, and topical issues that helped create the democratic foundations of this nation, this course will introduce high school students to the Founding Fathers and expose them to the ideas that shaped the nation. Over the</p>	

course of one semester, students will identify important political leaders and trace the development and organization of federal, state, and local government. In addition, students will explain the political process and analyze the United States' role as a global, political, and economic participant. The course specifically targets the philosophies and foundations of the United States government, the organization of the branches of government, government on a state and local level, and civil liberties and laws. Full of timely and interesting content, this course will inspire students to be more informed citizens and equip them to understand how the United States compares economically and politically on a global scale.

Economics: Before looking into larger economic principles, students must first understand the basics of their own finances. Less than half of high school seniors qualify as financially literate, and more than 7 million borrowers are in default on student loans for college. Students are facing tremendous financial challenges without the basic knowledge needed to thrive in today's economy. Foundations in Personal Finance will change the financial future of your students and set them on a path to win with money, allowing you to change the way your students look at money forever. They'll be empowered, equipped and entertained while building confidence in your financial decision-making. Once the basics of personal finance are mastered, this course will analyze some larger micro and macro economic issues such as supply and demand and economic theory. This class is also offered at an honors level.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Human Geography (online only)

Prerequisites: *None*

Examining current global issues that impact our world today, this course takes a thematic approach to understanding the development of human systems, human understanding of the world, and human social organization. Divided into two semesters, this high school-level course will challenge students to develop geographic skills, including learning to interpret maps, analyze data, and compare theories. Offering interactive content that will grow students' understanding of the development of modern civilization and human systems—from the agricultural revolution to the technological revolution—this course encourages students to analyze economic trends as well as compare global markets and urban environments.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

Successful completion of two full years of *same* foreign language is NOT required for graduation in Arizona, but is necessary for admission to major universities.

Grade 9-11 (Full-year)	Spanish 1-2
Prerequisites: <i>Teacher recommendation</i>	
Students will become more culturally aware of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. Students can also expect to actively participate in a variety of oral and written activities, which may include, but are not limited to the following: building vocabulary and idioms, short conversation and dialogues, short story narratives, answering questions, role-playing, interviewing, etc.	
Grade 9-11 (Full-year)	Spanish 3-4
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Spanish 1-2. Incoming freshmen must have earned a “B” or higher in Spanish 1-2 or have a teacher recommendation.</i>	
Students will become more culturally aware of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries. Students can also expect to actively participate in a variety of oral and written activities, which may include, but are not limited to the following: building vocabulary and idioms, short conversation and dialogues, short story narratives, answering questions, role-playing, interviewing, etc.	
Grade 10-12 (Full-year)	Spanish 5-6 (online only)
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Spanish 3-4</i>	
In this expanding engagement with Spanish, students deepen their focus on four key skills in foreign language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students read significant works of literature in Spanish, and respond orally or in writing to these works. Continuing the pattern, and building on what students encountered in the first two years, each week consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.	
Grade 11-12 (Full-year)	AP Spanish Language & Culture (online only)
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of Spanish 3-4 and teacher recommendation</i>	
Our online AP Spanish Language and Culture course is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical and communicative skills. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course prepares students for the College Board’s AP Spanish Language and Culture exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The course is designed as an immersion experience and is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish. In addition, all student work, practices, projects, participation, and assessments are in Spanish.	
Grade 9 (Full-year)	French 1-2

Prerequisites: <i>Teacher recommendation</i>	
This class is designed to engage students in speaking, listening, reading, and writing French with a measurable degree of communicative competency. Students will become more culturally aware of France and French-speaking countries. Students can also expect to actively participate in a variety of oral and written activities, which may include, but are not limited to the following: building vocabulary and idioms, short conversation and dialogues, short story narratives, answering questions, role-playing, interviewing, etc.	
Grade 10 (Full-year)	French 3-4 (online and blended)
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of French 1-2 or teacher recommendation</i>	
This class is designed to engage students in speaking, listening, reading, and writing French with a measurable degree of communicative competency. Students will become more culturally aware of France and French-speaking countries. Students can also expect to actively participate in a variety of oral and written activities, which may include, but are not limited to the following: building vocabulary and idioms, short conversation and dialogues, short story narratives, answering questions, role-playing, interviewing, etc. <i>Due to scheduling conflicts this class may only be offered online.</i>	
Grade 11-12 (Full-year)	French 5-6 (online only)
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of French 3-4</i>	
In this expanding engagement with French, students deepen their focus on four key skills in foreign language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students read significant works of literature in French, and respond orally or in writing to these works. Continuing the pattern, and building on what students encountered in the first two years, each week consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major French-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.	
Grade 11-12 (Full-year)	AP French Language & Culture (online only)
Prerequisites: <i>Successful completion of French 3-4 and teacher recommendation</i>	
Our online AP French Language course is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical and communicative skills. The AP French Language course prepares them for the AP French exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The course is designed as an immersion experience requiring the use of French exclusively. The online learning coach only uses French to communicate with students. In addition, all the reading, listening, speaking and writing is in French.	
Grade 10-11 (Full-year)	German 1-2 (online only)
Prerequisites: <i>Teacher recommendation</i>	
Students begin their introduction to German with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major German-speaking areas in Europe.	
Grade 11-12 (Full-year)	German 3-4 (online only)

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of German 1-2*

Students continue their introduction to German with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major German-speaking areas in Europe.

Grade 10-11 (Full-year)

Chinese 1-2 (online only)

Prerequisites: *Teacher recommendation*

Students begin their introduction to Chinese with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Chinese-speaking countries.

Grade 11-12 (Full-year)

Chinese 3-4 (online only)

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of Chinese 1-2*

Students begin their introduction to Chinese with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Chinese-speaking countries.

Grade 10-11 (Full-year)

Latin 1-2 (online only)

Prerequisites: *Teacher recommendation*

Students begin their introduction to Latin with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and cultural presentations covering significant aspects of Roman culture or their modern-day manifestations, and assessments.

Grade 10-11 (Full-year)

Latin 3-4 (online only)

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of Latin 1-2*

Students begin their introduction to Latin with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and cultural presentations covering significant aspects of Roman culture or their modern-day manifestations, and assessments.

FINE ART COURSES

All fine art classes are designed with curriculum that changes from school year to school year. Therefore, students may take the courses all four years of high school.

All Grades (Full-year)	Art
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>Art is communication and connection. Through a variety of media (painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, etc.), students will explore what is important for each student and how to connect to the world - whether through history or contemporary themes. Students will develop skills, such as how to draw or paint an object to appear 3D, how to make texture on a drawing or create the illusion of space through using perspective. Art students will keep a digital portfolio through Google Classroom. They will have the opportunity to exhibit their work throughout the state and enter into multiple art competitions. This class is also offered at the honors level.</p>	
All Grades (Full-year)	Yearbook
Prerequisites: <i>Teacher recommendation</i>	
<p>Yearbook class is all about working together to create an awesome product that people purchase at the end of the school year. Students visually record the moments of high school life for all of us to look back on. The class is organized into teams. All teams will be responsible to create a theme, a book cover, and what goes into the yearbook. Be ready to take pictures on campus for sports, dances and concerts. Our main production time is August to March. After the yearbook is finished, we will be sharpening our photo-editing and writing skills. This class demands a personal time commitment outside of the classroom and may also fulfill a CTE credit.</p>	
All Grades (Full-year)	Choir
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>This mixed ensemble is open to all students regardless of ability or musical experience. Students gain skills in sight-reading, healthy vocal production, and learn the importance of working within an ensemble. Auditions are not required.</p>	
All Grades (Full-year)	Advanced Women's Choir
Prerequisites: <i>Audition</i>	
<p>Advanced Women's Choir is the premier performance ensemble of the Academy of Tucson music department. This auditioned group of students performs a variety of musical styles and genres from baroque to modern pop arrangements. This class demands a high level of musicianship and personal time commitment outside of the classroom.</p>	
All Grades (Full-year)	Guitar
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>Guitar is a performance ensemble in which students learn the basics of classical guitar technique and an</p>	

introduction to contemporary styles. All levels of ability are accepted, including entry-level guitar students. Auditions are not required.

All Grades (Full-year)

Music Appreciation

Prerequisites: *None*

This class focuses on the history and development of music of the western world. After an introduction to the fundamentals and building blocks of music, students will take a journey through the history of music, beginning with the earliest known forms of written music. Several genres, including classical, jazz, blues, rock, popular, and world music, will be studied and discussed. Opportunities for students to demonstrate an understanding of material through composition and/or performance will also be provided.

All Grades (Full-year)

Jazz Band Combo

Prerequisites: *None*

This class is offered during zero hour (7-7:40 AM). Musicians with all levels of ability are accepted, including entry-level instrumental students. Students must bring their own instrument and required music book to each class. This class is worth 0.25 credit each semester.

All Grades (Full-year)

Theater

Prerequisites: *None*

This course is intended to promote students' experience and skill development in one or more aspects of theatrical production and concentrate on acting and performance skills. This class demands a personal time commitment outside of the classroom with performances throughout the school year. Students will be expected to audition for parts in school performances.

ACADEMY ONLINE COURSES

Academy Online is Academy of Tucson High School's online classroom, in which students take classes from the Edgenuity course catalog. Edgenuity offers a variety of high school level Independent Study courses, to which students will have access. Most students will be taking electives not offered in a traditional classroom setting, although some will be taking core classes (i.e., math, English, etc.), if deemed necessary by administration. These courses are self-directed and teacher-guided.

Grade 10-12 (Semester)	Art History
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>Introducing art within historical, social, geographical, political, and religious contexts for understanding art and architecture through the ages, this course offers high school students an in-depth overview of art throughout history, with lessons organized by chronological and historical order and world regions. Students enrolled in this one-semester course will cover topics including early Medieval and Romanesque art; art in the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries; 15th-century art in Europe; 16th-century art in Italy; the master artists; high Renaissance and Baroque art; world art, which includes the art of Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific cultures; 18th- and 19th-century art in Europe and the Americas; and modern art in Europe and the Americas.</p>	
Grade 10-12 (Full-year)	Psychology
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>This two-semester course introduces high school students to the study of psychology and helps them master fundamental concepts in research, theory, and human behavior. Students analyze human growth, learning, personality, and behavior from the perspective of major theories within psychology, including the biological, psychosocial, and cognitive perspectives. From a psychological point of view, students investigate the nature of being human as they build a comprehensive understanding of traditional psychological concepts and contemporary perspectives in the field. Course components include an introduction to the history, perspectives, and research of psychology; an understanding of topics such as the biological aspects of psychology, learning, and cognitive development; the stages of human development; aspects of personality and intelligence; the classification and treatment of psychological disorders; and psychological aspects of social interactions.</p>	
Grade 10-12 (Full-year)	Sociology
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
<p>Providing insight into the human dynamics of our diverse society, Sociology is an engaging two-semester course that delves into the fundamental concepts of sociology. This interactive course, designed for high-school students, covers cultural diversity and conformity, basic structures of society, individuals and socialization, stages of human development as they relate to sociology, deviance from social norms, social stratification, racial and ethnic interactions, gender roles, family structure, the economic and political aspects of sociology, the sociology of public institutions, and collective human behavior, both historically and in modern times.</p>	
Grade 9-10 (Semester)	Strategies for Academic Success
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	

Offering a comprehensive analysis of different types of motivation, study habits, and learning styles, this course encourages high school students to take control of their learning by exploring varying strategies for success. Providing engaging lessons that will help students identify what works best for them individually, this one-semester course covers important study skills, such as strategies for taking high-quality notes, memorization techniques, test-taking strategies, benefits of visual aids, and reading techniques.

Grade 9-11 (Semester)	Career Planning & Development
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
Introducing high school students to the working world, this course provides the knowledge and insight necessary to compete in today's challenging job market. This relevant and timely course helps students investigate careers as they apply to personal interests and abilities, develop skills and job search documents needed to enter the workforce, explore the rights of workers and traits of effective employees, and address the importance of professionalism and responsibility as careers change and evolve. This one-semester course includes lessons in which students create a self-assessment profile, a cover letter, and a résumé that can be used in their educational or career portfolio.	
Grade 10-12 (Semester)	3D Art I Modeling (Fine Art or CTE credit)
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
This course is an introduction to 3D modeling tools and concepts. Using Blender®, a popular open-source 3D modeling package, learn the basics of creating shapes, adding textures and lighting, and rendering. Produce a series of increasingly sophisticated projects for a 3D portfolio. This course is suitable for students with no prior experience with 3D game design or digital media authoring tools.	
Grade 10-12 (Semester)	3D Art II Animation (Fine Art or CTE credit)
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
In this advanced course, build on the skills developed in 3D Art I to learn 3D animation techniques. Using Blender®, the world's most powerful open-source modeling tool, master the basics of animation-trajectory, lighting, bones, and movement, while learning how to apply traditional animation techniques to your 3D models.	
Grade 9-12 (Full-year)	Intro to Computer Science - Python (CTE credit)
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>	
This course is designed to offer an introduction to computer science. Students will learn the basics of computer programming along with the basics of computer science. The material emphasizes computational thinking and helps develop the ability to solve complex problems. This course covers the basic building blocks of programming along with other central elements of computer science. It gives a foundation in the tools used in computer science and prepares students for further study in computer science, including AP Computer Science Principles and AP Computer Science A courses. The course allows students to work independently in text-based Python. The course also includes a career focus, where at the end of units, students meet (via videos) individuals from different industries who work in coding (medical, music, etc.). Offered by the Amazon Future Engineer program and Edhesive for the 2019-2020 school year.	
Grade 10-12 (Full-year)	AP Computer Science Principles (CTE credit)
Prerequisites: <i>None, Intro to CS Python recommended</i>	

CS Principles has been designed as a year-long high school course that fully addresses the seven "Big Ideas" of computer science and six "Computational Thinking Practices," as specified by the College Board's AP Computer Science Principles curriculum framework. The lessons and materials used throughout this course incorporate Project-Based Learning (PBL), a pedagogical approach that actively engages students in the educational process, improves retention and develops problem-solving, critical thinking, and group communication skills. Through this collaborative, learner-centric approach, students are encouraged to explore the advantages and societal impact of computational technology while developing their own programming and computational thinking skills. The course is roughly 20% coding, and 80% focused on CS applications through project-based, inquiry-based, collaborative learning. Offered by the Amazon Future Engineer program and Edhesive for the 2019-2020 school year.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

AP Computer Science A - Java (CTE credit)

Prerequisites: *None, Intro to CS Python recommended*

This course is designed to offer an introduction to computer science. Students will learn the basics of computer programming along with the basics of computer science. The material emphasizes computational thinking and helps develop the ability to solve complex problems. This course covers the basic building blocks of programming along with other central elements of computer science. It gives a foundation in the tools used in computer science and prepares students for further study in computer science, including AP Computer Science Principles and AP CSA is a full-year AP course geared towards 11th-12th graders who are serious about programming. Java requires a good mathematical background and strong problem-solving skills. The course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Computer Science exam, level A. Students will learn to design and implement computer programs that solve problems relevant to today's society, including art, media, and engineering. AP Computer Science A teaches object oriented programming using the Java language and is meant to be the equivalent of a first semester, college-level course in computer science. It will emphasize problem-solving and algorithm development, and use hands-on experiences and examples so that students can apply programming tools and solve complex problems. Offered by the Amazon Future Engineer program and Edhesive for the 2019-2020 school year.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Digital Arts 1-2 (CTE credit)

Prerequisites: *None*

In this introductory course, learn the seven elements of visual art: line, shape, form, color, value, and texture. While surveying a variety of media and art, use digital drawing to put into practice the elements you've learned. Discover career opportunities in the design, production, display, and presentation of digital artwork. Respond to the artwork of others and learn how to combine artistic elements to create finished pieces that effectively communicate your ideas.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Engineering Design 1-2 (CTE credit)

Prerequisites: *None*

In this introductory engineering course, learn the basics of computer-aided design and develop fundamental skills to translate abstract concepts into functional designs. Use CAD Standard Lite™ and Google™ Sketchup™ to complete a series of design projects and interpret, create, and present engineering drawings and walkthroughs.

Grade 10-12 (Semester)

Game Design (CTE credit)

Prerequisites: *None*

This course is for anyone who loves gaming and wants to design and build original games from scratch.

Learn how to use Multimedia Fusion 2©, a popular game design software program, to create engaging, interactive games in a variety of genres. Build a solid foundation in the basic concepts of game development and add a variety of polished games for a game development portfolio.

Grade 10-12 (Semester)

Audio Engineering (CTE credit)

Prerequisites: *None*

In this introductory course, learn about the physics of sound and the history of recording technologies. Next, learn about the four stages of professional music recording projects: recording, editing, mixing, and mastering. Using Audacity©, an open-source recording and mixing program, practice the techniques used by sound engineers to produce multi-track recordings. Through a series of engaging hands-on projects, master the fundamental concepts of audio engineering.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Intro to Business 1-2

Prerequisites: *None*

In this two-semester introductory course, students will learn the principles of business using real-world examples – learning what it takes to plan and launch a product or service in today’s fast-paced business environment. This course covers an introduction to economic basics, costs and profit, and different business types; techniques for managing money, personally and as a business, and taxes and credit; the basics of financing a business; how a business relates to society both locally and globally; how to identify a business opportunity; and techniques for planning, executing, and marketing a business to respond to that opportunity.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Intro to Entrepreneurship 1-2

Prerequisites: *None*

In this introductory business course, learn what it takes to be an entrepreneur while mastering the basics of planning and launching a successful business. Whether starting your own money-making business or creating a nonprofit to help others, develop the core skills needed to be successful. Come up with new business ideas, attract investors, market your business, and manage expenses. Get inspired by stories from teen entrepreneurs who have turned their ideas into reality, then plan and execute your own business!

Grade 9-12 (Full-year)

Contemporary Health

Prerequisites: *None*

This year-long course designed for high school students examines and analyzes various health topics. It places alcohol use, drug use, physical fitness, healthy relationships, disease prevention, relationships, and mental health in the context of the importance of creating a healthy lifestyle. Throughout the course, students examine the practices and plans they can implement in order to carry out a healthy lifestyle, and the consequences they can face if they do not follow safe health practices. In addition, students conduct in-depth studies in order to create mentally and emotionally healthy relationships with peers and family, and to devise healthy nutrition, sleeping, and physical fitness plans. Students also examine and analyze harassment and bullying laws.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Intro to Health Science 1-2

Prerequisites: *None*

This course introduces students to a variety of healthcare careers as they develop the basic skills required in all health and medical sciences. In addition to learning the key elements of the U.S. healthcare system,

students will learn terminology; anatomy and physiology; pathologies; diagnostic and clinical procedures; therapeutic interventions; and the fundamentals of medical emergency care. Throughout the course, instructional activities emphasize safety, professionalism, accountability, and efficiency for workers within the healthcare field.

Grade 10-12 (Full-year)

Health Science Concepts 1-2

Prerequisites: *None*

This yearlong course introduces high school students to the fundamental concepts of anatomy and physiology – including the organization of the body, cellular functions, and the chemistry of life. As they progress through each unit, students will learn about the major body systems, common diseases and disorders, and the career specialties associated with each system. Students will investigate basic medical terminology as well as human reproduction and development. Students are introduced to these fundamental health science concepts through direct instruction, interactive tasks, and practice assignments. This course is intended to provide students with a strong base of core knowledge and skills that can be used in a variety of health science career pathways.

Grade 9-12 (Semester)

ACT Prep

Prerequisites: *None*

This course provides students with the opportunity to prepare to successfully complete the ACT college-entrance exam. On-screen teachers demystify the exam with an overview of the exam and its content, as well as proven test-taking strategies. Practice tests modeled after the ACT exams are used to diagnose and target areas of opportunity. Students are prescribed individualized paths of study and provided instructional content for review including video-based instruction by highly-qualified teachers, interactive assignments, and regular assessment opportunities to track progress.

Grade 9-12 (Semester)

SAT Prep

Prerequisites: *None*

This course provides students with the opportunity to prepare to successfully complete the SAT college-entrance exam. On-screen teachers demystify the exam with an overview of the exam and its content, as well as proven test-taking strategies. Practice tests modeled after the SAT exams are used to diagnose and target areas of opportunity. Students are prescribed individualized paths of study and provided instructional content for review including video-based instruction by highly-qualified teachers, interactive assignments, and regular assessment opportunities to track progress.