



9th Grade Course Guide 2019-2020

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HUMANITIES

What is Humanities?

Humanities is the study of aspects of human society and culture. In humanities courses at Trivium, we are able to bring together both the content of social studies and the skills of language arts into a culturally rich curriculum. Students will study how various groups have documented the human experience through primary documents, literature, religion, art, music, and language to obtain a globally connected view of humanity. A humanities course allows students the opportunity to develop a sense of connection to those who have come before us as well as the ability to understand and appreciate each other in the modern world.

Humanities 9 (English I/World Geography)

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 2

In 9th grade Humanities, students will apply their knowledge of reading and writing processes through participation in an authentic reading and writing workshop. Students will encounter texts from classic to modern, and fiction to nonfiction, while learning to use close reading strategies to allow students to be analytical readers. Writing assignments will span genres from literary to expository to rhetorical. To engage students and provide more autonomy in the classroom, they have the right to make choices about their reading and writing while still being exposed variety of texts and genres. Latin roots are intentionally integrated into the curriculum so that students continue their deeper understanding of language and cross curricular vocabulary. Students will participate in experiences such as Socratic seminars, presentations, and debates. These activities are designed to emphasize critical thinking and oracy skills to equip students for success beyond the classroom. **This course will require an End of Course Exam.**

In this course, students will be exposed to an in-depth study of the earth, its regions, climate, topography, as well as the culture of the people living in the various regions. Students will look at the influence of geography on events from the past to present. The study and use of maps, charts, graphs and other methods used by geographers will lay the foundation for students to analyze the interactions of people with the environment and each other. **This course will require an End of Course Exam.**

Pre-AP Humanities 9 (Pre-AP English I/AP Human Geography)

Prerequisite: Test Scores and Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 2

Students will engage in learning all the TEKS of an English 1 course while providing greater depth and challenge. Through an authentic reading and writing workshop, students will encounter challenging texts from classic to modern, and fiction to nonfiction, while applying close reading strategies to allow students to become independent analytical readers. Writing assignments will vary in rhetorical context in order to build higher level writing skills necessary for students to be successful in AP classes as well as collegiate level courses. To engage students and provide more autonomy in the classroom, they have the right to make choices about their reading and writing while still being exposed variety of genres. Latin roots are intentionally integrated into the curriculum so that students continue their deeper understanding of language and cross curricular vocabulary. Students will participate in experiences such as Socratic seminars, presentations, and debates. These activities are designed to emphasize critical thinking and oracy skills to equip students for success beyond the classroom. **This course will require an End of Course Exam.**

This course combines the state requirements for World Geography with the AP Human Geography course. This course introduces students to the study of the patterns and processes that have shaped the physical world as well as the human. In analyzing how people have interacted with the earth over time, students will examine culture, population, the organization of governments, cities, land use, as well as the relationship between geography and economic development. Students will learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. **Students participating in this course will take the Advanced Placement exam in May.**

Pre-AP/GT Humanities 9 (Pre-AP/GT English I/AP Human Geography)

Prerequisite: Test Scores and Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 2

In 9th grade Pre AP/GT English I/AP Human Geography, students will engage in a challenging course that will incorporate analysis, inquiry driven research opportunities, individual and collaborative projects, simulations, and thematic units designed to offer multiple perspectives on similar topics. Students will engage in learning all the TEKS of an English 1 course while providing greater depth and challenge. Through an authentic reading and writing workshop, students will encounter challenging texts from classic to modern, fiction to nonfiction, while applying close reading strategies to allow students to become independent analytical readers. Writing assignments will vary in rhetorical context in order to build higher level writing skills necessary for students to be successful in AP classes as well as collegiate level courses. To engage students and provide more autonomy in the classroom, they have the right to make choices about their reading and writing while still being exposed variety of genres. Latin roots are intentionally integrated into the curriculum so that students continue their deeper understanding of language and cross curricular vocabulary. Students will participate in experiences such as Socratic seminars, presentations, and debates. These activities are designed to emphasize critical thinking and oracy skills to equip students for success beyond the classroom. **This course will require an End of Course Exam.**

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MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Math

Credit: 1

According to the TEKS, students in Algebra I will build on the knowledge and skills for mathematics in Grades 6-8, which provide a foundation in linear relationships, number and operations, and proportionality. Students will study linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and their related transformations, equations, and associated solutions. Students will connect functions and their associated solutions in both mathematical and real-world situations. Students will use technology to collect and explore data and analyze statistical relationships. In addition, students will study polynomials of degree one and two, radical expressions, sequences, and laws of exponents. Students will generate and solve linear systems with two equations and two variables and will create new functions through transformations. **This course will require an End of Course Exam.**

Pre-AP Algebra I

Prerequisite: Test Scores and Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Test Scores and Teacher Recommendation

Pre-AP Algebra 1 will participate in a more rigorous and in-depth curriculum that will include all the components of Algebra 1 while incorporating more critical thinking, problem solving, and a focus on high level application. Students should expect additional independent practice to facilitate a challenging pace and to prepare students for future AP courses. **This course will require an End of Course Exam.**

Pre-AP Geometry

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Pre-AP Algebra I

Credit: 1

In Pre-AP Geometry students will build on their elementary and middle school foundation of shapes and measurements to extend their knowledge with a focus on problem solving, formal proof, logic, and applications around geometric properties and relationships. Pre-AP Geometry covers topics addressed in the geometry TEKS including: deductive and inductive reasoning, lines and angles, triangles, polygons, circles, geometric solids, quadrilaterals, and area in a more in depth study and application to real life scenarios. Students will explore concepts such as: coordinate and transformational geometry, logical arguments and constructions, proof and congruence, figures and their properties, similarity, and trigonometry. Because the readiness standards have a heavy emphasis on probability, these standards will be addressed in the curriculum to ensure student success in their post-secondary experience. Students should expect additional independent practice to facilitate a challenging pace and to prepare students for future AP courses.

SCIENCE

Biology

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This Biology course is designed around the study of living things including the growth and function of various life systems. Students will conduct hands on lab and field investigations, use scientific practices during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will explore a variety of topics including: structures and functions of cells and viruses; growth and development of organisms; cells, tissues, and organs; nucleic acids and genetics; biological evolution; taxonomy; metabolism and energy transfers in living organisms; living systems; homeostasis; and ecosystems and the environment. The cross-curricular integration of Latin roots will continue to provide students with a deeper understanding of academic vocabulary. Our outdoor community garden and green spaces will enrich student's science experience. Our students will understand the connection between citizenship and our responsibility to the Earth by participating our school wide Earth day celebration. Science fair will also be a school wide activity where all students are able to put their knowledge into practice with teacher guidance. Oral and written communication skills will be incorporated as well career exploration in science. **This course will require an end of course exam.**

Pre-AP Biology

Prerequisite: Test Scores and Teacher Recommendation

Credit: 1

Pre-AP Biology students will participate in a more rigorous and in-depth study and observation of living organisms. This course will include all the components of Biology while incorporating more critical thinking, problem solving, and a focus on high level application. Pre-AP Biology will include a variety of laboratory investigations as well as an emphasis on claim evidence reasoning in the form of written lab reports. The cross-curricular integration of Latin roots will continue to provide students with a deeper understanding of academic vocabulary. Our students will understand the connection between citizenship and our responsibility to the Earth by participating our school wide Earth day celebration. Science fair will also be a school wide activity where all students are able to put their knowledge into practice with teacher guidance. Students should expect additional independent practice to facilitate a challenging pace and to prepare students for future AP courses. Students in advanced science classes will participate in an inquiry based independent research project. **This course will require an end of course exam.**

FINE ARTS

Art I

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

Art I is an introductory level, year-long, two-dimensional design course for the high school student. The curriculum focus is on creativity with perspective and shallow space design. Emphasis is placed on developing compositions using the elements and principles of design. The first semester is a study in black, white and gray scale primarily. The second semester is a color wheel study. Drawing, printmaking and painting with wet and dry media are introduced. Students learn how to research artists and study art history through a short research paper. Critiquing ones' own artwork as well as others is an important developmental skill. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Beginning Band

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This is a performing group open to all students who have never played in a school band before. Students are not expected to have prior musical experience. A school band is different from a rock band in that a school band will be performing concert music in a formal setting. Throughout the school year students will learn the basics of their instrument, music theory, and how to perform as a group. Practicing outside of class is required, and concert performances outside school hours are required as part of the curriculum and the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills).

Beginning band is split into two different classes in order to better accommodate the unique learning styles of the different families of instruments. In the Woodwind and Percussion class we will offer flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, and percussion (bells and snare to begin). In the Brass class we will offer trumpet, french horn, trombone, and tuba. Students will need to supply their own instruments, and information will be given to them in order to do so. French horn and tuba will be provided by the school. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Symphonic Band

Prerequisite: Audition

Credit: 1

Symphonic band is the advanced band at Trivium Academy. Symphonic band members are required to have a minimum of 1 year of experience in a school band. Students are placed in this band based on teacher recommendation. Symphonic Band students will continue to develop their musical skills as well as learn more advanced techniques and musical concepts. Symphonic Band will perform on all concerts after school and will also perform at scheduled contests (such as UIL or ATSSB) and select athletic games. All concerts are required as part of the curriculum and the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills). **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Beginning Treble Choir

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This class is comprised of middle school and high school grade level female voices. This is a non-auditioned choral ensemble. Students enrolled in this course will learn and demonstrate basic vocal pedagogy and choral techniques aligned with the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge Skills). Students enrolled in this course will be required to participate in one or more choral concerts throughout the school year.

Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.

Advanced Treble Choir

Prerequisite: Audition

Credit: 1

This class is comprised of middle school and high school grade level female voices. This is an auditioned choral ensemble. Students enrolled in this course will learn and demonstrate advanced vocal pedagogy and choral techniques aligned with the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge Skills). Students enrolled in this course will be required to participate in one or more choral concerts throughout the school year.

Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.

Tenor-Bass Choir

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This class is comprised of middle school and high school grade level male voices. This is a non-auditioned choral ensemble. Students enrolled in this course will learn and demonstrate basic-advanced vocal pedagogy and choral techniques aligned with the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge Skills). Students enrolled in this course will be required to participate in one or more choral concerts throughout the school year. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Vocal Ensemble

Prerequisite: Audition and Concurrent Enrollment in Choir Course

Credit: 1

This is an auditioned choral ensemble, open to middle school and high school grade level mixed voices. The ensemble will focus on pop/jazz/show style music as well as minor dance skills. A costume fee may be associated with membership.

Beginning Orchestra

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

Students will learn elements of music involved with playing string instruments (violin, viola, cello) and learn music for performances at concerts strategically planned throughout the year. Some of these elements include: posture and technique of their selected instrument, parts and care of their instrument, tuning with fine tuners, rehearsal behavior and concert etiquette, history of the orchestra, playing by ear, and reading music. Music from many genres such as folk tunes, classical, jazz, Americana/Celtic/Scottish fiddling, Eastern music, and contemporary styles. Poise, confidence, respect, and independent learning will also be emphasized. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Advanced Strings

Prerequisite: Audition

Credit: 1

Students will expand upon their basic knowledge of the violin, working to improve technique, posture, and will learn more advanced techniques as well. Performances will be given throughout the year to show progress and celebrate hard work. Some advanced techniques include professional bow holds, tuning (pegs and fine tuners), vibrato, and shifting. An expanded repertoire will include early music, folk tunes, classical, jazz, Americana/Celtic/Scottish fiddling, eastern music, and contemporary styles. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Dance Performance/Cheer I

Prerequisite: Try-out

Credit: 1

Dance Performance/Cheer I is a course offered for fine arts credit, and students who try out for cheer must enroll in this course. Students will participate in the active learning of fundamental dance skills. Students engage in the training of basic dance skills, choreographic projects, video studies, and dance history. This course involves both anaerobic and aerobic activity. Appropriate attire will be required, including close-toe, rubber-sole footwear and dance shoes. Purchase of dance attire/uniform is the responsibility of the student. Students enrolled in Dance Performance/Cheer will participate in competition and must be able to commit to after school practice on occasion. Students in this class will also participate in performances at select athletic home games. Students gain membership through a try-out procedure held during the spring of the previous school year. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy either the Fine Arts OR the Physical Education requirement for graduation.**

Theatre I

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

This course is designed for high school students who are interested in learning about theatre and performing for other students both in the class and in the school. A foundation of creative expression through acting and technical aspects of theatre is laid in this course. Historical and cultural relevance and critical evaluation and response are emphasized. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Theatre Production I

Prerequisite: Previous Experience and Audition

Credit: 1

This course is designed for high school students who have already taken theatre in middle school or have performed either as an actor or technician in theatre productions. Students in this course can expect to perform in front of other classes and the public in shows, events, and/or contests either as an actor or technician. They will be invited to attend festivals and represent Trivium in competitions. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.**

Physical Education

Athletics

Prerequisite: Try-out and Physical

Credit: 1

The following team sports may be offered in any given year depending upon student interest: volleyball, flag football, basketball, soccer, baseball, and softball. The goal of the athletic program is to develop the whole person with an emphasis on utilizing good sportsmanship, being a team player, and developing the athletic skills necessary to be successful.

Individual/Team Sports

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

Students enrolled in this course are expected to participate in sports that can be played individually and with a team. The goal is to develop an understanding of the importance of lifetime fitness activities and good sportsmanship. Students enrolled in any physical education class can experience moderate to high intensity workouts.

Off-Campus PE

Prerequisite: Application and Physical

Credit: 1

The Off-Campus Physical Education Program is offered to accommodate students who are involved in a high-level training program in a sport that is not offered on campus. A student may not be enrolled in any other course on campus for physical education credit and may not participate in the athletic program. A maximum of 4 credits can be earned towards high school graduation. A student's application must be approved in order to participate in this program, and a fee will be assessed to help defray the cost of off-campus monitoring.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

American Sign Language I

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

American Sign Language (ASL) I is an introductory study of the language and the culture of the deaf world. This course focuses on developing basic interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication skills in ASL. The TEKS for this course recognize that ASL is a signed language where the modes of communication involve different skills than written and/or spoken languages. This course is conducted in ASL (without voice) a significant amount of time.

Spanish I

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

Spanish I is an introductory study of the Spanish language and culture. This course focuses on developing basic reading, writing, and speaking skills in the Spanish language. A cultural study of the Spanish speaking world is also an important component of this course. This course is conducted in Spanish a significant amount of time.

Spanish II

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Credit: 1

Spanish II is a continuation of the study of Spanish language and culture. This course focuses on developing intermediate reading, writing, and speaking skills in the Spanish language with expanded vocabulary. A cultural study of the Spanish speaking world continues to be an important component of this course. This course is conducted in Spanish a significant amount of time.

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

Communication Applications

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5

This course is designed to expose students to the communication process and improve their verbal, written, and electronic communication skills. Students will explore interpersonal communication, group communication, and presentation skills. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Speech requirement for graduation.**

Health

Prerequisite: None

Credit: .5

In Health I, students develop skills that will help them become health-literate adults. Students gain a deeper understanding of the knowledge and behaviors they use to safeguard their health, particularly

pertaining to health risks. Students are taught how to access accurate information they can use to promote health for themselves and others in areas such as fitness, nutrition, mental/emotional health, substance abuse, and interpersonal relationships including human sexuality. Students use problem solving, research, goal-setting, and communication skills to protect their own health and that of the community. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Health requirement for graduation.**

ELECTIVES

Speech and Debate I

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

The development of strong oracy skills is the focus of this course. Students will study different styles of debate focusing on the logical and critical thinking skills necessary to be successful. A variety of other speaking events will also be introduced. This course will require frequent presentations in class and a commitment to compete in tournaments which are often held on the weekend. **Successful completion of this course will satisfy the Speech requirement for graduation.**

Yearbook I

Prerequisite: Application and Teacher References

Credit: 1

This course focuses on layout, copy writing, composition, and photography skills necessary to produce a quality yearbook. Time outside of the school day may be required. The students in this course produce the school-wide yearbook available for sale.

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