HOMESCHOOL COLLEGE USA

Course Curriculum – HIGH SCHOOL

FRESHMAN YEAR – COLLEGE PREP

1. Freshman English (1 credit)

Freshman English covers basic grammar, writing skills necessary to construct strong, well-written essays, literary analysis, and in-depth study of four classic novels.

Saylor's Pre-College English - http://www.saylor.org/courses/engl000/

Course Description:

"Coursework focuses on critical reading and analytic writing in response to readings with emphasis on organization, unity, coherence, and adequate development; an introduction to the expository essay; and a review of the rules and conventions of standard written English. In Unit 1, you will learn the basics of active reading and how active reading is paramount in your success as a student and beyond. You will also learn how to identify the main idea in a piece of literature and how to create a topic sentence to convey the main idea in your own writing. You will discover the benefits of prewriting along with prewriting techniques that you can use before you begin any writing project. In Unit 2, you will delve deeper into the main idea by learning the basics of thesis statements, while developing strong thesis statements of your own. You will also learn the value of outlines in writing and some techniques to outline effectively. Units 3 and 4 continue to explore active reading by focusing on making inferences and learning to paraphrase material for use in your own writing. Unit 5 wraps up the writing process by providing strategies for writing introductions and conclusions. Various types of essays will be explored, along with strategies to incorporate effective introductions and conclusions in each type. All of the units include grammar basics to help your continued growth as a writer. Each unit will also have active reading practice, so you may apply the skills you are learning throughout the course."

Literature novel units

1st Quarter: *The Call of the Wild*, by Jack London
Study Guide - http://www.glencoe.com/sec/literature/litlibrary/pdf/call_of_the_wild.pdf
2nd Quarter: *Johnny Tremain*, by Esther Forbes
Study Guide - http://www.glencoe.com/sec/literature/litlibrary/pdf/johnny_tremain.pdf
3rd Quarter: *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley
Study Guide - http://www.glencoe.com/sec/literature/litlibrary/pdf/frankenstein.pdf
4th Quarter: *Animal Farm*, by George Orwell
Study Guide - http://www.glencoe.com/sec/literature/litlibrary/pdf/animal_farm.pdf

2. Algebra 1 (1 credit)

SAS Curriculum Pathway's Algebra 1 - http://www.sascurriculumpathways.com/portal/courses/algebra.jsf

Course Description:

"This course provides all the required content to address the Common Core State Standards for Algebra. Course content engages students through real-world examples, images, manipulatives, animations, videos, guided practice, and targeted feedback. Students continue to develop problem-solving, critical thinking, and reasoning skills while working through course content. "

Additional practice worksheets - http://www.kutasoftware.com/free.html

3. Environmental Science with Lab (1 credit)

Learner.org's The Habitable Planet - http://www.learner.org/courses/envsci/index.html

Course Description:

"The Earth is probably unique in our solar system—a rare platform for complex life forms. The conditions present on Earth are maintained within a reasonable range by a series of global cycles linking geological systems with diverse forms of life present in almost every available niche. This course asks: What makes Earth unique among planets? How are life forms, namely human beings, sustained by the Earth's overall ecosystem, and, in turn, what effects do humans have on its natural systems? What does Earth's future look like? Given current trends, what can be predicted and what might be expected if we acted in concert to mitigate our impacts on the planet itself? The Habitable Planet is a multimedia course consisting of 13 units. Each unit is composed of a thirty-minute video and an online text chapter. Additional materials include 5 interactive lab activities, visual animations, and scientist biographies."

Lab Activities (in addition to lab activities from The Habitable Planet)

HippoCampus Simulations - http://www.hippocampus.org/HippoCampus/Earth%20Science

Lab simulations cover topics including the greenhouse effects and gas properties.

4. US History 1 (1 credit)

Saylor's Introduction to United States History: Colonial Period to the Civil War - http://www.saylor.org/courses/hist211/

Course Description:

"This course will introduce you to United States history from the colonial period to the Civil War. You will learn about the major political, economic, and social changes that took place in America during this 250-year period. The course will be structured chronologically, with each unit focusing on a significant historical subject in early American history. The units will include representative primary-source documents that illustrate important overarching political, economic, and social themes, such as the development of British America, the founding of the American republic, and the crisis of the federal union that led to the Civil War. By the end of the course, you will understand how the American federal union was founded, expanded, and tested from 1776 to its collapse in 1861."

5. Psychology (1 credit)

Saylor's Introduction to Psychology - http://www.saylor.org/courses/psych101/

Course Description:

"This course will introduce you to the fundamental principles of psychology and to the major subjects of psychological inquiry. It has been designed to not only provide you with the tools necessary for the study of psychology but to present you with a sampling of the major areas of psychology research. The course begins with a short overview of how psychology developed as an academic discipline and an introduction to a number of the principle methodologies most commonly deployed in its study. The subsequent units are arranged around broad areas of research, including emotion, development, memory, and psychopathology. We will focus on well-substantiated research and current trends within each of these categories."

6. Computer Science (1 credit)

Saylor's Computer Skills Course and Computer Science

Computers Skills and Literacy - http://www.saylor.org/courses/prdv001/

Course Description:

"This course provides students with a comprehensive introduction to computers. Students will explore a variety of topics in computing, such as the following: the components of a computer, common computer terminology, an introduction to the Internet, computer security and privacy, computer troubleshooting techniques, and steps to maintain the life of your computer. Through readings and videos, students will learn how to fully understand the basics of computer technology."

Introduction to Computer Science 1 - http://www.saylor.org/courses/cs101/

Course Description:

"This course will introduce you to the field of computer science and the fundamentals of computer programming. This course has been specifically designed for students with no prior programming experience, and taking this course does not require a background in Computer Science. This course will touch upon a variety of fundamental topics within the field of Computer Science and will use Java, a high-level, portable, and well-constructed computer programming language developed by Sun Microsystems (now Oracle), to demonstrate those principles. We will begin with an overview of the topics we will cover this semester and a brief history of software development. This course will cover basic object-oriented programming terminology and concepts such as objects, classes, inheritance, and polymorphism in addition to discussing fundamentals of Java, its primitive data types, relational operators, control statements, exception handling and Java I/O. The course will conclude with an introduction to algorithmic design. By the end of the course, you should have a strong understanding of the fundamentals of Computer Science and the Java programming language."