



NORTH DAVIS PREPARATORY ACADEMY COURSE CATALOG 2010-2011(Grades 7-9)

Careers & Technology Education

Intro. to Careers & Technology Education (Grade 7 only) 1.0 credit

Trimesters: (2)

Careers & Technology core course is an integrated course. Careers & Technology Education is an introductory program designed to acquaint students with the vocational areas of agriculture and industrial technology, health occupations and home economics, business and marketing, and career development. This course provides hands-on exploration experiences to help students understand career opportunities and current technology.

Multimedia I (Grade 7, 8, 9) .50 credit

Trimesters: (1)

A course designed to introduce the student to the specifics of graphic design in a computer based learning environment. The program involves in depth knowledge of computer hardware and a basic working knowledge of mainstream software programs. Throughout this course students will be expected to design, test, and implement a graphics program with a final product ready for publishing at the end of the semester. This course is designed to compliment Introduction to Web Design.

Multimedia II (Grade 7, 8, 9) .50 credit

Trimesters: (1)

In this course, students will learn the basics of designing and developing a web site. We'll take a look at design issues specific to web-based presentations, learn web page layout, effective navigation and delve into the design process.

Computer Technology (Grade 9 only) .50 credit

Trimesters: (1)

This course is an introduction to computer application software that encompasses document processing, spreadsheets, and presentations. An understanding of ethics and use of operating systems, information resources, and electronic mail is included. Skills gained will be demonstrated by creating a project for a different content area. Correct fingering by touch with speed and accuracy improvement will also be emphasized. Curriculum is based on the 10 performance standards that all high school graduates need to master in educational technology as defined by USOE (*required for high school graduation*).

Language Arts

Seventh Grade Language Arts Core (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: (3)

This course helps students gain a greater fluidity within the English language. The emphasis is on composition, the writing process, and reading. Lessons in composition will cover the application of mechanics and grammar. Students will produce descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and informative written work. They will also work on spelling, vocabulary, dictionary, library, reading, speaking and listening skills.

Eighth Grade Language Arts Core (1.0 Credit)

Trimesters: (3)

Language Arts 8 is a course that focuses on reading, writing, inquiry/information gathering, grammar and communication. Various reading sources help students refine decoding and interpretation skills. Students will write for different purposes and audiences. They will also practice grade-appropriate grammar and usage skills. Listening, speaking, and problem solving are other important elements of this course.

Ninth Grade Language Arts Core(1.0 credit)

Trimesters: (3)

In this class, students continue to practice and refine language skills (i.e. reading, writing, speaking, and listening). Writing process skills include the descriptive, narrative, informative, and persuasive modes for specific audiences. Investigative research processes are taught, and cross-curricular research essays are developed. Reading materials include novels, poetry, short stories, classical drama, classical mythology, and reference materials.

Mathematics

7th Grade Mathematics

Trimesters: (3)

7th Grade Mathematics is the *basic* introductory course for secondary mathematics. This course prepares students for Pre Algebra. Students entering Mathematics 7 should have mastered basic whole number operations, fractions, decimals and integers. Topics include measurement, number theory, graphing, ratios, proportions, and percent; probability and statistics; introductory geometry; methods of solving equations; and real life applications of these topics. Students will use calculators.

7th/8th Grade Math: Pre – Algebra (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: (3)

This course prepares students for elementary algebra. Topics include measurement, number theory, graphing, ratios, proportion, percent, probability, statistics, introductory geometry, methods of solving equations, and real-life applications of these topics. Students will use calculators

8th/9th Grade Math: Algebra 1 (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: (3)

Elementary Algebra 1 is a course which improves math skill proficiency, expands the student's understanding of mathematical concepts, and promotes critical and logical thinking. Topics include algebraic expressions and equations, integers and rational numbers, inequalities, monomials and radical expressions, polynomials, factoring, functions, graphs, lines and slopes, quadratics, and rational expressions.

Prerequisite: Pre Algebra

9th Grade Math: Geometry (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: (3)

Geometry is the study of visual patterns. This course integrates algebra and geometry. Real-life situations provide practice of geometric skills. Computer and scientific calculators will be used. Topics include angles, lines, transformations, polygons, congruence, relationships, coordinated geometry, similarity, logic, indirect reasoning, and introduction to trigonometry and vectors.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Algebra II (1.0 credit)

(9th grade only)

Trimesters: 3

A primary goal of Algebra 2 is for students to conceptualize, analyze, and identify relationships among functions. Students will develop proficiency in analyzing and solving quadratic functions using complex numbers. Students will investigate and make conjectures about absolute value, radical, exponential, logarithmic and sine and cosine functions algebraically, numerically, and graphically, with and without technology. Students will extend their algebraic skills to compute with rational expressions and rational exponents. Students will work with and build an understanding of complex numbers and systems of equations and inequalities. Students will analyze statistical data and apply concepts of probability using permutations and combinations. Students will use technology such as graphing calculators. Students will analyze situations verbally, numerically, graphically, and symbolically. Students will apply mathematical skills and make meaningful connections to life's experiences.

Prerequisite: Geometry

Music

Orchestra (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: 3

(Grades 7-9)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play a stringed instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will strengthen listening skills and their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. No prerequisite course is required.

Band (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: 3

(Grades 7-9)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will strengthen listening skills and their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. **No prerequisite course is required for beginning band. For non-beginning band, students should have one or more years of experience.**

Choir

Trimesters: 1, 2, or 3

1 trimester= .50 credit

(Grades 7-9)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through singing in a choral ensemble. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, aesthetic awareness, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will strengthen listening skills and their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to personal development. No prerequisite course required.

Music Appreciation (Aesthetics):

Trimesters: 1,2, or 3
1 trimester= .50 credit
(Grades 7-9)

This course is designed for students who seek the opportunity to extend their musical understanding, heighten music listening skills, and increase their ability to respond more fully to music. Experiences will include opportunities to experiment with sounds, analyze famous compositions representative of most styles, and inquire into music's connections to contemporary life, history, and cultures. No prerequisite course is required.

Physical Education & Health

Physical Education 7th grade (1) Trimester (.50 credit):

Trimesters: (1)

This course focuses on a variety of fitness activities, sports, and games with an emphasis on leadership, courtesy, respect and sportsmanship. This course also provides instruction aimed at improving and maintaining physical fitness and continuing team sports participation.

Health/Physical Education Grade 8 (.50 credit):

Trimesters: (1)

Health Education is offers students an opportunity to acquire knowledge, practice skills, and develop attitudes that can benefit them throughout life. Building a solid foundation of good literacy and decision-making skills can contribute to a variety of healthy choices for self and others. Health will be combined with 8th Grade Physical Education in order to provide students with physical activities and exercise with the goal of improving health and fitness.

Lifetime Sports Grades 7-9 (.50 credit):

This course is open to NDPA Jr. High boys and girls in grades 7 through 9. In this initial offering, the participation activities will be jogging, tennis, and softball (all coed). NDPA Jr. High has arranged with the Layton City Parks and Recreation to use one of their softball fields and two tennis courts at Ellison Park during the activity portion of 3rd period (11:00-12:10 hrs) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The asphalt "track" that encircles the park also is approved for conducting some of the jogging activities in the Lifetime Sports class.

In addition to participating in physical conditioning sessions, skills instruction, and game knowledge instruction, students will be encouraged to register for intramural and/or city recreation sports programs involving tennis, softball, and/or jogging. Weather permitting; some of the jogging activities may be conducted in nearby canyon jogging trails. Participation in organized 5K (3.1 mile) road races also will be encouraged for those who want to experience competitive running in a casual setting. Reasonably "competitive" times for completion of 5K or other running events may be used as grading criteria in lieu of the timed 1-mile run.

Fitness for Life: Physical Education 9th grade (1) Trimester (.50 credit):

Trimesters: (1)

An individualized, concepts-based, one-semester course designed to give students the knowledge and skills necessary to self-assess, create, conduct, evaluate, and redesign personal fitness programs. It is required of all students and there are no substitutions, including participation in athletics. *Fitness for Life* may be taken anytime during grades nine through twelve, but it is strongly recommended that students take the class in either the ninth or tenth grade year. The course is a combination of classroom and activity-based learning activities with a focus on proper nutrition and the mastery of skills and concepts necessary for students to become accomplished monitors of their personal lifetime fitness. Through participation, students learn to compare the fitness benefits in a variety of individual and team activities (*required for high school graduation*).

Sciences

Integrated Science 7 (1.0 Credit)

Trimesters: (3)

Physical Science 7 is a foundation course which emphasizes basic science concepts with real-life applications. Topics include classification systems, cell genetics, ecology, and the environment. Although this course focuses on life sciences, physical and earth science topics that deal with the structure and organization of the natural world have been included to help students recognize the integrated nature of science.

Integrated Science 8 (.50 Credit)

Trimesters: (2)

This course introduces students to the theme of change and its influence on the environment. Because the course focuses on physical, earth and life sciences, students gain a clearer picture of relationships in the natural world. This hands-on course allows students to explore areas of particular interest.

Biology Grade 9 (1.0 Credit)

Trimesters: (3)

This Biology course exposes students to a wide range of biological science topics in ecology, heredity and genetics, cellular biology, diversity of life, and change through time.

Social Studies

Utah Studies Grade 7 (.50 credit)

Trimesters: (1)

In this course, students will be introduced to the significant events, people, diverse cultures, and issues that have influenced Utah's social and cultural development. The course will also focus on historical, political, economic, and geographical factors. Special attention will be given to the development of higher-level thinking skills, study skills and organization.

U. S. History Grade 8 (.50 credit)

Trimesters: (2)

U. S. History is a course which encourages students to explore America's heritage from its beginnings to Reconstruction. Emphasis will be placed upon the social and cultural backgrounds of Americans as well as economic and geographic factors, particularly during the 1800's. Students will develop higher level thinking skills.

Geography I Grade 9 (.50 credit)

Trimesters: (1)

In this course, students will be introduced to the inter-relationships between our physical and cultural worlds. We will explore how geography influence behavior and the role it plays in the economic, political, social, cultural and historic development countries. Geographical skills will be emphasized including map reading/ making, vocabulary, interpretations of geographical charts, and a study of the Americas, Europe, and northern Eurasia.

Spanish Instruction

Spanish (1.0 credit)

Trimesters: (3)

As an **International Spanish Academy**, every student is required in the 7th, 8th, and 9th grade to continue their bi-lingual education. These courses are designed to be content based. Curriculum in the Spanish classes is designed to yearly enhance students ability in speaking, reading, and writing Spanish while reviewing previous content and introducing new content unique to the Spanish culture. Students will learn content in Spanish, content will be based on the ability of the students. The Center for Applied Linguistics continues to work with NDPA in developing appropriate oral language assessment rubrics. The state standards for Foreign Language have five goals. Within each goal there are three levels of mastery: beginning, developing, and expanding. NDPA has based its Spanish courses in the 7th, 8th, and 9th grade on the standards within the expanding level for all five Foreign Language goals.

Students will also be able to choose one Spanish experience course at the end of each year:

- 1) **Spanish Music & Drama: This experience course will integrate the arts within the Spanish language.**
or
- 2) **Spanish P.E.: This experience course will integrate physical activities in Spanish (fulfills 7th Grade P.E. requirement if student is enrolled in full year band, orchestra, or choir).**

Study & Service

Study Skills Grades 7,8,9 (.50 credit each trimester)

Trimesters: (1)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their study skills in a lab setting. They will be tutored by fellow peers and faculty in various subjects.

Peer Mentoring Grades 7,8,9 (.50 credit each trimester)

Trimesters: (1)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their tutoring skills in a lab setting. They will tutor fellow peers and be assisted by faculty in various subjects.

Teacher/Office/Lunchroom Assistant Grade 9 (.50 credit)

Trimesters: (1)

This course provides opportunities for students to provide service to the school through assisting teachers, lunchroom, and office staff with daily duties and projects.