

COURSES OFFERED

English & Literacy

English 1 (1 credit)

English 1 is a study of the writing process, polishing writing skills, and refining the basic skills of critical thinking, oral presentation, spelling, and grammar. In addition, students study a wide variety of literature through genres such as short stories, poetry, drama, and novels. Written and oral assignments relate directly to reading assignments and class discussions. This course also introduces students to the process of writing and serves as the foundation for other courses in the English program.

Prerequisite: None

Honors English 1 (1 credit)

Honors English 1 is an accelerated curriculum that expands students' reading and writing experiences, building a foundation for their high school and post-secondary academic careers. The course will allow students to improve their reading, writing, and communication skills through various effective strategies in the common instructional framework, including classroom talk, collaborative group work, writing to learn, literacy groups, questioning, and scaffolding. Students will encounter various genres of literature and several styles of writing, with a particular common core emphasis placed on evidence-based writing.

Prerequisite: Recommendation and/or Performance Exam

English 2 (1 credit)

English 2 examines the literature of the ancient world through the 20th century and emphasizes critical thinking and in-depth writing skills. An integral part of the course is a literature-related composition program that emphasizes the development of specific writing, reading, critical thinking, and speaking skills with a review of Standard English usage and vocabulary. *Prerequisite: English 1.*

Honors English 2 (1 credit)

Honors English 2 is an accelerated curriculum that challenges students to explore and cultivate an understanding of various genres of Literature. Reading numerous novels, plays, and poetry, students learn to analyze, synthesize and evaluate a range of literary themes and concepts. In addition, students aim to improve their reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar skills by exploring and applying specific common instructional framework strategies. Additional activities will require students to research, create oral

presentations individually or as a group, and collaboratively create multiple novel-based projects.

Prerequisite: English 1 and/or Teacher Recommendation

English 3 (1 credit)

English 3 examines the ancient literature of Africa, the Americas, and Modern World literature. Literature-related essay writing is emphasized. In addition, research paper writing skills are studied in preparation for English 4.

Prerequisite: English 2.

English 4 (1 credit)

English 4 examines European literature from the Anglo-Saxon period, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, the Romantic Period, and the Victorian Age, and continues through the 20th century. The class also familiarizes students with writing research papers. Tools and methods of objective research are explored. Students learn the logical development and substantiation of a thesis. They discuss the problems of selecting, evaluating, and interpreting facts. Critical thinking and writing skills are emphasized.

Prerequisite: English 3.

Advanced Placement (AP) English Language (1 credit)

AP English Language challenges the student's intellectual abilities and seeks to improve their effective verbal and written language use. This course focuses on reading a wide range of print and visual texts through the lens of understanding, creating arguments, and looking at authorial purpose. Texts selected for study include a wide variety of cultural perspectives and an emphasis on representation from various literary periods. The primary emphasis will be on non-fiction writing.

Prerequisites: English 2 or 3 and approval by the Administration.

Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition (1 credit)

AP English Literature and Composition aligns with an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

Prerequisites: English 2 or 3 and approval by the Administration.

Mathematics

Algebra 1 (1 credit)

Algebra 1 is the basic course for all college preparatory mathematics courses. Students will study analysis, probability, the real number system, linear and quadratic functions, operations with polynomials and matrices, and applications of these concepts. In addition, students will be expected to describe and translate graphic algebraic, numeric, tabular, and verbal representations of relations and use those representations to solve problems. This course will count towards the math course requirements of all diplomas.

Prerequisite: None

Algebra 2 (1 credit)

This course extends the study of topics introduced in Algebra 1. The emphasis on linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions are motivated by data investigations. A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required and is an integral part of this course, which will count toward the math course requirements of all diplomas. Algebra 1 with a minimum grade of C- and Geometry completion is recommended before enrolling in this course.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Geometry (1 credit)

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. It includes the study of right triangle trigonometry. Inductive and deductive thinking skills are used in problem-solving situations, and applications to the real world are stressed. It also emphasizes writing proofs to solve (prove) properties of geometric figures. Students who complete Geometry should take Algebra II next.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Advanced Algebra Concepts w/a focus in Statistics Accounting, Banking, and Finance (1 credit)

Takoma Academy endeavors all students to achieve an acceptable level of mastery in mathematics as identified by the College Board as necessary for college success. They include numbers and operations, algebra and functions, geometry and measurements, data, probability and statistics, problem-solving, representations, reasoning, connections, and communication.

Prerequisite: Algebra 2.

Pre-Calculus (1 credit)

This course covers transformations and functions: linear, quadratic, and polynomial functions, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions (and applications), inverse functions, and sequences and series.

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Honors Calculus (1 credit)

This course covers all topics associated with functions, graphs (including mathematical modeling), limits, derivatives, and integrals (and the relationship between them as defined by the Fundamental Theorem of the Calculus). Students are taught how to use graphing calculators to graph functions within arbitrary windows to help solve problems, conduct explorations, interpret results, and verify conclusions. Students determine the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement. Students also model physical situations with a function, an integral, or a differential equation. Graphing calculators are an integral part of this course.

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus

Religion

Students are required to take a Bible class during each year of attendance at a Seventh-day Adventist secondary school.

Bible 1: Encounter Bible (1 credit)

- **God The I am:** An exploration of God's existence, who He is, what He is like, and how we can have a real relationship with Him.
- **God on a Cross:** God's response to the problem of sin was to send Jesus, the ultimate gift to humankind. Through Jesus' humble birth, His childhood, baptism, temptation, ministry in the Passion Week, and His death and resurrection, we come to see a loving Father who gives all as a result of His love for us.
- **God Gifts:** God has chosen to lavish His love upon us through many gifts. Through a deeper understanding of the gift of creation, we can appreciate and defend a creationist worldview. In looking at the Sabbath throughout history, and how God has sought to restore it for His people, we truly come to appreciate this gift. God's gift of grace as seen through Old Testament stories shows us a loving God who forgives in spite of failure. When we view our lives in light of who we truly are (God's sons and daughters), this changes the way we see ourselves and others. These gifts illustrate God's desire to have an intimate and unique relationship with us.

Prerequisite: None

Bible 2: Encounter Bible (1 credit)

- **The God-Choice:** God has pursued His chosen people throughout history, yet repeatedly they have chosen the world above Him. In the Old Testament stories of Hosea and David, we see the characteristics of individuals who lived their lives after God's own heart.
- **God's Heart:** Jesus shared many profound, eternal truths while on this earth. This unit explores Jesus' Sermon on the Mount — messages that challenge, encourage and draw us close to His heart.
- **Sharing God:** The birth of the early church brought challenges and wonder as the Holy Spirit was poured onto people committed to living after God's own heart. Jesus' followers were empowered with His message, and shared it passionately, despite the consequences. With the Holy Spirit empowering our lives, we too can share God's messages with the world.
- **God in My World:** When we are living after God's own heart, connected to Jesus, our lives, and the ways in which we relate to the world around us change. Our relationship with God will determine things such as: our prayer life, Bible study, how we view God's law, and how we make discerning lifestyle choices. God calls us to live for Him in every aspect of our lives.

Prerequisite: None

Bible 3: Encounter Bible (1 credit)

- **God's Word:** God's Word, the Bible, is trustworthy and true, and helps us to know Him. This unit looks at the role of the Bible in Christian history and how it has endured the test of time as the best guide book for our lives.
- **God is Our Victor:** God has been personally involved in our earth's history right from the start. Through the prophecies in the book of Daniel, we see how God foretold, with complete accuracy, what has happened in the past, and can trust Him to lead with confidence, both now and in the future.
- **God is My Victor:** Through the study of Revelation, we can more completely understand Jesus as our Hero, our Defender, our Deliverer, and the only One worthy to save us. God has revealed with complete accuracy what has happened in the past and what will happen in the final hours of earth's history. We can be reassured that there is nothing to fear as long as we cling to Jesus.
- **God is My Guide:** As we explore the history of the Adventist church, we can have confidence, knowing that God is in control, and that the Holy Spirit will continue to equip us as we share His messages with the world. We have nothing to fear for the future with Him by our side.

Prerequisite: None

Bible 4: Encounter Bible (1 credit)

- **Perspectives on God:** Humanity's need to believe in something is captured in the world's religions and other philosophical perspectives. True Christianity is the only religion that offers free salvation. The fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist church, as founded on the Bible, are explored as students articulate their personal worldview.
- **Worldviews and God:** Our view of God can be impacted by many things and is largely dependent on our understanding of the Bible, our personal worldview, and our faith. Our worldview will impact how we respond to the tough questions in life, such as how to respond to suffering, one's purpose in life, and various ethical dilemmas. Both the big and the small choices we make each day can honor God through the way we live our lives.
- **God in My Relationships:** There are various aspects of healthy relationships such as understanding one's personal identity, values, communication, anger management, conflict resolution, dating, marriage, and family dynamics. Our earthly relationships are important to God, since the love of Christ compels us to relate to others as He would.
- **The God of the Gospels:** The book of John offers episodes of Christ. Each of these episodes can deepen our understanding of the Savior of the world, and our relationship with Him.

Prerequisite: None

Science

Anatomy and Physiology Honors (1 credit)

This course is designed to introduce students to the structure and function of the human body. The concept of homeostasis (maintaining a stable internal environment) is introduced early and emphasized throughout the class. Also stressed is the understanding that loss of homeostasis leads to some kind of pathology or disease, either temporary or permanent. Thus pathological conditions are introduced and integrated as appropriate to clarify normal functioning. Chemistry, cells, tissues, and the first organ system (skin) are treated in succession, making the transition to organ systems more easily accomplished. These systems require a great deal of anatomical terminology and are approached from simple to increasingly complex levels.

Prerequisite: Biology.

Advanced Placement (AP) Biology (1 credit)

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory Biology course usually taken by Biology majors during their first year. After

showing themselves qualified on the AP Exam, some students, in their first year of college, are permitted to take upper-level courses in Biology or register for courses for which Biology is a prerequisite.

Prerequisites: Anatomy and Physiology, Biology, Chemistry.

Biology (Lab) (1 credit)

Biology is a study of zoological and botanical organisms, their classification, structure, function, and interrelationships. A belief in intelligent design is emphasized. Activities are organized to enable students to recognize the importance of basic scientific research and the application of scientific concepts to people's lives. Critical thinking skills are developed, and the course goes beyond the presentation of facts to interpret and assess their significance.

Chemistry (Lab) (1 credit)

Chemistry includes a study of elementary inorganic chemistry. Topics include the Bohr-Rutherford atom, the periodic table as a model to predict the relative properties of elements, chemical bonding and valence electrons, types of chemical equations and the Law of Conservation of matter, stoichiometry, gas laws, dynamic equilibrium, and Le Chatelier's principle, and solubility of gasses and liquids. While the course is open to students interested in any profession, it is specially designed to prepare the science student for college courses.

Pre-requisites: Biology

Physics (Lab) (1 credit)

Physics studies the fundamental laws related to mechanics, Newton's Universal Law of Gravitation, heat and temperature, light and sound, electricity, and magnetism. It meets the needs of students who may be required to take an introductory course in college physics.

Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry and enrolled in Algebra 2 or higher-level mathematics course.

Social Studies

African American Studies (1 Credit)

This course examines the history and culture of Africa and the African-American experience in an interdisciplinary format, including an analysis of the unique historical, cultural, and social developments from the Middle Passage to the present day. The course will address the literary and artistic contributions of African-Americans to

American culture. Critical thinking, reading, writing, and oral presentation skills are emphasized.

Prerequisite: None

American Government (1 credit)

American Government is a study of the principles, organizations, and functions of national, state, and local government. Students examine the Constitution, public policy, institutions of government, and election law. Particular emphasis is placed on current events.

Prerequisites: World History and American History. This course is required for graduation and should be taken during senior year.

AP American Government (1 credit)

AP Government is a study of the institutions and political activities of the American government at the national, state, and local levels. Decision-making will be examined in foreign affairs, economics, and logical issues with an emphasis on contemporary problems. The United States Constitution will also be studied. Students will prepare for the national Advanced Placement exam and may be eligible to receive college credit for high scores. Eligible students must meet all Honors prerequisites.

Prerequisite: US History

AP US History (1 Credit)

AP US History is a rigorous survey course covering American history from the Pre-Columbian period to the present. The class is taught in accordance with the AP US History curriculum framework and is designed to prepare students for the AP US History exam in May.

Prerequisite: World History.

US History (1 Credit)

US History surveys United States history from the age of the explorations up until the present day. Topics covered include political, military, economic, religious, social, and cultural development. Particular emphasis is placed on the role of individuals in the founding and development of the United States.

Prerequisite: World History.

AP World History (1 Credit)

AP World History students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the

environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

Prerequisite: None

World History (1 credit)

World History surveys ancient and medieval history through World War II with particular emphasis on the Western world. Topics covered include political, military, economic, religious, social, and cultural development. Emphasis is placed on geography and current events. This class is required for graduation and should be taken in the freshman or sophomore year.

Prerequisite: None

Applied Arts & Technology

Exploring Computer Science (1 Credit)

This course engages students in computational thinking and practice while developing creativity, communication, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. Students will utilize a variety of software and web-based programs. This course provides opportunities to explore but is not limited to Microsoft Office, Google Docs, Photoshop, multimedia production, 3D modeling and printing, cybersecurity, keyboarding, digital citizenship, and coding.

Prerequisite: None

Film Studies (1 Credit)

The film studies course introduces students to film analysis, cinematic elements, genre, narrative structure, and musical score. The course helps students to develop skills to recognize, analyze, describe and enjoy the film as an art and entertainment.

Prerequisite: None

Coding 101 (1 Credit)

This course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as problem-solving, programming, physical computing, user-centered design, and data while inspiring students as they build their own websites, apps, games, and physical computing devices.

Prerequisite: None

College Prep/Life Skills (1 Credit)

This course helps students prepare to take the SAT and ACT standardized tests. Students are given test taking strategies for all sections of the SAT and ACT tests. For college preparation, students are introduced to the application process, financial aid

information, scholarships and essay writing. Students are given information about various careers and given ideas about future goals and how to begin to attain life goals.

Prerequisite: None

Home Economics (1 Credit)

Home Economics Household Skills combines Kitchen Skills along with Home & Personal Management Skills. The students will practice the necessary skills to help become proficient in the household, personal life, around the kitchen, as well as in relationships with others.

Prerequisite: None

Dual Credit Course: Introduction to Engineering

Fundamentals of engineering will survey major engineering disciplines: aerospace and aeronautical; computer engineering and computer science; electrical; mechanical and structural; robotics; and/or systems engineering. The course is divided into two days of lecture and two days of demonstrations, project work, and hands-on activities. The course work may also include teaching in additive manufacturing or 3D printing. Teams of students complete race engineering and robotics activities. STEM skills include coding/ programming, design, and hands-on assembly.

Prerequisite: None

Fine Arts

Many of the fine arts programs are performance-based and require the commitment of the student to a year-long program. These groups give numerous programs during and outside of official school time. Members are required to meet all these appointments. Absences from scheduled programs may lower the student's grade or may be a cause for dismissal from the organization. Members of choral groups must purchase uniforms. Each class in this section will fulfill a Fine Arts requirement.

Performing Arts Courses

Camerata (1 credit- Honors)

This course combines Camerata, a select choir, and Music Theory to provide an advanced experience in vocal, musical, and performance techniques. Upon completion of the course, students will have been exposed to a variety of aspects of music including theory, style, and history. The performance schedule is the most varied of any of the performing organizations.

Prerequisite: Audition

Chorale (1 credit)

Choir is open to anyone who is interested in singing. Various techniques of voice projection, breath control, sight-reading, stylistic interpretation and performance will be explored. The choir will participate in major school performances, local church performances and a short tour. Full participation is expected of all members.

Prerequisite: Audition

Beginning Band (1 Credit)

This course offers the band experience at the beginning level. The instruments taught are flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, and percussion. No experience is necessary – only the will and desire to play an instrument. Musical topics are introduced such as reading, music notation, analyzing and evaluating music, as well as composing and improvising simple melodies.

Prerequisite: None

Orchestra (1 credit)

Flex band is open to those students who have had lessons in brass, woodwind or percussion instruments, or who have advanced music and rhythm skills. Techniques such as rhythm, phrasing, performance skills and musical interpretation will be emphasized. The band will perform at most major school events.

Prerequisite: 2 years of band, orchestra, or string instruction.

Visual Arts Courses**Art Appreciation (1 Credit)**

This course is designed to increase knowledge and appreciation of the visual arts. Students focus on interpreting and evaluating works of art within formal, cultural, and historical contexts, as well as exploring a survey view of art history, including a deeper look at global artworks.

Prerequisite: None

Graphic Design (1 Credit)

Students will learn the principles of great design and typography, while using professional-grade Adobe design software to create digital drawings, logos, advertisements, magazine layouts, and more.

Prerequisite: None

Multimedia (1 Credit)

This course covers multimedia concepts and applications through the use of text, graphics, animation, audio and visual representations, and professional-grade Adobe

design software to create digital drawings, logos, advertisements, magazine layouts, and more. Students will develop technical, communication, and cooperative learning skills that will enable them to professionally and creatively interact with members of society.

Prerequisite: None

Modern Languages

Spanish 1 (1 credit)

Spanish 1 develops the beginning student's language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Elementary grammar and awareness of Hispanic culture are also stressed.

Prerequisite: None

Spanish 2 (1 credit)

Spanish 2 reviews language structures introduced in Spanish 1 systematically and presents the remaining basic grammar for study and practice. Learning new vocabulary and oral practice bring the student to a higher level of proficiency.

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 or permission from the instructor.

Spanish 3 Honors (1 credit)

Students continue to develop their communicative competence by interacting orally and in writing with other Spanish speakers, understanding oral and written messages in Spanish and making oral and written presentations in Spanish.

Prerequisite: Spanish 2.

Advanced Placement (AP) Spanish (1 credit)

AP Spanish is an independent study course for students proficient in Spanish in preparation for the AP Spanish Language examination. Prerequisite: Permission and recommendation of the instructor. College credit is available for students receiving high scores on the national examination. Eligible students must pay the required fee for the textbook.

Prerequisite: Honors Spanish.

Physical Education and Health

All students are required to earn 1½ credits of Physical Education (PE) and ½ credit of Health in order to graduate from Takoma Academy. Only a valid medical waiver may exempt a student from the PE requirement. Waiver of the PE requirement does not reduce the total number of units necessary to meet diploma requirements.

Physical Education (1 credit)

PE will train and test students in proper methods of warm-up, rules and drills, as well as health-related physical fitness. Participation in sports such as flag ball, volleyball, soccer, basketball, softball, weight training and aerobics is expected.

Prerequisite: None

Physical Education & Health (1 credit)

PE/Health expands students' knowledge and skills in team sports, lifetime fitness (e.g., aerobic fitness, weight training and conditioning), nutrition and wellness.

Students may seek .5 Physical Education credits in the following formats by notifying the **Academic Support Specialist** within the first two weeks of each semester.

Students are able to :

- *Option 1:* .5 Physical Education credits may be obtained when a student participates in a varsity level sport on the TA campus. 1 time participation only beginning with the class of 2023.
- *Option 2:* 5 Physical Education credits may be obtained when a student participates in a pre approved organized sport...i.e. golf, tennis lessons etc. (36-48 hours of participation/practice or competition). 1 time participation only beginning with the class of 2021.
- *Option 3:* .5 Physical Education credits may be obtained when a student participates in the Independent Study PE option. 1 time only participation beginning with the class of 2021. Students must completing and submitting the following:
 - *Journal-* Please document your physical activity of 30 minutes of active exercise 4 times per week. You must have a total of 6 weeks (24 sessions of active exercise. This documentation is to include the following- Start/Stop time; type of exercise (strength, balance, aerobic, flexibility). Descriptions can be found here <https://www.livescience.com/55317-exercise-types.html> Please rotate these exercises throughout the week. Please notate/document before and after physical challenges, how you feel, or any concerns you may have.
 - *Heart Health-* Create a Google Slide that we can be shared with staff in reference to heart health. It can include diet, exercise or other critical information.
 - *How do you play-* Please record yourself teaching someone to play/participate in a physical game of your choosing (For example kickball, softball, volleyball, etc)

- *Final Exam*- 25 Fitness Terms- Please study the terms. You will be assessed via Quizlet/Google Classroom
<https://www.self.com/story/fitness-terms-to-know-before-working-out>

Health Independent Study (.5 credit)

Health furthers students' understanding of a person's physical, mental, emotional and consumer health. The course includes a unit on reproduction, heredity, pregnancy and childbirth, as well as sexually transmitted diseases such as AIDS. This course is an independent option taken during the summer for rising Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors)

Additional Electives/Applied Arts (Pass/Fail)

- Ambassadors (1 Credit)
- Creative Writing (1 Credit)
- HOSA- Allied Health Professionals (1 Credit)
- NSBE, Jr.- (1 Credit)
- Social Media (1 Credit)
- Yearbook (1 Credit)