

Academic & Arts Elective Descriptions

The full course guide can be found here: <https://www.onslow.k12.nc.us/Page/50721>

At Dixon

Performing Arts

Guitar Beginning

Course Code: 52162X0CG

Fee (if applicable): \$10

Offered at: DHS, RHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS

Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

This course offers an introduction to instrumental playing and performance through the guitar. Students will acquire instrumental skills, reading music, and individual musical development, musicianship, and performance techniques. Beginning Guitar is a performance-oriented class with emphasis on music at level 1. This is primarily a classical guitar course. Some emphasis may include, other forms of guitar playing such as rock or jazz. Students will develop skills using chords, fingerpicking, and strumming techniques. Music of varied styles, cultures, and historical periods will be studied and played. Students will develop skills in listening to, analyzing, and evaluating musical experiences.

Piano Beginning

Course Code: 52162X0CP

Fee (if applicable): \$10

Offered at: DHS, NHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS

Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

Beginning piano will provide a positive music learning experience for each student through the development of piano skills. The performance-based course will provide instruction so that varying degrees of ability can be effectively addressed. Students will receive an introduction to basic piano skills as a basis for further study should they desire to continue.

Choir – Chorus Beginning, Chorus Intermediate, Concert Choir Advanced, Concert Choir Proficient

Level is determined by the Choral Director.

Vocal Music is a mixed performing ensemble in which class size and enrollment are determined by vocal balance and other musical factors as determined by the Choral Director. Vocal Music-Intermediate is a continuation of the skills learned in Vocal Music-Beginning and features music at Level III-IV, which includes moderate technical demands, expanded ranges, and varied interpretive requirements. Students should be able to sight-read and have a general understanding of music theory and notation. Music of various styles, cultures, and historical periods are included in the repertoire of choral literature studied

and performed. Performance is important. All scheduled performances are required and may include evening and weekend participation. All concert rules apply.

Band – Marching Band, Color Guard, Concert Band, Wind Ensemble

Level and sections are determined by the Band Director.

Marching Band is a highly motivated performance group. The Band's main goal is to develop, learn and provide a visual and musical experience for all its members and its audience. The Marching Band has many performance obligations. Through these performances the students will grow as musicians and performers. The students will learn music fundamentals according to the Beginning Music Specialization Essential Standards. Halfway through the semester, the students will transition to indoor ensembles.

Visual Arts

Visual Arts – Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Proficient

Course Code: 54152X0C Fee (if applicable): \$7

Offered at: All High Schools Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

Performing and Visual Arts-Beginning is designed to reinforce and build on knowledge and skills developed at the elementary and middle school levels. It is the foundation level for art study throughout high school. The course is primarily devoted to deliberate and systematic presentations of various art processes, procedures, theories, and historical developments. Students will have experience in producing two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks. The course emphasizes the study of the elements of art and principles of design, color theory, vocabulary, art criticism, art history, and safety in the art room. The approach to art experiences during this time is experimental in terms of materials. Students are provided with a strong foundation in design, drawing and vocabulary in a teacher-structured environment.

Ceramics

Course Code: 54612X0CC Fee (if applicable): \$7

Offered at: JHS, DHS, SBHS, WOHS Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

In this class, students will learn the properties of clay and how to utilize the material in a variety of materials. The student will be exposed to three-dimensional artwork creation by utilizing various media. Students will learn the proper use of ceramic materials and experience the basic techniques of beginning building methods, clay characteristics, and glazing and firing procedures. Students will learn how to create a variety of functional objects which include coasters, pots, and figurines. Techniques learned include slab method, coiling, pinching, and carving. Student learning will also be constructed by research engagement using multi-media presentations, drawing, reading, journaling, and writing assignments designed to increase the student's levels of visual mastery. Vocabulary and history will be integrated to create a more holistic classroom experience.

World Languages

Spanish I

Course Code: 11412X0C Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: All High Schools Grade(s): 9,10,11

Prerequisite: None

This course is an introduction to the study of the Spanish language and its culture. Students perform the most basic functions of the language and become familiar with some elements of its culture. Emphasis is placed on the development of the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing within a given context extending outside of the classroom setting when possible. The content focuses on the students' lives and experiences and includes exposure to everyday customs and lifestyles. A general introduction to the culture, its products (e.g., literature, laws, foods, games), perspectives (e.g., attitudes, values, beliefs), and practices (patterns of social interaction) is integrated throughout the course. Students acquire some insight into how languages and cultures work by comparing the target language and culture(s) to their own.

Spanish II

Course Code: 11422X0C Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: All High Schools Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Spanish Level I or have placed out of Level I due to previous language study and/or established proficiency.

This course provides students with opportunities to continue the development of their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students will participate in short conversational situations by utilizing learned elements of the language orally and in writing. Students can satisfy basic survival needs and interact on issues of everyday life in the present time and past time through conversation and by composing related sentences which narrate, describe, compare, and summarize familiar topics from the target culture. Focus is placed on understanding the main ideas in simple texts and developing a better understanding of the similarities and differences between cultures and languages. Students examine the influence of the beliefs and values on the target culture(s) throughout the course.

Spanish III Honors

Course Code: 11435X0C Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: All High Schools Grade(s): 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Students enrolled in this course have either successfully completed the Level I and II courses or have placed out of Levels I and II due to previous language study and/or established proficiency.

Students receive additional opportunities to expand their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as they create with the language and access various materials (short literary texts, authentic materials,

technical manuals, and other media) on generally familiar topics. Students satisfy limited communication and social interaction demands, as well as initiate and maintain face-to-face communication. Using various verb tenses, students will create, narrate, compose and describe culturally relevant topics in a series of sentences. Students continue to refine their knowledge and understanding of the target language/culture(s) and their own by examining the interrelationship cultures, by demonstrating behaviors appropriate in target cultures, and by applying their knowledge and skills inside and outside of the classroom setting.

Spanish IV Honors

Course Code: 11445X0C Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at:

DHS, NSH, RHS, SWH, SBHS, WOHS

JHS (see IB section for continued Spanish courses)

Grade(s): 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Students enrolled in this course have successfully completed Level III or have placed out of Levels I-III due to previous language study and/or established proficiency.

A major focus of this course is to enable students to communicate in writing and in extended conversations on a variety of familiar and some unfamiliar topics. Students begin to narrate, discuss, and support complex ideas and concepts using concrete facts and topics with details in a variety of times. They satisfy routine social demands and meet most social requirements. Many different types of text (short stories, poetry, excerpts from various periods of literature, current events, technical manuals, and other authentic materials) are included, depending on the emphasis, and providing for independent reading. Finer points of grammar are studied to aid oral and written communication. There is more in-depth study of the target culture(s) and their influence throughout the world. Students can use the language inside and outside of the classroom setting.

Physical Education

Advanced PE

Course Code: See Above Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: All High Schools*Not offered at OVSS Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Prerequisite: Health & Physical Education

This course is designed to allow the students an opportunity to gain a well-rounded physical education for life-long activities. The students are given an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities such as: basketball, softball, track, volleyball, soccer, flag football, weight training, physical conditioning, and tennis.

Team Sports

Course Code: 60292X0CTS Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: All High Schools *Not offered at OVSS

Grade(s): 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Health & Physical Education

This is a high-level fitness class offered to students who wish to participate in athletics. The focus of the class will be improving sport-specific skills and sports-related fitness components such as: muscular strength and endurance, balance, coordination, speed, agility, and the cardiorespiratory system.

Weight Training

Offered at: All High Schools Not offered at OVSS

Fee (if applicable): n/a

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Health and Physical Education

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

AP Government & Politics

Course Code: 4A067X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, NHS, RHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS, JHS

Grade(s): 11,12

Prerequisite: Civics & Economics or Civic Literacy

Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics will provide students an intellectual foundation for observing, analyzing, and understanding national politics in the United States. Using primary and secondary source documents, as well as analysis of specific examples, students will examine and evaluate the institutions of the American government, political parties and elections, mass media, political behavior, public policies, and the development of individual rights and liberties and their impact on citizens. The content of this course is the equivalent to that of an introductory college course in U.S. government and politics. Students taking this course are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement exam.

AP World History

Course Code: Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, OECHS, OVSS, NHS, RHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS

Grade(s): 10,11,12

Prerequisite: n/a

Recommendation: World History

In AP World History: Modern, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

AP US History

Course Code: 4A077X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, OECHS, OVSS, NHS, RHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS

Grade(s): 10,11,12

Prerequisite: Turning Points in American History-Honors – SWHS

Recommendation: American History

AP US History is a semester-long course. AP US History is a survey course covering American History from the Pre-Columbian period to the present. The class is taught in accordance with the College Board AP US curriculum framework and is designed to prepare students for the AP US History Exam in May. The AP US History course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing, and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content learning objectives organized around seven themes, such as identity, peopling, and American in the world. The purpose of the course is to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States History. The AP United States History course will develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions based on an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

AP Human Geography

Course Code: 4A027X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, RHS, WOHS (9th grade)

Grade(s): 10,11,12

Prerequisite: None

AP Human Geography introduces high school students to college-level introductory human geography or cultural geography. The content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around the discipline's main subfields: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. The approach is spatial and problem oriented. Case studies are drawn from all world regions, with an emphasis on understanding the world in which we live today. Historical information serves to enrich analysis of the impacts of phenomena such as globalization, colonialism, and human-environmental relationships in places, regions, cultural landscapes, and patterns of interaction.

AP Biology

Course Code: 3A007X0CAP Fee (if applicable): \$5

Offered at: DHS, *NHS, RHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS Grade(s): *10, 11,12

Recommendation: Biology I, Biology II- Chemistry

This course is an in-depth and detailed study of Biology, which includes topics in cell physiology, genetics, evolution, anatomy and ecology. AP Biology is intended to provide a rigorous introductory college level biology course with intense inquiry-based laboratory activities. Students should consider the extensive time that is required for reading assignments, lab reports, and independent study. Students are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Biology exam in the Spring.

AP Earth & Environmental

Course Code: 3A027X0CAP Fee (if applicable): \$5

Offered at: DHS, JHS, NHS, OECHS, RHS, SBHS, SWHS, WOHS

Grade(s): 10,11,12

Recommendation: Earth and Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry

This course is a rigorous program focusing on the application of scientific concepts and principles to the understanding and solution of environmental problems and issues. A broadly interdisciplinary course, it builds upon the scientific principles from Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Ecology and Earth Science. The course includes a substantial laboratory and field component to help students learn about the environment through careful observation and experimentation. The course utilizes problem-solving, critical thinking and communication skills. Students are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Environmental Science exam.

AP English Literature and Composition

Course Code: 1A017X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, NHS, OVSS, RHS, SBH, SWH, WOHS Grade(s): 11,12

Prerequisite: English III

AP English Literature and Composition is a college level course that prepares students for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition exam. Students will read carefully and critically analyze literature in order to deepen their understanding of ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. Additionally, students will hone their composition skills as they respond to, analyze and evaluate the author's craft. Students taking this course are encouraged to take the AP exam. This course meets the requirements for English IV.

AP English Language and Composition

Course Code: 1A007X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, JHS, NHS, OVSS, RHS, SBH, SWH, WOHS Grade(s): 11,12

Prerequisite: English II

AP English Language and Composition is a college level course that prepares students for the Advanced Placement English and Language and Composition exam. Students practice skills and critical reading and writing of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts for a variety of purposes and audiences. Students will also analyze the way genre conventions and language contribute to the effectiveness of writing. Students taking this course are encouraged to take the AP exam.

This course meets requirements for English III.

AP Pre-Calculus

Course Code: ZA058XO Fee: n/a

Offered at: All High Schools Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: NC Math III

In AP Precalculus, students explore everyday situations using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. They will learn how to observe, explore, and build mathematical meaning from dynamic systems, and important practice for thriving in an ever-changing world. AP Precalculus prepares students for other higher-level mathematics and science courses. The framework delineates content and skills common to college precalculus courses that are foundational for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, social science, and data science.

AP Calculus AB

Course Code: 2A007X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: All High Schools Grade(s): 10,11,12; JHS (online only)

Prerequisite: Math 3

Recommendation: Honors Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus AB is an introductory college-level calculus course. Students cultivate their understanding of differential and integral calculus through engaging with real-world problems represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally and using definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions as they explore concepts like change, limits, and the analysis of functions. Students taking this course are encouraged to take the AP exam.

AP Calculus BC

Course Code: 2A017X0CAP Fee (if applicable): n/a

Offered at: DHS, JHS (online only),

NHS, OVSS, RHS Grade(s): 11, 12

Prerequisite: Math 3

Recommendation: Honors Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus BC is an introductory college-level calculus course. Students cultivate their understanding of differential and integral calculus through engaging with real-world problems represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally and using definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions as they explore concepts like change, limits, and the analysis of functions. This course includes all of the units found in AP Calculus AB in addition to units for parametric equations, polar coordinates, vector-valued functions and infinite sequences and series. Students taking this course are encouraged to take the AP exam.

AP Seminar

Course Code: 0A017X0CAP Fees: n/a

Offered at: DHS, NHS, RHS Grade(s): 10, 11

Prerequisite: None

In this yearlong course, students develop and strengthen analytic and inquiry skills, exploring two to four relevant issues chosen by the student and/or teacher. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to consider an issue from multiple perspectives, evaluate the strength of an argument, and make logical, fact-based decisions. Students question, research, explore, pose solutions, develop arguments, collaborate, and communicate using various media.

Additional Opportunities

NCVPS

Requirements: 2.5 unweighted GPA and application

Course catalog: <https://ncvps.org/catalogs/>

OVS

Lottery opens: March 1st

Lottery Closes: March 15th

More information:

<https://www.onslow.k12.nc.us/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=9387&ModuleInstanceID=78416&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=126987&PageID=36695>

Dual-Enrollment

Requirements: 11th & 12th Grade. 2.8 unweighted GPA

To sign up for a Dual-Enrollment course you need to do the following:

6. Sign up to meet with the Coastal Rep. She's here every Tuesday to meet with students. The sign-up sheet is on Mrs. Hardy's desk.
7. Complete an application. The application requires Ms. Balsamo's signature, you will need to speak to her about your selections. Course must be selected prior to meeting with Ms. Balsamo, we can change them, but she will not sign a blank application. You will receive a copy of your transcript when the application is signed.
8. Turn your application into Ms. Hamp with your transcript.
9. Schedule a time to go to Coastal and register. This is the most important step. If you do not go to Coastal to register, you will not be enrolled in any courses.
10. Return your registration sheet from Coastal to Ms. Balsamo so she can add them to your schedule.