



Graduation Requirements and Course Catalog



Altus Graduation:

Students graduating from an Altus School must complete 42 Semester Credits in grades 9-12. Altus schools' graduation requirements may fulfill the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) admissions requirements. Items that have an asterisk (*) are the courses that UC or CSU bound students should take.

GRADUATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS	
English - 8 semester credits	Mathematics - 6 semester credits
4 credits - English 1-4* 2 credits - American Literature* 2 credits - World Literature*, Contemporary Voices in Literature* or English Literature* *4 years required	2 credits - Algebra 2 credits - Geometry 2 credits - Intermediate Algebra* or Integrated Math I *3 years required, 4 years recommended
Science - 4 semester credits	Social Studies - 6 semester credits
2 credits - Physical Science (Earth Science, Physics* or Chemistry*) 2 credits - Life Science (Biology*) *2 years required, 3 years recommended	2 credits - World History*, Geography & Economics* 2 credits - US History* 1 credit - Government* 1 credit - Economics * 2 1/2 years required
Electives - 13 semester credits	Senior Exhibition - 1 semester credit
PE credits earned prior to Altus will be counted as elective credits UC/CSU: 2 credits –Approved electives in same area	All students must present a senior portfolio (met through the <i>Introduction to Careers 2</i> course)
World Languages and Visual, Performing and Practical Arts – 3 semester credits	
<u>Option 1:</u> 2 credits - World Language (both semesters must be the same language) 1 credit - Visual, Performing or Practical Arts	<u>Option 2:</u> 2 credits - Visual or Performing Arts 1 credit - Practical Art
<u>UC/CSU Option:</u>	
4 credits – World Language (all semesters must be the same language; 2 years required, 3 years recommended) 2 credits – Visual or Performing Arts (both semesters need to be the same course)	

GRADUATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS, CONTINUED

Computer Literacy – 1 semester credit

Demonstrate proficiency in computer literacy in grades 7-12 by taking an approved course.

ROP/Service Learning/WEE – 2 semester credits

Option 1:
2 credits - ROP (Regional Occupational Program)

Option 2:
2 credits - Service Learning (120 hours total of community service)

Option 3:
Work Experience Education (350 hours of paid employment)

Grade Point Average (GPA)

All students must have a weighted GPA of 2.0 or higher in scholarship based on coursework completed in grades 9-12.

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)

All graduates must pass both the English Language Arts and Mathematics sections of the California High School Exit Examination in order to receive a diploma in California. **Passing score is 350.**

NOTE: Students, including English learners, who have not passed one or both parts of the high school exit examination by the end of grade 12 are to be provided the opportunity to receive intensive instruction and services for up to two consecutive academic years after the completion of grade 12.

** Courses required for UC/CSU Admissions.*

Students planning on applying to a UC or CSU can request a meeting with a college counselor to develop a course plan.



ENGLISH

Altus English 7-1, 7-2 (A1501a, A1501b)

Blended Learning Course:

English Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

This two-semester course includes the study of literature in major genres: short story, drama, nonfiction, poetry, fable, myth, legend and the novel. Activities emphasize writing, oral communication, spelling, vocabulary, grammar and usage. A variety of writing styles and essay types are emphasized.

Altus English 8-1, 8-2 (A1520a, A1520b)

Blended Learning Course:

English Language Arts 8

Grade: 8

This two-semester course includes the study of literature in major genres: short story, drama, nonfiction, poetry, fable, myth, legend and the novel. Activities emphasize writing, oral communication, spelling, vocabulary, grammar and usage. A variety of writing styles and essay types are emphasized.

***+Altus English 1, 2 (A1540, A1541)**

Blended Learning Course:

***English Language Arts 9**

Grade: 9

In this two-semester course, the students will be exploring the human condition and the discovery of the self, in an attempt to address the Essential Question, “What does it mean to be human?” They will be asked to examine the reasons why we behave in the ways that we do, how humans interact with one another, and express their beliefs and values.

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Required readings will focus on analysis and making historical connections with the classic literature, as well as developing reading, vocabulary, and writing skills that are aligned with the California Common Core Standards. Students will grapple with the theme of self-discovery in various formats by using Web 2.0 technology.

***+Altus English 3, 4 (A1570, A1571)**

Blended Learning Course:

***English Language Arts 10**

Grade: 10

In this two-semester course, the students will be exploring the themes of prejudice, equality, and self-advocacy in an attempt to address the Essential Question, “What does it mean to find one’s voice and question one’s rights?” They will be asked to examine focusing questions such as, “Are people essentially good or essentially evil?” Required readings will focus on analysis and making historical connections with the classic literature, as well as developing reading, vocabulary, and writing skills that are aligned with the California Common Core Standards. Students will grapple with the themes of social injustice and social advocacy using a variety of mediums including textbooks, novels, videos and the various web 2.0 technology.

***+Altus American Literature 1, 2 (A1583, A1584)**

Blended Learning Course:

***English Language Arts 11**

Grade: 11

This two-semester course emphasizes skills and strategies for independent reading, analyzing, and writing about works of

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American literature, with a focus on how that literature reflects social, political, and moral issues in the U.S. Reading, writing, oral communication, and language study are emphasized in this course. The goal is to encourage students to communicate effectively in various forms.

***+Altus Honors American Literature 1,2 (A1585, A1586)**

Grade: 11

This two-semester course emphasizes skills and strategies for independent reading of, analyzing, and writing about works of American literature, with a focus on how that literature reflects social, political, and moral issues in the United States. Instruction in each standards-based unit of study interrelates reading, writing, oral communication, and language study. Students are provided with multiple opportunities to articulate their own ideas as well as to question, interpret, and evaluate others ideas. The goal of instruction is to support students who communicate effectively in various forms, for genuine purposes, and to authentic audiences. This course is approved for admission to the University of California as an honors course.

***+Altus Contemporary Voices in Literature 1, 2 (A1612, A1613)**

Grade: 11, 12

This two-semester course meets the English requirements for grades 11 or 12, or it can be taken as an elective. Students explore issues by American and world writers who are writing today. These writers come from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Students write for various purposes and

audiences. The course integrates all aspects of literacy: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

***+Altus English Literature 1, 2 (A1641, A1642)**

Grade: 12

In this two-semester course students will explore classic works of literature developed in the British Isles over the last 1,000 years. Students develop the ability to use varying approaches to writing and the develop the ability to use new vocabulary terms within this writing. Activities emphasize reading, writing, and standard English grammar and usage.

***+Altus World Literature 1, 2 (A1705, A1706)**

Blended Learning Course:

***English Language Arts 12**

Grade: 11, 12

In this two-semester course students will explore genres through exposure to works by writers from various cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Students explore how the development of technology has impacted language usage. Students write for various purposes and audiences and exhibit their ability to integrate all aspects of literacy: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Altus Journalism 1, 2 (A1960, A1961)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester elective course introduces students to the basic techniques of journalistic writing. Students will explore the concept of freedom of press and its implications for contemporary American culture. This course

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will prepare students for involvement with both local and school-related publications. Students will learn to meet deadlines, conduct interviews, perform evaluations, and familiarize themselves with editing procedures. In addition, students will learn to utilize a variety of informational sources, critique the unique aspects of a newspaper, and apply grammar, punctuation and vocabulary appropriately. In addition to these activities, students will maintain an individual portfolio which will contain major course assignments along with reflections regarding course activities. This portfolio will be representative of the course goals and objectives.

***+Altus Writer's Workshop 1, 2 (A1745N, A1746N)**
Grade: 9-12

This two-semester elective course provides instruction in the process of writing for different purposes and audiences. Students will demonstrate competency in the process of composition, while becoming familiar with various styles of writing. Students will gain practice editing and revising their own original works, while developing critical thinking skills and improving their use of the English language. .

CAHSEE Support ELA (Grammar in Use – Part 1)
Blended Learning Course:
CAHSEE ELA
Grade: 10-12

This one-semester course is specifically designed for 10th-12th grade students that have not passed the English Language Arts section of the California High School Exit Exam

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(CAHSEE).

This course is designed to improve reading and writing skills and provide students with standardized test prep strategies to apply to the ELA section of the CAHSEE.

MATHEMATICS

Altus Pre-Algebra 7-1, 7-2 (A4001a, A4001b)
Blended Learning Course: Math 7
Grade: 7

This course is required of all 7th grade students. This course lays the foundation for Algebra 1 and focuses on the following key strands: number sense; functions and algebra; measurement and geometry; statistics, data analysis, and probability; and mathematical reasoning. Basic operations, problem solving, and communication in math are also emphasized. (*Ref. California Math Content Standards for Math 7*)

Altus Algebra Readiness 8-1, 8-2 (A4080)
Blended Learning Course: Math 8
Grade: 8

This course is designed for grade 8 students who need additional time and support to build the fundamental skills necessary for success in algebra. The course is organized around five major strands: number sense, algebra and functions, measurement and geometry, Algebra 1, and mathematical reasoning. It reinforces the skills and concepts needed to meet the standards on which these students will be assessed. Students will study an array of principles including: Operations and properties; solving one-step equations and

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inequalities; working with ratios, proportions and percents; solving linear functions; graphing; analyzing data; and probability.

Altus Basic Algebra 1, 2 (A4032, A4033)
Grade: 7-9

This is the standard course required of all grade 7 students who are not enrolled in Honors Pre-Algebra or Pre-Algebra Exploration or grade 8 students who have not successfully passed pre-algebra. The course lays the foundation for algebra and emphasizes the following strands: number sense and operations; functions and algebra, problem solving, mathematical reasoning, general mathematics vocabulary and communication. (*Ref. CA Math Content Standards for Basic Algebra*)

Blended Learning Course: Trigonometry
Grade: 11-12

In this one-semester course, students use their geometry and algebra skills to begin their study of trigonometry. Students will be required to express understanding using qualitative, quantitative, algebraic, and graphing skills. This course begins with a quick overview of right triangle relationships before introducing trigonometric functions and their applications. Students explore angles and radian measures, circular trigonometry, and the unit circle. Students extend their understanding to trigonometric graphs, including the effects of translations and the inverses of trigonometric functions. This leads to the Laws of Sines and Cosines, followed by an in-depth exploration of trigonometric identities and applications. This course ends with an introduction to the polar coordinate system, complex numbers, and

DeMoivre's Theorem.

***+Altus Algebra 1, 2 (A4041, A4042/A4032, A4033)**
***Blended Learning Course: Algebra I**
Grade: 8-10

This course in elementary algebra is a college preparatory course in which the student learns the fundamentals of solving problems by methods that were not previously available at the arithmetic level. Students develop an understanding of the symbolic language of math. Algebraic skills and concepts are developed in various problem-solving situations with symbolic reasoning and calculations with symbols serving as the focus of the course. (*Ref. California Math Content Standards and Framework for Algebra 1*).

***+Altus Geometry 1, 2 (A4141, A4142)**
***Blended Learning Course: Geometry**
Grade: 9-11

Students will learn many geometry skills and concepts that are useful in their daily lives. In addition to learning these skills and concepts, students will develop the ability to construct formal, logical arguments and proofs in geometric settings and problems. (*Ref. California Math Content Standards and Blueprint for Geometry*)

***Altus Integrated Math 1, 2 (A4121, A4122)**
Grade: 10-12

This course is designed to review the concepts taught in a first-year algebra course and in the geometry course. It provides supplementary instruction of the key

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California Content Standards for these two courses and reinforces both content knowledge and basic skills in these disciplines. (*Ref. California Content Standards for Integrated Math 1*)

***+Altus Intermediate Algebra 1, 2 (A4151, A4152)**

***Blended Learning Course: Algebra II**
Grade: 11-12

This course complements and expands the mathematical content and concepts of Algebra 1 and Geometry. In this course, students gain experience with algebraic solutions of problems in various content areas including the solution of systems of quadratic equations, permutations and combinations, logarithmic and exponential functions, the binomial theorem, and the complex number system. (*Ref. California Math Content Standards Blueprint for Algebra 2*)

***+Altus Pre-Calculus 1, 2 (A4161, A4162)**

***Blended Learning Course: Pre –Calculus**
Grade: 11-12

This college preparatory course is normally offered only to twelfth-grade students. The course includes two semesters of integrated concepts of trigonometry and advanced algebra in such a form as to make them most useful for later study of analytic geometry and calculus. This course also includes an introduction to topics in discrete mathematics. This course is intended to help students meet mathematics content standards AT.1 through AT.7 and performance standards. (*Ref. CA Math Content Standards*)

***+Altus Honors Pre-Calculus 1, 2 (A4163,**

A4164)

Grade: 11-12

Honors Pre-Calculus is a rigorous course designed specifically for students who seek a challenge in mathematics and intend to take Calculus. The course content covers a variety of functions including linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Additionally topics include: matrices, conic section, and sequence and series. Honors Pre-Calculus is designed and intended for students planning to major in mathematics, engineering, economics, and sciences. (*Ref. CA Math Content Standards*) This course is approved for admission to the University of California as an honors course.

Blended Learning Course: Financial Math

Grade: 9-12

A two-semester course designed for high school students, this course focuses on the applications of mathematics in both personal and business settings. This course contains 15 major topics encompassing many aspects of financial math: personal financial planning, income, budgeting and wise spending, banking, paying taxes, the importance of insurance, long-term investing, buying a house, consumer loans, consumer credit, consumer debt, economic principles, traveling abroad, starting a business, and analyzing business data. Students apply various math skills such as percents, proportions, probability, data analysis, linear systems, exponential functions and formulas to real life situations. A unique feature of this course is that each lesson is centered on the mathematical skills used in the world of personal finance. In the Making Connections

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sections, engaging project based learning activities provides students with a deeper understanding of the subject matter. Students participate in interactive activities and use inquiry to explore scenarios that are relevant to their lives.

Altus CAHSEE Support Math Part 1 (A4088)

Blended Learning Course: CAHSEE Math
Grade: 10-12

This one-semester course is specifically designed for 10th-12th grade students that have not passed the mathematics section of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). Course content includes diagnostic tests and test prep skills, fractions, decimals, percents, problem solving and critical thinking, integers and order of operations, exponents, introduction to algebra, solving one step equations and inequalities.

CAHSEE Support Math Part 2 (A4088)

Grade: 10-12

This one-semester course is specifically designed for 10th-12th grade students that have not passed the mathematics section of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). Course content includes diagnostic tests and test prep skills, solving multi step equations and inequalities, algebra word problems, introduction to graphing, graphing and writing equations, systems equations and systems of inequalities, polynomials, and statistics.

CAHSEE Support Math Part 3 (A4088)

Grade: 10-12

This one-semester course is specifically designed for 10th-12th grade students that have not passed the mathematics section of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). Course content includes diagnostic tests and test prep skills, data interpretation, probability, patterns and problem solving, measurement, ratio, proportions, and scale drawing, plane geometry, solid geometry, reflections, translations, and plotted shapes.

CAHSEE Support Math (10-12) (A4088)

Grade: 10-12

This one-semester course is specifically designed for 10th-12th grade students that have not passed the mathematics section of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). Course content includes topics to be found in number sense, statistics, data analysis, and probability, algebra and functions, measurement, geometry, Algebra 1, and mathematical reasoning strands.

SCIENCE

Altus Life Science 7-1, 7-2 (A6003a, A6003b)

Blended Learning Course: MS Life Science
Grade: 7

This two-semester course is designed to meet the California Content Standards for Life Science which includes an introduction to the topics of cell biology, genetics, evolution, earth science, and living systems. Students in this course will use the inquiry method supplemented by conducting and analyzing experiments in order to explore the nature of

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living things. Students will also use technology to collect data and communicate ideas.

Altus Physical Science 8-1, 8-2 (A6005a, A6005b)

Blended Learning Course: MS Physical Science
Grade: 8

This two-semester course is designed to meet the California Content Standards for Physical Science which includes motion, forces, structure of matter, earth and life science, chemistry, density and buoyancy. Students will use the inquiry method supplemented by conducting and analyzing experiments to explore the nature of the physical and chemical world. Students will also use technology to collect data and communicate ideas.

***+Altus Earth Science 1, 2 (A6023, A6024)**
Blended Learning Course: Earth Science
Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course is designed to meet the California Content Standards for Earth Science which includes astronomy, chemistry, geology, oceanography, meteorology, and paleontology, and serves as a foundation for further study in physics, chemistry, marine and environmental science. Students will use the inquiry method to investigate those principles and processes that bring about changes in the physical environment, supplement their understanding by conducting and analyzing experiments, and utilizing technology to collect data and communicate ideas.

***+Altus Biology 1, 2 (A6111, A6112)**
Blended Learning Course: Biology

Grade: 10-12

This two-semester course is designed to meet the California Content Standards for Biology which includes cell biology, genetics, ecology, evolution, and physiology. It also serves as a foundation for further study in physics, chemistry, marine and environmental science. Students in this course will use the inquiry method supplemented by conducting and analyzing experiments to investigate the fundamental processes of living and non-living systems, as well as the interrelationships between them. Students will also use technology to collect data and communicate ideas. In addition, students will explore the impact of human society and technology on the biosphere.

***+Altus Physics 1, 2 (A6311, A6312)**
Blended Learning Course: Physics
Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course is designed to meet the California Content Standards for Physics which includes motion, forces, conservation of energy, momentum, heat and thermodynamics, wave phenomena, electricity and magnetism. It also serves as a foundation for further study in biology, chemistry, marine and environmental science. Students will use the inquiry method supplemented by conducting and analyzing experiments to investigate the physical laws that govern nature and the universe. Students will also use technology to collect data and communicate ideas.

***+Altus Chemistry 1, 2 (A6211, A6212)**
Blended Learning Course: Chemistry
Grade: 10-12

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This two-semester course is designed to meet the California Content Standards for Chemistry which includes atoms and bonding, conservation of matter, stoichiometry, properties of gases, acids and bases, solutions, chemical thermodynamics, reaction rates, chemical equilibrium, organic and nuclear chemistry. This course serves as a foundation for further study in college science courses. Students will use the inquiry method supplemented by conducting and analyzing experiments to investigate the nature of elements, compounds and mixtures, and how they interact through chemical reactions. Students will also use technology to collect data and communicate ideas.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Altus World History and Geography 7-1, 7-2 (A6521a, A6521b)

Blended Learning Course: Ancient Civilizations, Medieval and Early Modern Times

Grade: 7

In this two-semester course students will learn about the social, cultural, and technological changes that occurred throughout the world in the years A.D.500-1789. After reviewing the ancient world and the ways in which history is uncovered, students will study the history of great civilizations that were developing throughout the world during medieval and early modern times. Students explore the causes and effects of the vast expansion and ultimate disintegration of the Roman Empire. Students learn all aspects about civilizations in the Middle Ages such as Islam, Ghana,

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Mali, Japan, China, and Latin America. Students examine the growing economic interaction among civilizations as well as the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. Students learn about the continuing impact of these civilizations in the world today. (Ref. California Grade 7 History-Social Science Content Standards)

Altus United States History & Geography 8-1, 8-2 (A6551a, A6551b)

Blended Learning Course: United States History and Geography

Grade: 8

In this two-semester course students will study the ideas, issues, and events from the framing of the U.S. Constitution up to World War I, emphasizing America's role in the war. After studying the birth and rise of America's democratic institutions, students examine the shaping and the establishment of the Constitution. Students trace the development of American politics, society, culture, and economy and connect them to the emergence of major regional differences. They learn about the struggles facing the new nation, with an emphasis on the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War. They make connections between the rise of industrialization and contemporary social and economic conditions. (Ref. California Grade 8 United States History-Social Science Content Standards)

***+Altus World History, Geography, and Economics 1, 2 (A6605, A6606)**

Blended Learning Course: World History and Geography-Modern World

Grade: 10

In this two-semester course students will

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study major turning points that shaped the modern world, from the late Eighteenth Century through the present, including the cause and course of World Wars One and Two. They trace the rise of democratic ideas and develop an understanding of the historical roots of current world issues, with a focus on international relations. They learn from the American experience that democratic ideals are often achieved at a high price, remain vulnerable, and are not practiced everywhere in the world. Students develop an understanding of current world issues and relate them to their historical, geographic, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Students consider multiple accounts of events in order to understand international relations from a variety of perspectives. (Ref. *California Grade10 History- Social Science Content Standards*)

***+Altus United States History and Geography 1, 2 (A6701, A6702)**

***Blended Learning Course: U.S. History**
Grade: 11

In this two-semester course students will study the major turning points in American history in the twentieth century. Following a review of early American history and the impact of the Enlightenment on the U.S. democratic ideals, students build upon the tenth grade study of global industrialization to understand the emergence and impact of new technology and a corporate economy, including the social and cultural effects. Students will trace the change in the ethnic composition of American society; the movement towards equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. An emphasis is placed on the expanding role of

the federal government and federal courts as well as the continuing tension between the individual and the state. Students consider the major social problems of our time and trace their causes in historical events. Students understand that our rights under the U.S. Constitution are vital to maintain in order to continue our freedoms. (Ref. *California Grade11 History/Social Science History Content Standards*)

***+Altus Government 1 (A6757)**

Blended Learning Course:

***U.S. Government**

Grade: 12

In this one-semester course, students will study and seek a deeper comprehension of cultural and political institutions in American government. Students will apply their knowledge of American political institutions as they compare other systems of government in the world today. They will analyze the history and pattern of change in interpretations of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of the legislative, executive and judiciary branches of government. Students will focus in particular on relationships among federal, state and local governments and specific emphasis on the significance of historical documents, such as the *Federalist Papers*. (Ref. *California Grade 12 History-Social Science State Standards*)

***+Altus Economics 1 (A6758)**

Blended Learning Course: Economics

Grade: 12

In this one-semester course, students will establish a foundation of understanding of fundamental economic concepts. They will

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expand their ability to analyze and apply tools such as graphs, statistics, and equations from other subject areas to the understanding of operations and institutions of economic systems. Students will comprehend and analyze basic economic principles of micro- and macroeconomics, international economics, comparative economic systems, measurement and methods in an historic context. (*Ref. California Grade 12 History-Social Science State Standards*)

Altus Geography 1 (A6538)

Grade: 9-12

This one-semester course is offered as an elective. Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of human and physical geography. They will be able to explain the uses of geography and various ways that the world is organized. This will include proficiency in reading various maps, charts, and graphs. Major topics will include the solar system, weather and climate, land forms, water, and natural resources, human systems, North America, South America, and Europe. (*ref. History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools*)

***Altus Philosophy 1 (A6821)**

Grade: 11, 12

This one-semester rigorous course provides an historic overview of the major schools of philosophic thought in the Western and Eastern worlds, and introduces students to eight major philosophic ideas concerning the nature of man and his relationship to the universe. Students learn to employ the vocabulary of epistemological, metaphysical, and ethical discussion, while developing critical thinking skills through the combined

dynamic of reading, debate, and discussion. (*ref. History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools*)

***+Altus Psychology 1, 2 (A6831, A6832)**

***Blended Learning Course: Psychology**

Grade: 11, 12

In this two-semester course students will study the following areas: an introduction to psychology research methods; biological bases of behavior; sensation and perception; motivation and emotion; learning; memory and thought; thinking and language; states of consciousness; and lifespan development. Specific content will include research, the nervous system, the endocrine system, nature vs. nurture, classical conditioning, operant conditioning, sleep, drugs, cognitive and emotional development, dying and death, and gender roles and differences, personality and individuality, intelligence testing, theories of personality, psychoanalytic theory, humanistic theory, cognitive theory, stress and health, psychological disorders, anxiety disorders, drug addiction, therapy and change, biological approaches to treatment, individual interaction, group interaction, attitudes and social influence, and psychology future and present. (*ref. History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools*)

***Altus Sociology (A6837)**

***Blended Learning Course: Sociology**

Grade: 11, 12

Pre-requisite: Completion of first semester or concurrent enrollment in US History

In this one-semester course students are introduced to sociological concepts, theories, and procedures. Students will learn to analyze the basic structures and functions of

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societies and of groups within societies. They will study social organization, identify conditions that lead to disorganization, and evaluate methods of reorganization. The topics explored will include sociological perspectives, sociological methods of inquiry, culture, social structure, socialization, self and social interaction, deviance, crime, and social control, groups and organizations, social institutions, stratification, racial and ethnic relations, gender and age inequality, demography and urbanization, and social change. (ref. *History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools*)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

*+Altus German 1 (A2051)

Grade: 7-12

No prerequisites

In this one-semester course students will build a foundation of knowledge in the German language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation, while encouraging gratitude for the traditions and customs of the culture. (Ref. *Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

*+Altus German 2 (A2052)

Grade: 7-12

Prerequisite: German 1

In this one-semester course students will build a foundation of knowledge of the German language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and

writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation, while encouraging gratitude for the traditions and customs of the culture. (Ref. *Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

Blended Learning Course: Spanish Year 1

Grade: 6-8

Middle school students begin their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas.

Blended Learning Course: Spanish Year 2

Grade: 6-8

Prerequisites: Spanish Year 1

Middle school students continue their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas.

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***+Altus Spanish 1 (A2321)**
Blended Learning Course: Spanish I

Grade: 9-12

No prerequisite

This one-semester course is designed to build a foundation of knowledge of the Spanish language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation, while encouraging gratitude for the traditions and customs of the culture. (Ref. *Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

***+Altus Spanish 2 (A2322)**
Blended Learning Course: Spanish I

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Altus Spanish 1

This one-semester course is designed to build a foundation of knowledge of the Spanish language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation, while encouraging gratitude for the traditions and customs of the culture. (Ref. *Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

***+Altus Spanish 3 (A2323)**
Blended Learning Course: Spanish II

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Altus Spanish 1, 2; Blended Learning Spanish I

This one-semester course is designed to expand students' base knowledge of the

Spanish language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation.

Encouragement of gratitude for the traditions and customs of the culture is extended. (Ref. *Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

***+Altus Spanish 4 (A2324)**
Blended Learning Course: Spanish II

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Altus Spanish 1, 2 and 3; Blended Learning Spanish I

This one-semester course is designed to expand students' base knowledge of the Spanish language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation. Encouragement of gratitude for the traditions and customs of the culture is extended. (Ref. *Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

***+Altus Spanish 5 (A2325)**
Blended Learning Course: Spanish III

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisite: Altus Spanish 1, 2, 3, and 4; Blended Learning Spanish I, II

This one-semester course is designed to expand students' knowledge of the Spanish language in each communication pathway: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The focus of this course is on the development of the aptitude to speak fluently with precise pronunciation and intonation. Encouragement of gratitude for the traditions and customs of

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the culture is extended. (*Ref. Foreign Language Framework for California Public Schools*).

FINE ARTS

Altus Art 7-1, 7-2 (A0101, A0102)

Grade: 7

In this two-semester course, students will be introduced to the elements and principles of art, art theory, and art criticism. Students will create and critique works of art that use various mediums such as pencil, paint, and ink. Students will learn self-expression through basic art concepts.

Altus Art 8-1, 8-2 (A0120, A0121)

Grade: 8

In this two-semester course, students will continue to discover the elements and principles of art, art theory, and art criticism. Students will create and critique works of art that use various mediums such as pencil, paint, and ink. Students will learn self-expression through basic art concepts.

***Altus Art 1, 2 (A0191, A0192)**

Blended Learning Course:

Introduction to Art (one semester only)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course is an introduction to elements and principles of art, art theory, and art criticism as it applies to master works and their own work. The course introduces a variety of media, including pencil, paint, cardboard, and ink to complete expressive compositions. Assignments based on an articulation of realistic space and three-

dimensional forms provide a foundation for more complex projects integrating the principles of art. Students will investigate the historical context of art throughout projects and evaluate the role of art in contemporary society, including the social/political uses of art. Students will analyze the role and influence of mass communication in the arts.

Blended Learning Course: Art History I (one semester only)

Grade: 9-12

Introducing art within historical, social, geographical, political, and religious contexts for understanding art and architecture through the ages, this course offers high school students an in-depth overview of art throughout history, with lessons organized by chronological and historical order and world regions. Students enrolled in this one-semester course will cover topics including early Medieval and Romanesque art; art in the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries; 15th-century art in Europe; 16th-century art in Italy; the master artists; high Renaissance and Baroque art; world art, which includes the art of Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific cultures; 18th- and 19th-century art in Europe and the Americas; and modern art in Europe and the Americas.

***Altus Photography 1 (A3691)**

Grade: 9-12

In this one-semester course students will acquire the ability to complete all of the processes involved in taking various kinds of photographs and producing finished prints. Students are taught the terminologies and techniques of photographic production, and camera operation. Students will study

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sensory, formal, expressive, and aesthetic properties of photographic art. Students will understand the principles of good composition (texture, shape, light, motion, perspective) and the application of photographic principles to industrial processes.

Altus Music Appreciation 1, 2 (A5381, A5382)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course introduces the historical contributions and cultural dimensions of music throughout the world. Students have an opportunity to respond to, analyze, and make judgments about specific works of music. Students investigate music from several cultures and different time periods. Students develop an understanding of cultural diversity as it relates to music and composers. Students also critically assess and derive meaning from works of music according to the elements of music, aesthetic qualities, and human responses.

***Altus Commercial Art 1, 2 (A0201, A0202)**

Grade: 9-12

In this two-semester course students will explore and design basic computer based two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art. Students are introduced to the elements and principals of visual design, such as line, shape, and balance, through various media. Students will develop design skills to be applied to real-world applications of design by creating various commercial art products.

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PRACTICAL ARTS

Altus Exploring Family and Consumer Sciences (A1032)

Grade: 7, 8

This one-semester course teaches middle school students the necessary living skills to assist them in improving their home, personal qualities, and family environments. They will study the dynamics of personal, family, and peer relationships. They will also learn about child care and development, food and nutrition, living environments and careers related to family and consumer sciences. Students will also learn how to have active roles in their school and community.

Altus Middle Level AVID/Senior High AVID 1, 2(A8061/A8060)

Grade: 6-8/9-12

These courses are designed for college bound students who are enrolled in a college-prep course. This course is designed to teach strategies to ensure success in college-prep coursework such as, note taking, outlining, writing, speaking, reading, test taking, and self-awareness. Students will work individually as well as collaboratively with small groups.

Altus Business Careers 1, 2 (A0701, A0702)

Grade: 9-12

These courses are designed to introduce modern business practices that include training in math, vocabulary, writing, communication, and proper business manner. Students will also learn about the American

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economic system, entrepreneurship, leadership, money management, and consumerism. Included are units on banking services, finances, paying taxes and Social Security services.

Altus Business Law 1, 2 (A0561, A0562)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course provides students with an understanding of the legal aspects of business. The first semester focuses on the intricacies of law and recognizing situations that may require legal assistance. Included units are contractual agreements, the court system, consumer protection and product liability and warranties. The second semester examines a variety of contracts. Included units are agency relationships, employment law, transferring and negotiable instruments, marriage, divorce, renting and buying a home, and retirement.

Altus Career and Life Management 1, 2 (A1169, A1163)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course will explore career possibilities, consumerism and the dynamics of family and human services. The course increases students' awareness of life skills including balancing personal/school life, work and family. Students will explore career paths and interests.

Altus Child Development/Parenthood Education (A1125, A1126)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course will introduce students to the vital skills in parenting and will provide information in the growth and

development of infants and children as well as provide "real-life" opportunities to observe a daycare setting, care for a simulated infant, and explore essential parenting skills.

Students will further explore the vital skills needed by a parent to ensure the positive development of all family members. Students will also explore "real-life" opportunities by seeking out community resources for children and their families.

Altus Food Preparation and Nutrition 1, 2 (A1165, A1166)

Grade: 9-12

This two-semester course will introduce the principles of being a smart consumer, proper food selection and preparation, basic nutrition, and preparing meals for both the individual and family. Students will develop necessary skills for meeting nutritional needs through exposure to food and ecology, special nutrient needs, and kitchen organization. Food customs and traditions in the U.S. will also be explored.

Altus Health (A2550)

Blended Learning Course: Foundations of Personal Wellness

Grade: 9-12

This one semester course teaches students how to care for their bodies. Units covered in this course are: consumer and community health, injury prevention, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, nutrition, environmental health, family living and communicable and chronic diseases.

Altus Health and Driver's Education (A2751)

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Grade: 10-12

This is a one semester course that teaches components of health along with driver's education. Units covered in the **Health** component are: tobacco and alcohol, illegal drugs, communicable and sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, safety and well-being, first aid, and handling emergencies.

Driver's Education prepares students to pass the state driving exam. The units covered in this course are: Assessing and Managing Risk, Handling Social Pressures, Rules of the Road, Basic Driving Skills, Light and Weather Conditions, Buying a Car, and Getting your State Driving Test.

Altus Driver's Education (A2750)

Grade: 9-12

Driver's Education prepares students to pass the state driving exam. The units covered in this course are: Assessing and Managing Risk, Handling Social Pressures, Rules of the Road, Basic Driving Skills, Light and Weather Conditions, Buying a Car, and Getting your State Driving Test.

Altus Introduction to Careers 1 (A8103)

Grade: 9-11

This one-semester course allows students the opportunity to explore post secondary career and educational possibilities. Students will begin career exploration and research using interest surveys and learning style inventories. The course allows students to examine and create a budget for real life application. Students will create a final multimedia presentation that describes their specific actions to prepare for their career.

Altus Senior Exhibition (A8104)

Grade: 12

Mandatory graduation requirement.

This one-semester elective is required of all graduates. Students will be ready for life beyond high school. Students will be introduced to pre-employment techniques and the steps required for college admission and the securing of financial aid. In completing projects for a senior portfolio and presenting an exhibition students will demonstrate their readiness for the future.

Altus Introduction to Careers (Military) (A8104)

Grade: 12

This one-semester elective is an alternative option for graduates planning for careers in the military service. Students will be introduced to pre-military requirements and the ASVAB matriculation process. In completing projects for a senior portfolio and exhibition, students will improve their recruitment opportunities and create documents appropriate to entering military service.

Altus Career Readiness 1, 2 (A8103, A8104)

Grade: 9-12

Blended Learning Course: Career Planning and Development (one semester only)

Grade: 11-12

This course provides the knowledge and insight necessary to compete in today's challenging job market. This relevant and timely course helps student investigate careers as they apply personal interests and abilities, develop skills and job search

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documents needed to enter the workforce, explore the rights of workers and traits of effective employees, and address the importance of professionalism and responsibility as careers change and evolve. This course includes lessons in which students create a self-assessment profile, a cover letter, and a résumé that can be used in their educational or career portfolio.

Altus Keyboarding 1, 2 (A0601, A0602)

Grade: 9-12

Upon completion of these courses, students will have knowledge of the keyboard, proper keyboarding techniques, hand and body positioning needed for keyboarding, tabulations, speed and accuracy. Students will improve and enhance letter/memo, report, keyboarding, and table formatting skills with speed and accuracy.

Altus Parenting and Infant Development (A1171)

Grade: 9-12

This one-semester course will teach students necessary skills for parenting. It will also introduce students to infant and child development. Students will learn how to prepare for a newborn baby and what to expect each month of the first year of life. They will also learn about prenatal care, being an educated consumer, budgeting, and decision making. This course teaches the theory of aspects of parenting and child development.

Altus Service Learning (A8087)

Grade: 9-12

This one semester course provides the

opportunity for students to complete the (60 hours) community service with a non profit organization within their community. Students are encouraged to explore organizations in need of help within their community where they can apply skills learned through their academic program and provide essential support to the community in which they live. Students who choose the Service Learning option for graduation must complete 2 semesters (120 hours) of Service Learning.

Altus Study Skills (6th – 8th) (A8030)

This one-semester course is designed to help students improve in and provide added support for study skills, organization, reading, mathematics, and courses in which the student is concurrently enrolled. The activities in this course will help enhance higher level thinking, problem solving, and basic skills via workshops and personalized assignments developed to support and ensure student success.

Altus Study Skills (9th – 12th) (A8007, A8008)

This one-semester course is designed to help students improve in and provide added support for study skills, organization, reading, mathematics, and courses in which the student is concurrently enrolled. The activities in this course will help enhance higher level thinking, problem solving, and basic skills via workshops and personalized assignments developed to support and ensure student success.

Altus Study Skills (CHSPE Math 9-12) – 6th edition (A8007, A8008)

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This one-semester course is designed to prepare students to pass the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE). It uses individualized instruction for remediation with a specific focus on weaknesses in mathematics. Completion of this course should enable students to (1) improve their skills in basic math and elementary algebra, (2) recognize and understand the various types of objective test questions, and (3) improve their chances of passing the CHSPE test. The primary methods of instruction include, but are not limited to, lectures, timed tests, homework assignments, and individualized instruction.

**Altus Study Skills – CHSPE PREP/Part 1/
Language Arts – 6th edition (A8007, A8008)**

This one-semester course is designed to prepare students to pass the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE). It uses individualized instruction for remediation with a specific focus on weaknesses in language arts. Completion of this course should enable students to (1) improve their skills in basic grammar, writing, and language skills, (2) recognize and understand the various types of objective test questions, and (3) improve their chances of passing the CHSPE test. The primary methods of instruction include, but are not limited to, lectures, timed tests, homework assignments, and individualized instruction.

**Altus Consumer Math (A2505)
Blended Learning Course: Personal
Finance**

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisites: basic math skills

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This introductory finance course teaches what it takes to understand the world of finance and make informed decisions about managing finances. Students learn more about economics and become more confident in setting and researching financial goals as they develop the core skills needed to be successful. In this one-semester course, students learn how to open bank accounts, invest money, apply for loans, apply for insurance, explore careers, manage business finances, make decisions about major purchases, and more. Students will be inspired by stories from finance professionals and individuals who have reached their financial goals.

**BLENDED LEARNING
ELECTIVES**

Technology Electives

Computer Applications (A4421)

Grade: 9-12

Offering insight into the suite of products most used by working professionals, this course challenges high school students to become proficient in Microsoft® Word®, Excel®, PowerPoint®, and Outlook® through engaging lessons and coursework. This one-semester course is designed to provide students with hands-on experience with tasks such as creating flyers, brochures, schedules, presentations, and mail merge.

Computer Literacy (A0722)

Grade: 9-12

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The Computer Literacy course focuses on the basic computer skills students need to become confident and prepared to use technology at school, at work, and in everyday life. Students learn search engines and web browsers, keyboarding and typing, web-based and email applications, presentations, image editing, and spreadsheets for data organization and calculations. The course addresses the writing, formatting, and proofreading of cover letters, works cited pages, and other professional documents.

Computer Science 1 (A4411, A4412)

Grade: 7-12

Computer Science 1 introduces students to the basics of computer science through a series of Python® programming projects that encourage creativity and experimentation. Students create a diverse portfolio of projects as they learn commands and functions, values and variables, Graphical User Interface, modular and object-oriented programming, and events and event-driven processes. Students learn loops, debugging techniques and software development processes including iterative and incremental models. Students explore careers in programming, including profiles from a wide variety of programming professionals.

Digital Art Electives

Digital Arts 1 (A0211)

Grade: 9-12

The Digital Arts 1 course focuses on building a solid foundation of the basic elements of visual art: line, shape, form, color, value, space, and texture. This course teaches core

skills using Inkscape, a free open-source alternative to Adobe® Illustrator®. Topics include learning processes for evaluating artworks, and identifying selected artists' works, styles, and historical periods. Students learn 3D space in a 2D environment; filters, gradients and highlights; and methods of working with color. Students express themselves creatively in original digital drawings and artwork.

Health Science Electives

Introduction to Health Science A, B (A8103)

Grade: 9-12

This course introduces students to a variety of careers as they develop the basic skills required in healthcare fields.

General Electives

Strategies for Academic Success (A8007)

Grade: 9-12

Offering a comprehensive analysis of different types of motivation, study habits, and learning styles, this one-semester course encourages students to take control of their learning by exploring varying strategies for success. Providing engaging lessons that will help students identify what works best for them individually, this one-semester course covers important study skills, such as strategies for taking high-quality notes, memorization techniques, test-taking strategies, benefits of visual aids, and reading techniques.

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