

EAGLE RIDGE ACADEMY SCHOOL OF RHETORIC COURSE CATALOG

Academic Year
2017-2018



**College Preparatory Course of Study at Eagle Ridge Academy's School of Rhetoric
26 Credits Required for Graduation**

	University*	State of MN	Eagle Ridge Academy
English	4	4	4 (Humanities)
History	4	3-5	4 (Humanities)
Science	3 or 4	3	4
Math	3 or 4	3	4
World Language	2-4	-	4
Fine Arts	1	1	1
Art History	-	-	1
Healthy Living	-	1	0.5
Logic	-	-	0.5
Rhetoric	-	-	0.5
Eastern Thought	-	-	0.5
Economics	-	-	0.5
Electives	2	7**	1.5

*Universities require an application along with standardized tests. The numbers here represent a general sampling of high school courses by typical university freshmen.

**Several of Eagle Ridge Academy requirements count as electives by state standards, pushing students over the required state amount.

Eagle Ridge Academy Program Overview

Credits: All year-long courses which a student passes earn the student one credit (1.0) and courses lasting only one semester earn the student half of a credit (0.5).

World Language: Students must have four years of language of which the first two must be Latin (no matter what the level).

Art History: AP Art History is a yearlong course which is an alternative to Art History I and Art History II which are semester courses that can be taken different years.

Sample Schedule #1	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Humanities	Ancient World	Medieval World	Renaissance World	Modern World
Science	Chemistry	Biology	Physics	Anatomy
Math	Geometry	Algebra II	Precalculus	AP Calculus
World Language	Latin I	Latin II	Latin III	CIS Latin Prose
Fine Arts	Drawing	2D Studio Art	3D Studio Art	Ceramics
Art History		Art History I	Art History II	
Healthy Living	Healthy Living			
Logic	Logic			
Rhetoric		Rhetoric		
Eastern Thought			Eastern Thought	
Economics				Economics
Electives	Composition	Physical Wellness	Creative Writing	History of Theatre

Sample Schedule #2	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Humanities	Ancient World	Medieval World	Renaissance World	Modern World
Science	Chemistry	Biology	Physics	Astronomy
Math	Geometry	Algebra II	Functions	AP Statistics
World Language	Latin II	Latin III	Spanish I	Spanish II
Fine Arts	Concert Band	Printmaking	3D Studio Art	3D Studio Art II
Art History	AP Art History			
Healthy Living		Healthy Living		
Logic		Logic		
Rhetoric			Rhetoric	
Eastern Thought			Eastern Thought	
Economics				Economics
Electives		American Government	Teacher Assistance	Printmaking

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HUMANITIES (ENGLISH/HISTORY)

The Humane Letters (or Humanities) program at Eagle Ridge Academy (ERA) is perhaps the most distinctive feature of an ERA education. Successful completion of four years of Humane Letters (grades 9-12) is required of all ERA graduates. The Humane Letters program involves the serious and extensive study of the “Great Books” of the Western (Classical) Tradition. Students studying these works become familiar with many of the most important human efforts to capture what is true, good, and beautiful in the world around us and in ourselves. Specifically, the Humane Letters program pursues the important questions humans have asked regarding human nature itself, morality, politics, religion, and happiness.

We study these works (no textbooks!) in historical sequence beginning with the ancient Greeks in 9th grade and finishing in 12th grade with modern American and European history. Each course meets two hours per day using the “Socratic” seminar method of learning, which primarily involves daily discussion of the assigned readings, and calls for the very best in reading, thinking, and discussion from both student and teacher. These works are often difficult to read and understand, but with the guidance of the teacher and the consistent, serious, thoughtful participation of every student, everyone involved is brought to a much deeper understanding of the world, the human community, and especially of themselves—as intellectual, social, political, moral, psychological, even spiritual human beings. Clearly then, expectations for ERA Humane Letters students are high. We have found that students who love to read, discuss, think, and write about such issues are amply rewarded for their efforts.

The Humane Letters program is literature-based and is designed to meet the state of Minnesota graduation requirements for four years of both History and English. Thus, Humane Letters students will study the history of each relevant period and write formal essays and other written assignments. But as indicated above, students will also address issues regarding politics, ethics, economics, philosophy, religion, science, as well as other areas of human interest and discovery.

9th Humane Letters: The Ancient World (2.0 credits) In the first year of the Humane Letter seminar, students are introduced to the great works of the ancient world. Typically, students will read Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, many Greek and Roman plays, works by Herodotus and Thucydides, the philosophy of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, pieces from Republican and Imperial Roman authors such as Livy, Caesar, and Virgil, selections from Augustine and other early church fathers, and other works as time permits. Students are also introduced to the formal analytical essay and its various modes of development.

10th Humane Letters: The Medieval World (2.0 credits) The second year of the Humane Letters seminar introduces the formation and early development of Europe, focusing on the history, culture, and literature of the medieval and Renaissance eras. Students typically read Boethius’ *Consolation of Philosophy*, *Beowulf* selections from Thomas Aquinas’ *Summa Theologiae*, Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*, Machiavelli’s *The Prince*, Thomas More’s *Utopia*, several plays by William Shakespeare, multiple primary sources, and other works as time permits. Students continue to develop their formal essay writing skills.

11th Humane Letters: The Enlightenment/Industry World (2.0 credits) In their third year, students study the great works of the Enlightenment, Industrial Age, and Romantic Era. The reading list may include: Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, Cervantes’ *Don Quixote*, Descartes’ *Meditations*, the United States’ Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, Constitution, as well as other works by Austen, Kant, Nietzsche, and Lincoln as time permits. They continue their formal essay writing with a view toward mastery of the essay.

12th Humane Letters: The Modern World (2.0 credits) In their final year, students will focus primarily on the emergence of modern Europe and America. Works to be read include: Dostoevsky’s *Crime and Punishment*, Wilde’s *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, World War I and World War II primary sources, Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby*, Faulkner’s *The Sound and The Fury*, Orwell’s *1984*, 1950’s and 1960’s primary sources, Morrison’s *Song of Solomon*, and other works as time permits. Students will complete the Senior Capstone Experience throughout second semester.

SINGLETONS (Required)

Logic: The Art of Reasoning (0.5 credit) Logic is one of the traditional liberal arts taught in ancient Greece. This course is designed to develop the students' reasoning and analytical skills so that their thinking, speaking, and writing become clearer, more orderly and, ultimately, more compelling. The course introduces students to various kinds of logical argumentation including an in depth study of syllogisms, and formal fallacies. As time permits, other topics such as informal fallacies are discussed.

Healthy Living (0.5 credit) This semester course introduces health concepts and skills, and challenges students to apply these skills to develop a healthy lifestyle. Students will reflect on a principle centered philosophy for a life filled with values/virtue. Students will be challenged to achieve the Private Victory: The ability to take responsibility, earn independence, set and accomplish goals, and excel in personal/time management. Students will also be challenged to achieve the Public Victory: The ability to build relationships, to truly listen to others, become self-aware of their actions, collaborate, and problem solve for an effective win/win. To help us achieve these victories we need renewal. These renewal practices help us become the best version of ourselves. The focus is on the four dimensions of the Body, Mind, Heart, and Soul. Body - to exercise, eat nutritious meals, sleep well, and relax. Mind - to read, write, educate, and learn new skills. Heart - to build relationships, give service, and laugh. Soul - peaceful harmony, quality media, prayer, meditation, or time with nature. Health is for a lifetime. It starts here, but the rest is up to you.

Rhetoric: The Art of Persuasion (0.5 credit) Prerequisite: Logic As a formal discipline, rhetoric was also developed in ancient Greece by those who sought to persuade others, especially in the realms of law and politics. Like logic, rhetoric is seen as indispensable to the formal training of a well-educated person who is able to engage others on the pressing matters of the day. This course is designed to develop the students' ability to analyze and evaluate examples of discourse as a result of reading, watching, and listening and to famous speeches and demonstrate the results of these examinations via public speech. Students also study logos, pathos, and ethos, and incorporate what they have learned into their own rhetorical presentations.

Eastern Thought (0.5 credit) This course is designed to introduce students to the origins, history, politics, philosophy, religion, geography, and culture of important and influential non-Western cultures and civilizations. Readings are drawn from a wide range of traditions, including Sumerian, Egyptian, Hindu, Zoroastrian, Buddhist, Taoist, Confucian, and Islamic texts and scriptures.

Economics (0.5 credit) This course introduces students to basic elements of the major economic theories. Students become familiar with the economic system of the United States and how it operates. They explore the roles of various components of the American economic system. Students examine their roles as consumer, worker, investor and voting citizen. Topics of discussion include the Stock Market, comparative economic systems, and the impact of political and social decisions on the economy.

ART HISTORY

Art History I (0.5 credit) This required course covers the history of visual art from the roots of Western Civilization through the Golden Age of Greece and Rome, Medieval and Gothic Europe, to the Renaissance.

Art History II (0.5 credit) **Art History I is NOT a prerequisite.** This required course covers the history of visual art from the Early Renaissance through the High Renaissance; the Baroque period; Realism, Impressionism and countless other "-isms" of Modern Art.

AP Art History (1.0 credit) Students may take this course as an alternative to Art History I and II to satisfy the requirement. As stated by the College Board, this course should engage students at the same level as an introductory college art history survey. It involves critical thinking and should develop an understanding and knowledge of diverse historical and cultural contexts of architecture, sculpture, painting and other media. Students will examine and critically analyze major forms of artistic expression from the past and the present from a variety of cultures. While visual analysis is a fundamental tool of the art historian, art history emphasizes understanding how and why works of art function in context,

considering such issues as patronage, gender, and the functions and effects of works of art. Students should be good readers, writers, and be able to retain information without difficulty to be successful in this course.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Eagle Ridge Academy values the study of foreign languages with an emphasis on Latin. Learning Latin develops an appreciation of the beauty and order of the language itself. It explores Roman history and culture, develops grammar and vocabulary skills in Latin and other languages, including English, develops an ability to more easily learn other languages, and develops overall analytical skills. All Eagle Ridge Academy high school students are required to successfully complete two credits of high school Latin as well as two additional credits in either Latin or Spanish.

Latin I (1.0 credit) Latin I is designed for students with little or no previous Latin experience. Emphasis lies in translating, working with vocabulary, and learning history and culture. Students begin the Cambridge Latin Course series, using Units 1 and 2.

Latin II (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Latin I Emphasis lies in translating, working with vocabulary, and learning history and culture. Students continue the Cambridge Latin Course series using Unit 3.

Latin III (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Latin II Students continue to develop their ability to read and understand Latin, to study aspects of Roman history and culture, and to study the distinctive features of the authors whose works we are reading. Students finish the Oxford Latin Course series, Book 3, and then study authors such as Petronius.

Advanced Latin Prose (1.0 credit) 2017-2018 Prerequisite: Latin III This is a CIS (College in the Schools) concurrent enrollment course; students may earn 4 college credits through the University of Minnesota. Students further develop their translation skills by reading prose authors such as Caesar and Cicero. Students may take both the advanced Latin prose and advanced Latin poetry for credit.

Advanced Latin Poetry (1.0 credit) 2018-2019 Prerequisite: Latin III

This is a CIS (College in the Schools) concurrent enrollment course; students may earn 4 college credits through the University of Minnesota. Students further develop their translation skills by reading selections from Vergil's *Aeneid*. Students may take both the advanced Latin prose and advanced Latin poetry for credit.

Classical Greek I (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Latin III This is a CIS (College in the Schools) concurrent enrollment course; students may earn 5 college credits through the University of Minnesota. This course is an introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of classical Greek as written in Athens in the 5th and 4th centuries BCE. This course focuses on forms and simple constructions; students will read some simple, heavily adapted passages from ancient texts. Teacher approval required before registering for this course; completion of Latin III with a C- or better is highly recommended.

Classical Greek II (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Greek I This is a CIS (College in the Schools) concurrent enrollment course; students may earn 5 college credits through the University of Minnesota. This course is a continuation of beginning classical Greek I. This course focuses on more complex constructions including participles, clauses, and indirect discourse; students will read adapted passages from ancient texts.

Spanish I (1.0 credit) High School Spanish I students learn basic vocabulary and sentence structure in order to understand and communicate in the target language for everyday situations. Reading, writing, and listening skills are emphasized and cultural activities are included. Communicative skill development is achieved through a variety of activities and media.

Spanish II (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Spanish I Spanish II expands on the grammar and vocabulary concepts learned in Spanish I. All four language modalities (Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening) are incorporated into weekly activities. Students will expand their cultural study through readings, reports, and use of media.

Spanish III (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Spanish II This course will start with a review of the vocabulary and grammar concepts taught in Spanish I and II and then will expand into more advanced grammar concepts. There will be an emphasis placed on improving all four language modalities (Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening) as well as continued vocabulary expansion and introduction of additional verb tenses necessary for sight translation of Spanish texts. Students expand cultural understanding through readings, presentations, and exploration of traditional folk-lore and classical works from Spanish speaking countries. Students will be expected to participate primarily in Spanish for the majority of the class.

MATHEMATICS

Geometry (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra Geometry includes all topics of a high school geometry course, including perspective, space, and dimension associated with practical and axiomatic geometry. Students learn how to apply and calculate measurements of angle lengths, perimeter, areas, and volumes. Geometry introduces students to trigonometry and transformations. Students use logic to create proofs and constructions and work with key geometry theorems and proofs.

Algebra II (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Geometry Algebra II prepares students for calculus and includes explicit embedded geometry instruction. Algebra II reinforces trigonometry concepts and provides practice with statistics. Graphing calculator labs help students investigate and model mathematical situations. Ample time is spent developing geometric concepts and writing proof outlines. Real-world problems are addressed including applications found in other subjects such as biology, physics and chemistry.

Precalculus (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra II Precalculus fully integrates topics from algebra, geometry, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, and mathematical analysis. Word problems are developed throughout the problem sets and become progressively more elaborate. With regular practice, students will be able to solve challenging problems such as rate problems and those involving abstract quantities. Conceptually oriented problems help prepare students for college entrance exams such as the ACT and SAT.

Functions (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra II This yearlong course will provide a solid background in the areas of probability and statistics coupled with a review of essential algebraic concepts, with an emphasis in describing data, sampling, distribution, graphical representations, and probability. This course is intended to provide an alternative for students who wish to continue to take math and would prefer an option other than precalculus or AP calculus upon completion of algebra II.

AP Statistics (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra II Students will develop analytical and critical thinking skills by describing data patterns and departures from patterns, plan and conduct studies, use probability and simulation to explore random phenomena, estimate population parameters, test hypotheses, and make statistical inferences. . Students completing this course may qualify for college credit based on the College Board advanced placement test. A graphing calculator is required.

AP Calculus AB (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Precalculus Calculus AB is primarily concerned with developing students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach, with concepts, results and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally. The connections among these representations are highlighted. Students completing this course may qualify for college credit based on the College Board advanced placement test. A graphing calculator is required.

SCIENCE

Chemistry (1.0 credit) Topics covered include: matter and energy, atomic structure, bonding, the periodic table, the mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acid-base theories, redox and organic chemistry. Chemistry requires extensive laboratory work and written lab reports. This is a course required by the state of Minnesota.

AP Chemistry (1.0 credit) 2017-2018 Prerequisite: Chemistry AP Chemistry is a college-level chemistry course which involves hands-on labs. Advanced concepts include atomic structure, bonding theories, nomenclature, mole concepts, kinetics, thermochemistry, stoichiometry, equilibrium, and acid based concepts.

Biology (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: Chemistry This biology class is designed to survey topics ranging from zoology, botany, and physiology of living systems; to the interaction of organisms in ecosystems. It will also prepare students for advanced biology classes if they wish to take them in later years. This course involves laboratory work and written lab reports. This is a course required by the state of Minnesota.

AP Biology (1.0 credit) 2018-2019 Prerequisites: Chemistry and Biology The primary emphasis in the AP Biology course is on developing an understanding of concepts rather than on memorizing terms and technical details. Essential to this conceptual understanding are a grasp of science as a process rather than as an accumulation of facts; personal experience in scientific inquiry; recognition of unifying themes that integrate the major topics of biology; and application of biological knowledge and critical thinking to environmental and social concerns. The major themes covered will be: science as a process, evolution, energy transfer, continuity and change, relationship of structure to function, regulation, interdependence in nature, and science, technology and society. Students completing this course may qualify for college credit based on the College Board advanced placement test.

Physics (1.0 credit) Prerequisites: Chemistry, Biology, and Algebra II This course will teach the rules of nature, but emphasizes comprehension before computation. A conceptual way of looking at physics shapes the analytical thinking of all students. The concepts will be presented through reading assignments, lectures, demonstrations, videos, mathematics and graphing, hands-on lab work and written assignments.

AP Physics (1.0 credit) Prerequisites: Chemistry, Biology, Algebra II, and current enrollment in Pre-Calculus or teacher approval. AP physics is an intensive, full study of introductory topics in physics including Newtonian mechanics, waves and optics, thermal and fluid physics, electricity and magnetism, and modern physics. The course will prepare students for taking the AP physics exam. It will place a large emphasis on developing the scientific method through extensive and frequent laboratory experiences. The entirety of the AP physics curriculum will be covered before the exam. We will spend about two weeks before the exam reviewing topics and practicing. We will then have about a month of time remaining after the AP physics exam, during which time we will decide as a class the direction of the remainder of the course. This could include studying topics such as relativity or completing an in-depth project.

Anatomy (1.0 credit) (2017-2018) Prerequisites: Chemistry and Biology

This year long course is recommended for students interested in pursuing college majors in health, life science, and physical education, or just having an interest in how the body works. It explores the essential principles of the anatomy (structure) and physiology (function) of the human body. Through lecture, lab, and discussion of the body systems, students will gain an understanding of the human body and how each system is integrated to maintain overall functioning of the body. Units will include the skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems, as well as the cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems. Cats or fetal pig dissection is the culminating activity.

Astronomy I (0.5 credit) Prerequisite: Logic This semester-long course is designed to introduce students to some of the key concepts of astronomy for understanding our own little part of the universe. We will begin with a broad look at some of the most fundamental laws from physics and chemistry that govern our knowledge. We will then look outward to the stars to reveal the incredible variation that we see in terms of stellar birth, life, and death. Our view of the night sky will follow, focusing on telescopes,

celestial navigation, constellations, planets, comets, asteroids, the moon, and the like. We will get a chance to discover how other cultures have viewed and used the night sky since before written history. If time remains, we will conclude the semester with a look at the possibilities for life elsewhere in the universe and human survival of the evolution of space and time.

Astronomy II (0.5 credit) Prerequisite: Logic This semester-long course is intended to be taken either independently or as an extension of Astronomy 1. We will briefly review the fundamental laws of classical physics that shape our universe. We will then investigate the non-classical regime of cosmology including relativity, the stellar graveyard, quantum effects, the big bang theory, and the observable consequences of the aforementioned topics. We will also investigate the basics of telescopes and their capabilities. We will conclude the course with studying the limits of human capabilities of knowing and exploring the cosmos. This will include learning about the newest research being done in cosmology and prospects for technological development for travel to other parts of the universe.

FINE ARTS

Drawing (0.5 credit) Drawing is a semester course designed to give students in-depth experience with different approaches to drawing a variety of subjects including the figure while also developing skills and sensitivity to line, shape, color, value, texture, and composition. A variety of drawing media will be explored and mastered. Including, but not limited to: charcoal, graphite, conte crayon, India ink, chalk and oil pastel, and colored pencil.

Printmaking (0.5 credit) This semester long course is designed to explore basic printmaking techniques and processes including but not limited to: monotype, collagraph, block printing, etching, screen printing, and photocopy printing. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creation of their own artwork. Emphasis is placed on the elements and principals of art and design with a strong focus on composition, line quality, and color intensity.

2D Studio Art I (0.5 credit) This semester long art course is designed to explore the basic concepts in drawing, painting, and printmaking while learning technical skills used in the 2D Studio Art 2 advanced course. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creations of their own artwork. Emphasis is placed on building students' skills in sighting drawings and paintings and on the use of elements and the principals of art and design. Students will explore a variety of media that includes but is not limited to: graphite, India ink, charcoal, chalk pastel, colored pencil, acrylic paint, and printmaking inks.

3D Studio Art I (0.5 credit) This semester long art course is designed to explore the basic concepts in sculpture while learning technical skills used in the 3D studio II advanced course. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creation of their own artwork. Emphasis is placed on the elements and principals of art and design with a strong focus on form and texture. Students will explore a wide variety of sculptural media that includes but is not limited to: clay, cardboard, wire, and found objects.

Ceramics I (0.5 credit) This semester long course is designed to explore basic hand building techniques in clay while learning technical skills needed in ceramics II. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creation of their own artwork. Emphasis is placed on the elements of art and design with a strong focus on form and texture. Students will explore a variety of clay hand building techniques that will include but are not limited to: coil, slabs, and extruding.

Ceramics II (0.5 credit) Prerequisites: Ceramics I plus one additional art course This semester long course is designed to explore basic throwing techniques in clay using the potter's wheel. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creation of their own artwork. Emphasis is placed on the elements of art and design with a strong focus on form and texture. Students

will explore a variety of clay thrown forms that will include but are not limited to: cylinders, bowls, cups, mugs, plates, and stems.

2D Studio Art II (0.5 credit) Prerequisites: 2D plus one additional art course. This semester long course is designed to explore advanced concepts in drawing and painting while building on technical skills learned in the 2D studio I course. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creation of their own work. Emphasis is placed on building students' skills in increasingly complex media including but not limited to: oil pastel, oil paint, watercolor pencil, watercolor paint, and mixed media. 2D studio I is a prerequisite for this course.

3D Studio Art II (0.5 credit) Prerequisites: 3D plus one additional art course. This semester long course is designed to explore advanced concepts in sculpture while building on technical skills learned in the 3D studio art I course. Students will study and critique historical and contemporary artists' work to inform the creation of their own artwork. Emphasis is placed on problem solving and how to develop personal art while following general guidelines. Students will explore a variety of sculptural media that will include but is not limited to: foam, plaster, cardboard, and wire.

AP Studio Art: 2D (1.0 credit) Prerequisites: 2D plus two additional art courses. As stated by the College Board; The AP studio art portfolios are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. AP studio art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. The AP studio art program consists of three portfolios — 2D design, 3D design and drawing — corresponding to the most common college foundation courses. 2D design will include: 5 actual works that demonstrate mastery of design in concept, composition and execution; 12 digital images; some may be details works describing an in-depth exploration of a particular 2D design concern; 12 digital images; 1 image each of 12 different works a variety of works demonstrating understanding of the principles of 2D design.

AP Studio Art: 3D (1.0 credit) Prerequisite: 3D plus two additional art courses. 3D design is a studio art course where students will design and implement three dimensional concepts. This is an intensive, product based course. In addition to multiple sculptures and working models, students will document their works, and create a digital portfolio. This class will prepare students to work three dimensionally in a variety of mediums, including clay, plaster, paper, wire, and more, and to develop ideas and maquettes for large scale sculpture and installations. Students will be evaluated on the breadth and depth of their portfolio, which will be submitted to the AP review board for approval of AP credit.

String Orchestra (0.5 credit) No audition is required for this course. Students who participate in string orchestra will further their musical skills through a large ensemble experience with other string players. Orchestra students play one of four instruments: violin, viola, cello, or double bass. Performances include two concerts per year plus a performance at graduation. Private lessons are not required to participate in the orchestra program, though are encouraged outside of school. Students will be evaluated on music literacy and playing ability. This course may be repeated for credit.

Concert Band (0.5 credit) No audition is required for this course. Concert band emphasizes continued instrumental technique and music literacy skills. Concert band includes both wind and percussion instruments. Performances include two concerts per year plus a performance at the Veteran's Day assembly. Students will be evaluated on music literacy skills and playing ability. This course may be repeated for credit.

Choir (0.5 credit) Eagle Ridge Chorale is a high school singing ensemble designed to help students develop a deeper awareness and appreciation of music theory, singing techniques, music history, and performance. The choir curriculum at Eagle Ridge Academy is an extension of the Core Knowledge Curriculum, as well as national and state level music learning standards. This course will explore choral music from many different viewpoints. Our studies will emphasize the application of music theory, examine choral literature from various historical time periods, teach proper singing technique, and establish performance methods. No audition is required.

ELECTIVES

American Government: The Founding (0.5 credit) Through an exploration of primary documents and for example, correspondence by the founders, this course will develop student understanding of the form and function of the government of the United States. Including but not limited to are: Federalist and anti-Federalist writings, letters between founders, notes of the Constitutional Convention, exploration of written work by John Locke, and if accessible Roman Republic writings or those of the earliest democracies in Greece/Rome. Also key points of contention such as the debates leading up to the Connecticut Compromise will be explored.

Composition (0.5 credit) English composition is primarily a writing course. Students work on specific writing skills such as sentence structure/combining, paragraph development, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, and usage. The focus of the writing assignments is the assignments given in humanities. This is a highly recommended elective for all high school students.

Creative Writing (0.5 credit) Prerequisite: Composition or by teacher recommendation. This course is designed to give students exposure to the realm of creative writing. Students will analyze and create pieces from the following genres: poems, short stories, creative non-fiction, and entertaining drama. The final project of this course will be creating an all class anthology with a common theme.

History of Theatre (0.5 credit) This semester long course is designed to give students exposure to the history of theatre. Students will study the key time periods and movements in the history of theatre. This study will be enriched through reading representative texts throughout the course of the semester.

Physical Wellness and Fitness (0.5 credit) Prerequisite: Healthy Living This elective course is designed to allow students to experience lifetime activities. Emphasis will be placed on the continued development of student knowledge and basic skills in such activities as team handball, ultimate frisbee, pickle ball, interval training, stretching techniques, weight training, circuit training, and other lifetime activities which are intended to develop overall strength, cardiovascular endurance, balance, and coordination, and improve physical wellness. Students will set goals, demonstrate safety, and develop positive attitudes towards fitness. Students will be required to purchase an exercise mat and an Eagle Ridge Academy PE uniform.

Teacher Assistance (0.5 credit) Students of junior or senior standing will choose if they would like to assist a classroom teacher in the School of Grammar, School of Logic, or School of Rhetoric. Duties are dependent on age level of the students in the class.

Yearbook (0.5 credit) In this semester long course, students receive guided instruction in the fundamentals of, photojournalism, graphic design, advertising, and organizational skills. Students will work with advanced technology, strengthen their analytical and problem-solving skills, and improve their communication skills. Please note: students will be expected to attend school events outside of the class period with the purpose of taking photos for the yearbook. Students do not need to provide their own cameras.