

## Summit Charter School

### Projected High School Course Offerings

#### Overview

While Summit is a small high school, we provide a choice of high quality courses that will ensure that students meet the Future Ready Core graduation requirements and are competitively prepared for college or university. Please note there may be additions or modifications to the final course list or descriptions pending completion of high school faculty hiring and enrollment.

#### Honors and AP Level Courses

Advanced courses are offered in all core subjects for high school students. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves with the appropriate course level. Honors and AP enrollment is based on student interest, academic performance, and teacher recommendation.

#### English Language Arts (ELA)

##### English I & English I Honors

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

This foundational high school course provides a survey of literary styles and genres, with a focus on reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language.

##### English II

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: English I*

This course builds on the skills and knowledge developed in English I, with a focus on world literature. Students will develop reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language skills. Writing instruction focuses on mechanical correctness, fluency, and structure. The student is expected to function at grade level in communication and thinking skills. The North Carolina End of Course English II test will count as 20% of each student's final course grade.

##### English III

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: English II*

This course builds on the reading, writing, and argumentation skills of English I and II; students will delve more deeply into fiction and nonfiction reading and writing as well as poetry and plays. The sequence of coursework is designed to build habits of analytical reading, writing, and speaking so that students exit the course on the path to college-readiness. Students should expect homework assignments and/or compositions that reinforce classroom instruction. Writing instruction at this level focuses on mechanical correctness, fluency, and structure. The student is expected to function at grade level in communication and thinking skills.

##### English IV

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: English III*

English IV continues the sequence of skills begun in English I, II, and III and prepares students to be college/career ready. Students will read British literature, concentrating on literary terms and analysis. Emphasis is also placed on critical thinking skills and those needed for the SAT/ACT and beyond. Students will be able to write multi-page essays and read and comprehend literature independently. Students will be required to read selected literature outside of class. Class time will be spent analyzing, critiquing, and writing about the literature. Students will also complete the Senior Capstone Project as part of English IV requirements.

## **Social Studies**

### **World History**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

World History is a year-long required survey course that explores the key events and global historical developments since 1350 A.C.E. that have shaped the world we live in today. The scope of Modern World History provides the latitude to range widely across all aspects of human experience: economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, literature & the arts. The course will illuminate connections between our lives and those of our ancestors around the world.

### **American History I**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

American History I is designed to give students the opportunity to examine the historical origins of the U.S. from European exploration through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will learn about the important political and economic factors that contributed to the development of America, the establishment of political parties, America's westward expansion, the growth of sectional conflict, and conflict and consequences of war, including the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Students will continue to build upon previous studies of American History, the fundamental concepts in civics and government, economics, culture and geography and use skills of historical analysis as they examine American history. This course will require students to use higher level thinking skills and encourage them to make historical assessments and evaluations.

### **American History II**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: American History I*

American History II is designed to continue examination of the historical origins of the U.S. from the end of the Reconstruction era to present times. Students will examine the changes in the ethnic composition of American society, movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women, and the role of the US as a major world power. Emphasis will be placed on the expanding role of the federal government and the federal courts, as well as increasing tensions between the individual and the state. The desired outcome of this course is for students to develop an understanding of the relationship between past and present events, and to develop the ability to discuss and consider the role of the US in an interconnected world.

### **Civics and Economics**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

Civics and Economics is a course designed to teach students not only how the United States came into existence, but also to explain the government and economics institutions on which our society is based. Students will learn about what rights and duties are a part of being a citizen. They will learn about how the federal government works and the responsibilities the government has been entrusted with by the Constitution. Students will be required to examine several key Supreme Court Cases that have helped shape the interpretation of the law and directly impacted their daily lives.

## **Sciences**

### **Earth & Environmental Science**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

In this course students examine the many systems of our natural world. Students will use ecological lenses to examine our planet's hydrosphere, atmosphere, weather systems, climate, lithosphere, and biosphere. Many labs in this class will take place outdoors on our great campus; students should come prepared to work outdoors and to work as scientists. This course will require students to utilize systems thinking and the scientific method to discover and analyze our natural world and the relationship humans have with it.

### **Biology**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Earth/Environmental Science strongly recommended*

In this course, you will explore what distinguishes living things from non-living things and work to understand how living organisms interact with each other and with their environment at the molecular level, individual organism level, and community and global levels. Course of study includes basic biochemistry, cell biology and homeostasis, cell energetics, molecular genetics, Mendelian genetics and heredity, evolution, and ecology. interpretations. The North Carolina End of Course test for Biology will count as 20% of each student's final course grade.

### **Chemistry**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Math 2 or concurrent enrollment in Math 3 strongly recommended*

In this course students will explore the concepts and principles of chemistry, the study of the composition and properties of matter. Students gain understanding of the theories of the structure of matter through research, independent study, and laboratory work. Theoretical and mathematical relationships in chemistry are studied.

### **Physical Science**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Biology or Chemistry*

This course is laboratory-based science class in which students will study the principles of chemistry and physics that include matter, energy, structure of atoms, chemical reactions, forces, and motion.

### **Physics**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Grade of C or higher in Biology and Math 3*

This course is designed for students with a strong foundation in mathematics and the physical sciences, who are pursuing a competitive 4-year college experience and/or a college focus on math and science. The course will include more in-depth exploration of the mathematical and motion-oriented study of matter and energy. Students will learn through primary source research, discussion, problem-solving, and laboratory work. Quantitative skills learned in Math 3 and chemistry will be employed in the problem solving concepts covered. General areas of study will include concepts of mechanics, motion, astronomy, heat, light, sound, magnetism, and electricity.

## **Mathematics**

### **Math 1**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Proficiency in Math 8 or Pre-algebra standards*

Integrated Math I is the first course in college preparatory common core math sequence. This course includes topics like linear functions, quadratic functions, exponential functions, systems of linear equations and statistics and probability. Students will use different technological tools to solve and analyze real world problems. In addition, students will also learn about properties and characteristics of various functions. By the end of this course, students will be able to answer questions like finding slope, writing linear equations, exponential growth/decay and solving quadratic equations. The North Carolina End of Course test for Math 1 will count as 20% of each student's final course grade.

### **Math 2**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Math 1*

In Math 2, students continue to deepen their study of quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships from Math 1. The concept of quadratics is generalized with the introduction of higher degree polynomials. New methods for solving quadratic and exponential equations are developed. The characteristics of advanced types of functions are investigated (including power, inverse variation, radical, absolute value, piecewise-defined, and simple trigonometric functions). The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods. Students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. This course fulfills the North Carolina high school graduation requirement for Math 2.

### **Math 3**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Math 2*

This course progresses from the standards learned in Math 1 and Math 2. In addition to these standards, Math 3 extends to include algebraic concepts such as: the complex number system, inverse functions, trigonometric functions and the unit circle. Math 3 also includes the geometric concepts of conics and circles.

### **Pre Calculus**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Math 3*

This course is intended to prepare students for AP calculus AB and other higher level mathematics. In this course students will use and expand their knowledge and understanding of topics learned in Math 3, such as real and complex numbers, functions, equations and expressions, modeling polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and analytic geometry. In addition, students will study trigonometric functions, vector theory, matrices, and sequences and series. This course meets high school graduation and UNC minimum admission requirements for the 4th math credit.

## Elective Courses

### **LEAD**

**1-2 Credits**

This mandatory leadership course is designed to equip students to **Lead, Engage, Analyze, Discover**. Students also earn 2 elective credits as they participate in the following Friday rotation: Community Engagement, Outdoor Leadership, Mentor 360, Life Academy.

### Arts Education

#### **Visual Art - Beginning**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

This is an introductory course in the visual arts. Students study and use the elements of art and principles of design to create, invent, experiment, take risks, and solve artistic problems. The curriculum includes a variety of concepts and drawing media, techniques in perspective, painting and color theory, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. Students learn about art history, keep sketchbooks and participate in class critiques. This course is a prerequisite for advanced art courses.

#### **Visual Art - Intermediate**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Visual Art - Beginning*

In this course, students will use the concepts, skills and techniques learned previously to enhance artwork in two and three-dimensional design using a variety of different media. Students will develop an ability to make effective choices concerning media, techniques, subject matter and compositional design through in-depth studio based art projects. These courses will consist of more extensive study of art criticism, aesthetics and art history. Students keep sketchbooks and art portfolios and participate in class critiques. Students also have the opportunity to work independently on self-designed art projects to showcase their talents and passions.

#### **Visual Art - Advanced**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Visual Art - Intermediate*

In Art III students will expand on the concepts, skills and techniques learned in Art I and II to enhance artwork in two and three-dimensional design using a variety of different media. Students will develop an ability to make effective choices concerning media, techniques, subject matter and compositional design through in-depth studio based art projects. This course will consist of more extensive study of art criticism, aesthetics and art history. Students keep

sketchbooks and art portfolios and participate in class critiques. Students will have more opportunity and higher expectation to work independently on self-designed art projects to showcase their talents and passions.  
will include analysis of choice films from different genres from different periods of history.

### **Performance Chorus**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Audition*

*Audition will include singing part of a prepared song and scales*

Learn the basics of group singing, (including sight reading and harmony) to some of your favorite contemporary songs as well as traditional classics. This course will include a mid-winter performance and other formal and informal performance opportunities. Must be prepared to sing!

### **Theatre Arts Beginning, Intermediate & Advanced**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Theatre Arts Intermediate & Advanced require prior level or audition*

Theatre Arts introduces students to the basic aspects of movement, vocal expression, and ensemble work. Class activities include improvisation, vocal development, solo and collaborative presentations before an audience. As students continue beyond beginning level, they develop vocal and physical acting skills (including in-depth character analysis and development) and playwriting. Class activities include more challenging improvisation, vocal development, solo/collaborative presentations in acting, directing, and theatre production (costumes, lighting, makeup, scenery, and sound). Participation in after-school rehearsals and performances is expected.

### **Technical Theatre**

*Prerequisite: Theatre Arts Beginning*

**1 Credit**

Technical Theatre introduces students to the basic aspects of costumes, lighting, makeup, scenery, properties, sound, running crew, and stage-management. Students will learn about different theatrical careers and all aspects of putting on a production. Class activities include solo and collaborative projects in different aspects of technical theatre. Students will participate in playwriting, discovery and analyzation of plays and musicals from the technical aspect. Participation in after-school building/projects, rehearsals and performance (as a technician not an actor) is expected.

## **Engineering & Computer Science**

### **Coding and Programming**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

Description coming soon

### **Advanced Engineering and 3D Printing**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: Introduction to Engineering and Design, Math 1*

Description coming Soon

## World Languages

### Spanish I

*Prerequisite: None*

**1 Credit**

This course is an introduction to the study of Spanish and its culture. Students perform the most basic functions of the language and become familiar with some elements of its culture. The emphasis is placed on the development of the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing within a given context extending outside of classroom setting when possible. Students acquire insight into how languages and cultures work by comparing Spanish language and culture to their own native language. Integration of other disciplines is ongoing throughout the course.

### Spanish II, Spanish III, Spanish IV

*Prerequisite: Prior level or examination*

**1 Credit**

Students enrolled in each of these courses have successfully completed or placed out of the prior level course at middle or high school. The courses continue the development of listening, speaking, writing, and reading skills. Students participate in short conversational situations. They are able to satisfy basic survival needs and interact on issues of everyday life, and continue examining culture, perspectives, and practices. Integration of other disciplines is ongoing throughout the course. Spanish III and IV are Honors level courses.

## Health & Physical Education

### PE/Healthful Living

*Prerequisite: None*

**1 Credit**

This course addresses the healthful living essential standards and clarifying objectives approved by the North Carolina State Board of Education. Physical education components include the progressive development of motor skills and movement concepts along with learning opportunities that promote health related fitness and personal/social responsibility. Health components include analyzing the relation between nutrition and physical activity, understanding the importance and consumer health, learning solid decision-making to prevent use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Opportunities to practice solid decision making and conflict resolution strategies are provided to assist students in development of healthy mental and emotional health through productive interpersonal communication and development of relationships. ***This course is limited to 9th grade students or to students in grade 10 and up who do not yet have this credit.***

### Adventure Education & Wilderness First Aid: Beginning, Advanced

*Prerequisite: Completion of PE/Healthful Living*

**1 Credit**

This course focuses on examining the role of challenge and adventure in our lives. Students will improve their skills in leadership, collaboration and persistence through a variety of challenges including: Service projects, high ropes course, team-building activities, paddling, navigation and more. As a student in this course you will be asked to engage, step out of your comfort zone, and work hard to overcome group challenges. ***Students are outside for most classes and are expected to attend multiple off-campus trips.***

## **Humanities Electives**

### **Creative Writing**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

This course is designed for people interested in honing their skills as creative writers, while also cultivating and encouraging a community of writers. Students will explore different genres of writing, including poetry, fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction/memoir writing. Students will accomplish this through reading, writing, revision, and workshopping. Over the course of the semester, each student will build his/her own unique style and gain a thorough understanding of writing as an intricate and organic process. Students will be involved in literary events in the local and larger communities. The final culminating project for the course will be a portfolio of all the revised work done throughout the semester.

### **Journalism & Yearbook**

**1 Credit**

*Prerequisite: None*

This introductory newspaper course is designed for students interested in the construction and publication of regular editions of the school yearbook. Focus areas are learning fundamentals of publishing, photojournalism, and design. Students will learn the skills to write, edit, and produce the yearbook, as well as the ethics and legalities of being a journalist.

## **Science Electives**

We are in the process of developing science electives, including NC Wildlife, Botany, and Geology. Please contact Principal for more information