



THE HELP GROUP'S

WESTVIEW

School of Arts & Technology

**2018-2019
Curriculum Guide**

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Connect. Belong. Believe.

Curriculum Guide—Introduction

The Help Group's Westview School of Arts & Technology strives to provide a nurturing environment for academically capable middle, and high school students who are more able to maximize academic and social success from small class sizes and flexible schedules. Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), our mission is to provide each student with the environment necessary to achieve the California high school graduation requirements and to promote a desire for continuing post-high school education.

The purpose of this institution is to accomplish our goal whether or not the students are those who have gifted and/or advanced skill, require more of the individualized programs, or are able to function within the public system but at a reduced level of performance. We believe that it is important to admit students of any race, color, nationality, ethnic origin, or religious belief.

Every student in the Upper School must complete the minimum academic requirements for graduation. Students must also satisfy additional requirements in the arts, computer science, health, physical education, and community service.

Requirements for Graduation

Westview School's graduation requirements are the same of those from our largest referring district, Los Angeles Unified School District. Other districts typically have slightly different requirements.

Class of 2019 and beyond

For incoming high school freshman for the class of 2019, reestablish the number of credits required to graduate from 230 to 210 while also requiring students to pass all A-G courses, including Algebra 2 and two years of World Language with the current passing grade of a "D" or better.

English	4 years (40 credits)
College Prep Mathematics (Algebra 1; Geometry; Algebra 2)	3 years (30 credits)
Social Studies (World History; US History)	2 years (20 credits)
Laboratory Science (Biology; Chemistry or Physics)	2 years (20 credits)
Language other than English	2 years (20 credits)
Visual and Performing Arts	1 years (10 credits)
College Core Elective (typically Government and Economics, which are CA state requirements)	2 years (20 credits)
Total Credits—Core Curriculum	150 credits
Elective Credits	Must total 35 credits
Health	1 semester (5 credits)
Physical Education	2 semester (20 credits)
Total Credits	210 credits
Additional Requirements	
Community Service (5 hours for 9th-10th, 10 for 11th, 20 for 12th)	40 hours (40 credits)
Transition Services	4 years

Program Models

Grade 9	English 9	(2 semesters)
	Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry	(2 semesters)
	Health	(1 semester)
	Physical Education, Yoga, or Dance	(2 semesters)
	Spanish I	(2 semesters)
	Technical Art, Fine Art, Visual Art	(1-2 semesters)
	Elective	
Grade 10	English 10	(2 semesters)
	Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II	(2 semesters)
	Biology, Physics, or Chemistry	(2 semesters)
	World History	(2 semesters)
	Physical Education, Yoga, or Dance	(2 semesters)
	Spanish I or II	(2 semesters)
	Technical Art, Fine Art, Visual Art	(1-2 semesters)
Electives		
Grade 11	American Comp/Lit	(2 semesters)
	United States History	(2 semesters)
	Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry,	(2 semesters)
	Pre-Calculus, or Calculus	(2 semesters)
	Biology, Physics, or Chemistry	(2 semesters)
	Spanish I or II	(2 semesters)
Electives		
Grade 12	Expo Comp/World Lit	(2 semesters)
	Algebra II, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus,	(2 semesters)
	Chemistry, Physics	(2 semesters)
	Government / Economics	(1 semester each)
	Electives	

Academic Advising

Each student in Grades 9 through 12 meets with the Head of School on an annual basis to plan the student's program for the following school year.

Community Service

THG's Westview School of Arts & Technology School is dedicated to the education of the students' heart, mind, and soul. A rigorous college preparatory education prepares the students for the intellectual demands needed in today's society. Small class size provides an intimate atmosphere to develop the skills of academic excellence. Inherent in any lesson is the implicit responsibility that all of us have to share our knowledge and expertise with those that are in need. Community days will take place during the school year to help students complete their hours.

Admissions to the University of California

One of the finest and most selective public university systems in the nation, the University of California, has established strict admission criteria known as the a-g requirements. THG's Westview School of Arts & Technology's graduation requirements exceed the minimum entry requirements of the UC system and of the most selective private colleges, thereby qualifying superior students of attend the most selective schools in the country, public or private. The majority of our art courses are approved to meet the Visual and Performing Arts requirement of the University of California. Please visit the University of California website at www.ucop.edu/pathways for more information about admission requirements.

High School

Academic Course Offerings

Arts

The Art Department's philosophy is based upon the belief that art is essential for the development of the whole person. Art encourages creative thinking, self-expression, originality, emotional release, questioning, and problem solving, as well as an appreciation of the world, past and present. Students learn the elements and principles of design: line, color, pattern, texture, value, shape, movement, contrast, and repetition through a wide variety of media. Slides, films, videos, books, and prints help students to develop a critical and historical appreciation of art. All courses in the Arts address the five components required by the University of California: Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Historical and Cultural Content, Aesthetic Valuing, and Connection and Applications. All require some work beyond class time.

Art I

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

This course offers students an introduction to the elements of art and to the principles of design. Students explore various mediums and techniques while learning about the work of past and present artists. Expectations of the course will include weekly artistic submissions, reports on technical aspects of art, and cross-curricular projects.

Film Production AB

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

Film Production is a course for students who wish to develop and/or further their knowledge of the elements of art and principles of design as they relate to video and film. Students will learn the history of filmmaking and the technological advances that have come about in the art form. Students will learn to use appropriate aesthetic and technical vocabulary. Film will be studied as an art form and as a means of communication. Students will learn to write, storyboard, direct, produce and edit their personal ideas to create finished films. Students will analyze the use of the elements of art and the principles of design as they relate to meaning in video, film or electronic media. Historical and cultural ramifications of digital video in film will be addressed. A variety of films/clips will be viewed and students will analyze and respond to these films, and make critical assessments. Students will learn the entire process of film making from story development, writing a script, pre-production, all elements of production, and editing visuals and sound. Continuing students will be challenged with advanced projects and higher-level explorations.

Computer Science

Today's students need knowledge of the computer, its power, and its limitations in order to enter the work force of tomorrow with the appropriate skills. Every facet of society has become increasingly dependent upon the computer. The computer is no longer the exclusive domain of the engineer and scientist. It has become an essential tool of our society.

Coding

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

The Intro to Computer Science (Coding) 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. 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 course is designed for a yearlong class that meets 5 days per week, though schools implement it in a variety of ways.

Animation

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

Students learn the fundamentals of 3D graphics and animation design. Projects include the following: creating and editing simple objects, polygonal modeling, surfaces of revolution, lofting curves to create a surface, using the key framer for animation, path animation, skeletons and kinematics (skins), character animation, rendering a scene, and inverse kinematics. Teacher may change some of these projects based on student abilities and needs.

Yearbook

One Year Class

Grades 10, 11, and 12

Students in Yearbook produce Westview's yearbook. Layout, photography, and copyediting are some of the main areas of responsibility. Student editors are chosen from among students taking the course for the second year and are selected by the teacher on the basis of recommendation and application. Meeting deadlines is a primary task in this class, and grades are based on quality of work, ability to work with a team, and the ability to meet deadlines.

Graphic Design I

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

This course facilitates the creative use of the computer as a design tool and illustrative medium. Topics include elementary digital techniques as they relate to principles of design, color, composition, and spatial relationships. Students will create a series of illustrations involving freehand and technical drawing, rendering and composition using traditional and digital tools.

English

The English curriculum builds on sequential competency in various rhetorical forms, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. Teachers foster the appreciation of literature and encourage students' individual creativity. Successful students of English come to recognize and to value the artistry of language, and to employ it effectively in speech and writing. Students in their own analytical and creative work acquire control of oral and written expression and evolve their own expressive voices.

English 9/10 **One Year Each**

This course consists of three principal elements and selected readings from significant works of world literature. The first element is a review of essential usage and writing skills. The second element is the study of vocabulary and verbal reasoning, using vocabulary from required texts. The third element is an introduction to the criteria used for literary analysis. The readings, which are intended to complement the Ancient and Medieval History curriculum, include a Homeric epic, ancient drama, Arthurian legends, a wide selection of poetry, a Shakespearean play, and at least one modern novel. Individual teachers will differ in teaching methods and literary selections.

In English 10 students hone their writing skills with continued emphasis on literary analysis and the study of vocabulary. A more rigorous examination of the process of producing a formal close reading serves as the foundation of the course's essay writing. Students develop these skills during the critical analysis of representative works of world literature

11th Grade English **American Literature/Contemporary Composition** **One Year Class**

This course is designed to provide students with an English curriculum with a focus on American literature. Students will engage in the careful reading and critical analysis of literary works from a variety of culture. Through the close reading of selected texts, students will examine the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. Students will study literary elements and rhetorical devices as well as literary time periods and examine how they are used in/influence texts. Writing will be an integral part of the course as well. After developing their own ideas about each literary work, students will refine and deepen their insights through class discussion.

12th Grade English **World Literature/Expository Composition** **One Year Class**

The purpose of this course is to examine literature from various cultures around the world. With the media such a pervasive presence in our lives, we have access to more information about the world in which we live than at any other time in history. Many people believe that our focus should be on our membership in the global community rather than in a particular nation, what we have in common, rather than what separates us. The focus in class will be the themes - truth, justice, the question of identity, fate vs. free will, the individual vs. society, good vs. evil - that are common to the literature of many cultures.

The goal of this course is to help students become confident and effective writers in preparation for their post high school career, learning skills that will benefit their writing across the curriculum. Students will write in a variety of expository modes, such as description, personal narrative, argumentation, comparison-contrast, and film analysis.

In addition, this course makes students aware of writing as a process that involves drafting, peer editing, and conscientious revision.

Journalism

One Semester

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

Members of this class are experienced staff writers and new or returning section editors for the school newspaper. In this course, students study interviewing techniques, investigative reporting, news and feature writing, as they hone both peer-editing and self-critiquing skills. The focus of this class is to learn about media, mass communication, and the place that ethical journalism holds in our society. Students continue to write, edit, and produce the paper.

World Language

At every level the department promotes interest in the language, culture and peoples of Spanish-speaking countries. Mere technical knowledge taught in a cultural vacuum is inadequate for secondary education in foreign languages. Students must also gain an understanding of the contributions and the achievements of these civilizations. Teachers conduct modern language classes in Spanish to develop students' ability to understand and respond in the language. Through the extensive use of technology both in and out of class, students learn to speak and to think spontaneously in the target language, as well as try to enjoy the intellectual challenge of learning another language.

Spanish

Beginning in the first year with little or no knowledge of Spanish, students learn the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. They acquire the vocabulary grammar, idioms, and verbal structures necessary for an appropriate level of fluency in the language. Students study Hispanic culture and history and spend additional time working individually with tapes to improve oral/aural skills. Students also spend significant class time doing role-play and cooperative activities that enable them to practice all skills.

Spanish I

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, and 11

In this course conversation is generally in present and simple past tenses, and pertains to the basic vocabulary of school, home, and everyday life. Students learn the language through the use of a main text, workbooks, reading texts, computer practice programs, video programs, and supplementary handouts. Students also study the cultures and geography of Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish II

One Year Class

Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

In this course students learn the remaining verbal tenses, broaden their vocabulary, and supplement their conversational, grammatical, and written skills. They expand their knowledge of Spanish through a continued use of a main text, workbook, handouts, videos, and listening comprehension sources.

Mathematics

The curriculum in mathematics is designed to prepare students for successful study at the college level through the understanding of mathematical concepts and the acquisition of manipulative skills.

Algebra I

One Year Class

Grade 8, 9, 10, and 11

This course emphasizes the development of analytical ability to solve word problems. Students learn the skills of mathematical algorithms and operations necessary for solving linear equations, inequalities, simultaneous equations, and quadratic equations. The course covers Cartesian coordinate graphing of linear equations and inequalities, conjunctions, and disjunctions of these sets. Number theory in the course includes extension of the number system to irrational and imaginary numbers with rules of exponents and simplifying. Algebra I may be spread out over a two-year program for those students who struggle with math.

Geometry

One Year Class

Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12

This course stresses the development of a system of logic based on deductive reasoning. Students learn definitions and postulates, prove theorems, and build the system of geometry. They also gain the ability to analyze a problem, to hypothesize a conclusion, and then to write a logical, 2-column formal proof. The courses include the study of angle relationships of parallel and perpendicular lines; similarity and congruence of polygons; circles, arcs, and associated angles; coordinated geometry; area and volume; and constructions.

Algebra II

One Year Class

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry

Grade 10, 11, and 12

This course is an extension in depth and in breadth of the study of Algebra I. Students learn to solve equations and inequalities by factoring, quadratic formulas, or by synthetic division. Topics include number analysis, operations on polynomials, exponents and roots, analysis of conic sections, and an introduction to logarithmic functions.

Pre-Calculus

One Year Class

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and instructor recommendation

Grade 11 and 12

This course covers a comprehensive review of Algebra II during the first ten weeks, but with more challenging exercises and greater depth. Topics in Trigonometry include the properties of the real number system, relations, functions and their graphs, circular and trigonometric functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, as well as real world applications of interest and annuities, polar coordinates and vectors, DeMoivre's theorem, complex numbers, and conic sections. The course follows a functional and graphing approach integrating as many concepts as possible. Students must purchase a graphing calculator before enrolling in this course.

Consumer Math
One Year Class
Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry
Grade 11 and 12

The objective of this course is to acquire the essential skills required to be a responsible consumer. This course focuses on problem solving strategies and alternative methods of computation to solve a wide range of consumer problems as well as solid basic skills support. This course encompasses essential life skills required when living independently. This includes budgeting, assessing pay, paying taxes, and making responsible purchases.

Math Lab
One Year Class
Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12

This course is offered to students as a supplementary course to their regular math curriculum. It is a course that gives students the chance to build a solid mathematical foundation for math classes in their 9th grade year and beyond. The course includes topics such as order of operations, negatives, graphing, solving equations, geometry, and applications of math. Students will be provided with supplemental material, will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with the teacher and TA's to focus on specific areas in need of improvement.

Music

The Music program believes that the study of music helps to make a complete person. Our goal is to allow all students the opportunity to experience music in many different aspects, so that music becomes a lifelong experience. Whether the student is a performer, listener, leader, team member or critic, we provide opportunities to experience singing, playing, listening intelligently, composing, arranging, and movement. In addition, students study music from different time periods, styles, and cultures. All courses in Music address the five components required by the University of California: Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Historical and Cultural Context, Aesthetic Valuing, and Connections and Applications.

Music
One Year Class
Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12

In class, the students analyze various song forms, including "pop". Students will deconstruct song lyrics to enhance artistic perception and connect to other music genres. Students will learn step-by-step application of techniques of song writing leading to each student's composition. Every student will be exposed to a variety of instruments including guitar, piano, and drums.

Modern Music Essentials/Fundamentals
One Year Class
Grade 10, 11, and 12

Learn the inner workings of the language of music. Become a complete musician in a music fundamentals class designed especially for instrumentalists and vocalists. This class will give you an understanding of theory and harmonic concepts as they apply to rock, blues, pop, funk, metal and other musical styles. In-class workshops and labs will help you apply these amazing concepts to your area of instrumental/vocal expertise.

Physical Education

THG's Westview School of Arts & Technology believes that physical education serves as an important component in the development of a well-rounded student. The program provides every student with the opportunity to develop and to maintain a level of physical fitness and skill development commensurate with individual needs. This goal is accomplished through the use of drills, tasks, and activities with emphasis on development of basic skills and conditioning. The program also emphasizes teamwork and good sportsmanship among its athletes on competitive teams. The department promotes good health through proper nutrition and exercise, a knowledge of how the body functions, and an understanding of injury prevention. In addition to team sports, the program emphasizes individual and recreational sports to help students find lifetime athletic activities.

Physical Education

One Year Class

Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12

This course is designed to educate students about the body through various academic and physical activities. Most activities will fall under the following: sport specific, sport specific rules/terminology, physical fitness testing (mandatory for high school diploma), team building, sports etiquette, and recreation.

Yoga

One Year Class

Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12

Yoga has the potential to calm the mind, increase concentration, strength, flexibility, and give one the ability to cope with and release tension. The emphasis of the class will be on meditation, asanas (poses) and vinyasa (flow) for increased flexibility, improved health, relaxation, and reduced stress in daily life. A typical class will include breathing techniques, meditation, and asana practice which include standing, balance, seated, twisting and inverted poses.

Science

The goals of the Science Program are to develop in students an understanding of the scientific process, to foster an awareness of and an appreciation for the physical and biological world, and to prepare students for college-level courses in science. In addition, the curriculum is designed to develop in students a level of scientific literacy that will enable them to participate as informed citizens in resolving the issues that confront a technologically-oriented society.

Biology

One Year Class

Grade 10, 11, and 12

These courses are laboratory-oriented introductions to the study of living things from the level of the cell to the relationships of organisms with each other and with the environment. Students consider the cell's process in detail. Students survey the five animal kingdoms and study the physiology, anatomy, genetics, reproduction, development, and ecology of selected organisms. The Honors course will be offered based on number of students eligible for course and covers all the topics of Biology at a more accelerated pace and in greater depth. As this course requires significant additional study, admission is by permission of the department.

Chemistry

One Year Class

**Prerequisite: Completion of
Grade 10, 11, and 12**

This laboratory course reinforces existing knowledge of chemistry learned in physical science and introduces new principles and concepts of chemistry. With an emphasis on the inorganic and physical aspects of chemistry, the courses also integrate organic chemistry. Students learn laboratory safety and techniques through extensive experiments, which draw on their skills in critical thinking, writing, and mathematics.

Physics

One Year Class

Grade 10, 11, and 12

In this laboratory course students study the principles and concepts of physical matter and change. The course includes mechanics, thermal physics, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics, and atomic and nuclear physics. The class emphasizes mathematical functions, problem solving, and laboratory investigations as well as practical experience and application of these principles to everyday life.

Social Studies

The Social Studies Program is designed to provide students with an understanding of the past and the historical process. Students explore the political, economic, and social developments of world.

Modern World History

One Year Class

Grade 10

This course begins with a review of the Renaissance and continues with an examination of absolute and Constitutional Monarchies, the Age of Reason, the French Revolution, Industrial Revolution, 19th Century Nationalism, World Wars, and conflicts in the contemporary world. Analytical writing in the form of essays and tests and the development of class discussion skills are critical elements of the course.

United States History

One Year Class

Grade 11

A survey study of the United States from pre-colonial to modern times, this course emphasizes America's political and economic development. Organizational and evaluative techniques are applied to the strong material base students obtain. Students learn study skills appropriate to the social sciences, particularly those needed to manage a challenging textbook and to succeed on college-modeled exams. Honors class available based on eligibility.

American Government

One Semester

Grade 12

Government will be primarily a research and discussion based course. This course will examine the types of governments in the past and present, how they function, and their impacts upon the population. We will pay particular

attention to our own government, with the primary goals of fostering an understanding of the system, an appreciation of its diversity and continuity, and a desire in staying actively involved in government. Students will engage in projects that demonstrate their understanding and mastery of the covered concepts.

Economics
One Semester
Grade 12

Economics will be primarily a research and discussion based course. In this course students should deepen their understanding of the economic problems and institutions of the nation and world in which they live. Students will practice life application skills such as budgeting and time management in order to grasp an understanding of scarcity and opportunity costs. They will also use charts, graphs, and tables to examine the laws of supply and demand. Units of study include Fundamental Economic Concepts, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics: Institutions, Macroeconomics: Policies, and International and Global Economics.

Performing Arts

The curriculum is designed to serve as an introduction to the principles of drama and dance. Students learn effective skills in oral interpretation, critical analysis, acting, and play production. Students also acquire knowledge of the history of drama as an art form, including the various kinds of drama and the major contributing figures. Performing Arts classes address the five components required by the University of California: Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Historical and Cultural Context, Aesthetic Valuing, and Connections and Applications. All require some work beyond class time.

Theatre
One Year Class
Grade 9, 10, 11, and 12

Performing Arts students will learn to demonstrate their ability to solve problems and think critically. Students will achieve this by using sensory information that is communicated through the language of the theater and through the skill of performance. Students will prepare written analyses and critical assessments of various plays through research and problem solving. They will study the historical and theatrical contexts from which the studied plays come. Students will demonstrate their skills through performance and their writing. Assessment comes through the presentation of the genre studied to an audience, plus class critique and self-evaluation. Students achieve self-confidence by successfully acting out the scene or play in front of an audience.

Extracurricular Sports

THG's Westview School of Arts & Technology offers team sports programs throughout the year. Girls' Volleyball and Coed Cross Country are offered in the fall; Basketball is offered in the winter; Volleyball, Baseball and Softball are offered in the spring. Westview School of Arts & Technology participates in interagency "friendly" matches against other schools within The Help Group, including basketball and soccer.

Middle School

Course of Study

English/Language Arts

English 6 **One Year Class** **Grades 6**

The major purpose of this course is to develop student focus and active engagement with text, following the Common Core Standards. Students are required to analyze, identify, define, explain, and critique with an increased emphasis on advanced forms of evaluation in expository critique and literary criticism and advanced presentations on problems and solutions. The reading materials include a good representation of narrative (classic and contemporary literature) and expository literature (magazines, newspapers, online articles).

The curriculum is organized into four instructional components: Narrative, Exposition, Response to Literature/Text, and Persuasion, to address the instructional needs of students in establishing proficiency.

English 7 **One Year Class** **Grades 7**

The major purpose of this course is to provide students with the skills and content knowledge to transition from the process of learning to read to the more advanced processes of reading to learn, following the Common Core Standards. Students will build academic vocabulary, in oral and written forms, and independent reading skills to significantly improve reading comprehension and vocabulary. An increased familiarity with models of good writing and the conventions of writing and spelling will be developed in order to apprentice students in building. The reading includes a good representation of narrative (classic and contemporary literature) and expository literature (magazines, newspapers, online articles). Seventh grade students are expected to continue to develop strategies for organizing and giving focus to their writing with an increased emphasis on the documentation of support and extension of organizational strategies.

The curriculum is organized into four instructional components: Narrative, Research/ Exposition, Response to Literature/Text, and Persuasion, to address the instructional needs of students in establishing proficiency.

English 8 **One Year Class** **Grades 8**

The major purpose of this course is to build student readiness required for successful achievement with secondary content in grades nine through twelve and to support the culmination of curriculum activities and proficiency for grade eight, following the Common Core Standards. This requires that by the end of middle school, students will have read one million words annually on their own, including a good representation of narrative (classic and contemporary literature) and expository literature (magazines, newspapers, online articles). Eighth grade students will continue to produce texts of 500 to 700 words in the following categories: fictional or autobiographical narratives, responses to literature, research reports, and persuasive compositions.

The curriculum is organized into four instructional components: Narrative, Research/ Exposition, Response to Literature/Text, and Persuasion, to address the instructional needs of students in establishing proficiency. They are also expected to evaluate the unity, logic, internal consistency, and structural patterns of text.

Mathematics

Mathematics 6 **One Year Class** **Grades 6**

The major purpose of this course, following the Common Core Standards, is to serve as a vehicle by which students will master the four arithmetic operations with whole numbers, positive fractions, positive decimals, and positive and negative integers; and will accurately compute and solve problems. They will apply this knowledge to statistics and probability, and geometry. In this course, students will understand the concept of mean, median, and mode of data sets and how to calculate the range. They will analyze data and sampling processes for possible bias and misleading conclusions; they will use addition and multiplication of fractions routinely to calculate probabilities. Students will work with ratios and proportions. Students will continue their study of geometry, including complementary and supplementary angles, the sum of the angles in a triangle, the concept of the constant pi and its applications to the formulas for area and circumference of the circle.

Mathematics 7 **One Year Class** **Grades 7**

Students, following the Common Core Standards, will be adept at manipulating numbers and equations and understand the general principles at work. Students will gain a deeper understanding of rational numbers and their various forms of representation. They will increase their understanding of ratio and proportion and apply this knowledge to topics such as slopes of lines and the change in volume and surface area of basic three-dimensional figures when the scale is changed. Students will make conversions between different units of measurement and compute percents of change and simple and compound interest. In addition, students will know the Pythagorean Theorem and solve problems involving computing a missing side.

Algebra Readiness **One Year Class** **Grades 8**

Algebra Readiness is designed to adequately prepare 8th grade students, following the Common Core Standards, for Algebra. According to the Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools (2006 Revised Edition), it is imperative that students master pre-algebraic skills and concepts before they enroll in a course that meets or exceeds the rigor of the content standards for Algebra I adopted by the State board of Education. The sixteen targeted standards for Algebra Readiness (thirteen from grade 7 and three from Algebra I) are grouped into the following topics: Operations on Rational Numbers, Equations and Functions, The Coordinate Plane, Graphing Proportional Relationships and Algebra (Introductory Examples). They are purposely limited in number to provide teachers the flexibility and time to rebuild the following foundational skills and concepts that may be missing from earlier grades: Whole Numbers, Operations on Whole Numbers, Rational Numbers, Operations on Rational Numbers, Symbolic Notation, Equations and Functions, and the Coordinate Plane.

History/Social Studies

World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations

One Year Class

Grades 6

The Grade six course investigates the origins and development of ancient societies of major western and non-western civilizations. Included are the societies of the Near East, Africa, the ancient Hebrew civilization, Greece, Rome, and the classical civilizations of India and China. For each of these societies, emphasis is placed on the major contributions, achievements, and beliefs that have influenced civilizations across the centuries to the present day. This course stresses the special significance of geography in the development of the human story and provides the opportunity to study the everyday lives of people living in vastly different areas of the world. The course content focuses on the people in ancient societies; their problems and accomplishments; their social, economic, political structures, and belief systems; the tools and technology they developed; the arts they created; the architecture; the literature they produced; their explanation for natural phenomena, and their direct or indirect contributions to issues such as the role of women and the practice of slavery.

World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times

One Year Class

Grades 7

The Grade seven course explores world history and geography from the Fall of Rome through the Age of Enlightenment. The course investigates the social, cultural, and technological changes during this period. This course briefly reviews the role of archaeologists and historians in uncovering the past. It goes on to examine Islam as a religion and as a civilization. The course examines the spread of Islam through Africa, the rise of the Mayan, Incan, and Aztec civilizations; the civilizations of China and Japan; Europe during the High Middle Ages; the turbulent ages of the Renaissance, Reformation, and Scientific Revolution. This course seeks to enhance understanding of the interconnection of past events, people, and ideas to events and issues of importance in the world today.

United States History & Geography: Growth and Conflict

One Year Class

Grades 8

The Grade eight course examines United States history and geography concentrating on the growth of the United States during the period of colonization through the Age of Industrialization. The course begins with an intensive investigation and review of the major ideas, issues, and events preceding the founding of the nation. The course then concentrates on the shaping of the Constitution and the nature of the government that it created. The development of unique regions in the West, Northeast, and the South and the causes and consequences of the Civil War, is covered in depth. The course studies the movement of people into and within the United States; the experiences of diverse groups (women, racial, religious, ethnic, and economic classes) and their contributions to the evolving American identity. The course also connects historical issues to current affairs in order to develop a greater understanding of the basic institutions and policies of the nation.

Science

Earth Science AB

The course is aligned with the California State Content standards. Students at Westview School of Arts & Technology School are actively engaged in learning through direct instruction, participating in labs, and focusing on reading for understanding. Topics covered in this course include the earth systems and processes, plate tectonics and the earth's structure, weather and climate, ecology and recourses, Technology supports student learning through a wide range of tools. Transparencies, audio, video, CD-ROMS, interactive textbooks, and the Internet are used to reach all types of learners. Students are provided hands-on learning and Lab activities through use of DVDs.

Life Science 7AB

Life Science is designed to provide accessible content aligned with the California Content Standards and a rich assortment of hands-on activities to provide numerous opportunities for investigations, inquiry, and experimentation. Content includes cell biology, genetics, evolution, earth and life history, structure and function in living organisms, and physical principles in living systems. Technology supports student learning through a wide range of tools. Transparencies, audio, video, CD-ROMS, interactive textbooks, and the Internet are used to reach all types of learners. Students are provided hands-on learning and Lab activities through use of DVDs.

Physical Science 8AB

In accordance with the California State Content Standards, this course is designed to provide access to the content through direct instruction and meaningful hands-on activities. The course covers motion, forces, structure of matter, the earth in the solar system, chemical reactions of living systems, the periodic table and density and buoyancy. Technology supports student learning through a wide range of tools. Transparencies, audio, video, CD-ROMS, interactive textbooks, and the Internet are used to reach all types of learners. Students are provided hands-on learning and Lab activities through use of DVDs.

Middle School Physical Education

The program provides every student with the opportunity to develop and to maintain a level of physical fitness and skill development commensurate with individual needs. This goal is accomplished through the use of drills, tasks, and activities with an emphasis on the development of basic skills and conditioning. The program also emphasizes teamwork and good sportsmanship among the students. It's designed to educate students about the body through various physical activities. Most activities will fall under the following: sport specific, sports rules/terminology, physical fitness testing, team building, sports etiquette, and recreation.