2015-2016 COURSE CATALOG
This is a list of all courses offered at Bella Vista High School. Not all courses are offered every year. The following pages include brief descriptions.

**ART**
Beginning Drawing & Painting
Advanced Drawing & Painting 1 & 2
Art Workshop (Glass Art)
Advanced Art Workshop
Beginning Ceramics
Advanced Ceramics 1 & 2
Beginning Photography
Advanced Photography 1 & 2
Introduction to Video Production

**BUSINESS EDUCATION**
Computer Applications
Advanced Computer Applications / Web Page Design

**ENGLISH**
English 1
Honors English 1
English 2
Honors English 2
English 3
Honors English 3
CSU Expository Reading & Writing
AP English Language & Composition
AP English Literature & Composition
Film Composition & Literature

**WORLD LANGUAGE**
French 1
French 2
French 3
French 4
AP French
Japanese 1
Japanese 2
Japanese 3
Japanese 4
AP Japanese
Spanish 1
Spanish 2
Spanish 3
Spanish 4
AP Spanish

**INDUSTRIAL ARTS**
Wood Technology 1
Wood Technology 2

**MATHEMATICS**
Integrated Math 1
Real Life Math
Geometry
Transition to Algebra 2
Algebra 2
Mathematical Ideas/Statistics
AP Statistics
Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC

**PERFORMING ARTS**
Beginning Drama 1
Advanced Drama
Concert Band
Advanced Concert Band
Jazz Ensemble
Guitar
Music Appreciation
Concert Choir
Madrigals

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
PE 1
PE 2
PE 2/Weights
PE Life Time Sports

**SCIENCE**
Earth Science
Biology
Honors Biology
AP Biology
Physiology
Chemistry
Honors Chemistry
AP Chemistry
Physics
AP Physics 1
AP Physics 2

**SOCIAL SCIENCE**
World Geography
World History
Honors World History
United States History
AP United States History
Economics
American Government
AP European History
AP Psychology
Psychology
Intro to Cultural Anthropology
International Relations
Political Science

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**
Study Skills 1-4
Special Education:
  Math, English, World History,
  US History, Economics, American
  Government & Geography
Independent Living Skills
Adaptive PE

**GENERAL ELECTIVES**
AVID 1, 2, 3
AVID Senior Seminar
AVID Tutor
Basketball
Newspaper
Pep Arts
Reading Tutorial
Student Government
Teacher Aide / Office Assistant
Tutoring Other Students
Weight Training
Yearbook

**CAREER EDUCATION**
Regional Occupation Program (ROP)

**HEALTH**
Health

**HOME ECONOMICS**
Foods/Nutrition
ART

Materials Fee

BEGINNING DRAWING & PAINTING
Grades: 9 - 12
Beginning Drawing and Painting allows students to build in art skills to produce original art work.

ADVANCED DRAWING & PAINTING 1 & 2
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: “C” or better in Beginning Drawing & Painting
Advanced Drawing and Painting 1 and 2 allow students to build on Art skills to produce original art work. Students use oil paints, watercolors, airbrush and other mediums to complete their major projects.

ART WORKSHOP (Glass Art)
Grades: 11 - 12
Art Workshop is a class with an all glass format. Students are taught glass terms and the four components of glass are explored: stained glass using the lead and foil method, etching and sandblasting, hot bead glass, and fusing and slumping in a glass kiln. Students will have writing assignments and study the state framework in art relating to the history of glass from 17th century to present. Assessment is done through a portfolio format.

ADVANCED ART WORKSHOP
Grades: 12
Prerequisite: Art Workshop
Advanced Art Workshop allows students to explore the medium of glass through original ideas and designs. Students are expected to critique their own work using the state framework as a guide.

BEGINNING CERAMICS
Grades: 9 - 12
Students are instructed in basic hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Principles of Art/Design are stressed in the planning stages of each project. A portfolio of all work is required.

ADVANCED CERAMICS 1 & 2
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: “C” or better in Beginning Ceramics or teacher recommendation
Students are challenged with more difficult creative and structural problems to solve involving pottery principles of Art/Design. Advanced students also assist with kiln loading and glaze mixing. Students are required to develop a portfolio and encouraged to visit local galleries.

BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHY
Grades: 9 - 12
Beginning Photography covers the basics of camera operation, film processing and print developing. Emphasis is on composition and learning to develop a “photographer’s eye.” As the course progresses, more advanced techniques are covered. Students must have their own adjustable 35MM camera.

ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY I & II
Grades: 10 - 12
Advanced Photography I & II includes study of advanced techniques and further study of the foundational principles. Students are encouraged to experiment with different photo methods and have more rigorous assignments. Other projects incorporate the use of the computer in photography and applying the different uses of photography.

INTRO TO VIDEO PRODUCTION
Grades: 10 - 12
In this project based course students will use, analyze and create video media to express in writing about film and television. This introductory course will provide an environment for creative expression through visual media. The completed project will be a video product based on their script. Students will study the impact of film and television on society from a social, economic, and political viewpoint. Students are expected to know the history of film making and the technological advances in the art form.
BUSINESS EDUCATION

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
Grade: 9 - 12
Semester Course
Backs up course to Health
Computer Applications includes instruction on word processing, spread sheet and Power Point applications, using Microsoft Office 2013.

ADVANCED COMPUTER APPLICATIONS/WEB PAGE DESIGN
Grades: 10 - 12
6 units CSUS credit
Prerequisite: Computer Applications or Teacher Recommendation
Advanced Computer Applications teaches students using the advanced features of Microsoft Office 2013 programs. Web Design teaches basic HTML and development of a personal web page.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 1
Grade: 9
English focuses on improving reading comprehension skills, logical thinking processes, and a broad range of writing skills, from the expository to the creative. Students will read Homer’s Odyssey, Shakespeare’s Romeo & Juliet, and a selection of other novels as well as poetry and short stories.

HONORS ENGLISH 1
Grade: 9
Weighted Grade
Prerequisite: Honors Placement List
Honors English 1 is an overview and chronological survey of World Literature. A study of great works in literature is integrated with writing, vocabulary, language, and speaking/listening activities. Composition assignments include timed writing, literary analysis, creative writing, poetry, and short stories. Students will develop skills in research, higher order reading comprehension, language usage and writing, literary analysis, critical thinking, speech, and discussion.

ENGLISH 2
Grade: 10
Standards-based English 2 focuses on some of the following literary works: Lord of the Flies, To Kill a Mockingbird, Night, one Shakespearean play, and genre-based literature. Students will continue to focus and improve their writing ability by working on literary and expository analysis.

HONORS ENGLISH 2
Grade: 10
Weighted Grade
Prerequisites: “B” or better in Honors English 1 or an “A” in English 1 with teacher recommendation and must score ‘proficient’ or ‘advanced’ on the STAR test
Honors English 2 uses a genre approach to the study of literature: poetry, the short story, plays, the novel and mythology. Critical thinking and composition skills will be emphasized. The course requires extensive and in-depth participation. Essays include critical analysis, argumentation, and comparison and contrast. The course goal is to help students develop a repertoire of skills for AP English.

ENGLISH 3
Grade: 11
English 3 is an American literature and composition course. American literature is taught using either the chronological or thematic approach. A variety of writing experiences are offered, including descriptive, narrative, journal writing, and literary analysis. The writing process will be emphasized from the pre-writing stage to the completion of the final draft. A research project is required.
HONORS ENGLISH 3  
Grade: 11  
Weighted Grade  
Prerequisites: “B” or better in Honors English 2 or an “A” in English 2 with teacher recommendation and must score ‘proficient’ or ‘advanced’ on the STAR test  
Honors English 3 is a rigorous course that focuses on research projects, composition, literature, college entrance tests, and vocabulary. Students write analytical, comparative, and research essays. This survey course of the canon of American literature is used as a foundation to prepare students for AP English.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION  
Grade: 11  
Meets Prerequisite  
Weighted Grade  
The course is designed to be rigorous and academically challenging, allowing students to engage in an intensive study of representative works of recognized literary merit, both American and British, including fiction and non-fiction. Students will read for the purpose of analysis of structure, style, and theme; for social, historical, and political values reflected in a text; and for identification and understanding of the use of literary elements such as: figurative language, imagery, symbolism, point of view, diction, tone, and syntax. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of: (1) rhetorical theory, including: Aristotle’s artistic proofs of ethos, pathos, logos, probability versus truth and the use of syllogisms and logical fallacies; (2) modes of discourse including: grammatical, rhetorical and poetical; (3) structure, including: narration, description, compare and contrast, definition, argument and persuasion, cause and effect analysis, and classification; and (4) stylistic and rhetorical devices, including: controlling tone; establishing and maintaining voice; and achieving appropriate emphasis through diction, detail, point of view, organization, and syntax.

CSU EXPOSITORY READING & WRITING (A-G)  
Grade: 12  
CSU Expository Reading and Writing (ERWC) is a one-year (10 credits) English course for students in the 12th grade. This course will prepare seniors for the literacy demands of higher education and literate citizenship. The cornerstone of the course (ERWC Assignment Template) is a scaffolded process helping students read, comprehend and respond to nonfiction and literary texts. The ERWC is closely aligned to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and seven criteria of the UC English requirements. Only teachers trained by CSU professors may teach the course. Seniors with “Ready for College-Conditional” scores on the Early Assessment Program (EAP) test can complete their college entrance English requirements with ERWC, allowing them to enter college at the freshmen English level avoiding any freshmen remedial English coursework. Students, other than the “Ready for College-Conditional,” may take the course as space is available. This is a University California (UC) approved A-G course for English. The prerequisites for this course are English 1, English 2, English 3 and “Ready for College-Conditional” score on the Early Assessment Program (EAP).

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION  
Grade: 12  
Meets Prerequisite  
Weighted Grade  
This course involves students in both the study and practice of writing and the study of literature. Students will learn to recognize the assumptions underlying various rhetorical strategies. They will become aware of the resources of language: connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone. The desired goals of the course are the honest and effective use of language and the organization of ideas in a clear, coherent, and persuasive way. Students will also develop critical standards for the independent appreciation of any literary work. To achieve these goals, students study the individual work, its language, characters, action and themes. Finally, the successful student will be ready to take the AP English exam in May.

FILM COMPOSITION & LITERATURE  
Grades: 11-12  
This course includes an overview of film history from its beginnings to the present, emphasizing major developments in cinema. Course also covers the nature of film technique and film language, film genre and style, and the analysis of specific films. Students will watch a variety of films as text for this course. English elective credit only.
HEALTH

Health
Grade: 9 - 12
Semester Course
Health Education covers areas in family life, sex education, communicable and degenerative diseases and their causes, positive lifestyles, influences on one’s well-being and first aid.

HOME ECONOMICS

Materials Cost

FOODS/NUTRITION
Grades: 9 - 12
Foods teach students basic cooking principles, fundamentals of nutrition, and simple meal planning. All basic food groups are studied for nutritional value and for the best methods of preparing and serving. Food is prepared and eaten at least once or twice a week.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Materials Cost

WOOD 1
Grades: 9 - 12
Wood 1 teaches students the principles of wood construction while learning to safely use hand and power tools. Students build projects such as cutting boards, footstools, speaker boxes, and jewelry boxes.

WOOD 2
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: Wood 1
Wood 2 allows students to build more elaborate projects. The curriculum focuses on a deeper understanding of the techniques and methods of woodworking. Use of power tools and machinery is emphasized.

MATHEMATICS

INTEGRATED MATH I
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: Middle School Math Placement
The fundamental purpose of Mathematics I is to formalize and extend students’ understanding of linear functions and their applications. The critical topics of study deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students build on their prior experiences with data, developing more formal means of assessing how a model fits data. Students use regression techniques to describe approximate linear relationships between quantities. They use graphical representations and knowledge of the context to make judgments about the appropriateness of linear models. With linear models, they look at residuals to analyze the goodness of fit. Mathematics I uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades.

REAL LIFE MATH
Grades: 11 - 12
Real Life Math reviews the basic skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and mathematics as it applies to business operations and consumer problems. This course also will prepare students in consumer related math, e.g. checkbook reconciliation, budgeting and borrowing money. Calculators are used.

GEOMETRY
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: “C” or better in both semesters of Algebra 1 or Algebra 1B
Geometry includes the study of figures, lines, angles, triangles, polygons, and circles. Logical reasoning in mathematics is stressed and units in Solid Geometry are integrated throughout the year.
TRANSITION TO ALGEBRA 2
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisites: “C” or better in Geometry. Students with one semester grade of “C” or better and one semester grade of
“D” in Geometry may be placed by teacher recommendation, however a “D” in Geometry is not CSU/UC approved
Transition to Algebra 2 reviews concepts from Algebra 1 and Geometry and also introduces Algebra 2 and Trigonometry
material. The course is for students who have completed Algebra 1 and Geometry, but do not feel ready to take Algebra 2.
The course prepares seniors for the ELM, the college entrance level math test.

ALGEBRA 2
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisites: “C” or better in both semesters of Geometry or “C” or better in both semesters of Transition to Algebra 2
Algebra 2 emphasizes solving equations and inequalities, graphing, use of function and relation, and working with all
types of exponents. Logarithms, complex numbers, matrix algebra, and probability will be introduced.

MATHEMATICAL IDEAS/STATISTICS
Grades: 11 - 12
Prerequisites: “C” or better in both semesters of Algebra 2
Mathematical Ideas is a general survey of mathematical topics and will include a mathematical approach to problem
solving, set operations, logic, numeration systems, number theory, properties of the real number system, and basic
concepts of algebra. Eight math projects will also be completed during the semester. A term paper on a mathematician or
a concept in mathematics is also required. Statistics is an introduction to probability and statistics. This course covers
descriptive statistics, probability, random variables and probability distributions, estimation of parameters, hypothesis
testing, chi-squared tests, linear correlation and regression, ANOVA, and non-parameter statistics. This course will also
include a laboratory and a culminating, active research study.

AP STATISTICS
Grade: 12
Prerequisite: “B” or better in Algebra 2
AP Statistics is an introduction to the major concepts and tools necessary for collecting, analyzing, and drawing
conclusions from data. Major themes include exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and
statistical inference.

PRE-CALCULUS
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: “B” or better in Algebra 2, “C” with teacher recommendation
Pre-Calculus is the study of values, graphs, properties, and applications of circular functions (Trigonometry), as well as
sequences, series, limits; algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic functions; matrices, and pre-calculus topics. The use of
graphing calculators is an integral part of this course.

AP CALCULUS AB
Prerequisite: “C” or better in Algebra 2 and Pre-Calculus, however, an academic “B” or better is recommended
Weighted Grade
AP Calculus AB is equivalent to the first semester of college calculus. Students use all of their previously acquired
mathematical skills and a graphing calculator to study both differential and integral calculus. Students who pass the AP
test may earn college math credits.

AP CALCULUS BC
Prerequisite: “C” or better in Algebra 2 and Pre-Calculus, however, an academic “B” or better is recommended
Weighted Grade
AP Calculus BC is both a review and an extension of the differential and integral Calculus covered in Calculus AB.
Students who pass the AP test may earn college math credits.
PERFORMING ARTS

DRAMA 1
Grades: 9 - 12
This course follows the district standards for Theater Arts. Improvisation, acting, theater history, genre, and theatrical production are all topics covered by this course. Student projects will include performances (monologues/scenes) as well as production design, character analysis, and script writing. All students will be required to apply practical knowledge to both the spring and fall play at Bella Vista.

ADVANCED DRAMA
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: Drama 1
Advanced Drama continues to expand the theatrical experience in learning activities described in Drama 1. Students will be given opportunities to direct scenes, head up production design teams, and write and perform more extensive scripts. Students are expected to take part in all productions at Bella Vista.

CONCERT BAND / ADVANCED CONCERT BAND
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
Concert Band is open to students who have had band experience. Students develop a technical vocabulary of music through essays and dialogue about the uses of elements of music in master compositions and contemporary works. Students are required to perform at all home football and basketball games, competitions, concerts and community events.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisites: Audition only and membership in the Concert Band for wind instruments and drums
Jazz Band Ensemble students study music that reflects current “Big Band” jazz styles, such as Count Basie, Woody Herman, Stan Kenton, Duke Ellington, and Buddy Rich. The group performs at several jazz festivals throughout California and at various community functions. Through essays students will compare and evaluate formal classical music with musical works from a variety of cultures.

GUITAR
Grades: 9 - 12
Students will learn the basics of music and performance through the study of guitar. Music Terminology, rhythmic figures, and reading notation (standard, lead sheets, and tablature) will be learned. At the end of the course, students will have the knowledge and experience necessary to continue to develop in an advance course or on their own. They will develop an appreciation for art music and an understanding of music genres and the music industry.

MUSIC APPRECIATION
Grades: 9 - 12
Music Appreciation is a music listening and analysis class for the non-performer. Students study the history of music, music theory, culture, and performers and develop critical listening skills with exposure to all eras of musical development in the western world. Students are taught to identify various uses of music in daily life and compare and contrast those with examples of similar uses in past cultures and non-American cultures of the present.

CONCERT CHOIR
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
Concert Choir is designed for students interested in performing and learning to sign using breath support and vocal techniques. Choral literature is learned and performed. Emphasis is placed on voice production, tone quality, theory, sight reading music, written choral reviews and music research. Students are expected to participate in all concerts given throughout the year.

MADRIGALS
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisites: Audition and teacher recommendation
Madrigals are for the advanced choral singing student. This award-winning, highly prestigious group requires extra time commitment and demands dedication, outstanding scholarship and citizenship in all classes. Written choral analysis and reviews are required.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1
Grade: 9
PE 1 fulfills the first required year of PE under the Course 1 State Standards. The emphasis is on individual/dual sports and fitness. Students must pass five out of six Fitness gram standards for fitness. Students who do not pass the required fitness testing in their 9th grade P.E. class will be required to take P.E. each year until they meet the fitness requirement. This will not affect graduation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: Must have passed a full year of PE 1
PE 2 fulfills the second mandatory year of PE under the Course 2 State Standards. The emphasis of Course 2 is team sports, tumbling/combative and the ability to create a fitness plan.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2/ WEIGHT TRAINING
Grade: 10-12
Prerequisite: Must have passed a full year of PE 1 with a grade of “C” or better
This class will fulfill the second mandatory year of PE under the Course 2 State Standards. The Course 2 emphasis is team sports and tumbling/combative activities. The Fitness emphasis of this class will be on CORE Stability, Strength and Speed Training utilizing Olympic Lifts (Bench, Cleans, Squats, Deadlifts) as well as a BodyFit/Crossfit work out styles.

WEIGHT TRAINING
Grades: 11 - 12
This class is designed for those students who want to get a great individualized workout without paying for a gym membership. Students will have the ability to pick from numerous activities and assessments to customize a plan for them. They will be expected to keep and maintain a portfolio with short term, intermediate and long term goals.

LIFE TIME SPORTS
Grades: 11 – 12
Prerequisite: Completion of PE 1 and PE 2
This is an elective course and does not count as PE credit
This course will include some of the following activities: tennis, softball, disc sports, volleyball, badminton, flag football, basketball, soccer, and hockey. The focus will be on developing more advanced strategies and skills through extended participation in the selected activities. In-class league play and tournaments will be a regular part of the course.

BASKETBALL
Grades: 11 - 12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
This is an elective course and does not count as PE credit
Basketball is an elective course that introduces the fundamentals for individual skill development as well as team concepts of zone defense, man-to-man defense and motion offense principles.

ADAPTED PE
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: Doctor / teacher recommendation
Adapted PE provides a diversified program of developmental activities, games, and sports for students with disabilities who may not safely or successfully engage in unrestricted participation in the vigorous activities of the general physical education program.

SCIENCE

EARTH SCIENCE
Grades: 9 - 12
Earth Science prepares students to enroll in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The class is activity and lab-based and includes the study of astronomy, geology, physics, chemistry, and evolution of the universe, the solar system, the earth, and the oceans. Motion, forces, matter and structures are a few of the topics integrated into the curricula. Each student will have a foundation of scientific knowledge, vocabulary, and its applications.
BIOLOGY
Grades: 9 - 12
Biology is a yearlong, 10 credit course. The course is the basis for all science courses for a college prep student. The content of this course will give you a good understanding and appreciation of the laws of nature and the variety of organisms that you must learn to coexist within our environment. This course will cover the five main themes found in the California State Standards: 1) Cell Biology, 2) Genetics, 3) Ecology, 4) Evolution, and 5) Physiology. Through these five units and through current events we will learn the important biological concepts such as cell function, cell structure, metabolism, respiration, photosynthesis, DNA structure, DNA function, heredity gene technology, origin of species, population dynamics, communities, ecosystems, and the human impact on the environment. This lab based class will make each and every student aware of the importance of the homeostatic condition of life, and how biological science knowledge may be important to our future.

HONORS BIOLOGY
Grades: 9 – 12 (9th if on Honors Placement List)
Weighted Grade
Prerequisites: must meet honors criteria and teacher recommendation
Honors Biology is an extensive and rigorous exploration of the living world. Due to the depth of the material covered within the course, Honors Biology is designed for students who have excellent reading, comprehension, and study skills with an advanced level of interest and motivation. Emphasis is on investigation, analysis, science process skills, and critical thinking of content through labs, research, media, and in depth discussions. Students must be self-directed learners, be prepared for class every day, and actively engage in class discussions. Logic, interpretation of data, and the use of higher level thinking skills are emphasized on a daily basis. Through inquiry laboratory experiences and practical application, students more deeply investigate standard based biology concepts such as biochemistry, cellular biology, molecular and Mendelian genetics, biotechnology, evolution, ecology and human physiology. This class is also designed to prepare students for taking and succeeding in Advanced Placement Biology.

AP BIOLOGY
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade
AP Biology is the equivalent of a college introductory biology course taken by college biology majors. AP Biology differs significantly from Biology with respect to the textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the laboratory work and the time and effort required by students. The course is designed for advanced science students and provides them with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. Students develop an understanding of those ideas that unite the following content areas: molecules and cells, genetics and evolution, and organisms and populations.

PHYSIOLOGY
Grades: 11 - 12
Prerequisite: Grade “C” or better in Biology or Honors Biology
Physiology introduces college-prep students to a balanced study of human Anatomy and Physiology. This is the study of the location and function of the body structures. Areas covered are the skeletal, muscular, nervous, circulatory, endocrine, digestive, urinary, lymphatic, integument, and reproductive systems. Emphasis is placed on the development of laboratory techniques with laboratory study centered on the pig and cat, and the students themselves. This class is of particular value to students contemplating careers in the laboratory technology, physical therapy, medicine, teaching in the field biological science or physical education. Completion of Biology and or Chemistry provides a deeper understanding of Anatomy Physiology.

CHEMISTRY
Grades: 11 - 12, 10 with teacher recommendation
Prerequisite: “C” or better in Algebra I
Chemistry is the science dealing with the structure and composition of materials and the changes on composition of these materials. Units include the study on the atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical formulas and equations, equilibrium, gas laws, acid-bases, and organic chemistry. The quantitative aspects of chemistry are stressed through problem solving. A strong emphasis is placed on scientific methods with the student gaining considerable experience in observing, organizing, and interpreting data.
HONORS CHEMISTRY
Grades: 11 - 12, 10 with teacher recommendation
Weighted Grade
Prerequisite: Must meet honors criteria
Honors Chemistry presents a qualitatively different and more enriching coverage of the principles normally included in the first year chemistry course. Techniques of experimental analysis and laboratory reporting are emphasized and serve as a basis for general problem solving activities.

AP CHEMISTRY
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade
AP Chemistry is college level and the equivalent of Chemistry 1A. The course includes rigorous study of chemical problems, kinetics, chemical and aqueous equilibrium, acids and bases, thermodynamics, electrochemistry and organic chemistry. The course emphasizes preparation for the AP test.

PHYSICS
Grades: 11 - 12; 10th grade with teacher recommendation
Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Geometry
Physics is the science where velocity, acceleration, force, momentum, work, energy, heat, electricity, waves, sound, light and nuclear energy are studied. The class includes labs that cover the fundamental concepts of physics with an emphasis on everyday life situations. The class is full of interesting and practical experiments and activities.

AP PHYSICS 1
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade
AP Physics 1 is an algebra based, introductory college level physics course that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills.

AP PHYSICS 2
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade
AP Physics 2 is an algebra based, introductory college level physics course that explores topics such as fluid statics and dynamics; thermodynamics with kinetic theory; PV diagrams and probability; electrostatics; electrical circuits with capacitors; magnetic fields; electromagnetism; physical and geometric optics; and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics. Through inquiry based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills.

 SOCIAL SCIENCE

WORLD GEOGRAPHY
Grade: 9
Semester Course
World Geography is intended to present the world’s geographic regions and to relate that knowledge to events in today’s rapidly changing world. Contemporary issues confronting the world today, such as trade, problems of developing nations, urbanization, environmental pollution, and conservation of the world’s resources are addressed. Students develop certain basic geography skills: these include map reading and place name identification along with the interpretation of charts and diagrams. As students gain a global perspective of geography, they become increasingly aware of their role as a global citizen today.

WORLD HISTORY
Grade: 10
World History is the study of the development of Western Civilization and culture from the Renaissance into the modern world. In the World History course the students will examine the main turning points, key people and trends as well as the impacting events that built and shaped the modern world into what it is.
HONORS WORLD HISTORY  
Grade: 10  
Weighted Grade  
Prerequisite: Must meet honors criteria  
Honors World History is designed for high-ability, college bound students, and differs from the regular course in that it offers greater historical content and depth of study. The course focuses on the modern era, with an emphasis on the origins and development of Western thought, ideas, and their impact on today’s world.

UNITED STATES HISTORY  
Grade: 11  
US History is the study of our nation’s history from its very beginning to the present day, with an emphasis placed on the post-Civil War period. All phases of American life are studied, including economics, social, political, and cultural development.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY  
Grade: 11  
Meets Prerequisite  
Weighted Grade  
AP US History is the study of the entire history of the United States, from its origins to the present. The course uses a college text and concentrates on historical reading and essay writing. The AP test is taken in May, and those who successfully pass could receive up to 12 units of college credits in US History.

ECONOMICS  
Grade: 12  
Semester Course  
Economics will provide students with an overview of general economic theories and principles. Practical consumer aspects are included, such as credit, banking, money management, and buying food and clothing, and tax forms.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT  
Grade: 12  
Semester Course  
American Government is designed to develop students to be critical, knowledgeable and involved individuals capable of being responsive citizens in society. Units of study include political decision making, political behavior, local government, the executive branch, the legislative process, and the judicial process. This class will be backed with Anthropology, Psychology, Political Science or International Relations.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY  
Grade: 12  
Meets Prerequisite  
Weighted Grade  
AP European History, the study of Europe from 1450 to the present, introduces students to cultural, economic, political, social, diplomatic and intellectual developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live. It is an intensive, challenging, college-level course, designed to heighten students’ ability to see relationships and make historical connections, using critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of multiple perspectives. In addition, students will develop their analytical and interpretative writing skills, using both document-based and thematic free response styles of questions. The AP test is taken in May, and those who successfully pass may earn college credits.

INTRODUCTION TO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY  
Grade: 12  
Semester Course  
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology introduces students to the field of anthropology with the aim of exploring the development of humankind, its relation to the environment, and its cultural institutions. Students study the concept of culture, language, environmental factors, economics, kinship, gender, control systems, art, and religion.
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Grade: 12
Semester Course
International Relations are an in-depth study of foreign policy. Students examine areas of the world and pertinent issues using background readings, speeches and lecture notes. Students analyze recent “trouble spots” in light of political, economic, historical and cultural differences.

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Grade: 12
Semester Course
Political Science is the study of criminal and civil law, the criminal justice system, the courts, the police, prisons and corrections. Students will examine the causes of crime and its solutions. This class will be expected to participate in extracurricular academic competitions, and requires the teacher’s signature for approval.

PSYCHOLOGY
Grade: 12
Semester Course
Psychology is the study of behavior and mental processes. The course includes personality theory, learning and cognition, the life cycle and stages of human development, and characteristic of mental and emotional problems.

AP PSYCHOLOGY
Grade: 12
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade
AP Psychology introduces 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, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields within psychology, with an emphasis on research and science. The AP test is taken in May, and those who successfully pass may earn college credits.

WORLD LANGUAGE
Materials Fee

FRENCH 1
Grades: 9 - 11
Prerequisite: “C” or better in both semesters of English recommended
In French 1, you will acquire foundational knowledge of French vocabulary and structures that will allow you to talk in a limited fashion about yourself, your family, the weather, the town in which you live and activities you do. In addition, you will learn about certain aspects of the cultures of French-speaking countries. The course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that most new material is presented in French in order to ensure the most rapid acquisition of language skills. You are encouraged to use your new language skills as often as possible. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

FRENCH 2
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: “C” or better in both semesters of French 1
In French 2, you will review previously-learned material and learn how to talk about things that happened in the past, how to talk about food and fashion, how to navigate the Paris metro, and how to make comparisons. At the end of this year, students who have completed all assignments and participated in all activities will be able to communicate at a basic level about a variety of topics. The course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted in French and you are encouraged to use French as your means of expression in preparation for more advanced study. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.
FRENCH 3  
Grades: 10 -12  
Prerequisite: “B” or better in both semesters of French 2  
In French 3, you will review previously-learned materials and learn how to talk about things that will and could happen, how to narrate stories in the past, and how to express your will and wishes. At the end of this year, students who participate in all activities and complete all required assignments will have all of the skills needed to communicate at an advanced/beginner or early intermediate level about a variety of topics. The course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted in French and French is the required language of student expression in French 3, 4, and AP. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

FRENCH 4 and AP FRENCH  
Grades: 11 - 12  
Weighted Grade  
Prerequisite for French 4: “B” or better in both semesters of French 3  
Meets prerequisite for AP French  
In French 4 and AP, you will review previously-learned material and build upon it to use more advanced features of the language in communicative situations. At the end of this year, students who have completed all requirements and participated in all activities will have all of the skills needed to communicate on an intermediate level about a variety of topics. This course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted in French and French is the required language of student expression on all assignments. Because AP students generally have not yet completed French 4, class work, tests, quizzes and daily homework will primarily focus on French 4, with additional, independent requirements for AP students to complete at home. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

JAPANESE 1  
Grades: 9 - 11  
Japanese 1 is designed to create a strong foundation of the Japanese language through the development of the four language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students are expected to be able to read and write “Hiragana,” one of the two basic Japanese syllabaries by the end of this course. The second set of the Japanese syllabaries “Katakana” also will be introduced.

JAPANESE 2  
Grades: 9 - 12  
Prerequisite: “C” or better in both semesters of Japanese 1  
Japanese 2 is designed to strengthen the four language skills by expanding the vocabulary, sentence structures to form more complex expressions. Students are expected to master “Katakana,” the second set of the Japanese syllabaries by the end of the course. The commonly used “Kanji,” Chinese characters will be introduced.

JAPANESE 3  
Grades: 10 - 12  
Prerequisite: “B” or better in both semesters of Japanese 2  
In Japanese 3 students will read and write with a full command of two sets of the Japanese syllabaries. “Kanji” – Chinese characters will also be added to daily uses. Large volumes of new grammatical concepts and vocabularies will be introduced to improve communication skills in writing and speaking.

JAPANESE 4  
Grades: 11 - 12  
Prerequisite: “B” or better in both semesters of Japanese 3  
In Japanese 4 students continue to expand their ability to communicate orally. There will also be an increased emphasis on written expression, including vocabulary expansion, analysis of the literature, and culture. Students’ projects may include individual or group research projects, debates, plays and multimedia presentations.
AP JAPANESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed 3 years of Japanese to achieve an advanced level of communication skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and the cultural knowledge to prepare for the AP Examination. The themes and topics covered in this course will help students deepen their understanding of the language and the Japanese perspectives towards social issues and values. A variety of authentic materials will be used. Students will be required to complete independent work assignments at home with instructor’s guide in addition to the regular Japanese Level 4 curriculum. The course is aligned to the National Standards for Japanese Language Learning. By the end of this course, students will be expected to acquire an intermediate level of proficiency on a variety of topics.

SPANISH 1
Grades: 9 - 11
Prerequisite: “C” or better in both semesters of English recommended

In Spanish 1, you will acquire foundational knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and structures that will allow you to talk in a limited fashion about yourself, your family, the weather, the town in which you live and activities you do. In addition, you will learn about certain aspects of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. The course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that most new material is presented in Spanish in order to ensure the most rapid acquisition of language skills. You are encouraged to use your new language skills as often as possible. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

SPANISH 2
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisites: “C” or better in both semesters of Spanish 1, pass middle school level one with “B” or better and middle school teacher recommendation

In Spanish 2, you will review previously-learned material and learn how to talk about things that happened in the past, how to talk about food and fashion, and how to make comparisons. At the end of this year, students who have completed all assignments and participated in all activities will be able to communicate at a basic level about a variety of topics. The course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted mostly in Spanish and you are encouraged to use Spanish as your means of expression in preparation for more advanced study. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

SPANISH 3
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: “B” or better in both semesters of Spanish 2

In Spanish 3, you will review previously-learned material and learn how to talk about things that will and could happen, how to narrate stories in the past, and how to express your will and wishes. At the end of this year, students who participate in all activities and complete all required assignments will have all of the skills needed to communicate at an advanced/beginner or early intermediate level about a variety of topics. The course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted mostly in Spanish and Spanish is the required language of student expression in Spanish 3, 4, and AP. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

SPANISH 4
Grades: 11 - 12
Prerequisite: “B” or better in both semesters of Spanish 3

In Spanish 4, you will review previously-learned material and build upon it to use more advanced features of the language in communicative situations. At the end of this year, students who have completed all requirements and participated in all activities will have all of the skills needed to communicate on an intermediate level about a variety of topics. This course will include all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture as well as literature, art, history, music and geography with an emphasis on grammar. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted in Spanish and Spanish is the required language of student expression on all assignments. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.
AP SPANISH
Meets Prerequisite
Weighted Grade
AP Spanish is comparable in content and difficulty to a college class. You will review previously-learned material and build upon it to use more advanced features of the language in communicative situations. At the end of the year, students who have completed all requirements and participated in all activities will have all of the skills needed to communicate on an intermediate level about a variety of topics. This course will emphasize all five skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture as well as advanced composition and conversation, while stressing grammar and oral skills. This course prepares the student to participate in the AP Examination if the student wishes to receive college credit. To that end, it is important to note that instruction is conducted in Spanish and Spanish is the required language of student expression on all assignments. All lessons and activities are aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12.

➤ SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education Department uses the Learning Center model that accommodates students in the Resources Program, Special Day Classes, Independent Living Skills and Physically Handicapped. Special Day Class students may take English and/or math in a special education setting. Many students have one period of study skills in the learning center. Resource students are in regular classes for all other subjects.

STUDY SKILLS 1
Students learn how to take notes, study for tests, take tests, organize and manage study time. Teachers offer specific direct instruction that supplements skills taught in core curriculum classes. Students refine basic skills through small group or individual instruction.

STUDY SKILLS 2, 3, 4
These courses offer students the opportunity to further enhance and refine skills by reinforcing those concepts taught by regular classroom teachers. Students continue to learn writing strategies, organizational skills, reading, test taking tips, and task completion.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ~ MATH, ENGLISH, WORLD & SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVE
Taught by a special education teacher, students study much of the same curriculum as the corresponding regular education class, but are taught through small group instruction, using materials that are appropriate for the particular needs of the students.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS
Independent Living Skills classes meet the needs of the students, as required by their Individualized Education Plan. Students learn how to use public transportation, work at jobs in the community, and learn the practical skills needed when they leave Bella Vista.

➤ GENERAL ELECTIVES

AVID 1, 2, 3, Senior Seminar ~ Advancement Via Individual Determination,
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: Selection based on AVID criteria
AVID is an international program for motivated students with college potential. The class teaches organization, study skills, college research, and the Socratic Method to promote inquiry, analysis and critical thinking. The AVID elective gives students the extra push necessary to not only help them with acceptance to four-year colleges but to foster the skills necessary for them to be successful college students.

AVID TUTOR
Grades 10-12
Prerequisite: Recommendation, high level math preferred
As a tutor, you will undergo training and learn the Socratic method of tutoring while earning a certification to improve your resume. Tutors help support the AVID students in bi-weekly tutorials. The course requires workable knowledge of general high school curriculum and good leadership skills. Tutors work very closely with AVID teachers to continually improve the tutorial experience.
NEwSPAPER
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisites: Application, interview, and a “B” or better in English
Newspaper’s major activity is to produce a monthly newspaper. Students write news, feature, opinion, editorial, sport, and entertainment stories. They also edit stories, proofread, solicit advertisers and sponsors, and do layouts for publication using Adobe InDesign CS2. This course is an academic elective.

PEP ARTS
Grades: 9 - 12
The first half of the year the drill team members learn to twirl tall flags and develop flag and dance routines. Students are required to perform with the band at home football games, competitions, local parades, home basketball games, school rallies and competitions. After the last Marching Band competition the drill team members are provided with a well-rounded dance curriculum with emphasis in modern and jazz techniques. Versatility is vital for today’s dancers; therefore, drill team members are expected to embrace and to perform all dance styles.

READING TUTORIAL (Does NOT fulfill English Requirement)
Grade: 9
Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and test scores
Reading Tutorial is an elective for students who need an intervention course to improve their reading abilities and bring them closer to the reading level necessary to be successful in high school. This course addresses reading comprehension and reading skills.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Grades: 9 - 12
Prerequisites: Elected; application and interview for appointed positions
Student Government is for those students that have been elected or appointed to student body or class offices. The class helps students gain expertise in how to solve political problems and to gain experience in developing leadership skills. Time in class is given for students to carry out the tasks of their office to which they have been elected or appointed.

TEACHER AIDE / OFFICE ASSISTANT
Grades: 11 - 12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
Students have the opportunity to work in a school office or with a teacher. They must obtain staff approval and complete a TA contract prior to taking this class. Students must maintain confidentiality, good attendance, good citizenship, and follow instructions to maintain their position.

TUTORING OTHER STUDENTS
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisites: “B” or better in Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation
Students assist the math teacher in tutoring students in the math tutorial class.

YEARBOOK
Grades: 10 - 12
Prerequisites: Application, interview, and a “B” or better in English
Yearbook students design and produce an annual that serves as a memory book and a historical reference of the school year. Students must have good writing skills, computer and/or photographic skills. Students will learn public relations skills and receive educational training in team work and responsibility, business, design and production, promotion sales, experience in journalistic copy writing, and the responsibility of meeting deadlines with quality production. This course is an academic elective.

 CAREER EDUCATION

ROP ~ Regional Occupational Program
Grades: 11 - 12
Prerequisites: 16 years or older and must provide own transportation
The Sacramento Regional Occupational Program provides job skill training in over 80 occupational areas to local high school students, through districts, and the Sacramento County Office of Education. Students generally attend 3 hours of instruction and training. Students with a job can also earn up to 15 elective credits per semester. A completed ROP application signed by the parent/guardian is required prior to registration.