Opportunity Youth Academy
Textbooks and Instructional Materials

September, 2021
Courses offered by SIATech are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and are transferable. Courses approved by the University of California or the California State University as creditable under the “A-G” admissions criteria meet college entrance requirements. SIATech complies with AB 167-216 requirements for qualifying students.

COURSE OFFERINGS

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I  Foundational Math

CODES CREDITS: 10 Does not meet math
This course is designed to develop students’ fluency with functions. The instruction involves deepening and extending students’ understanding of linear, quadratic, and exponential relationships. Students will apply linear models to data and engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using functions, including linear, quadratic and exponential models. Some of the central ideas in the Algebra 1a and 1b include variables, expressions, problem solving, notion of functions, solving equations, rates of change and growth patterns, graphs as representations of functions, and modeling.

Algebra 2

This course is designed to build on algebraic and geometric concepts. It develops advanced algebra skills such as systems of equations, advanced polynomials, quadratics, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions, graphing, and introduces matrices. The content of this course is important for students’ success on both the ACT/SAT and college mathematics entrance exams and is recommended for students seeking post-secondary education. This course requires students to engage actively in problem solving and analysis utilizing the technology of graphing and regression calculators.

This is an elective credit course and does not apply toward the math credits required for graduation. This course provides scaffolding to prepare students to be successful in the Intro to Algebra and Algebra 1a courses. It builds number sense skills and mathematical content understanding necessary to be successful in a career and in Algebra.

Geometry

This course introduces students to the study of plane figures. The Geometry course includes geometric transformations, geometric theorems, congruence and similarity, analytic geometry, and right-triangle trigonometry. Students begin to prove results about the geometry of the plane and construct geometric figures. There is an emphasis on discovering trigonometric relationships and solving problems with right triangles. The relationship between the plane and the Cartesian coordinate system is explored as students connect algebraic and geometric concepts. Students explore technology to apply and connect their geometric properties throughout the course.

Intro to Algebra

Students develop a strong numeracy and algebraic skills foundation. Skills are developed throughout this course with lessons involving critical thinking, problem-solving, and a strong emphasis on multiple ways to express numerical values. Students develop the conceptual understanding of what variables are and build the skills needed to use variables to solve real world scenarios with an emphasis on career connections. Students leave the course with a solid number sense and algebra knowledge base which will help them be successful in their future careers and education endeavors.
The purpose of this course is to provide students opportunities to interact with high complexity texts while integrating language arts study in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language for college and career readiness. The course embeds national and local content standards into interdisciplinary lessons that also teach technology and presentation skills with the Google Suite. The historical focus of this course is designed to help prepare students for college, the military, or the workforce.

**English 09**
**CODE: 9105 CREDITS: 10**
**UC approved: B | Required Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide students opportunities to interact with high complexity texts while integrating language arts study in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language for college and career readiness. The course embeds national and local content standards into interdisciplinary lessons that also teach technology and presentation skills with the Google Suite. The global focus of this course is designed to help prepare students for college, the military, or the workforce.

**English 10**
**CODE: 9106 CREDITS: 10**
**UC approved: B | Required Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide students opportunities to interact with high complexity texts while integrating language arts study in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language for college and career readiness. The course embeds national and local content standards into interdisciplinary lessons that also teach technology and presentation skills with the Google Suite. The scientific focus of this course is designed to help prepare students for college, the military, or the workforce.

**English 11**
**CODE: 9107 CREDITS: 10**
**UC approved: B | Required Course**

English 12
**CODE: 9108 CREDITS: 10**
**UC approved: B | Required Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide students opportunities to interact with high complexity texts while integrating language arts study in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language for college and career readiness. The course embeds national and local content standards into interdisciplinary lessons that also teach technology and presentation skills with the Microsoft Office Suite. The college and career focus of this course is designed to help prepare students for college, the military, or the workforce.

**Oral Communication**
**CODE: 9110 CREDITS: 5**
**UC approved: G | Elective Course**

Oral Communication will provide students with an understanding of the dynamics of effective communication while speaking, listening, and responding. Students will apply the principles of ethical communication, practice communication competencies, demonstrate effective intrapersonal and interpersonal communication, and deliver a variety of speeches. This course will include the following: ethical communication, responsible social media usage, communication barriers, mass media, conflict resolution, leadership styles, business etiquette, and interviews. Students will deliver formal and informal speeches, participate in debate, and perform an oral reading.
Chemistry

Anatomy & Physiology (CTE) CODE: 9335 CREDITS: 10

Usually taken after a comprehensive initial study of biology, the Anatomy and Physiology course presents the human body and biological systems in more detail. In order to understand the structure of the human body and its functions, students learn anatomical terminology, study cells and tissues, explore functional systems (skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, nervous, etc.), and may dissect mammals.

Biology

CODE: 9324 CREDITS: 10
UC approved: D | Required Course

This course provides students with a solid foundation in biological sciences. After completing an introductory unit, students examine five major biological themes: cell biology, genetics, physiology, evolution, and ecology. Students use inquiry-based lab experiments that utilize the scientific method, critical thinking, and writing. Also emphasized is the importance of vocabulary, reading, communication skills, and the enhancement of current levels of scientific literacy and mastery.

CODE: 9325 CREDITS: 10
UC approved: D
Meets physical science requirement

This course involves studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. Students explore topics in chemistry, including the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Earth and Space Science

CODE: 9321 CREDITS: 10
UC approved: D
Meets physical science requirement

This course is designed to have students gain an appreciation for our Earth, not as a collection of separate spheres, but rather as a dynamic and integrated set of systems. Through explorations and research, students will discover important roles we play and the impact they have on our Earth and its systems. Topics covered include geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy, and energy resources, with some basic background in chemistry and physics. This course is intended to serve as a course that meets the high school graduation requirement in physical science. It is also intended to serve as a “bridge” course to Chemistry or Physics for students wishing to further their studies in science.

This may qualify as CTE course.
SOCIAL STUDIES

American Government
CODE: 9174 CREDITS: 5
UC approved: A | Required Course

In American Government, students learn the origins, development, structure, and functions of American government as well as civic participation. Through a series of lessons integrating core skills such as reading comprehension, critical thinking, problem-solving, and the use of technology, students learn the fundamentals of American democracy, enabling them to more intelligently vote, participate, and influence the dynamics of their government.

Economics
CODE: 9175 CREDITS: 5
UC approved: G | Required Course

In Economics, students learn basic principles of micro and macroeconomics. Through a series of financial literacy lessons integrating core skills such as reading comprehension, critical thinking, problem-solving, data/graphical analysis, and Internet research skills along with the use of technology, students will build an understanding of the foundations of a market economy and major economic institutions.

U.S. History 1/U.S. History 2
CODE: 9173 CREDITS: 10
UC approved: A | Required Course
In U.S. History 1, students will study the Civil War and Reconstruction, Immigration, Industrial Revolution, Progressive Era, and World War I. In U.S. History 2, students will learn about the Roaring Twenties, Great Depression, World War II, Cold War, and modern U.S. History. United States geography lessons are embedded throughout the US History course, as are core skills, such as reading comprehension, critical thinking, problem-solving, and the use of technology.

**World History 1/World History 2**

**CODE: 9172 CREDITS: 10**

**UC approved: A | Required Course**

The World History course is divided into two 5-credit segments. In World History 1, students study world geography, revolution, Greek philosophy, and imperialism. In World History 2, students study World War I, World War II, Cold War, and modern world history. Students will develop comprehensive knowledge of World History through a series of lessons integrating core skills, such as reading comprehension, critical thinking, problem-solving, and the use of technology.

**CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY**

**Digital Art**

**CODE: 9000 CREDITS: 10**

**UC approved: F | Required Course**

This course embeds visual arts and technology standards into creative projects with industry-standard digital-processing software. Students learn elements of art and principles of design, how to critique art and receive feedback, and gain an appreciation for the cultural value of art. Students start through a series of guided projects and progress until they are creating their own original pieces with their choice of software and tools. Throughout the course, students build design, art, and technology and computer skills as they learn Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, Animation or 3D Modeling and other art programs. They connect art to other content areas (e.g., social responsibility, geography) and continue to develop reading and critical thinking skills. Students also develop technology skills and components for their senior projects and Graduation Portfolio. They leave the course able to interpret art and with entry-level multimedia skills as well as the technology and process skills to work productively and creatively at work and at home.
SENIOR PROJECTS

ELECTIVES

Senior Projects
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 10
UC approved: G | Required Course

This cumulative, project-based course provides students with exposure and foundational knowledge in various new and relevant technologies for a broad range of industries. Students apply knowledge and skills learned in core academic classes with technology to complete a diverse range of projects representing different professional applications, including STEM (e.g., computer-assisted drafting or robotics); business and productivity software; desktop publishing and graphic design; video production, web development, and multimedia presentations. Components of each project include writing, design, problem-solving, technology, and career exploration. This course culminates with a graduation portfolio and its presentation to a student’s peers and teachers, demonstrating growth, accomplishments, meeting of state standards, and readiness for work or higher learning.

Advanced Senior Projects
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 10

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an opportunity to focus deeply on a specific technology (e.g., virtual reality, STEM, creative technologies) and its academic and career applications. Students, with instructional guidance, choose a technology and explore multiple areas and dimensions, some of which might include history, artistic, economic or political applications, career potential, and integration with other academic disciplines and technologies.

Portfolio Presentation
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 1

For students that integrate senior projects into other content areas, this course guides them through the creation and evaluation of their graduation portfolio assembly (hard copy and digital), and its presentation to a student’s peers and teachers, demonstrating growth, accomplishments, meeting of state standards, and readiness for work or higher learning.
Applied Computer Technology
CODE: 9060 CREDITS: 2.5

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the various kinds of microcomputer hardware and their uses and to provide instruction in basic microcomputer architecture, interfacing, and diagnostic, repair, and maintenance techniques. Topics covered include basic microcomputer architecture, interfacing, diagnostic and repair techniques, and an introduction to the basic principles of robotics and their future roles in society.

Note: Students can take either this class, or Introduction to Computers.

Applied Creativity
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 5

Applied Creativity is designed to increase student knowledge and ability in development activities. Students may earn up to 10 credits of this course per school year.

Community Service
CODE: 9212 CREDITS: 5

Students who take this course work with their teacher will engage in community service projects. Students are required to do at least sixty hours of community service, including participating in and organizing projects. Students are also required to produce plans, documentation and thoughtful written reflections on their experiences, growth, and their role as a contributing and involved citizen and community member. The course will conclude with a student presentation to share experiences and reflections.

Experiential Learning 2
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 10

The Experiential Learning course allows students to apply valuable learning experiences outside of the classroom to their high school goals of academic, personal, and professional growth. This course is a continuation of Experiential Learning I. The goal of the course is for students to gain management and employability skills through hands-on training. Students may earn up to 10 credits of this course per school year.

Intro to Computers
CODE: 9060 CREDITS: 2.5

The purpose of this course is to provide the students with a solid foundation in the various components of computing. Students learn about the different computer systems, are exposed to the functions of a computer, and explore various methods in which telecommunications take place. Students also explore how computers have had an impact on society and multiple careers. Finally, students heighten their awareness of the skills necessary for creative problem solving. The course emphasizes defining personal creative preference, creative problem solving process, design thinking, and creative skills defined in the Torrance Incubation Model. Students taking this course can apply skills and methods presented to their personal lives and to work they are doing in other content areas.
ethics uses of technology.

**Note:** Students can take either this class or Applied Computer Technology.

**Mindfulness**

**CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 5**

This course will expose students to the dangers of stress; the practices of mindfulness, meditation, and yoga; and the connection and crossover between them. This course will also help students integrate these practices into their daily lives in order to help them learn about themselves and be more self-aware. Students will also have an opportunity to reflect about the way that they live, think, and feel.

**Personal Financial Literacy**

**CODE: 9051 CREDITS: 5**

Personal Financial Literacy is a one-semester course designed to increase financial literacy and prepare students to successfully manage financial resources. Personal Financial Literacy will include principles on how to make good financial decisions, preparing for the future, and include topics needed for students to be successful after high school. These topics include, but are not limited to, investing, retirement, reading a pay stub, filing taxes, and scenario-based projects.

**Real Learning for Real Life:**

**CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 5**

This course is a comprehensive review of how to be successful in an independent study setting. With attention on students social and emotional well-being, students learn positive habits, and time and stress management while beginning a process of assuming agency for their school work, as they set goals, identify resources, and complete assessments to determine learning styles and reading, math, and writing levels. Students begin a career interest survey and start aligning high school goals with potential careers and goals beyond graduation. Students also learn how to be productive academically and professionally in the Google Workspace, and build their digital awareness on responsible technology and Internet use. RLFRL version also includes a Sexual Health Education unit, in compliance with the California Healthy Youth Act. At the end of this course, students will be ready to begin the core curriculum.

**Social Media I**

**Visual Technology**

**CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 5**

This course is designed to introduce students to fundamental social media skills as well as foundational marketing knowledge. Students will research, design, develop and explore digital media through various activities. Students will also learn about digital citizenship and the importance of personal versus professional branding.

**Special Projects**

**CODE: 9228 CREDITS: VARIES**

This course provides students a means to explore a topic, design an experiment, create a product, take advantage of an opportunity, or study something of interest to a student. Students, with instructional guidance, choose projects to focus on, define a scope and sequence; steps to complete; and a way to share and reflect. Students work closely with a teacher, as there are no specific assignments or assessments—every project is different, so every student’s experience will be different.
CODE: 9381 CREDITS: 10
Students explore the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of digital imaging to create original work. Students produce animated digital images through the single or combined use of computers, digital cameras, digital video cameras, scanners, photo editing software, drawing and painting software, graphic tablets, printers, new media, and emerging technologies. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers to measure artistic growth. This course incorporates hands-on activities, the use of technology, and consumption of art materials.

CTE ELECTIVES
Note: Some elective courses may not be offered at every location.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Professional Skills in Advanced Manufacturing  CODE: 8240 CREDITS: 5
This one-semester course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help familiarize students with the professional skills required in the workplace. Each course contains five units that focus on success in the workplace. Each unit contains multiple lessons and activities written to CTE and Common Core State Standards. This course covers essential topics such as Work Ethic, Teamwork, Problem Solving, Employability Skills, and Communication Skills. This course familiarizes the student with reading, writing, speaking, critical thinking, and listening skills needed for general communication and workplace skills. Professional Skills also familiarizes students with communication skills required in business organizations. These skills equip students with the ability to appear for job interviews, participate in group discussions, and solve workplace problems. Students will also learn about the use of technology.
Advanced Manufacturing Capstone
CODE: 8241 CREDITS: 5
This course is intended to help students familiarize themselves with the evolution of manufacturing and understand manufacturing processes and systems. This course will cover the history and evolution of manufacturing, manufacturing processes, engineering design, and production systems.

CERTIFICATIONS

First Aid
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 2.5
This course instructs and prepares students for Red Cross CPR/First Aid/AED and Blood Borne pathogen certifications. Students will participate in hands-on training, including use of a CPR mannequin, AED simulation device, and airway equipment. Upon successful completion of course and exam, students will receive appropriate certifications, satisfying many employer requirements.

OSHA
CODE: 9228 CREDITS: 2.5
This course allows students to fulfill the requirements for the general OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) 10 federal certification. Students will learn basic safety and health information for entry-level workers in construction and general industries. Upon course completion, students will earn an OSHA 10 card, satisfying many employer safety training requirements.

EDUCATION

Professional Skills in STEAM Teacher
CODE: 7530 CREDITS: 5
This one-semester course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help familiarize students with the professional skills required to thrive in an educational workplace. This 6-unit course introduces students to the career of a STEAM teacher, while focusing on key factors that will allow them to be successful in the educational workplace. Unit topics covered are work ethic, teamwork, problem solving, employability skills, and communication skills. The initial unit focuses on what STEAM is, how to become a teacher, educational programs, growth vs. fixed mindset and the pros and cons of teaching. This course also introduces students to job interview skills, how to participate in group discussions, and expose to resolving workplace problems.

HEALTH SCIENCE & MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Professional Skills in Healthcare
CODE: 7950 CREDITS: 5
This one-semester course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help familiarize students with the professional skills required in the workplace in Healthcare. Each lesson covers one or more lesson activities. This course covers the essential topics such as work ethic, teamwork, problem solving, employability skills, and communication skills. Professional skills also familiarize students with communication skills required in business organizations. These skills equip students with the ability to appear for job interviews, participate in group discussions, and solve workplace problems. Students will also learn about the use of technology in communication.

Physical Education and Healthcare CTE
CODE: 7951 CREDITS: 5
This semester-long course builds on basic principles of medical science and medical terminology needed to work in the healthcare field. Integrated throughout the course are career preparation standards, which include basic academic skills, communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving, safety, technology and career opportunities in healthcare as well as the roles and responsibilities of the health care team. In addition, students will receive instruction and certification in Red Cross CPR/AED and First Aid.

Medical Terminology
CODE: 7952 CREDITS: 5
This one-semester capstone course is intended to help familiarize students with medical terminology related to the human body systems. This course will cover the structure of the human body systems and their functions. It will also include medical terminology related to diseases, disorders, medical procedures, and treatment for each body system.
ICT

Graphic Design
CODE: 7210 CREDITS: 10
This course enables students to develop skills in graphic design. Students will learn layout, typography, and design to create images and products that reflect knowledge of the elements of art and principles of design.

Google IT Support Professional Introduction
CODE: 8110 CREDITS: 10
This course is the first in a series to prepare learners for a role as an entry-level IT Support Specialist. Students will be introduced to the world of Information Technology, or IT. They will learn about the different facets of Information Technology, i.e., computer hardware, the Internet, computer software, troubleshooting, and customer service. This course covers a wide variety of topics in IT that are designed to give them an overview the certificate program.

Google IT Support Professional Concentrator
CODE: 8111 CREDITS: 10
This course is designed to provide a full overview of computer networking, covering topics including the fundamentals of modern networking technologies and protocols, an overview of the cloud, practical applications, and network troubleshooting. Through a combination of video lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on practice, students will understand the main components of an operating system and how to perform critical tasks, such as managing software and users, and configuring hardware.

Google IT Support Professional Capstone
CODE: 8112 CREDITS: 10
This advanced course covers the role of the system administrator in IT infrastructure. Topics covered include how systems administrators maintain computer systems in various organizations, manage cloud resources, and setup and manage servers. Other topics include disaster recovery methods, how to prepare for threats, and safeguarding data. Additionally, students will learn how to secure network infrastructure and create a cohesive security protocol.

Introduction to Coding: Python
CODE: 8131 CREDITS: 10
The Code HS Introduction to Computer Science curriculum teaches the foundations of computer science and basic programming in Python, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking and problem solving skills.
skills. This is a full year long course for high schools. Once students complete the Code HS Introduction to Computer Science course, they will have learned material equivalent to a semester college introductory course in Computer Science and be able to program in Python. Students will learn graphics, interaction, conditionals, loops, functions and exceptions, strings, data structures, and other useful Python skills. This is a two semester course and will prepare students to advance to JavaScript.

**Intro to Computer Science (Coding)**
**CODE: 8132 CREDITS: 10**

The Code HS Introduction to Computer Science curriculum teaches the foundations of computer science and basic programming in JavaScript, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking and problem solving skills. This is a full year long course for high schools. Once students complete the Code HS Introduction to Computer Science course, they will have learned material equivalent to a semester college introductory course in Computer Science and be able to program in JavaScript. The entirely web-based curriculum is made up of a series of learning modules that cover the fundamentals of programming. Each module is made up of short video tutorials, example programs, quizzes, programming exercises, challenge problems, and unit tests. The Intro to Computer Science in JavaScript course is designed for complete beginners with no previous background in computer science. The course is highly visual, dynamic, and interactive making it engaging for new coders. Students learn the fundamentals of programming with an emphasis on problem solving and logical thinking. Topics covered include graphics, animation and games, data structures, and more.

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**Professional Skills in ICT**
**CODE: 8130 CREDITS: 5**

This one-semester course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help familiarize students with the professional skills required in the workplace. This course contains five units that focus on success in the workplace: work ethic, teamwork, problem solving, employability skills, and communication skills. Topics also covered in this course are computer software and introduction to programming in JavaScript. Career exploration is covered in the following areas: web technology, computer programming, information technology, and advanced opportunities in information technology. Professional Skills also gives students the communication skills required in information and communication technology organizations. These skills equip students with the ability to appear for job interviews, participate in group discussions, and solve workplace problems.

**LOGISTICS**

**Logistics**
**CODE: 8511 CREDITS: 5**

This two semester course is designed to help students explore and understand the logistics career field. Students will explore and learn about many facets of the industry, students will learn the fundamentals of logistics and the role that it plays in business. students will also learn about the size of this industry and the projected growth that makes it one of the most profitable industries today. We will look at facts that prove its growth and the reasons behind this growth. students will learn the fundamentals of logistics and the role that it plays in business. students will also learn about the size of this industry and the projected growth that makes it one of the most profitable industries today. We will look at facts that prove its growth and the reasons behind this growth. Through this course students will also take a look at what type of careers are part of the industry, what are the salaries that they offer, and what steps to take in order to make it a career.

**PE**

**PE Advanced Physical Fitness**
**CODE: 9316 CREDITS: 5**

This course is designed to allow students to experience and develop skills in more than one team sport (such as volleyball, basketball, football, soccer).

**PE Healthy Living 1**
**CODE: 9160 CREDITS: 5**

In Healthy Living 1, students learn the fundamental components of living healthy. These components include physical fitness, with an emphasis on cardiovascular activity and exercise management; body composition, including weight, obesity, eating disorders, and body mass index; and nutrition, including learning about a balanced diet and caloric intake. Through a series of lessons integrating core skills, students will learn strategies to help them begin, design, and maintain an exercise and nutrition program to keep them fit for life.

**PE Healthy Living 2**
**CODE: 9160 CREDITS: 5**

In Healthy Living 2, students advance their understanding of behaviors that are beneficial and harmful to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Students will learn the positive impact sports can have on our culture. Students will also learn about behaviors which endanger a healthy lifestyle, including stress, drugs, alcohol, and smoking. Students will also learn how to interpret and evaluate the
marketing and availability of health services in their community. Through a series of lessons integrating core skills, students will learn strategies to help them make life-long good choices to keep them fit for life.

**PE Personal Fitness**  
**CODE: 9314 CREDITS: 5**

In Personal Fitness, students learn the fundamental components and basic principles of fitness including the knowledge of movement skills, safety guidelines, proper technique, and exercise principles. Students will assess their current level of fitness in relation to cardiovascular health, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Through a series of lessons integrating core skills, students will also learn strategies to help them begin, design, and maintain an exercise program to keep them fit for life.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

**Spanish 1**  
**CODE: 9130 CREDITS: 10**

Designed to introduce students to Spanish language and culture, Spanish 1 emphasizes basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. Spanish culture is introduced through different customs and the history of Spanish-speaking people.

**Spanish 2**  
**CODE: 9131 CREDITS: 10**

Spanish 2 builds upon skills developed in Spanish 1, extending the ability of students to understand and express themselves in Spanish and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of Spanish-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).