

# Course Catalog



**Valley Lutheran High School**  
2009-2010

This catalog is designed as a guide to typical projected course offerings at Valley Lutheran High School. Please note that course offerings and descriptions are subject to change without notice. Some courses may not be offered every year.

**May 12, 2009 edition**

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# Theology

The Theology department at Valley Lutheran High School seeks to put God and His Word at the center of its curriculum. Ethics, current issues, and apologetics will be addressed under the umbrella of grace and in the context of Scripture. We rely solely on the providence of God the Father, the redemption of His Son, Jesus Christ, and the revelation and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

## **Freshman Theology: Old Testament I 9 103/104**

Freshmen will take an in-depth look at the Old Testament books of Genesis – 1&2 Chronicles. They will also study the following current issues, apologetics, and ethics: Lutheran heritage, similarities and differences between Christian denominations, creation and evolution theories, peer pressure, sex and dating, self-perception, substance abuse, and how to read and study the Bible.

## **Sophomore Theology: Old Testament II 10 113/114**

Sophomores will take an in-depth look at the Old Testament books of Ezra-Malachi. They will also study the following issues and comparative religions: spiritual gifts, the Reformation, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism & other Eastern religions, the Occult, Mormonism, and Jehovah's Witness.

## **Junior Theology: New Testament I 11 121/122**

Juniors will take an in-depth look at the Gospels. They will also study the following current issues, apologetics, and ethics: Messianic prophesies, the efficacy of Scripture, the life of Christ, suffering, the resurrection, evangelism, prayer, creation, the disciples, and Christian finance.

## **Senior Theology: New Testament II 12 131/132**

Seniors will take an in-depth look at the New Testament books of Acts – Revelation. They will also study the following current issues, apologetics, and ethics: marriage and family, a Biblical approach to the roles of men and women, abortion, euthanasia, homosexuality, media influence, life in the Spirit vs. life in the flesh, and the fruits of the Spirit. Seniors will also engage in a servant leadership project.

# English

## **English I 9** 203/204

In addition to analyzing various genre, critical thinking and reading skills will be developed. Writing skills will be enhanced while increasing knowledge of language and its correct usage. Freshmen will be focusing on the basic skills of research writing and literature analysis.

## **English I Honors 9** 206/207

Honors students will analyze various genre using higher critical thinking and reading skills at a faster pace. The student will use well developed writing skills while increasing knowledge of language and its usage. Freshmen focus on research writing and in depth literature analysis.

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation required.

## **English II 10** 213/214

### **HONORS: 216/217**

The development of writing by American authors is studied relative to simultaneous periods of growth and change in the history of our nation. Students read typical works of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction from each major era. Vocabulary building is stressed. Composition skills are emphasized through numerous and varied writing activities. All sophomore level classes include verbal skill test preparation. Sophomores will be involved in writing meaningful research papers based on important social issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Honors students will be required to complete additional projects and essays throughout the year. **Prerequisite:** English 1. **Honors Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation.

## **English III 11** 221/222

### **HONORS: 228/229**

Students will be exposed to the development of writing by British authors relative to simultaneous periods of growth and change in the history of our nation. Students read typical works of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction from each major era. Vocabulary building is based on Latin roots. Composition skills are emphasized through numerous and varied writing. All junior level classes include verbal skill test preparation. Juniors will be involved in writing meaningful research papers based on a specific topic chosen in class with the teacher. **Prerequisites:** English I and II. **Honors Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation.

**English IV 12** 231/232

This course is designed for college-bound students, and explores a wide variety of literature from all over the world with an emphasis on British Literature. Seniors will engage in meaningful discussions, activities, and research-based writing that creates cultural awareness and understanding. Composition of a major research project based on career goals and possibilities will be an integral part of this course, as will continued refinement of grammar, writing, and Greek vocabulary building skills. The honors section is a faster-paced, more in-depth version of this class, and includes additional writing and analysis. **Prerequisites:** English I, II, III.

**AP English Literature and Composition 12** 238/239

This course will engage the student in careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature through close reading of selective British and American texts from the 16th to the 21st century. The student should be prepared to experience, interpret, and evaluate a few works well in preparation for a year end test possibly leading to college credit. **Prerequisites:** English I, II, III, and Teacher recommendation.

**Communications 10, 11, 12** 290

This class will expose students to a wide variety of communications skills. These will include formal and informal speeches, improvisation, and skits. Students will have the opportunity to be engrossed in a performance-based class that is challenging and hands-on. **Prerequisite:** English I

***Electives:***

**Creative Writing 10, 11, 12 270**

This class will expose students to a wide variety of writing experiences. These will include short stories, poetry, and writing for various audiences. Students will learn how to submit writing samples for publication and will produce a collection of writing from the class at the end of the semester.

# Social Studies

## ***Typical sequence of social studies courses***

*(Please note that course offerings and this typical sequence are subject to change without notice)*

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Class of 2010</b>	<b>Class of 2011</b>	<b>Class of 2012</b>	<b>Class of 2013</b>
<b>9</b>	Contemporary Issues	Contemporary Issues	Contemporary Issues	Contemporary Issues
<b>10</b>	World History/ Geography	World History/ Geography	World History/ Geography	World History/ Geography
<b>11</b>	Government/ Economics	US History	Government/ Economics	US History
<b>12</b>	US History	Government/ Economics	US History	Government/ Economics

### **Contemporary Issues 9 370**

The understanding of current events of our present society will make it much easier for our students to perceive the trends that will influence their lives tomorrow. This course thoroughly covers the issues and trends (economic, racial, religious, governmental, etc.) displayed in the media and other sources of information. Students actively participate in discussions, projects, cooperative teams, and problem-solving activities as they relate to current course content.

### **World History/Geography 10 303/304**

The political, social, cultural, and religious history of eastern and western civilization are studied in this year-long course. From creation to the twentieth century, the history of the planet Earth is studied to gain meaning for our lives today. This course also concentrates on the topographical, cultural, and economic characteristics of the various regions of the world. Geographic skills are emphasized throughout the course.

**U.S. History** 11, 12 313/314

This course covers the history of America dating back to the early explorers and takes us to the current headlines making news today. America's story will be viewed with a special focus on political, economic and diplomatic history.

**AP U.S. History** 11, 12 318/319

Advanced Placement U.S. History is a college level course. It is meant to introduce students to the major points throughout American History from the Colonial Period to the present day. Students are required to show competency by critically evaluating primary and secondary sources while gaining skills to be successful in college and on the AP Exam. These skills will be taught through interactive assignments, writing essays, studying primary source documents, and actively engaging in class discussions. Students taking AP U.S. History are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam held in May. **Prerequisite:** Teacher approval required.

**Government** 11, 12 330

In this course, the student will study our national, state, and local governments. Basic principles underlying a democracy are examined with their application to the contemporary political life as seen by a Christian. The course also deals with the unique problems faced in democratic America. Current news events will be studied to see application of basic governmental principles. This course deals with the basic ideal of political behavior and the operation of American government. It includes such topics as political influence, citizen participation, political parties, the role of the President, and the decision-making process. An in-depth unit focuses on Arizona's history and constitution.

**Economics** 11, 12 350

This course covers the basic concepts of economics: scarcity, the market system, business and its organization, production, supply and demand, money, banking, the business cycle, government involvement, competition, and trade. Varying viewpoints on current problems are presented, and opportunities are provided to practice economic skills.

## ***Electives:***

### **Psychology 11, 12**

360

This is an overview class in which the basic foundations of psychology are introduced. Insight into behavior, the workings of the human mind, and ensuing relationships and actions are explored and stressed.

### **History and Film I/II 10, 11, 12**

390

This course will provide an introductory look at how Hollywood and History interact. A variety of historical time periods, settings, and film genres will be explored. This course is taught with an emphasis on the Christian perspective and how faith relates to the topics of both history and film.

# Math

**Note regarding honors math classes:**

All honors level classes are for high-achieving math students. They will move at a faster pace, will be challenged with more rigorous problems, and cover extra topics.

**Pre-Algebra** 9, 10, 11 403/404

Pre-Algebra is an introductory math course designed to prepare students to continue with Algebra and future years of mathematics studies. We will begin with an introduction to Algebra, but will also include rational numbers, ratios, graphing, and equations.

**Algebra I** 9, 10, 11, 12 413/414

Algebra helps us solve problems efficiently. The value of Algebra as a real-life problem-solving tool will be introduced. Solving algebraic equations and graphing these solutions will be emphasized throughout the study of the algebraic process.

**Geometry** 9, 10, 11, 12 423/424**HONORS: 426/427**

Geometry is an overview of two and three-dimensional geometry. Use of geometric rules and formulas will be emphasized. This course will include topics such as Parallel lines, Polygons, Similarity, Pythagorean Theorem, Circles, Area, Volume, and Proof. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Algebra II** 10, 11, 12 433/434**HONORS: 436/437**

Algebra II is an extension of Algebra I. This course moves forward by integrating into basic Algebra such topics as geometry, statistics, trigonometry, probability, matrix theory, relations and functions. Students will be asked to think critically at all times. **Prerequisite:** Geometry

**Pre-Calculus** 11, 12 456/457

This course is a continuation of Algebra II, covering complex numbers, relations and functions, systems of equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometry. Pre-Calculus is designed to prepare the student for Calculus. **Prerequisites:** Algebra II and teacher recommendation

**Calculus AB (AP) 11, 12****HONORS: 466/467**

Calculus AB is a course in single-variable calculus that includes techniques and applications of the derivative, techniques and applications of the definite integral, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout the course. This course will prepare the student to take the Advanced Placement exam. A passing score on the Advanced Placement exam can result in college credit being earned for this course. **Prerequisites:** Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation

**Survey of Math 12****493/494**

Survey of Math is designed to help students review three years of math and prepare for the college entrance ACT and SAT exams. We will review and practice material from Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. We will also spend time learning about math with real life applications, such as consumer math, career math, recreational math, and probability.

# Foreign Language

**Spanish I** 9, 10, 11, 12 503/504

This course gives the students the ability to use basic Spanish, which includes grammar, vocabulary (nouns, family, transportation, places, colors, etc), Personal pronouns, basic conversation, context of ideas, functional Spanish reading, and understanding and talking about the news.

**Spanish II** 10, 11, 12 513/514

This course continues to build on the abilities learned in Spanish I, and includes the use of infinitives, the present continuous, future and imperative form of regular and irregular verbs, vocabulary (parts inside and outside the house, restaurant, etc), numbers, how much?, the clock and telling time, feelings, weather, and cognates. **Prerequisite:** Spanish I

**Spanish III** 11, 12 523/524

This course continues to build on skills learned in Spanish I and II, including time expressions, past tense, passive voice, lots of verbs, conversation drills, adverbs, expressions of frequencies, reflexive verbs. **Prerequisite:** Spanish II

**Spanish IV** 12 533/534

This course continues to build on skills learned in previous courses, and includes opposites, celebrations, diminutives, civil status, auxiliary verbs, lots of cognates, summary of all tenses and vocabulary, structured and open conversation. **Prerequisite:** Spanish III.

**Sign Language I** 10, 11, 12 501/502

This course is designed for students who have had no formal learning of American Sign Language. Students will develop skills in producing and understanding signs and will be introduced to deaf culture.

# Physical Education

**PE 9** 550  
Students will participate in a variety of individual and team sports, learning the basic rules and skills of each sport. These sports include but are not limited to soccer, football, badminton, basketball, volleyball, track and endurance fitness. This course is designed to begin a student's lifelong appreciation of physical education.

**Advanced PE 10, 11, 12** 555  
Students learn advanced concepts and strategies for a variety of sports. They will use teamwork and strategic planning to help accomplish specific objectives included in each of these sports. Each student is expected to participate at a higher expertise in those areas. This class will help students to develop their core body strength, balance, and coordination.

**Health 9** 560  
Emphasis is on establishment of a lifelong wellness lifestyle that is based on a Christ-centered balance of intellectual, physical, emotional, and social needs. Students will learn nutritional issues and become familiar with basic First Aid. Course will include activities that promote a healthy lifestyle.

**Weight Lifting 9, 10, 11, 12** 575 or 576  
This course begins as an introduction to weight training and moves to an intermediate level as the semester progresses. Students learn the basic core lifts and write their own specific workouts to strengthen their bodies in the individual's desired area. This course is highly recommended for all student athletes.

# Computers

**Introduction to Computers** 10, 11, 12 610

Introduction to Computers is designed to give students a working knowledge of Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, Access, and other components of the Office Suite as time permits), using the Internet, and business writing. The class is focused on giving students computer tools they will use in other classes and as they prepare to go to college.

**Microsoft PowerPoint** 10, 11, 12 621  
(1 quarter – 0.25 credits)

Students will learn to use Microsoft PowerPoint and will use this knowledge to create presentations that use Microsoft PowerPoint to illustrate, enhance and organize the information in their presentations. Students will be responsible for developing the content, creating PowerPoint slides and giving the presentations in class. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Computers.

**Introduction to Web Page Design** 10, 11, 12 622  
(1 quarter – 0.25 credits)

An exploration of the basics of HTML (a scripting language for writing web pages) and web page design. Students will learn to create web pages that include text, graphics, tables and links to sections, pages and other websites. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Computers

**Desktop Publishing** 9, 10, 11, 12 633/634

In Desktop Publishing, we will gain desktop publishing experience as we produce Valley Lutheran High School's yearbook, the Blazing Flame. We will use the Adobe InDesign desktop publishing software extensively throughout the year. We will also learn other critical skills necessary for the production of a yearbook, including photography, copywriting, copyediting, and page layout and design. **Prerequisite:** application and instructor approval required

**Digital Imaging** 10, 11, 12 960

See complete listing in Visual Arts section. May be taken for fine arts or computer credit.

# Music and Performing Arts

## **The Many Sounds of Music** 9 709

This class is an overview of various styles of music, a study of music from different eras, composers and their compositions, and some basic theory.

## **Valley Singers** 9, 10, 11, 12 711/712

This is a mixed choir for any who want to sing, whether experienced or beginner. We will work on vocal techniques, learning to sing harmonies and learning to sing together as a choir. The choir will sing for Sunday services at several area congregations, perform at 3-4 concerts, and sing for chapel services on campus. No audition is required. Open to all grade levels.

## **The Concert Choir** 9, 10, 11, 12 733/734

The Concert Choir is a mixed choir that each year performs 3-4 concerts, sings for Sunday services at four area congregations, sings for chapel services, goes on tour, presents a musical theater production, and participates in other special events. If you have experience and a love for singing, this is the choir for you. An audition is required.

## **Instrumental Music** 9, 10, 11, 12 753/754

Last year this was a small wind and percussion ensemble, this year it could be a large orchestra! This class can be whatever YOU VLHS students make of it, depending on who registers. This much is for sure: we will do some popular, jazz, and classical music in a variety of styles and moods. We are especially working to buy more percussion instruments so that we can expand our horizons to include a larger trap set in our popular music and more percussionists for our classical music. We also need string players, bass players, wind players, etc. so please sign up (guitar players, please see instructor before registering). We will give some concerts, play for chapel, and possibly play for a Sunday worship service, too.

# Science

## **Biology** 9, 10, 11, 12 803/804

Biology is the study of living things. This course introduces students to the created living world and is designed to build a basic understanding of microbiology, genetics, zoology, and botany. Students in Biology are encouraged to appreciate life as a marvelous work of a wise Creator. Students will develop an understanding of science as a tool for comprehending the Natural World. This course is a graduation requirement, and fulfills a lab requirement.

## **Honors Biology** 9 806/807

Biology is the study of living things. This course gives students an in-depth look at the created living world and is designed to build a thorough understanding of microbiology, genetics, zoology, and botany. Students in Honors Biology are encouraged to appreciate life as a marvelous work of a wise Creator. Students will develop an understanding of science as a tool for comprehending the Natural World. This course is a graduation requirement, and fulfills a lab requirement.

**Prerequisite:** Placement Exam.

## **Human Biology** 10, 11, 12 811/812

All high school students have at least one thing in common- they all have a body designed and created by God. How does it work? How is it organized? What happens when things go wrong with it? Human biology is a survey course that explores the anatomy and physiology of the human body. In addition to anatomy and physiology, this course will also explore human genetics, diseases, and biotechnology. This course fulfills a lab requirement. **Prerequisite:** Biology.

## **Human Anatomy & Physiology – Honors** 10, 11, 12 816/817

All high school students have at least one thing in common: each has a body. How does it work? How is it organized? What happens when things go wrong with it? Human Anatomy & Physiology is a course which explores in some detail the glorious gift given to each of us – a human body – in terms of its anatomy and function. In addition to human biology, students will learn about other fundamental concepts in biology: cell biology, basic biochemistry, molecular biology, and genetics. This course fulfills a lab requirement. **Prerequisite:** Biology, Algebra I and/or teacher approval

**Environmental Science** 10, 11, 12 843/844

What are the conditions necessary for a living planet? What principles guide how non-living and living things operate on Earth? In what ways do people depend on our planet's processes and resources? These questions and more like them are addressed in Environmental Science. We will also try to understand the fullness of God's Earth and humankind's place in Creation. Special emphasis is placed on discovering how people have impacted the Earth and how these affect our present and future. In spite of much "bad news" about the environment, we will explore ways in which people can act as responsible caretakers of Earth's resources and what it means to be agents of reconciliation to all of the Creation. **Prerequisites:** Biology, Algebra I

**Chemistry** 11, 12 823/824

Chemistry is the study of stuff: the matter that makes up our world and the universe. Students in Chemistry learn how matter is classified, how it changes and how chemists use notation to document changes. Chemistry is a laboratory science; students will become familiar with basic chemistry notation, measurement, calculation, lab procedures and safety. Chemistry is a fundamental science. Success in chemistry is important to college-bound students, and essential for students who intend to pursue further studies in the natural sciences. Instructor Approval Required. **Corequisite:** Algebra 2

**Physics – Honors** 12 836/837

Physics is the study of how matter and energy are related and how they interact. In Physics, students explore some of the most fundamental questions of science, such as: How can we "know" anything with certainty? What is matter? What is energy? What causes things to move? How can we measure and quantify (put into numbers) ordinary events? What is the universe like? Students in Physics will spend much of their time learning by doing: measuring, manipulating, seeing and thinking through how the physical world works. **Prerequisites:** Algebra II and teacher approval

# Visual Arts

**Art** 10, 11, 12

950

A one semester class that provides a variety of art experiences and explores the concepts and ideas of the arts. Students will explore drawing, printmaking, mixed media, 3-D art and painting. The subject and medium for the projects will vary each semester. Students will also do a project based on the school theme and an art history project. This class may be repeated with the permission of the instructor if space is available.

**Digital Imaging** 10, 11, 12

960

An introduction to digital photography and editing. Students will explore basics of photography and learn to edit images using Adobe Photoshop Elements 6.0. Students must provide their own camera or have access to a camera which can be brought to class each day. This class may be taken for either fine art or computer credit. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Computers.

# Miscellaneous Courses

**Freshman Seminar** 9 050

Freshman seminar is designed to provide students with the necessary skills to be successful students. The course includes an exploration of effective habits, learning styles, study skills (including reading, note taking, organization, time-management, class participation, motivation and listening). In addition the class will include a unit on planning for college. Students will also practice writing skills.

**Teacher Aide** 11, 12 099

(1/4 credit – 1 semester course)

Students serve as aides for faculty members by mutual agreement. Student responsibilities are determined by the teacher, and evaluation is on a pass/fail basis. **Prerequisite:** Teacher approval required.

# Interim

Knowing that education also takes place outside the classroom, the Valley Lutheran High School faculty has designed Interim. Interim is an exciting one-week learning experience offered between the third and fourth quarter of the school year. Each student will register for one course to be taken during the week. Courses in past years have included:

- Outdoors in Arizona
- Trip to Mexico
- Trip to Paris
- Trip to Spain
- Trip to England and Ireland
- Fishing Arizona
- Cooking
- Bowling
- History of Computer Games
- Ceramics
- Calligraphy
- College and Career Explorations
- Hiking and Biking Phoenix
- History of Baseball
- Gold Prospecting
- Rocketry
- Scrapbooking

Each year new and exciting courses are added and old courses are improved and offered again. Most courses, but not all, will have additional fees required. Students can earn  $\frac{1}{4}$  credit towards graduation for each interim course completed. Interim has become a fun and exciting educational experience for both students and faculty.

# Graduation Requirements

## Class of 2010, 2011, 2012

Theology	4 units
English	4 units
Social Studies	3 ½ units
Mathematics	3 units
<i>Students must successfully pass Algebra 1</i>	
<i>Beginning with the class of 2012, all students must successfully pass Algebra 1 and Geometry.</i>	
Science	3 units
<i>One (1) unit must be Biology</i>	
Foreign Language	2 units
Physical Education	1 unit
Health	½ unit
Electives	4 ½ units
Computers	1 unit
Fine Arts	1 unit
Freshman Seminar	½ unit
Communications	½ unit
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Total	28 units

## Class of 2013

Theology	4 units
English	4 units
Social Studies	3 ½ units
Mathematics	4 units
<i>Students must successfully pass Algebra 2</i>	
Science	3 units
<i>One (1) unit must be Biology</i>	
Foreign Language	2 units
Physical Education	1 unit
Health	½ unit
Electives	3 ½ units
Computers	1 unit
Fine Arts	1 unit
Freshman Seminar	½ unit
Communications	½ unit
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Total	28 units