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Information contained herein is current as of February 17, 2021 and is subject to change.
Mission
BB&N’s mission is to promote scholarship, integrity, and kindness in diverse, curious, and motivated students. The School prepares students for lives of principled engagement in their communities and the world.

Values
• We value a learning environment distinguished by a broad, deep, and challenging program of study that inspires thorough, sustained engagement among our students.
• We value a diverse and inclusive community that fosters respect for the identities and perspectives of all.
• We value balancing a culture of high expectations with a strong commitment to support intellectual, social, emotional, and physical well-being.
• We value kindness and compassion among all members of our community.
• We value the widespread, authentic connection with students that our teachers, coaches, and mentors seek to cultivate.
• We value a program that reinforces key characteristics for 21st-century success—especially creativity, curiosity, resilience, and teamwork.
• We value the importance of helping students develop keen ethical standards in their behavior, habits of thought, and decision-making.
• We value a vibrant, healthy, and safe community where engagement and risk-taking promote lifelong learning.
• We value encouraging our students to learn and serve in their local, regional, and global communities.
• We value a well-rounded education that offers our students ample opportunity to explore, evolve, and excel in academics, arts, athletics, and all phases of school life.

Global Education Program
BB&N has a strong and ongoing commitment to the principles of a global education. With social and local issues becoming increasingly global and interdependent, it is essential that the School cultivate global citizens. Students learn to be open and curious, to collaborate and communicate with each other and across boundaries, to appreciate multiple perspectives, and to recognize that the world is made up of interconnected and interdependent systems. As they develop these competencies, students investigate the world beyond the classroom, propose innovative solutions to problems, and act upon critical issues. These competencies are developed through the School’s courses, study abroad opportunities, Global Online Academy, School-sponsored travel, and extracurricular activities.
Upper School Contact Information

Upper School Director: Geoff Theobald (gtheobald@bbns.org, 617-800-2130)

Upper School Assistant Director: Katrina Fuller (kfuller@bbns.org, 617-800-2138)

Dean of Students: Rory Morton (rmorton@bbns.org, 617-800-2165)

Director of Global Education: Karina Baum (kbaum@bbns.org, 617-800-2250)

Director of Student Support Services: Kim Gold (kgold@bbns.org, 617-800-2227)

Department Heads

Arts Department Head: Laura Tangusso (ltangusso@bbns.org, 617-800-2286)

English Department Head: Ariel Duddy (aduddy@bbns.org, 617-800-2159)

History and Social Sciences Department Head: Susan Glazer (sglazer@bbns.org, 617-800-2163)

Mathematics and Computer Science Department Head: Chip Rollinson (crollinson@bbns.org, 617-800-2161)

Science Department Head: Rachel Riemer (rriemer@bbns.org, 617-800-2185)

World Languages Department Head: Cécile Roucher-Greenberg (croucher-greenberg@bbns.org, 617-800-2172)

Athletics

Director of Athletics: Chuck Richard (crichard@bbns.org, 617-800-2145)

Director of Physical Education and Health (B – 12): Henri Andre (handre@bbns.org, 617-800-2143)

Associate Director of Athletics (Upper School): Kindyll Dorsey (kdorsey@bbns.org; 617-800-2149)

College Counseling

Director of College Counseling: Amy Selinger (aselinger@bbns.org, 617-800-2106)

Associate Director of College Counseling: Fred Coyne (fcoyne@bbns.org, 617-800-2106)

Associate Director of College Counseling: Katie Gayman (kgayman@bbns.org, 617-800-2106)

Associate Director of College Counseling: Lauren Watson (lwatson@bbns.org, 617-800-2106)

College Office Manager: Christina Myers (cmyers@bbns.org; 617-800-2106)

Global Online Academy Site Director: Shawnee Sloop (ssloop@bbns.org, 617-800-2151)

Semester-Away Program Coordinator: Scott Tang (stang@bbns.org, 617-800-2220)
Upper School Graduation Requirements

Students in Grade 9 take five academic courses plus a sixth course in art. Students in Grades 10 – 12 take five academic courses and may take an arts course as a sixth course. Students may take an arts course as a sixth course without special permission. The Upper School Director, based on recommendations from the Educational Policy Committee, must approve any variations to the standard program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Graduation Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>1 unit in Grade 9; 1 unit in Grades 10 – 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grades 9 – 11: 3 seasons each year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade 12: 2 seasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Grades 10 – 11 students who participate in 2 interscholastic sports: 2 seasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Social Sciences</td>
<td>2 units, including a U.S. History course in Grade 11 and a Modern Global History course*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics and Computer Science</td>
<td>3 units, including 1 unit of Algebra 2 and 1 unit of Geometry **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2 units, including 1 unit of Biology and 1 unit of a physical science ^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages</td>
<td>3 full, consecutive units of the same language ^^</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bivouac</td>
<td>Required in Grade 9 ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexuality and Relationships</td>
<td>Required in Grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Learning</td>
<td>40 hours during Upper School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Spring Project</td>
<td>Approved individual project during spring trimester of Grade 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes
* Only courses designated as Modern Global History courses meet the graduation requirement.
** A student in Grade 11 must take a mathematics course unless the student has already completed Algebra 2 and Geometry and has Department Head approval to take the third unit in Grade 12.
^ All students in Grade 9 take Biology or Biology (Honors). Courses that meet the physical science requirement include Principles of Chemistry, Chemistry, Chemistry (Honors), Physics, Physics (Honors), and Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics. Students new to the school in Grade 10 or 11 who have already taken a biology, physics, or chemistry course may be granted BB&N graduation credit for the previous course based on departmental approval. All students new to the school in Grade 10 or 11 are required to take at least one year of science at BB&N to graduate.
^^ Students must take a language course through Grade 11, completing at least level three of a language. Students who previously studied a language not offered at BB&N and are new to the school in Grade 11 need to successfully complete two full years of a language at BB&N. New students repeating Grade 11 must take a language course in Grade 11 and complete at least level three of language at BB&N; alternatively, these students may take and successfully pass a new language for two years.
~ Full participation in the Bivouac experience is an integral and required part of the Grade 9 curriculum. For students entering the Upper School in Grade 9, Bivouac is a requirement for promotion to Grade 10 and for graduation.

Seniors who have not yet fulfilled the graduation requirement in a physical science course, a mathematics course, a U.S. History course, and/or a language course must take a full year of these courses (extending through Senior Spring Project).

Courses taken at other institutions are not given credit toward graduation requirements without the prior approval of the appropriate Department Head. After a student has enrolled at BB&N, all remaining graduation requirements must be fulfilled at BB&N or at a BB&N-sanctioned semester-away program. In cases where participation in a BB&N-sanctioned semester-away program does not allow a student to complete a BB&N graduation requirement (such as a physical science or arts course), the student needs to enroll in another BB&N course in a subsequent year or have an approved course plan from the Department Head to meet that graduation requirement.

Exceptions to the BB&N minimum graduation requirements are granted only under unusual circumstances and only upon recommendation of the Educational Policy Committee with approval by the Director of the Upper School.
Buckingham Browne & Nichols Upper School
Four-Year Course Planning Worksheet

Student Name: _____________________________  Date: ____________

Advisor: ________________________________

**Graduation Requirements**: Students in Grades 9 – 12 must complete the following minimum requirements:

- **Arts**: 1 unit in Grade 9 plus 1 unit in Grades 10 – 12
- **Athletics**: Grades 9 – 11: 3 seasons each year
  Grade 12: 2 seasons
  Grades 10 – 11 students who participate in 2 interscholastic sports: 2 seasons
- **English**: 4 units
- **History and Social Sciences**: 2 units, including a U.S. History course in Grade 11 and a Modern Global History course
- **Mathematics and Computer Science**: 3 units, including Geometry and Algebra 2
- **Science**: 2 units, including 1 year of Biology and 1 year of a physical science
- **World Languages**: 3 full, consecutive units of the same language

Full participation in the Bivouac experience is an integral and required part of the Grade 9 curriculum. For students entering the Upper School in Grade 9, Bivouac is a requirement for promotion to Grade 10 and for graduation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>English 9</td>
<td>English 10</td>
<td>AP English 11</td>
<td>English 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Social Sciences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A U.S. History Course</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(U.S. History or American and Global History: Case Studies II)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics and Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Or</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Biology (Honors)</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Languages</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Elective</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
GRADE 9 AT-A-GLANCE

ARTS
Required: In Grade 9, all students take a full year of art courses designed to be an introduction to the elements and techniques in two broad areas of art: Visual Arts and Performing Arts. Students choose a one-semester course in each of these areas, but freshmen who participate in Jazz 9 or Orchestra 9 take these courses for the entire year, and freshmen in Chorale have the option to take the course for the entire year.

ATHLETICS
Required: Students in Grades 9 must participate in the Athletics Program for all three seasons and must participate in interscholastic sports for at least two of those seasons. By the end of Grade 10, students must have participated in at least three interscholastic sports in total. Students in Grade 9 may take after-school Health and Fitness for the fall, winter, or spring season. Participation in a school theatrical production meets the interscholastic sport requirement for only one season per year. Participation in two theatrical productions within one school year does not fulfill the interscholastic sports requirement in Grade 9.

ENGLISH
Required: English 9

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Grade 9 students who take a history course enroll in Global History I: The Individual in Society.

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Required: Students continue in the math sequence (Accelerated Algebra 1–Algebra 2–Geometry–Precalculus).

Based on the results of placement tests administered in April, performance in a Grade 8 math course, teacher approval, and SSAT/ERB scores, most students are placed into Accelerated Algebra 1, Algebra 2, or Algebra 2 (Honors). Students rising from BB&N’s Middle School are placed by the Middle School Math Department and students new to BB&N are placed by the Upper School Mathematics and Computer Science Department Head. Successfully passing an Algebra 2 placement exam would allow an advanced math student to be placed into Geometry (Honors) in Grade 9 if the student has already completed a full Algebra 2 curriculum in Grade 8.

Students who finish the year with a grade of D+ or below in Accelerated Algebra 1 or Algebra 2 are required to do summer work under the direction of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department Head in preparation for the next course in the required math sequence.

SCIENCE
Required: Students in Grade 9 take Biology or Biology (Honors), even those students who may have previously taken a biology course at another institution. Students from BB&N’s Middle School are placed by the Middle School Science Department, while students new to BB&N are placed by the Upper School Science Department Head.

WORLD LANGUAGES
Required: Successful completion of three full, consecutive years of the same language is required for graduation. With permission of the Department Head, students have the option of taking a second language course in Grades 9 – 12. See the World Languages Department section for descriptions of the Double Language Program and the BB&N Language Scholar Program.

BIVOUAC
Full participation in the Bivouac experience is an integral and required part of the Grade 9 curriculum. For students entering the Upper School in Grade 9, Bivouac is a requirement for promotion to Grade 10 and for graduation.
GRADE 10 AT-A-GLANCE

ARTS
In Grades 10 – 12, students must complete at least one full credit of art, though the School encourages students to continue their study of art well beyond this minimum requirement.

ATHLETICS
**Required:** Students in Grade 10 must participate in the Athletics Program for all three seasons. For students in Grade 10, participation in two interscholastic sports within one school year fulfills the athletics requirement for that year. By the end of Grade 10, students must have participated in at least three interscholastic sports. Students new to the school in Grade 10 must participate in at least two interscholastic sports within the academic year. Participation in a school theatrical production meets the interscholastic sport requirement for only one season per year. Participation in two theatrical productions within one school year does not fulfill the athletics requirement for students in Grade 10.

Students in Grade 10 may take Health and Fitness during the academic day. In addition, students in Grade 10 are eligible for the after-school Strength and Conditioning program, may manage a team (only one season per year), and may request an Athletics Waiver for Service Learning (only one season per year). Students taking Studio Arts: Afternoon must complete two sessions per week of Health and Fitness to meet the athletics requirement each season.

ENGLISH
**Required:** English 10

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Grade 10 students take Global History II: Making an Interconnected World, American and Global History: Case Studies I (part one of a two-year course), or The Making of the Modern Middle East.

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
**Required:** Students continue in the math sequence (Accelerated Algebra 1–Algebra 2–Geometry–Precalculus).

Electives: Computer Programming, Advanced Placement Computer Science, or Advanced Placement Statistics may be taken in addition to a standard math course with approval of the department. Enrollment in these courses is limited.

If there is sufficient interest, BB&N offers a summer course in Geometry (Advanced). This course is designed for students who have taken Algebra 2 in Grades 10 or 11 and may allow for advancement to a precalculus course the following year.

Students who finish the year with a grade of D+ or below in Accelerated Algebra 1 or Algebra 2 are required to do summer work under the direction of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department Head in preparation for the next course in the required math sequence.

SCIENCE
Students in Grade 10 may enroll in Physics, Physics (Honors), Principles of Chemistry, Chemistry (Honors), or Chemistry. Biology is required in Grade 10 if it has not yet been completed. Students new to the school in Grade 10 who have already taken a biology, physics, or chemistry course may be granted BB&N graduation credit for the previous course based on departmental approval. All students new to the school in Grade 10 are required to take at least one year of science at BB&N to graduate.

WORLD LANGUAGES
**Required:** Successful completion of three full, consecutive years of the same language is required for graduation. With permission of the Department Head, students have the option of taking a second language course in Grades 9 – 12. See the World Languages Department section for descriptions of the Double Language Program and the BB&N Language Scholar Program.

SEXUALITY AND RELATIONSHIPS
All Grade 10 students take a Sexuality and Relationships course that meets twice per week for one trimester.
GRADE 11 AT-A-GLANCE

ARTS
In Grades 10 – 12, students must complete at least one full credit of art, though the School encourages students to continue their study of art well beyond this minimum requirement.

ATHLETICS
**Required:** Students in Grade 11 must participate in the Athletics Program for all three seasons. For students in Grade 11, participation in two interscholastic sports within one school year fulfills the athletics requirement for that year. Participation in a school theatrical production meets the interscholastic sport requirement for only one season per year. Participation in two theatrical productions within one school year does not fulfill the athletics requirement for students in Grade 11.

Students in Grade 11 may take Health and Fitness during the academic day. In addition, students in Grade 11 are eligible for the after-school Strength and Conditioning program, may manage a team (only one season per year), and may request an Athletics Waiver for Service Learning (only one season per year). Students taking Studio Arts: Afternoon must complete two sessions per week of Health and Fitness to meet the athletics requirement each season.

ENGLISH
**Required:** English 11 (Advanced Placement)

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
**Required:** United States History, United States History: African American History, United States History: Gender and Sexuality Studies, or American and Global History: Case Studies II (part two of a two-year course). Grade 11 students may take a second History and Social Sciences course with permission of the Department Head.

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
**Required:** Students continue in the math sequence (Accelerated Algebra 1–Algebra 2–Geometry–Precalculus).

Electives: Computer Programming, Advanced Placement Computer Science, or Advanced Placement Statistics may be taken in addition to a standard math course with approval of the department. Enrollment in these courses is limited.

If there is sufficient interest, BB&N offers a summer course in Geometry (Advanced). This course is designed for students who have taken Algebra 2 in Grades 10 or 11 and may allow for advancement to a Precalculus course the following year.

SCIENCE
Students new to the school in Grade 11 who have already taken a biology, physics, or chemistry course may be granted BB&N graduation credit for the previous course based on departmental approval. All students new to the school in 11 are required to take at least one year of science at BB&N to graduate. If a student has not yet met the one-year physical science requirement, the student is encouraged to do so in Grade 11. Physical science courses include: Physics, Physics (Honors), Principles of Chemistry, Chemistry, Chemistry (Honors), and Advanced Placement (AP) Physics C: Mechanics. Elective options include Anatomy and Physiology (Advanced), AP Biology / Advanced Biology (Honors), AP Physics C: Mechanics, Biochemistry (Advanced), Engineering Principles and Practice (Advanced) / Engineering Principles and Practice, Environmental Studies (Advanced), Experimental Biology (Honors), Infectious Diseases (Advanced) / Infectious Diseases, Marine Ecology (Advanced) / Marine Ecology, Organic Chemistry (Honors), and Scientific Ethics (Advanced) / Scientific Ethics. See the course descriptions for information about prerequisites.

WORLD LANGUAGES
**Required:** Successful completion of three full, consecutive years of the same language is required for graduation.

Students who previously studied a language not offered at BB&N and are new to the school in Grade 11 need to successfully complete two full years of the same language at BB&N. New students repeating Grade 11 must take a language course in Grade 11 and complete at least level three of language at BB&N; alternatively, these students may take and successfully pass a new language for two years.

With permission of the Department Head, students have the option of taking a second language course in Grades 9 – 12. See the World Languages Department section for descriptions of the Double Language Program and the BB&N Language Scholar Program.
GRADE 12 AT-A-GLANCE

ARTS
In Grades 10 – 12, students must complete at least one full credit of art, though the School encourages students to continue their study of art well beyond this minimum requirement. Students completing the arts graduation requirement in Grade 12 earn one full credit for the completion of a full-credit course during Trimesters 1 and 2.

ATHLETICS
Required: Students in Grade 12 must participate in the Athletics Program for at least two seasons. Students in Grade 12 may take Health and Fitness during the academic day. In addition, students in Grade 12 are eligible for the after-school Strength and Conditioning program, may manage a team (only one season per year), and may request an Athletics Waiver for Service Learning (only one season per year). Students taking Studio Arts: Afternoon must complete two sessions per week of Health and Fitness to meet the athletics requirement each season. During Senior Spring Project, a senior is not allowed to participate in a Junior Varsity Team if that senior has not previously played the sport. Only seniors who have already completed the Service Learning graduation requirement and have not already completed a Season of Service during senior year are allowed to do a Season of Service in lieu of an athletics season during Senior Spring Project.

ENGLISH
Required: English 12 (two separate trimester-long courses taken during the first and second trimesters)

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Students can elect to take one or two of the History and Social Science electives: AP Art History / Art History (Honors), AP Comparative Government and Politics/AP U.S. Government and Politics or AP Comparative Government and Politics/U.S. Government and Politics (Honors), AP European History, AP Human Geography, AP Macroeconomics, Environmental Studies (Advanced), History Research Seminar (Honors), Modern American Culture and Society, and Psychology. Some electives require approval of the department.

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Students who have completed three years of math, including Algebra 2 and Geometry, may choose from the following electives: Precalculus, Precalculus (Advanced), Precalculus AB (Honors), Precalculus BC (Honors), Calculus & Statistics, Calculus (Advanced), AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Linear Algebra and Multivariable Calculus (Honors), Statistics, AP Statistics, Computer Programming, AP Computer Science A (Plus Data Structures), and Advanced Topics in Computer Science (Honors). Enrollment in AP Statistics, Computer Programming, AP Computer Science, and Advanced Topics in Computer Science (Honors) is limited. If a student has not yet fulfilled the three-year math requirement, including a full year of Algebra 2 and Geometry, the student must remain enrolled in their math course throughout Senior Spring Project.

SCIENCE
Students who have not yet fulfilled the two-year science requirement or the one-year physical science requirement must take a physical science course and remain enrolled in the course throughout Senior Spring Project. Physical science courses include: Physics, Physics (Honors), Principles of Chemistry, Chemistry, Chemistry (Honors), and AP Physics C: Mechanics. Elective options include Anatomy and Physiology (Advanced), AP Biology / Advanced Biology (Honors), AP Physics C: Mechanics, Biochemistry (Advanced), Current Topics and Research in Science and Technology (Honors), Engineering Principles and Practice (Advanced) / Engineering Principles and Practice, Environmental Studies (Advanced), Experimental Biology (Honors), Infectious Diseases (Advanced) / Infectious Diseases, Marine Ecology (Advanced) / Marine Ecology, Organic Chemistry (Honors), and Scientific Ethics (Advanced) / Scientific Ethics. See the course descriptions for information about prerequisites.

WORLD LANGUAGES
It is recommended that students continue their language study to the highest possible level and take four years of a language while in the Upper School. If a student has not yet fulfilled the three-year full, consecutive language requirement, the student must continue their language sequence. Seniors must take a full year of language (throughout Senior Spring Project) if they have not yet fulfilled the graduation requirement.

With permission of the Department Head, students have the option of taking a second language course in Grades 9 – 12. See the World Languages Department section for descriptions of the Double Language Program and the BB&N Language Scholar Program.

SENIOR SPRING PROJECT
Required: An approved, individual project during the spring trimester of Grade 12
**Arts Department**

During the freshman year, all students take a full year of art courses designed to be an introduction to the elements and techniques in two broad areas of art: Visual Arts and Performing Arts. Students choose a one-semester course in each of these areas, but freshmen who participate in Jazz 9 and Orchestra 9 take these courses for the entire year, and freshmen in Chorale have the option to take the course for the entire year.

In Grades 10 – 12, students must complete at least one full credit of art, though the School encourages students to continue their study of art well beyond this minimum requirement.

In Grades 10 – 12, full-credit courses generally meet four times per week and half-credit courses generally meet two times per week. Students completing the arts graduation requirement in Grade 12 earn one full credit for the completion of a full-credit course during Trimesters 1 and 2. See the individual course descriptions for more information about the amount of credit granted for each course.

**GRADE 9 VISUAL ARTS**

**Photography 9**
Students learn the basics of 35mm film camera operation, film development, and darkroom skills, while exploring the language of black and white photography. Field trips help to provide visual stimuli and content for work in the lab. Students wishing for a deeper exploration of darkroom and digital photography should take the full-year course offered in Grades 10 – 12.

**Visual Arts 9**
This course provides an opportunity for students to explore their creative imagination through various ways and means of art-making that encourage discovery, creative problem solving, and personal expression. Students experience drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, and mixed media while developing the ability to think visually. Emphasis is on process while developing basic skills in a variety of media.

**Woodworking 9**
Students in this course design and build a variety of woodworking projects such as wood boxes with hand-cut joinery, clocks, and lathe-turned bowls. Student become proficient in the safe and proper use of both hand tools and power tools such as the lathe, scroll saw, and drill press. This course offers a unique opportunity to learn the fundamentals of woodworking.

**GRADE 9 PERFORMING ARTS**

**Audio Production and Music Technology (Grades 9 – 12)**
This semester-long course offers an opportunity to learn the basics of producing layered musical audio tracks using Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software such as Soundtrap, Garageband, or Logic Pro. Students learn to create beats and backing tracks using both digital instruments and live audio capture with a microphone. The course focuses on gaining familiarity and practice with the concepts of song form, meter and rhythm, texture, equalization, and the use of digital effects. Students also develop critical listening skills by analyzing musical tracks from contemporary artists such as Michael Franti, Drake, and Rachel Platten. Having taken this course, a student may have the necessary skills to collaborate on sound design in future theatrical productions and/or student film projects.

**Chorale**
Freshmen who can learn music by ear or who can read music may choose to join Chorale by meeting with the Chorale Director in the spring or during the first week of school. The Chorale is a performing ensemble of approximately 25 – 40 students. The group’s repertoire includes songs from many traditions and cultures around the world and through history. Students sing in four to eight parts depending on the size and experience of the group, and occasionally perform all-male or all-female part songs. The group gives formal concerts twice annually as well as numerous performances at school functions, in neighboring communities, and at high school choral events. The ensemble may tour internationally every two to three years and produces recordings of its best performances. Freshmen who participate in Chorale may continue with Chorale for the entire year and earn a full credit for the yearlong course or take Chorale for only one semester and take a visual arts course during the other semester. Students who are enrolled in Chorale may also audition to participate in one of the School’s a cappella ensembles, which require a full year commitment.

**Dance 9**
This course exposes students to a variety of dance styles and choreographers from the twentieth century. Students learn about classical jazz, contemporary hip hop, swing, and musical theater dance while completing progressions across the floor and short routines based on the style being studied. Beginning and experienced dancers are welcome.
Film and Video 9
In this course, students are introduced to the basics of cinematic and narrative form through short group projects. Using digital cameras as paintbrushes, students explore the language of cinema, developing short personal pieces that focus on artistry and personal voice. Every student gets a chance to be a camera operator, director, performer, and editor. Media literacy is promoted through in-class viewings and discussions in combination with students’ hands-on projects.

Jazz 9
The emphasis of the Grade 9 Jazz Ensemble is on improvisational techniques and group playing, with musical selections composed by jazz greats. In addition, students will explore the history of jazz music and various jazz styles. There are at least two performances per year. Admission to Jazz 9 is based on audition (held during spring or during the first week of school), as well as on the specific instrumental needs of the ensemble. The maximum size of this ensemble is fifteen, and there is a limit of two on the number of guitarists, pianists, bassists, and drummers. Freshmen participating in Jazz 9 continue with the course for the entire year.

Orchestra 9
Orchestra 9 students rehearse three times per week, twice in the Upper School Orchestra and once in a Chamber Music ensemble or additional repertoire study class. The Upper School Orchestra is an ensemble that features string, woodwind, and brass players. Comprised of 30 – 40 students from Grades 9 – 12, the Orchestra prepares two formal concerts per year, with repertoire that centers on classical music and also broadens instrumental students’ horizons with contemporary and collaborative projects. Past performances have included Mozart Symphony Nos. 35, 41; Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7; Schubert Symphonies Nos. 5, 8; overtures, concerto movements, and individual pieces ranging from Bach and Handel to Copland and modern American composers. Examples of exploratory collaborations include “Shri Raga,” a new structured improvisation developed in collaboration with a BB&N student tabla player and Terry Riley’s “In C,” performed outdoors with members of the jazz ensembles and faculty musicians. Admission to Orchestra is based on audition (held before or during the first week of school) and students are expected to play their instruments at an intermediate to advanced student level, as well as practice outside of rehearsals, complete occasional written reflection assignments, and participate verbally during rehearsal. Pianists and harpists are admitted to Orchestra only on a case-by-case basis, and rarely in Orchestra 9 (opportunities to re-audition for Orchestra and audition for Chamber Music will become available again in Grade 10).

Singing: Developing the Voice
Singing: Developing the Voice is a safe space for students of any grade to learn to sing or to improve existing vocal skills. Students in this course sing songs from folk, pop, rock, soul, classical, and the American musical theatre tradition, receiving both individual and group instruction. Class meetings focus on breathing, dictation, intonation, ear and sight-singing skills, as well as the basics of music theory; taken together, these may provide excellent preparation for participation in a musical drama production, the BB&N Chorale, or an a cappella ensemble. Singers who can learn music by ear or who can read music may choose instead to join Chorale by meeting with the Chorale Director in the spring or during the first week of school.

Theater Studies 9
Theater Studies 9 is an opportunity for students to study the world of the theater through a creative, energetic, and interactive exploration of the key skills required to create stories for the stage. Over the length of the course, students explore character and story development through the lens of actor, director, and playwright. The course provides an entry point to further theatrical electives as well as a wonderful opportunity to develop communication and interpersonal skills.

ARTS COURSES FOR GRADES 10 – 12

VISUAL ARTS

Advanced Placement Art History / Art History (Honors) (Grade 12 only)
This course tells the story of painting, sculpture, architecture, and the decorative arts by focusing on 250 specific works of art spanning human history from antiquity to the present. It meets three times each week, with a Friday afternoon double-block in the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA); we will also visit the Harvard Art Museum, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and several other sites. During MFA visits, three students each week lead class by giving presentations about individual masterpieces in the museum’s collection that supplement the material studied earlier in the week. The course may include a trip to Florence during the first week of Spring Break. Enrollment is limited.

Students who wish to take the Advanced Placement exam may remain enrolled in the course during Senior Spring Project or prepare the final unit, on contemporary art, independently. A student who chooses not to continue in this course during Senior Spring Project and does not complete the final unit receives credit on the transcript for completion of Art History (Honors).
This course fulfills one year of the two-year History and Social Science graduation requirement but does not fulfill the required second year of the Arts Department graduation requirement. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

**Architecture (Grades 10 – 12)**
This introduction to architecture uses design as a creative process to understand and explore architectural principles. As students progress through a sequence of individual and collaborative projects that address a variety of design questions, they learn the basic tools of drafting and model making. Emphasis in the latter half of the course is on identifying real-world architectural problems and addressing them in an imaginative and creative way. Projects will include both residential and public space design. Coursework is complemented by viewing, and possibly visiting, important local architectural sites and design firms.

**Advanced Architecture (Grades 11 – 12)**
In this advanced level study of architecture, students explore increasingly complex relationships between space, form, function, and site. Greater emphasis is on spatial design in the context of culture, technology, and sustainability of the built and natural environment. Course studies include an introduction to landscape architecture and urban design. Using technical drawings and models, students develop and present a final project in a specific area of their interest. Enrollment is limited.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Architecture.

Prerequisite: Architecture

**Ceramics (Grades 10 – 12)**
This course provides students with a formal introduction to traditional and contemporary ceramic forms and processes, using a variety of hand-building techniques, including pinch, coil, and slab. Students refine skills and learn advanced modeling techniques such as throwing and mold making. They develop aesthetic ideas through intermediate and advanced ceramic practices. Students are introduced to clay bodies, mold making, stamp making, glazing, and firing processes. Critiques are held to discuss design/creation, aesthetics, art history, and art criticism.

**Advanced Ceramics (Grades 11 – 12)**
This course is a continuation of the introductory ceramics course with an emphasis on skill, techniques, and form. A variety of hand-building techniques will be used to create advanced forms. Students are also introduced to more advanced techniques and forms on the pottery wheel. Students practice the development of aesthetic ideas through intermediate to advanced ceramic hand-building practices. Students gain knowledge of ceramics (historical and contemporary) and an appreciation of the aesthetics of three-dimensional form as manifested in ceramics objects. A portfolio of work will be completed by the end of the year.

Prerequisite: Ceramics

**Advanced Ceramics II (Grade 12)**
While Advanced Ceramics focuses on form, perfecting craftsmanship, and technique, Advanced Ceramics II requires students to concentrate on motif and the overall design of their work, as well as documenting their work. Students are asked to take into consideration and defend the conceptual elements of their work. At the culmination of the year, students in Advanced Ceramics II give a source presentation to the class showing their influences and the path they have followed over the last three years. Enrollment is limited.

This course is offered during Trimesters 2 and 3, is open to seniors only, and runs concurrently with Advanced Ceramics. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. Students earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3.

Prerequisite: Ceramics and Advanced Ceramics

**Drawing and Painting (Grades 10 – 12)**
This is an introductory-level course designed to familiarize students with the basic elements of drawing and painting. Students work primarily from observation. While concentrating on the formal visual elements such as line, shape, value, and color, students explore such concepts as figure/ground, proportion, scale, positive and negative space, perspective, volume, light, compositional issues, and pictorial unity. Students use a wide range of materials and a variety of sources, with the class consisting of work sessions, lectures, discussions, and critiques.

**Advanced Drawing and Painting (Grades 11 – 12)**
This is an advanced drawing and painting course designed to move students beyond the formal skills covered in the introductory course. Students are given open-ended prompts dealing with narrative and figuration with the goal of
becoming more independent in their choice of imagery. Students work from a combination of direct observation and photography and are encouraged to explore what interests them visually and create a unique body of work. Class consists of work sessions, lectures, discussions, and critiques.

**Prerequisite:** Drawing and Painting

**Advanced Drawing and Painting II (Grade 12)**

In the Advanced Painting and Drawing II course, students create unique imagery, including at least one large-scale painting, through open-ended prompts. Students are guided on the technical aspects of art-making, as well as the more amorphous, but equally important work of finding one’s own voice and path. Students are required to challenge assumptions, develop critical thinking skills, further develop their personal concepts, and continue to find their appreciation for visual concerns and aesthetic values. Students are also required to write and workshop individual artist statements and artist resumes. The goal is to encourage innovation and provide a platform for students to grow as artists. It is in this manner that the lessons learned in class transcend art-making and become applicable to other life situations. Enrollment is limited.

This course is offered during Trimesters 2 and 3, is open to seniors only, and runs concurrently with Advanced Drawing and Painting. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. Students earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3.

**Prerequisite:** Advanced Drawing and Painting

**Film and Video (Grades 10 – 12)**

Film and Video combines elements of film history and appreciation with a hands-on approach to the cinematic arts. Using cameras as paintbrushes, students work both individually and in collaborative groups to plan, shoot, and edit short personal works. The program uses the Adobe creative suite of applications, with emphasis on Premiere, Photoshop, and After Effects. A primary goal of media literacy is achieved through a combination of hands-on projects and in-class viewings and discussions. Enrollment is limited.

**Advanced Film and Video (Grades 11 – 12)**

Advanced Film and Video takes a deeper dive into the world of cinema, building on the knowledge gained in the introductory Film and Video course. This course focuses on developing one’s individual voice within the medium. What do you have to say? Who needs to hear it? Students focus on developing unique stories for film pulled from their own experiences. Students further their media literacy by having open, candid discussions about media, how it manipulates, and how to be both an effective content creator as well as a critical thinker. Between these discussions and creating their own content, students develop a critical approach to filmmaking. Enrollment is limited.

Seniors have the option of enrolling in this course for Trimesters 1 and 2 or for Trimesters 2 and 3. Seniors enrolling in this course during Trimesters 2 and 3 earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. This course may run concurrently with Film and Video.

**Prerequisite:** Film and Video

**Photography (Grades 10 – 12)**

This course explores the art of black and white photography, beginning with basic 35mm single-lens reflex camera and darkroom techniques, then moving farther into the expressive power of the medium. Regular shooting assignments encourage students to explore form, abstraction, portraiture, documentary, and subjective photography. Periodic critiques and slide presentations focus on developing a critical vocabulary in the visual arts and a sense of the history of photography. In the second trimester, students are introduced to digital imaging and color photography. An extended project of the student’s own choosing concludes the year.

**Advanced Photography (Grades 11 – 12)**

This course is for students who are serious about extending their exploration of the photographic medium. Students enhance their skill in fine printing, including split filtering and myriad photographic papers and sizes. Medium format and alternative cameras are introduced as a means of inspiring new and creative ways of seeing. In addition to exploring color photography, students complete a portfolio of their work by the end of the year, as well as possible book sequencing. Throughout the course, the focus is on deepening personal vision and extending technical mastery.

**Prerequisite:** Photography

**Advanced Photography II (Grade 12)**

This course builds upon the work students completed in the Photography and Advanced Photography courses, taking students to the next step of seeing their artwork in the context of the history of photography. Students create a number of extended photographic projects in several genres of photography. Emphasis is placed on identifying the intention of each project and committing to one’s own passions, curiosities, and visions. Through readings, slide talks, and museum trips, students learn about the history of photography, become aware of the vast range of contemporary approaches to photography, and are better able to define their own photographic directions.
This course is offered during Trimesters 2 and 3, is open to seniors only, and runs concurrently with Advanced Photography. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. Students earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3. Enrollment is limited.

Prerequisite: Advanced Photography

Printmaking (Grades 10 – 12)
Printmaking is a group of techniques with an unparalleled wealth of potential. Essentially, it is the process of using one surface, a matrix, to make an image on another surface, in this case, paper. Using their own experiences and imagination, nature, and abstraction as source materials, students explore their personal expressive potential. In this one-semester course, students develop a foundation of knowledge about various printmaking techniques, possibly including monoprint, relief, silkscreen, and intaglio. Tools used to aid the creation of the matrix may include the vinyl cutter, the laser cutter, and the photocopier. This course receives 0.5 credit for each semester of participation and may be taken in the fall and/or spring.

Studio Arts: Afternoon (Grades 9 – 12)
In this visual arts course, students work independently and amongst peers to realize projects of their own design. Whether seeking an extended opportunity to explore ideas initiated in other arts classes or interested in learning a new skill twice a week, students find an opportunity to pursue personal expressive ambitions with guidance and support. Work in the following media is available: drawing, painting, printmaking, and with permission of the instructor, photography, and ceramics. All skill levels are welcome in this course. Students attend two afternoons per week (Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.). This course runs during the fall, winter, and spring athletics seasons, and students can enroll in one or more seasons per year. For students in Grade 9, this course is only available during the winter or spring season. This course receives 0.25 arts credits for each trimester of participation and must be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season.

Woodworking (Grades 10 – 12)
This course provides a unique opportunity to gain a solid foundation in woodworking and design skills. Students design their own projects while developing a repertoire of standard and advanced woodworking techniques, including the safe and proper use of the power tools in the studio. Projects range from woodturning and cabinet-making, to the construction of large furniture pieces. Some of the projects made by students include bowls, stereo cabinets, jewelry boxes, chairs, mirrors, frames, tables, and baseball bats. This course is a great option for those who like to work with their hands.

Advanced Woodworking (Grades 11 – 12)
This course is open to students who wish to develop their design, artistic, and woodworking skills through a series of individual projects. Students explore lathe turning, carving, steam bending, and other woodworking and cabinet-making techniques to create a portfolio of individual projects. Students also become proficient in the safe and proper use of hand and power tools. Projects can include: sculpture, shadow boxes, secret compartments, cabinets, chairs, tables, jewelry, carvings, and a variety of lathe-turned projects.

Prerequisite: Woodworking

Advanced Woodworking II (Grade 12)
In Advanced Woodworking II, students design and construct a variety of increasingly complex and sophisticated woodworking projects that build on skills practiced in Advanced Woodworking. Students learn more advanced carving and woodworking techniques through the construction of their individual projects. The additional studio time in the spring allows students to further refine their woodworking skills and explore woodworking techniques in greater depth. Enrollment is limited.

This course is offered during Trimesters 2 and 3, is open to seniors only, and runs concurrently with Advanced Woodworking. Enrollment in both trimesters is required. Students earn 0.5 credits for completion of Trimester 2 and Senior Spring Project hours for completion of Trimester 3.

Prerequisite: Advanced Woodworking. Seniors who have not yet taken Advanced Woodworking but have taken Woodworking may be eligible to take Advanced Woodworking during Trimesters 2 and 3, with permission of the instructor.

Independent Study (Grades 11 – 12)
Independent Study within the Arts Department may be available for students who have a passion for art and a strong commitment to a specific performing or visual art. Students must apply for the Independent Study Program, be highly motivated, capable of working independently, secure an Independent Study teacher, and receive approval from the Arts Department. The Independent Study Program is generally only available to seniors who have completed the advanced course in their area of interest.
PERFORMING ARTS

A Cappella Ensemble (Grades 9 – 12)
The Knightingales and the Voices of the Knight are male and female a cappella close-harmony groups whose members are auditioned from Chorale each year. Admission to one of the a cappella ensembles is by audition only (held during the fall). This course meets one time per week (Monday or Thursday evening) and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.
Corequisite: Enrollment in Chorale

Audio Production and Music Technology (Grades 9 – 12)
This semester-long course offers an opportunity to learn the basics of producing layered musical audio tracks using Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software such as Soundtrap, Garageband, or Logic Pro. Students learn to create beats and backing tracks using both digital instruments and live audio capture with a microphone. The course focuses on gaining familiarity and practice with the concepts of song form, meter and rhythm, texture, equalization, and the use of digital effects. Students also develop critical listening skills by analyzing musical tracks from contemporary artists such as Michael Franti, Drake, and Rachel Platten. Having taken this course, a student may have the necessary skills to collaborate on sound design in future theatrical productions and/or student film projects. This course is open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and first-semester seniors, and meets three times per week. Students receive 0.5 arts credits for each semester of participation.

Chamber Music (Grades 10 – 12)
Advanced instrumentalists may elect to participate in smaller music ensembles, called Chamber Music Ensembles. Chamber Music Ensembles are formed based on instrumentation, students’ musical strengths, and students’ schedules; therefore, placement in a Chamber Music Ensemble is not guaranteed. Chamber Music Ensembles prepare repertoire for two formal concerts per year, with additional performance opportunities like assemblies, class meetings, or receptions. Practicing individual parts, score study, and active listening fill the necessary learning time outside of class. A Chamber Music Ensemble may choose to focus on music composition or music theory in addition to or in lieu of preparing for musical performances, based on student interest and scheduling. String, woodwind, and brass players may choose to participate in the Orchestra for two days per week and in one Chamber Music Ensemble, which amounts to 1.0 arts credit for each year of participation. Students who only participate in one Chamber Music Ensemble earn 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation and each additional Chamber Music Ensemble earns an additional 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation. Admission to the Chamber Music Ensembles is by audition only (held before or during the first week of school).

Chorale (Grades 9 – 12)
The Chorale is a performing ensemble of approximately 25 – 40 students. The group’s repertoire includes songs from many traditions and cultures around the world and through history. Students sing in four to eight parts depending on the size and experience of the group, and occasionally perform all-male or all-female part songs. The group gives formal concerts twice annually as well as numerous performances at school functions, in neighboring communities, and at high school choral events. The ensemble may tour internationally every two to three years and produces recordings of its best performances. Admission to Chorale is based on ability to either learn music by ear or read music; incoming members have a short meeting with the Chorale Director during the spring to clarify which part they will sing. This course meets two times per week and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

Dance: Contemporary and Modern (Grades 10 – 12)
This contemporary dance course focuses on various styles of contemporary and modern dance. Classes begin with learning about rudimentary and fundamental technique while working towards deeper flexibility and strength using a ballet barre. Progressions across the floor and building technique in the center of the room make up the middle section of each class, while routines and working towards performances will conclude classes. Students are encouraged to work towards building their own choreography for solo assignments, as well as group work for informal performances in class. Assignments include choreography work, research of choreographers, as well as some journal writing. No prior dance experience is required; all levels are welcomed and encouraged. This course meets two times per week for one semester (either Fall or Spring) and earns 0.5 arts credits for each semester of participation.

Dance: Musical Theater and Swing (Grades 10 – 12)
This course focuses on the styles of the great legendary choreographers of musical theater, both past and present, as well as partner work and high energy jazz dance as related to big band music for swing style. This class is a great opportunity for students interested in theater and who want to be more proficient in choreography or for dancers who want to add a variety of styles into their technique. No prior dance experience is required; all levels are welcomed and encouraged. This course meets two times per week for one semester (either Fall or Spring) and earns 0.5 arts credits for each semester of participation.

Jazz Ensemble (Grades 10–12)
Participating within a small jazz ensemble, students rehearse and perform compositions by jazz greats such as Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, Charles Mingus, and others. The art of ensemble playing and improvisation is the primary focus of this course. Students with the appropriate backgrounds may also contribute as composers or arrangers. There are at least two performances per year. Admission to the Jazz Ensemble is by audition only (held during the first week of school). This course meets one time per week (Monday or Tuesday evening) and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

Orchestra (Grades 10–12)
The Upper School Orchestra is an ensemble for that features string, woodwind, and brass players. Comprised of 30 – 40 students from Grades 9–12, the Orchestra prepares two formal concerts per year, with repertoire that centers on classical music and also broadens instrumental students’ horizons with contemporary and collaborative projects. Past performances have included Mozart Symphony Nos. 35, 41; Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7; Schubert Symphonies Nos. 5, 8; overtures, concerto movements, and individual pieces ranging from Bach and Handel to Copland and modern American composers. Examples of exploratory collaborations include “Shri Raga,” a new structured improvisation developed in collaboration with a BB&N student tabla player and Terry Riley’s “In C,” performed outdoors with members of the jazz ensembles and faculty musicians. Admission to Orchestra is based on audition (held before or during the first week of school) and students are expected to play their instruments at an intermediate to advanced student level, as well as practice outside of rehearsals, complete occasional written reflection assignments, and participate verbally during rehearsal. Pianists and harpists are admitted to Orchestra only on a case-by-case basis, though are always welcome to audition for Chamber Music. This course meets two times per week and receives 0.5 arts credit for each year of participation.

Singing: Developing the Voice (Grades 9 – 12)
Singing: Developing the Voice is a safe space for students of any grade to learn to sing or to improve existing vocal skills. Students in this course sing songs from folk, pop, rock, soul, classical, and the American musical theatre tradition, receiving both individual and group instruction. Class meetings focus on breathing, dictation, intonation, ear and sight-singing skills, as well as the basics of music theory; taken together, these may provide excellent preparation for participation in a musical drama production, the BB&N Chorale, or an a cappella ensemble. Singers who can learn music by ear or who can read music may choose instead to join Chorale by meeting with the Chorale Director in the spring or during the first week of school. This course meets three times per week and receives 0.5 arts credits for each semester of participation.

Theatrical Production (Grades 9 – 12)
Students who participate in one of the School’s theatrical productions through acting, stagecraft, or costume design may elect to participate in this Theatrical Production course. Satisfactory completion of this course includes full participation in the show (play or musical) along with the completion of a rehearsal journal. The rehearsal journal documents the student’s weekly activity, the development of skills and knowledge in the role, and includes research and critical observations of the process. Additionally, students regularly meet with the show’s Director to discuss progression and goals. This course receives 0.25 arts credit for each season of participation.

Advanced Theatrical Production (Grades 10 – 12)
Students who participate in one of the School’s theatrical productions through acting, stagecraft, or costume design may elect to participate in this Advanced Theatrical Production course after the successful completion of at least two seasons of Theatrical Production. Satisfactory completion of the course includes full participation in the show (play or musical) along with the completion of a rehearsal journal. The rehearsal journal documents the student’s weekly activity, the development of skills and knowledge in the role, and includes research and critical observations of the process. Additionally, students completing this course at the advanced level write a final paper on the production. The final paper discusses their personal progression through the process, includes a critical examination of the production performed at BB&N, and compares BB&N’s production to previous productions of the show. Students also regularly meet with the show’s Director to discuss progression and goals. This course receives 0.25 arts credit for each season of participation.
Prerequisite: Completion of two trimesters of Theatrical Production

Theater Studies (Grades 10 – 12)
This course provides students with a wide and varied exploration of both the theater and the performing arts in general. Studies include script analysis, character development, improvisation, acting for the stage, techniques for the actor, as well as notable theater creators and methodologies. Students are encouraged to develop not only performance skills for the actor but also the skills required of playwrights, directors, and designers. The course culminates in a student presentation of either something studied during the course or of a piece of work created by the group.
Advanced Theater Studies (Grades 11 – 12)
Advanced Theater Studies includes an intensive study of William Shakespeare, one American Playwright, one international playwright, a theater creator, and one notable development to the theater world since 1900. Students have the opportunity to work with their peers in an ensemble setting towards performing a piece built around their studies or directing a main stage play during the Spring.
Prerequisite: Theater Studies

Independent Study (Grades 11 – 12)
Independent Study within the Arts Department may be available for students who have a passion for art and a strong commitment to a specific performing or visual art. Students must apply for the Independent Study Program, be highly motivated, capable of working independently, secure an Independent Study teacher, and receive approval from the Arts Department. The Independent Study Program is generally only available to seniors who have completed the advanced course in their area of interest.

Athletics Alternative Activities
Artistic Independent Activity: Students with a major commitment and demonstrated ability in the arts (Grades 9 – 12) who participate in a significant arts program outside of BB&N may apply for a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity. This Waiver allows students to continue the pursuit of a non-BB&N arts endeavor and waives the requirement to participate in BB&N athletics for that season. All Waiver for Independent Activity (WIA) Forms must be submitted to the Head of the Arts Department no later than the first week of seasonal tryouts. The committee reviews all WIA Forms and notifies students if the activity is approved. WIA Forms are available in the Athletics Department Office and on the School’s website.

Students in Grades 10 – 12 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least one other season per academic year. Students in Grade 9 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least two other seasons per academic year.

Although a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity may be granted, non-BB&N art programs do not fulfill the two-year Arts graduation requirement.

BB&N Theatrical Program: Three faculty-directed plays and one senior-directed play are staged each year.
Acting: Auditions are open to the entire student body, and students with any level of acting experience are encouraged to audition. All students get the opportunity to enjoy a comprehensive production experience in a creative and empowering environment from the first day of rehearsals to the final performance. Rehearsals take place after school (Monday – Friday) and Saturday mornings during the eight-week rehearsal period.

Stagecraft: This program is open to all students interested in learning about scenery, lighting design, and technical production. Students help design, construct, and paint the scenery, as well as install lighting for the shows. Students also participate in the stage crew by shifting scenery, operating lighting and sound boards, and utilizing other equipment such as followspots and fog machines. Students attend four after-school sessions per week and Saturday mornings as production week approaches.

Costume Design: This program is open to students who wish to work under the supervision of the Costume Designer to develop and construct costumes used in the School’s theater productions. Students learn about costume history, millinery, costume props and accessories, hair and makeup design, practical machine and hand-sewing skills, pattern reading, pattern drafting and draping, and all other aspects of costume building. Students attend three to four after-school sessions per week.

Participation in a BB&N theater production, through acting, stagecraft, or costume design, waives the requirement to participate in BB&N athletics for that season and earns credit for participation in an interscholastic sport for one season per year.

Petropoulos Art Scholars Program
Each year the Arts Department creates a varied program of extracurricular events that are of interest to motivated performing and visual arts students. The program includes sessions with visiting artists, workshops on the use of new materials or techniques, and field trips to galleries, museums, artist studios, and theaters. Students who participate in 75 – 80 percent or more of these enriching events are designated as Petropoulos Art Scholars at the end of the academic year.
Global Online Academy Courses: The following arts courses are offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 through Global Online Academy:

- Arts Entrepreneurship (Spring)
- Graphic Design (Fall and Spring)

For more information on this course, please refer to the Global Online Academy section of this Program Planning Guide.

Courses Not Offered in 2021 – 2022

- Chorus 9
- Dance (Grades 10 – 12)
- Visual Design, Communication, and Social Media (Grade 12)
Athletics Department

Requirements: Students in Grades 9 – 11 must participate in the Athletics Program for three seasons each year. Students in Grade 12 must participate in the Athletics Program for at least two seasons.

- For students in Grades 10 and 11, participation in two interscholastic sports within one school year fulfills the athletics requirement for that year.
- During Grade 9, students must participate in interscholastic sports for at least two seasons.
- By the end of Grade 10, students must participate in at least three interscholastic sports in total.
- Students new to the school in Grade 10 must participate in at least two interscholastic sports within the academic year.
- Participation in a school theatrical production meets the interscholastic sport requirement for only one season per year.
- Participation in two theatrical productions within one school year does not fulfill the interscholastic sports requirement in Grade 9 nor fulfill the athletics requirement for students in Grades 10 and 11.

FALL SEASON

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<td>Field Hockey V, JV, 3 (18)</td>
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SPRING SEASON

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<th>Interscholastic: Boys</th>
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<td>Baseball V, JV (18)</td>
<td>Softball V, JV (15)</td>
<td>Sailing V (20)</td>
<td>Game Manager</td>
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<td>Lacrosse V, JV (30)</td>
<td>Lacrosse V, JV (18)</td>
<td>Golf V, JV (12)</td>
<td>Health and Fitness</td>
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<td>Crew V, JV</td>
<td>Crew V, JV</td>
<td>Track and Field V</td>
<td>Rock Climbing (20)</td>
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<td>Tennis V, JV, (12)</td>
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<td>Team Manager</td>
<td>Strength and Conditioning (20)</td>
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For interscholastic teams, a tryout process will be used if necessary. Each team must have at least the required number of players in order to compete at an interscholastic level. If there are an insufficient number of players, the team will not be offered. Certain varsity teams limit roster size; those teams, along with the maximum number of athletes per team, are indicated in parenthesis above. If changes to roster size are required, the head coach will consult with the Director of Athletics, who will make the final determination. During Senior Spring Project, a senior is not allowed to participate in a Junior Varsity Team if that senior has not previously played the sport.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Health and Fitness (Grades 9 – 12)
Offered all three seasons, the Health and Fitness course emphasizes the concept of a sound mind in a healthy body. Through this individualized program, students participate in physical training based on their needs and interest and develop their mental and physical potential through relaxation and exercise. Students learn to create a balance between the four pillars of health: getting enough sleep, eating nutritious, healthy, and delicious food, exercising to power up the body and mind, and dealing positively with stress.
Students in Grades 10 – 12 attend four classes per week during the regular academic day. Students in Grade 9 attend four after-school classes per week (Monday – Thursday), each lasting for one hour. These include one yoga class, one class devoted to nutrition and principles of training, and two classes of physical conditioning.

**Instructional Tennis** (Grades 9 – 12)
Offered in the fall, this course is for students who are novices at tennis and would like to improve basic tennis skills under the guidance of experienced coaches. Students attend four after-school classes, each lasting 75 minutes. Advanced tennis players or players on the previous year’s tennis team may not enroll in this course.

**Managing** (Grades 10 – 12)

**Game Manager**
Game Managers assist the Athletics Department in a variety of ways, such as running a game clock, setting up equipment prior to a game, keeping a scorebook, and helping with field clean-up following a game. Students who wish to be Game Managers are assigned by the Athletics Department to attend a variety of games based on the needs of the department. The time commitment is typically between four and six hours per week. Students may enroll in either the Team Manager or Game Manager program for only one season per academic year.

**Team Manager**
Team Managers are assigned by the Athletics Department to assist a specific athletics team. Responsibilities may include attending all home games and some practices and traveling with the team to away games. Additional responsibilities may include transporting the medical kit, providing water bottles, keeping a scorebook, and other tasks as assigned by coaches. The time commitment is typically between six and ten hours per week. Students may enroll in either the Team Manager or Game Manager program for only one season per academic year.

**Rock Climbing** (Grades 9 – 12)
Offered in the winter, this course provides students with instruction on climbing and belaying. Students attend three after-school classes per week, each lasting two hours. The School provides all equipment as well as transportation to and from the facility (Central Rock Gym in Watertown). Enrollment in this course is limited; preference is given to students in Grade 12.

**Sculling** (Grades 9 – 12)
Offered in the fall, this course is intended for students who are novices in the sport of sculling and wish to improve their skills under the guidance of experienced rowing coaches. Students attend three after-school classes each week (Monday – Thursday), each lasting 90 minutes. Practices occur in the Fitness Center and on the Charles River, rowing out of the BB&N Boathouse. No previous rowing experience is necessary.

**Strength and Conditioning** (Grades 10 – 12)
Offered all three seasons, the Strength and Conditioning course is designed for students who are preparing for and aspiring to play on a varsity team. Topics that are taught include strength training, conditioning, speed development, and agility training. Students attend three after-school classes per week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). Enrollment is limited to students in Grades 10 – 12.

**ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES**

**Athletic Independent Activity**: Students with demonstrated ability, history of participation, and a major commitment to training for a sport or activity that BB&N does not offer (such as riding, skiing, swimming, or figure skating) may apply for a Waiver for Athletic Independent Activity. This waiver allows the student to participate in the non-BB&N sport or activity while waiving the requirement to participate in a BB&N athletics program for that season. Some non-BB&N activities, such as participation on a swimming team, grant credit for participation in an interscholastic sport. All Waiver for Independent Activity (WIA) Forms must be submitted to the Athletics Department no later than 30 days prior to the first day of sports for that season. The committee will review all WIA Forms and notify students prior to the start of the athletics season if the activity is approved. WIA Forms are available in the Athletics Department Office and on the School’s website.

Note that the Independent School League Bylaws state, “Multi-season, single sport: Athletes may not receive credit for participating in a sport (offered) for more than one season in an academic year.” For example, a student who participates in soccer may not also receive athletics credit for participation in a club soccer program.

**Other Independent Activities:**

**Artistic Independent Activity**: Students with a major commitment and demonstrated ability in the arts (Grades 9 – 12) who participate in a significant arts program outside of BB&N may apply for a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity. This Waiver allows students to continue the pursuit of a non-BB&N arts endeavor and waives the requirement to participate in BB&N athletics for that season. All Waiver for Independent Activity (WIA) Forms must
be submitted to the Head of the Arts Department no later than the first week of seasonal tryouts. The committee reviews all WIA Forms and notifies students if the activity is approved. WIA Forms are available in the Athletics Department Office and on the School’s website.

Students in Grades 10 – 12 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least one other season per academic year. Students in Grade 9 who receive an exemption for an Artistic Independent Activity are expected to participate in the Athletics Program for at least two other seasons per academic year.

Although a Waiver for Artistic Independent Activity may be granted, non-BB&N art programs do not fulfill the two-year Arts graduation requirement.

**BB&N Theatrical Program:** Three faculty-directed plays and one senior-directed play are staged each year.

- **Acting:** Auditions are open to the entire student body, and students with any level of acting experience are encouraged to audition. All students get the opportunity to enjoy a comprehensive production experience in a creative and empowering environment from the first day of rehearsals to the final performance. Rehearsals take place after school (Monday – Friday) and Saturday mornings during the eight-week rehearsal period.

- **Stagecraft:** This program is open to all students interested in learning about scenery, lighting design, and technical production. Students help design, construct, and paint the scenery, as well as install lighting for the shows. Students also participate in the stage crew by shifting scenery, operating lighting and sound boards, and utilizing other equipment such as followspots and fog machines. Students attend four after-school sessions per week and Saturday mornings as production week approaches.

- **Costume Design:** This program is open to students who wish to work under the supervision of the Costume Designer to develop and construct costumes used in the School’s theater productions. Students learn about costume history, millinery, costume props and accessories, hair and makeup design, practical machine and hand-sewing skills, pattern reading, pattern drafting and draping, and all other aspects of costume building. Students attend three to four after-school sessions per week.

Participation in a BB&N theater production, through acting, stagecraft, or costume design, waives the requirement to participate in BB&N athletics for that season and earns credit for participation in an interscholastic sport for one season per year.

Full or partial credit toward satisfying the Arts requirement may be granted, as determined in advance by the Arts Department, for significant participation in theater productions.

**Service Learning:** Upper School students in Grades 10 – 12 with a significant interest in pursuing a specific commitment to service learning may apply for a Season of Service Learning in lieu of one athletics season per academic year. Students must demonstrate significant dedication to their area of interest through a documented commitment of 40 hours during the season. At the end of the service, students are required to write a 500-word reflective essay. Participation in a Season of Service Learning is not considered participation in an interscholastic sport. During Senior Spring Project, only seniors who have already completed the Service Learning graduation requirement and have not already completed a Season of Service during senior year are allowed to do a Season of Service in lieu of an athletics season.

Season of Service Learning Proposal Forms must be submitted to a Service Learning Coordinator during the first week of seasonal tryouts. The proposals are reviewed individually and approved by the Service Learning Coordinators. Season of Service Learning Proposal Forms are available on the BB&N Service Learning website as well as in the Service Learning Coordinators’ offices.

**Math Team:** The Math Team meets after school two times per week during the fall and winter seasons. Students may participate in the Math Team for either the fall or winter season and must take two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season. Participation in Math Team is not considered participation in an interscholastic sport for that season.

**Robotics Team:** The Robotics Team meets daily during the fall trimester. Students in who wish to participate on the Robotics Team are exempt from the athletics requirement for the fall season. Participation in the Robotics Team is considered participation in an interscholastic sport for that season.
**Studio Arts: Afternoon:** Students who have a true interest in art may participate in the Studio Arts: Afternoon course two days per week (Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.) For students in Grade 9, this course is only available during the winter or spring season. This course receives 0.25 arts credits for each trimester of participation and must be taken in conjunction with two Health and Fitness classes per week to meet the athletics requirement for that season.
English Department

ENGLISH 9
The program in Grade 9 includes three major works, as well as other novels, poetry, short stories, and plays. Most of the first trimester is devoted to a detailed reading of The Odyssey. In the second and third trimesters, all students read Romeo and Juliet and a contemporary novel, The Leavers. Throughout the year, students write frequently, both in and out of class, on a variety of topics and in both creative and analytical formats. Students also continue their study of vocabulary, spelling, punctuation, syntax, and grammar.

ENGLISH 10
The literature program in Grade 10 includes works representing diverse voices and cultures. Students read poems, short stories, some excerpts from the Bible, novels (The Great Gatsby and We Need New Names, for instance), and plays, (Shakespeare’s Macbeth and perhaps Sophocles’ Theban plays or Fugard’s “Master Harold”… and the boys). A major focus of the writing curriculum is the essay: students continue to practice the skills, introduced in Grade 9, of crafting an analytical argument. Class-wide debates provide practice in research as well as valuable experience in collaboration and public speaking. Students also continue the study of vocabulary, usage, and grammar.

ENGLISH 11
(Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition)
All Grade 11 English courses focus on developing analytical thinking, reading, and writing skills to a more sophisticated level. The third trimester’s work includes the writing of an eight- to ten-page profile about an interesting person at work. While all juniors are enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition course, each course prepares students to take either/both the AP English Language and Composition exam and/or AP English Literature and Composition exam.

African American Literature: Race and Identity
This course presents an introduction to the development and evolution of African American life and culture through literature. Students will read works spanning four centuries, focusing on the underlying historical context, cultural values, and modes of expression. Beginning with poetry written during the 1700s and the slave narrative of Douglass, students will examine the primary issues facing African Americans during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. They will address the complex issues and divergent perspectives in major representative texts, such as Chesnutt’s The House Behind the Cedars, Morrison’s The Bluest Eye, Baldwin’s The Fire Next Time, Wright’s Native Son, and Ellison’s Invisible Man. Students will also read selected short stories, essays, and poetry by various authors to deepen their understanding of how African Americans constructed racial and cultural identities. Through reading, writing, and student-centered discussion, we will explore and redefine concepts of freedom, citizenship, class, color, and gender within the black community.

Students who enroll in the African American Literature: Race and Identity course simultaneously enroll in the United States History: African American History course offered through the History and Social Sciences Department. Participation in this African American Studies Program is noted on a student’s transcript.

Aliens
Sometimes people feel like aliens in their own lives. Consider, for example, ordinary Japanese Americans suddenly imprisoned during WWII, some young adults who discover the dizzying truth of their childhood identities, a young man distressed by the death of his father and remarriage of his mother. Alienated by choice or not, these individuals experience a disconnection from the larger entity—a family, nation, race, culture—with which they once identified. As they try to restore their connections or choose to sever ties with their pasts, they confront what it is to be an individual, to be a member of that larger entity. We will also consider some related real-life issues, such as immigration, in our world today. Main texts will include both classic and contemporary works; possibilities include Trevor Noah’s memoir Born a Crime, James Baldwin’s The Fire Next Time, Otsuka’s When the Emperor Was Divine, Shakespeare’s Hamlet, Ishiguro’s Never Let Me Go, as well as stories and poems by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Toni Cade Bambara, Alice Munro, Ernest Hemingway, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Robert Frost, Gwendolyn Brooks, and others.

British Literature
For over a thousand years, lovers and rogues, heroes and traitors, serious souls, irreverent fools, royal figures, and common folk have all come to life in the literature of this little corner of Europe, Britain. Discover how hilarious and harrowing the classics can be—and how they continue to shape our understanding of ourselves and others. Works may include the first English epic, Beowulf; the witty character sketches in The Canterbury Tales; a play about our most famous tragic hero, Hamlet; a novel depicting the perils that beset well- and ill-behaved women in Pride and Prejudice; the comic play The Importance of Being Earnest; and poems by writers such as Donne, Milton, Pope, Keats, and many others. Written assignments primarily address analytical approaches to literature, though students will have opportunities to write creatively as well.
Dynamic Duos
Sometimes an idea, story, or character can only best be known through its opposite, or its double, or its retelling. This course will explore individual works of literature through specific pairings: the depiction of slavery deepens once you’ve read both the autobiographical Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass and then the novel Beloved; Hamlet broadens its concerns through its modern retelling in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, and Heart of Darkness benefits from a shift in gender, century, and continent in State of Wonder. Smaller pairings of short stories and poems will also appear throughout the year before we turn to the Junior Profile and the Advanced Placement exam in the spring.

Gender and Sexuality in American Literature
To what extent are our lives and sense of self rooted in American notions of gender and sexuality? How do these notions set expectations, create limitations, and secure privileges in our lives? In our study of literature set in America, we will explore how and when male and female voices are amplified, normalized, shamed, or silenced. We will also study the intersection of gender, sexuality, and other aspects of individual identity to develop a fuller and more complex understanding of life in America. Readings may include Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale, Morrison’s The Bluest Eye, Alcott’s Little Women, Baldwin’s Giovanni’s Room, Chopin’s The Awakening, and Bechdel’s Fun Home. We will also read from a selection of short stories, poetry, memoirs, articles, and essays. Throughout the year, students will continue to develop their expository and creative writing skills in preparation for the year’s major project, the Junior Profile. Students who enroll in the Gender and Sexuality in American Literature course simultaneously enroll in the United States History: Gender and Sexuality Studies course offered through the History and Social Sciences Department. Participation in this Gender and Sexuality Studies Program is noted on a student’s transcript.

Irish Literature
Ireland is a small nation that has given the world a large number of extraordinary writers—James Joyce, Sean O’Casey, J.M. Synge, Lady Augusta Gregory, and Oscar Wilde, to name a few—four of them winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature. The twentieth century was a time of intense political and literary activity in Ireland as the nation and its writers struggled with issues of independence and oppression, warfare (open and guerrilla), identity (national and personal), and the intersections of myth and history. This course will focus on the novels, tragicomic plays, short stories, speeches, and poems of this “Irish Renaissance,” which may include Joyce’s Dubliners and A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Synge’s The Playboy of the Western World, Friel’s Translations, and a coming-of-age novel by Elizabeth Bowen or Somerville and Ross. We may also read some more recent works, including Seamus Deane’s Reading in the Dark, set during the fraught times in Northern Ireland. Throughout the year we will view some contemporary films coming out of Ireland and discuss some of the island’s rich culture and complex history. Students will write critical essays as well as fiction and personal narratives—all in preparation for a major assignment of the year: the Junior Profile.

Magical Realities
A magical island with spirits, monsters, and a wizard-king. An old house haunted by restless, spiteful ghosts. A man who discovers that his dreams can alter reality. Another who wakes to find he has transformed into a large insect. For centuries, writers have incorporated elements of fantasy, magic, and unreality into their narratives to introduce suspense and mystery—but also to explore the unseen forces of their worlds and of the human mind. In this class, we will explore a diverse selection of literature that mixes realism with magic, the everyday with the fantastical. In so doing, we might just better understand ourselves and the worlds we inhabit. Main texts for the course will likely include Vonnegut’s Slaughterhouse-Five, Kafka’s The Metamorphosis, Shakespeare’s The Tempest, Coleridge’s Rime of the Ancient Mariner, Morrison’s Beloved, the Olde English epic Beowulf, and LeGuin’s The Lathe of Heaven. In addition, we will read a variety of short stories and poems from writers such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, John Cheever, and Ursula K. LeGuin.

Trapped Together and Alone
What qualities and flaws emerge when people find themselves trapped together in unusual circumstances? Whether through shifting family dynamics, a hostage crisis, exile (both self-imposed or externally ordered), a writer’s choice to isolate characters can serve as a way to examine the qualities that make us human, for better or worse. Through a variety of genres, students consider what traits surface in extreme conditions. In addition to novels and nonfiction works, students also consider how plays, too, present a particularly effective way of creating a sense of limited options. Texts may include Baldwin’s The Fire Next Time, Shakespeare’s Hamlet, Patchett’s Bel Canto, Mitchell’s Black Swan Green, excerpts from Thoreau’s Walden, Krakauer’s Into The Wild, and Beckett’s Waiting for Godot.

Travelers and Transients
Throughout the brief history of the United States, Americans seem to have had a simultaneous desire to settle and unsettle, to be rooted and rootless, to champion equality and unbridled competition, to consider themselves self-made and yet destined for greatness. Roads, tracks, trails, and rivers crisscross the vast expanse of this nation and lure us in many directions—toward adventure, misadventure, safety, danger, and the next potentially great opportunity. This course explores the importance of movement and motivations for moving in texts, in our own writing, and in the lives of characters and our own lives. We will consider not only literal travel but also travel through form, space, time, status,
and the imagination. Sometimes when we roam, we just get lost or destroyed; sometimes we find things greater than that for which we were looking. Let’s see what paths we uncover in works such as James Baldwin’s *The Fire Next Time*, Frederick Douglass’s *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, Jericho Brown’s *The Tradition*, Calvino’s *Invisible Cities*, Gretel Ehrlich’s *The Solace of Open Spaces*, and Tim O’Brien’s *The Things They Carried*.

**ENGLISH 12**

Seniors take two trimester-long English courses, offering the opportunity to read classic and modern literature, to work on a particular form of writing, or to focus more narrowly on a text. All seniors write an eight-page Senior Essay, either an analytical or an emulative piece about one of the works read for their fall courses.

**ENGLISH 12 FALL COURSES**

**Doppelgangers and Distorted Mirrors**

What happens when a character meets his creepy double? It is not unusual for an author to create a character to serve as a foil for the protagonist to emphasize, through contrast, traits that reveal distinctive qualities of the main character. In the texts we read for this course, characters meet and confront their distorted selves, and we will explore the consequences of these encounters. Texts may include the following: selections from The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe, *Song of Solomon* by Morrison, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Stevenson, and Richard III by Shakespeare. Writing will include analytical essays, emulative pieces, and a personal essay.

Summer reading: *Manhattan Beach* by Jennifer Egan

**Fiction Writing**

In this workshop course, students read one novel—Louise Erdrich’s *Tracks*—and several short works of fiction by twentieth- and twenty-first-century writers for inspiration and as models of the craft. Most of this writing-intensive course, though, will be spent producing and discussing student writing. Students are responsible for responding to each other’s work in workshop format and in brief online posts. In studying the elements of fiction writing and learning how to construct plot, develop character, and craft effective sentences, students will also hone their analytical reading skills and their ability to discuss fiction in illuminating and enjoyable ways.

Summer reading: *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life* by Anne Lamott and selected short stories

**Moby-Dick: A Whale of a Work**

“Call me Ishmael.” With this simple sentence, Herman Melville begins one of the greatest American novels. Through a careful reading of this masterpiece and its many interpretations, we will dabble in the nautical, historical, scientific, philosophical, and Biblical elements Melville so loves. After learning the actual story of a sperm whale ramming and sinking the *Essex* in 1820, we will spend the bulk of the term reading about a mad captain, his elusive prey, a tattooed harpooneer, and a young crewman in this literary leviathan.

Summer reading: *In the Heart of the Sea* by Nathaniel Philbrick and “Bartleby, the Scrivener” by Herman Melville

**Rebel Writers**

What does it mean to break with tradition? How can an author question his or her readers’ assumptions about nation, identity, and literature? In this course, we will focus on established authors who in their own times were considered rebels, as well as contemporary authors who are currently challenging the status quo and broadening the literary canon. Readings may include major works by Flannery O’Connor, Sinclair Lewis, Assata Shakur, and John Steinbeck, as well as shorter works by James Baldwin, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Ernest Hemingway, Kate Chopin, Emily Dickinson, and Walt Whitman.

Summer reading: *It Can’t Happen Here* by Sinclair Lewis

**Redeeming the Past**

Stories have the power to heal wounds and transform individual, communal, and national identity. In this course, students will explore the restorative power of stories by reading literature in which characters, as well as authors, strive to make sense of war, family dysfunction, or personal rejection to move forward with their lives. Our ultimate concern will be to consider how language helps define, resolve, and redeem human experience. Our readings may include Morrison’s *The Song of Solomon* and Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights*, along with various short stories and poems. Students will continue to hone their writing skills through expository, personal, and creative writing.

Summer reading: *Atonement* by Ian McEwan

**Shakespeare**

Ben Jonson famously describes Shakespeare as a man “not of an age, but for all time”—a monumental claim. Jonson may have thought he was exaggerating, but his claim is borne out in the near-worldwide admiration of Shakespeare’s plays and poems. Shakespeare’s name has become the byword of educated culture, allusion to his works proof positive of a learned mind. Our work will be to step closer to this enduring literature and take note of the power in Shakespeare’s verse. We will immerse ourselves in a number of great works, which may include texts such as the dark and bleak
tragedies King Lear and Othello, the startling and delightful comedy Twelfth Night, the “problem” play Measure for Measure, and many of his sonnets. We will also examine how these plays are represented in modern culture and media, with some viewings of films—and perhaps a live performance.
Summer reading: The Winter’s Tale (Pelican edition)

Sibling Bonds and Rivalries
“Blood is thicker than water.” “Am I my brother’s keeper?” “Mom always liked you best.” From Cain and Abel to Cinderella and her stepsisters to the Simpsons’ children, the interactions of siblings have been a recurrent theme of storytellers. Through the readings, in this course we will explore the complexities of sibling relationships, such as the demands of family honor in Ian McEwan’s Atonement, the fierce rivalries in The Piano Lesson by August Wilson, and the life-saving bonds in Jesmyn Ward’s Salvage the Bones. In addition to those previously mentioned, other main texts may include Shakespeare’s King Lear or Junot Diaz’s The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao. We will also read poetry and scientific literature related to our theme, and course assignments will include opportunities for creative emulation and personal writing as well as critical analysis.
Summer reading book: Salvage the Bones by Jesmyn Ward

True Stories and the Personal Essay
Truth can be stranger and more fascinating than fiction. In this course students will read short personal narratives, memoir excerpts, and expository essays to experience how literary voices that speak individual truths and reflect openly on the world can be as compelling as fiction’s best-loved narrators. Students will also cultivate their own voices, sometimes playfully imitating the writers we read and other times creating original pieces about the people, places, and experiences significant to them. Together we will discuss how to recognize good material, manage memory, and dig down for truths that are unaffected and satisfying. In weekly writing workshops during the long block, the class will review each other’s work with an eye toward finishing the course with individual writing portfolios worthy of submission to contests. Readings will include essays from Joan Didion, Annie Dillard, Langston Hughes, and George Orwell, as well as excerpts from Richard Rodriguez’s Hunger of Memory; Elizabeth Gilbert’s Eat, Pray, Love; Alice Sebold’s Lucky; David Sedaris’ When You Are Engulfed in Flames; Anne Lamott’s Grace (Eventually), and Bryan Stevenson’s Just Mercy.
Summer reading: The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

The Villain
In film, literature, and real life (or, at least, reality TV), villains enthrall us. Though their actions may be despicable, we find their audacity strangely thrilling, and we wait with bated breath as they inevitably move toward their demise. As we read about villains who manipulate, betray, and commit violence, as well as societies that imprison and dehumanize their subjects, we will reflect on our own perceptions and definitions of morality. We will also consider the potential for villains to function as foils to the protagonists. Texts may include Burgess’ A Clockwork Orange, Kesey’s One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, and Shakespeare’s Othello.
Summer reading: No Country for Old Men by Cormac McCarthy

ENGLISH 12 WINTER COURSES

Four Centuries of Wit
Like a quick wit? Every century offers works of literature that wield wit wondrously well—but what does that mean for us as twenty-first century readers? Some works seem to speak only to their era, some works appeal even now. We’ll ask why this dichotomy exists and then go about the joyful task of looking for answers. We take as our core wits John Donne, Alexander Pope, and Jane Austen, from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries respectively—a chest author famous for wit and satire. In reading their challenging and sophisticated work, we will come to understand how authors construct wit and to see the socio-historical contexts in which their wit thrived. This course will also explore how twentieth-century wit embodies a bleakness suitable to its own historical context, and finally we will consider the very present now.

Latin American Literature
Over the past century, our neighbors to the south in Latin America have produced some of the boldest, most inventive fiction in the world. From the wondrous magical realism of Gabriel García Márquez, Isabel Allende, and others, to the stylistic innovations of Jorge Luis Borges and Julio Cortázar, Latin American writers have been pushing the boundaries of what novels, short stories, and poems can be. In this course, we will read a selection of works in translation from such countries as Colombia, Chile, Argentina, and Mexico. As we read, we will also investigate social and cultural trends that influenced these writers and their work. Main texts for the course will likely include García Márquez’s Chronicle of a Death Foretold, Manuel Puig’s Kiss of the Spider Woman, Ariel Dorman’s Death and the Maiden, and Juan Rulfo’s Pedro Páramo, with short stories and poetry by Jorge Luis Borges, Rosario Castellanos, Gabriela Mistral, Pablo Neruda, and others.
Poetry Writing
This poetry workshop will require the original composition of a significant body of work by each student. Each week we will focus on different forms or elements of poetry. We will likely compose sonnets; flash fiction; ars poetica; sestinas, ghazals, or villanelles; and poems based on our dreams. Each week we will read samples of the types of poems we’re writing, short critical pieces about form and composition, and a packet of our own poetry that we will workshop together in class. We will read works such as weekly poetry and criticism packets, Blood Dazzler by Patricia Smith, Night Sky With Exit Wounds by Ocean Vuong, Citizen by Claudia Rankine, and The Essential Poet’s Glossary by Edward Hirsch.

Prize-Winning Books
Immerse yourself in an inspiring pool of literature by major award-winning authors. These texts are recognized for their innovation and contribution to the world of literature. Reading may include Nobel laureate Kazuo Ishiguro’s Remains of the Day, Man Booker Prize winner Zadie Smith’s White Teeth, Pulitzer Prize winner Jennifer Egan’s A Visit From the Goon Squad, Tony Award winner Tom Stoppard’s play Arcadia, and short stories by critically acclaimed writers such as George Saunders, Viet Thanh Nguyen, and Jhumpa Lahiri. As we read, we will explore what makes a text truly great and discuss how its impact on the reading audience has earned it a place in literary history. We will also discuss the biases of prize committees and the publishing industry at large and examine how these institutions have begun to become more inclusive of women and writers of color. Get to know the literature that has gained widespread attention and respected accolades, and enter the discussions of readers everywhere.

The Short Story
At its most basic definition, a short story is a prose piece that can be read in one sitting. Yet, within that span, each tale strives to find unity, totality, truth, or at the very least a single effect. Edgar Allan Poe knew how these limitations can daunt an author: “If his very initial sentence tend not to the outbringing of this effect, then he has failed in his first step.” Similarly, John Cheever insists, “With a short story, you have to be in there on every word; every verb has to be lambent and strong. It’s a fairly exhausting task.” We will see how a range of contemporary writers takes on this task through the individual pieces selected for the 2019 and 2020 editions of The Best American Short Stories.

The Surreal World
Realistic fiction is often judged on its ability to accurately depict the lived experience and cleave to reason, but sometimes (especially lately) our lived experience does not make sense and instead feels more fantastical, nightmarish, mystical, meta, mysterious, mind-bending, time-bending, page-ending — surreal. This course will be a survey and meditation on surrealism — as a movement and a concept — and we’ll read short and longer examples from authors such as Colson Whitehead, Haruki Murakami, Karen Russell, George Saunders, Sigrid Nunez, Lucía Berlin, Thomas Pynchon, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, Gabriel García Márquez, and Kōbō Abe in an effort to define something that resists definition, much like the edges of a dream. Andre Breton, while attempting to pen a manifesto for Surrealism, ended up with a kind of how-to guide, writing that “one must be a seer, must make oneself a seer […] [and] [multiply] the ways of penetrating the deepest layers of the mind.” So, we’ll just do that, I suppose — through a series of critical and creative projects.

Tales of Survival
Every day humans face obstacles to success, happiness, and sometimes even survival. These challenges—a fight with a friend, a low grade on a test—may be small; other times these moments define who we are. In this class, we will explore how young protagonists navigate trauma and emerge changed yet intact. Potential texts include Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, whose Oskar Schell tries to make sense of his father’s death on 9/11, and Homegoing, an epic tale which explores the effects of slavery on generations of Ghanaians and African Americans. Exploring these characters’ experiences, we will consider how facing challenges and overcoming them defines us as humans.

To Hell and Back
This course focuses on Dante’s Inferno, the first and probably most widely read of The Divine Comedy’s three volumes. Full of colorful characters, imaginatively conceived beasts, and grotesque punishments, this epic poem depicts man’s physical and spiritual journey through darkness toward the light. We will also examine some art inspired by the Inferno, one of the texts that artists have most frequently depicted throughout the ages. After a quick glance at Dante’s Purgatorio and Paradiso, we will look at some modern poems his work inspired, including T.S. Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,” before moving on to another view of Hell in Jean Paul Sartre’s existential play No Exit. Students’ work will include a couple of short critical papers and the creation of their very own three circles of Hell, detailed in a written narrative and in a piece of artwork.

What’s So Funny? A Study of Satire
For as long as people have passed laws, followed edicts, adopted practices, and even used words, there have been satirists close by, ready to rend them for their vices, foibles, follies, and mistakes. On television, Saturday Night Live, The Simpsons, South Park have carried this important and critical torch, while in literature, George Orwell, Johnathan Swift, Dorothy Parker, Voltaire, and others have used satire as a way to address, study, and often damn societal ills. In this
class, we will study satire as a literary genre, evaluate its effectiveness, and try our hand at identifying and addressing, through original works of satire, perceived shortcomings at BB&N. Books we will read include: *Towing Jehovah* by James K. Morrow and *The White House Mess* by Christopher Buckley. We will also study a number of shorter satirical works, view and evaluate film clips and, if time allows, view and evaluate Spike Lee’s *Bamboozled* and/or Oliver Stone’s *Natural Born Killers*, ultimately determining their effectiveness as satirical works.

**Writing Life Stories**

In this course, a writing workshop, students draw from their own experience to craft nonfiction stories. Students will read short personal narratives that will serve as models, both in terms of style and content, for their weekly writing assignments. Their own stories will focus on experiences that they find resonant and significant. In addition to the shorter readings, students will read two full-length memoirs, one chosen from a list of suggested texts and one of the student’s own choosing. Students will work from memoir prompts and experiment with some poetry exercises as a way of finding their topics. They will put their writing through the drafting, revision, and proofreading process to work on producing pieces that are clear, well written, and compelling. The authors we will use as models include E.B. White, Joan Didion, Tim O’Brien, Amy Tan, Edward Abbey, Sarah Vowell, David Sedaris, and Leslie Jamison.
History and Social Sciences Department

Grade 9 students enroll in Global History I: The Individual in Society. Grade 10 students enroll in Global History II: Making an Interconnected World, American and Global History: Case Studies I, or Making of the Modern Middle East. All Grade 11 students are required to take a full-year U.S. History course (Students who take American and Global History: Case Studies I in Grade 10 take American and Global History: Case Studies II in Grade 11). Grade 11 students may take a second History and Social Sciences course with permission of the Department Head. In Grade 12, students may choose from a variety of History and Social Sciences electives. Variations to the above sequence require approval of the History and Social Sciences Department.

Global History Sequence (Global History I and Global History II): At the dawning of the twenty-first century, we live in a global community. The world has grown smaller, trade and finance have created a global economy, communications technologies have built pathways for the global exchange of ideas and information; at the same time, we also face global environmental and overpopulation problems. But the process of globalization is not new. The Global History sequence seeks to answer the question: “how did we get here?” By taking a global approach to human history that focuses on the processes that have brought us to this point, these two courses look at all major regions of the world. Although Global History I and II are tightly coordinated, each course operates as an independent unit. Grade 10 students can also choose to enroll in the two-year course, American and Global History: Case Studies I and II, which completes the Global History sequence and satisfies the U.S. History graduation requirement.

GRADE 9

Global History I: The Individual in Society
In Global History I, students face important moral questions about leadership and the role of the individual in society. The course helps students gain a sense of social responsibility and encourages them to become active global citizens. As part of their full-year course of study, all Grade 9 history students take an opening unit drawn from the Facing History and Ourselves program. In exploring the Holocaust, students are challenged to consider human behavior, the place of the individual in society, the power of authority, the desire to be part of a group, the treatment of the other, and the psychology of obedience. In the next units, students continue to grapple with the relationship between individuals and society as they examine the rise of complex societies and regional empires globally in the ancient world, explore the environments in which world religions developed through an exploration of the roots of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and discover how the world became interconnected through overland and overseas trade and the regional networks. Writing and research skills are emphasized throughout the year. Open to Grade 9 students only.

GRADE 10

Global History II: Making an Interconnected World
This yearlong course addresses how the highly interconnected, globalized world of today came to be, with a particular focus on the theme of exchange. Students study exchange in terms of goods and services, ideas, culture, technology, diseases, and conflict. Students explore how the global community first emerged around 1450 and how it developed to the present. The course begins with a unit on globalization in the twenty-first century, and then considers empire-building, early trade, the Enlightenment, the Scientific Revolution, the Atlantic revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, colonization and decolonization, World Wars I and II, and the Cold War, among other topics. Skills developed include critical reading of the textbook, primary sources, and other material, note-taking, research skills, and essay writing. In addition to enhanced skills and content knowledge, the course aims to foster global competency in students as they enrich their understanding of the diverse experiences and perspectives of the people globally. Open to Grade 10 students only. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

American and Global History: Case Studies I
American and Global History: Case Studies is a two-year course of study that examines global processes as well as the serendipitous creation and eventual development of the United States as a superpower from 1453 to the present. This course utilizes a series of thematic, self-contained, problem-based case studies and encourages students to develop the critical-thinking skills of the historian by exploring primary and secondary sources organized around essential questions. This course is appropriate for all learners; it relies not only on written assessments but also on project-based assessments using a variety of media.

In the first year of the course, students explore recent globalization before going back in time to examine the following case studies from the middle of the fifteenth century to the end of the nineteenth century: Trade, Conquest, and the Making of the Atlantic World; Ideology and Protest in the Age of Revolution; Constitutionalism and Distributions of Power; the American Civil War as a Catalyst for Social Change and State Formation; and Experiencing Industrial Society. Open to Grade 10 students only. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.
The Making of the Modern Middle East
This course explores the making of the modern Middle East from the fall of Constantinople in 1453 to the present. Students explore the cultural diversity of this region and gain an understanding of the complicated relationships of peoples within the region as well as the tumultuous relationship with outsiders. Topics covered by this course may include the rise of the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Empires and their changing relations with Western powers, how the World Wars ended empires and hastened the creation of numerous nation-states in the Middle East, the impact of the Cold War on the region, independence movements, regime changes and uprisings, the creation of Israel, the discovery of oil, and the emergence of radical religious groups. Students develop important skills such as critical reading of the textbook, primary sources, and other material, note-taking, research skills, and essay writing. In addition to enhanced skills and content knowledge, the course aims to foster global competency in students as they enrich their understanding of the diverse experiences and perspectives of the people of the broader Middle East. Open to Grade 10 students only. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

GRADE 11

United States History
This course explores American history from 1453 to the Obama Administration by exploring chronologically organized, problem-based units. Each unit is designed to help students find meaning and make their own informed interpretation of past events. Through the exploration of primary and secondary sources, students are challenged to look at multiple perspectives and interpretations of the past, and this allows students to build a coherent understanding of the major events in our nation’s history. Each unit centers on a series of key questions or problems that get at the heart of American politics, culture, and society including: what is the role of pro-government and anti-government traditions in American politics? How inclusive is American democracy? What does it mean to be an American? How is the United States’ economic and cultural modernity unique? And, what is America’s role in the world? Students refine their skills in reading various types of sources, working collaboratively to decode and analyze documents, and writing analytical essays.

United States History: African American History
This course explores African American History from the age of European Exploration through to the end of the twentieth century. Students will grapple with a variety of sources, perspectives and interpretations of the past to build a more coherent and nuanced understanding of American history and the role of African Americans in making it. Particular attention will be given to the intersections of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and generational differences as they have impacted African American and American history. Each unit is organized around a series of essential questions that provide a framework for exploring the social, cultural, political and economic organization of African Americans. Students engage with a variety of primary and secondary sources including articles, books, visual texts, music and multimedia installations.

Students who enroll in the United States History: African American History course simultaneously enroll in the African American Literature: Race and Identity (AP English 11) course offered through the English Department. Participation in this African American Studies Program is noted on a student’s transcript.

United States History: Gender and Sexuality Studies
How have societal and cultural expectations and rules concerning gender and sexuality shaped America and American institutions? How have individuals been empowered and silenced in American history by gender and sexual norms? This course is an adaptation of the U.S. History course which explores American History from 1453 to the Obama Administration by exploring chronologically organized case studies. Students investigate the forces that have shaped our nation through the lens of gender and sexuality with a particular focus on traditionally marginalized and less studied groups.

The course progresses chronologically starting in the early colonial period and uses the case study approach to examine specific topics relating to gender and sexuality. Topics may include the Salem Witch Trials, the trial of Anne Hutchinson, women in the American Revolution, founding fathers and the establishment of the Early Republic, anti-sodomy and anti-cross-dressing laws, the Market Revolution and the shifting of gender roles, women in antebellum politics in slave and free states, sports and manhood in the Gilded Age, the suffrage movement, gender and sexuality in the 1920s, women in the world wars, the Second Red Scare and attacks on homosexuals, the sexual revolution of the 1960s, second-wave feminism, the gay liberation movement, the AIDS crisis, decriminalization of homosexuality, and clashing conceptions of manhood in the twenty-first century. Students refine their skills in reading various types of sources, working collaboratively to decode and analyze documents, writing essays, and completing other sorts of projects.
Students who enroll in the United States History: Gender and Sexuality Studies course simultaneously enroll in the Gender and Sexuality in American Literature (AP English 11) course offered through the English Department. Participation in this Gender and Sexuality Studies Program is noted on a student’s transcript.

**American and Global History: Case Studies II**
This is the second part of a two-year course. In this course, students explore the period between 1914 and 2016 by examining the following, potential case studies: Colonial World Wars (I and II); U.S. Government Redefined (the New Deal and After); The Cold War; Decolonization; Civil Rights (Plessy to the Voting Rights Act of 1965); and Globalization in Culture and Economy.

Students enrolled in American and Global History: Case Studies I are expected to enroll in American and Global History: Case Studies II. Any exceptions to this rule must be granted by the department. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

Prerequisite: American and Global History: Case Studies I

**Junior History (Honors)**
The Honors designation, open to all juniors, seeks to recognize students who excel in history. To receive the Honors designation, students must satisfactorily complete (as determined by a panel of history teachers) two of three extra assignments. One assignment is offered each trimester and focuses on different types of history sources (primary and secondary).

**HISTORY ELECTIVES**

The courses below are open to Grade 12 students and to students in Grade 11 wishing to take a second History and Social Sciences course. Some electives require approval of the History and Social Sciences Department.

**Advanced Placement Art History / Art History (Honors) (Grade 12 only)**
This course tells the story of painting, sculpture, architecture, and the decorative arts by focusing on 250 specific works of art spanning human history from antiquity to the present. It meets three times each week, with a Friday afternoon double-block in the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA); we will also visit the Harvard Art Museum, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and several other sites. During MFA visits, three students each week lead class by giving presentations about individual masterpieces in the museum’s collection that supplement the material studied earlier in the week. The course may include a trip to Florence during the first week of Spring Break. Enrollment is limited.

Students who wish to take the Advanced Placement exam may remain enrolled in the course during Senior Spring Project or prepare the final unit, on contemporary art, independently. A student who chooses not to continue in this course during Senior Spring Project and does not complete the final unit receives credit on the transcript for completion of Art History (Honors).

This course fulfills one year of the two-year History and Social Science graduation requirement but does not fulfill the required second year of the Arts Department graduation requirement. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

**Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics/Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics**

**Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics/ U.S. Government and Politics (Honors)**

Advanced Placement (AP) Comparative Government and Politics focuses upon the important themes and concepts in comparative government. Specific case studies include the United Kingdom, the European Union, Russia, the People’s Republic of China, Mexico, Iran, and Nigeria. Cross-country comparisons are made throughout the semester. While the course is highly conceptual, the key factual focus for each country is on how officials are elected and how the governments are structured.

Advanced Placement (AP) U.S. Government and Politics explores the political theory and everyday practice that directs the daily operation of our government and shape our public policies. The express purpose of this course is to prepare students to take the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam. The course is taught on a college level and requires a substantial amount of reading and preparation for every class. The objectives of this course go beyond a basic analysis of how our government “works.” Students develop a critical understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the American political system, as well as their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

Students simultaneously enroll in AP Comparative Government and Politics and in AP U.S. Government and Politics or U.S. Government and Politics (Honors) within the same year. The AP Comparative Government and Politics curriculum is completed in the fall of the year while the AP U.S. Comparative Government and Politics curriculum is completed in the spring. A senior who chooses not to continue in this course during Senior Spring Project receives credit on the
transcript for completion of AP Comparative Government and Politics / U.S. Government and Politics (Honors). This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.
Prerequisite: U.S. History. Juniors who have not yet completed a U.S. History course need departmental approval to enroll in this course.

Advanced Placement European History
What led to the rise of the West? What are its consequences, both positive and negative? These central questions guide the study of European history as students examine the forces (economic, social, political, intellectual, and artistic) that helped to shape the world today. Through scrutiny of primary and secondary sources, films, novels, and field trips, students learn about the major developments, discoveries, events, people, trends, and key turning points of the period from the high Renaissance (approximately 1450) to the present. Writing skills are emphasized.

Advanced Placement Human Geography
What are the environmental consequences of squatter settlements in Sao Paulo? Does gentrification mean conflict between new and old residents in urban ethnic neighborhoods like the North End? What social and economic impacts do large refugee populations have on host countries? What are the consequences if the market desires a greater variety of food and at cheaper prices? Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography seeks to answer questions like these by studying the patterns and processes that have shaped the human understanding, use, and alteration of the earth. The course takes a local to global case study approach to explore key topics including population and migration; cultural patterns and processes; the political organization of space; agriculture, food production, and rural land use; industrialization and economic development; and cities and urban land use. This discussion-based course provides opportunities to use Geographic Information System technology and to move out of the classroom with local field studies that enhance learning. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics
This rigorous, multi-faceted course is designed to give students the foundational skills necessary to have an understanding of major macroeconomic topics: scarcity, opportunity cost, national income accounting, supply and demand, inflation, unemployment, the business cycle, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and international economics. Analysis of domestic and global current events supplements the economic theories and data studied in the course and encourages students to apply class concepts to recent headlines in domestic and international newspapers. Projects of varied scope and scale, short papers, blogging requirements, and classroom debates provide further avenues for students to explore the course material. Not only does the course seek to impart content and skills in the field of economics, but it also aims to contribute to students’ global competency through consideration of the interdependence, diversity, and complexity of the global economy. Finally, the course assessments serve to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement (AP) Macroeconomics exam in May. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

Environmental Studies (Advanced)
Learning Locally, Thinking Globally
In the early nineteenth century, German naturalist Alexander von Humboldt wrote, “In this great chain of causes and effects, no single fact can be considered in isolation.” Following Humboldt’s lead, this course combines science and history to consider the ways humans interact with the natural world. Units drawing simultaneously from both disciplines emphasize systems thinking to examine how societies encounter the challenges of resource use, conservation and preservation, and population growth, from the twentieth century through present day. Through lenses ranging from local to global, this course examines how shifting perceptions of nature, facts, and values over time influence our choices. Field work and case studies enable students to utilize both scientific and historical thinking skills, gain practical tools for understanding the complexity of our world, and emerge with a contemporary understanding of ecology. This is an interdisciplinary course offered through the Science Department and the History and Social Sciences Department. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.
Prerequisite: Biology

History Research Seminar (Honors) (Grade 12 only)
In this course, students research and write a 15- to 20-page history research paper with the goal of submitting the finished paper to a student conference or journal. In addition, students organize, host, and present their papers at a virtual history research conference held at the end of the second trimester (open to other schools). The paper assignment represents a step up from the junior research paper in that it asks students to write a longer paper, to do more research, and to incorporate a greater number and variety of primary sources. Students are also expected to use a richer base of secondary sources, most of which should be scholarly publications that can help them to shape their thesis in response to historians’ debates about their topic. This course makes extensive use of seminar discussion and meets at least twice a week. In addition, some of the student-teacher conferences, peer editing, collaborative workshops, and teacher feedback on preliminary work take place online using such technologies as Skype, blogging, discussion boards, and document-sharing. Other activities might include field trips to local research libraries and archives. Students interested in this course are expected to meet with the course instructor during the spring of their junior year to discuss possible research
Ideas and select an appropriate Summer Reading. Enrollment is limited. Depending on a student’s research interests, this course may fulfill the Modern Global History requirement.

**Psychology**
Throughout history there have been numerous examples of people demonstrating boundless acts of generosity as well as committing hideous atrocities. This range of human behavior has been and continues to be a fascination for people. This course explores this fascination by adopting a scientific approach toward the traditional topics in Psychology: development, the brain and behavior, social influence, learning, sensation and perception, cognition, personality, and abnormal behavior. Throughout the course, students seek to better understand, explain, predict, and control people, their behaviors, and mental processes, as well as their environments. Lecture, research, simulations, and outside readings are utilized in the investigation of behaviors ranging from conditioned reflexes to creative and social behavior.

**Senior History Seminar: Modern American Culture and Society**
On the surface this course may seem like an average history course, but it’s not. Students explore why the twentieth century has been colloquially referred to as the “American century” to symbolize America’s emergence as a global superpower, and students explore how the nation underwent profound and far-reaching social, demographic, political, and economic changes. Using a sociological and cultural historical approach, students learn how issues of race, ethnicity, gender, social class, and ideology were often reflected in art, literature, music, film, television, radio, fashion, sports, and technological innovations (such as film, television, and the internet) and discussion of social and inspired cultural movements (Civil Rights movement, the anti-Vietnam War movement, Hip hop, #BlackLivesMatter, #MeToo). Students in this seminar engage these topics through a variety of primary and secondary sources including: photography, music, film, advertisements, scholarly articles, books, podcasts, and other primary and secondary source materials. The class is conducted in a seminar (discussion) format and includes presentations, literature reviews, focused research projects, and the completion of a digital media project.

**Global Online Academy Courses**: The following history and social sciences courses are offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 through Global Online Academy:

- 9/11 in a Global Context* (Spring)
- Applying Philosophy to Global Issues* (Fall)
- Business Problem Solving (Fall and Spring)
- Climate Change and Global Inequality* (Fall and Spring, History/Science Interdisciplinary Course)
- Entrepreneurship in a Global Context (Fall and Spring)
- Gender and Society* (Spring)
- Genocide and Human Rights* (Fall)
- International Relations* (Fall and Spring)
- Introduction to Investments (Fall and Spring)
- Introduction to Legal Thinking (Fall and Spring)
- Prisons and Criminal Justice Systems (Fall and Spring)
- Positive Psychology (Fall and Spring)
- Race and Society (Fall and Spring)
- Religion and Society (Spring)
- Social Psychology (Fall and Spring)

*Courses that fulfill BB&N’s Modern Global History Requirement

For more information on these courses, please refer to the Global Online Academy section of this Program Planning Guide.

**Courses Not Offered in 2021 – 2022**

- African American History
- Global Economics
- Latin American History
- Modern China
- Philosophy
- Politics in a Global Age
- Russian History
- U.S. in the Modern World I and II
- The United States in the Nuclear Age
- World History Since 1945
- World Religions and Philosophies: Historical and Contemporary Contexts
Accelerated Algebra 1
Topics in this algebra course include equations, systems of equations, graphing, polynomials, rational expressions, radicals, quadratics, problem solving, and an introduction to the graphing calculator. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on skill development and conceptual understanding.
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Pre-Algebra with approved summer preparation

Algebra 2 and Algebra 2 (Honors)
The topics studied in this course include linear equations, quadratic functions, transformations, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, inequalities, and statistics. Additional topics in the honors course may include symmetry, linear programming, rational functions, and triangle trigonometry. In some cases, technology (including graphing calculators and online graphing apps) is used as an efficient approach to a solution, while at other times it is used to explore and enhance the students’ understanding of algebraic concepts and relationships.
Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Geometry
This course approaches Euclidean Geometry with an in-depth analysis of plane, solid, and coordinate geometry as they relate to both abstract and concrete mathematical concepts as well as to real-world problem situations. To develop critical thinking and logic skills, students are exposed to informal proof and different technological tools and manipulatives as they discover geometric relationships. In place of more formal proof taught in other geometry courses, there is a greater emphasis on applying algebra skills to geometry topics. Topics include parallel lines and polygons, perimeter and area analysis, volume and surface area analysis, similarity and congruence, right-triangle trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Additional topics may include statistics and computer programming.
Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Geometry (Advanced)
Like Geometry, this course approaches Euclidean Geometry with an in-depth analysis of plane, solid, and coordinate geometry as they relate to both abstract and concrete mathematical concepts as well as to real-world problem situations, yet at a faster pace. To develop critical thinking and reasoning skills, students are exposed to different technological tools and manipulatives as they discover geometric relationships. Topics include more formal deductive and inductive proof, parallel lines and polygons, perimeter and area analysis, volume and surface area analysis, similarity and
congruence, right-triangle trigonometry, analytic geometry, and computer programming. Additional topics may include statistics and circular trigonometry.

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (generally with a grade of B or higher) and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Geometry (Honors)

This fast-paced course encourages students to think in new ways. Students learn to build on what they know to be true and to avoid making false assumptions. Deductive reasoning and discovery are the common threads that run through each unit in this course. Students make frequent use of technology and participate in frequent group assessments that allow students to complete more challenging material. In addition to exploring the topics taught in Geometry, the Geometry (Honors) course also studies circular trigonometry, trigonometric identities/equations, the Laws of Sines and Cosines, probability, and combinatorics. Students code in Java during the unit on computer programming.

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (Honors) (generally with a grade of B or higher) or Algebra 2 (generally with a grade of A- or higher), and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Precalculus

Students in this course study polynomial functions, sequences and series, trigonometric functions, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Other topics studied include transformations and rational functions. This course is generally designed for students who are ready for a precalculus course but not yet ready for the increased rigor of Precalculus (Advanced). Successful completion of this course could prepare Grade 12 students for an advanced college precalculus course or a humanities-level college calculus course, and Grade 11 students for Calculus & Statistics or the yearlong Statistics course.

Prerequisites: Algebra 2, Geometry (generally with grades of C+ or higher), and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Precalculus (Advanced)

Students in this course study transformations and modeling, polynomial and rational functions, real and complex roots of polynomials, sequences and series, exponential and logarithmic functions, and circular trigonometry. The study of trigonometry includes the six trigonometric functions (their definitions, graphs, applications, and inverses), a variety of trigonometric identities, the polar form of complex numbers, and the Laws of Sines and Cosines. Other topics may include statistics, combinatorics and probability, and vectors.

Prerequisites: Algebra 2, Geometry (Advanced) (generally with grades of B+ or higher), and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Precalculus AB (Honors) and Precalculus BC (Honors)

The honors courses take a toolkit approach to a large variety of functions that can be transformed to model phenomena. Precalculus AB (Honors) studies precalculus topics for the entire year, while Precalculus BC (Honors) accelerates to include an introduction to limits and differential calculus. Since Precalculus BC (Honors) begins the AP Calculus syllabus after Spring Break, students in Precalculus BC (Honors) who move on to Calculus the following year are expected to take the Advanced Placement Calculus BC course. A deviation from this sequence is rare and requires approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department.

Prerequisites: Algebra 2, Geometry, and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Calculus & Statistics

This course provides an introduction to both calculus and statistics topics. The first trimester focuses on calculus concepts, including limits, derivatives, and integrals. The second trimester focuses on statistics and introduces students to the fundamental concepts and techniques employed when working with data. Additional topics in calculus and statistics are studied during the third trimester.

Prerequisites: Precalculus and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Calculus (Advanced)

Major topics of this calculus course are limits, differential calculus and integral calculus, and their many applications. In addition, some sections may do non-calculus enrichment topics or projects.

Prerequisite: Precalculus (Advanced) (generally with a grade of B or higher) and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Advanced Placement Calculus AB

Major topics of this course are limits, differential calculus and integral calculus, and their many applications. The course includes, as a minimum, all topics stated in The College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB syllabus (generally equivalent to one semester of college calculus), but usually includes numerous topics beyond the AP curriculum. Seniors who do not continue with this course during Senior Spring Project are required to complete the AP curriculum, which may require additional assignments or class meetings before or during the third trimester.
Prerequisite: Precalculus AB (Honors) or Precalculus (Advanced) (generally with a grade of A or higher), and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Advanced Placement Calculus BC
Major topics of this course are limits, differential calculus and integral calculus, and their many applications. Infinite series, advanced techniques of integration, vectors, parametric, and polar equations are also covered. The course includes, as a minimum, all topics stated in The College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus BC syllabus (generally equivalent to two semesters of college calculus), but usually includes numerous topics beyond the AP curriculum. Seniors who do not continue with this course during Senior Spring Project are required to complete the AP curriculum, which may require additional assignments or class meetings before or during the third trimester.
Prerequisite: Precalculus BC (Honors) or approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Linear Algebra and Multivariable Calculus (Honors)
Students in this yearlong course study two semesters of college mathematics beyond the Advanced Placement Calculus BC curriculum. A half-year of multivariable calculus includes the generalization of calculus concepts to two and three dimensions; they include partial derivatives, multiple integrals, optimization problems (using Lagrange multipliers), other coordinate systems (cylindrical, spherical), and vector calculus (Green’s Theorem, Stokes’ Theorem, etc.) A half-year of linear algebra includes basic concepts involving vectors and matrices, including solving systems of linear equations by Gaussian elimination, Cramer’s Rule, and inverse matrices; the concepts of linear independence, spanning vectors, and basis vectors; the dot (inner) product and the cross product; eigenvalues, eigenvectors, and the diagonalization of matrices; abstract linear transformations and change of basis. This course may also include some discussion of differential equations and Fourier series.
Prerequisite: AP Calculus BC (AP Calculus AB only allowed with the approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department)

Statistics* (Grades 11 – 12)
Students in this course are acquainted with the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students frequently work on projects involving the hands-on gathering and analysis of real world data. Ideas and computations presented in this course have immediate connections with actual events and future applications for study in the social sciences, natural sciences, or business. Computers and calculators allow students to focus deeply on the concepts involved in statistics. Juniors enrolled in this course spend the third trimester preparing for Precalculus.
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Geometry

Advanced Placement Statistics* (Grades 10 – 12)
Students in the Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics course are acquainted with the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from authentic data. Students frequently work on projects and projects involving the hands-on gathering and analysis of real-world data. Ideas and computations presented in this course have immediate connections with world events. The use of technology allows students to focus deeply on the concepts involved in statistics. This course prepares students for the AP Statistics exam. For students in Grades 10 and 11, this course is generally taken in addition to a math course in the normal sequence. For students in Grade 12, this course can be an appropriate college-preparatory alternative to Calculus. Seniors who do not continue with this course during Senior Spring Project are required to complete the AP curriculum, which may require additional assignments or class meetings before or during the third trimester.
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Computer Programming* (Grade 12; Grades 10 – 11 with approval from the Mathematics and Computer Science Department)
This introductory computer science course provides students with a comfortable and engaging first programming experience. Topics include programming methodology, conditionals, loops, methods, arrays, strings, objects, and graphics. This course is designed to prepare students for a college-level programming course, including BB&N’s AP Computer Science A course. The primary language is Java.
Prerequisite: Generally a grade of B or higher in the current math course and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

Advanced Placement Computer Science A (Plus Data Structures)* (Grades 10 – 12)
This is an introductory college-level computer science course with an emphasis on programming methodology, algorithms, and data structures. Major topics include arrays, methods, classes, objects, linked lists, trees, recursion, and searching and sorting algorithms. Participating students are prepared to take the AP Computer Science A exam. This course goes beyond the AP syllabus, including the set of topics typically composing a full year of college level computer science. The primary programming language is Java. Previous programming experience is not necessary.
Prerequisite: Generally a grade of B or higher in an honors math course, a B+ or higher in Computer Programming or
comparable programming experience, and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

**Advanced Topics in Computer Science**\(^*(H)ons)\) (Grade 12)

This course offers students the opportunity to learn about topics that go beyond the Advanced Placement Computer Science A curriculum. In recent years, students in this course constructed a simulated computer system as they learned about the interactions of hardware, software, compilers, and operating systems. Other topics studied in this course could include advanced data structures and algorithms, parallel computing, machine learning, iOS app development, and computer graphics. This is a hands-on course and students learn through a series of individual and small-group projects. Prerequisite: Prior programming experience (at the level of AP Computer Science or beyond) and approval of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department

\(^*\)Enrollment in Statistics, AP Statistics, Computer Programming, AP Computer Science A, and Advanced Topics in Computer Science (Honors) is limited. A lottery may be used if a course is over-enrolled.

**Global Online Academy Courses:** The following mathematics and computer science courses are offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 through Global Online Academy:

**Mathematics**
- **Data Visualization** (Fall, Math/Science Interdisciplinary Course)
- **Game Theory** (Fall and Spring)
- **Number Theory** (Fall)
- **Personal Finance** (Fall and Spring)

**Computer Science**
- **Computer Science II: Analyzing Data with Python** (Spring)
- **Computer Science II: Game Design and Development** (Spring)
- **Cyber Security** (Fall and Spring)
- **iOS App Design** (Spring)

For more information on these courses, please refer to the Global Online Academy section of this Program Planning Guide.
Science Department

The science program at BB&N aims to empower students to think critically and act ethically by instilling a systemic approach and scientific lens to problem solving. The curriculum employs a laboratory and project-based discovery model in the belief that insights are best developed in an exploratory and experimental setting. Objectivity in observation, accuracy in data gathering and recording, identification and control of variables, the manipulation and presentation of data, and the evaluation of the validity of experiments are lab skills emphasized as appropriate to the grade level and discipline. At all levels, themes of sustainable development, scientific research, and decision-making on a global scale are incorporated. The program challenges students to appreciate science as an imaginative, impassioned, human endeavor essential to preserving our world for generations to come.

Biology (Grades 9 – 10)
Biology is an introductory course that surveys a variety of topics with an emphasis on cell biology, genetics, and physiology. Students are provided with the background needed to develop an understanding of the contemporary issues in science from a cellular, molecular, and ecological perspective. Correlated lab work is emphasized, including units incorporating experimental design, scientific communication, and biotechnology.

Biology (Honors) (Grades 9 – 10)
Biology (Honors) includes material similar to Biology but the pace is quicker and topics are explored in greater depth. Students build a foundation necessary to understand the contemporary issues in science from a cellular, molecular, biochemical, and ecological perspective. Correlated lab work is emphasized, including units incorporating experimental design, scientific communication, biotechnology, and a frog dissection. Students are approved for this course by their BB&N Middle School science teacher or by the Science Department Head. It is recommended that students who take Biology (Honors) simultaneously take Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 (Honors).
Prerequisite: Approval of the Science Department

Physics (Grades 10 – 12)
This is a lab-based course designed for students who have completed Biology and who want to explore physical science with an emphasis on the practical nature of the physical world. The course includes mechanics, motion, and energy as well as electricity, simple circuits, and waves. Algebra is used in the interpretation of data and provides a link between the relationships elucidated by lab experiments and the practical applications of those principles. There are also various projects, including a science and art co-curricular photography project, integrated into the course and designed to allow students explore and apply the concepts learned in the course in a creative way.
Recommended Prior Course: Algebra 2

Physics (Honors) (Grades 10 – 12)
Physics (Honors) is a lab-based course that stresses the discovery of physical relationships through lab experiences. The year begins with a study of motion, proceeds through conservation of energy, electricity, circuits, simple harmonic motion, and ends with the examination of sound and light. Algebra 2 is a prerequisite for enrollment since Algebra is used extensively in the interpretation of data and in the expression of ideas.
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and approval of the Science Department
Recommended Prior Course: Algebra 2 (Honors) or enrollment in Physics (Honors) as a third-year science course

Principles of Chemistry (Grades 10 – 12)
The Principles of Chemistry curriculum offers a broad survey of atomic structure and models, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, gases, enthalpy, and solutions. While the content of this course is more conceptual than that of the Chemistry course, students develop strong laboratory techniques and problem-solving skills. This course is recommended for interested students in Grades 11 and 12 and for students in Grade 10 who wish to strengthen their quantitative and laboratory skills prior to taking Physics. This course provides a solid foundation for Physics and upper-level science electives.

Chemistry (Grades 10 – 12)
This course includes the standard college-preparatory material required for continued work in chemistry, biology, or pre-medical studies. Topics include the structure of atoms and molecules and principles of chemical reactions including energy, kinetics, equilibrium, and reactions between acids and bases. Laboratory work, observation, and data analysis are emphasized and used as a means of examining the scientific thought process. Strong math skills are essential.
Recommended Prior Course: Algebra 2

Chemistry (Honors) (Grades 10 – 12)
Chemistry (Honors) includes the same topics as the Chemistry course but the pace is quicker and each subject is examined in greater depth. Strong math and science skills are essential. Enrollment can be limited.
Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and approval of the Science Department
Recommended Prior Course: Algebra 2 (Honors) or enrollment in Chemistry (Honors) as a third-year science course
SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Juniors and seniors who have completed the Science Department graduation requirement may request to enroll in one of the science electives described below. Science electives allow students to explore a topic of interest in depth with a continued emphasis on the development of critical thinking and scientific reasoning skills.

Juniors enrolled in science electives participate in an interdisciplinary study and project during the third trimester of the course. During these projects, juniors work collaboratively with students from other science electives and are taught by all science elective teachers. The regular course meeting block might be altered during the third trimester in order to allow students to work collaboratively with students from another elective, though changes will not affect the student’s schedule in other courses. Students are expected to meet with the teacher and other student collaborators at least three times per week and have additional independent work to complete between class meetings.

Juniors and seniors enrolled in Engineering Principles and Practices, Infectious Diseases, Marine Ecology, or Scientific Ethics may complete the course at the Advanced level by maintaining a science portfolio and doing supplemental course work during the first two trimesters.

Enrollment in the following courses is limited: Anatomy and Physiology (Advanced), AP Biology / Advanced Biology (Honors), AP Physics C: Mechanics, Biochemistry (Advanced), Current Topics and Research in Science and Technology (Honors), Engineering Principles and Practice (Advanced) / Engineering Principles and Practice, Environmental Studies (Advanced), Experimental Biology (Honors), Infectious Diseases (Advanced) / Infectious Diseases, Marine Ecology (Advanced) / Marine Ecology, Organic Chemistry (Honors), and Scientific Ethics (Advanced) / Scientific Ethics. Seniors are given priority for enrollment. A lottery may be used if a course is over-enrolled.

Anatomy and Physiology (Advanced) (Grades 11 – 12)
Anatomy and Physiology is a course in which lab work is used to study several major organs and organ systems of the body. The course covers cell, tissue, and organ structure with a focus on the muscular, circulatory, respiratory, and nervous systems. The interrelationships between various physiological systems are explored and applications related to clinical conditions are addressed, particularly in end-of-term projects. Field trips to local institutions, which in the past have included the Beth Israel Surgical Skills and Simulation Center and the Russell Museum of Medical Innovation, complement material discussed in class. Participation in dissection is a required part of this course.
Prerequisite: Biology
Recommended Prior Science Course: Biology (Honors)

Advanced Placement Biology / Advanced Biology (Honors) (Grades 11 – 12)
This course includes a selection of topics from the Advanced Placement Biology curriculum. The course is divided roughly into thirds: evolution, cell biology, and genetics are discussed in the fall trimester; molecular and organismal biology in the second trimester; and animal behavior and ecology in the spring trimester. This course, when taken in conjunction with or following Experimental Biology (Honors) fully prepares students for the Advanced Placement (AP) Biology exam. Seniors who enroll in AP Biology by taking this course in conjunction with or following Experimental Biology (Honors) must continue in the course throughout Senior Spring Project. Seniors who do not wish to remain enrolled in this course throughout Senior Spring Project must enroll in the Advanced Biology (Honors) course.
Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry, and approval of the Science Department
Recommended Prior Course: A yearlong chemistry course

Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics (Grades 11 – 12)
The focus of this course is on Newtonian Mechanics, which includes 1-D and 2-D kinematics, Newton’s laws, work and energy, momentum, rotational motion, and oscillations and waves. Additional topics, including general and special relativity and electricity and magnetism, will be included, time permitting. Significant emphasis is placed on the development of strong lab skills, including error analysis and problem solving, both qualitatively and quantitatively. Because linear kinematics and dynamics form the foundation for much of this course, students must complete either Physics or Physics (Honors) before enrolling in this course.* Since trigonometry and calculus are used extensively throughout the year, a strong record in Precalculus is a prerequisite and Calculus (Advanced) is a corequisite.
Prerequisites: Physics or Physics (Honors) and Precalculus
Corequisite: Calculus (Advanced)
*With Departmental approval, this course can be a first-year physics course for juniors who have completed or are concurrently enrolled in Advanced Placement Calculus BC.

Biochemistry (Advanced) (Grades 11 – 12)
Biochemistry (Advanced) is an interdisciplinary science course designed to study topics in chemistry and biochemistry with the intention of applying those topics to modern scientific problems, such as the legality and ethics of the pharmaceutical industry, outbreaks of disease, and the effect of geography, culture, and nutrition on disorders
throughout the world. The course includes a detailed review of key concepts from biology and chemistry, specifically relating to living organisms, then delves into more complex topics such as pharmaceutical drug design, advanced metabolism, and modern techniques and equipment used for structure analysis of substances, such as spectrometry and crystallography. These topics are investigated through reading scientific journals and news articles, researching scientific concepts, and looking at medical case studies, both in the United States and throughout the world. The course culminates with an independent research project that investigates an issue in modern science, and includes a research paper and a presentation regarding findings.

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry
Recommended Prior Course: A yearlong chemistry course

**Current Topics and Research in Science and Technology (Honors)** (Grade 12)
This course is designed for students to explore topics in science and technology, both within and beyond BB&N, by critically reviewing current literature, understanding and presenting recent findings in science, visiting scientific destinations throughout the Greater Boston area, and undertaking an independent research project outside of BB&N during Senior Spring Project. The topics explored are both local and global in nature and are primarily chosen by the students. In past years, students have investigated the science and technology associated with drug development and discovery, proposed solutions to global medical emergencies or natural disasters, researched innovations in personalized medicine, and explored advances in robotic image-guided surgical techniques. Each topic is complimented by visiting local scientific institutions or Skyping with experts in the field. The course is taught in a blended format, where students meet synchronously during their regularly scheduled class time and asynchronously online to discuss and share their learning. As part of the course, students identify areas of scientific interest, develop their understanding of the topic, and work toward creating a symposium of current topics in science that is shared with the BB&N community in the winter. By the end of January, students are expected to establish a connection with a science mentor outside of BB&N so they can undertake a research or technology related project during the spring trimester as part of their Senior Spring Project. Internships are typically 10 – 15 hours per week and students continue to share their learning in a blended format throughout this time.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of three years of science and approval of the Science Department.
Recommended co-requisite: Enrollment in a science elective at BB&N or through the Global Online Academy.

**Engineering Principles and Practice (Advanced) / Engineering Principles and Practice** (Grades 11 – 12)
Engineering Principles and Practice is a hands-on, project-based course that is designed for students who are interested in the applications of Engineering to current and evolving technologies. This course includes but is not limited to, the exploration of mechanical engineering, civil engineering, manufacturing engineering, electrical engineering, engineering ethics, and environmental engineering. Students become familiar with the design process and will be able to take an idea through the design, prototype, and build phases. Students learn by doing while receiving in-process support. They become creative problem-solvers as they overcome obstacles throughout the design-test-build process. Field trips to various manufacturing facilities complement classroom work and expose students to actual product realization. This course is based in math and science, but is designed for all students interested in learning more about the expanding field of engineering.

Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra 2, and Geometry
Recommended Prior Course: A yearlong physics course

**Environmental Studies (Advanced)** (Grades 11 – 12)
Learning Locally, Thinking Globally
In the early nineteenth century, German naturalist Alexander von Humboldt wrote, “In this great chain of causes and effects, no single fact can be considered in isolation.” Following Humboldt’s lead, this course combines science and history to consider the ways humans interact with the natural world. Units drawing simultaneously from both disciplines emphasize systems thinking to examine how societies encounter the challenges of resource use, conservation and preservation, and population growth, from the twentieth century through present day. Through lenses ranging from local to global, this course examines how shifting perceptions of nature, facts, and values over time influence our choices. Field work and case studies enable students to utilize both scientific and historical thinking skills, gain practical tools for understanding the complexity of our world, and emerge with a contemporary understanding of ecology.

This is an interdisciplinary course offered through the Science Department and the History and Social Sciences Department. This course fulfills the Modern Global History requirement.

Prerequisite: Biology

**Experimental Biology (Honors)** (Grades 11 – 12)
This course includes many of the laboratory exercises and experiments normally contained in an introductory college biology course. The laboratory work is taken from widely used lab manuals and is correlated with reading assignments in the textbook used for the Advanced Placement (AP) Biology course. Students expand upon these topics by planning and executing their own experiments. Evaluation is based on lab work, including collaboratively designed and executed research projects presented using scientific posters, PowerPoint presentations, and lab reports. Additionally, there are
In this course, students are introduced to the epidemiology, clinical manifestations, immunity, diagnosis, and strategies for prevention and treatment of a variety of infectious diseases. They examine the social inequalities including systemic discrimination, economic status, and access to health care that can affect the severity of infection and influence the outcome for individuals and entire communities, both locally and globally. Although the key infectious diseases studied are HIV, malaria, and COVID-19, factors associated with other diseases (such as smallpox, SARS, Ebola, measles, cholera, tuberculosis, and influenza) are also addressed. The pathogenic microorganisms that cause these diseases, including bacteria, viruses, and parasitic eukaryotes, are also studied.

Marine Ecology (Advanced) / Marine Ecology (Grades 11 – 12)

Marine Ecology is designed for students who are interested in learning about the diverse marine environments, the biology of marine organisms, and the relationships between the ocean’s inhabitants and their surroundings. Topics include: the ocean environment, the various ecosystems within and supporting the Earth’s oceans, and the comparative physiology of the diverse species that inhabit the Earth’s oceans. This course also affords students an opportunity to explore larger connections with a focus on global marine conservation issues. Field trips to local marine centers, which in the past have included the Northeastern University Marine Science Center and Woods Hole, as well as lab-based investigations and research projects, encourage the development of observational and research skills. The second trimester includes dissections as a method of studying marine life in a hands-on way.

Prerequisite: Biology

Organic Chemistry (Honors) (Grades 11 – 12)

This course is an advanced science elective designed to explore the fundamental concepts of organic chemistry and study how it has impacted and shaped modern society. The course focuses on material traditionally covered in first semester collegiate organic chemistry while providing students with an opportunity to further sharpen problem solving and critical thinking skills through the mastery of “orgo’s” more conceptual approach to understanding matter. Students begin the year with an overview of organic molecular structure and isomerism before delving deep into organic reactions and mechanisms. Along the way, students explore the history of the field and how synthetic organic chemistry is connected to and impacts a variety of modern topics, including clean energy initiatives, oral contraception, and cancer therapeutics. Students are given opportunities to research and present on organic chemistry’s role in topics important to them through group projects and class discussions. The class culminates in a retrosynthetic analysis project, where students employ their acquired knowledge of chemical reactivity to design a synthetic approach to a complex organic molecule.

Prerequisites: Chemistry (Honors) (yearlong course), or a yearlong chemistry course with instructor approval

Scientific Ethics (Advanced) / Scientific Ethics (Grades 11 – 12)

In an effort to further the mission of inspiring young scientists to “act ethically,” this course explores how moral reasoning can be used to dictate choices in the scientific world, with a focus on both past and current issues. Through discussion, debates, labs, and other activities, students gain an overview of ethical theories before applying them to various scenarios of both instructor and student choice, while also gaining a stronger scientific background. Possible topics include those in bioethics, environmental ethics, nuclear ethics, and the ethics of technology. Throughout this course, students are challenged to reflect on their own reasoning as well as a variety of different perspectives, to utilize evidence and moral judgment to help shape opinions, to explain the “what” and the “why” of scientific beliefs, and to understand how an ethical view of science can help influence decision making on a national and global scale. In addition, this course develops students’ ability to listen, especially to ideas different from their own, as well as students’ understanding of the intersection of scientific ethics and equity in today’s interconnected world.

Global Online Academy Courses: The following science courses are offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 through Global Online Academy:

- Climate Change and Global Inequality (Fall and Spring, History/Science Interdisciplinary Course)
- Data Visualization (Fall, Math/Science Interdisciplinary Course)
- Global Health (Fall)
- Medical Problem Solving I (Fall and Spring)
- Medical Problem Solving II (Spring)
- Neuropsychology (Fall and Spring)
For more information on these courses, please refer to the Global Online Academy section of this Program Planning Guide.

**Courses Not Offered in 2021 – 2022**
- Advanced Placement Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism / Advanced Physics: Electricity and Magnetism
- Environmental Science
- Forensics
World Languages Department

All students must take three full, consecutive years of the same language in the Upper School to fulfill their World Languages graduation requirement. Students must take a language course through Grade 11, completing at least level three of a language.

Students who previously studied a language not offered at BB&N and are new to the school in Grade 11 need to successfully complete two full years of the same language at BB&N. New students repeating Grade 11 must take a language course in Grade 11 and complete at least level three of language at BB&N; alternatively, these students may take and successfully pass a new language for two years.

Language Programs
The Upper School offers six languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Latin, Russian, and Spanish. World Languages offer first, second, third, fourth, and fifth year language study. In addition, French, Latin, and Spanish have Honors sections starting in the second and third year, as well as upper-level electives (described below). Chinese has an Honors section starting in the third year. Chinese, French, Latin, and Spanish offer Advanced Placement level courses.

Double Language Program
A student who completes seven years or more of language study during Grades 9 – 12 qualifies as a Double Language Student. Only courses taken at BB&N or a previous secondary school (for students new to the School in Grades 10 or 11 only) fulfill the seven-year requirement. Courses taken with Global Online Academy do not fulfill any part of the seven-year requirement.

BB&N Language Scholar Program
A student who completes study in a primary language to the highest level offered (depending on the language); completes study in a secondary language to the third level (III) or the fourth level (IV) for a student who begins in the second level (II) in Grade 9; and earns a B or above for final grades in every year studied) will be recognized as a BB&N Language Scholar. Language Scholars are expected to continue in their Advanced Placement courses through the end of senior year (through Senior Spring Project) and to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Only courses taken at BB&N or a previous secondary school (for students new to the School in Grades 10 or 11 only) fulfill the requirement for the BB&N Language Scholar Program. Courses taken with Global Online Academy do not fulfill any part of the BB&N Language Scholar requirement.

Global Exchange Ambassador Program
The Global Exchange Ambassador Program seeks to recognize students who commit to and engage deeply in a BB&N World Languages Exchange Program. The Global Exchange Ambassador Program has limited enrollment for students in Spanish, French, and Russian who wish to complete extensive preparation for their respective cultural exchange program and also reflect upon the experience afterwards. To receive the Global Exchange Ambassador designation on the transcript, students must be accepted into the program through an application process (which takes place during the spring prior to the exchange program) and satisfactorily complete all aspects of the program (including attendance on the exchange program, six to eight additional meetings per year, independent research on a topic of the student's choosing, completion of a portfolio, and a final presentation).

ARABIC

Arabic I
The first third of this course is dedicated to the mastery of the phonetics and phonology of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). The Arabic I course focuses on the development of vocabulary, as well as analyzing and producing basic structures in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Throughout the application of the language, students use texts, articles, the Internet, audio-visual materials, and discussion to create a geographical and cultural context for the language. Additionally, a passive familiarity with regional variation establishes a framework for Arabic language in practice.

Arabic II
Building on skills from Arabic I, Arabic II students increase the subtlety of their communication with expanded vocabulary and complex structures. Students actively engage with the pattern and root system that serves as the underpinning of Arabic word meaning. They continue to work with authentic materials from across the Arabic-speaking world. Presentations and projects reinforce cultural material and strengthen fluency throughout the year. This course aims to increase students' cultural competency in Arab cultures and prepare them for interaction with native speakers.
Arabic III
Building on the skills from Arabic I and II, students delve deeper into the Arabic language with more focus on reading and listening to authentic material. Their vocabulary expansion at this level equips them to communicate at levels outside of their immediate surroundings. Cultural presentations, written essays, and skit performances enhance and strengthen their fluency. This course engages students at an intermediate level.

Arabic IV
Having mastered the core structures and concepts of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), students in Arabic IV contextualize and expand their knowledge as the class journeys across the Arab world through film, television, news, art, and literature. An emphasis on various spoken dialects allows students to gain a sense of variation within the vastly diverse geography of the Middle East and North Africa. This course is a window into the many manifestations of Arabic language and how they connect back to the essential structure and meaning found in MSA.

CHINESE

Chinese I
This course is designed for students with no previous background in Mandarin Chinese. Students are introduced to and concentrate on pronunciation and the four tones through intensive phonetic and sentence-pattern drills. Audio and video recordings, Chinese computer software, and other aids are used. Students are expected to learn basic structures of Mandarin Chinese and to acquire a basic oral competency in simple daily communications. Students learn approximately 500 simplified characters and acquire a proficiency in reading and writing in simplified characters. Exposure to Chinese history, culture, and geography is also provided.

Chinese II
Chinese II is a continuation of Chinese I, conducted in pinyin and simplified characters. The goal of this course is to develop a solid grammatical base and a strong listening and speaking ability. Audio and video recordings, and oral and written exercises with increasing complexity help students attain a higher level of competency in the language. Students learn approximately 500 characters and increase their vocabulary to nearly 1,000 words. Students also read and write short compositions either in pinyin or characters and further their study of Chinese culture.

Chinese III/Chinese III (Honors)
This course helps students learn complex sentence patterns and vocabulary. Short newspaper articles, simplified literary works, and video and audio recordings supplement the text. Oral proficiency and grammatical accuracy are emphasized. Students learn approximately 500 characters, increase their vocabulary to nearly 1,500 words, and type short papers in Chinese characters.
Prerequisite for Chinese III (Honors): Chinese II and approval of the World Languages Department

Chinese IV
While oral proficiency continues to be emphasized, attention in this course is given to reading and writing. Character-only materials replace character-pinyin texts. Students increase their character vocabulary to 2,000 words and learn to write with 300 characters.

Advanced Placement Chinese Language and Culture
Students who take this course follow the College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP) Chinese Language and Culture curriculum. This course focuses on increasing the students’ level of Chinese proficiency across three communication modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) while interweaving Chinese culture throughout the course. Texts and supplementary materials are carefully selected or edited from authentic sources to support the linguistic and cultural goals of this course.
Prerequisite: Chinese III (Honors) and approval of the World Languages Department

Chinese V (Honors)
Chinese V (Honors) is a full-year elective for qualified students who are interested in perfecting their study of Chinese language and culture. In this course, students continue to build upon their language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Texts of greater complexity and various styles are introduced to students in the cultural context of Chinese-speaking societies. At the end of this course, students are able to communicate, in both spoken and written Chinese, at the intermediate- to mid-level of proficiency, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. This course is entirely conducted in Chinese. This course is also open to Chinese-heritage students, upon approval of the World Languages Department, who want to have one year of advanced study in Chinese after fulfilling their BB&N World Languages graduation requirements.
Prerequisite: Advanced Placement Chinese and approval of the World Languages Department
FRENCH

French I
French I is an introductory course of French language and culture. Students develop skills in the four language modalities (speaking, listening, reading, and writing). Emphasis is put on meaningful oral communication as well as accuracy of expression. Students develop basic structured sentences and acquire vocabulary to ask questions and provide information on likes and dislikes, personal and school life, family and friends, and travel and vacation. Interactive and group activities, audio and video recordings, and online material are regularly used in and outside the classroom. This first-year course also provides a general overview of the geography and cultures of the French-speaking world through readings and videos. By the end of the year, this course is taught mostly in French.

French II
French II offers a comprehensive review of introductory French while expanding and presenting structures, vocabulary, and cultural material suited for intermediate levels. Students acquire a solid grammatical base, a stronger listening comprehension, and more fluent speech. Students also acquire proficiency in reading short texts and writing simple compositions in French. The goal of the course is to develop the four linguistic skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) and to help students gain an understanding and appreciation of the French language, people, and culture. This course is based on the use of a grammar book and some short reading comprehension texts, supplemented by the use of films, podcasts, CDs, projects, and online material. This course is conducted in French.

French II (Honors)
Students in the French II (Honors) course complete the French II curriculum at a more rapid pace. In addition, they study an intensive and extensive grammar program. Students are encouraged to use the language creatively and apply basic conversational patterns of French speech towards functional communication. They complete the reading of Le Petit Prince by Saint-Exupery in its original version accompanied with audio and video material. They study L. Malle’s film Au Revoir les Enfants without subtitles, and they watch other French movies such as Kirikou et la Sorcière. Students read and research various works from French-speaking authors around the world. This course is conducted in French.
Prerequisite: French I and approval of the World Languages Department

French III
French III offers a comprehensive review of intermediate French. Students continue to refine the skills necessary to acquire proficiency in the language. This course provides further practice in speaking and listening, as students are expected to participate and to present research and projects in French. Students also continue their grammar study and are encouraged to apply their knowledge in a meaningful context through their written work. Students read poems from the French-speaking world, read authentic texts in the target language such as Goscinny’s Le Petit Nicolas, and study films such as Intouchables. This course is conducted entirely in French.

French III (Honors)
Students in the French III (Honors) course complete the French III curriculum at a more rapid pace. This course includes an in-depth grammar review and the reading of a complete work of French literature, Rhinocéros, a play by Eugene Ionesco, as well as a selection of shorter texts, articles, poems, and stories (by Guy de Maupassant and others). Students improve their writing, comprehension skills, and oral fluency through conversation, expository writing, listening to songs, watching and analyzing films, and acting out scenes from the various literary works. This course is conducted exclusively in French.
Prerequisite: French II (Honors) and approval of the World Languages Department

French IV
This course is open to students from French III and French III (Honors) who want to practice and refine their speaking and writing skills as an alternative to the Advanced Placement (AP) French Language and Culture course. One class each week is dedicated to the review of essential grammar points though the emphasis of this course is on oral conversation and interactive activities. This course utilizes newspaper articles, online material, films, songs, games, projects, and group work. Through the use of these different media, students discuss various topics related to contemporary French society and Francophone cultures around the world. This course is conducted exclusively in French and students are expected to make every effort to use French.

Advanced Placement French Language and Culture
Students in this course study the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) utilizing six major themes (Families in Different Societies; The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity; Influences of Beauty and Art; How Science and Technology Affect our Lives; Factors that Impact the Quality of Life; Environmental, Political, and Societal Changes). Students complete a variety of individual and group activities, as well as research, bringing them from proficiency to fluency. They examine authentic documents from various media such as newspapers, podcasts, or the Internet, and they use computers and iPads to enhance their learning. This course also refines the students’ study of
literature through the reading of poems and books such as L’Étranger by Camus and Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi. Students explore culture through films such as Entre les Murs. Throughout the course of the year, each student completes an in-depth study of a French-speaking country. Teacher and students use French exclusively in this course. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement French Language and Culture exam in May.

Prerequisite: French III (Honors) or French IV and approval of the World Languages Department

French V (Advanced): Cinema for French Conversation
This course is an elective course that culminates in the making of a movie that is written and performed in French and filmed by the students themselves. Emphasis is placed on conversation through interactive activities drawn from the study of French films. This includes group research, oral presentations, debating the issues presented in a film, and exploring cultural units related to the film. The films are chosen based on their historical, literary, linguistic, or geographical significance and may vary from year to year. Recent selections include Monsieur Ibrahim, Welcome, Le Fabuleux destin d’Amélie Poulin, Jean de Florette, La Veuve de Saint-Pierre, Mommy, and Cyrano de Bergerac. Teacher and students use French exclusively in this course. This course is open to students in French IV who want to practice and refine their listening and speaking skills. Students from the Advancement Placement French Language and Culture course may be accepted with approval of the World Languages Department.

French V (Honors): Culture and Cuisine in Films and Fiction
This is an elective French language and culture course in which students use literature and cinema to examine the role, the importance, and the evolution of food in French society. Students continue to develop and refine their reading and writing skills with the in-depth study of a complete work (Cyrano de Bergerac by E. de Royston) and excerpts from other classical and contemporary authors. Emphasis is placed on oral fluency through conversation, discussion, and the study of authentic French movies (Les Saveurs du Palais, Le Fabuleux Destin d’Amélie Poulin). Using the class’ interactive website, students work in groups on project-based units: they produce a film festival, explore a local food market, take a cooking class, organize a food tasting, and conclude the course by writing, performing, and filming a cooking show. Teacher and students use French exclusively in this course. Prerequisite: Advanced Placement French Language and Culture or fluency in French and approval of the World Languages Department

LATIN

Latin I
Latin I introduces the Latin language including the four verb conjugations and the five noun declensions. Students read simple adapted Latin while learning the rules of grammar and syntax. Students also learn basic elements of Roman civilization including mythology, the Roman house, and Roman history. Each student works on a project of their choosing and presents to the class.

Latin II
Latin II beings with a rapid review of Latin fundamentals, after which the class masters the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in Chapter 25 – 50 of Jenney’s First Year Latin. Students read adapted selections of Ritche’s Fabulae Faciles and other suitable texts in order to hone their skills as translators. The majority of the readings deal with Roman mythology, culture, and history.

Latin II (Honors)
After a rapid review of Latin I, students master the vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in Chapters 25 – 55 of Jenney’s First Year Latin. Students read increasingly longer selections from Sarah Roche’s Libellus as well as short passages from Martial and adapted passages from other authors. Students complete projects on topics of Roman culture, architecture, and history.
Prerequisite: Latin I and approval of the World Languages Department

Latin III
Latin III is a prose Latin course moving from adapted Latin reading about early Roman history and culture to the unadapted reading of Caesar. Students may read Livy, Plautus, Petronius, and other authors. Students learn the history of Republican and Imperial Rome. They also study cultural, topographical, and biographical material. Students complete projects on the topics of Roman history, culture, and architecture.

Latin III (Honors)
Latin III (Honors) is a prose Latin course moving from adapted Latin reading about early Roman history and culture to the unadapted reading of Caesar’s Bello Gallico. In the third trimester, students translate Cicero’s First Catilinarian in concert with Sallust’s Bellum Catilinae. Students learn some of the history of Republican and Imperial Rome. They also
study cultural, topographical, and biographical material. Students complete projects on the topics of Roman history, culture, and architecture.

Prerequisite: Latin II (Honors) and approval of the World Languages Department

Latin IV

Students in Latin IV study Roman poetry, including authors such as Ovid, Vergil, Catullus, and Horace. To deepen their understanding of Latin literature, students study dactylic hexameter, read scholarly articles, and learn rhetorical device. To further hone their agility with the language, students learn advanced aspects of Latin prose composition.

Advanced Placement Latin

Students who take this course follow the College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP) Latin curriculum. Students will read selections from Vergil’s *Aeneid* and Julius Caesar’s *Bellum Gallicum*. This course emphasizes literary analysis and essay writing.

Prerequisite: Latin III (Honors) or Latin IV and approval of the World Languages Department

Latin V (Honors)

This course includes readings by authors found within the former AP Latin Literature curriculum, including Catullus, Horace, and Ovid, along with additional works such the elegiac poetry of Propertius and Tibullus. With an emphasis on literary analysis, students are expected to translate poems from Latin into English and supplement their own translation work by reading commentaries and select poems in English translation.

Prerequisite: Advanced Placement Latin and approval of the World Languages Department

RUSSIAN

Russian I

Students in Russian I learn the basics of conversation, reading, writing, and listening in a fun and energetic setting. While building vocabulary relating to homes, families, cities, and schools, students learn most of the Russian case system, all the forms of the Russian verbs, and a number of idioms and set phrases that are useful for real-world application. This course uses the American Council of Teachers of Russian (ACTR) book series *Live from Russia!* which includes an audio component for homework and also a soap-opera-style movie about Kevin, an American living in Moscow. Ten percent of this course consists of Russian culture, politics, literature, and history, which are discussed in English.

Russian II

Students in Russian II deepen their knowledge of many themes from Russian I: they aim to have control over Russian nouns and verbs and to learn more complicated sentence structures. While continuing to build vocabulary around the themes of school life and personal interests, students work to become conversationally proficient for their encounter with the Russian exchange students. The course continues with the ACTR book *Live from Russia!*, working with Volumes I and II from the series, and continues to follow the adventures and misadventures of Kevin and his Russian friends. As with Russian I, ten percent of this course consists of Russian culture, politics, literature, and history, which are discussed in English.

Russian III

Students in Russian III continue to build upon the four major language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students in this course strive to move from the sentence level to the paragraph level in Russian and transition from expressing a single idea to presenting a series of ideas in a sophisticated context. While striving for mastery over the Russian case system, students also work to gain control over a number of irregular—but frequently used—Russian verbs. This course continues with the ACTR book *Live from Russia!*, Volume II, as Kevin continues to develop his knowledge of the Russian language and culture. Ten percent of this course consists of Russian culture, politics, literature, and history, which are discussed mostly in English.

Russian IV

Students in Russian IV strive to complete their knowledge of beginning to intermediate level Russian grammar, while also fortifying their conversational skills. This course aims to deepen the knowledge of practical Russian and ensure that students feel comfortable in a variety of real-world situations. Students produce longer, more focused monologues and also undertake more complex written compositions. The course continues with the ACTR series, moving on to the *Welcome Back!* text, where Kevin and his friends move into a more adult stage of their lives. Ten percent of this course consists of Russian culture, politics, literature, and history, which are discussed mostly in Russian.

Russian IV (Honors)

This course is the more advanced version of Russian IV, and students are accepted upon approval of the World Languages Department. In addition to the Russian IV components, students spend an additional 30–40 percent of time
outside of class developing their writing and listening skills. Students in this course are expected to participate in the ACTR-sponsored Russian Olympiada. Students are strongly encouraged to take the National Examinations in World Languages (NEWL) Russian exam and also to continue Russian through Senior Spring Project.
Prerequisite: Russian III and approval of the World Languages Department

SPANISH

Spanish I/Spanish IP
In this first-year course, students are introduced to basic structures and high-frequency vocabulary, which enable them to perform a variety of communicative functions such as asking questions and providing information, expressing likes, wishes, and needs, describing and discussing daily life, and talking about past, present, and future actions. Communicative ability is developed through structured contextual practice leading to more personalized student generated situations and presentations. A variety of strategies are presented to help students develop successful techniques for speaking, reading, writing, and listening in Spanish. This first-year course also begins to expose students to the cultural riches of the Spanish-speaking world. By the end of the year, this course is taught mostly in Spanish. This course is designed for students who have little to no background or experience studying Spanish.

Spanish IP is a course that is open to students who have previously taken Spanish in the middle or lower school but who are not yet ready for the Spanish II course. Enrollment in this course is based on the results of the placement test and the decision of the World Languages Department. This course moves more quickly through the basic introductory vocabulary and grammar, but students spend more time learning and reviewing the present and preterit verb tenses and the more challenging grammar concepts that are necessary to master prior to Spanish II. By the end of the year, this course is taught mostly in Spanish.

Spanish II
In this second year course students review and practice grammar structures introduced in Spanish I. They continue to learn many new grammar structures, including the preterite and imperfect tenses, the future and conditional tenses, and all of the commands. They are also exposed to a variety of new vocabulary in order to advance their communicative skills. Emphasis is placed on applying the newly learned material to speaking and writing. Students engage in listening comprehension activities and are also exposed to cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. Students are expected to give oral presentations and write compositions. This course is conducted in Spanish.

Spanish II (Honors)
In this second-year course, students review and practice grammar structures introduced in Spanish I. They continue to learn many new grammar structures, including the preterite and imperfect tenses, the future and conditional tenses, and the subjunctive mood. They are also exposed to a variety of new vocabulary in order to advance their communicative skills. Emphasis is placed on applying the newly learned material to speaking and writing. Students engage in listening comprehension activities and are also exposed to cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. Students are expected to give oral presentations and write compositions, and will be held to high standards in all areas of their study of the language. Students read short stories and write an original children’s storybook. This course is conducted in Spanish. Prerequisite: Spanish I/IP and approval of the World Languages Department

Spanish III
This course is designed to improve students’ speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills and to explore the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. This course integrates language and culture through a communicative approach. Students review and learn new forms of grammar with an emphasis on the subjunctive mood. New, more advanced vocabulary is introduced and applied in a variety of contexts. This course is conducted in Spanish.

Spanish III (Honors)
Students in this course continue to develop and refine the skills necessary for acquiring proficiency in Spanish. The course provides students with further practice in reading, writing, listening and speaking, with an increased concentration on accuracy and communicative functions. To this end, the course consists of an in-depth grammar review of all major structures, frequent oral and written composition work in which students can put these structures to use in meaningful contexts, guided listening and comprehension activities, readings of short stories and articles by well-known Hispanic authors, and the viewing of at least one Spanish-language film. Oral work consists of both structured conversational exercises as well as more open-ended, student-generated situations. Students are encouraged to focus on communicating as well as developing accuracy of expression at this level. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. Prerequisite: Spanish II (Honors) and approval of the World Languages Department
Spanish IV: Culture and Conversation
This fourth-year course takes a natural approach to Spanish language and culture by exposing learners to authentic resources primarily intended for native speakers such as music, news, talks, tv shows, podcasts, and literature. Students focus on developing their speaking and listening skills by diving into culture and current events while building up their vocabulary and grammar contextually. Students have spontaneous conversations, in-depth discussions, as well as formal presentations. This course is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to make every effort to use Spanish exclusively.

Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture
This is an Advanced Placement (AP) course in Spanish that emphasizes the use of Spanish for active communication and allows students to reach advanced levels in their oral, aural, reading, and written skills. The course introduces students to the literary analysis of Spanish and Latin American literature, culture, and current events around the world. In addition, the course integrates the WE Learning Framework into the AP experience, enabling students to apply academic learning to service initiatives while strengthening their understanding of AP course content and skills. Students carry out a project that has positive impact on local and global issues. This course prepares students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture exam in May. Teacher and students use Spanish exclusively in class. WE Service Learning is recognized on the transcript for those students who successfully complete the service-learning component of the course.
Prerequisite: Spanish III (Honors) or Spanish IV and approval of the World Languages Department

Spanish V: Contemporary Spanish and Latin American Cinema
In this advanced language and culture course, students examine recent major works of film in their social, political, and historical contexts. Films from throughout the Spanish-speaking world are viewed and analyzed both in class and as homework. Students develop their speaking skills as the themes, characters, and cultural lessons from the movies serve as springboards for intensive conversation. In addition to classroom discussions, students give oral presentations, do frequent written assignments, and use online sources to listen to songs and read current articles in Spanish. Teacher and students use Spanish exclusively in class. Students from the Advancement Placement Spanish Language and Culture course may be accepted with approval of the World Languages Department.

Spanish V (Honors): Literature, Film, Art, and Multimedia
This course combines the study of Spanish language and culture by interweaving literature, film, and art from Spain and Latin America. Students continue to refine all their skills in Spanish, broaden their vocabulary, and enhance their fluency. At the end of the year, students write an original play and perform it in front of their peers. Teacher and students use Spanish exclusively in class.
Prerequisite: Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture or fluency in Spanish and approval of the World Languages Department

Global Online Academy Courses: The following language courses are offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 through Global Online Academy:
• Japanese I: Language Through Culture (Yearlong)
• Japanese II: Language Through Culture (Yearlong)
• Japanese III: Language Through Culture (Yearlong)
For more information on this course, please refer to the Global Online Academy section of this Program Planning Guide.
Online Courses With Global Online Academy

Arts, History and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Science, and World Languages

BB&N partners with Global Online Academy (GOA), a consortium of independent schools worldwide, to provide students in Grades 11 and 12 with the opportunity to enroll in online elective courses and earn credit. Global Online Academy courses are interactive, instructional, and experiential, with semester-long options in a wide variety of subjects, ranging from graphic design to global health. All GOA courses have synchronous components (when students collaborate or work with their teacher at a set time, generally using video-conferencing software) and asynchronous components (when students choose at which time to participate). It is important to note that GOA courses require the same time commitment and have workloads similar to any other course students would take at BB&N. Students enrolled in these online courses are required to meet with the BB&N GOA Site Director regularly throughout the duration of the course to share what they are studying and to remain accountable to their other academic commitments.

Students can apply to enroll in a yearlong course or in one or two semester electives in Art, History and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Science, or World Languages (or a combination of disciplines). GOA fall courses run from September through December. Spring courses run from January through May (seniors enrolled in a spring GOA course are required to include this course as a part of their Senior Spring Project). BB&N students receive 0.5 credit for a semester-long course and 1.0 credit for a yearlong course; the student’s transcript will contain the course name with an annotation to reflect that the course was taken with GOA.

Interested students must be motivated, independent learners capable of working within established timeframes to achieve curricular goals established by the GOA instructor. Exceptional time-management skills are essential for success in this type of course. Requirements include concurrent enrollment in a BB&N-based elective of the chosen discipline (for all disciplines except Art), successful completion of the discipline’s graduation requirements, and approval from the Educational Policy Committee. BB&N’s Modern Global History graduation requirement may be fulfilled through a Global Online Academy course; in these special cases, students do not need to concurrently take a BB&N history course. Students will only be allowed to take a GOA course as a sixth course. Enrollment is limited, and interested students are required to complete a short application submitted to the GOA Site Director. Students complete their GOA applications in the winter/spring in order to apply for a GOA course for the following year. Interested students should attend the GOA informational meetings for further information on application deadlines.

**ARTS DEPARTMENT**

(Concurrent enrollment in a BB&N Arts course is not required)

**Arts Entrepreneurship** (Spring)

In this course, aspiring visual artists, designers, filmmakers, musicians, and other creatives will learn how to find success in the dynamic fields of their choosing. Students will learn about arts careers and organizations by attending virtual events and interviewing art practitioners, entrepreneurs, and administrators. Beyond exploring trajectories for improving their crafts, students will build skills in networking and personal branding while examining case studies of a variety of artistic ventures—some highly successful and some with teachable flaws. Using real-world examples of professional and emerging creatives and arts organizations, students will gain a better understanding of the passion and dedication it takes to have a successful creative career.

**Graphic Design** (Fall and Spring)

What makes a message persuasive and compelling? What helps audiences and viewers sort and make sense of information? This course explores the relationship between information and influence from a graphic design perspective. Using an integrated case study and design-based approach, this course aims to deepen students’ design, visual, and information literacies. Students are empowered to design and prototype communication projects about which they are passionate. Topics include: principles of design and visual communication, infographics, digital search skills, networks and social media, persuasion and storytelling with multimedia, and social activism on the Internet. Student work will include individual and collaborative group projects, graphic design, content curation, analytical and creative writing, peer review and critiques, and online presentations.
HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

BB&N’s Modern Global History graduation requirement may be fulfilled through completion of a Global Online Academy course; in these special cases, students do not need to be concurrently enrolled in a BB&N history course.

9/11 in a Global Context (Spring)
The tragedy of September 11, 2001 changed the world in profound ways. In this course, students explore the causes of 9/11, the events of the day itself, and its aftermath locally, nationally, and around the world. In place of a standard chronological framework, students instead view these events through a series of separate lenses. Each lens represents a different way to view the attacks and allows students to understand 9/11 as an event with complex and interrelated causes and outcomes. Using a variety of technologies and activities, students work individually and with peers to evaluate each lens. Students then analyze the post-9/11 period and explore how this event affected the U.S., the Middle East, and the wider world.

This course fulfills BB&N’s Modern Global History requirement.

Applying Philosophy to Global Issues (Fall)
This is an applied philosophy course that connects pressing contemporary issues with broad-range philosophical ideas and controversies, drawn from multiple traditions and many centuries. Students use ideas from influential philosophers to examine how thinkers have applied reason successfully, and unsuccessfully, to many social and political issues across the world. In addition to introducing students to the work of philosophers as diverse as Confucius, Immanuel Kant, John Rawls and Michel Foucault, this course also aims to be richly interdisciplinary, incorporating models and methods from diverse fields including history, journalism, literary criticism, and media studies. Students learn to develop their own philosophy and then apply it to the ideological debates which surround efforts to improve their local and global communities.

This course fulfills BB&N’s Modern Global History requirement.

Business Problem Solving (Fall and Spring)
How could climate change disrupt your production and supply chains or impact your consumer markets? Will tariffs help or hurt your business? How embedded is social media in your marketing plan? Is your company vulnerable to cybercrime? What twenty-first century skills are you cultivating in your leadership team? Students in this course tackle real-world problems facing businesses large and small in today’s fast changing global marketplace where radical reinvention is on the minds of many business leaders. Students work collaboratively and independently on case studies, exploring business issues through varied lenses including operations, marketing, human capital, finance and risk management, as well as sustainability. As they are introduced to the concepts and practices of business, students identify, analyze, and propose solutions to business problems, engaging in research of traditional and emerging industries, from established multinationals to startups.

Entrepreneurship in a Global Context (Fall and Spring)
How does an entrepreneur think? What skills must entrepreneurs possess to remain competitive and relevant? What are some of the strategies that entrepreneurs apply to solve problems? In this experiential course students develop an understanding of entrepreneurship in today’s global market; employ innovation, design, and creative solutions for building a viable business model; and learn to develop, refine, and pitch a new start-up. Units include Business Model Canvas, Customer Development vs. Design Thinking, Value Proposition, Customer Segments, Iterations & Pivots, Brand Strategy & Channels, and Funding Sources. Students use the Business Model Canvas as a roadmap to building and developing their own team start-up, a process that requires hypothesis testing, customer research conducted in hometown markets, product design, product iterations, and entrepreneur interviews. An online start-up pitch by the student team to an entrepreneurial advisory committee will be the culminating assessment. Additional student work includes research, journaling, interviews, peer collaboration, and a case study involving real world consulting work for a current business.

Gender and Society (Spring)
This course uses the concept of gender to examine a range of topics and disciplines that might include feminism, gay and lesbian studies, women’s studies, popular culture, and politics. Throughout the course, students examine the intersection of gender with other social identifiers: class, race, sexual orientation, culture, and ethnicity. Students read about, write about, and discuss gender issues as they simultaneously reflect on the ways that gender has manifested in and impacted their lives.

This course fulfills BB&N’s Modern Global History requirement.

Genocide and Human Rights (Fall)
Students in this course study several of the major genocides of the twentieth century (Armenian, the Holocaust, Cambodian, and Rwandan), analyze the role of the international community in responding to and preventing further genocides (with particular attention to the Nuremberg tribunals), and examine current human rights crises around the world. Students read primary and secondary sources, participate in both synchronous and asynchronous discussions.
with classmates, write brief papers, read short novels, watch documentaries and develop a human rights report card website about a nation of their choice. This course fulfills BB&N’s Modern Global History requirement.

**International Relations** (Fall and Spring)
Are China and the U.S. on a collision course for war? Can the Israelis and Palestinians find a two-state solution in holy land? Will North Korea launch a nuclear weapon? Can India and Pakistan share the subcontinent in peace? These questions dominate global headlines and our daily news feeds. In this course, students go beyond the sound bites and menacing headlines to explore the context, causes, and consequences of the most pressing global issues of our time. Through case studies, students explore the dynamics of international relations and the complex interplay of war and peace, conflict and cooperation, and security and human rights. Working with classmates from around the world, students also identify and model ways to prevent, mediate, and resolve some of the most pressing global conflicts. This course fulfills BB&N’s Modern Global History requirement.

**Introduction to Investments** (Fall and Spring)
In this course, students simulate the work of investors by working with the tools, theories, and decision-making practices that define smart investment. The course explores concepts in finance and asks students to apply them to investment decisions in three primary contexts: portfolio management, venture capital, and social investing. After an introduction to theories about valuation and risk management, students simulate scenarios in which they must make decisions to grow an investment portfolio. They manage investments in stocks, bonds, and options to learn a range of strategies for increasing the value of their portfolios. In the second unit, they take the perspective of venture capital investors, analyzing startup companies and predicting their value before they become public. In the third unit, students examine case studies of investment funds that apply the tools of finance to power social change. Throughout the course, students learn from experts who have experience in identifying value and managing risk in global markets. They develop their own ideas about methods for taking calculated financial risks and leave this course not just with a simulated portfolio of investments, but the skills necessary to manage portfolios in the future.

**Introduction to Legal Thinking** (Fall and Spring)
Inspired by GOA’s popular Medical Problem Solving series, this course uses a case-based approach to give students a practical look into the professional lives of lawyers and legal thinking. By studying and debating a series of real legal cases, students sharpen their ability to think like lawyers who research, write, and speak persuasively. The course focuses on problems that lawyers encounter in daily practice and on the rules of professional conduct case law. In addition to practicing writing legal briefs, advising fictional clients, and preparing opening and closing statements for trial, students approach such questions as the law and equity, the concept of justice, jurisprudence, and legal ethics.

**Positive Psychology** (Fall and Spring)
What is a meaningful, happy, and fulfilling life? The focus of psychology has long been the study of human suffering, diagnosis, and pathology, but in recent years, however, positive psychologists have explored what’s missing from the mental health equation, taking up research on topics such as love, creativity, humor, and mindfulness. In this course, we dive into what positive psychology research tells us about the formula for a meaningful life, the ingredients of fulfilling relationships, and changes that occur in the brain when inspired by music, visual art, physical activity, and more. We also seek out and lean on knowledge from positive psychology research and experts, such as Martin Seligman’s well being theory, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi’s idea of flow, and Angela Lee Duckworth’s concept of grit. In exploring such theories and concepts, students imagine and create real-world measurements using themselves and willing peers and family members as research subjects. As part of the learning studio format of the course, students also imagine, research, design, and create projects that they will share with a larger community. Throughout the development of these projects, students collaborate with each other and seek ways to make their work experiential and hands-on. Students leave the class with not only some answers to the question of what makes life meaningful, happy, and fulfilling, but also the inspiration to continue responding to this question for many years to come.

**Prisons and Criminal Justice Systems** (Fall and Spring)
Criminal courts in the United States have engaged in an extraordinary social experiment over the last 40 years: they have more than quintupled America’s use of prisons and jails. Has this experiment with “mass incarceration” produced more negative effects than good? Is it possible at this point to reverse the experiment without doing even more harm? In this course, students become familiar with the legal rules and institutions that determine who goes to prison and for how long. Along the way, students gain a concrete, practical understanding of legal communication and reasoning while grappling with mass incarceration as a legal, ethical, and practical issue. In an effort to understand our current scheme of criminal punishments and to imagine potential changes in the system, we immerse ourselves in the different forms of rhetoric and persuasion that brought us to this place: we read and analyze the jury arguments, courtroom motions, news op-eds, and other forms of public persuasion that lawyers and judges create in real-world criminal cases. Topics include the history and social functions of prisons; the definition of conduct that society will punish as a crime; the work of prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges in criminal courts to resolve criminal charges through trials and plea bargains;
the sentencing rules that determine what happens to people after a conviction; the alternatives to prison when selecting criminal punishments; and the advocacy strategies of groups hoping to change mass incarceration. The reading focuses on criminal justice in the United States, but the course materials also compare the levels of imprisonment used in justice systems around the world. Assignments will ask students to practice with legal reasoning and communication styles, focused on specialized audiences such as juries, trial judges, appellate judges, sentencing commissions, and legislatures. The work will involve legal research, written legal argumentation, peer collaboration, and oral advocacy. Note: This course is offered through Wake Forest University School of Law and is designed by Ronald Wright, the Needham Y. Gulley Professor of Criminal Law. Prof. Wright is also part of the teaching team for this course. Students who take this course should expect a college-level workload (8-10 hours a week). Successful completion of this course will be rewarded with a certificate from the law school.

**Race and Society** (Fall and Spring)

What is race? Is it something we’re born with? Is it an idea that society imposes on us? An identity we perform? A privilege we benefit from? Does our own culture’s conception of race mirror those found in other parts of the world? These are just a few of the questions that students in this course explore together as they approach the concept of race as a social construct that shapes and is shaped by societies and cultures in very real ways. Throughout the course students learn about the changing relationship between race and society across time and across cultures. Engaging with readings, films, and speakers from a variety of academic fields (history, sociology, anthropology, literature), students explore, research, reflect on, and discuss the complex set of relationships governing race and society.

**Religion and Society** (Spring)

Religion is one of the most salient forces in contemporary society but is also one of the most misunderstood. What exactly is religion? How does religious identity inform the ways humans understand themselves and the world around them? How can increased levels of religious literacy help us become more effective civic agents in the world today? Students in this course conduct several deep dives into specific case studies in order to understand how religious identity intersects with various systems of power, including race, gender, class, sexual orientation, and ethnicity. By engaging with material from a variety of academic fields (history, sociology, anthropology, psychology), students grapple with the complex ways in which society and religious identity relate to one another.

**Social Psychology** (Fall and Spring)

Are you thinking and acting freely of your own accord or is what you think, feel, and do a result of influences by the people around you? Social psychology is the scientific study of how and why the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others influences our thoughts, feelings, and behavior. The principles of social psychology help explain everything from why we stop at stop signs when there is no one around to why we buy certain products, why in some situations we help others and in some we don’t, and what leads to more dramatic (and catastrophic) events such as mass suicides or extreme prejudice and discrimination. As we take up these topics and questions, students build and engage in a community of inquiry, aimed primarily at learning how to analyze human behavior through the lens of a social psychologist. Social Psychology invites students to explore, plan, investigate, experiment, and apply concepts of prejudice, persuasion, conformity, altruism, relationships and groups, and the self that bring the “social” to psychology. The course culminates in a public exhibition of a student-designed investigation of a social psychological topic of their choice. This course uses a competency-based learning approach in which students build GOA core competencies that transcend the discipline and learn how to think like a social psychologist. Much of the course is self-paced; throughout the semester, students are assessed primarily in relation to outcomes tied to the competencies.

**MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

**Computer Science II: Analyzing Data with Python** (Spring)

In this course, students utilize the Python programming language to read, manipulate, and analyze data. The course emphasizes using real-world datasets, which are often large, messy, and inconsistent. The prerequisite for this course is experience using some high-level programming language, such as Java, C++, VisualBasic, or Python itself. Because of the powerful data structures and clear syntax of Python, it is one of the most widely used programming languages in scientific computing. There are a multitude of practical applications of Python in fields like biology, engineering, and statistics.

Prerequisite: Computer Programming or Advanced Placement Computer Science A

**Computer Science II: Game Design and Development** (Spring)

In this course, students practice designing and developing games through hands-on practice. Comprised of a series of “game jams,” the course asks students to solve problems and create content, developing the design and technical skills necessary to build their own games. The first month of the course is dedicated to understanding game design through game designer Jesse Schell’s “lenses”: different ways of looking at the same problem and answering questions that provide direction and refinement of a game’s theme and structure. During this time, students also learn how to use...
Unity, the professional game development tool they use throughout the class. They become familiar with the methodologies of constructing a game using such assets as graphics, sounds, and effects, and controlling events and behavior within the game using the C# programming language. Throughout the remainder of the course, students work in teams to brainstorm and develop new games in response to a theme or challenge. Students develop their skills in communication, project- and time-management, and creative problem solving while focusing on different aspects of asset creation, design, and coding.

Prerequisites: Computer Programming or Advanced Placement Computer Science A

Cyber Security (Fall and Spring)
Cyber criminals leverage technology and human behavior to attack our online security. This course explores the fundamentals of and vulnerabilities in the design of computers, networks, and the internet. Course content includes the basics of computer components, connectivity, virtualization, and hardening. Students will learn about network design, Domain Name Services, and TCP/IP. They will understand switching, routing and access control for internet devices, and how denial of service, spoofing and flood attacks work. Basic programming introduced in the course will inform hashing strategies, while an introduction to ciphers and cryptography will show how shared-key encryption works for HTTPS and TLS traffic. Students will also explore the fundamentals of data forensics and incident response protocols. The course includes analysis of current threats and best practice modelling for cyber defense, including password complexity, security, management, breach analysis, and hash cracking. Computational thinking and programming skills developed in this course will help students solve a variety of cyber security issues. There is no computer science prerequisite for this course, though students with some background will certainly find avenues to flex their knowledge in this course.

Game Theory (Fall and Spring)
Do you play games? Do you ever wonder if you’re using the “right” strategy? What makes one strategy better than another? In this course, we explore a branch of mathematics known as game theory, which answers these questions and many more. Game theory has many applications as we face dilemmas and conflicts every day, most of which we can treat as mathematical games. We consider significant global events from fields like diplomacy, political science, anthropology, philosophy, economics, and popular culture. Specific topics include two-person zero-sum games, two person non-zero-sum games, sequential games, multiplayer games, linear optimization, as well as voting and power theory.

iOS App Design (Spring)
Learn how to design and build apps for the iPhone and iPad and prepare to publish them in the App Store. Students will work much like a small startup: collaborating as a team, sharing designs, and learning to communicate with each other throughout the course. Students will learn the valuable skills of creativity, collaboration, and communication as they create something amazing, challenging, and worthwhile. Coding experience is NOT required and does not play a significant role in this course. Prerequisite: For this course, it is required that students have access to a computer running the most current Mac or Windows operating system. An iOS device that can run apps (iPod Touch, iPhone, or iPad) is also highly recommended.

Number Theory (Fall)
Once thought of as the purest but least applicable part of mathematics, number theory is now by far the most commonly applied: every one of the millions of secure Internet transmissions occurring each second is encrypted using ideas from number theory. This course covers the fundamentals of this classical, elegant, yet supremely relevant subject. It provides a foundation for further study of number theory, but even more, it develops the skills of mathematical reasoning and proof in a concrete and intuitive way, good preparation for any future course in upper-level college mathematics or theoretical computer science. Students progressively develop the tools needed to understand the RSA algorithm, the most common encryption scheme used worldwide. Along the way, they invent some encryption schemes of their own and discover how to play games using number theory. Students also get a taste of the history of the subject, which involves the most famous mathematicians from antiquity to the present day, and see parts of the story of Fermat’s Last Theorem, a 350-year-old statement that was fully proved only twenty years ago. While most calculations are simple enough to do by hand, students sometimes use the computer to see how the fundamental ideas can be applied to the huge numbers needed for modern applications. Students must have a desire to do rigorous mathematics and proofs.

Prerequisite: Precalculus, Honors Precalculus AB, or Honors Precalculus BC

Personal Finance (Fall and Spring)
In this course, students learn financial responsibility and social consciousness. We examine a wide array of topics including personal budgeting, credit cards and credit scores, career and earning potential, insurance, real estate, financial investment, retirement savings, charitable giving, taxes, and other items related to personal finance. Students apply their understanding of these topics by simulating real life financial circumstances and weighing the costs and benefits of their decisions. Throughout the course, students have the opportunity to learn from individuals with varying perspectives.
and expertise in numerous fields. By reflecting on their roles in the broader economy as both producers and consumers, students begin to consider how they can positively impact the world around them through their financial decisions.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

**Global Health** (Fall)
What makes people sick? What social and political factors lead to the health disparities we see both within our own community and on a global scale? What are the biggest challenges in global health and how might they be met? Using an interdisciplinary approach to address these two questions, this course hopes to improve students’ health literacy through an examination of the most significant public-health challenges facing today’s global population. Topics addressed include the biology of infectious disease (specifically HIV and malaria); the statistics and quantitative measures associated with health issues; the social determinants of health; and the role of organizations (public and private) in shaping the landscape of global health policy. Students use illness as a lens through which to examine critically such social issues as poverty, gender, and race. Student work includes analytical and creative writing; research, and peer collaboration; reading and discussions of nonfiction; and online presentations.

**Medical Problem Solving I** (Fall and Spring)
In this course students collaboratively solve medical mystery cases, which is similar to the approach used in many medical schools. Students enhance their critical-thinking skills as they examine data, draw conclusions, diagnose, and treat patients. Students use problem-solving techniques in order to understand and appreciate relevant medical/biological facts as they confront the principles and practices of medicine. Students explore anatomy and physiology pertaining to medical scenarios and gain an understanding of the disease process, demographics of disease, and pharmacology. Additional learning experiences include studying current issues in health and medicine, building a community-service action plan, interviewing a patient, and creating a new mystery case.

**Medical Problem Solving II** (Spring)
This course is an extension of the problem-based learning done in Medical Problem Solving I. While collaborative examination of medical case studies remains the core work of the course, students tackle more complex cases and explore new topics in medical science, such as the growing field of bioinformatics. Students in MPS II also have opportunities to design cases based on personal interests, discuss current topics in medicine, and apply their learning to issues in their local communities.
Prerequisite: Medical Problem Solving I

**Neuropsychology** (Fall and Spring)
Neuropsychology is the exploration of the neurological basis of behavior. Within this course, students learn about basic brain anatomy and function as well as cognitive and behavioral disorders from a neurobiological perspective. They do an in-depth analysis of neural communication with an emphasis on how environmental factors such as smartphones affect nervous system function, their own behaviors, and the behaviors of those around them. Students also have the opportunity to choose topics in neuropsychology to explore independently including Alzheimer’s disease, Addiction, Neuroplasticity, and CTE and share their understanding with their peers in a variety of formats. The course concludes with a study of both contemporary and historic neuropsychological case studies and their applications to everyday life.

**WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

**Japanese I: Language Through Culture** (Yearlong)
This full-year course is a unique combination of Japanese culture and language, weaving cultural comparison with the study of basic Japanese language and grammar. While examining various cultural topics such as literature, art, lifestyle, and economy, students learn the basics of the Japanese writing system (Hiragana and Katakana), grammar, and vocabulary. Through varied synchronous and asynchronous assignments, including hands-on projects and face-to-face communications, students develop their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. The cultural study and discussion is conducted in English, with topics alternating every two to three weeks. The ultimate goal of this course is to raise awareness and appreciation of different cultures through learning the basics of the Japanese language. The focus of this course is 60 percent on language and 40 percent on culture. This course is appropriate for beginner-level students.

**Japanese II: Language Through Culture** (Yearlong)
Through language learning, students in this course share their voices, cultivate global perspectives, and foster appreciation of self and others. Students expand their knowledge of the basic skills introduced in Japanese I: Language Through Culture while further developing their speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills. Each unit follows the IPA model (Integrated Performance Assessment), blending three modes of communication: interpretation of authentic material in Japanese, synchronous and asynchronous practice in speaking and writing, and oral and written
presentations. Each unit focuses on one of the following cultural topics: Design and Expression, Ecology, Entertainment, East meets West, Harmony, and Nature. In addition, students have the opportunity to select and pursue topics of their own interest. Grammar topics cover the essential forms that are typically introduced in the second and third year of a high school Japanese program. By learning the Dictionary Form, Nominalizer, TE form, TA form, NAI form, and Noun Modifier, students are able to add more complexity to their sentence construction. In doing so, they shift from forming simple sentences to communicating in a coherent paragraph. As online learners, students are expected to exhibit superb time management and communication skills, as well as take ownership of their learning. While grammar instruction will be delivered through asynchronous work and face-to-face meetings, much of the course content will be curated and created by students through their research and collaboration. The focus of this course is 60 percent on language and 40 percent on culture.

Prerequisite: Japanese I: Language Through Culture or permission from the instructor.

Japanese III: Language Through Culture (Yearlong)
Students in Japanese III have mastered most of the conjugation patterns (TE/TA form, dictionary form, and NAI form) that are necessary to speak and write in complex structures. While advancing their grammatical knowledge (including giving and receiving, potential form, and honorific form), students compare and examine similar functions and their subtle differences. In speaking, students are allowed to speak in informal/casual style with each other and with the teacher in order to solidify their control of the Plain Form. Interpersonal communications are done through face-to-face conversation and recorded messages. In reading and listening, students curate, share, and practice with grasping the gist of authentic materials. Such material may include TV commercials, news, movies, children’s books, online newspapers, and cooking recipes. In writing, students work on creative writing, expository writing, and analytical writing (compare-and-contrast in the AP format). Semester 1 incorporates JLPT N5 exam material. Taking the exam is not necessary but encouraged. In Semester 2, students participate in that GOA Catalyst Conference.

Prerequisite: Japanese II: Language Through Culture or permission from the instructor.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

Climate Change and Global Inequality (Fall and Spring, History/Science, must be concurrently enrolled in a BB&N History and Social Sciences or Science course)
Nowhere is the face of global inequality more obvious than in climate change, where stories of climate-driven tragedies and the populations hit hardest by these disasters surface in every news cycle. In this course students interrogate the causes and effects of climate change and the public policy debates surrounding it. In case studies, students research global, regional, and local policies and practices along with what the choices of decision-makers mean to the populations they serve. Who benefits, who suffers, and how might we change this equation? Following the Learning Studio model, in the second half of the course, students work with their teacher to design their own independent projects reflecting their individual interests and passions and collaborate in workshops with classmates to deepen our collective understanding of the complex issues surrounding climate change. Throughout the semester, students build and curate a library of resources and share findings in varied media, engaging as both consumers and activists to bring increasing knowledge to challenge and advocate for sustainable norms. Finally, students have the opportunity to reach a global audience by participating in GOA’s Catalyst Conference in the spring, as they present their individual projects to spark change in local communities through well-informed activism.

This course fulfills BB&N’s Modern Global History requirement.

Data Visualization (Fall, Math/Science, must be concurrently enrolled in a BB&N Mathematics and Computer Science or Science course)
Through today’s fog of overwhelming data, visualizations provide meaning. This course trains students to collect, organize, interpret, and communicate massive amounts of information. Students will begin wrangling data into spreadsheets, learning the basic ways professionals translate information into comprehensible formats. They will explore charts, distinguishing between effective and misleading visualizations. Employing principles from information graphics, graphic design, visual art, and cognitive science, students will then create their own stunning and informative visualizations. From spreadsheets to graphics, students in this course will practice the crucial skills of using data to decide, inform, and convince. There is no computer science, math or statistics prerequisite for this course, though students with backgrounds in those areas will certainly find avenues to flex their knowledge in this course.
Semester-Away Programs-at-a-Glance

BB&N is proud to offer a robust Semester-Away Program for students in Grades 10 and 11. This program offers a unique opportunity for independent and adventurous students to live and study away from home while exploring topics in which they are interested.

Listed below are the schools with which BB&N partners. Rigorous academics coupled with experiential learning opportunities are hallmarks of each of these schools, although the focus and location of the schools vary. BB&N works with each school to align academic and extracurricular programs to create smooth transitions between schools. In cases where participation in a BB&N-sanctioned semester-away program does not allow a student to complete a BB&N graduation requirement (such as a physical science or arts course), the student needs to enroll in another BB&N course in a subsequent year or have an approved course plan from the Department Head to meet that graduation requirement. We aim to ensure that students who spend a semester away are given all of the same opportunities as their peers at BB&N.

Please contact the Semester-Away Program Coordinator Scott Tang (617-800-2220, stang@bbns.org) for more information about these programs, with questions about the application process, or with questions about how the academic programs at these semester-away opportunities align with the curriculum at BB&N.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Grade/Semester Available</th>
<th>Program Emphasis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alzar School (Cascade, Idaho)  <a href="http://www.alzarschool.org">www.alzarschool.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 10 or 11 Fall or Spring</td>
<td>Leadership, outdoor adventure, six-week cultural exchange in Chile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Mountain Institute (Leadville, Colorado) <a href="http://www.hminet.org">www.hminet.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 11 Fall or Spring</td>
<td>Leadership skills, wilderness experiences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Coast Semester at Chewonki (Wiscasset, Maine) <a href="http://www.mainecoastsemester.chewonki.org">www.mainecoastsemester.chewonki.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 11 Fall or Spring</td>
<td>Appreciation of the natural world, coastal ecology, community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain School (Vershire, Vermont) <a href="http://www.mountainschool.org">www.mountainschool.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 11 Fall or Spring</td>
<td>Working farm, sustainable living, community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Academy (Pisgah Forest, North Carolina) <a href="http://www.enf.org/outdoor-academy">www.enf.org/outdoor-academy</a></td>
<td>Grade 10 Fall or Spring</td>
<td>Wilderness leadership skills, traditional crafts, community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Stephen’s School (Rome, Italy) <a href="http://www.sssrome.it">www.sssrome.it</a></td>
<td>Grade 11 Spring</td>
<td>Classical and Italian culture, art history, travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School for Ethics and Global Leadership (Washington, D.C.) <a href="http://www.schoolforethics.org">www.schoolforethics.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 11 Fall or Spring</td>
<td>Politics, leadership, global issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Year Abroad (Italy, France, Spain) <a href="http://www.sya.org">www.sya.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 11 Yearlong, Fall, Spring</td>
<td>Immersion in the language and the culture of the country, home stay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Semester (Zermatt, Switzerland) <a href="http://www.swisssemester.org">www.swisssemester.org</a></td>
<td>Grade 10 Fall</td>
<td>Humanities, hiking, skiing, travel, art history</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Upper School Service Learning Program

PHILOSOPHY

The mission of the Service Learning Program at BB&N is to foster a school-wide culture of meaningful civic engagement and social action. Through the Service Learning Program, students partner with their local and global communities in order to not only impact change, but also to understand the root causes of critical social issues, as well as their role within systems beyond their school and home communities. By engaging in BB&N’s Service Learning program, students learn to investigate issues of local and global significance, to build connections between themselves and their communities at large, to communicate effectively across differences and gain hands-on experience in teamwork, leadership, and advocacy. In doing so, all students continue to grow in the School’s mission to prepare “students for lives of principled engagement in their communities and the world.”

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 40 hours of service learning work

- Students begin accruing hours in September of their first year in the Upper School. Hours can be earned during summers and vacations. Requirements are prorated at 10 hours per year for students admitted to BB&N in Grades 10 – 12; these hours must be completed while enrolled at BB&N.
- Students’ service hours need to be recorded and verified by their site supervisor, via the School’s online tracking system (x2VOL).
- Additional hours may be documented with no upper limit of service hours.
- Service must be unpaid work for a nonprofit organization and cannot result in academic or professional credit.
- Work at for-profit organizations (sports camps, wilderness camps, religious camps, etc.) is not eligible for service learning credit.
- Students are encouraged to connect with BB&N’s community partners, as highlighted on the service learning hub and school website.
- Students may also elect to start their own nonprofit service initiatives, but should discuss their projects with a Service Learning Coordinator before doing so.
- Every attempt at participating in sustainable or long-term programs should be made; monetary donations cannot be a substitute for service.
- If a senior has not documented 40 hours of service by the date on which Senior Spring Project (SSP) proposals are due, the remaining required service hours must be a formal component of the SSP. Any exceptions must be approved by the Service Learning Coordinators and the Senior Spring Project Coordinator prior to the submission of the SSP proposal.

A 500-word reflective essay: Upon completion of service, students must submit a written reflection on their service. In the reflective essay, students should show evidence that the following was a part of their service experience:

- Investigation and understanding of the student’s identity, community, strengths, and interests
- Communication, collaboration, and connection with peers, leaders, and service partners
- Action including proof of measurable impact at the service site
- Reflection upon what was learned, where it might be applied, and how it will be shared

SEASON OF SERVICE LEARNING

Upper School students in Grades 10 – 12 with a significant interest in pursuing a specific commitment to service learning may apply for a Season of Service Learning in lieu of one athletics season per academic year. This program asks students to engage in collective learning and reflection alongside hands-on service for a total of 40 hours over the course of a season and culminates in a final presentation to be shared with the BB&N community. Students wishing to participate in this program should connect with the Service Learning Coordinators prior to the start of seasonal tryout.

Participation in a Season of Service Learning is not considered participation in an interscholastic sport. During Senior Spring Project, only seniors who have already completed the Service Learning graduation requirement and have not already completed a Season of Service during senior year are allowed to do a Season of Service in lieu of an athletics season.
SERVICE OUTSIDE OF BB&N

While BB&N makes every effort to establish partnerships with trusted community organizations, students may fulfill their service requirement by working with groups or individuals outside of the BB&N community who may not have had criminal background checks and whom BB&N does not control.

Unanticipated situations and problems can arise in any activity which is not reasonably within the control of BB&N employees. Families with students participating in service outside of BB&N agree to release and hold harmless BB&N, its agents, officers, employees, and volunteers from any and all liability, claims, suits, demands, judgments, costs, interest and expenses (including attorneys’ fees and costs) arising from such activities, including any accident or injury to the student and the costs of medical services, or any cause beyond the control of BB&N.
Academic Considerations and Policies

ACADEMIC CONCERNS AND ACADEMIC STATUS
The School aims to identify and support students who are struggling academically. As such, the system of Academic Watch, Academic Warning, and Academic Probation exists to ensure that these students receive appropriate support from both the School and home. Follow-up plans for students on Academic Watch, Academic Warning, or Academic Probation may include, but are not limited to, weekly progress meetings, work with the Learning Specialist, supervised study halls, limited participation in extracurricular or off-campus activities, and additional work with teachers. As the student works to improve and find greater success, the School closely monitors the student’s program.

The Academic Review Committee (ARC) meets at the end of each trimester to review students who did not achieve a satisfactory academic record. The Committee makes recommendations regarding academic status to the Upper School Director. The Head of School has ultimate authority to review and amend the recommendations of the ARC and the Director.

**Academic Watch:** Any student who receives three or more grades in the C range or one C- at the middle of a trimester will be placed on Academic Watch for the remainder of the trimester. At the end of a trimester, any student who receives trimester grades or year-to-date grades in the C range for three or more courses or one C- trimester grade or year-to-date grade will be placed on Academic Watch for the subsequent trimester. In addition, the Director of the Upper School may place a student on Academic Watch at any point during the school year when there are significant concerns about performance, attendance, attitude, or other factors affecting academic achievement. When a student is placed on Academic Watch, the student’s advisor notifies the student and the parent. At the end of the trimester, the ARC may review any student on Academic Watch.

**Academic Warning:** The first time a student receives one trimester grade or year-to-date grade below C- at the end of a trimester, the student will be placed on Academic Warning for the subsequent trimester. When a student is placed on Academic Warning, the student, parent, advisor, and teachers receive written notification. A student on Academic Warning is not considered to be a student in good academic standing. A student on Academic Warning should not expect to participate in certain extra programs but may apply to do so. At the end of the trimester, the ARC will review any student on Academic Warning.

**Academic Probation:** Any student who has previously been on Academic Warning and receives one trimester grade or year-to-date grade below C- at the end of any following trimester will be placed on Academic Probation for the subsequent trimester. When a student is placed on Academic Probation, the student, parent, advisor, and teachers receive written notification. A student on Academic Probation is not considered to be a student in good academic standing. A student on Academic Probation should not expect to participate in certain extra programs but may apply to do so. At the end of the trimester, the ARC will review any student on Academic Probation.

A student may be required to withdraw from the School under any of the following conditions:

- A student who has been on Academic Probation for two consecutive trimesters receives grades that would place the student on Academic Probation for the subsequent trimester.
- A student who has been on Academic Probation for three trimesters over the course of two consecutive years receives grades that would place the student on Academic Probation for the subsequent trimester.
- A student who has been on Academic Probation for any two trimesters in Grade 10 receives grades that would place the student on Academic Probation for the subsequent trimester.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
Based on testing administered within three years, students with a documented disability and a recommendation for accommodation may apply to their campus specific Learning Specialist for reasonable accommodation. Accommodation requests are typically reviewed and decisions made within two to four weeks after all documentation is received by BB&N. Accommodations will not be granted if they fundamentally alter the nature of the School’s academic standards, policies, or program or if they cause an undue burden to the School.

For mid-year and end-of-year exams, all documentation must be received at least two weeks in advance of the start of the exam. Upper School Applications to the College Board or ACT for accommodations are handled by BB&N’s SSD Coordinator, Ms. Angela Tabb (617-800-2169).
ARTS DEPARTMENT CONTENT POLICY

The Arts Department values the growth of the individual and the community through the creative exploration of ideas, topics, and language. There are times, however, when we must follow a process to determine whether the content of some student ideas or creations have a proper place in a project, gallery, or other area, as we recognize that some content is not appropriate for all ages, general spaces, or the school setting. Therefore, the Arts Department has created a process for determining whether such content is appropriate for the setting. Such content may include highly sexual images, images of self-harm, abuse, drug use, or gun imagery and graphic violence. The process involves Arts Department faculty and may include other BB&N faculty and administrators. The goal of this process is to protect students and to recognize the important intersection between content and setting.

CREDIT FROM OTHER SCHOOLS/SUMMER ACADEMIC WORK

After a student has enrolled at BB&N, all remaining graduation requirements must be fulfilled at BB&N or at a BB&N-sanctioned semester-away program. Courses taken at other institutions will not be given credit towards graduation requirements without the approval of the appropriate Department Head.

Prior permission from the Department Head is necessary for a student to take a summer course outside of BB&N that will allow for advancement within the curriculum at BB&N. Without prior permission, a student will not be allowed to bypass any BB&N courses. Following summer coursework, a student may be required to take a placement test in order to advance. Non-BB&N summer courses taken for advancement will be noted without a grade on a student’s transcript. A student cannot complete graduation requirements through non-BB&N summer coursework.

It is the responsibility of the student to provide the transcript from other institutions to colleges during the college application process.

Courses offered by BB&N and taken during the summer months will appear on the BB&N transcript if the student completes the course with a grade of C- or higher.

EXAMS

Exams are given in December (at the end of Trimester 1) and in May (at the end of Trimester 3). Exams are weighted such that together they count for 15 – 20 percent of the final grade. No single exam should count more than 15 percent of the final, course-end grade. At least the last two class periods and corresponding homework assignments preceding exams are devoted to review.

GRADE DEFINITIONS

Upper School teachers grade according to the following definitions:

A: Outstanding performance
B: Distinguished performance
C: Satisfactory completion
D: Minimal completion
F: Unacceptable performance
I: Incomplete (due to work that is legitimately late)

Students have two weeks to complete the work required to convert a grade of an Incomplete into a letter grade. The Upper School Assistant Director or Upper School Director may grant exceptions to this deadline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Numerical Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 - 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 - 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 - 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prior to advancing to the next level of a particular subject, students with a year grade of D+ or below will likely be expected to complete extra work in that course during the summer.

### GRADE REPORTS

GRADE REPORTS are sent to families in the middle of the first trimester and at the end of all three trimesters.

GRADE REPORTS include a trimester grade (an average of all of the work completed during the trimester, not including any exam grades), an exam grade (when given), and a year-to-date or final grade. The year-to-date or final grade is an average of all work from the start of the school year, including exam grades.

Students participating in semester-away programs receive grade reports directly from those institutions.

### HOMEWORK

Students in Grades 9 and 10 can expect to spend an average of three hours of homework for each day of classes, including work on long-term projects. Students in Grades 11 and 12 can expect an average of four hours of homework for each day of classes, including work on long-term projects.

There will be no homework assigned during Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break. When appropriate, “No Homework” nights are scheduled due to required school events and certain holidays.

In an effort to help students maintain an appropriately balanced workload, a schedule provides guidelines to teachers in regards to planning major assessments (including tests, projects, and papers). A student should have no more than two major assessments per day and no more than four major assessments per week. If a student has assessments beyond these guidelines, the student should notify the teachers so that the teachers can reschedule the assessment(s).

In addition, during periods when there is usually a heavy emphasis on assessments (i.e., the end of a marking period), the School provides additional support in order to help avoid overscheduling a student. During these periods, a student may have more than four major assessments per week, but should expect to have no more than two major assessments on any day.

### HONORS

A graduating senior who completes a full academic program is eligible for a Diploma with Honor if the student earned a cumulative 3.33 average during the last six trimesters (i.e., the junior and senior years). A student found to have committed an act of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating or plagiarism) is ineligible for a Diploma with Honor if the act occurred in the junior or senior year.

### INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

The Independent Study Program is intended for students who have the capacity to work independently and have a strong interest in an academic area not included in the School’s curriculum. Students participating in the Independent Study Program receive academic credit and a letter grade for their work. A significant amount of work is required and each project culminates in a major paper, project, or exam.

For a full-credit course, students are required to meet with the supervising teacher for two periods and to complete six hours of independent study each week. For a half-credit course, students are required to meet with the supervising teacher for one to two periods and to complete two to three hours of independent study each week.

Applications for the Independent Study Program are available in the Upper School Office. Applications and the student’s proposal should be submitted to the Upper School Director at least three weeks before the end of the trimester preceding the project.
PASS-FAIL COURSES

Taking a course on a pass-fail basis is an option for students who have a demanding course load yet wish to further their study in an area of interest.

Students in Grades 11 and 12 may take one elective course on a pass-fail basis, subject to the final approval of the Upper School Director. Elective courses are those courses that are not required for graduation credit.

When possible, the pass-fail option should be selected in the spring of the previous year, though students will be allowed to change to or from a pass-fail grade until two weeks after the close of the first midterm.

PROGRAM CHANGES: ADDING OR DROPPING A COURSE

Adding a Course
Students may add a new course (not the same as changing course levels) during the first three weeks of the course.

Changing Course Levels (Grade 9 Students and New Students in Grades 10 – 12)
Grade 9 students and new students in Grades 10 – 12 may move between levels of a course, change between sequential courses (e.g., language courses, Algebra 1 and 2), or drop a course without a notation on the transcript until one week after the first midterm (or until six weeks after the start of a course that begins during the second trimester or second semester).

Grade 9 students and new students in Grades 10 – 12 may switch from one level I language into another level I language, if space is available, until one week after the first midterm.

Changing Course Levels (Returning Students in Grades 10 – 12)
Returning students in Grades 10 – 12 may either drop a course or change levels of a course without a notation on the transcript during the first six weeks of the course.

Policies Regarding Course Changes
In order to initiate a course change, a student must submit a completed Course Change (Add/Drop) Form (available in the Upper School Office). A student is not formally enrolled in a new course until the student has completed and submitted the Course Change (Add/Drop) Form. A teacher will not admit a student to a new course (nor will course credit be given) without official notice that the form has been received and the student’s schedule has been changed.

When a student changes course levels, the grades earned in the original level carry over to the new level. In addition, the teachers, in consultation with the Department Head, determine the value of the work already completed and whether any additional or alternative assessments need to be given to account for differences between course levels. If the course change is made after the deadlines stated above, the transcript shows the most recent grade of record for the dropped course (“grade of record” is the grade recorded at the end of any normal marking period, e.g., first midterm).

On rare occasions, a student may request to either change course levels or drop a course without a replacement course after the deadlines stated above. In these cases the transcript shows the most recent grade of record and the partial credit received for the dropped course. Even in these rare instances, the final determination of course placement must be made no later than the week prior to first trimester exams. In these cases, the Upper School Director makes the final decision regarding whether or not a grade of record from the original course appears on the transcript.

On rare occasions, a Department Head may request to extend the deadline for switching levels of a course without a notation on the transcript if the department needs more time to assess for correct placement. Even in these rare instances, the final determination of course placement must be made no later than the week prior to first trimester exams. In these cases, the Upper School Director makes the final decision regarding whether or not a grade of record from the original course appears on the transcript.

It is the School’s policy that course changes are not made to accommodate requests for a change in teacher. Students cannot choose teachers, nor do they change courses or sections based on teacher preference.

PROMOTION AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC STANDING

To be promoted to Grades 10, 11, and 12 or to graduate, a student must pass all courses that must be taken in a particular grade and that are a part of the minimum requirements for graduation. In addition, the student must have a Satisfactory Academic Record for the current year.

A student has a Satisfactory Academic Record if the student’s year-end grades include no more than one grade in the D range and no F's. Students taking only four full academic courses may not have any grades below C-. For these purposes, a grade of “Pass” in a course taken on a Pass/Fail basis will not be considered the equivalent of C- or higher unless the student has, in fact, an average of C- or higher in the course.

Even in cases where a student has a Satisfactory Academic Record, the Academic Review Committee or individual departments may require that a student complete summer work if the student receives a final grade below C- in any course. Returning to school in the fall will only then be possible upon satisfactory completion of such work.

In situations in which a student does not meet the minimum requirements for promotion, the Academic Review Committee may require that the student make up one or more academic deficiencies through an approved summer program or summer work on such conditions that the committee determines. The School reserves the right to determine if the work completed over the summer will allow for the student to be promoted.

**REQUESTS FOR GRADE CHANGES**

Students have three weeks from the date grade reports are posted to request that a grade be reviewed. The request is made by contacting the teacher of the course. No requests for grade changes will be accepted after the deadline has passed.

**SENIOR REQUIREMENTS**

The courses, programs, and experiences of the senior year are both socially and academically essential. Therefore, all seniors must fulfill their diploma requirements at BB&N rather than at another institution.

Graduation is contingent upon satisfactory completion of an approved Senior Spring Project. Most students in Grade 12 complete their senior year courses by having a passing record at the end of the second trimester and continuing on to an approved Senior Spring Project.

A senior who does not meet the requirements for graduating with the senior class may, at the discretion of the Upper School Director, be permitted to complete the requirements. Such a student must meet any requirements within one calendar year of the original graduation date to be eligible to receive a BB&N diploma.

**SENIOR SPRING PROJECT**

All seniors are required to complete an individually planned project during the spring trimester of senior year. The Senior Spring Project is an opportunity for seniors to reflect upon one or more of the core values of BB&N: Honor, Scholarship, and Kindness.

To be promoted to Senior Spring Project, seniors must have a satisfactory academic record for the first trimester of senior year. In addition, second trimester grades must meet the following criteria:

- If the first trimester year-to-date grade was a B- or better, the second trimester grade must not be below a C.
- If the first trimester year-to-date grade was in the C range, the second trimester grade must not fall a full letter grade.
- If the first trimester year-to-date grade was in the D range, the second trimester grade must be a passing grade.

Seniors who have not yet fulfilled the graduation requirement in a physical science course, a mathematics course, a U.S. History course, and/or a world languages course must take a full year of these courses (extending through Senior Spring Project). These graduation requirements must be met by maintaining a passing record through the end of the school year.

If the athletics requirement has not been completed by the end of the second trimester, the remaining portion of the athletics requirement must also be included in the student’s Senior Spring Project. During Senior Spring Project, a student is not allowed to participate in a Junior Varsity Team if that student has not previously played the sport.

If a senior has not documented 40 hours of service learning by the date on which Senior Spring Project proposals are due, the remaining required service hours must also be a formal component of the Senior Spring Project. During Senior Spring Project, only seniors who have already completed the Service Learning graduation requirement and have not already completed a Season of Service during senior year are allowed to do a Season of Service in lieu of an athletics season. Any exceptions must be approved by the Service Learning Coordinators and the Senior Spring Project Coordinator prior to the submission of the Senior Spring Project proposal.
Seniors enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP) course are expected to continue with the AP course until the AP curriculum is completed.

- In some courses, the AP curriculum is completed by the end of the second trimester and the course does not continue throughout Senior Spring Project; in these cases, the student’s transcript shows that credit was earned for completion of the AP course during senior year.
- In some courses, the AP curriculum continues into the third trimester. Seniors who do not continue with these courses during Senior Spring Project are required to complete the AP curriculum, which may require additional assignments or class meetings before or during the third trimester.