



DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

**COURSE CATALOG**  
**2018-2019**



# DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

## COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

### MISSION STATEMENT

Dexter Southfield School helps boys and girls develop their individual talents and build an ethical foundation for life. Students learn to lead with confidence, serve with compassion, and live by the motto, “Our Best Today, Better Tomorrow.”

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The School is committed to helping students select an academic program that aligns with their college planning and their academic ability. A student earning a diploma from Dexter Southfield will have successfully completed a minimum of 18-core academic course credits, including both required courses and electives. Course placement is based on individual interests and needs. In addition to the minimum 18 course credits, students must complete 2.0 credits in the Arts: 1.0 credit in Fine Art and 1.0 credit in Performing Art. Class 9 students are required to earn a 0.5 credit in Ethics; for students matriculating after Class 9, this 0.5 credit will be waived. Full-year courses earn 1.0 credit and semester courses earn 0.5 credit.

**Though most students far exceed the minimum requirement, the 18-core academic course requirement must include:**

<p><b><i>English, 4.0 credits minimum</i></b></p> <p>Students must be enrolled in an English course for all four years at Dexter Southfield.</p> <p><b><i>Mathematics, 3.0 credits minimum</i></b></p> <p>At minimum, students must complete the course sequence through Algebra II. All students are required to take mathematics for at least three years. Most students complete four years of study in mathematics.</p> <p><b><i>Science, 2.0 credits lab science minimum</i></b></p> <p>At minimum, students must complete a biology class and chemistry class. All Class 9 students must complete Biology. New students must fulfill the biology requirement, and credit from a prior school will transfer. Most students complete at least three years of study in Science. Students must complete a total of 5.0 combined credits in Science and History.</p>	<p><b><i>History, 2.0 credits minimum</i></b></p> <p>Students must complete United States History, and students must complete one additional full-year course in History. Most students complete at least three years of study in history. Students must complete a total of 5.0 combined credits in History and Science.</p> <p><b><i>Modern and Classical Languages, 2.0 credits minimum</i></b></p> <p>Students must complete through level III of a language and two years of a consecutive language in the upper school. Most students complete three or more years of study in a language.</p> <p><b><i>Arts, 2.0 credits minimum</i></b></p> <p>Students complete a minimum of 2.0 credits in the Arts over their four years of study. In the performing arts, students can elect to earn credit by performing in a theater production or by performing in Southfield Singers or Dextones. Each art course is worth .5 credit.</p>
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#### MINIMUM CORE ACADEMIC COURSE LOAD

In general, students will carry five core academic courses per semester and are required to maintain a core academic course distribution each semester with at least four major disciplines represented. In some cases, with approval of the Dean of Academics, students may choose to carry only four courses in a semester.

There is not one “exact” way to navigate the Dexter Southfield curricula; Classes 9 and 10 tend to follow a more prescribed course of study, while Classes 11 and 12 have expanded options and choices. Students will visit their four-year plan annually with their advisors, the Dean of Academics, and the College Office with the goal of creating a course of study which is both challenging and appropriate.

#### COURSE SELECTION

Students, teachers, and advisors work closely together throughout the year with course selections in mind. Starting in February, students and advisors work to design an appropriately challenging and reasonable course load for the following year. Honors and AP courses have grade qualifications that must be met for a student to enroll. Students matriculating into the upper school from another high school will be placed based on prior performance, standardized testing, and teacher recommendation. In some instances, the School may request that a placement test be taken. In the scheduling of junior and senior electives, seniors sometimes receive preference.

**Every effort is made to enroll students in their top requests; however, at times choices must be made when two or more requested courses conflict. Courses are offered in response to demand, schedules, and space.**

#### AP AND HONORS COURSES

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the prerequisite or a B or higher in a previous AP or Honors course and receive the approval of the respective Department Head.**

Honors and AP courses receive an additional point in the GPA calculation. Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the courses for the full year and to take the AP exams. These exams carry an additional fee.



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#### **GRADING**

Dexter Southfield uses a banded grading scale: A+ to F.

The minimum passing grade in a course is a D-, and a year-end failing grade must be made up by a summer course of study approved by the School.

Honors and High Honors are calculated at the end of each semester and at year end. Students who achieve an average grade of B+ or higher (with no grade lower than a B-) will receive the distinction of Academic Honors. Students who achieve an average grade of A- or higher (with no grade lower than a B-) will receive the distinction of Academic High Honors.

A student's weighted GPA is calculated at the end of each academic year; a cumulative weighted GPA will also be calculated at the end of each year. The GPA appears on a student's transcript but not on a student's report card.

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

A limited number of classroom accommodations are available to students with documented learning differences. In order to enlist these accommodations, a current psychoeducational evaluation report (within the last three years) must be provided to Academic Support for review and approval prior to implementation. It is often beneficial for a student to begin the year with his or her accommodations in place; to that end, we suggest submitting any paperwork for review before August 1.

#### **INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Any student rising to Class 12 who wishes to design a course or special project not specifically described in the School's curriculum may apply to the Academic Dean for permission to create a semester-length program. To apply for independent study, a student must be on track to complete all core academic requirements; demonstrate academic achievement, motivation, and self-discipline; and design a program so that the time commitment is equivalent to the time spent in any other major course. These programs will be graded and should occur within the normal academic schedule. It is expected that the student will make a public presentation to the faculty upon or near the completion of the project. Proposals must be submitted at least one full semester in advance.



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#### ENGLISH

The English curriculum is designed to teach the skills necessary for informed discussion; for close, critical reading of texts both literary and non-literary; and for clear, controlled, and strong writing. To these ends, every course includes substantial reading in important literature as well as frequent composition. Students build their understanding of not only what great writing means but also how authors construct meaning. Students develop their skills in writing both in their own time and within the limitations of class time. In every course there are workshops during which students examine writing samples by fellow students and others. Study includes selections from the major traditional genres: short fiction, lyric poetry, epic poetry, essay, novel, and drama. In addition to engaging in textual analysis, students are required to build their skills in oral presentation. As students progress through the levels offered in English, they become increasingly independent in reading, writing, and thinking.

#### REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to enroll in English every semester. Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the prerequisite, a B or higher in a previous Honors course or AP Course and receive the approval of the Department Head.** Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the courses for the full year and to take the AP exams. These exams carry an additional fee.

#### Literary Study

##### Full-year course

##### Prerequisites: Class 8 English or language arts

The first-year course in English is designed as an introduction to the formal study of literature. Students in Class 9 begin the year with a review of the basic elements of grammar, formal usage, and punctuation. Students also build their vocabularies and critical reading skills. So that students will have full exposure to a breadth of genres as well as a chance to read deeply, texts include an epic poem, a novel, a play, and selections of short fiction, non-fiction, and lyric poetry. Major texts may include *The Odyssey*, *Lord of the Flies*, *The Bean Trees*, *Macbeth*, and a selection of short stories. Composition in the first semester progresses from paragraph development through the five-paragraph essay, and the second semester of writing culminates with a three-five page essay using MLA documentation. The importance of making informed inferences is also emphasized. Frequent composition assignments include analytical, persuasive, and creative opportunities. Occasionally students review and edit each other's work in addition to revising their own, and they have individual discussions with the teacher about their writing.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ENGLISH

##### **Literary Study Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Department Approval**

Literary Study Honors is an accelerated introduction to the formal study of literature. Students enrolled in the class have developed some mastery of basic grammatical concepts, formal usage, and punctuation. Introduction to Literary Studies Honors shares the central goal of preparing students for future English courses by emphasizing the basics of clear writing, close reading, and critical thinking. However, the pace and level of sophistication of classroom participation, reading, and writing assignments are greater. The course is designed to provoke and inspire the most intellectually curious, disciplined, and creative English students. Students learn vocabulary words in context from the literature, moving these words from passive to active vocabulary in discussions and writing. Students are encouraged to lead class discussions and to engage in inquiry beyond the classroom. So that students will have full exposure to a breadth of genres as well as a chance to read deeply, texts include an epic poem, a novel, a play, and selections of short fiction, non-fiction, and lyric poetry. Major texts may include *The Odyssey*, *Lord of the Flies*, *The Bean Trees*, *Macbeth*, and a selection of short stories. Composition in the first semester progresses from paragraph development through the five-paragraph essay, and the second semester of writing culminates with a three-five page essay using MLA documentation. The importance of making informed inferences is also emphasized. Frequent composition assignments include analytical, persuasive, and creative opportunities. Occasionally students review and edit each other's work in addition to revising their own, and they have individual discussions with the teacher about their writing.

##### **Individual in Society**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Literary Study or Literary Study Honors**

Thematically concerned with the place of the individual in society, the English course for Class 10 builds on the foundation laid for students in their first year in the Upper School. The growth of vocabulary and the study of grammatical principles continue with workbooks and directed attention to readings. While writing begins with a review of the fundamentals of the paragraph, composition progresses quickly to the full expository essay using a variety of rhetorical patterns. By drafting and revising their critical and personal writing, students learn about structure and how to create different kinds of thesis statements as well as effective transitions, introductions, and conclusions. Moreover, by closely reading a variety of authors and genres, students gain an appreciation of style. Major texts may include *Frankenstein*, *Othello*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *Antigone*, and a selection of short stories and poetry. All students are expected to participate effectively in class discussion. Students also prepare for the PSAT, which students take in the spring of Class 10.



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#### ENGLISH

##### **Individual in Society Honors**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Literary Study or Literary Study Honors**

Although similar to Individual in Society in reading and writing objectives, the Honors course offers a challenge to able and dedicated students. This course introduces students to classic literary works from all genres and instructs students in the composition of personal essays and literary criticism. Given that these students have successfully begun the development of their personal voice in writing, the course turns to the use of that voice in a variety of contexts. Consequently, it differs somewhat from the regular course in pace, level of sophistication, and reading selections. Major texts may include *Frankenstein*, *Othello*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *Antigone*, and a selection of short stories and poetry.

##### **American Literature and Composition**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Individual in Society or Individual in Society Honors**

Through reading representative works of the best American writing, students gain a richer understanding of the self and society. Students will explore a variety of genres, including novels, short stories, plays, and poems, and continue to work on their critical thinking and analytical writing. American Literature and Composition begins with a review of the fundamentals of the paragraph, and students continue to develop their expository writing skills using a variety of rhetorical patterns. By drafting and revising their critical and personal writing, students learn about structure and how to create different kinds of thesis statements as well as effective transitions, introductions, and conclusions. Major texts may include *Americanah*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Beloved*, *Welcome to the Monkey House*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

##### **American Literature**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Individual in Society or Individual in Society Honors**

Students in American Literature study literary voices in America. The reading begins with shorter pieces from early writers in and about North America and moves well into the twentieth century. Throughout their study of the literature, students pay close attention to different kinds of rhetoric and evolving cultural myths that have grown out of the American experience. Students study lyric poetry, fiction, autobiography, nature writing, social and political argument, and journalism. Major texts may include *Americanah*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Beloved*, *Welcome to the Monkey House*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Composition in American Literature focuses mainly on techniques of expository and persuasive essay writing. In particular, students learn to attend to audience, to use concession, to use precision, and to manage tone. They also have opportunities to write personal essays. In American Literature students write a five-eight page research essay, in which students use primary and secondary sources to defend an argument.



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#### ENGLISH

##### **AP English: Language and Composition**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Individual in Society or Individual in Society Honors**

The AP English Language and Composition course exposes students primarily to representative American authors whose works span a “variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts” in order to model the rhetorical strategies and stylistic choices writers employ for diverse purposes. Students learn to be active, critical readers of American literature and to emulate those models in their own writing. In keeping with the spirit of the AP course description, this course first presents eighteenth and nineteenth century readings of autobiography, journal, sermon, and political writing that familiarize students with effective discourse for a variety of writing occasions. While the second semester’s major texts are drawn primarily from fiction, drama, and poetry, the course continues to reinforce the skills of rhetorical analysis. Major texts may include *Moby Dick*, *Americanah*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Beloved*, *Welcome to the Monkey House*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Further, students write research essays on a major modern American writer. This assignment entails the evaluation and synthesis of secondary sources to prepare students for success on the AP English Language and Composition Exam. Students will explore and write about the works not only through a reading of the text but also through the visual media of photography, cartoon, and film.

##### **AP English: Literature and Composition**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: American Literature or AP English: Language and Composition**

The AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in close reading and intensive writing about major works of British and world literature from the ancient through the modern period. By examining the way in which composite traits of the genres are manifested in great works, students elucidate literary texts on an experiential, interpretive, and evaluative level in order to produce cogent expository, analytical, and argumentative essays, grounded in specific evidence from the texts and in an understanding of those texts’ social and cultural contexts. In addition to the texts studied in depth throughout the course, students independently read prose works of fiction and drama throughout the year. Major texts may include *Norton Anthology of Poetry*, *Hamlet*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Fin*, *Heart of Darkness*, and *The Underground Railroad*. As both the reading schedule and writing assignments are commensurate with a college-level Introduction to Literature course and prepare students to take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam, students frequently practice composing essays in a timed environment in addition to longer essays using secondary sources and various critical perspectives on a given work.



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#### ENGLISH

**ELECTIVES:** Class 12 students not in AP English Literature and Composition take an elective each semester to fulfill their English requirement. Electives are reserved for students in Classes 11 and 12 to be taken in addition to the requirements.

#### **Senior Literature and Composition** **Semester course; offered Semester 1**

This class focuses on enabling students to produce clear and detailed writing through the reinforcement of skills in grammar and syntax. The level and type of instruction varies according to the ability and needs of the individual. The spectrum of individual goals ranges from writing complete sentences, paragraphs, thesis driven essays, to analytical research papers. Students review the basic paragraph structure and expansion of ideas, and instruction focuses on multi-paragraph writing. Topics may include learning how to divide a topic into sub-topics and elaborate on each, constructing transition sentences to link paragraphs, and writing overall topic and concluding sentences for the composition. Proper paragraph structure and elaboration of ideas are reinforced with every composition. Most writing assignments utilize the five-step writing process which provides support and structure for the student to brainstorm, outline, draft, proofread, and edit. In the first marking period, students focus on college essay writing as they prepare their applications. In the following marking period, students engage in expository writing for academics and everyday life .

#### **Rise of the British Gothic Novel** **Semester course; offered Semester 1**

The Gothic novel was the first type of popular novel in Britain, and it was viewed as a rebellious literary form because it focused on emotions and unexplainable events instead of reason and realism. The Gothic novel was most popular between 1764 and 1910. Characteristics of the Gothic novel from this period are still prevalent in contemporary literature and film. Gothic fiction is characterized by elements of anxiety, fear, and the supernatural. Curses, mystery, madness, subterranean passages, females in distress, decaying castles, and vampires are common in Gothic texts. Representative works may include Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, H.G. Wells's *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, Oscar Wilde's *Picture of Dorian Gray*, Thomas Mann's *Death in Venice*, a selection of short stories, and the Netflix show, *Stranger Things*.



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#### ENGLISH

##### **Shakespearean Comedies**

###### **Semester course; offered Semester 1**

This course will use Shakespeare's comedies as a means of understanding the Elizabethan/Jacobean world picture, underlying beliefs related to social class, Englishness, and the organization of the universe. It will explore humor as a means of social criticism and examine the extent to which happy endings are possible. Texts may include *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night*, and *The Winter's Tale*.

##### **Forbidden Fiction: Censorship in American Schools and Libraries**

###### **Semester course; offered Semester 1**

A glance at the Banned Books List yields some surprising and some not-so-surprising results. Popular works of fiction, such as J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter*, Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, and Dave Pilky's children's book *Captain Underpants* have been stripped from library shelves for reasons such as, condoning witchcraft, revealing sexually explicit language and content, and encouraging non-conformity. Throughout this course, students will explore the complex issues texts such as these present and the power of censors to ban this content. During their examination, students will explore a variety of genres, including novels, plays, poetry, memoirs, and graphic narratives by authors including Vladimir Nabokov, Anne Sexton, Ralph Ellison, Margaret Atwood, Alison Bechtel, and Jeanette Wells. Students will examine the texts through theoretical and cultural lenses as they ask how and why censorship occurs and the response it garners from authors and readers. Texts may include *Lolita*, *Transformations*, *Invisible Man*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Maus I and II*, and *The Glass Castle*.

##### **Literature of Social Justice**

###### **Semester course; offered Semester 1 and 2**

This elective spans the genres of world novel, essay, drama, and poetry of the nineteenth and twentieth century that bears witness to human injustice for a variety of social and political reasons. Working from the premise that the rise of industrialism and technology contributed to the devaluation of human worth, the course would start with the movement of German Expressionism in literature and art and move on to a selection of Holocaust literature and the poetry of Eastern Europe that bore witness to Stalin's war crimes and intellectual and artistic suppression. Twentieth century readings could span the subjects of political oppression in China, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East. Texts may include *The Machine Wreckers*, *Life and Times of Michael K*, *July's People*, *Against Forgetting: Twentieth Century Poetry of Witness*, *Salvador*, *Winged Seed*, and *The August Sleepwalker*.

##### **The Travelogue in Literature**

###### **Semester course; offered Semester 2**

This course will study novels that trace the journeys of the protagonist to places and people far from his or her home environment. These journeys are instrumental not only in defining the essence of the individual, but also in examining the societal values. Texts may include Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*, Martel's *Life of Pi*, and Salman Rushdie's *Luka and the Fire of Life*.



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#### ENGLISH

##### **Creative Writing: Fiction Workshop** **Semester course; offered Semester 2**

This course is designed around the notion that every writer is first and always a reader. Drawing on a variety of fictional works, students will learn from their techniques and craft original writing. We will read one Pulitzer Prize winning novel, one novella, a selection of short stories, and a book on the craft of writing. Discussions will focus on the craft of writing, analysis of our texts, and student writing. Several classes will be dedicated to original work. Students will use the readings as models for their own work and develop mastery of fundamental techniques of good writing, from basic grammar and usage to metaphorical language and plot structure. Representative works of literature may include Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, Norman McClean's *A River Runs Through It*, Sherwood Anderson's *Winesburg, Ohio*, Roy Peter Clark's *Writing Tools: 55 Essential Strategies for Every Writer*, and L. Rust Hills's *Writing in General and the Short Story in Particular*.

##### **American Drama** **Semester course; offered Semester 2**

Dreamy loners, dysfunctional families, and young people in search of love take the stage in this survey of American drama from the 1920s to today. In these plays the myth of the American dream evolves against a backdrop of ever-changing social and political values. Works may include plays by Eugene O'Neil, Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, August Wilson, Tony Kushner, and Wendy Wasserstein. During the semester the class will read and attend at least one play that is in production in the greater Boston area.



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## MATHEMATICS

The goal of the mathematics program is to develop the critical thinking and mathematical reasoning skills of each student. Teachers focus on the knowledge and mastery of skills and on their applications in real-life situations. Students are expected to learn to read, write, and speak effectively about mathematics, both independently and while working in groups. Daily homework problems are an essential component to each course, providing students with the opportunity to practice problem-solving. Multiple tests and quizzes during each marking period are designed to assess students' abilities to synthesize all current topics. Additional labs and projects supplement course concepts by providing students with hands-on applications. Regular and Honors sections, as well as electives, allow for the needs of each student to be met.

### REQUIREMENTS

To satisfy the requirement of three years of study, students must complete Algebra II. However, students are encouraged to take four years of mathematics in order to satisfy the entrance requirements of selective colleges and universities.

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the prerequisite or a B or higher in a previous AP or Honors course and receive the approval of the Department Head.** Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the courses for the full year and to take the AP exams. These exams carry an additional fee.

### Algebra I

#### Full-year course

#### Prerequisites: N/A

This is a standard first-year course in algebra. Topics covered include simplifying algebraic and numerical expressions, solving and graphing linear and quadratic equations, systems of linear equations, and working with inequalities. The focus on problem-solving provides an opportunity for students to apply the concepts covered to real-life situations.

### Geometry

#### Full-year course

#### Prerequisites: Algebra I

This course covers the traditional topics in geometry. Topics include the Pythagorean Theorem, parallel lines, similar triangles, congruent triangles, circles, area and volume, and a review of algebra.



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## MATHEMATICS

### **Geometry with Applications**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra I**

This course covers traditional topics in geometry emphasizing discovery along with the development and application of algebraic skills. Topics include the Pythagorean Theorem, parallel lines, similar triangles, congruent triangles, an introduction to trigonometry, circles, area, and volume. The course contains some work with formal geometric proofs, as well as a short unit reviewing topics that appear on the SAT, such as data analysis, counting principles, probability, and logical reasoning.

### **Geometry Honors**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra I**

Proof is a cornerstone of this comprehensive course in Euclidean geometry. There is a balanced treatment of important aspects of the subject: theory and applications, formal and informal reasoning, symbolic and visual thinking, and coordinate and transformational methods. Algebra skills are reinforced and applied throughout. The course contains some work with formal geometric proofs, as well as a short unit reviewing topics that appear on the SAT, such as data analysis, counting principles, probability, and logical reasoning.

### **Algebra II**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry, Geometry with Applications, or Geometry Honors**

This course continues to develop the students' algebraic skills and introduces elementary functions. Linear, absolute value, quadratic and polynomial, and rational, functions are explored both with and without the use of a graphing calculator. Additional topics include inverses, complex numbers, powers, radicals, inequalities, systems of equations, and SAT preparatory work.

### **Algebra II with Applications**

#### **Full-year Course**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry with Applications or Geometry Honors**

This course continues to develop the students' algebraic skills and introduces elementary functions with attention to graphing, evaluating, simplifying, solving, and modeling. Linear, absolute value, piecewise, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions are explored both with and without the use of a graphing calculator. Other topics include inequalities, inverses, complex numbers, systems of equations, sequences, series, counting methods, and probability.

### **Algebra II Honors**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry with Applications or Geometry Honors**

The course covers all of the topics of Algebra II. Topics such as quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, series and sequences, and conics are studied in detail. These functions are explored both with and without a graphing calculator.



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## MATHEMATICS

### **Pre-Calculus with Applications**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra II with Applications or Algebra II Honors**

This course includes a detailed study of trigonometry. New topics, such as conic sections and matrices are introduced. There is continued study of sequences and series, combinations, permutations, probability, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions with and without the use of a graphing calculator. The application of these topics to real-world problems is emphasized and developed throughout the course.

### **Pre-Calculus Honors**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisite: Algebra II with Applications or Algebra II Honors**

This course includes a detailed study of trigonometry. New topics, such as conic section, parametric equations, and polar coordinates are introduced. There is continued study of sequences and series, combinations, permutations, probability, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions with and without the use of a graphing calculator. During the later portion of the course introductory calculus topics are introduced in preparation for AP Calculus.

### **AP Statistics**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Algebra II with Applications or Algebra II Honors**

This college-level course introduces the concepts of elementary probability, descriptive and inferential statistics, and experimental design. With the use of a graphing calculator, computation is de-emphasized, and the focus is on communicating and interpreting statistics. The course requires students to describe data, make conclusions based on statistical analysis, and communicate these conclusions through written explanations. Students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Statistics.

### **AP Calculus AB**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus with Applications or Pre-Calculus Honors**

This college-level course in differential and integral calculus focuses on conceptual understanding and thinking skills. It follows the content, goals, and philosophy of the reform calculus curriculum and makes extensive use of the graphing calculator to explore ideas and to solve problems. Students will be required to take the AB version of the Advanced Placement Examination in Calculus.



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## MATHEMATICS

### **AP Calculus BC**

**Full-year course**

**Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors**

This college-level course focuses on conceptual understanding and thinking skills and follows the content, goals, and philosophy of the reform calculus curriculum. It extends the study of differential and integral calculus to power series, polar coordinates, and parametric equations. Students will be required to take the BC version of the Advanced Placement Examination in Calculus.

### **AP Computer Science Principles**

**Full-year course**

**Prerequisite: Algebra II with Applications or Algebra II Honors**

The fundamental computational, mathematical, and reasoning skills used in computer science provide the focus for this course. Topics include number systems and ways of expressing information, algorithms (breaking large problems into smaller, solvable pieces), ways computers work and communicate with each other and with humans, and social and ethical issues surrounding modern computer use.

**ELECTIVES:** Electives are reserved for students in Classes 11 and 12 to be taken in addition to the requirements.

### **Problem Solving**

**Full-year course**

**Prerequisites: Algebra II course**

This course in problem solving strategies focuses on mathematical reasoning and critical thinking by emphasizing that there are many ways to solve any problem. These strategies can be used in many different situations, in and out of the classroom, and they are particularly helpful when taking standardized tests such as the ACT and the SAT. Skills in written and oral communication are enhanced in presentations, group work, and written solutions.

### **Statistics**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Algebra II course**

This course introduces the principles of statistical reasoning to develop the skills of asking thoughtful questions, analyzing data, and drawing sound conclusions. Students use appropriate technology as they apply real data to the analysis of sports topics. In addition, there are frequent opportunities to investigate an athlete or team of interest and synthesize important concepts studied.



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## MATHEMATICS

### **Discrete Math**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Algebra II course**

The word discrete in math refers to quantities that can be counted. This course will explore discrete topics through interesting and engaging real world problems such as “In how many ways can the seniors line up for graduation?” Topics will be drawn from this list: network problems, inductive reasoning, probability, set theory, graph coloring, graph theory, and combinatorics; the last two of these form the foundation upon which modern computer science is built.

### **Calculus I**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus course**

This course introduces the two major ideas of calculus – the derivative and the definite integral and how they relate to each other – on a conceptual level using graphs, numerical values, and applications. The derivative of a function is then explored in depth, as we learn analytic techniques and also take advantage of the power of graphing calculators to help us solve interesting and challenging real world problems.

### **Calculus II**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisite: Calculus I**

Further work with applications of the derivative leads to antiderivatives and functions defined by integrals. As in the first semester, a combination of analysis and technology enables us to solve sophisticated problems, this time with integrals. Both courses are appropriate for students intending to continue calculus in college or who may need this understanding for the study of social or natural sciences or business.

### **Mathematical Modeling**

**Semester course; offered Semester I**

**Prerequisite: Algebra II course**

This course is built around thematic units that apply math concepts to the decision-making process. Learning happens through problem solving, lab activities using Excel and graphing tools, writing assignments, and classroom presentations for which students synthesize the ideas developed in a unit. Examples of topics include college choice and tuition, alternative energy, architecture and design, and the marketing and financing of a business.



DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

**COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019**

**MATHEMATICS**

**Multivariable Calculus**

**Full-year course; not offered 2018-2019**

**Prerequisite: Score of 3 or higher on the AP Calculus BC Exam**

This college level course is for students who have successfully completed AP Calculus BC and are interested in continuing their study of higher mathematics. It extends the ideas and techniques of single variable calculus to two and three dimensions. Topics include vectors and the geometry of space, vector valued functions, functions of several variables with applications of the derivative, multiple integration, and differential equations.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### SCIENCE

The Science Department faculty assists students in developing the knowledge and skills for investigation, interpretation, and comprehension of the natural world. Full-year courses in the major disciplines of physics, chemistry, and biology, as well as semester electives are offered. Using current technology, laboratory materials, and scientific resources, students build their skills and explore their interests.

Each student is expected to document a familiarity with laboratory equipment as well as a mastery of the way in which data are properly reported. Additionally, cooperative learning stands at the forefront of the laboratory curriculum; during their labs, students work collaboratively to gather, report, and evaluate data. Graduates of Dexter Southfield will be well prepared to discuss the application of science to current events and continue their studies in college.

#### REQUIREMENTS

To satisfy the requirement of two years of study, students must take a biology course and a chemistry course. However, students are encouraged to take a physics course and four years of science to satisfy the entrance requirements of selective colleges and universities. Students may choose from several options of study.

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon several factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the prerequisite or a B or higher in a previous AP or Honors course and receive the approval of the Department Head.** Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the courses for the full year and to take the AP exams. These exams carry an additional fee.

#### Biology

##### Full-year laboratory course

##### Prerequisites: N/A

This survey course explores the fundamental processes of life through scientific inquiry. Students study living organisms, from the simplest cells to the most complex organisms. They also study the evolution of life, from the origins of all species to the interaction of ecosystems and the impact of humankind. Topics include cell biology, evolution and biodiversity, molecular biology, genetics, synthetic biology, selected topics in human physiology, ecology, and an examination of our role as stewards of the environment. Group and laboratory work are an integral part of the course curriculum and are designed to develop skills and engage students in the process of scientific inquiry. Laboratory work focuses on scientific inquiry and the use of Vernier probe-ware for data collection. Students participate in a month-long Biotechnology Lab-based unit sponsored by Amgen and the Harvard Outreach Program.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

## SCIENCE

### **Biology Honors**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: Department Approval**

This survey course explores the fundamental processes of life through scientific inquiry at an accelerated pace and higher level of rigor. Students study living organisms, from the simplest cells to the most complex organisms. They also study the evolution of life, from the origins of all species to the interaction of ecosystems and the impact of humankind. Topics include cell biology, evolution and biodiversity, molecular biology, genetics, synthetic biology, selected topics in human physiology, ecology, and an examination of our role as stewards of the environment. Group and laboratory work are an integral part of the course curriculum and are designed to develop skills and engage students in the process of scientific inquiry. Laboratory work focuses on scientific inquiry and the use of Vernier probe-ware for data collection. Students participate in a month-long Biotechnology Lab-based unit sponsored by Amgen and the Harvard Outreach Program. This course will cover most of the topics in the SAT II biology subject test.

### **AP Biology**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: Biology or Biology Honors**

This course is the equivalent of a general college-level biology course and is designed to be taken only after successful completion of first courses in high school Biology and Chemistry. It follows the AP guidelines for content and Laboratory Curriculum and covers a broad range of topics, including cellular and molecular biology, heredity and evolution, organisms, populations, and ecology. All students are required to take the AP Biology exam. The lab curriculum will include molecular biology, cell energetics, and other required aspects of the AP curriculum. In addition to guided laboratory activities, students will complete an independent research project on a topic of their choice related to their study of biology. With guidance, they will conduct background research, design and perform experiments, organize and analyze data, and write a scientific paper to present their work.

### **Chemistry**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: Biology or Biology Honors**

Students will study the nature and composition of matter and the changes that matter undergoes with an emphasis on connections to everyday life. Demonstrations supplement class discussion, with an emphasis upon projects and experiments. Students will do some design lab assignments and present their results to the class.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

## SCIENCE

### **Chemistry Accelerated**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: Biology or Biology Honors**

Students will study the nature and composition of matter and the changes that matter undergoes with an emphasis on connections to everyday life, including green chemistry. Demonstrations supplement class discussion, and a premium is placed upon experimentation in the science laboratory, including lessons on accurate reporting of scientific work. Topics covered include atomic structure, chemical notation and reactions, behavior of matter, bonding, acids and bases, nuclear chemistry, and chemistry of life sciences.

### **Chemistry Honors**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: Biology, Geometry**

Students will study the nature and composition of matter and the changes that matter undergoes with an emphasis on connections to everyday life, including green chemistry. This course will provide all the topics included in the SAT II subject test in chemistry. Demonstrations supplement class discussion, and a premium is placed on experimentation in the science laboratory, including lessons on accurate reporting of scientific work. Topics covered include atomic structure, chemical notation and reactions, behavior of matter, bonding, acids and bases, nuclear chemistry, and chemical equilibria.

### **AP Chemistry**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: Biology or Biology Honors and Chemistry with Applications or Chemistry Honors**

This college-level course focuses on conceptual understanding and thinking skills while exploring the following topics: calculations and uncertainty; atoms, molecules, and ions; stoichiometry; gases; thermochemistry; atomic structure and periodicity; chemical bonding; liquids and solids; properties of solutions; chemical thermodynamics; chemical kinetics; chemical equilibrium; acids and bases; electrochemistry; and nuclear chemistry. Directed and independent laboratory investigations employing traditional techniques, as well as computer/probe technology, are a major component of the course. Students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Chemistry.

### **Physics Accelerated**

#### **Full-year laboratory course**

#### **Prerequisites: biology course, chemistry course, Geometry, and Algebra I**

This course emphasizes an activity-based approach to anchor concepts in hands-on experiences. In a typical class period, students will work collaboratively to collect and analyze data. Mathematical problem solving is not emphasized. Newtonian mechanics and simple electric circuits comprise the core content. The ambitious student would be prepared to take the SAT II subject test in physics with supplemental reading.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### SCIENCE

##### **Physics Honors**

###### **Full-year laboratory course**

**Prerequisites: biology course, Chemistry with Applications or Chemistry Honors, and Algebra II**

This course offers a standard syllabus of Newtonian mechanics, electricity, wave motion, and quantum physics. Students will be prepared to take the SAT II subject test in physics. Both the development of laboratory skills and problem-solving technique is emphasized. The level of the course is between that of the standard physics course and the AP Physics course in terms of rigor and pace.

##### **AP Physics 1**

###### **Full-year laboratory course**

**Prerequisites: biology course, chemistry course, physics course, and AB Calculus, completed or concurrent**

Advanced Placement Physics 1 is an algebra-based course in general physics. The syllabus is designed by the College Board to be equivalent to an introductory, algebra-based, university-level physics course. The course emphasis is on understanding fundamental principles and refining critical thinking skills necessary for sophisticated problem-solving. Laboratory experiments and activities present students with an opportunity to experience and explore core concepts. Students will be required to keep a binder of all lab reports and to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

##### **AP Environmental Science**

###### **Full-year laboratory course**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

The goal of this course is to establish an understanding and appreciation of the complexity and precise functioning of the natural world around us. The course alternates between research and debate, discussion, lecture, and field investigation. With an in-depth study of major topics within the field of environmental science, students will focus on mastering information on ecosystems, soils, and agriculture, water resources, the atmosphere, pollution, and energy. Connections are made between environmental issues and human impacts in order to raise awareness and equip students to become part of a solution, and to take responsibility for stewardship and sustainability of the planet. The challenge of understanding and maintaining a sense of sustainable development in society today may be the single most pressing scientific issue that will confront our students throughout their lives. This course aims to establish a strong foundational knowledge of the interaction of humans and the biosphere and will serve to prepare them for the AP Environmental Science examination in May.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### SCIENCE

**ELECTIVES:** With the exception of the engineering sequence, which is open to all students, electives are reserved for students in classes 11 and 12 to be taken in addition to requirements.

**STEM: Engineering Design**  
**Full-year laboratory course**  
**For students in Classes 9-12**  
**Prerequisites: N/A**

Almost everything we own, wear, and use, was designed by engineers. In this hands-on, introductory course, students use professional tools and techniques to design and build their own projects. This full-year course is for anyone who wants to learn how things are made and how they work. Class sections are taught in the Clay Center's Space Science Laboratory by faculty members who are also professional engineers. Students use powerful 3-D Computer Aided Design (CAD) software and cutting-edge technology to model, analyze, and solve problems. The results are documented and communicated in the language of professional engineers. By the end of the year, students will know how to plan, design, and build almost anything.

**STEM: Principles of Engineering**  
**Full-year laboratory course; offered in alternating years with STEM: Digital Electronics**  
**Not offered 2018-2019**  
**Prerequisites: STEM: Engineering Design or Department Approval**

This is a course for those who want to apply science and mathematics to real-world problems. In this in-depth, project-oriented course, students learn the key concepts and creative problem-solving skills used by engineering professionals. Major topics include mechanisms, energy, statics, materials, kinematics, and computer programming. Class sections are taught in the Clay Center's Space Science Laboratory by faculty members who are also professional engineers.

**STEM: Digital Electronics**  
**Full-year laboratory course; offered in alternating years with STEM: Principles of Engineering;**  
**Prerequisites: STEM: Engineering Design or Department Approval**

All of the electronic devices we use – everything from flashlights to supercomputers to smart phones – were engineered. In this course, taught by an electrical engineer, students use state-of-the-art technical tools and software to study the underlying mathematics and physics of electrical engineering. They learn how engineers work in teams, how they simulate their designs, how they translate their designs into working systems, and how they communicate their results. Students will design and make a variety of electronic devices.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### SCIENCE

##### **Marine Biology**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

This semester course introduces students to the chemical, physical, and biological aspects of life in the ocean. Topics include the effects of salinity and temperature in the ocean, taxonomy of marine organisms, niches and anatomy of marine invertebrates, fish and mammals, and the human impacts on the ocean environment. Laboratory exploration focuses on the physical aspects of the ocean environment such as buoyancy as well as dissections of marine organisms. Students may establish and maintain marine and freshwater aquaria and participate in field trips.

##### **Neuroscience**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

In this course, students will be exposed to many of the exciting new discoveries related to the brain and how it functions. The course is not intended to be an introduction to neuroscience (which is more appropriately addressed at the college level). Rather, it is intended to give students an opportunity to learn about such topics ranging from how memories are formed and stored to the mechanism of depression; from gender differences in brain structure and function to synesthesia (a condition whereby peoples senses get mixed up); from the causes of and treatments for Alzheimer's disease to the effects of cocaine on the brain. The class is modeled after a graduate school seminar: students will lead and participate in discussions on specific topics, based on readings from the scientific literature. There is a heavy emphasis on the interpretation of data, analysis of methodology, and experimental design. Furthermore, creative thought is required for the discussions on the best path to take for future research.

##### **Forensics**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

This course challenges students to apply the concepts and techniques presented in their Chemistry, Biology core courses to the study of forensic science. Students will explore the techniques required to collect, process, and analyze forensic data; learn the theory and practice of collecting and working with DNA evidence; explore the use of databases; interpret data using the tools and techniques of molecular biology; carry out chemical and physical analysis of materials; sharpen their observation skills; use math skills to analyze and interpret fracture angles and spatter patterns. Specific topics include analysis of physical evidence, fingerprinting, trace and transfer evidence, DNA, and forensic serology.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### SCIENCE

##### **MEDscience**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

MEDscience is an innovative high school science program that combines hands-on clinical cases and classroom lessons. The curriculum is based on the idea that the science in medicine is more than biology- it is the chemistry of membrane and molecules, it is the physics of cardiac vectors, surface tension and tensile strength and the sociology and anthropology underlying the social deterrents of disease. The MEDscience curriculum brings all these sciences together showing the student the integrated complexity of human life and inspiring them to find their place in the mystery! Topics covered include the respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, nervous, and immune systems. Curriculum requires students to travel to Harvard Medical School weekly and participate in ER-simulated case studies. Copyright 2015 Harvard Medical School, MEDscience Program

##### **MEDscience LAB**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

The MEDscience LAB program will be an experience-based education program designed as a natural progression of the current MEDscience curriculum. The aim of this class is to explore and broaden MEDscience through a molecular, cellular and genetic discovery while equipping the students with immediate employable research and laboratory skills. Each Laboratory activity is connected to a deeper understanding of human health/disease and is focused on topics that complement MEDscience. The program will continue to immerse novice high school students into the real world of sophisticated experimental lab research and medicine, foster in them an intense interest in life sciences, and develop a foundation for critical thinking, self-reflection, and effective communication. Students will work in collaboration with Harvard Medical School instructors. Copyright 2018 Harvard Medical School, MEDscience LAB Program

##### **Astronomy**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

This introductory course begins with a brief overview of the development of astronomy from ancient times to the present. Studies of major topics in modern astronomy include stars, constellations, the Sun and solar system, cycles of motion in the sky, telescopes, spectroscopy, stellar life cycles, galaxies, and the structure of the universe. Astronomical observation is an integral part of the course, and students use the Clay Center Observatory's telescopes on selected evenings to augment classroom instruction. The coursework includes basic physics and mathematics needed to understand better the concepts at a level that is commensurate with Algebra I.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### SCIENCE

##### **Myth Busters**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

After introductory lessons model how the scientific method answers questions, students will create questions of their own. Applying their previously learned science skills, they will design an activity to answer their questions and then actually perform the activity.

##### **Modern Physics (Bombs, Black Holes, and The Big Bang)**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

The goal of this course is to explore the rich history of physics developments in the last century. The format is a non-laboratory seminar in which we will discuss video clips from YouTube and readings from Wikipedia and physics popularizations. Topics include Einstein's famous  $E=mc^2$  formula, the making of the atomic bomb, the Big Bang, neutrinos, super materials, and gravitational waves. Students will have considerable input on the topics explored. Assessments will include quizzes, tests, and one research presentation.

##### **Maker Lab**

**Semester course; offered Semester**

**Prerequisites: biology course and chemistry course**

Unleash your inner maker. At its core, making is about rediscovering our pleasure in creating things. Making is about the freedom to play, to share, to build, and to pursue our own interests. The Maker Lab is a project-based studio class in which students will learn how to solder, sew, bake, and 3D print. Students will keep a log of their successes, setbacks, and inspirations. The culmination of the course is a presentation of student projects.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

## HISTORY

The History Department strives to develop a student's intellectual capacities and acquisition of material knowledge in preparation for a lifetime of learning and engagement as active citizens in today's world. The history curriculum is designed to awaken a student's interest in what has happened in the past and how previous events shape and shed light on current events. Insights are sought by investigating specific events as well as broad trends. Courses focus on the order of historical events as well as the major social, cultural, economic, and political themes. History is examined by analyzing both primary and secondary sources as well as questioning the reliability of the historical record itself. Students are exposed to the past through historical text and other materials such as maps, photographs, films, and biographies. A variety of classroom activities brings alive controversies from the past and provides insight into critical issues of the present.

### REQUIREMENTS

Two full years of history, including United States history, are required for graduation. Electives are not included for this purpose.

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the preceding history course or a B or higher in the preceding AP or Honors history course and receive the approval of the Department Head.** Students enrolled in AP courses take the AP exams in May; these exams carry an additional fee.

#### **Ancient and Medieval World History**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: N/A**

Ancient and Medieval World History examines the history and culture of the ancient civilizations of the world through the end of the Middle Ages. The course covers topics such as Early Civilizations in Africa, Asia, India, and China, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Civilizations of the Americas, the Middle Ages in Europe, the Byzantine Empire and Russia, the Muslim World, Kingdoms of Africa, and the Spread of Civilizations in East Asia.

#### **Ancient and Medieval World History Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Department Approval**

Ancient and Medieval World History Honors covers the same content as Ancient and Medieval World History but is designed to further challenge students with additional material at an accelerated pace. The course will deepen their understanding by approaching the material from multiple perspectives.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

## HISTORY

### **Modern World History**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Department Approval**

Modern World History examines the history and culture of the world from the Renaissance to the Modern Era. The course covers topics such as the Renaissance and Reformation, Age of Exploration, Age of Absolutism, Enlightenment and Revolution, Industrialism and the New Global Age, Twentieth Century World Wars and Revolutions, and the World Since 1945.

### **Modern World History Honors**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: Department Approval**

Modern World History Honors covers the same content as Modern World History but is designed to further challenge students with additional material at an accelerated pace. The course will deepen their understanding by approaching the material from multiple perspectives.

### **United States History**

#### **Full-year course**

#### **Prerequisites: one full year of world history**

United States History examines the history of America from colonization to the present. The course covers topics such as European Colonization, Growth of the American Colonies, the Road to Independence, Origins of American Politics, Emergence of a New Nation, Civil War and Reconstruction, Expansion of the Nation, Emergence as a World Power, World War I, Prosperity and Depression, The New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, Activism and Change, and Continuity and Change in the Modern Era.

### **United States History 1 and 2 (two sequential full-year courses)**

#### **Full-year courses**

#### **Prerequisites: one full year of world history**

United States History examines the history of America from colonization to the present. The course covers topics such as European Colonization, Growth of the American Colonies, the Road to Independence, Origins of American Politics, Emergence of a New Nation, Civil War and Reconstruction, Expansion of the Nation, Emergence as a World Power, World War I, Prosperity and Depression, The New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, Activism and Change, and Continuity and Change in the Modern Era. This course is designed to cover the historical material over two years with an added emphasis on developing necessary historical skills.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### **HISTORY**

##### **AP United States History**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: one full year of world history**

###### **Not available to students who have taken U.S. History or U.S. History 1 and 2**

United States History is offered to qualified students who wish to complete studies in secondary school equivalent to an introductory college course in United States history. The course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and developments in United States history. The course material matches the AP Topic Outline and uses a survey approach in which a textbook, with supplementary readings in the form of original documents and secondary sources, provides the substantive and thematic coverage. Students may take the AP United States History Exam in May.

##### **AP Economics**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: one full year of world history and U.S. History or AP U.S. History**

AP Economics covers two courses in economics: AP Macroeconomics and AP Microeconomics. Each course corresponds to one semester of a typical introductory college course in economics. AP Macroeconomics focuses on principles that apply to economic systems as a whole. AP Microeconomics focuses on the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. Students may take either the AP Macroeconomics Exam or the AP Microeconomics Exam, or both, in May.

##### **AP U.S. Government and Politics**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: one full year of world history and U.S. History or AP U.S. History**

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study the U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. Students may take the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam in May.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### **HISTORY**

**ELECTIVES:** Electives are reserved for students in Classes 11 and 12 and are to be taken after the two full-year history course requirement has been satisfied.

#### **Constitutional Law: The Role of the Supreme Court**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: one full year of world history and U.S. History or AP U.S. History**

This course examines the role of the Supreme Court in the constitutional democracy of the United States. By analyzing significant court cases, students will examine the impact of the “third branch” of the federal government on American politics, economics, society, and culture. Students will focus on how the Court's policymaking sometimes leads, reinforces, or lags behind the values of American society and will gain a deeper understanding of the complexity of the legal process and its evolution.

#### **History of Boston**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: one full year of world history and U.S. History or AP U.S. History**

This course investigates the history of the Boston area and surrounding New England. The course focuses on important historical, economic, social, political, and cultural characteristics of Boston and the region, including important historical figures, the impact of immigration, and local issues of class, race and gender. Beginning with the relations between Native American cultures and the early European settlers, we look at how the events in the Northeast developed a framework for the founding and evolution of the United States overall. We also review the economic and social development of the region, including the development of cultural institutions such as the great universities and museums. We will use the books listed below as well as other primary and secondary sources, including a review of significant current day news items.

#### **Women in American History: From Salem to Steinem**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: one full year of world history and U.S. History or AP U.S. History**

This course will explore the role of women in participating, shaping, and writing American History. The goal of this course is to expose students to different voices and experiences and show the complexity and diversity of our nation's history. We will answer what it means to be a woman in America and examine how that answer has changed and continues to change over time. Beginning with the challenges of colonial life for both colonial women and Native American women, this course will examine major moments in Women's History: The Revolutionary War, the role of all women in the Civil War, the Suffrage Movement, WWI and WWII, Second Wave Feminism, and ending with a focus on women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and current challenges they face. We will use a variety of primary and secondary historical sources, as well as popular literature and film.



DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

**COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019**

**HISTORY**

**Modern Conflicts**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: one full year of world history and U.S. History or AP U.S. History**

This course examines the major conflicts of the modern world from the end of World War II to the present. By focusing on the causes and effects of instability and conflict in the world today, students will gain a deeper understanding of current events and threats to international peace. The course will analyze the significant international and regional conflicts which arose after World War II and throughout the Cold War period and its aftermath, and it will examine the use of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and the role of the United States and international organizations in the world today.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### CLASSICS

Through the study of Latin and Greek, students are exposed to numerous aspects of Western Civilization including the language, literature, culture, and mythology of the Romans and the Greeks. In the beginning courses, much emphasis is placed upon forms, vocabulary, and the development of strong translation skills. In the advanced courses, students explore Roman and Greek political views and Roman and Greek history as well as the literary and rhetorical devices used by ancient authors. Although the graduation requirement is the completion of three levels of language study, students are encouraged to continue studying the same language to the highest level possible.

While Latin is open for study to students in Classes 9-12, Greek I and Greek II are offered only to students in Classes 11 and 12. In addition, the study of Greek requires a two-year commitment.

#### REQUIREMENTS

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the prerequisite or a B or higher in a previous AP or honors course and receive the approval of the Department Head.** Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the courses for the full year and to take the AP exams. These exams carry an additional fee.

**At times an honors level course and college preparatory level course may run concurrently.**

#### Latin I Introduction

##### Full-year course

##### Prerequisites: N/A

This course introduces the fundamentals of Latin language, grammar, and vocabulary as well as the history, culture, and mythology of the Romans. Particular emphasis is placed on syntactical constructions, the connection between English grammar and Latin, and the development of literal translation skills.

#### Latin II

##### Full-year course

##### Prerequisites: Latin I

This course continues to develop a foundation of Latin language skills including the grammar, forms, and vocabulary studied in Latin I and continues the introduction to classical Latin with additional instruction in vocabulary and grammar. A focus is placed on solidifying comprehension of basic morphology and syntax. Throughout the year, students work on developing their translation skills and comprehension. Through Latin stories students are exposed to various aspects of Roman history and culture.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### CLASSICS

##### **Latin II Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Latin I**

This course provides a thorough review of the grammar, forms, and vocabulary studied in Latin I and continues the introduction to classical Latin with additional instruction in vocabulary, grammar, and more complex syntax. A focus is placed on building translation skills and comprehension. Through Latin stories students are exposed to various aspects of Roman history and culture.

##### **Latin III**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Latin II or Latin II Honors**

After a thorough grammar review, students explore Roman culture and history through a survey of authors. During the course of the year, students will progress from translating adapted prose to reading authentic Latin text. Through close readings of passages, students will gain an appreciation of ancient Roman politics, culture, history, and art.

##### **Latin III Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Latin II or Latin II Honors**

Through close readings of authentic Latin texts, students explore various aspects of Roman politics, culture, history, and art. This course focuses on helping student strengthen their understanding of complex grammar and syntax. As they solidify literal translation skills, students also develop an appreciation of the texts studied as literary works.

##### **Latin Literature Honors I**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: Latin III or Latin III Honors**

At this level, students read both Roman prose and poetry. Over the course of the year, students will continue to strengthen their grammar and translation skills while also focusing on the rhetorical elements of authentic Latin authors. Students continue to expand their appreciation of a range of Latin texts as literary works in their historical, cultural, and political contexts.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### CLASSICS

##### **AP Latin**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Latin III Honors or Latin Literature Honors I**

At this advanced level, students examine selections in Latin from Vergil's *Aeneid* and selections from Caesar's *De Bello Gallico*. A strong focus is placed on syntax, vocabulary, and literal translation of prescribed passages from Latin to English. In addition, students read selections from the *Aeneid* and *De Bello Gallico* in English. Through the works of Vergil and Caesar, students are exposed to various poetic and prose literary elements, Augustan propaganda, and the literary influence of both authors in their own time and in generations to follow. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

##### **Latin Literature Honors II**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Latin Literature Honors I or AP Latin**

In this advanced Latin class students focus on reading and understanding authentic Latin in its literary, historical, social, and political contexts. There is an emphasis placed on advanced literary devices, meter, and features unique to specific authors. Students are expected to analyze and engage critically with both the literal Latin and the English interpretation.

##### **Greek I**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Not Offered 2018-2019**

###### **Prerequisites: Latin III or Latin III Honors**

This is an introductory course to the language and culture of the ancient Greeks. A primary focus is placed on form recognition, vocabulary, and the development of translation skills.

##### **Greek II**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Not offered 2018-2019**

###### **Prerequisites: Greek I**

After an intensive review of Greek I, in which students complete the grammar essentials, emphasis is placed on the reading, context, and interpretation of original Greek. During the second semester, students may read selections from Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey* and Hesiod's *Theogony*.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### CLASSICS

**ELECTIVES:** Electives are reserved for students in Classes 11 and 12 to be taken in addition to the requirements.

##### **Greco-Roman Mythology and Art**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

In this course, students read many Greek and Roman myths in translation. In addition to considering the narratives in terms of their historical context and contributions to Western literature, students explore the intrinsically diverse and multicultural facets of the classical world through studies of art as seen in maps, sculpture, pottery and architecture.

##### **Roman Architecture**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

In this course students explore Roman architecture through a wide survey of monuments, buildings, and sites. Students expand their knowledge of western cultural identities, gain a better understanding of the classical world, and are encouraged to reflect upon 'who we are as humans' by learning about the objects, attitudes, and ideas brought forth by Roman architecture. Throughout the course, students improve their ability to analyze critically the cultural importance each site held at its inception.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

The study of modern languages provides students with the skills needed to communicate in an increasingly multicultural and global environment. Students not only learn to appreciate and to respect the common elements and differences of various societies and cultures, but they also learn to understand and value their own cultures. Although the graduation requirement is the completion of three years of high school study, students are encouraged to continue studying the same language to the highest level possible. Advanced Placement courses are offered to qualified students.

#### REQUIREMENTS

Honors and Advanced Placement (AP) sections are offered; course placements are based upon factors including prior performance, standardized testing, placement tests, and department approval. **In order to qualify for consideration for an Honors or AP course, a student typically must earn a year-end grade of A- or higher in the prerequisite or a B or higher in a previous AP or Honors course and receive the approval of the Department Head.** Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the courses for the full year and to take the AP exams. These exams carry an additional fee.

**At times an honors level course and college preparatory level course may run concurrently.**

#### SPANISH

The goals of the Spanish curriculum are to introduce students to the Spanish language, culture, and literature and to improve their listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities at each level. Completing various activities that use all four skills, participating in formal and informal assessments, and using multimedia resources, students develop their facility with the language. They acquire the communicative competence to understand the main ideas in conversation on a variety of topics, recognize important ideas and details in reading, and write effective paragraphs and short essays. Students have the opportunity to study the language for four years and to prepare for the AP exam.

##### **Spanish I**

**Full-year course**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

This course lays the foundation for language study and is a thorough introduction to Spanish. The teacher conducts the course in Spanish, commensurate to a beginning level. The students begin to develop the ability to communicate in real-life situations. Formal study of the language - grammar, syntax, pronunciation, and vocabulary - and its use - listening, speaking, reading, and writing - are the focus of the course. An introduction to the Spanish-speaking world through the study of geography and cultural practices and perspectives strengthens the students' understanding and appreciation of the language and its diverse cultures. As in other levels, the course requires students to participate in prepared and improvised skits and dialogues, listen to audio programs and music, view authentic videos, use technology, and read selected stories, articles, and poetry.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

##### **Spanish II**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish I**

In this course, through the active use of the language, students consolidate and expand their knowledge of structures and vocabulary. They are encouraged to speak and write in Spanish in order to express their opinions and share information. A variety of literary selections serve as the basis for class discussions and writing assignments. Students often work in pairs, to help them cultivate an awareness of the benefits of collaborative learning and to provide them with continuous review of material. By reading authentic newspaper, magazine, and online articles, students learn to appreciate cultural differences and similarities. As in other levels, the course requires students to participate in prepared and improvised skits and dialogues, listen to audio programs and music, view authentic videos, use technology, and read selected stories, articles, and poetry. Classes are conducted primarily in Spanish, and students are expected to participate in the language to the best of their ability.

##### **Spanish II Honors**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish I**

The Honors section covers similar content to the standard course, but it requires greater grammatical precision and fuller self-expression in Spanish. In this course students consolidate and expand their knowledge of structures and vocabulary. They are encouraged to speak and write in Spanish in order to express their opinions and share information. A variety of literary selections serve as the basis for class discussions and writing assignments. Students often work in pairs, to help them cultivate an awareness of the benefits of collaborative learning and to provide them with continuous review of material. By reading authentic newspaper, magazine, and online articles, students learn to appreciate cultural differences and similarities. As in other levels, the course requires students to participate in prepared and improvised skits and dialogues, listen to audio programs and music, view authentic videos, use technology, and read selected stories, articles, and poetry. Classes are conducted entirely in Spanish, and students fully engage in the language to the best of their ability.

##### **Spanish III**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish II or Spanish II Honors**

This course strengthens students' linguistic and literary skills. There is a review and expansion of the mechanics of the language, while focusing on their communicative competence and comprehension of literary works. Students are expected to respond spontaneously to a wide range of conversational situations as well as to summarize material and answer questions based on intermediate-level readings. Students' individual interests are reflected in their choice of research and projects, written and/or oral. They continue to improve their confidence and proficiency in spoken Spanish and increase their cultural awareness by learning about current events in the Hispanic world through different media sources. Classes are conducted in Spanish, and students are expected to participate in the language to the best of their ability.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

##### **Spanish III Honors**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish II or Spanish II Honors**

The Honors section covers similar content to the standard course, but it requires greater grammatical precision and fuller self-expression in Spanish. This course strengthens students' linguistic and literary skills. It starts to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture exam. There is a review and expansion of the mechanics of the language, while focusing on their communicative competence and comprehension of literary works. Students are expected to respond spontaneously to a wide range of conversational situations as well as to summarize material and answer questions based on intermediate-level readings. Students' individual interests are reflected in their choice of research and projects, written and/or oral. They continue to improve their confidence and proficiency in spoken Spanish and increase their cultural awareness by learning about current events in the Hispanic world through different media sources. Classes are conducted exclusively in Spanish.

##### **Spanish IV**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish III or Spanish III Honors**

In this course, students become familiar with the Spanish language through a variety of demanding listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. By the end of this course, students should expect to communicate in Spanish at an intermediate level of proficiency. They use the language in formal and informal conversations, discussions, and presentations, and for various forms of writing such as letters, stories, and essays. They read and analyze newspaper articles, literary selections, websites, and song lyrics. They view and listen to television, radio excerpts and movies, which come from various regions of the Spanish-speaking world. The integration of various art modalities – drama, storytelling, art, kinetic movement, music, and technology – is used to actively engage students of all learning styles. Classes are conducted in Spanish, and students are expected to use the language on an on-going basis.

##### **Spanish IV Honors**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish III or Spanish III Honors**

The Honors section covers similar content to the standard course, but it requires greater grammatical precision and fuller self-expression in Spanish. This is a preparatory course for the Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture exam. Students engage with the Spanish language through a variety of demanding listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. By the end of this course, students should expect to communicate in Spanish at an advanced intermediate level of proficiency. They use the language in formal and informal conversations, discussions, and presentations, and for various forms of writing such as letters, stories, and essays. They read and analyze newspaper articles, literary selections, websites, and song lyrics. They view and listen to television, radio excerpts and movies, which come from various regions of the Spanish-speaking world. The integration of various art modalities is used to actively engage students, and classes are conducted exclusively in Spanish.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

##### **AP Spanish: Language and Culture**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish IV Honors**

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course is a rigorous course taught exclusively in Spanish that requires students to improve their proficiency across the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. The course focuses on the integration of authentic resources including online print, audio, and audiovisual resources, as well as traditional print resources that include works of literature, essays, and magazine and newspaper articles, with the goal of providing a rich, diverse and engaging learning experience. Students will communicate using advanced vocabulary and linguistic structures as they build proficiency and confidence in all modes of communication. Central to the course is the premise of communicating solely in the target language. When communicating in Spanish students will learn to demonstrate an understanding of the culture(s), incorporate interdisciplinary topics (connections), make comparisons between the native language and target language and between cultures (comparisons), and use the target language in real-life settings (communities). The course material is grouped by the following themes: Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics.

##### **Spanish V Honors**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisite: Spanish IV or Spanish IV Honors**

In this course, students will look at the history and culture of the Spanish speaking world. The first semester focuses primarily on Latin America, while the second semester focuses on Spain. While students will continue to develop their command of Spanish vocabulary and grammar, this course will emphasize using broader language skills as a tool for understanding and getting to know other cultures. The primary texts for this class will be films from and about the cultures we are studying. In addition to the films, students will read articles, poetry and short stories in Spanish. They will be expected to discuss these selections in class and write about them at length.

##### **AP Spanish: Literature**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Not offered 2018-2019**

###### **Prerequisites: Spanish V or AP Spanish: Language**

This course builds on the literary studies from Spanish V. Students are expected to read and analyze a number of different literary genres – novels, essays, plays, and poetry. The course is reserved for students who demonstrate highly developed linguistic skills and are able to converse, read, and write at an advanced level in Spanish. Students will not only develop their communicative skills, they will also gain insight into the historical and sociological contexts of these literary works. In this course, students will read a variety of literature from the Spain and Latin America. The literature includes short stories, poetry, drama, and novels by authors such as Cervantes, Cortazar, Fuentes, Neruda, García Márquez, Borges, and Allende.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

##### **FRENCH**

The goals of the French curriculum are to introduce students to the French language, and to the culture and literature of the francophone world. Students will improve their listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities at each level. Completing various activities that use all four skills, participating in formal and informal assessments, and using multimedia resources, students develop their facility with the language. They acquire the communicative competence to understand the main ideas in conversation on a variety of topics, recognize important ideas and details in reading, and write effective paragraphs and short essays. Students have the opportunity to study the language for four years and to prepare for the AP exam.

##### **French I**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: N/A**

This course lays the foundation for language study and is a thorough introduction to French. The teacher conducts the course in French, commensurate to a beginning level. The students begin to develop the ability to communicate in real-life situations. Formal study of the language – grammar, syntax, pronunciation, and vocabulary – and its use – listening, speaking, reading, and writing – are the focus of the course. An introduction to the Francophone world through the study of geography and cultural practices and perspectives strengthens the students' understanding and appreciation of the language and its diverse cultures. As in other levels, the course requires students to participate in prepared and improvised skits and dialogues, listen to audio programs and music, view authentic videos, use technology, and read selected stories, articles, and poetry.

##### **French II**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: French I**

The Honors section covers similar content to the standard course, but it requires greater grammatical precision and fuller self-expression in French. Through the active use of the language, students consolidate and expand their knowledge of structures and vocabulary. They are encouraged to speak and write in French in order to express their opinions and share information. A variety of literary selections serve as the basis for class discussions and writing assignments. Students often work in pairs to help them cultivate an awareness of the benefits of collaborative learning and to provide them with continuous review of material. By reading authentic newspaper, magazine, and online articles, students learn to appreciate cultural differences and similarities. As in other levels, the course requires students to participate in prepared and improvised skits and dialogues, listen to audio music, view authentic videos, use technology, and read selected stories, articles, and poetry. Classes are conducted in French, and students are expected to participate in the language to the best of their ability.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

##### **French II Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: French I**

In this course, through the active use of the language, students consolidate and expand their knowledge of structures and vocabulary. They are encouraged to speak and write in French in order to express their opinions and share information. A variety of literary selections serve as the basis for class discussions and writing assignments. Students often work in pairs to help them cultivate an awareness of the benefits of collaborative learning and to provide them with continuous review of material. By reading authentic newspaper, magazine, and online articles, students learn to appreciate cultural differences and similarities. As in other levels, the course requires students to participate in prepared and improvised skits and dialogues, listen to audio music, view authentic videos, use technology, and read selected stories, articles, and poetry. Classes are conducted entirely in French, and students fully participate in the language to the best of their ability.

##### **French III**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: French II or French II Honors**

This course strengthens students' linguistic and literary skills. There is a review and expansion of the mechanics of the language, while focusing on their communicative competence and comprehension of literary works. Students are expected to respond spontaneously to a wide range of conversational situations as well as to summarize material and answer questions based on intermediate-level readings. Students' individual interests are reflected in their choice of research and projects, written and/or oral. They continue to improve their confidence and proficiency in spoken French and increase their cultural awareness by learning about current events in the Francophone world through different media sources. Classes are conducted in French, and students are expected to participate in the language to the best of their ability.

##### **French III Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: French II or French II Honors**

The Honors section covers similar content to the standard course, but it requires greater grammatical precision and fuller self-expression in French. This course strengthens students' linguistic and literary skills. It starts to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture exam. There is a review and expansion of the mechanics of the language, while focusing on their communicative competence and comprehension of literary works. Students are expected to respond spontaneously to a wide range of conversational situations as well as to summarize material and answer questions based on advanced intermediate-level readings. Students' individual interests are reflected in their choice of research and projects, written and/or oral. They continue to improve their confidence and proficiency in spoken French and increase their cultural awareness by learning about current events in the Francophone world through different media sources. Classes are conducted exclusively in French.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### **MODERN LANGUAGES**

##### **French IV Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: French III or French III Honors**

The Honors section covers similar content to the standard course, but it requires greater grammatical precision and fuller self-expression in French. This is a preparatory course for the Advanced Placement French Language and Culture exam. French IV is a survey of francophone literature and culture, from its origins to the present, with particular emphasis on the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries. In this course, students will gain an intermediate proficiency in French language as they move from situational topics and language to more discussion-based conversations and presentations. Students will expand their knowledge of the language through an exploration of history, culture, literature and the arts. Students will draw parallels and make connections to the topics studied and experiences in their own lives. They will enhance their written skills with various forms of writing including short stories, poetry, and a longer research paper. They will also read and analyze a variety of print materials such as newspaper articles, literature selections, poetry, websites, and song lyrics. Through film, television and radio excerpts, they will be able to access authentic examples of spoken French related to course topics. Classes are conducted in exclusively in French.

##### **French V Honors**

##### **Full-year course**

##### **Prerequisites: French IV or French IV Honors**

This course is an introduction to French and francophone literature, with a continued focus on exploring the relationship between history, literature, art, culture and civilization. Students will begin with a survey of 19th and 20th century French poetry, where they will explore different uses of language through reading, writing, and reciting poetry, as well as songs and song lyrics. They will develop the vocabulary, grammar, and critical thinking skills needed for accurate reading of literature as they are immersed in the reading of authentic texts and the writing of analytical essays. In the second semester, students may read short and long novels, plays, newspapers and magazines, and also view films which relate to course themes. At times, students have been able to visit local museums to further enhance their exploration into French and francophone art and culture. Students are expected to converse at a high level of competency and fluency. This course prepares students to participate actively in discussions on literary, cultural, and contemporary topics. Classes are conducted in French and students are expected to use the language at all times.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### MODERN LANGUAGES

##### **AP French: Language and Culture**

###### **Full-year course**

###### **Prerequisites: French IV or French IV Honors**

This college-level course is designed around six principal themes which will prepare students to speak and write on a wide variety of contemporary topics. Listening and reading comprehension skills will be expanded and enhanced via exposure to authentic source materials including literary works, articles, podcasts, radio interviews, music and both short and feature-length films. The curriculum for this course is approved by the College Board. The AP French Language and Culture course is committed to providing students with the linguistic skills and in-depth knowledge of Francophone culture that are the necessary tools for being part of an increasingly multilingual society. This course is designed for students who plan to take the Advanced Placement Examination in French Language and Culture.

**ELECTIVES:** Electives are reserved for students in Classes 11 and 12 to be taken in addition to the requirements.

##### **Arabic Studies I**

###### **Offered Semester 1**

###### **Prerequisites: N/A**

The Arab world is large and complex and is at the epicenter of many pressing issues for our nation today. This dynamic class will teach students to speak, read and write in Arabic, using the textbook Alif Baa as the basis for language work that will give them a functional vocabulary of over 200 words. Students will explore the origins and development of the Arabic language as influenced by historic events in the Middle East / North Africa. They will learn the geography of this region and explore Arab stereotypes and contrast these with contemporary reality. Students will learn the basics of Islamic faith and practice and its influence on culture of the Middle East / North Africa. Students will be asked to specialize in one country from this region and will be expected to share information with their peers and learn from them as well. This is a challenging and fascinating class for the motivated language learner and for students who wish to broaden their world perspective.

##### **Arabic Studies II**

###### **Offered Semester 2**

###### **Prerequisites: Arabic Studies I**

Students who have completed Arabic Studies I will be invited to continue their studies of the Arabic language in this follow-on elective. The principle text will be Al-Kitaab 1, the premier Arabic language textbook in use on college campuses across the nation. Students will be able to expand their foundation in Arabic, learning verb formation patterns and gaining listening comprehension, as well as developing their ability to hold a conversation and convey meaningful information about their lives. In addition, students will be exposed to the history of the Middle East and North Africa, with the opportunity to continue to explore a country of interest from the region. Using selected readings from The Middle East (11<sup>th</sup> Edition) students will become familiar with pivotal moments in history that have affected US relations with the Arab World and will come to understand the dynamic behind current events, including the “Arab Spring.”



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ARTS

The Department of Arts is committed to having the arts play a significant role in the life of students and the School. Department courses are designed to teach students specific skills, encourage problem solving and creative and higher order thinking, provide opportunities for self-expression, and teach individual responsibility and discipline. In all areas students are evaluated on their mastery of the material, skill development, and participation. In addition, art exhibitions, music and dance performances, and theater productions highlight student achievement and provide opportunities for assessment.

#### REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to complete two semesters in the performing arts and two semesters in the fine arts. The performing arts requirement may be met either by successful completion of two semester-length courses, which are graded, by full participation in two theatrical productions, or by completion of one year in either the Dextones or Southfield Singers; students' involvement in these activities is not graded. The fine arts requirement may be met by successful completion of two semester-length courses. Introductory and foundational classes as well as more advanced courses are available to all students, and students are encouraged to pursue their individual interests and talents.

#### FINE ARTS

##### **Art I: Visual Communication**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

Students in Art I learn the skills needed to create well-designed, finely crafted works of art, and develop the mindset necessary to persevere in the studio. Through the study of the Elements of Art, they will learn the importance of "process" as they hone their visual vocabulary. This course focuses on drawing from observation and assignments are designed to explore the individual Elements: line, value, form, shape, space, color, and texture. Studio work is complemented with frequent class critiques and discussions of master works from the past and present in order to provide a context for projects. Students are required to keep sketchbooks that will be turned in for review every week.

##### **Drawing**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: Art I or Department Approval**

This course builds upon the elements and principles of design covered in Art I. Students are encouraged to use drawing as an expressive medium. Class projects continue to include drawing from life, but investigations of surrealism, cubism, abstraction, and more conceptual approaches are encouraged. Special attention is paid to artists from the past and present. Discussions about artists such as Cy Twombly, Julie Mehretu, and Kara Walker shed light on the direction of contemporary drawing. Students are challenged to learn from other artists but to preserve and nurture their own individual styles. Media used in this course ranges from the traditional: pencil, charcoal, and ink, to the unconventional: natural pigments, spray paint, and silverpoint. Students are required to keep a sketchbook to be submitted for review.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ARTS

##### **Painting**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: Art I or Department Approval**

In this course students build upon the elements and principles of design covered in Art I. Students work with oils as well as a variety of water-based media. Demonstrations and discussions of early painting techniques such as grisaille, egg tempera, and glazing accompany the study of more contemporary, expressive painting mediums. Experimentation with materials and the process of mixing and applying paint help students achieve the goal of creating artwork that challenges their technical proficiency and demonstrates their unique outlook.

##### **Digital Photography**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Art I or Department Approval**

Digital photography will introduce students to the photographic medium both from a technical and an aesthetic point of view. The focus on digital photography from a fine arts perspective will enable the student photographer to utilize the medium for self-expression, cultural criticism, and comment. Digital cameras are provided to the student for weekly photographic projects exploring motion, depth of field, portraiture, and landscape. Students learn to manipulate and improve their images with digital photo software. Written photographic analyses as well as a final test on the technical aspects of photography are required.

##### **Digital Photography II**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Digital Photography**

Building on their knowledge from Digital Photography I, students will learn advanced Photoshop techniques while photographing and exploring a specific body of work. A written proposal outlining his or her project is required at the beginning of semester and must include the format and number of prints, established photographers' work and his/her influence on the student, and an artist statement.

##### **Advanced Studio Art: Drawing/Painting**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Art I and Drawing or Painting**

Students work on a suite of artwork in which ideas are explored and then presented in the form of a series. This studio course is designed for the serious art students who are seeking more independence in their work while maintaining a critical rapport with the instructor. Students are expected to have achieved a degree of expertise in one or more mediums and demonstrate readiness for using materials to support a concept rather than have the concept be subordinate to the medium.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ARTS

##### **Watercolor**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Art I**

This course is an introduction to the versatile medium. Projects are designed to broaden the student's technical facility and develop concepts through painting. Study of artists such as John Singer Sargent, Winslow Homer, and contemporary painters such as Walton Ford will provide an historical context for lessons and assignments that include plein air painting, still life, and experiments with abstraction.

##### **Printmaking**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: Art I**

This is an introductory course to basic printmaking techniques. Students will study relief printing as well additive processes such as monoprint, and collograph. Students will learn about printmaking's place in history and how it continues to evolve in the digital age. Artists such as Durer, Rembrandt, Picasso, and Dine will provide historical context for class assignments. Students will create a suite of prints to be included in sets to be distributed to each member of the class.

##### **Sculpture**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Art I or Department Approval**

This course builds on the concepts and skills learned in Art I. Students will experiment with a variety of materials including wire, found objects, wood, cardboard, and stone. Emphasis will be placed on the value and inherent differences in working in the round as opposed to a two-dimensional surface. Students will be expected to hold themselves to a high standard as they explore materials, develop ideas, and engage in an ongoing dialogue with their instructor and peers. Weekly sketchbook assignments will complement and reinforce concepts covered in the studio and will help build the bridge between a student's ideas and the creation of objects in class

##### **Portfolio Preparation**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1**

**Prerequisites: Art I and Drawing, Painting, or Sculpture**

In this course designed for serious artists, students create a cohesive, carefully selected portfolio. In addition to utilizing studio time to enhance their body of work, students will be taught how to photograph and digitally edit their artwork. Pieces created in this class, in other courses, or outside of school will be gathered and evaluated for the portfolio. Students will participate in at least one National Portfolio Day event, and they will be required to submit an eight-piece senior portfolio to the Art and Writing competition in December. Students will have opportunities to learn about careers in visual art, and representatives from art schools will be invited to give presentations and offer critiques of student work. Each student will participate in a senior exhibition at the end of the school year in the Dexter Southfield gallery.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ARTS

##### **Yearbook**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Art I or Department Approval**

Students are introduced to the fundamentals of graphic design and start the process of designing the school yearbook. Students use the skills learned to create and publish the school yearbook.

##### **Yearbook II**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Art I or Department Approval**

Students who have completed Yearbook I lead the design, creation, and publication of the school yearbook.

#### **PERFORMING ARTS**

##### **Fundamentals of Music**

**Semester course; Not offered 2018-2019**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

**Offered in alternating years with Music Technology**

Students examine the craft of musical composition through the study of form, instrumentation, and melodic and harmonic structures. The descriptive and expressive powers of music are related to specific compositional devices. Romantic period program pieces are used to connect music to narrative, Baroque and Classical instrumental works are studied as examples of common forms, and modern-day pop music is deconstructed with the aim of revealing formal outlays. A look into the lives and times of composers and songwriters provide further insight into the works themselves, helping to bring this music to life.

##### **Music Appreciation**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

This course follows the evolution of music from 1600 to 1900 through the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic periods. Trends in form and style are discussed in political and social context, as they relate to the changing tastes and demands of audiences, and with regard to prevailing systems of musical patronage. Students will learn about the lives and careers of the great composers and performers, while exploring musical works that represent some of the Western world's greatest cultural achievements. No musical background is necessary.

##### **Music Theory**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

This introductory music theory class is designed to teach students about the building blocks of musical composition. An understanding of how music is put together will lead to a deeper appreciation for the music we listen to every day and will also prove beneficial to students interested in composition or performance. Topics covered include notation, meter, key signatures, scales, chords, Roman numeral analysis, and ear training.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ARTS

##### **Music Technology**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

**Offered in alternating years with Fundamentals of Music**

The course begins with an overview of the history of electronic music, from early recording devices and electronic instruments to modern synthesizers, MIDI equipment, and digital recording. A brief unit on the physics of sound is covered before students begin work in the Mac Lab, which runs on Logic Pro X software. Logic is a digital audio workstation program that is becoming an industry standard in studios around the world. Students learn about recording engineering and Logic capabilities while creating their own original music with both synthesized and live recorded tracks.

##### **AP Music Theory**

**Full-year course**

**Prerequisites: Music Theory and Department Approval**

The course begins with a review of basic concepts, such as notation, scales, intervals, and triads and ends with the study of more advanced topics, such as Neapolitan chords, augmented 6th chords, and sonata form. One of the main objectives of the course is for students to master the art of voice leading in four voices, following the stylistic practices of Bach chorales. These skills will not only enhance students' analytic proficiency but will also provide the tools for a further pursuit of composition. By the end of the year students will be equipped to analyze the most harmonically adventurous pieces of the Romantic period.

##### **Foundations of Theater I**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

This course will focus on the foundational blocks of what it means to be an actor on stage. Throughout the course we will cover ensemble building, improvisational (unscripted) theatre, and basic scene study and analysis. This class is an active class as it is primarily an acting class.

##### **Theater/Acting II**

**Semester course; not offered 2018-2019**

**Prerequisites: Theater/Acting I and audition**

This course provides opportunities for students who want to continue their theater education and will focus on advancing the practices that are studied in Theater/Acting I. The primary units of study will include pantomime and physical theater, duo scene work, and monologue performance. Students will also learn history of the theater. This class will conclude with a showcase of performances from the students to be attended by a select audience.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### ARTS

##### **Production**

**Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: N/A**

In this class, students will gain a whirlwind introduction to many of the backstage design aspects that are crucial parts of theater. Throughout the semester, students will learn about and do projects around scenic and costume design and basic stage makeup design. Students who complete this class will be well prepared to help with the production of school plays.

##### **Directing**

**Semester course; offered Semester 2**

**Prerequisites: Department Approval**

An introductory course in directing for the stage. Topics include the role and function of the director in the contemporary theater; the basic tools of proscenium blocking and staging, such as composition, picturization, movement, and gesture; structural script analysis; and basic actor coaching techniques. In this class, students will play the role of both actor and director. Class will conclude with each director putting on a short one act that they will cast, rehearse, and perform.

##### **Advanced Theater**

**Semester course; not offered 2018-2019**

**Prerequisites: Acting II or Department Approval**

Advanced Theater provides opportunities for students who want to continue their theater education. Areas of study include acting, lighting, sound, set design, costuming, theater management, and directing. Audition techniques and other practical, career-oriented skills are taught. Advanced Theater prepares students for roles and leadership positions in school theater productions and in other areas of their lives.



## DEXTER SOUTHFIELD

### COURSE CATALOG 2018-2019

#### **ETHICS**

##### **Ethics 9: Understanding Our World and Ourselves** **Semester course; offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

Ethics provides an opportunity for students beginning their secondary school experience to identify and examine many of the forces influencing adolescents today. Reflecting the personal, physical, and spiritual development before them, the course helps students to discuss a broad array of topics and to develop organizational and leadership skills. Discussions develop around good judgment and honesty; class, race, and gender; family life; wellness; substance abuse; relationships; and the difference between right and wrong. Students also consider case studies of moral dilemmas, both hypothetical and real, and learn to distinguish sound arguments from specious ones. Along with class discussion and selected readings, related activities include critiquing various information and entertainment media, preparing arguments, and working on group projects. It is expected that current affairs and students' interests will determine some of the direction the course takes.