



Secular Studies Curriculum Overview

Business

9th/ 10th Grade Elective	9th/ 10th Grade Elective
<p>Leadership and Career skills:</p> <p>All freshmen participate in a weekly Leadership seminar. Students not only learn about the success skills needed to be a good student and leader, but also how to develop self-awareness and emotional intelligence.</p> <p>Students also learn how to use Microsoft Office suite in a business setting and learn email etiquette. They collaborate on projects and are required to present their work to their peers.</p>	<p>Business and Entrepreneurship:</p> <p>All sophomores take a year-long course on Business and Entrepreneurship, learning how to write a business plan, about the functions of different departments in a company, and how to pitch a product to an investor. The year culminates in an exciting shark tank presentation and dinner.</p>
11 th Grade	12 th Grade
<p>Students choose from a selection of business electives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to Business ● Consumer Behavior ● Marketing/ Social Media ● Public Speaking and more <p>Students may also intern in the Virtual Enterprise International course.</p>	<p>Virtual Enterprise International:</p> <p>Virtual Enterprise International (VEI) is a virtual business class that is completely student-run and project-based. Students select a business they run virtually, create a business, marketing, and sales plan for it, and attend trade shows with students in competing schools. The students in the course choose a CEO and other C-suite executives as well as managers and employees to run their company. Throughout and at the end of the year, they compete with students at other schools for highest sales and profits.</p>

Key Skills:

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Creativity and Innovation

English Language Arts

9 th Grade	10 th Grade
<p>Overview of literature across major forms and genres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Connection with Greek Tragedy: <i>Antigone</i> and <i>Oedipus Rex</i> ○ Introduction to Shakespearean sonnets ● Exposure to a range of short stories ● History of the novel as a literary form using <i>Of Mice and Men</i> and informational texts from the Great Depression ● Introduction to poetry <p>Intensive writing program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expository Writing & Literary research paper, using at least 3 sources with proper MLA citation 	<p>Historical novels: The literature coincides with the events students learned and will be learning about in European history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> and The French Revolution ● <i>Old Man and the Sea</i> ● <i>All the Lights We Cannot See</i> ● <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> ● <i>Merchant of Venice</i> <p>Intensive writing program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reinforcement of Expository Writing Skill ● Persuasive Writing & Research Paper
11 th Grade	12 th Grade
<p>American Literature: The literature is structured to coincide with the events students learned and will be learning in American history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Crucible</i> and The New World ● A New Nation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The Star Spangled Banner” ○ The Declaration of Independence ○ Preamble to the Constitution ○ Bill of Rights ● <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ American Romanticism ○ Short stories and poems by Hawthorne, Whitman, and Dickinson ● <i>Macbeth</i> by Shakespeare ● <i>Great Gatsby</i> and Emerging Modernism <p>Intensive writing program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reinforcement of Writing Skills ● Research Paper <p>Additional Courses: AP English Language</p>	<p>Senior Electives: Eight week classes modeled after college level courses</p> <p>The elective courses include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP English: Literature and Composition ● Monsters and Heroes ● Literature across Cultures ● Children’s Literature ● Literature and Film ● Creative Writing <p>Each elective course covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● College essays ● Reading literature as a quest for truth, beauty, and understanding ● Understanding how literary devices and forms reflect an author’s philosophical, aesthetic, and religious views ● Writing literary and philosophical analyses <p>Additional Courses: AP English Literature</p>

Key Skills:

- Reading: Fluency, Comprehension, Vocabulary and Grammar Usage
- Writing: Organization, Elaboration, Use of Effective Writing Strategies, Grammar and Vocabulary
- College and Career Readiness: Applying Knowledge to New Situations, Meeting Deadlines, Collaboration

Social Studies

9 th Grade	10 th Grade
<p>Global History I The focus in 9th grade is on Prehistory through the Age of Absolutism. Students will use prior knowledge as a foundation to gain new information and awareness of the world we live in. Students will develop comprehension skills through text as well as writing skills based on related topics. Students will connect past events with our present in preparation for the future.</p>	<p>Global History II The focus in 10th grade on the Age of Revolutions to the present. Students will use prior knowledge as a foundation to gain new information and awareness of the world we live in. Students will develop comprehension skills through text as well as writing skills based on related topics. Students will connect past events with our present in preparation for the future.</p>
11 th Grade	12 th Grade
<p>United States History A one year course that spans the history of the United States through the present time. Students will study the development of our country's government and how it relates to them as they prepare to become active members of society.</p>	<p>United States Government The Participation in Government curriculum is designed to be a culminating course of study that focuses on Civics, Citizenship, and Government. Upon entering 12th grade, students should be ready to synthesize and apply this content-rich experience to the study of contemporary and/or historic public issues and to increase the student's awareness of her/his rights and responsibilities as a citizen. The term <i>participation</i> is interpreted in its broad sense. It is designed to engage students in the analysis of public policies and issues that are relevant to individual students.</p>

Key Skills:

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Creativity and Innovation
- Communication and Collaboration,
- Media, Technology and Information Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Civic Literacy
- Historical Thinking Skills (Students obtain, interpret, analyze, and evaluate information from a variety of sources; Students handle diversity of viewpoints and interpretations, comparing and contrasting primary source documents; Students analyze and interpret maps, graphs, tables, cartoons, and quotations related to history and geography.)
- Research, Critical Reading, Writing, and Note-Taking Skills
- Analyzing Information and Developing Written and Oral Opinions

Additional Courses

Advanced Placement Courses:

AP United States History (11th grade)

AP United States Government and Politics (12th grade)

Mathematics

9 th Grade	10 th Grade
<p>Algebra I Common Core Algebra I covers the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solving linear and quadratic, as well as solving system of two equations and inequalities. - Functions, their notations, and their graphs including linear, quadratic, and exponential functions. - Modeling linear, quadratic, and exponential functions - Probability - Statistics including univariate and bivariate data 	<p>Geometry Common Core Geometry Covers the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proving geometric theorems - Congruence - Transformations - Similarity - Trigonometry of a right triangle - Circles - Expressing geometric properties with algebraic equations - Geometric measurement and dimensions
11 th Grade	12 th Grade
<p>Algebra II Common Core</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solving quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, rational, absolute value, and radical equations, as well as system of three equations. - Functions, their graphs and their characteristics including quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, rational, polynomial, and trigonometric functions - Modeling exponential and logarithmic functions including natural logarithm, compound and continuous interest problems - Operations with rational expressions - Trigonometry in the unit circle - Sequences and series - Probability and Statistics 	<p>Pre-Calculus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slopes and Equations of a Line, - Functions, - Exploring Maximum and Minimum, - Transforming Functions, - Finding the Zeros of a Function, - Systems of Equations, - Matrices, - Limits, Derivatives

Key Skills:

- The ability to see structure in expressions and to use this structure to rewrite expressions is a key skill in everything from advanced factoring (e.g., grouping) to summing series to the rewriting of rational expressions to examine the end behavior of the corresponding rational function.
- Fluency in adding, subtracting, and multiplying polynomials
- The use of coordinates to establish geometric results, calculate length and angle, and use geometric representations as a modeling tool.
- The ability to see compare and contrast various types of functions and their characteristics

Additional Courses: AP AB Calculus, AP BC Calculus, AP Statistics

Science

9th Grade: Biology	10th Grade: Chemistry
In Biology, there are 55 specific skills sets. These skills sets are learned while mastering the topics of: Scientific Inquiry and Laboratory Skills, Organization of life, Homeostasis, Human Systems, Reproduction and Development, Genetics, Evolution, Ecology Human Impact on the Environment.	In Chemistry, there are 87 specific skills sets. These skills sets are learned while mastering the topics of: Physical Behavior of Matter, Atomic Concepts, The Periodic Table, Chemical Bonding, Mathematics of Chemistry - Stoichiometry, Kinetics and Equilibria, Solutions, Acids, Bases and Salts, Oxidation-Reduction Reactions, Nuclear Chemistry, Organic Chemistry
11th Grade: Science Electives	12th Grade: Science Electives
Students choose from a range of Science Electives, including Forensics, Nutrition, Psychology, Advanced Placement Biology and Advanced Placement Chemistry.	Students choose from a range of Science Electives, including Forensics, Nutrition, Psychology, Advanced Placement Biology and Advanced Placement Chemistry.

Overall Philosophy and Skill Sets

Science deals with natural phenomena (events) that can be observed, measured, and tested by the Scientific Method, which involves hypothesis formation and the testing of these proposed hypotheses. Students, as scientists, must be able to use their senses to observe (directly and/or indirectly) and evaluate their results.

As students pass from one science course to another, specific skills are learned, refined, and expanded. These skills include:

- Devising experimental procedures
- Carrying out a research plan for testing one's explanations
- Using diagrams, tables, charts, and graphs to represent and organize observations
- Analyzing and interpreting the data obtained through experimentation.
- Reaching a conclusion as to whether the explanation on which the prediction was based is supported.
- Revising the explanation, based upon the results of testing. and proposing additional experimentation.

Jewish History

9th Grade- Integrated into Global History I	10th Grade- Girls
<p>Students learn and analyze many of the major aspects of Classical Jewish history.</p> <p>Areas of study:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Judea and the Greeks 2. Hasmonean Rule 3. Judea under Roman Rule 4. The Rise of Christianity & Islam 	<p>Students learn and analyze many of the major aspects of Medieval and Modern Jewish history. Films, legal documents, letters, artifacts, historical texts, speeches, etc., are used to inspire discussion and promote individual thinking. Students are encouraged to draw connections and to determine the relevance of past events.</p> <p>Areas of study:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Golden Age of Spain 2. Medieval anti-Semitism 3. Enlightenment and the Jews 4. Holocaust 5. Zionism 6. Jews in the Middle East
12th Grade- Boys	
<p>Students learn and analyze many of the major aspects of Modern Jewish history. Films, legal documents, letters, artifacts, historical texts, speeches, etc., are used to inspire discussion and promote individual thinking. Students are encouraged to draw connections and to determine the relevance of past events.</p> <p>Areas of study:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Holocaust 2. Zionism 3. Jews in the Middle East 	

Key Skills:

- Students understand and distinguish cause, effect, sequence, and correlation in historical events, including the long- and short-term causal relations.
- Students use a variety of maps to to explain the historical migration of people, expansion, and the disintegration of empires.
- Students compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their accounts.
- Students distinguish fact from opinion in historical narratives and stories.
- Students distinguish between primary and secondary sources and draw sound conclusions from them.
- Students compare the present with the past, evaluating the consequences of past events and decisions and determining the lessons that were learned.
- Students distinguish valid arguments from fallacious arguments in historical interpretations.



MAGEN DAVID YESHIVAH HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVE PROGRAM

MDYHS is proud to announce our four year elective program designed to bring a new level of sophistication and real-world readiness to our comprehensive curricula, giving students a unique advantage as they face the future.

9th & 10th Grade:

Students choose 4 semester long elective courses. These courses are designed to encourage students to find their passions, to confidently express themselves and to discover new and innovative technologies. Students must choose one elective from each category.

- Business (Leadership, Entrepreneurship)
- Communication (Art, Music, Drama, Public Speaking)
- Technology (STEM, Coding, Computer Science)
- Judaic Studies (Women in Tanakh, Living an Ethical Life, Halakhah in the 21st Century, Mishnah: A Journey Towards Completion)

11th and 12th Grade: Students choose from a broad range of electives. See Elective Booklet for more details.

Career Internship

12th grade Internships are coordinated with the Office of Career Services.