

# AYALA HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## ELECTIVES

### **AP Computer Science Applications**

**UC/CSU: c**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

AP Computer Science Applications (CSA) builds on the basic skills learned in AP Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) to teach students Java and authentic Android app development. Students in this course continue to hone their communication and collaboration skills while learning to use a variety of tools. The primary goal of the course is to create independent-thinking app developers: every unit in this course builds on students' prior knowledge and skills until they can complete an app development cycle independently from the ground up.

### **AP Computer Science Principles**

**UC/CSU: d**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 10-12**

AP CSA builds on the basic skills learned in AP Computer Science Principles (AP CSP) to teach AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to the central ideas of computer science, instilling the ideas and practices of computational thinking and inviting students to understand how computing changes the world. The rigorous course promotes deep learning of computational content, develops computational thinking skills, and engages students in the creative aspects of the field. The course is unique in its focus on fostering students to be creative.

### **AP Environmental Science**

**UC/CSU: d**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

The goal of the Environmental Science Advanced Placement (AP) course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Yet there are several major unifying constructs, or themes, that cut across the many topics included in the study of environmental science. This course utilizes the Environmental Science AP curriculum provided by the College Board. The exam is representative of such a course and therefore is considered appropriate for the measurement of skills and knowledge in the field of environmental science.

### **AP Psychology**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

The AP Psychology Course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles,

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and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

### **AP Research**

**UC/CSU: b**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

AP Research is the 2nd year of the AP Capstone Diploma Program and will give current AP Seminar students the opportunity to receive the AP Capstone Diploma if they successfully complete the exam for both years with a score of 3 or higher. AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research-based investigation to address a research question.

### **AP Seminar**

**UC/CSU: b**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

### **AVID 9**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 9**

Advanced Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success; it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course. Each week, students receive instruction utilizing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum provided by avid center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities, and academic success skills. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to support their academic growth.

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### **AVID 10**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 10**

Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success; it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course. Each week, students receive instruction utilizing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum provided by avid center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities, and academic success skills. In avid, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to support their academic growth.

### **AVID 11**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 11**

Advancement via individual determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success, and it is scheduled during the regular school day as a year-long course. Each week, students receive instruction utilizing a rigorous college preparatory curriculum provided by avid center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities and academic survival skills. The course emphasizes rhetorical reading, analytical writing, collaborative discussion strategies, tutorial inquiry study groups, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, college study skills and test-taking strategies, note-taking and research.

### **AVID Senior Seminar**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 12**

The AVID Senior Seminar follows the weekly structure of all AVID elective classes, with two days of teacher led curriculum per week, two days of tutorials, and a day allocated for guest speakers, lessons taught by college instructors, and visits to colleges or other appropriate events. As seniors progress through the year, this additional day is also used for students to work with the AVID teacher and tutors to plan their Socratic Seminar activity, to select appropriate text materials to be discussed, and to plan the activity itself. Throughout the school year, the AVID teacher serves as a conduit to colleges and universities as well as to academic departments on campus. This individual assists AVID students in applying to colleges, researching financial aid and housing, registering for entrance and placement exams, and in preparing for external examinations in the spring. AVID tutors also assist in these procedures by providing actual information and giving feedback to AVID seniors regarding their college applications and essays.

### **AVID Tutor**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

Working under the direction and supervision of the AVID teacher, students selected to be AVID tutors will take an active part in developing the academic and personal strengths of AVID students. The expectations and responsibilities of the AVID tutor are aligned to guidelines provided by the AVID Center.

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### **Business Management 1**

UC/CSU: g

CTE

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-11**

Business Management consists of planning, leading and controlling an organization or effort to accomplish a goal. In the Business Management pathway, students learn entrepreneurship and business fundamentals, goal-setting, resource allocation, organizational structure and management techniques, economics, financial data, risk management, information technology, and supply chain management.

### **Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA)**

UC/CSU: d

CTE

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 10 - 12**

Civil Engineering and Architecture (CEA) is the study of the design and construction of residential and commercial building projects. This course includes an introduction to many of the varied factors involved in building design and construction including building components and systems, structural design, storm water management, site design, utilities and services, cost estimation, energy efficiency, and careers in the design and construction industry.

### **Computer Science Essentials (CSE)**

UC/CSU: d

CTE

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 9 - 11**

Computer Science Essentials is a yearlong course designed as an entry point for new high school computer science learners. Additionally, for students who have prior computer science experience, the course offers many opportunities for them to build upon their knowledge and skills. All students who take Computer Science Essentials will have many opportunities for creative expression and exploration in topics of personal interest, whether it be through app development, web design, or connecting computing with the physical world.

### **Culinary 1**

UC/CSU: g

NCAA: not applicable

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

The Culinary Arts I course will provide students with an opportunity to develop industry-based skills in a commercial food preparation laboratory. Students will develop safe work habits and operational procedures required for employment in the industry. Students will be introduced to industrial equipment and technology to attain information and skills to develop their career goal in the food industry.

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### **Culinary 2**

**UC/CSU: g**

**NCAA: not applicable**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

Students will continue developing their knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors required for entry level employment and/or transition to postsecondary training in hospitality and food service. Students will utilize industrial equipment in a commercial setting and have opportunities to participate in job shadowing and mentoring activities. The Food Service and Hospitality Pathway focuses on the key aspects of the industry. Students pursuing this career pathway have in-depth, hands-on experiences that emphasize industry awareness, sanitation and safe food handling, food and beverage production and service, nutrition, food service management, and customer service.

### **Engineering Design and Development (EDD)**

**UC/CSU: d**

**CTE**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11 - 12**

The knowledge and skills students acquire throughout Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Engineering come together in Engineering Design and Development (EDD) as they identify an issue and then research, design, and test a solution, ultimately presenting their solution to a panel of engineers. Students apply the professional skills they have developed to document a design process to standards, completing EDD ready to take on any post-secondary program or career. Engineering Design and Development is the capstone course in the PLTW high school engineering program. It is an engineering research course in which students work in teams to design and develop an original solution to a valid open ended technical problem by applying the engineering design process. The course applies and concurrently develops secondary level knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, and technology.

### **Introduction to Engineering Design (IED)**

**UC/CSU: d**

**CTE**

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 9 - 12**

This course will exposure students to design and engineering. The major focus of the IED course is to introduce students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. IED gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based learning. Students will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. In addition, students use a 3D solid modeling design software package to help them design solutions to solve proposed problems. Engineering is for students interested in biomechanics, aeronautics, and other applied math and science arenas.



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### **Journalism 1**

**UC/CSU: b**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

Journalism 1 is an introductory course designed to acquaint students with the history and workings of the media, with an emphasis on print media. This course is aligned to industry standards and best practices found in schools throughout the country.

### **Leadership**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

The Leadership course provides opportunities for students in leadership education. This course also engages them in worthwhile activities which will contribute to the general education and development of all students. This class is taught to explain the real purpose of student government, to provide the opportunity for in-service student government training. This class provides the student with a basic understanding of good communication and thus enhances good relation between student body, faculty, administrative staff and the community at large. Leadership training will teach students to conduct democratic elections, work toward strengthening public relations, to aid in carrying out school functions, and to recognize that the student's main function is one of service to the school and its various organizations and activities.

### **Personal Finance**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

Personal Finance is a semester long course designed to deliver essential financial understanding in an engaging way. Students will learn personal finance through comprehensive lesson plans, activities, projects and more. The curriculum is designed to use technology to spark participation and integrate real-world scenarios into the classroom. Personal Finance consists of ten units, a midterm, and a final exam that develop a student's finance, math, and critical thinking skills. Topics taught in the course are: behavioral finance, taxes, paying for college, managing credit, budgeting, and other related areas of study.

### **Principles of Engineering (POE)**

**UC/CSU: d**

**CTE**

**Placement Guidelines: Grade 9 - 12**

Principles of Engineering is a course that helps students understand the fields of engineering and engineering technology. Exploring various technology systems and manufacturing processes help students learn how engineers and technicians use math, science, and technology in an engineering problem solving process to benefit people. The course also includes concerns about social and political consequences of technological change.

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### **Psychology 1**

UC/CSU: g

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

This course is designed to introduce students to concepts in psychology by employing active learning techniques. Students will be introduced to the field of psychology, explore psychology as a science, study the human life cycle, and investigate the brain including its functions and processes. Additionally, students will practice people skills including listening and speaking, and explore the importance of respect, empathy, trust, and being a responsible member of a group.

### **Psychology 2**

UC/CSU: g

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

This course is designed to introduce students to concepts in psychology. By employing active learning techniques students will receive a brief introduction to the field before focusing on personality and individual differences, exploring mental processes such as learning, memory, thinking, and problem solving, studying psychological disorders and treatments, and examining social cultural dimensions of behavior. Additionally, students will practice people skills, including listening and speaking, explore the importance of respect, empathy, trust, and being a responsible member of a group.

### **Publications and Design**

UC/CSU: g

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

Publication Design is responsible for the production of the high school yearbook. Students are expected to produce a visually creative book that is acceptable to the student body while at the same time recording the events of the year for future reference. Students will learn page layout and design, graphics (including computer graphics), photography and copy, captions and headline writing skills. Students will also learn to use graphic programs such as Adobe Photoshop and learn to scan and retouch graphics and photographs. The class is responsible for meeting deadlines associated with a professional publication. Sales and advertising skills will also be taught in conjunction with the promotion of the yearbook. All the District's high schools' yearbooks are now completely produced on computers, using new state of the art equipment. This class requires time outside the normal school day.

### **Sports Medicine**

UC/CSU: g

CTE

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 11-12**

The primary goal of Sports Medicine 1 is to integrate basic medical concepts and related scientific information to provide a foundation in the prevention, recognition, assessment, management, disposition, and rehabilitation of sports related injuries and illnesses. Conceptual information will be combined with practical skills to synthesize a general understanding of skills, education, and personal characteristics needed to succeed in any health care field.

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### **Work Experience**

**UC/CSU: a**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

Work Experience provides job-related experiences for high school students through supervised part-time employment as part of their total school program. This course assists students in becoming productive, responsible individuals through employment experiences.

### **World Geography**

**UC/CSU: g**

**Placement Guidelines: Grades 9-12**

World Geography is a one semester, elective course which will provide additional social studies instruction for the college-bound student as well as certain “survival skills” for other students. The course will emphasize location, place, region, human-environment interaction and movement. This course incorporates skills related to the use of a textbook, the use of appropriate maps, graphs and charts, the use of globes, and the use of newspapers and periodicals.