

The High School at Brown School - 9-12 Curriculum Outline

In the spirit of Brown School’s mission - “to inspire each student to love learning while striving for academic excellence” - The High School at Brown School will continue to foster the development of mindful, global citizens through a variety of course offerings.

We will work with each student to establish personalized goals and develop a program that meets their educational, occupational and personal objectives. While taking into account individual strengths, interests, aptitudes and needs, students and faculty will be able to work together to supplement the basic graduation requirements with the most fitting electives for each student’s success.

Basic Graduation Requirements (grades 9-12)

Math - 3 credits

Science - 3 credits

Social Studies - 4 credits

English - 4 credits

Language (Spanish) - 2 credits

Fine Arts - 2 credits

PE/Wellness - 4 credits (students in sports may be exempt from PE)

Health - ½ credit

Technology - ½ credit

9th	10th	11th	12th
Math: Algebra (differentiated based on ability)	Math: Geometry (differentiated based on ability)	Math: Trigonometry (differentiated based on ability)	
Science: Biology	Science: Chemistry	Science: Physics	
Soc. Studies: Global History I	Soc. Studies: Global History II	Soc. Studies: US History	Soc. Studies: Economics (½ yr) Part. in Gov (½ yr)
English 9	English 10	English 11	English Elective
Spanish II or Combo Spanish I/II	Spanish III		
PE/Wellness (3x/wk)	PE/Wellness	PE/Wellness	PE/Wellness
Rock Music or lessons (2x/wk)	Fine Arts* (flexible)	----->	----->
Studio Art (2x/wk)	Fine Arts* (flexible)	----->	----->
	Health (½ yr) / Tech (½ yr)		

Fine Arts offerings

Students will be required to take *4 semesters of Fine Arts*. This may include any combination of music, art or other electives, and may be spread out over the course of grades 9-12.

Visual Arts

Depending on the student's specific interests, in 10th, 11th and 12th grade, they may choose from one of the following sequences:

Sequence 1:

- 2-D design (emphasis on composition)
- Photography (only digital)
- Graphic Design (technology dependent)

Sequence 2:

- 3D design (emphasis on form)
- Advanced Sculpture (alternative media, throwing on a wheel)

Sequence 3:

- Drawing and Painting
- Advanced Drawing
- Advanced Painting

Music

There are currently two proposed offerings for Music credit:

- Rock Music

The students will research the many faces of Rock music. (Blues Rock, Folk, Country Rock, Bubblegum, Psychedelic, Progressive rock, Glam Rock, Heavy Metal, Punk.) Students will learn many of these styles on guitar. Students will assist in producing and directing Open Mic Events.

- Dulcimer

Students will explore the dulcimer, including creating their own dulcimer with "make it yourself" kits. Students will perform in a dulcimer performance group.

Students may also study a band instrument or guitar for music credit. This may take the place of the full year (½ credit) music class required in 9th grade.

Other High School Electives

Math:

Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus
Statistics
Business Math
Logic
College Algebra

Social Studies:

Sociology
Psychology
History of The Civil Rights Movement
History of The Holocaust
History of The Cold War

Science:

Environmental Science
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
Current Events in Science
Independent Study/Research Project

English:

Journalism
Shakespeare
Film
Public Speaking
Creative Writing
Sci-Fi and Fantasy Literature
Mystery and Detective Literature

Technology:

AP Computer Science

Spanish:

University in the High School
Spanish Literature

Fine Arts:

Dance for Musical Theater
Survey of Art History - Prerequisite for the following:
-Classics: Egypt, Greece, Rome
-Modern Art: (early to mid-20th Century)
-Contemporary Art: (mid-20th Century to present)
-Asian Art
-Architecture Survey
-Photography Survey

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9th grade course descriptions

English 9

English 9 students will develop writing skills that include organization, vocabulary, and analytical writing, focusing on informative, argumentative, and narrative essays. Students will work on literature selections that include novels, short stories, plays, essays, and poetry chosen from a variety of sources, and accommodating various student abilities.

Global 9

Global History I aims to build students' critical thinking and literacy skills, as well as historical knowledge about the diverse civilizations that helped shape the world that we live in today. The course covers civilizations in Europe, Africa, and Asia in the ancient and classical eras with connections to the modern world. With a strong focus on project-based learning, the course differentiates to the learners in the classroom and strives to develop active and knowledgeable global citizens.

Math

In the High School, Math will be differentiated based on ability. We will take the students from where they are and will advance them three levels throughout their ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade years. Students will also have the opportunity to take more advanced courses including, but not limited to, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics, and College Algebra. Elective courses, like Business Math and Logic, will also be offered.

Biology

Biology class focuses on the living world, covering a variety of topics including biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, plants and animals, and the human body. Supported by laboratory experiences, students will relate their observations to the natural world about which they will be taught.

Spanish II

Spanish II will focus on the integration of language and culture, with a strong focus on authentic communication. Students will strengthen their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through hands-on, student-led projects with a cultural focus. Students will “travel” through eight different Spanish-speaking countries as they learn about a variety of cultural topics: history, art, music, dance, food, festivals and other traditions.

Art

9th Grade Studio Art will stress the elements and principles of design through various mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpture, mixed media, and printmaking. Art history is woven into each unit, providing cultural and historical context. In-process critiques also play a vital role in students' overall creative experiences, emphasizing the use of critical language, personal reflection, and growth.

Physical Education

The curriculum for 9th Grade Physical Education stresses the promotion of a healthy lifestyle. Teamwork, cooperation and sportsmanship are emphasized. The students will explore a variety of sports and athletic opportunities throughout the year.