



KENT SCHOOL

COURSE CATALOG
2018-2019

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to receive a diploma, each student must meet both credit and course requirements for graduation. The number of credits required varies with the form (3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th) in which a student enters Kent.

Entering Year	Credits Required
3rd form	18
4th form	13
5th form	9
6th form	4

There are two types of courses at Kent. Major courses meet daily, some with an extra lab period, some with an omit day. Minor courses meet less often, generally three or four times in each six-day rotation.

The course load for students is five major courses, with the required minor courses generally added in the 4th form year.

Each major year-long course counts as 1 credit.

Each major term-contained course counts as 1/3 credit.

Each minor term-contained course counts as 1/6 credit.

The courses required are:

- English - each term, every year
- History - a minimum of two years, one of which must be United States History in the 5th or 6th form year
- Language - either classical or modern, through the Kent third-year level
- Mathematics - through Algebra 2 & Trigonometry or the 5th form year (whichever is later)
- Science, a minimum of two year-long laboratory sciences
- Theology - a major, term-contained course in the 5th or 6th form year*
- Art & Music - Minor courses in both art and music, usually taken in the 4th form year*

All 3rd form and new 4th form students take the New Student Seminar.

** Courses in theology, art, and music taken at a previous school may not be used to satisfy the Kent School diploma requirements. They may enable placement in a higher level course.*

COURSE SELECTION

In preparation for a student's first year at Kent, the Director of Studies reviews admissions files, placement tests and other materials and consults with new students and their parents to develop a plan of courses for each student.

During orientation, before the first day of classes, new students review their proposed course schedules with faculty advisors.

In the spring of each year, courses are chosen for the following year with the advisor's counsel and reviewed with the Director of Studies. Parents are advised of the selections and their questions and comments are invited.

Requests for placement review may be made at any time. Placement review is typically collaborative and involves the student, parents, advisor and department head. Final program authority rests with the Director of Studies.

MAJOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

A student interested in an original project or course of study not regularly offered by the School may apply to pursue a major independent study. Major independent studies are graded, for-credit programs conducted under the sponsorship of a faculty member with the approval of the Director of Studies and the Independent Study Committee. In recent years, many students have completed major independent studies. Topics include multivariate calculus and its applications to Physics, the interpretation of dreams, Etruscan funerary urns, fashion design and conversational Russian. Applications for major independent study require a faculty sponsor, must be approved by the Director of Studies before the start of the term of intended study and are granted on merit.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Kent School participates in the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) program, offering twenty-five different AP courses. Kent also assists students who choose to pursue other AP examinations that are not formally offered. AP curricula are designed by a national committee of university professors and high school teachers and cover skills and content typical of a corresponding introductory-level college course. AP teachers are certified by the College Board. The AP exams are administered during the first weeks of May and comprehensively assess the year's material. All students enrolled in an AP course are required to sit for the corresponding AP exam. Each college decides whether or not to grant credit or placement based on AP coursework. Please see www.collegeboard.com/AP for detailed descriptions of individual courses and the overall program.

COURSES AT A GLANCE

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- † Electives in Art History
- † Architecture
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- † Advanced Photography
- † Digital Imaging
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- AP Studio Art Drawing
- AP Studio Art 2-D
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CLASSICAL STUDIES (p.7)

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- † Homeric Epic 1, 2, 3
- † The Greek New Testament
- † Aristophanes
- † Euripides
- Latin 1
- Latin 2
- Advanced Latin Studies:
- Latin 3
- † Honors Latin 3: Cicero
- † Honors Latin 3: Virgil
- AP Latin Vergil and Caesar
- † Petronius

- † Medieval and Ecclesiastical Latin

- † Ecclesiastical Latin
- † Roman Lyric Poetry
- † Roman Comedy

COMPUTER SCIENCE (p.10)

- AP Computer Science Principles
- † Computer Science Principles 1
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- AP Computer Science A

ENGLISH (p.10)

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- Honors English 2
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- Honors English 3
- AP English Literature
- English 4
- † Acting - Scenes and Monologues
- † The American Drive
- † The Art of the Personal Essay
- † Asian Literature and Film
- † Contemporary Short Fiction
- † Contemporary Young Adult Fiction
- † Native American Literature
- † Playwriting
- † Reading and Writing Poetry
- † Reading the American South
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- † Shakespeare for the Stage

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (p.12)

- ESL
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HISTORY (p.12)

- Ancient and Medieval World History/
Honors Ancient and Medieval World
History
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- United States History
- AP United States History
- Selected Topics in
United States History
- AP Economics
- AP United States Government
and Politics
- † American Mosaic: Immigration,
Ethnicity, and Race in the United States
- † Introduction to International
Relations
- † China: From Mao to the Present
- † 20th Century Capitalism
- † Irish in America
- † Soviet Communism
- † The Modern Middle East
- † Financial Systems of The United States
- † Contemporary Issues in the Middle
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- † Soldiers, Slaves, and Scalawags: A
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- † Global Economics

MATHEMATICS (p.15)

Algebra 1
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Honors Geometry
Accelerated Geometry & Trigonometry
Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
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Accelerated Algebra 2 & Trigonometry
Precalculus with Statistics
† Precalculus with Statistics 1, 2, 3
Honors Precalculus with Statistics
Introduction to Calculus
† Introduction to Calculus 1, 2, 3
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MODERN LANGUAGES (p.17)

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French 3/Honors French 3
† French 4: Conversation
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Advanced French Literature

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Spanish 3/Honors Spanish 3
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AP Spanish Language
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‡ New Student Seminar 3rd Form
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◇ Honors Biology 1
◇ AP Biology
◇ Chemistry 1
◇ Honors Chemistry 1
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◇ AP Chemistry
◇ Physics 1
◇ Honors Physics 1
◇ Accelerated Physics

◇ AP Physics C
AP Psychology
◇ AP Environmental Science
† ◇ Ecology 1, 2, 3
† Genetics
† ◇ Biotechnology
† Human Anatomy
† Geology
† Pandemics
† History of Life on Earth

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† Theology
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† Psychology and Religion
† Dreams
† World Religions
† Philosophy

WELLNESS (p.22)

† Wellness

NON-CREDIT COURSES (p.24)

Confirmation
Private Instrumental or Vocal Lessons

† *Indicates a term-contained major course*

‡ *Indicates a term-contained minor course*

◇ *Indicates a lab science course*

DEPARTMENTS & COURSES

ART

Art is never created in a vacuum; therefore, the Art Department supports building inter-disciplinary bridges for and by our students. Student artwork is exhibited throughout the campus to showcase our talented students, but also to stimulate dialogue between academic departments. Our students work is exhibited in local and national competitions yearly.

All studio art courses are term contained; therefore, a student may take three different courses in one year. Since the syllabi change each term, a student may also elect to take the same class more than once. Art Survey is the only minor course offered in the Art Department and all Advanced Placement courses (Art History, Drawing, 2-D Design, 3-D Design) require at least one year to complete successfully. Each year several students also complete independent studies to follow their creative inspiration beyond the courses offered including fashion design, video, and illustration. To complete an independent study, the student is required to develop a clear concept for approval. By the end of a term, independent study students complete a portfolio consisting of four to eight coherent pieces.

† Art Survey (fall, winter, spring)

Art Survey is the only art class required for the Kent School diploma. We have designed this minor course to introduce students to the basic tenets of visual art including: two and three-dimensional studio projects, independent and collaborative work, and art history as an inspiration for studio assignments. In addition to specific class projects, each student is required to complete a sketch folder. The sketch folder serves as the backbone of the class because within its pages each student completes several research, drawing, and design assignments

using a variety of media.

† Electives in Art History (fall, winter, spring)

This year, we began teaching art history as term contained courses. In the fall, we traced the origins of art during the prehistoric period through the grandeur of Hellenistic Greece. In the winter, we begin investigating the art and architecture of the Roman Empire and conclude our discussion with the Renaissance. During the spring term, we investigate artwork from the late Renaissance through the 20th century.

If a student wishes to take The College Board exam, he/she begins to prepare during the summer and in tandem with our classes. Our term contained courses will assist greatly in his/her preparation, but since we would not cover all the specific required masterpieces, such a student would need to complete additional research. Once the teacher knows of his/her ambition, the teacher can also provide additional guidance and support during conference periods.

In addition to the western canon, the art of several nonwestern cultures and regions including; the Aboriginal, Navajo, Sepik River Tribe, and the Islamic world are considered. “Art Across Time”, by Dr. Laurie Schneider-Adams and Jansen’s “History of Art” serve as our texts, but students also reference numerous museum web sites and several art monographs in The John Gray Park Library throughout the year. In addition, students take two trips to major museums in New York to enhance their classroom experience. There is no fee for this course

† Architecture (fall, winter, spring)

Architecture is a study of perspective drawing and the construction of models. The course reflects the dynamic nature of contemporary architecture and design, but also investigates numerous architectural

masterpieces each term. Students create individually and collaboratively in the studio to think deeply about structures for private or public use. Work from this course could contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement 2-D and/or 3-D Design portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course.

† Ceramics (fall, winter, spring)

Ceramics focuses on the use of the potter’s wheel, but also involves some hand-building techniques. Students are instructed in a range of decoration methods including slip, oxides, and glaze techniques. Firing techniques and physical considerations such as drying and shrinking problems are also discussed. Work from this course may contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement 3-D Design portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course.

† Drawing (fall, winter, spring)

Drawing is the study of a variety of techniques within the context of still life, portraiture, and landscape. A wide range of aesthetic challenges inherent in drawing or “work on paper” are considered. Representational study, the work of historical periods, and abstract concepts inspire class projects. Each student keeps a sketchbook for his/her research. Students learn to use a wide range of traditional and contemporary drawing media including; graphite, watercolor, ink, charcoal, colored pencil, Xerox-transfer, and collage. Work created in this class can contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement Drawing portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course.

† Oil Painting (fall, winter, spring)

This class probes the techniques and materials of oil painting within the context of still life, portraiture, and landscape. Students also explore color as a means of

artistic expression, and they are encouraged to complete oil sketches and monotypes to stimulate their creative process. Topics include; color theory, the importance of drawing, design issues with color, developing ideas for painting, abstraction, and contemporary approaches to painting. Various historical periods serve as direct inspiration for class assignments, and an “apprenticeships with a master” may also be part of the term of study. Each student keeps a sketchbook of research to help develop ideas for his/her paintings. Work created in this class can contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement Drawing portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course.

† Film Photography (fall, winter, spring)

If a student is interested in photography, we recommend starting with film and a manual camera. Not only is film still relevant for fine art photography, but studying film first will improve a student’s digital images. Some students choose to work in film through the Advanced Placement level, but others transition into digital images after the completion of one term.

† Advanced Photography (fall, winter, spring)

This course involves refining the skill of black and white photography. Students are instructed in the use of 35mm, mid-format, and digital cameras. Advanced Photography also guides students in refining printing techniques using filters, fiber paper, and toning. By the end of the term, each student submits a portfolio and has learned to discuss his/her imagery with confidence. Finally, depending on student’s interest, negatives or prints may be altered with the use of digital technologies. The work created in this class may contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement 2-D Design portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: two terms of*

Introduction to Photography.

† Digital Imaging (fall, winter)

Digital Imaging teaches students how to use a digital camera and manipulate their files using the Adobe Creative Suite. Students explore the digital image and digital capture while expanding their understanding of the use of computers in imaging. Since the computer has become an important tool for the design and the manipulation of images, the process’ instant results help to increase the rate of learning. Work created in this class can contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement 2-D Design portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Advanced Photography, departmental approval*

† Sculpture (fall, winter, spring)

This course addresses the inclusive nature of contemporary sculpture and 3-D design. Traditional and innovative materials and techniques are explored. Students may create small studio pieces and/or large earthworks set in the landscape; students may work independently or collaboratively to create their sculptures. Topics vary each term and have included: ceramic sculpture, portraiture, earthworks, site-based installation, modular constructions, relief sculptures, and mobiles. The curriculum recognizes the broad definition of contemporary sculpture, and students are required to view art monographs, magazines, and websites to inspire their creative process. We use of a wide range of materials each term including: clay, wire, paper, cardboard, fabric, plastic, wood, aluminum, and found objects. Work created in this class can contribute to a student’s Advanced Placement 3-D Design portfolio. There is an additional fee for this course.

AP Studio Art (Drawing, 2-D, 3-D)

This college foundation course prepares students to submit a portfolio to the College Board by taking three major classes. A total of 20-29 artworks are required to fulfill the three separate sections of the portfolio--Quality, Concentration, and Breadth, and a student may begin the process during the winter term of the 5th form year. Independent study is also required during the summer following the 5th form year to complete at least four finished pieces. It is also advantageous, although not required, to work on the portfolio during one term in the afternoon during Art Deca. There is an additional fee for this course.

CLASSICAL STUDIES

Classical Studies at Kent are designed to acquaint students with the most salient and lasting characteristics of Greek and Roman civilization. Latin is not, because it was not, a prerequisite for the study of Greek. A student may choose a program in either area. Each year several students elect to take courses in both languages. We approach the elements of the two languages through a combination of modern linguistic techniques and traditional rigor. We place equal emphasis on the unique and intrinsic merits of literary works, and on their role as the source of later Western literature. A full program of visual instruction is offered, in order to relate literature to its attendant art and architecture. Special attention is paid to the wide range of classical mythology.

Classical Civilization

Classical Civilization is year-long course that combines lectures on Greek and Roman history with extensive reading and discussion of the major stories of classical mythology. The art, science, and philosophy of the ancient world are

presented and explored in their historical and mythological context. The spring term includes readings in translation from primary sources including the *Aeneid* of *Virgil* and the *Histories* of Herodotus.

Greek 1

This course trains the student in the basic structure and elements of Attic Greek, the dialect of fifth-century Athens. Graded readings provide a window into Greek history, culture, mythology, and daily life ranging in subject and time from the Homeric poems to the Peloponnesian war. Students are introduced to the peculiarities of the Greek noun and verb systems, and build a basic vocabulary as a foundation for further study.

Greek 2

Greek 2 reviews and completes the structure of Attic Greek. Reading in the winter term includes selections from the Greek New Testament. In the spring, the student completes a dialogue of Plato, the *Crito*. The spring term closely examines the development of democracy in fifth-century Athens. The concept of the “social contract” is studied by way of the *Crito*, selections from Mills’ *On Liberty*, and Thoreau’s essay *On Civil Disobedience*.

Prerequisite: Greek 1

Advanced Greek Studies

To continue the study of Greek beyond Greek 2, the department offers a series of term-contained courses. No course is taught in consecutive years. Thus a student may complete four full years of Greek with six different term-contained courses. The prerequisite for any course at this level is two years of Greek. The content of the courses (author and work) may vary from year to year; current possibilities include the following units:

Herodotus

At the pleasure of the instructor, selections from Herodotus of Halicarnassus’ *Histories* (Researches) are read, including the conflict between East and West, the tale of Croesus and happiness and the legend of Cyrus, paying attention to Herodotus’ place as a “historian.”

† Homeric Epic - The Iliad (fall, winter, spring)

Homeric Epic is a series of term-contained courses that allow students of advanced Greek to immerse themselves in Homer’s *Iliad*. Each term highlights a different aspect of the work or the society in which the Iliad was created. Students may take all three or fewer,

† Homeric Epic 1 (fall)

Students read Book I of the *Iliad* and examine the archaeological and mythological background of Homeric epic. A special topic for consideration is the “oral” nature of Homeric verse.

† Homeric Epic 2 (winter)

Students read selections from Books II, V, XVI, and XIX of Homer’s *Iliad*. Special attention is paid to characterization within the context of social hierarchies, both human and divine.

† Homeric Epic 3 (spring)

The third of the Homeric epic courses reads Book XXII of Homer’s *Iliad* in Greek along with selections from Book XXIV. Students also read much of the rest of the poem in English. Particular attention is paid to questions of structure: for instance, can the *Iliad* be seen as a self-contained poem with a pattern of development from beginning to end?

† The Greek New Testament (winter)

A close examination of selections from the Greek New Testament provides the basis of this study. The selections come primarily from Luke, John, Acts, and Paul’s Epistles. There are lectures by members of the theology department in order to relate ancient Judeo-Christian ideas to the concepts of present-day Christianity.

† Aristophanes (winter)

Attic comedy as political and social satire is studied intensively through close reading of Aristophanes’ *Acharnians* in Greek and one other comedy in translation. The course includes an introduction to translation techniques.

† Euripides (spring)

The Bacchae is read in its entirety in this introduction to Euripidean drama. Students examine the controversy surrounding Euripides’ notions of dramatic form, Athenian democracy, and Greek religion.

Latin 1

This introductory Latin course introduces the student to the language and culture of ancient Rome. In preparation for reading the classical authors, Latin is approached as a practical means of communication through reading, writing, and conversation. Special attention is also given to the acquisition of vocabulary through an engaging narrative with numerous digressions into the fields of astronomy, biology, chronology, geography, and meteorology.

Latin 2

Latin 2 stresses the development of reading skills through connected prose readings in the form of short stories. The study of Roman culture is continued and particular attention is given to classical

mythology during the second half of the year. The texts for the course include Edith Hamilton, *Mythology*, and Ritchie, *Fabulae Faciles*. *Prerequisite: Latin 1*

Advanced Latin Studies

To continue the study of Latin beyond Latin 2, the curriculum divides into two tracks: the Honors sequence is primarily for future AP candidates but is open to 6th formers on a term-contained basis with permission of the department and the Studies Office. The “regular” track is a third-year course for completion of the language requirement. Beyond the third year we offer two more years of instruction in Latin: a full-year AP course, AP Latin Virgil, and an alternative course which can be broken into term-contained units for the convenience of the student. Most underformers completing the regular Latin 3 course enroll in the term-contained sequence, though promotion to AP work is possible. Underformers who have completed the AP course are welcome to enroll in our term-contained offerings. Some underformers completing the term-contained sequence are candidates for AP work the following year.

Latin 3 (fall, winter, spring)

Latin 3 begins with a thorough review of grammar and vocabulary. By the end of the fall term, the course focuses on the reading of Latin prose. The winter term features the reading of heroic legends in Latin and a thorough study of Greek and Roman myths by way of Edith Hamilton’s *Mythology*. The goal of this course is to prepare students for selected readings from a Roman author during the spring term. In recent years these authors have included Cicero and Virgil. *Prerequisite: Latin 2, departmental approval.*

† Honors Latin 3: Cicero (winter)

Students read Cicero’s First Oration

against the conspirator Catiline and study in depth the political and social events of the late Roman Republic. Background readings include selections from Sallust in translation. *Prerequisite: Latin 2, departmental approval.*

† Honors Latin 3: Virgil (spring)

Students read selections from Book II of Virgil’s *Aeneid* (the “Fall of Troy”) primarily as an introduction to Roman culture and mythology, though some attention is paid to the literary techniques of Virgilian epic. Facility in the reading of Latin poetry is emphasized. *Prerequisite: Latin 2, departmental approval.*

† AP Latin Vergil and Caesar

The Advanced Placement Latin course offers students the opportunity to read, analyze and gain an appreciation for Golden Age Latin poetry and prose through the works of Vergil’s *Aeneid* and Caesar’s *Commentarii de Bello Gallico*. Latin readings include (but are not limited to) selections from Books 1, 2, 4 and 6 of *The Aeneid* and Books 1, 4, 5 and 6 of *Commentarii de Bello Gallico*. Additional readings in English of both works is required, with a view toward recognition of themes, central characters and key ideas. Period tests will require students to translate familiar and unfamiliar passages as literally as possible, identify passages in context and analyze and comment upon content with respect to style, rhetorical aspects and theme. Departmental permission is required.

† Petronius (fall)

Petronius examines Roman life during the reign of the emperor Nero through a comprehensive study of Petronian satire. Students read the *Cena Trimalchionis* in its entirety, along with other fragments of the *Satyricon* in English. The course focuses on the development of satire within ancient

social, political, and historical contexts and examines the role of “novel” literature in the history of Western civilization.

† Medieval and Ecclesiastical Latin (winter)

Medieval and Ecclesiastical Latin examines sacred and secular Latin texts from the Middle Ages, when Latin was a living language of scholarship and communication throughout Western Europe. Texts studied include selections from the *Latin Vulgate*, the tenth-century *Colloquy of Aelfric* in Latin and Old English and the Roman *Missal*. Attention is given to the art and technique of medieval illuminated manuscripts and to musical settings of the Mass by Palestrina, Bach, Mozart, and other composers.

† Roman Lyric Poetry (spring)

Roman lyric poetry through close reading of selections from Catullus and Horace is examined in this course. The Greek lyric background is treated fully. Special topics include the emergence of a true love lyric, the use of word order in Latin poetry and the structure of the lyric poem.

† Roman Comedy (spring)

Through close reading of one comedy by either Terence or Plautus we examine the nature of Roman comedy. Several other comedies, both Greek and Roman, are read in translation to afford a view of the development of this genre in the ancient world.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science offerings impart the knowledge and skills necessary for students to participate in the digital revolution that defines the current and future generations. Students in these courses develop algorithmic thinking and problem-solving skills while experiencing the collaborative and creative nature of the discipline. The courses offer introductions to a broad range of topics in computer science, including programming, algorithms, data structures, and abstraction. Students may also independently pursue specialized computer science interests under faculty guidance. Courses assume no prior experience with the subject.

AP Computer Science Principles

AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to seven big ideas of computer science: creativity, abstraction, data and information, algorithms, programming, The Internet, and global impact. It is a project-based course built around Android app development, discussion, and collaboration. Students will develop technological and computational thinking skills useful for solving problems across a variety of disciplines. Individual digital portfolios will be created and submitted to the College Board as a part of the AP course evaluation, in addition to the traditional sit-down exam in May. Students may take the first units of the course as a fall term-contained elective (Computer Science Principles 1) and subsequently a second set of units as a winter term-contained elective (Computer Science Principles 2). Students taking the term-contained electives will not submit a digital portfolio to the College Board or sit for the AP exam.

† Computer Science Principles 1

See course description for AP Computer Science Principles, above.

† Computer Science Principles 2

See course description for AP Computer Science Principles, above.

Prerequisite: Computer Science Principles 1

AP Computer Science A

This course prepares for the AP Computer Science A exam. Problem-solving applications are the focus for studies of iterative and recursive algorithms. Techniques for updating, sorting, and searching both static and dynamic data structures are investigated. Programs are written in Java. Emphasis is placed on program style and documentation as well as correctness. All students take the AP Computer Science A exam. *Prerequisite: Mathematics departmental approval.*

ENGLISH

English is a required subject in each year of a student's career at Kent. The English Department has two primary aims, which depend upon and support one another.

One, we want students to become avid, perceptive readers. To that end, we teach the means of understanding a range of texts, both contemporary and classic, so that students might be “conscious...of what is already living.” The middle two years of our curriculum are dedicated to historical surveys of British and American literature, and in every course we familiarize students with several genres. We also continually encourage students to read work we love during the school year and during vacations.

Two, and of equal importance, we challenge students to express themselves with grace and clarity in many settings. The critical essay is the main focus, but we are increasingly emphasizing personal narratives, fiction, and poetry.

English 1

English 1 introduces you to literary genres: poetry, short stories, novels, essays, and plays. Students write essays, both personal and analytical, and will be involved in class discussions. Works studied vary from teacher to teacher, but will include reading Shakespeare and major novels. An honors section is offered each year. Department permission required.

English 2

English 2 students read British literature: Shakespeare, Milton, Austen, and Romantic, Victorian, and modern poetry, prose, and drama. Students will develop an understanding of major literary periods, write frequent analytical essays, and even try your hand at writing poetry. English 2 Honors sections are offered each year. Department permission required.

English 3

English 3 students survey American literature, from its beginnings as a colonial or post-colonial literature to the present. Readings include Transcendentalist essays, slave narratives, short fiction, novels, plays, and poems. Honors sections are offered at this level. Department permission required.

AP English Literature

AP English Literature is an advanced course in criticism and style. Students read a wide range of literature, including Greek, Shakespearean, and modern drama, novels, essays, and poetry. The course aims at a successful undertaking of the AP exam in English Literature and Composition offered by the College Board.

Prerequisite: departmental approval.

English 4

Qualified sixth formers can enroll in the year-long AP Literature and Composition. Alternatively, they might prefer the flexibility and focus of the sixth-form electives. All sixth formers not enrolled in the AP course take a fall term course that is centered on *Hamlet*—and they

write personal essays in preparation for the college application process. For the winter and the spring terms, students can choose from a list of elective offerings (students in AP English are also eligible for electives courses during the winter and spring terms). This past year's list of electives follows:

† Acting – Scenes and Monologues

There are as many ways to learn acting as there have been teachers of acting. In this course, we will explore the techniques of some of the greatest teachers of all time, including Uta Hagen, Sanford Meisner, Lee Strasbourg, Michael Chekov, Stella Adler, and, of course, Constantin Stanislavski. Stanislavski's eight principles will be employed as students work on scenes and monologues to be presented in class. Improvisation, scene study, and text analysis techniques will be developed, and students will leave the course with a thorough understanding of how actors approach their craft. In addition to performing, students will give a final presentation in class on the work and techniques of a great acting teacher or director.

† The American Drive

This reading-heavy course will tag along on four different purpose-seeking road-trips across America. We will examine John Steinbeck's *Travels with Charley*, Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*, Hunter S. Thompson's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, and Robert Pirsig's *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*. The course will explore the visions of four very different men as each finds his own sense of place, on the road.

† The Art of the Personal Essay

The personal essay is a unique hybrid combining the intimacy of the memoir and the creativity of the short story. In "The Art of the Personal Essay," students

will read personal essays from antiquity to the present. They will study the formal features of the personal essay and write their own essays, drawing on nature, childhood, school, sports and other subjects for inspiration.

† Asian Literature and Film

Had your fill of Shakespeare, Austen and Fitzgerald—of depressed Danish princes, stuffy English aristocrats, and shady American Dreamers? Explore themes of family honor, generational conflict and cultural identity in some of the finest contemporary literature from South Korea, China and India. Texts include Kyung-Sook Shin's prize-winning novel *Please Look After Mom*, Yu Hua's once-banned *To Live*, and Jhumpa Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies*. Also on tap: a film version of *To Live* and the South Korean film *Poetry*.

† Contemporary Short Fiction

In this course, students will read and examine a sampling of contemporary American short stories as they work to better understand the elements of short fiction writing. Students will write several original short stories in a workshop setting in an effort to showcase their grasp of the aforementioned elements, including but not limited to plot, character, setting and point of view. The term will culminate with students revising and compile their completed stories into a portfolio for submission.

† Contemporary Young Adult Fiction

In this course, we will examine bestselling young adult novels from a critical perspective. Beginning with Newberry Award-winning novel *The Graveyard Book*, we will consider questions of good and evil, the development of identity, and the interaction between the individual and society as they are presented through young adult literature. Other texts will include *American Born Chinese*, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, *The Perks of*

Being A Wallflower, and *The Hunger Games*. Assessment will be through lively class participation, quizzes and written response assignments, 1-2 tests, and 2-3 formal essays. Final evaluation will be through a researched critical paper.

† Native American Literature

This course is an introduction to the wide variety of literature that comes from the Native American tradition. Native American literature is the oldest linguistic legacy in North America, dating back to oral traditions and a 40,000 year history of a people. The course will sample literature from the written period beginning in 1772, including poetry, short stories, essays, and memoirs from the anthology *Native American Literature*. Two novels from the recent renaissance by Native authors will also be read to better understand the contemporary Native American experience: *Ceremony*, by Leslie Marmon Silko, and *Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, by Sherman Alexie. The course will briefly present the history of the Native American people, with attention to the tribes of Connecticut and New England. The class will include a field trip to the Institute of American Indian Studies in Washington, Connecticut, and non-fiction writing on course themes will be an important part of the class. We will also be viewing the PBS film series *We Shall Remain* and the independent film *Smoke Signals*, based on the Sherman Alexie novel.

† Playwriting

Experience the excitement of seeing your written work come to life! Students in this class will write short original plays, after spending the first portion of the term learning "tricks of the trade" from some of the masters of the art. Students will study the work and criticism of a wide variety of authors, from Aristotle through Shakespeare to contemporary playwrights and theorists. Students will develop their work in class through weekly presentations

of their newest scenes, and will revise their plays based on both peer and instructor criticism. All students will seek to finish the semester with polished, dramatically sound works. We will end the term with in-class readings of the completed plays.

† Reading and Writing Poetry

From finding inspiration, to drafting and re-drafting, to printing the final product, the course will examine the creative process. From abecedarian to villanelle, students will examine different forms of poetry, and they will produce their own versions of each studied form. In a workshop setting, students will read and discuss each other's written work. Students who take this course can expect to write 15-20 poems.

† Reading the American South

This course will center on three novels exploring three distinct moments in American history: *In Light in August* (1932), William Faulkner examines race, class, religion, and the legacy of the Confederate "Lost Cause" in the fictional Yoknapatawpha County, Mississippi. In *Salvage the Bones* (2013), Jesmyn Ward paints an intimate portrait of a poor Mississippi family in the days leading up to Hurricane Katrina. In *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk* (2012), Ben Fountain explores Texas' complex relationship with war and football through the eyes of a 19-year old home from a tour in Iraq. We'll supplement our reading of Ward with a viewing and close analysis of Benh Zeitlin's 2012 film *Beasts of the Southern Wild*. In addition to writing critical essays, students will be expected to complete regular reading responses and take leadership (in pairs or groups of three) of two Harkness discussions over the course of the term.

† Russian Literature

Have you had your fill of Shakespeare and Dickens, Fitzgerald and Twain? Are you ready to expand your literary horizons

beyond the English-speaking world? Travel to nineteenth century Russia and read the great works of Russian literature in translation. Texts include Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *Crime and Punishment* and Leo Tolstoy's *Death of Ivan Ilyich*.

† Screenwriting

Screenwriting exposes students to the art and craft of an often overlooked, but critical genre within the 20th and 21st centuries: screenwriting. Throughout the term, we analyze published screenplays and view films in an effort to grasp the genre's conventions, including format, dialogue, plot structure, and character development. Students extend their understanding of these conventions by developing and writing original screenplays in a workshop environment.

† Shakespeare for the Stage

You will have fun playing all of the Shakespearean roles you always coveted but may never have been cast in! Students will work on a variety of scenes from Shakespeare's comedies, histories and tragedies, exploring the text and developing effective, memorized performances. A close study of Shakespeare's language will give students the confidence to deliver his lines with ease, and the course will include considerable focus on acting techniques used in Shakespeare's time. There will be readings and some writing related to past actors' approaches to the challenges posed by the greatest roles, with active in-class application of techniques the primary focus.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The English as a Second Language program (ESL) comprises two courses, ESL and ESL Literature. Students are assigned to one or both courses as required. Students are assigned to the ESL courses after placement testing when they arrive at Kent. There is an additional fee for this course.

ESL

The two levels of ESL stress the acquisition of academic language skills through reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

ESL Literature

The two levels of ESL Literature provide an introduction to works of British and American literature. In these courses, students become familiar with the basic elements of critical analysis through readings of, and written response to, novels, short stories, poetry, essays, and plays. Students are assigned to the ESL courses after placement testing when they arrive at Kent. There is an additional fee for this course.

HISTORY

History is the record of a nation or a community's heritage and environment and the development of political, social, and economic institutions. The History program at Kent explores epochs in which extraordinary activity and intellectual ferment created spirit, enterprise, and advancement in human development. The History Department encourages a healthy skepticism by stressing the many sides of each historical question and teaches students to extract the significant information from readings in primary and secondary sources. Students learn to synthesize data into meaningful hypotheses from which they can express ideas clearly in discussion, examination, and extended research. The term-contained History electives below are generally taken in the 6th form.

Ancient and Medieval World History/Honors Ancient and Medieval World History

Designed for new 3rd and 4th formers, Ancient and Medieval World History introduces students to the major civilizations of the Ancient Western World

and Medieval Europe. Students examine the economic, social, political, and cultural history of these major civilizations while exploring their lasting influence on us today. The course provides a sound background for future history courses, especially Modern European History and AP Modern European History.

Modern European History

The study of political and cultural developments since the Renaissance. Students are exposed to concepts such as the nature of power, nationalism, mass movements, republicanism, Marxism, propaganda, and the origins and consequences of a totalitarian state. In addition, their skills in the use of historical evidence in essay writing are developed. The course uses textbooks as well as primary and secondary source materials.

AP Modern European History

AP Modern European History is designed to stimulate and challenge 4th, 5th, and 6th form students. The course strives to improve analytical skills by demonstrating that history is a series of interpretations as well as the study of the ongoing relationship between cause and effect. Students learn to think about history, what it is, what it means, and why events happen. In addition, the course prepares students for the AP exam, which all students in the course take. The course considers political, economic, military, and cultural developments in Europe beginning with the Renaissance. The course uses textbooks as well as primary and secondary source materials. *Prerequisite: departmental approval.*

United States History

United States History is a required course and may be taken in the 5th or 6th form year. In the fall, the course considers revolutionary principles and the establishment of the republic, emphasizing the principles of Hamiltonian, Jeffersonian,

and Jacksonian democracy. It also examines manifest destiny, slavery, and states' rights. During the winter term, the course examines four distinct domestic epochs: the Civil War and Reconstruction, the Gilded Age and Populism, Progressivism, and World War I. Readings focus on domestic and foreign policy during these periods. In the spring term, analysis of the shaping and conduct of domestic and foreign policy focuses on the 1920s and the beginning of the Great Depression, the New Deal, the Cold War Years, the liberal reform decades of the 1960s and 1970s and the conservative retrenchment of the 1980s and 1990s. Specific emphasis is placed on themes such as government regulation of the economy, civil rights, neutrality, balance of power, collective security, and the United States' role in Central and South America.

AP United States History

AP United States History is a year-long course which focuses on selected individuals and groups, their ideas and the political, social, and economic effects of their thinking. The course is intended to develop skill in the use of evidence and in writing essays as a means of analyzing the American past. The course prepares students to sit for the AP exam, which all students in the course take.

Prerequisite: departmental approval.

Selected Topics in United States History

Selected Topics is a survey course in United States History specifically designed for English as a Second Language students. The course develops a deeper understanding of the core ideals and philosophies that make up the foundation of the form of government in the United States and the history that has shaped such a diverse society. Emphasis is placed on understanding the major themes, events, and figures in the history of the United States. The course engages students to improve their English language skills, with

focus placed on written assignments and classroom discussions.

AP Economics

AP Economics is a study of the principles of both micro and macro economics. The goal of the course is to achieve a working knowledge of the problems and issues in the economy of the United States. Among the concepts covered are: the ways in which land, labor, and capital (the factors of production) contribute to the growth and operation of a market economy, the ways in which supply and demand affect price and output levels of goods, the ways in which government policies alter the natural working of the market, and how international factors influence a nation's domestic economic conditions. All students in the course take the AP exam.

Prerequisite: departmental approval.

AP United States Government and Politics

Offered to 5th and 6th formers who have met their United States History requirement, AP U.S. Government and Politics is a year-long study of varied themes such as Constitutional history, political beliefs, political parties, interest groups, governmental institutions, public policy, civil rights, and civil liberties in preparation for the AP exam, which all students in the course take. The course provides a detailed examination of the political landscape of the United States and prepares students for government and political science coursework in college. *Prerequisite: departmental approval.*

American Mosaic: Immigration, Ethnicity, and Race in the United States (fall)

This course is broad introduction to American immigration, ethnicity, and race. Reading and class discussions deal with immigrant life in the old world, the causes and processes of immigration, how

these immigrants and their descendants interacted with Americans, one another, and changed and adjusted to the new world. The course covers numerous themes: gender, family, politics, economics, and culture. Ethnicity and race are also discussed at length, and addressed as powerful social constructs that change over time and space that had and continue to have a significant impact on the historical experience and identity of various groups.

Prerequisite: completion of United States History

† Introduction to International Relations (fall)

Introduction to International Relations is designed to integrate students' knowledge of current events into their historic context and situate this understanding of global affairs within a body of International Relations theory. Through the study of international organizations, students develop their own analyses of events with the realities of how these events are perceived, reacted to and addressed in the international arena. Using research papers and presentations, debate, simulations, analysis of news sources and global media, and international relations theory, this course challenges students to step outside themselves and understand the difficult choices world leaders make while forging their own ideas about how to build a better world.

† China: from Mao to the Present (fall)

Chinese History is a term-contained introduction to major themes and trends from early Chinese history as they relate to the events of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The course of study includes the origin and development of Chinese philosophy, the legacy of authoritarian rule in the Ming and Qing dynasties, the impact of foreign domination, the origin and development of

the civil war between Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Tse Tung, Japan's ruthless occupation in WWII, Mao's Cultural Revolution and Great Leap Forward, and China's evolution into a world economic power.

† 20th Century Capitalism (fall)

An inquiry into the recent growth of the United States' national productivity and the perils we have encountered as a nation in arriving at our current level of affluence. We first establish basic economic principles and trace the roots of a free capitalistic society, then emphasize three conceptual areas: production, distribution, and consumption. Texts by Robert Heilbroner and C.J. Pusateri are our primary sources.

† Irish in America (winter)

As a case study in the history of American immigration and ethnicity, the Irish in America addresses the history of Irish Americans from the seventeenth century to the present. The course examines the dynamic and changing nature of the Irish-American experience, which encompasses at once, sorrow and happiness, poverty and success, peace and violence, hatred and acceptance, racism and tolerance, radicalism and conservatism. Students are required to read from a wide array of primary and secondary sources in order to address the major themes in Irish-American history: religion, gender and family, politics, nationalism, and race.

Prerequisite: completion of United States History

† Soviet Communism (winter)

Emphasis is placed on the theories of Karl Marx and V.I. Lenin and their implications for classless societies in the 20th century. Soviet Communism examines why communism succeeded in Russia, how it was practiced globally and why it ultimately failed. Among texts used

are Marx, The Communist Manifesto; McClellan, Russia: The Soviet Period and After; Koestler, Darkness at Noon; and selected readings from Arbatov, The System; Remnick, Lenin's Tomb; and Dobbs, Down with Big Brother: The Fall of the Soviet Empire.

† The Modern Middle East (winter)

The goal of the Modern Middle East is to introduce students to the major intellectual, political, social, and cultural issues and practices of the Middle East from the beginning of the 19th through the 20th century. Many contemporary conflicts in the Middle East have deep historic roots that continue to shape this dynamic region's place in our global understanding. Created from the remains of the Ottoman Empire, states and societies in the region still struggle to create an identity separate from the Western imperialism that dominated following World War I. Looking at the history and historiography of this period, we will focus on important events, movements, and ideas that have shaped the Middle East through three loosely defined periods of development: The Ottoman Empire and its Decline, World Wars I & II and European Dominance, and Post-Colonial Independence.

† Financial Systems of The United States (winter)

Using economic theory and principles, students will explore the various financial structures of the United States. Topics will include: The Federal Reserve, Taxation, GDP, and the Financial Markets. Students will also be introduced to financial planning through the use of various investment vehicles.

Contemporary Issues in the Middle East (spring)

The Middle East frequents news headlines and Hollywood billboards as its internal dynamics and foreign policy decisions attract the attention of the world. How much do we actually know and can we really appreciate this culturally rich and diverse region of the globe? Contemporary issues in the Middle East examines some of the highly debated current issues in the Middle East. Looking at modern history through academic texts and the media, this course introduces students to major political, social, and cultural issues in the region through the study of both its history and historiography.

† Soldiers, Slaves, and Scalawags: A History of the Civil War Era (spring)

This course covers the history of the United States from the Antebellum years through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Politics, economics, ideology, and battlefield events are addressed, but in the context of social history. Since the complexity of the era is often understated, the course emphasizes not only “typical” narratives of historical subjects but delves into the lesser known, yet very common groups of the time. The tragic unfolding of Reconstruction and its long-term effects constitute the latter portion of the course.
Prerequisite: completion of United States History

† World War II (spring)

World War II was the largest global conflict in world history. Over 100 million personnel were involved. Approximately 50 to 70 million people died as a direct or indirect result of the war. The war marked three major turning points in history: genocide on an unprecedented

scale, the use of nuclear weapons, and the triumph of democracy over fascism. The course offers a general survey of the war as well an exploration of the motivations and strategies of the architects of the war (Hitler, Tojo, Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill et al.) as well as the experiences of ordinary people affected by it.

† Global Economics (spring)

Using economic theory and principles, students will explore various global current events and the impact economics plays in decision making. Topics may include: Economics and the War on Terror, Minimum Wage, How oil rules the world, and the urban struggle – the struggle with economic mobility.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department offers appropriate challenges to students from a wide range of backgrounds possessing a wide range of interests and skills. At all levels, we emphasize reading mathematics, solving problems, and communicating results. Graphing calculators and computer applications are often used in coursework. The minimum requirement for graduation is satisfactory completion of Geometry and Algebra 2 & Trigonometry, as well as mathematics through the 5th form year. Students are expected to work at a course level commensurate with their ability. All course selections require approval of the mathematics department.

Algebra 1

This course presupposes a working knowledge of the skills necessary to begin algebra, along with a willingness to strengthen those skills while learning the fundamentals of algebra. Course content includes operations with algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, quadratic equations, and an

introduction to the notion of functions.

Honors Algebra 1

As above, but assumes prior experience with algebra or a high degree of facility with pre-algebra mathematics.

Geometry

Geometry aims to advance the ability to think logically and analytically. Properties of plane and solid geometric objects are discovered and verified or deduced. The student is taught to supply formal proof of valid propositions and to recognize invalid ones. Algebra skill development continues and coordinate geometry is introduced. Specialized computer software aids discovery and visualization.
Prerequisite: Algebra I.

Honors Geometry

As above, but at an intensive pace and greater depth. *Prerequisite: Honors Algebra 1 or strong performance in Algebra I.*

Accelerated Geometry & Trigonometry

This selective course is for students qualified to make rapid progress in a highly rigorous mathematical setting. The content of Geometry, described above, is studied thoroughly. Advanced topics from algebra and trigonometry are incorporated. Investigations employ specialized software and the Internet. Non-routine problems are an integral part of the course.
Prerequisite: a first course in Algebra and indications of strong mathematical aptitude.

Algebra 2 & Trigonometry

Like Algebra I, this course stresses basic skills. Essential facts and techniques from Algebra I are reviewed and the student's command of skills is strengthened. Manipulation of algebraic expressions, equation solving, functions and their graphs, complex numbers, exponents, logarithms, trigonometry, radian measure, sequences and series, and probability are studied.
Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry.

Honors Algebra 2 & Trigonometry

As above, but at an intensive pace and greater depth. *Prerequisite: Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry, or strong performance in Algebra 1 and Geometry.*

Accelerated Algebra 2 & Trigonometry

Combining topics from Algebra 2 & Trigonometry Honors and Honors Precalculus with Statistics, this course prepares students for Accelerated Introduction to Calculus. It is a fast-paced, rigorous course that emphasizes intuitive understanding in addition to skill development. Non-routine problems are an integral part of the course. *Prerequisite: strong performance in Accelerated Geometry & Trigonometry.*

Precalculus with Statistics

Precalculus with Statistics is a year-long course that extends algebra knowledge and problem-solving skills while introducing key topics from precalculus and statistics. Included are such subjects as measures of central tendency and dispersion, best-fit lines, the behavior of polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions, complex numbers, and the binomial theorem. *Prerequisite: Algebra 2 & Trigonometry.*

† Precalculus with Statistics 1, 2, 3 (fall, winter, spring)

The term-contained version of Precalculus with Statistics is offered only to the 6th form. Other students should see the description for the year-long Precalculus with Statistics above. *Prerequisite: 6th form only, Algebra 2 & Trigonometry, each term is a prerequisite for the following term.*

Honors Precalculus with Statistics

As above, but at an intensive pace and increased depth. Includes additional topics such as matrices and transformations, an

introduction to conic sections, expected value, binomial, and normal distributions. *Prerequisite: strong performance in Honors Algebra 2 & Trigonometry.*

Introduction to Calculus

Aimed at providing solid preparation for a general calculus course, Introduction to Calculus stresses the behavioral characteristics of elementary functions and those derived from them by addition, multiplication, composition, and inverse. Much attention is paid to inferring, from the equations that define them, the attributes of graphs, such as symmetry, asymptotes, periodicity, continuity, and end-behavior. Vectors, parametric equations, and an introduction to limits may be included. *Prerequisite: Precalculus with Statistics.*

† Introduction to Calculus 1, 2, 3 (fall, winter, spring)

The term-contained version of Introduction to Calculus is offered only to the 6th form. Other students should see the description for the year-long Precalculus above. *Prerequisite: Precalculus with Statistics, each term is a prerequisite for the following term. Only 6th formers may elect this course by term; others, see the year-long Introduction to Calculus course.*

Honors Introduction to Calculus

As above, but at an intensive pace and greater depth. Additional topics may be covered. Prepares students for AP Calculus AB. *Prerequisite: Accelerated Algebra II & Trigonometry or Honors Precalculus with Statistics.*

Accelerated Introduction to Calculus

Prepares students for AP Calculus BC. Includes topics from Honors Introduction to Calculus, as well as mathematical induction, De Moivre's theorem, polar coordinates, partial fractions, and an introduction to the derivative. Non-routine

problems are an integral part of the course. *Prerequisite: strong performance in Accelerated Algebra II & Trigonometry or Honors Precalculus with Statistics.*

Calculus

Calculus includes topics such as limits, continuity, derivative, and mean value theorem. Students learn graphical, numerical, verbal, and modeling approaches to elementary functions. The emphasis is on the interplay between geometric and analytic information and on the use of calculus both to predict and to explain the observed local and global behavior of a function. The course covers the derivatives of all elementary functions as well as the rules for differentiating, products, quotients, and composite functions, and the concept of a differential equation. *Prerequisite: Honors Introduction to Calculus or strong performance in Introduction to Calculus.*

AP Calculus AB

This course prepares for the AP Calculus AB exam. Differential and integral calculus are studied both intuitively and formally. Topics include the chain rule, the mean value theorem, Riemann sums, slope fields, and numerical methods for approximating derivatives and definite integrals. All students take the AP Calculus AB exam. *Prerequisite: Honors Introduction to Calculus or very strong performance in Introduction to Calculus.*

AP Calculus BC

This course prepares for the AP Calculus BC Exam. Topics include those of AP Calculus AB (above), additional integration techniques, differential equations, polar and parametric equations, Taylor and MacLaurin series, and intervals of convergence. All students take the AP Calculus BC exam. *Prerequisite: strong performance in Accelerated Introduction to Calculus.*

† Postcalculus Mathematics 1, 2, 3 (fall, winter, spring)

These independent, term-contained courses survey substantive topics at a level commensurate with collegiate mathematics. Topics are selected with the backgrounds of the students in mind. Recent studies include multivariate calculus, statistics, linear algebra, number theory, and the mathematics of chaos. Investigations using specialized computer software are a common feature of the course. A student may take these courses more than once as topics vary year-to-year.

Prerequisite: completion of or concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus AB or BC.

AP Statistics

This course prepares students for the AP exam in statistics, which all students in the class take. Features of the course are selection and analysis of data, developing probability models, and using statistical inference. Topics include regression and correlation, sample and experimental design, discrete and continuous random variables, normal, geometric and binomial distributions, significance testing, and the chi-square test. *Prerequisite: strong performance in Honors Precalculus with Statistics or Honors Introduction to Calculus.*

MODERN LANGUAGES

The Modern Languages Department offers instruction in Chinese, French, and Spanish as well as an elective course in Italian Language and Culture. The goal in all classes is to develop the ability to understand the spoken tongue, to express oneself, both orally and in writing, and to read with ever-increasing knowledge and understanding of the culture and civilization of the target language. All students are required to successfully complete at least three years of foreign language to receive a Kent diploma.

The Language Learning Center's twenty language carrels provide each student with a learning environment that focuses on the four key language learning activities: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Chinese 1

Chinese 1 is a beginning course for students who have no previous knowledge of the language. The goal is to help students master the pronunciation system and tones, gain knowledge of the essential components of Chinese characters and develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Mandarin Chinese is the spoken language, while the written language is based on simplified forms. In addition to linguistic knowledge, related Chinese culture and history are introduced.

Chinese 2

Chinese 2 continues and builds on the fundamentals learned in Chinese 1. This course is designed to develop students' grammar, sentence structure, and practical use of the Chinese language while enlarging students' vocabulary and related knowledge of the language. In addition to linguistic knowledge, development of the students' awareness of Chinese culture and history continues. *Prerequisite: Chinese 1.*

Chinese 3

Chinese 3 continues and builds on the fundamentals learned in Chinese 2. This course further develops fluency and natural expression in spoken Chinese. Students distinguish formal written styles from conventional or spoken styles, while enriching vocabulary and related linguistic knowledge. In addition to the textbook, students at this level have gained enough knowledge of the language for selected readings in Chinese as well as furthering knowledge of Chinese culture and history. *Prerequisite: Chinese 2.*

Chinese 4

Chinese 4 is an advanced course where students continue to develop reading and

written skills while enhancing their spoken skills. Chinese culture, history, and social issues are part of class. The textbook is supplemented with additional selected readings. *Prerequisite: Chinese 3.*

French 1/Honors French 1

This beginning French course is for those with no previous experience studying the subject. The course focuses on a basic introduction to listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French. Both text and videos are employed as instructional materials in the course. The French in Action immersive and textbook methods are the primary course materials for both French 1 and French 2.

French 2/Honors French 2

This course follows French 1, aiming to complete basic grammar and place greater emphasis on reading and writing. *Prerequisite: French 1.*

French 3/Honors French 3

French 3 is a study of grammar coupled with an introduction to short literary works. Students are guided in writing short compositions and emphasis is placed on classroom discussion in French. Honors French 3 is conducted at a faster pace with further enrichment, and will prepare students to continue with AP French in the following year. *Prerequisite: French 2.*

† French 4: Conversation (fall, winter, spring)

Three advanced term-contained courses stress oral communication in French. Their primary objective is to prepare students to adequately communicate orally within several practical areas of interest. Throughout the course, colloquial usage of French and grammar review are stressed to enrich students' basic command of the French language. These courses are recommended for students who wish to continue the study of French beyond the third year, but not at the AP level. Enthusiastic class participation is essential

as the class focuses on student interaction.

AP French Language

This advanced course is designed for those students who wish to expand their command of French language and culture, and prepare for the AP French Language exam. Students develop language skills to the point at which they can clearly demonstrate the following: an understanding of both conventional language and extended discourse on a variety of topics; comprehension of challenging texts on a wide variety of subjects; ability to express ideas accurately, fluently, and coherently by reacting at some length both orally and in writing to what has been heard or read. Students enrolled in this course sit for the AP exam in French language. *Prerequisite: Honors French 3 and/or department approval.*

† Advanced French Literature

Advanced French Literature is a comprehensive approach to representative works in French literature and mastery of the techniques of literary analysis in all genres. Students read novels, plays, and poetry from French authors from different historical periods. Classes involve participation, oral presentations, and analytical essays. All reading, writing, and discussion are conducted in French. This course is offered at the option of the department. *Prerequisite: AP French Language or departmental approval.*

Spanish 1/Honors Spanish 1

Spanish 1 emphasizes the development of a solid foundation in grammar and pronunciation. As the year progresses, classes are conducted in Spanish. Comprehension is acquired through the use of simple idiomatic Spanish. Selected readings are assigned throughout the year.

Spanish 2/Honors Spanish 2

Spanish 2 increases the emphasis on reading, vocabulary, and grammar. The conversational methods of the first year

are broadened through extemporaneous speaking. The speed and scope of the reading are increased as students develop facility with the language. *Prerequisite: Spanish 1.*

Spanish 3/Honors Spanish 3

Spanish 3 continues to develop speaking and listening skills and increases emphasis on written composition. Selected readings from the texts are discussed in Spanish and vocabulary expansion is stressed. It is expected that students will speak only Spanish in the classroom. In addition to textbooks, a variety of texts are employed to practice listening and reading comprehension. Honors Spanish 3 provides a faster pace and further enrichment to prepare students to continue with the AP Spanish course in the following year. *Prerequisite: Spanish 2.*

† Spanish 4: Conversation

These term-contained courses stress oral communication in Spanish. Their primary objective is to prepare students to adequately communicate orally within several practical areas of interest. Throughout each course, colloquial usage of Spanish and grammar review are stressed to enrich students' basic command of the Spanish language. These courses are recommended for students who wish to continue the study of Spanish beyond the third year, but not at the AP level. Enthusiastic class participation is essential in all three courses, as the class focuses on student interaction.

AP Spanish Language

This advanced course is designed to meet the requirements of the AP exam in Spanish language for students whose native language is not Spanish. The course stresses oral skills, composition, grammar, listening, and reading comprehension. Emphasizing the use of Spanish for active communication, the course has the following objectives: to develop the

ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Spanish, to increase vocabulary and understanding of the structures of Spanish to allow the easy, accurate reading of newspapers, magazine articles, and modern Hispanic literature, to facilitate the organization and writing of brief expository passages, and to develop the ability to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency. All students taking this course sit for the AP exam in Spanish language. *Prerequisite: Honors Spanish 3 and/or departmental approval.*

† Advanced Spanish Literature

The student is directed toward an appreciation of content and the perception of literary values, forms, and techniques. Aspects of Spanish civilization and culture are also studied. This course is offered at the option of the department. *Prerequisites: AP Spanish Language or departmental approval.*

Russian Language and Culture

The Russian Language and Culture course is for 5th and 6th formers who have completed their language requirement in another language. Students will acquire knowledge of basic grammar, vocabulary and Russian idioms. Screenings of films, oral presentations, and independent projects will help students gain an understanding of the development of modern Russian culture. *Prerequisite: 5th and 6th form students with completed language requirement or by approval of the Modern Language department chair.*

MUSIC

There are many opportunities for students to be involved in the study and performance of music at Kent. In addition to a variety of ensembles and private instruction, there are course offerings which explore the creative fundamentals and history of music, as well as major

electives in Music Theory and Music Technology. To earn the Kent School diploma, all students must fulfill a music requirement through either three terms of dedicated participation in the orchestra, concert band or choir, three terms of dedicated private lesson attendance, or the successful completion of the Music Survey course. If a student elects to fulfill the requirement through lessons or participation in an ensemble, this must be completed by the end of the winter term of their sixth form year.

‡ Music Survey (fall, winter, spring)

Musical concepts and terminology are studied and applied as students gain a greater understanding of selected musical masterworks through active listening. Engaging, creative activities foster the appreciation of music as an expressive and structural art form. *One term of this course satisfies the music requirement.*

† Music Theory 1, 2, 3 (fall, winter, spring)

Music Theory is offered as three term-contained courses.

Music Theory 1 Students learn the elemental concepts of music theory, including basic notation, intervals, scale structures, key signatures, triads, basic chord progressions, and the first stage of melodic & harmonic analysis. Music theory skills (sight singing, dictation & ear training) and composition basics are an integral part of this course.

Music Theory 2 Melodic & harmonic analysis continues with the introduction of more intermediate concepts such as secondary triads. Students arrange music for small ensembles, gain knowledge about orchestral instruments, and begin full score reading & conducting. Music theory skills continue. *Prerequisite: Theory 1*

Music Theory 3 In this continuation of Theory 2, students are introduced to chromatic harmony, functional seventh chords, key modulation, and analysis of small forms. Music theory skills are further developed and students may elect to take the Advanced Placement Test in Music Theory. Student compositions are performed at the conclusion of the term.

Prerequisite: Theory 2

Applied Music Courses (fall, winter, spring)

The concert band, orchestra and concert choir are graded, credit-earning ensembles.

Three terms of dedicated involvement in any of these ensembles satisfy the music requirement for graduation.

Concert Band: Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion

The Concert Band is comprised of students, faculty, and some community members.

The Concert Band studies classic, modern, and “pops” literature and performs throughout the year.

Orchestra & String Orchestra: String, Woodwind, Brass and Percussion

The Orchestra is comprised of students, faculty, and some community members.

The woodwind, brass, and percussion members are selected primarily from the Concert Band through recommendation. The String Orchestra is a required part of the full orchestra program for the full orchestra’s string section members. Both orchestras study classical, modern, and “pops” literature and perform throughout the year.

Concert Choir: Vocal

The Concert Choir is a large, mixed choral ensemble open to all students. This larger choir gives newer singers a wonderful opportunity to learn about quality choral singing techniques. More seasoned singers will enjoy singing with a larger group, as

well as the extensive, challenging and fun repertoire available for this size ensemble.

Private Instrumental or Vocal Lessons

Lessons may be elected and are encouraged for all instrumental and vocal students, both beginning and advanced. Each interested student is scheduled for one forty-five minute lesson per week; however, more lessons may be scheduled if desired. Performances by the students are encouraged throughout the year, both on and off campus. Three terms of lessons satisfy the music requirement. There is an additional fee for lessons.

Music Technology

These courses are electives that can apply toward the fulfillment of the Pre-Engineering Certificate.

‡ Music Technology 1 (fall)

An examination of live sound applications and the set-up and operation of sound reinforcement and public address equipment. Topics include: Acoustics and the Science of Sound, Sound Reproduction and Recording Medium, Audio Equipment Operation and Care, Sound Production and Reinforcement, and Ethical and Legal Issues. *No prerequisite*

‡ Music Technology 2 (winter)

This course serves as an introduction to the equipment and methods used in software based music composition, arranging and multi-track recording. Students will create original musical projects. Topics include: Electronic Composition, Sound Production Techniques, Acid Music Studio 8.0, Pro Tools, SONOR, Cubase and MIDI. *No prerequisite, however Music Technology 1 or a music background is suggested*

‡ Music Technology 3 (spring)

This course is a continuation of Music Technology II including advanced recording and post-production techniques. In addition, music promotion and marketing methods will be examined. Topics include: Advanced Studio Production Techniques, Film Scoring, Mastering and Post-Production, and Promotion and Marketing. *Pre-requisite: Music Technology II*

PRE-ENGINEERING

Pursuit of the Kent School Pre-Engineering Certificate acquaints students with the practice and profession of engineering through coursework and extra-curricular activities, such as the *FIRST* Robotics competition (www.usfirst.org), summer programs, guest lectures, and field trips.

† Manufacturing Engineering (winter, spring)

A term-contained introduction to manufacturing science and engineering and prototype part production, Manufacturing Engineering takes advantage of the prototyping provided by the School's 3D printing and CNC machining capabilities. The course focuses on the creation of products which may grow out of work done in the Engineering Design and Structures courses or real world examples. In addition, it seeks to answer several questions: Is the design too complex to manufacture? How can I improve on the design to increase manufacturability? What materials do I need to produce it? How do I produce it?

† Structures: Design and Testing (winter, spring)

Students build structures, test their strength, and literally see how physical and mathematical principles contribute to the structural strength of a design. Our analysis of design and of the performance

of structures is from the point of view of materials science. It includes problems of form versus function and practical considerations of strength versus cost. *Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra 2 & Trigonometry.*

† Engineering Design (fall, spring)

Engineering Design is a term-contained introduction to the principles and practice of design. It covers mechanical drawing and documentation, reverse engineering, design principles, and design presentation (in both 2 and 3 dimensions). We live in a world surrounded by objects that have been intentionally conceived, designed, manufactured, and assembled by other people. This course embraces two aims: to give the student greater appreciation for and understanding of their designed world and to provide an introduction to the skills inherent in the conception, design, and manufacture of artifacts.

RESEARCH & ACADEMIC SKILLS

Research & Academic Skills offers New Student Seminar in a format tailored to a specific audience: new students in their 3rd or 4th form year. Students take this class in the fall of their first year at Kent to fulfill a graduation requirement.

‡ New Student Seminar - 3rd, 4th Forms (fall)

New Student Seminar is designed to help students evaluate and improve their work habits so they can produce their best academic results at Kent and beyond. Students practice methods of organization and time management, review how their study choices help them effectively process new information, and are introduced to new methods of active study. The course also addresses the basic

research skills of accessing and evaluating information and exposes introduces students to the different types of academic resources they will be expected to use at Kent including peer-reviewed journals, research databases, and e-books, and other academic media. For many, Kent provides a first opportunity to create written work synthesizing one's own ideas with the published work of others. New Student Seminar addresses this higher level of research and writing by introducing students to the framework of supporting a thesis with previously published material. Learning to navigate the vast world of information resources available today is an essential and life-long skill, and in NSS we encourage students to address their questions with an inquiring mind paired with practical research skills.

SCIENCE

The Dickinson Science Center houses Kent's well-equipped science laboratories and classrooms. The graduation requirement in Science is a minimum of two years of study in lab sciences. However, most students elect additional courses, preparing in depth and breadth for college work in science. Many take advantage of the five courses that lead to AP exams. A choice of electives and courses at multiple levels allows students to complete a four-year program of rigorous science courses even if they are not taking AP courses. Laboratory sciences normally meet each week for six periods, two of which are joined as a double-length lab period. There is an additional fee associated with every Science course.

◇ Biology 1

Biology 1 is an introductory course open to all students. It emphasizes application of the scientific method in discovering and verifying major concepts in biology. Through reading, experimentation, and

observation students study cellular biology, genetics, evolution, characteristics of life, and human physiology. There is an additional fee for this course.

◇ Honors Biology 1

This fast-paced introductory course explores the basic concepts more quickly than Biology 1 so that a more thorough treatment of certain topics is possible. Through readings and careful laboratory work, students acquire a working knowledge of modern discoveries including molecular biology and genetic engineering. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: department approval.*

◇ AP Biology

This college-level biology course follows the guidelines prescribed by the College Board. The course prepares students for the AP exam in Biology, which all students in the course will take. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Biology 1, Chemistry 1, and department approval.*

◇ Chemistry 1

Chemistry 1 investigates types of chemical reactions, molar relationships and stoichiometry, Kinetic theory and gas laws, atomic structure, periodic law, bonding, states of matter, thermodynamics, solutions, equilibrium, and acids and bases. The calculations require basic algebra. Laboratory work parallels and augments the class material. Formal lab reports are an integral part of the course. There is an additional fee for this course.

◇ Honors Chemistry 1

The topics of Chemistry 1 are explored in greater depth with the addition of some electrochemistry and organic chemistry. The quantitative material is more rigorous. Lab work is a more significant part of this course than in Chemistry 1. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: departmental approval.*

◇ Accelerated Chemistry 1

Accelerated Chemistry is a first year course intended for students with some previous chemistry experience and covers the topics of Honors Chemistry 1 at an accelerated pace while maintaining the comprehensive laboratory experience of an Honors Chemistry 1 course. The accelerated pace of the course will allow students to cover a wide range of topics not covered in the Honors Chemistry 1 course in the spring term. Additional concepts covered include reaction equilibrium, redox reactions, electrochemistry, organic, and nuclear chemistry. There is an additional fee for this course.

◇ AP Chemistry

This college-level general chemistry course follows the guidelines prescribed by the College Board. The course prepares students for the AP exam in chemistry which all students in the course will take. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Chemistry 1, Physics 1, strong background in math, departmental approval.*

◇ Physics 1

This course follows a classical sequence of topics including mechanics, waves, optics, magnetism, and electricity. This course applies the basic concepts of physics to real-world phenomena. Demonstrations and laboratory work are an integral part of this course. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Algebra 1*

◇ Honors Physics 1

This course follows the classical sequence of topics covered in the Physics 1 course but does so in more depth and with a more mathematical approach. Additional topics draw from relativity, astronomy, nuclear, and modern physics. Frequent laboratory work is an integral part of the course. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: a good background in algebra and geometry, departmental approval.*

◇ Accelerated Physics

Accelerated Physics is a demanding, first-year physics course designed to challenge students and prepare them for the AP Physics C course in a subsequent academic year. The curriculum is broad and fast paced, covering mechanics, electromagnetism, optics, thermodynamics, hydraulics, and nuclear physics. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Accelerated Algebra 2 or pre-Calculus, department approval.*

◇ AP Physics C

— This college-level, calculus-based course is designed for students with significant physics experience. As a result, completion of an introductory physics course or equivalent is required. This course prepares the student to take the AP C-level exams in both Mechanics and Electricity and Magnetism. Labs are performed to complement and extend the classroom work. Calculus, either completed or taken concurrently, is required to take this course. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: AP Calculus (AB or BC) either completed or concurrently is required to take this course.*

AP Psychology

AP Psychology acquaints students with the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. This introduction to psychology covers topics that include theories and findings on learning, memory, perception, social development, and personality, as well as abnormal psychology. It also gives students an opportunity to experience material covered in the texts through in-class demonstrations and out-of-class activities. One major goal of AP Psychology is to develop a proficiency in basic psychological principles in preparation for the AP exam, which all students in the course take. *Prerequisite: departmental approval, 6th form students only.*

◇ AP Environmental Science

This year-long course prepares students for the AP Environmental Science Exam which all students in the course will take. Students gain the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand inter-relationships in the natural world including human populations, environmental problems, and risks. Extensive field and laboratory studies facilitate understanding of our local environment. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Biology 1, Chemistry 1, departmental approval; Physics 1 recommended.*

† ◇ Ecology 1, 2, 3 (fall, winter, spring)

The study of Ecology at Kent is made up of three term-contained courses. Students may take all three or fewer. Any student entering the course after the first term will need to already have a grasp of ecological concepts from other coursework. There is an additional fee for this course.

Prerequisite: Biology 1

† ◇ Ecology 1 (fall)

The core concepts of evolution form the roots of this course. Students examine adaptations of local flora and fauna and interaction between organisms with regard to energy demands. There is an additional fee for this course.

† ◇ Ecology 2 (winter)

Building on the ideas from Ecology 1, students examine predator-prey relationships, animal behavior and human interactions on the environment. Long term research projects form a major component of this term course. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Ecology 1 or demonstrable grasp of ecological concepts.*

† ◇ Ecology 3 (spring)

The final term of Ecology concentrates on the aquatic ecosystems of Kent. In field studies, students examine pond, stream, and wetland environments with a focus on relationships between physical factors, organisms, and human activities within watersheds. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Ecology 1, 2 or demonstrable grasp of ecological concepts.*

† Genetics (fall)

Genetics is a term-contained course offered to 5th and 6th form students twice each year. It explores the principles and applications of modern genetics. Major topics include DNA structure and chromosome organization, transmission thermodynamics and genetics, pedigree analysis, genes in populations, cancer, metabolic disorders, and genetic screening. Basic probability and statistical concepts are also covered. Several genetic systems are examined, but the emphasis is placed on human genetics. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Biology 1, departmental approval.*

† Geology (spring)

This course is a survey of the major landforms on the earth's surface. Beginning with the study of minerals, rocks, and the rock cycle, students examine weathering, plate tectonics, rivers and streams, ground water, glaciers, deserts, and shorelines. Geology does not have a lab component. There is an additional fee for this course.

† Pandemics (fall)

Pandemics is a term contained course exploring the history, evolution and future of major diseases that have impacted human populations. The course probes

the evolution of Homo sapiens, the nature of infectious disease transmission, and the impact of historical outbreaks of small pox, cholera, malaria and others. An exploration of current pandemics, including AIDS, Ebola and Zika concludes with analyses of as yet unknown future emerging disease causes and sources. Pandemics has no lab associated with it. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Biology 1*

† Astronomy (fall)

Astronomy is a survey of historical and modern astronomy. Topics include the solar system, stars and galaxies, cosmology, black holes, and quasars. The student supplements theoretical study with the use of Kent School's telescopes. The class meets five single periods per week. Astronomy does not have a lab component. There is an additional fee for this course.

† ◇ Biotechnology (winter)

This survey course introduces students to recombinant DNA technology. Students gain hands-on experience in such techniques as: bacterial transformation, DNA isolation, cloning and targeted amplification (with PCR), restriction analysis, and gel electrophoresis. The lectures and discussions focus on current topics in DNA forensics, gene therapy, the genetic engineering of crop plants, cloning, genetic screening, and bio-remediation. Consideration is also given to the ethical, legal, and philosophical issues associated with biotechnology today. There is an additional fee for this course. *Prerequisite: Biology 1, Genetics.*

† Human Anatomy (spring)

Human Anatomy is a term-contained examination of the anatomy and physiology of selected systems in the human body. *Prerequisite: Biology 1*

† History of Life on Earth (winter)

History of Life on Earth is a term contained course exploring the basics of paleontology and its impact on our understanding of evolution and the development of the diverse life forms on our planet. Exploring hundreds of millions of years of organisms recorded in the fossil record, the course will explore principles of geology, evolution, origins of oxygen, mass extinction events including the rise and fall of the dinosaurs. History of Life on Earth has no lab associated with it. There is an additional fee for this course.

THEOLOGY

All Theology courses are term-contained. Theology may be taken during the 5th or 6th form year. There are no prerequisites for theology electives, which are taken in the 5th or 6th form year.

‡ Theology (fall, winter, spring)

Theology explores the academic study of religion surveying the interpretation of myth, history, and fiction in order to distinguish how concepts such as “truth,” “fact,” “belief” and “knowledge” are used in varying contexts. We examine varying creation myths from different religions, read biblical stories with an emphasis on historical criticism, look closely at the anthropology of violence and the way religion in contemporary times has been weaponized for political purposes, and read novels by authors such as Kurt Vonnegut and Elie Wiesel. The role of religion in human history is undeniably important and should not be thought of as un-rescuable “matter of personal faith”; rather, there are historical, literary, and philosophical facts which make academic discussion and interpretation of religions possible.

† Psychology and Religion (fall)

Psychology and Religion seeks to establish a dialogue between the discourse of science and the questions and concerns of religion. The class acknowledges and makes explicit the very different ways science and religion view “knowledge.” We look at the history of psychology from the ancient Greeks through the twenty-first century, read selections by Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung and engage contemporary thinkers such as Rene Girard and Ernest Becker on questions regarding the value of religion, the human fear of death, and the problem of violence.

† Dreams (winter)

This course will survey different cultural, religious and scientific attitudes toward dreams and dreaming. Reading Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung as well as contemporary mystic Robert Moss, we will bring science and religion into dialogue by exploring both side by side regarding a universal human experience: everyone sleeps, everyone dreams.

† World Religions (spring)

World Religions looks at religious traditions not covered in Theology 2. We explore Buddhism, Islam, Native American traditions, and Hinduism. We read, for example, selections from Black Elk Speaks and the Ramayana. The theme of the course is to explore a number of questions: What is a “religion?” How is religion defined? What is unique about the study of religion as opposed to other academic disciplines such as the study of history or literature?

† Philosophy (spring)

This term-contained course is an introduction to the major philosophies that have shaped western thought - those

of Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Rousseau, Kant, Mill, and others - and to fundamental philosophical questions: “How do we know anything?”, “Are we free or determined?”, “What is the basis of morality?” Through selected readings, class discussions, and presentations, students practice the skills of critical thinking, essay writing, and public speaking.

WELLNESS

Wellness is taken in the 4th form year.

Wellness is more than “health.” According to the National Wellness Institute, wellness impacts at least six different dimensions: physical, social, occupational, educational, spiritual, emotional. We will survey all six dimensions of wellness focusing on the factors and issues that often impede wellness at Kent School. Developed from the same material which has been used to train Kent’s peer counselors, the issues and problems discussed are those which have been brought to the school’s attention by students. Success here, or at any school or college—academically, athletically, and personally—depends on pursuing and achieving wellness which is grounded by (or lost because of the lack of) individual awareness. Insofar as education helps promote awareness, this class seeks not only to survey the idea of wellness, but help bring students to a place where they achieve wellness, body, mind and soul.

NON-CREDIT COURSES

In addition to the curriculum, Kent offers several classes on a non-credit basis.

Confirmation

The opportunity to be confirmed in the Episcopal or Roman Catholic Church is

open to all interested students. Classes meet regularly and are conducted by the chaplains and other qualified clergy. The services of Confirmation usually take place in the spring. Students interested in this commitment and declaration of faith are encouraged to discuss it with the clergy.

Private Instrumental and Vocal Lessons

Please see the Music section for details.

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