

CMC Curriculum Guide

Courses offered at CMC vary from term-to-term and year-to-year, including on-site high school courses (both core and elective curricula), articulated/advanced college credit courses, and visiting college instructor courses.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Literature courses thematically change each trimester and our language arts department updates the course descriptions each term.

****Articulated courses enable students to earn advanced college credit for earning a transferable grade in the course at the college level – i.e. SP-111, a grade of C or better results in earning dual high school and advanced college credits.**

Literature 1-2

This course serves as an introduction to literary analysis and writing about literature. Beginning with short stories, the class will master basic elements of fiction: plot, characterization, style, setting, tone, and mood. These principles will then be applied to analyzing three novels with specific focus on character development and “the hero’s journey.” The curriculum of the class will also include integrating core reading and writing strategies into concepts to build academic and organizational skills.

Readings: Selected short stories, *Flight*-Sherman Alexie, *Ender’s Game* – Orson Scott Card, *Power of One* – Bryce Courtenay

Literature 3-4

In the face of our country’s controversial war, the literary focus for this term will be “War and Redemption.” Through selected texts we will explore the nature of war and its place in the human psyche, how we move on from the losses of war, ways we find hope in the face of this loss, and the redemptive nature of the human spirit.

Readings: *The Things They Carry* – Tim O’Brien, *Slaughterhouse Five* – Kurt Vonnegut, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* – Jonathan Safran Foer

Comics and Historical Graphic Texts

This class begins with the roots and transformation of what we now call *comics*. We’ll explore the earliest forms of this kind of sequential art and the causes and ways in which it has morphed over time. Ultimately, we will examine the most recent incarnation of the comic book, the wildly popular graphic novel, focusing specifically on how graphic novels are being used to approach sensitive and serious topics and issues in history.

Primary texts include *Maus I & II*, *Persepolis*, and *911 Report: A Graphic Adaptation*.

Film and Non-Fiction (elective courses not offered every term)

This class will use a selection of documentary and historically-based films as the vehicle for researching, discussing, and ultimately understanding a variety of important social issues. Students will do extensive pre-research on the topics of each film and will read a selection of non-fiction articles and texts that work in tandem with the movie. Students should come with a willingness to view and discuss difficult issues independently in Socratic Seminars and write about the films and issues in analysis papers.

Poetry (elective courses not offered every term)

The design of this course will focus on reading a large body of poetry that stretches from early works through modern poetry and song lyrics. Through analysis of the readings students will learn the basic elements of poetry: form, imagery, metaphor, sound, rhythm, and rhyme. Students will also be constantly in the process of writing, workshopping, and compiling their own poetry portfolio over the trimester. Primary text: *Sound and Sense*



****SP-111 Public Speaking (articulated courses not offered every term)**

This course is designed to teach students the essential steps in preparing and delivering oral messages. All methods of instruction in this course are intended to foster, practice, and improve the student's public speaking ability. Through reading, listening, written work, discussion, brainstorming, research, reflection, and performance, students will be taught how to prepare and deliver several speeches. The end goal of class activities is to equip students with public speaking skills they may use in all walks of life. All North Clackamas School District graduation standards required speeches will be covered in this class.

****SP-112 Persuasive Speaking (articulated courses not offered every term)**

Through this course, students will learn how to more effectively influence others as well as how others are trying to influence them. This will include researching, outlining, writing, and delivering a variety of persuasive speech and debates. Issues discussed in class will include strategies for persuasion, audience analysis, theories of persuasion, structuring persuasive messages, and nonverbal communication. Students will give three persuasive speeches and participate in three debates during the course of the term.

MATHEMATICS

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Algebra I / MTH-060

This course is one which focuses on algebra fundamentals. Topics include operations in integers, first degree equations and inequalities, operations on algebraic expressions, factoring techniques, and an introduction to rational expression. This course will foster an understanding of signed numbers, tables and graphs, equations, mathematical modeling, function sense and linear functions, systems of two linear equations, and applications of these topics. This course is equivalent to Algebra I at the high school level.

Algebra I.5 / MTH-065

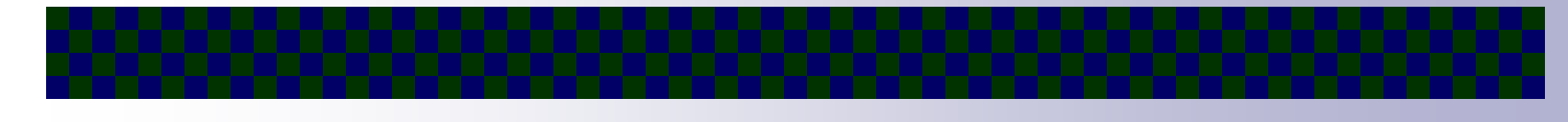
This course provides a review of factoring techniques; operations and equations involving rational expressions, introduction to radicals, solving quadratic equations and an introduction to graphing techniques. This course will foster an understanding of mathematical modeling, function sense, linear, quadratic, and absolute value functions, systems of three linear equations, linear and absolute value inequalities, polynomial expressions and functions, complex numbers, and applications of these topics.

Algebra II / MTH-095

The third term of topics in algebra using the rule-of-four approach is designed to prepare students for transfer-level math (MTH-105 or MTH-111) courses at the community college. This course emphasizes problem-solving and graphical techniques with the use of a graphing utility. Students that have successfully completed the algebra sequence or the appropriate terms in the sequence up through Algebra II are ready to take MTH-111 at CMC in the fall for advanced college credit, as well as transferable college credit.

Geometry

Geometry is a branch of mathematics that deals with the measurement, properties, and relationships of points, lines, angles, and two- and three-dimensional figure. The topics to be studied include basic geometric figures, deductive reasoning and proofs, postulates and theorems for parallel lines and planes, corollaries and theorems for congruent triangles, properties and theorems for quadrilaterals, inequalities of triangles, and polygons.



****Pre-Calculus / MTH-111 (as needed)**

In order to be eligible to take this course, one must have either completed Algebra II or MTH-095 successfully, or tested into MTH-111 or higher on the COMPASS placement test. This course is part I of a pre-calculus sequence that provides an extensive study of functions and their inverses modeled algebraically, numerically and graphically. Specific functions include the exponential, logarithmic, polynomial and power functions. Modeling real world applications are emphasized. This course will foster an understanding of functions and their properties, including rates of change, short- and long-run behavior, transformations and symmetry, algebra and composition of functions, inverse functions, discrete functions, and fitting functions to data. Particular attention will be paid to the use of functions to model applications and solve problems.

Personal Finance (elective courses not offered every term)

In this course, students will learn how to shape their own financial lives, influence government and business economic policies, and participate fully in the economic system of the United States. Content includes information to encourage students to become rational, competent decision-makers, productive members of the workforce, informed and effective consumers, prudent savers and investors, responsible citizens, and effective participants in the global economy. They will develop financial skills for personal and family well-being; balancing work and family; management of resources; financial services and responsibilities; responsible use of credit; consumer decisions; and rights and responsibilities of consumers.

SCIENCE

All science courses are labeled as sequences but are students do not need to take the sequence from term to term – students are able to enter into the courses at any point during the sequences. Courses rotate from year-to-year.

General Biology

This course is a three-term survey of biological science, microbiology, genetics, and biodiversity. *This sequence is aligned with CCC's Biology 101, but at a less rigorous pace.* Term 1 will examine biology and its relationship with the other core sciences. Term 2 will focus on genetics, while term 3 looks at the diversity of life on our planet.

Planetary Astronomy

A three-term series of courses in astronomy focuses on an in depth exploration of the planets in our solar system. Term 1 delves into the science behind astronomy. Term 2 focuses on our solar system, and term 3 will emphasize the life and death of stars, as an in depth study beginning with our Sun. *This is an advanced science sequence similar to the community college sequence.*

Geology & Earth Science

The science of what lies beneath your feet. Oregon has one of the most varied and interesting geologies of all the states in the US. This class we will learn the basics of what make up the science of Geology through its relation to all the regions of Oregon and Washington. Term 1 will emphasize an introduction to basic geology. Terms 2 will examine geology and the environment, with focus on meteorology, while term 3 specifically focuses on Oregon's geology.

Global Science

This is an introductory course to the foundation sciences of physics, chemistry and biology. Term 1 will introduce students to the scientific method and a survey of physical science. Term 2 emphasizes basic chemistry and scientific lab write-ups, while term 3 provides an introduction to biology with focus on biomes and the organisms that make up the world we live in.

Conceptual Physics

Physics is one of the foundations of all scientific theory, and in this class we will take a conceptual and tactile approach to understanding the physical world and its interactions. This means that the class will be more focused on the ideas and basic math concepts that are required to understanding the other core sciences and advanced sciences.



SOCIAL SCIENCE

History, government, and economics courses thematically change each trimester and our social science department updates the course descriptions each term.

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Topics in U.S. History

This Course is a limited chronicle of the United States. This course is not a survey course; we will not be covering every aspect of U.S. History. Instead, we will be focusing on specific events and their effect. The course surveys political, economic, religious, social and intellectual changes during the United States' advancement from colonial times to the present.

Film and Politics I & II

Film plays an uncertain yet undeniably prominent role shaping the contours of the American political landscape and our collective understanding of political history. In this class, we read about American politics and history as we watch a mix of documentaries and feature films. The class is organized around various themes, including: Atomic Weapons, Cold War, Communism, Racism, Violence, and Gender.

Students will gain an appreciation of the complex relationship between art and politics. History and mythology take shape, in part, in darkened rooms where groups of strangers collectively laugh, cry and groan through cinema efforts. Class activities will include a weekly essay and Socratic and/or Paideia Seminars.

Media Arts

The curriculum will explore issues related to the current American election cycle, as well as components of creating effective video productions. The class will revolve around the creation of student video regarding selected issues and campaigns in the upcoming November elections.


American Government

This course is designed to introduce students to campaigns and elections in the American political system. The course is not designed to teach students how to run successful campaigns (although we will certainly talk about what works and what does not work in campaigns). Instead, the focus is what political science has taught us about campaigns, their operation, and their influence on electoral outcomes.

In the course, we will examine of the relative importance of five sets of actors in campaigns and elections: candidates, the media, voters, parties, and campaign professionals. We will explore their interactions and evaluate their relative influence within a set of institutional rules (e.g., the Electoral College) and within the broader American political culture, which together create the legal and normative framework for campaign activity.

As the course begins, the presidential nomination season will be well under way. As such, after a brief introduction to campaigns and elections, we will jump into the topic of presidential nominations and elections. We will develop and test several hypotheses about who wins nominations and why. We will then consider the general election campaigns and ask whether they make any difference to the final outcome (the answer may surprise you).

The remainder of the course will turn to questions about voters and turnout (and whether turnout matters), candidate motivations for seeking office, the kinds of people who become candidates, the role of race and gender in campaigns, the paradox of congressional elections (i.e., that the incumbency advantage has increased while party control has become more tenuous), and the role of gerrymandering in congressional elections. We will conclude with a normative evaluation of the performance of the various actors in American elections.



Early American History

This course is designed to provide you with an overview of United States history from Colonial America to the end of the Civil War. We will go over major themes in United States history through lecture and discussion, possible movie watching, timeline exercises, journal keeping, and readings of primary and secondary sources.

Economics (elective courses not offered every term)

This class will explore the structure of the global economy. We will focus on basic economic theories and examine the roles different economic systems play in the development of nations. This will be a research intensive class.

Moral Dilemmas (elective courses not offered every term)

This course will seek to develop each individual's understanding of moral reasoning and the philosophical underpinnings thereof. We will start by defining what moral reasoning is and is not. Next, we will tackle the dilemma of what makes life worthwhile. Our third unit will look at marriage and family. Next, will be an exploration of the three types of friendship. The final unit will be selected by the students themselves.

Cultural Geography (elective courses not offered every term)

"Geography is an all-encompassing discipline that seeks to understand the world- its human and physical features- through an understanding of place and location."-Matt Rosenberg

In this course students will be introduced to the importance of spatial organization- the location of places, people, events, and the connections among places and landscapes- in the understanding of human life on Earth. We will spend considerable time looking at the spatial arrangement of land forms on Earth and how humans have created political boundaries within these landforms. Students will also explore the ways in which the human population is organized geographically so they can make sense of cultural, political, economic, and urban systems. Finally, students will become familiar with the components and regional variations of cultural patterns and processes, and how geographers assess the spatial dimensions of cultural groups. By the end of the course students should have an understanding of how social and cultural phenomena differ between the geographic areas of the world.

****PSY-101 Human Relations (articulated courses not offered every term)**

Focus is an introduction to interpersonal relationships and human relations in a social context. Course includes individual and group activities, lecture, and discussions with an emphasis on student participation.

FINE ARTS – Visual and Performing

Visual Arts:

No visual art classes are not offered every term – Advanced and Studio Art courses are offered more on an as needed basis.

Topics in Art I & II

In this course students will produce art using a variety of mediums. Students will become familiar with several different art movements, basic terminology, and concepts. Students will be expected to make connections between their work and other artists, cultures, and time periods. Each term we will look at particular movements such as Pop Art, Assemblage, Fluxus, Romanticism, Impressionism, and Minimalism. There will also be time set aside each term for technique instruction and creative journaling.

Advanced Art I & II

This class will be an extension of Topics in Art I & II. A basic understanding of color theory, drawing techniques, and terminology is expected in order to be successful in this class. The students will look at art movements in more detail and be expected to do independent research on the movements. After exploring them from an art history standpoint, students will create pieces based on an artist associated with the movement. Each student is expected to compile all work into a portfolio and write reflections & artist statements on their work.



Studio Art I & II

This should be considered independent art. Students will work individually with the instructor to plan out projects for the term. They will work independently on these projects with periodic check-ins from instructor.

Fiber Arts

This course is a sub classification of fine art defined by the almost exclusive use of fabrics, yarn, and other natural or synthetic fibers as the medium in which the artist expresses her or himself. Throughout the term students will learn the basic processes of weaving, crochet, papermaking, simple clothing design, and natural dye techniques. The course will also explore some of the intellectual, philosophical, and historical considerations specific to the study of art cloth, textile construction, and embellishment.

Commercial Art

This course will serve as an introduction to art created for commercial purposes: primarily art used in the advertising, marketing, and branding of products, businesses, and entertainers. Students will learn the basics of layout, creative lettering design, illustration, and advertising concepts. Over the term students will develop a professional-quality graphic design portfolio including letterheads, logos, newspaper and magazine advertisements, and poster design.

Survey of Modern and Contemporary Art

This course will take an art history approach to the study of modern and contemporary art movements. Students will become familiar with several different movements, basic terminology, and concepts essential for understanding art made since the beginning of the twentieth century. The movements this course will focus on will include: Cubism, Vorticism, Art Brut, Pop Art, Kitchen Sink, Minimal Art, and the New Leipzig School. In addition to the study of these movements, students will individually pick three and create pieces in the style of an artist associated with the movement.

Performing Arts:

Acting courses are taught as sequences but students do not need to take the sequence from term to term – students are able to enter into the courses at any point during the sequences.

Acting I: Monologues

This course studies the methods, techniques, and theories of acting as an art form. Performance of lab exercises, improvisational performances, and monologues are the basic teaching approaches.

Acting II: Scene Work

This course studies the methods, techniques, and theories of acting as an art form. Performance of lab exercises, improvisational performances, and cuttings from plays are the basic teaching approaches.

Acting III: One Act Plays

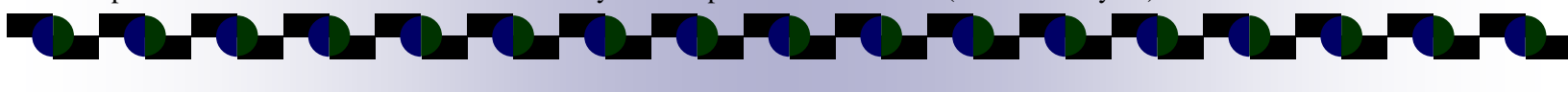
This course studies the methods, techniques, and theories of acting as an art form. Performance of lab exercises, improvisational performances, and the performance of a One-Act-Play are the basic teaching approaches.

SPECIALTY COURSES

Specialty courses are offered every term at CMC to assist students to complete the school specific high school requirements, as well as offer students skill building to better assist them in transitioning over to the community college.

College Readiness

It is the intent of the CMC CRSS program to prepare students to enter college-level academic courses and programs through relevant curriculum related skill development. Students will also receive instruction in study skills and content related learning strategies. Each student will develop an individualized plan that will address achievement goals and specific academic needs that are to be met by the completion of the course (or academic year).



Youth Take Action I

Youth Take Action (YTA) is a school-based service-learning program designed to connect education with service in the community. YTA is based on the following concepts:

- *Interactive technology is an effective tool for engaging today's adolescents, especially home-educated and at risk youth;*
- *Youth should be given a voice and challenged to identify, research and propose solutions to real life problems in the community as part of their curriculum;*
- *Providing students with a service-learning option to meet state standards while helping their community can promote lifelong civic engagement and citizenship.*

YTA is a one-term requirement, where students complete 40 hours of service along with a class component. Each participating student is required to do at least 40 hours of service through individual and group projects with community-based organizations. Once students are engaged in their service projects, they continue to learn by discussing, sharing and reflecting on their service activities on-line and in groups. The course curriculum includes civics and government lessons such as the rights and responsibilities of being a U.S. citizen and how these concepts relate to serving in the community.

Senior Seminar & Senior Internship

This is a term long course each student is required to take in conjunction with her or his internship. Each student must pass Senior Seminar in order to receive her or his Senior Internship credit. It is necessary for each student to either start or have already started her or his internship while taking this course. It is not necessary for students to take this course the term they are graduating, however it must be taken during each student's final year of high school. During this seminar students will have 3 primary goals:

- *Individually and as a group exploring options for the future*
- *Completing all paperwork and assignments for her or his internship portfolio preparing for her or his internship presentation*

Early in the term students will take interest and career aptitude surveys, complete searches for possible sites, finalize a site, and start their internship. Later students will work on portfolio assignments, conduct research on college, training, or employment options, and participate in group discussions on topics such as managing money, life-long learning, proper workplace behavior, time management, and adjusting to adulthood.

CCC ON-SITE COURSES AT CMC

Each term, CMC brings into our curricula offerings visiting instructors from CCC to offer our students college curricula, instruction, and experience on-site at CMC. Courses vary throughout the year.

HD-140 Career Exploration

Students use information about themselves (values, interests, personality and skills) and information about the world of work (career and industries) to make long term career decisions.

HE-249 Mental Health

Students examine factors which influence emotional and mental well-being. Emphasis is placed on handling day-to-day situations in a positive, healthful manner.

HE-255 Body & Alcohol

Course covers alcohol as a drug, problem drinking, alcohol use and its effect on family, social and economic well-being, and the rehabilitation process.