

**HESPERIA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**  
*ALL COURSES ARE YEAR LONG COURSES UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE!*

**Beginning Journalism:** Introductory course concentrating on elements of journalistic style. Focus on ethics, basic news writing, interviewing, advertising, editing, photojournalism, and layout design. Students will gain experience using Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator and more.

**Advanced Journalism:** (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> only) (Teacher approval needed. Prerequisite: Beginning Journalism) This highly collaborative, advanced-level class will be in charge of producing the school newspaper. Students will gain a firmer grasp of all beginning components as well as developing skills in more advanced functions such as web design. Students will gain experience using Adobe Dreamweaver, Flash and more. In addition to a school newspaper, students will have the opportunity to participate in the creation and maintenance of the web-based version of the paper and a magazine.

**Broadcast Journalism:** (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) Students will learn basic pre production, production and post production video skills while creating original works across a variety of genres.

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**FINE / PERFORMING ARTS**

**Art I\*: Fundamentals of Drawing and Painting.** This course will focus on the creation of high quality works of art through the accelerated development of artistic skills that focus on accurately shading, measuring proportions, sighting angles, using linear perspective, engaging in color theory, creating good compositions and being able to match values, textures, and colors. Major historical art movements and artists will be studied. Through art criticism and critiques, the students will write essays about artwork.

**Art II\*:** (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) This two-dimensional art course builds upon the principles learned in Art I. The students will expand their skills by engaging in more complex subject matters, art materials, and techniques. Portfolio preparation, colleges, and careers will be discussed.

**Art III\*:** (11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>) In this two-dimensional course, students will achieve highly refined drawing and painting skills. Further in-depth studies will take place across a breadth of subjects, materials, and techniques. Portfolio preparation, colleges, and art careers will be emphasized.

**Art IV\*:** (12<sup>th</sup> Only) The students will continue to refine their drawing and painting skills with a focus on the creation of their own (student driven) concentration of artworks. Portfolio preparation, colleges and careers will be emphasized

**AP Studio Art\*** (10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>) (Pre-requisite: An “A” in your current art class, a portfolio review, and teacher recommendation) This course is designed for highly motivated and committed artists. The students will complete 2 summer artworks, 10 artworks that focus on a breadth of art skills during the first semester, and 12 artworks that deal with the students chosen concentration (style) during the second semester. The AP exam will consist of these 24 artworks and an artist’s statement. (Some of the artwork for this exam can come from previous years)

**AP Studio Art 2-D\*:** Class involves purposeful decision making about using the elements and principals of art in an integrative way on a two-dimensional surface, as with photography.

**AP Art History:** (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) This course is a chronological art survey course that focuses on western art from BC to the present day. Students will complete reading assignments, keep a detailed notebook and sit for the AP exam in May.

**Sculpture I\*:** (10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>) A course in 3-dimensional design that explores the use of plaster, wood, and paper-mache while focusing on clay. Students use additive and subtractive methods to carve, model and fabricate sculptural artwork

**Sculpture II/III\*:** (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) An advanced sculpture class that builds upon the principles learned in Sculpture I. Students will expand their skills by using more complex techniques.

**Beginning Photography:** (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) Using adjustable digital cameras, students will learn the fundamentals of lighting, exposure and composition. While learning the elements of action and still photography, as they relate to: portraiture, commercial subjects, sports, photojournalism, still life and nature.

## FINE/PERFORMING ARTS (CONTINUED)

**Advanced Photography:** (11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) (Pre-requisite: Beginning Photography, with a “C” or better) Using adjustable digital cameras, students will produce photographs that meet professional standards. Problems of low and extreme light conditions will be addressed, along with multiple exposure and complex composition problems. May build a portfolio of ten to fifteen photographs around a theme.

**Concert Choir\*:** This course is designed for training students with no previous choral experience. Emphasis is placed on the development of singing skills, reading music, awareness of stylistic differences, and general musicianship. Public group performances will be included.

**Treble Choir\*:** (by audition) This is an intermediate level female choral ensemble requiring an audition for admission. The course will emphasize the best in choral music, advanced vocal techniques and music reading. There will be extensive performing in concerts and festivals. **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

**Vocal Ensemble\*:** (by audition) This is an advanced male and female choral ensemble requiring an audition for admission. This course will emphasize the best in choral music, advanced vocal techniques and music reading. There will be extensive performing in concerts and festivals. **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

**Concert Band (Drum-line):** This course is a band course for students who play percussion instruments and is paired with pageantry students. Class counts for P.E. credit. (1 year = 5 P.E. credits) **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

**Symphonic Band:** This is a beginning band class. It is for students interested in learning to play a band instrument. Students must own or rent an instrument. **Commitment beyond the normal day is required.**

**Wind Ensemble:** (by audition) A selective performing organization whose repertory includes traditional and popular music from all periods. Musicianship and music theory are emphasized. The group (which serves as a concert band, marching band, and pop band) performs at athletic events, presents formal, concerts, and participates in parades, concert festivals, and marching festivals. **Students must own or rent instrument. Commitment beyond the normal school day is required**

**String Orchestra:** This is a performance course for all string players from string bass to violin. May perform in concerts and festivals throughout the year. **Students must own or rent instrument. Commitment beyond the normal school day is required.**

**Jazz Ensemble:** Students learn fundamentals of jazz and improvisation. Emphasis is placed on the development of style, interpretation and technical skills in sound and performance. **Students must be members of Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble and participate in marching band in order to be enrolled.**

**Beginning Drama:** This course will introduce students to all aspects of the theater and its history. Students will learn the basics of character development, stage movement, and voice techniques in order to perform monologues and scenes. Students will acquire knowledge in all areas of theater production including technical theater (lighting, sound, costumes, and make-up)

**Advanced Drama:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>) This course will emphasize acting techniques designed to build upon the skills developed in Beginning Drama. Students will write and perform skits, improvisations, pantomimes, scenes, and plays. **Students will be required to participate with at least one major school production per semester. This may include acting, sets, lights, sound, costumes, or make-up.**

**Drama Productions:** This course will focus on the technical aspects of theater. In this course students will be introduced to set design and construction. Students will also learn about stage lighting, sound, and stage management.

**Pageantry\*:** (by audition) This is designed to explore basic dance and drill techniques and rhythmic movements through the use of tall flags, rifles, and color guard equipment. **Commitment beyond the normal school day is required**

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

**French I:** Introduces students to basic structures of the French language, with emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course also introduces various cultural similarities and differences between France and the United States, including customs, work ethics, education, and leisure time activities.

**French II:** (10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) (Prerequisite: Successful completion of French I, “C” or better and teacher recommendation) This intermediate course builds on the foundation of French I. Students will continue to expand vocabulary, knowledge of French language structure and French culture.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE (CONTINUED)

**French III:** (11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) (Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II, “C” or better and teacher recommendation) An advanced course in which students expand their vocabulary and grammatical proficiency in the French language and begin the study of French literature.

**French Language IV AP:** (12<sup>th</sup>) The course seeks to develop language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) that can be used in various activities and disciplines rather than to cover any specific body of subject matter. Extensive training in organizing and writing compositions is also covered. Students will prepare to successfully challenge the national Advanced Placement examination.

**Spanish I:** Introduces students to basic structures of the Spanish language, with emphasis on listening, speaking, reading and writing. The course also introduces various cultural similarities and differences between Spanish-speaking countries and the United States, including customs, work ethics, education, and leisure time activities.

**Spanish II:** (Need current Spanish teacher signature) This intermediate course builds on the foundation of Spanish I. Students will continue to expand vocabulary, knowledge of Spanish language structure and Hispanic culture.

**Spanish III:** (Completion of Spanish II; teacher approval) An advanced course in which students move towards fluency in the Spanish language by continuing to expand their vocabulary and making a more in-depth study of language structure. Spanish language literature is introduced.

**Spanish IV AP:** (Successful completion of Spanish III and teacher recommendation) Taught at the college level, this course prepares students to successfully pass the Advanced Placement Spanish Language examination. Students polish their skills in listening comprehension, speaking proficiency, reading and writing as well as continuing to expand their vocabulary and their knowledge of Hispanic culture. **Academically rigorous course requiring 3-5 hours of homework each week.**

**Spanish Literature V AP:** (Successful completion of Spanish IV or Spanish for Spanish Speakers and teacher recommendation.) Taught at the college level, students are prepared to successfully pass the Advanced Placement Spanish Literature examination. Intended as the equivalent of a third-year college Introduction to Literature course. Students will participate in discussions on literary topics in Spanish and analyze critically the form and content of literary works, including poetry, using appropriate terminology. **Students completing this course will be prepared to take the AP Exam on Spanish, literature.**

**Heritage Spanish I - II:** Designed for students who already understand and speak Spanish but who may not read or write it. Students learn to express themselves more completely in both spoken and written Spanish. They reflect upon and discuss Hispanic culture in the context of the whole Hispanic world and make comparisons to their home cultures. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to develop oral fluency and competency in basic reading and writing skill. **Students (other than ELD students) should be functioning well in English in order to undertake the rigorous study of a formal foreign language course. This course requires 3-5 hours of homework each week and regular participation in classroom discussions.**

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY:

**ASE Automotive Technology I\*:** This is a course that blends theory and practice with the working principles of the modern automobile. All major systems of the engine and chassis are covered.

**ASE Automotive Technology II\*:** (Completion of Automotive Technology I and teacher recommendation.) Hands-on skills are taught involving service and maintenance, shop safety equipment, engine service and lubrication, tire and wheel maintenance and repair, brake system service, tune-up, and electrical system service and repair. **May be a 2-period block.**

**Intro to Construction Technology\*:** Introduces the principles of the construction trades, including reading basic floor plans and computing material needs. Hand tools will be used to explore such processes as framing, foundations, and finish constructions sites and the use and safety requirements of power equipment will be emphasized.

**Manufacturing Technology I\*:** Emphasizes planning and layout, material processing, assembling processes, and finishing processes related to building construction standards. Group projects focus on site preparation, framing, interior finish, exterior finish, mechanical systems, utilities systems and masonry. Particular attention will be paid to industry methods of measurement, reading plans, and material estimating.

**Construction Technology II\*:** (Completion of Construction Technology I and teacher recommendation.) Designed as a sequel to Construction Technology I, students will continue the study of planning and layout, materials processing, assembling processes and finishing processes related to cabinet making or building construction. **May be a 2-period block.**

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY (CONTINUED)

**Construction Technology III\*:** (Completion of Construction Technology II and teacher recommendation.) Students take on projects in one of two areas: (1) cabinet making and fitting to industry standards which will include materials estimation and mass production techniques; or (2) small structure construction and finish. Topics will include elementary site survey and introduction to building codes. **May be a 2-period block.**

**Construction Technology IV\*:** (Completion of Construction Technology III and teacher recommendation.) Students demonstrate mastery and advanced construction techniques through completion of related projects. **May be a 2-period block.**

**STEM Robotics:** The Robotics class is an introduction to robotics and engineering concepts by utilizing a hands on project based inquiry learning. Students will explore the fields of Science, Math, Engineering, Computer programming and Technology by building, testing and competing with their own robots. This class is for the student who want a challenging hands on approach to learning. (Grades 9-12)

**ADV STEM Robotics:** (completion of intro to robotics required) This course will cover topics to include: Programming w/robot C language, principals of engineering, principals of gear ratios, principals of mechanics, use of sensors in robot function.

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## SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Psychology:** Students are introduced to Psychology, with a focus on human development. Including the study of childhood, learning, personality, relationships, motivation, emotional development, memory and perception.

**Psychology AP:** Introductory college-level course with the focus on the study of behavior and mental processes of human beings. Students are encouraged to take the AP exam.

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## NON-DEPARTMENTAL

**AVID I - IV:** (by application) Advanced Via Individual Determination (AVID), provides a support system for students who want a chance at college. Students will focus on organizational skills, note-taking, test-taking tips, and writing-to-learn activities, to name a few. AVID students will be enrolled in the most rigorous academic schedule; therefore, tutorials for their academic classes will be an integral part of the AVID program. Students must possess a GPA of 2.0 or higher and go through an interview process.

**Late Arrival/Early Dismissal:** (12<sup>th</sup> only with parent permission) Seniors who have completed the necessary units for graduation and need to leave campus due to college classes or employment responsibilities may petition the Counseling Office for **EARLY DISMISSAL** scheduling. Once the student has received the appropriate identification, he/she may leave at the designated time displayed on the I.D. card. All seniors must exit through the gate between the Gym and Library and must have their Student Identification Card visible to campus security. If a student wants only four classes on campus, they must also be enrolled in Work Experience, ROP or Victor Valley College.

**Leadership:** (Open only to students (all grade levels) who are elected or appointed to student body or class office.) This is a participation-oriented course offering opportunities for students to represent and report to their peers. The Leadership course provides training in parliamentary procedure, skills for planning and supervising student activities, skills in group dynamics and conducting effective meetings, and skills in preparing budgets.

**Office Aides:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> only) (Consent of supervisor) This is an exploratory program designed to acquaint students with the activities and skills needed in a professional business setting. Students will perform duties while becoming aware of the variety of tasks that are a part of any business. Supervision will be by the classified person working with the student aide, and an Administrator. **Students may take any combination of Teacher Assistant, Office Aide, and Peer Tutor for a maximum of one (1) per semester.**

**Beg. Peer Assistance/Support:** (10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> only) (Teacher approval, 2.0 GPA, good attendance and no discipline referrals) Students receive training and experience with problem-solving skills, mentoring, and decision-making processes. Students learn about topics such as conflict mediation, suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, and many other teen issues. (1year course)

**Advanced Peer Assistance/Support:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> only) (Application required) Students trained in Peer Counseling provide supervised on-campus peer support. Student will work in the counseling office one period a day.

**Teacher Aides:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> only) (Teacher approval, 2.0 GPA, "basic" on CST's good attendance, no discipline referrals; parent permission.) This course designation is used for students who wish to aid teachers in the mechanical duties of classroom management and record keeping. Students will at all times attend their assigned class. **Students may take any combination of Teacher Assistant, Office Aide, and Peer Tutor for a maximum of one (1) per semester.**

## NON –DEPARTMENTAL (CONTINUED)

**Work Experience:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> only). (Teacher/Counselor approval. Student must be 16 years old or a junior or senior, be employed, and have satisfactory academic and citizenship grades). Work Experience combines classroom instruction with paid employment, *not necessarily related* to the occupational goal of the student. Students learn to become productive and responsible individuals while also learning and experiencing the employment cycle. **Variable credits are earned based on hours worked on the job.**

**Link Crew:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> only) This class is designed to teach students how to be mentors for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders. This class promotes leadership and encourages the promotion of school spirit.

**Yearbook:** (Need 3.0 GPA and Language Arts teacher recommendation) This course is designed to produce the school yearbook. Students work under the pressure of deadlines. Emphasizes copy writing, layout, photography, and other publication/production skills. Student practices information gathering methods, as well as creative thinking skills.

**Peer Tutor:** (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> only) A student will provide individual tutoring or group tutoring in one or more academic areas based upon peer tutor's academic strengths. Req: Strong in at least one academic area, in good standing for graduation, teacher approval.

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## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**Athletic PE:** (Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Baseball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Volleyball, Wrestling) Athletic PE contract needed. The courses listed are designed to teach specialized skills to students who are participating on the freshmen, junior varsity, or varsity teams of the sport identified.

**Sports Conditioning** (by contract)- General conditioning class for all sports.

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## REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM (R.O.P.) (Must be 16 years old by August 31<sup>st</sup>)

**R.O.P. Culinary Arts I (Scorpy's)\*:** (10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> only.) Students in this course will receive actual experiences in a variety of entry-level positions common to the commercial food preparation industry. Instruction will include general sanitation and safety, menu planning, cooking techniques, inventory control; the safe and proper use of kitchen tools and appliances, food preparation, service cashiering, and bussing. **1 year course.**

**R.O.P. Culinary Arts II:** (pre-req: R.O.P. Restaurant I) The second year course of a career building program for students interested in culinary arts, restaurant and food service management.

**R.O.P. Culinary Arts III:** The third year course of a career building program for students interested in culinary arts and food service management.

**R.O.P. NATEF Automotive Technology III\*:** (Completion of Automotive Technology II and teacher recommendation needed) This is a hands-on performance course. Topics include air conditioning, service and repair, front-end alignment, suspension and steering repair, and engine overhaul. **Will be a 2-period block.**

**R.O.P. NATEF Automotive Technology IV\*:** (Completion of Automotive Technology III and teacher recommendation needed.) This is a hands-on mastery course in which students perform as shop managers. Topics emphasized include equipment maintenance personnel, shop ticket preparation, job estimation, labor and parts, employee training, and advanced repair of all systems covered in Automotive Technology II and III. **Will be a 2-period block.**

**R.O.P. Digital Design\*:** This course will provide students with the skills to develop a broad perspective of art, design, communication theory, processes & tools and their applications in multimedia communication and design.

**R.O.P. Website Design\*:** This will provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to create and publish a website and for employment in business, industry or government using website technology. Students will learn the history, terminology, design and development skills in basic html as well as software applications for website creation. Legal and ethical issues will also be addressed.

## REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM (R.O.P.) (Must be 16 years old by August 31<sup>st</sup>) (CONTINUED)

**R.O.P. Medical Core I:** This course is designed for students interested in the health care industry. It will cover medical terminology and EKG monitoring.

**R.O.P. Medical Core II:** (Completion of medical core I w/a C or better) This is an advanced course for students interested in the health care industry.

**R.O.P. Criminal Justice:** This is an introductory course in the field of criminal justice for students planning on careers in Law Enforcement, probation and corrections.

**R.O.P. Advanced Fundamentals of Criminal Justice:** (Completion of Fundamentals of Law and teacher recommendation needed)  
This is an advanced course in the field of criminal justice for students planning on careers in Law Enforcement, probation and corrections.

Elective course offerings subject to change.