



# BIG VALLEY

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



## **Graduation Requirements**

The academic program is designed to provide a college preparatory education. Big Valley Christian School has earned full accreditation (TK-12) from the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). All UC/CSU A-G courses have been approved by the University of California as acceptable college preparatory work. The school is registered with the State Department of Education through the Private School Affidavit.

### **Required Courses for Graduation**

- English (40 units)
- Math (20 units)
- Life Science (10 units)
- Physical Science (10 units)
- World History (10 units)
- U.S. History or AP U.S. History (10 units)
- U.S. Government/Economics (10 units)
- Physical Education (20 units)
- Bible (40 units)
- Art, Choir, Drama or Foreign Language (10 units)
- Health (5 units)
- College Career Seminar/Speech (5 units)
- Business Computers (10 units)
- Electives (60 units)
- Two classes from Modesto Junior College may be accepted for a maximum of 20 units

## **Valedictorian/Salutatorian Criteria**

The Valedictorian(s) will be the student(s) with the highest weighted GPA.

- The Valedictorian must fulfill all BVCS High School graduation requirements.
- The Valedictorian must complete a minimum of 280 credits.
- The Valedictorian will be determined based on the highest weighted GPA.
- Courses taken outside of BVCS High School (e.g. accredited online course, MJC) will only be given weighted status if BVCS High School offers its equivalent and must be completed by the last day of senior finals.
- A maximum of two courses, whether traditional or online classes, will be accepted for transcript remediation and GPA recalculation.
- The Valedictorian must have attended BVCS three out of four years of high school.
- The Valedictorian must have maintained full-time status throughout their tenure at BVCS. Any term waiver disqualifies a student's eligibility as Valedictorian and Salutatorian.
- The Valedictorian will be eligible to give a graduation speech to be written by them and approved by the designated administrator/committee.

The Salutatorian(s) will be the student(s) with the second-highest weighted GPA.

- The Salutatorian must meet all of the same requirements as the Valedictorian.
- A Salutatorian will be eligible to give a speech at the high school graduation ceremony.
- If there is more than one Valedictorian candidate, no Salutatorian will be named.

If the testimony and/or reputation of one of the candidates is compromised prior to the date of graduation, administration may decide, at their discretion, not to have that student deliver a speech at the graduation ceremony.

## Special Honors Requirements

Our students have the opportunity to earn a National Honor Society medallion, a California Scholarship Federation stole and lapel pin, and a variety of honor cords to wear on graduation night. The criteria for each of these honors requires planning and specific course selections in grades 9-12. Every BVCS student can work toward these great options.



### **National Honor Society (NHS)**

The National Honor Society is a prestigious organization that recognizes students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of:

- ***Scholarship***
- ***Leadership***
- ***Citizenship***
- ***Service***
- ***Character***

To earn the **NHS Medallion** for graduation, each student must apply by the due date and qualify four of six semesters in grades 10, 11, and 12.

**Requirements:** A cumulative grade point average of at least 3.75 in the last grading period and a recommendation by the faculty council. An application must be completed each semester, January 31 and September 30, and submitted to the BVCS NHS Advisor by the due date.



### **California Scholarship Federation (CSF)**

CSF emphasizes high standards of scholarship and community service for California high school students. CSF encourages service to the school and the community while fostering pride in academic scholastic achievement. CSF Membership is based on scholarship and is gained after qualifying grades are earned each semester.

**Life Membership (Sealbearer)** is achieved by qualifying four or more semesters in the last three years (grades 10, 11, and 12) of high school, and earns the CSF Gold Seal on diplomas and transcripts. Student who earn Life Membership status will be given a gold stole and a lapel pin to wear at graduation.

**Requirements:** A point system (10 points in VERY specific areas) specified in CSF State By-Laws establishes the membership requirements. To secure eligibility for CSF membership, a student must earn sufficient points from pre-approved course lists. The majority of required membership points must come from University of California accepted course work. An application must be completed each semester, January 31 and September 30, and submitted to the BVCS CSF Advisor by the due date.



## **Department Honor Cords**

Department Honor Cords recognize students that have earned high academic marks in rigorous courses. Below are the specific requirements for each department.

**Bible:** To qualify, students must complete four (4) years of Bible courses with a 3.85 or higher GPA.

**English:** To qualify, students must complete English I, II, English III Honors and AP English with a 3.85 or higher GPA to qualify.

**Fine Arts:** To qualify, students must complete four (4) years of any fine art courses with a 3.85 or higher GPA.

**Foreign Language:** To qualify, students must complete four (4) years of a Foreign Language with a 3.85 or higher GPA.

**Health/Fitness:** To qualify, students had to complete 4 years of Physical Education (or 2 sports a year all four years) with a 3.85 or higher GPA.

**Math:** To qualify, students must complete Geometry, Algebra II, PreCalculus, and AP Calculus with a 3.85 or higher GPA.

**Science:** To qualify, students must complete Biology, Chemistry Honors, and two upper level science courses with a 3.85 or higher GPA. The upper level science courses include: Anatomy/Physiology, Physics, AP Biology, and AP Computer Science Principles.

**Social Science:** To qualify, students must complete World History, AP US History (or CP US History and AP Psychology), and Government/Economics with a 3.85 or higher GPA.

# ART

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## **Art 1 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Students will be introduced to the Elements of Art: line, shape, form, value, color, space, and texture and their use according to the Principles of Design. The class will be exposed to different techniques, artists/history, mediums, and art styles. Mediums will include drawing (pencil, pen & ink), acrylic paint, oil pastels, plaster, and colored pencil.

## **Art 2 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Art 1 or permission from instructor

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Students will focus on taking the Elements of Art and combining them to create works of art that utilize the Principles of Design. Another goal is to create a breadth of work (12 projects) that can be used towards the AP Art portfolio. The class will increase their skills using different techniques, artists/history, mediums, and art styles. Gallery visits are required throughout the year. Mediums will include drawing (pencil, pen & ink), acrylic paint, oil pastels, mixed media, plaster, and colored pencil.

## **AP Art (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 10 (permission from instructor), 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Art 1, Art 2, or permission from instructor

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This class is a culmination of what students have learned to prepare students for college-level work, with a similar in-class independent study course. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP Test in Drawing or 2-D Design. Students will most likely have a breadth of work from Art 2 and will need to create a Concentration (12 projects) for their AP portfolio. Students will receive feedback from the instructor to prepare their portfolio. Mediums and techniques will vary based on students' concentration and portfolio selection. Students will complete AP Portfolio and exam in May.

**Multimedia (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets the Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None (Ideally familiar with basic computer knowledge)

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Multimedia is a studio course that introduces the process and purpose of graphic design and its real-world applications. Students will be using Adobe Creative Suite to solve design problems, review basic Art/Design Principles, and execute applications. Collaboration with other classes, such as Yearbook and Drama, will give students hands-on experience in working with others in their respective fields of expertise.

**Yearbook Design (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10

Prerequisite: Enrollment by application

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course is designed to develop students' skills in yearbook production by providing experiences in selected aspects of yearbook production. Students learn basic principles of yearbook production and develop skills that include writing copy, captions and headlines; digital photography; desktop publishing and using appropriate technology tools for media production.

## Bible

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### **Bible 9**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Bible requirement

Grade Level: 9

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

Description: Understanding the Faith uses Summit Ministries curriculum. There is a way to develop relationships in love without sacrificing truth. We learn how to answer tough questions with confidence and compassion, hold conversations with friends — no matter what they believe — and understand their perspective and winsomely and confidently respond. We learn about the nature of God and biblical revelations in depth, and are prepared to begin examining other worldviews in light of God's truth.

### **Bible 10**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Bible requirement

Grade Level: 10

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

Description: Understanding the Faith, published by Summit Ministries, addresses questions such as: Isn't Christianity anti-science? Isn't claiming truth intolerant? Why is there evil and suffering? What's the deal with Hell? Is God a mean bully? If Christianity is true, why do people walk away? There is a way to develop relationships in love without sacrificing truth. We learn how to answer tough questions with confidence and compassion, hold conversations with friends — no matter what they believe — and understand their perspective and winsomely and confidently respond. We learn about the nature of God and biblical revelations in depth, and are prepared to begin examining other worldviews in light of God's truth.

### **Bible 11**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Bible requirement

Grade Level: 11

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

Description: Understanding the Culture uses Summit Ministries curriculum. Addressing issues such as gender identity, abortion, technology, and poverty, we challenge students to ask: How can an authentic Christian worldview provide a compassionate, effective witness in culture today? We start by learning from Christian history—and why today's issues might not be as new as they seem. Then we go through the significant topics that affect students every day, offering biblical ideas for

conversing with others in an increasingly hostile culture. The goal is to equip students to apply a bold Christian witness to their relationships with loved ones, neighbors, and colleagues.

## **Bible 12**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Bible requirement

Grade Level: 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

Description: There are three sections in Bible 12: Understanding the Culture, Personal Finance, and Biblical Principles. Understanding the Culture, published by Summit Ministries, addresses issues such as the value of human life, sexuality, marriage, politics, and poverty. We challenge students to ask: How can an authentic Christian worldview provide a compassionate, effective witness in culture today? Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance addresses topics such as Saving, Budgeting, and Debt. The opt in Biblical Principles part of the course is designed to teach the importance of authenticity, accountability, surrender, forgiveness, community, and healthy relationships.

## **Student Leadership**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Bible requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful election for all student body officers, class presidents or vice-presidents, and other student leaders.

Approval: None - Course does not receive college prep credit.

Description: Student Leadership is a year course which develops the organizational, motivational, and academic skills of the course participants. Activities within the school, district, community, and state provide students with a myriad of educational experiences. Emphasis is placed on student-conceived and student-organized programs. Students learn skills in communication and problem solving.



## Choir

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### **Concert Choir (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU - May only be taken once for UC/CSU credit

Description: This is a year-long course that explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures and time periods through study and performance. The core curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Students in concert choir are encouraged to participate in Musicales and The Night of the Arts in the spring.

# Computer Science

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## **Business Computers**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Technology requirement (does not count for honor cord)

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Credits: 10 units

Prerequisite: Keyboarding is a stated prerequisite for this course. While there are some keyboarding reviews in the course, there is no keyboarding instruction.

Approval: None

Description: This is a high school elective that explores the use of technology applications in both business and personal situations. The course provides key knowledge and skills in the following areas: communication skills, business technology, word processing applications, spreadsheet applications, database applications, telecommunications technology, desktop publishing technology, presentation technology, computer networks, and computer operating systems.

## **AP Computer Science A (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets technology or math graduation requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science Principles and Algebra 2

Approval: US, CSU

Description: Students learn the basics of programming in the Java language.

## **AP Computer Science Principles (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets technology or science graduation requirements

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Students are introduced to the big ideas in computer science, including creativity, abstraction, data and information, algorithms, programming, the internet and global impact.

# Drama

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## **Drama 1 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Drama 1 is a course designed to introduce students to the various elements of the theatre and to encourage students in further participation. Students will examine and study the role that acting, directing, sound, lights, set, costumes, make-up, and publicity play in the creation of a line production. Students will be required to view and analyze one professional production during the year. Students will also learn the basic approach to working comfortably on the stage, through warm-ups, monologues, scene work and improvisation. Basic techniques of movement, voice projection, character development, and performance will be taught. Guest speakers will be featured.

## **Drama 2 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Fine Art requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Drama 1

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Drama 2 is a continuation of the work covered in Drama 1 in an advanced context. Students will engage in more intensive preparation of their craft. The creative physical, emotional, and mental aspects of performance are studied through scene work, monologues, and improvisations. Auditioning techniques will be examined as well. Students will be required to view and analyze one professional production during the year. This course also includes an introduction to directing theatre. The director's concept and responsibilities are studied through scene work. Written critiques and analyses will be required. Guest speakers will be featured.

## Electives

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### **College/Career**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets the College/Career requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: One semester

Units: 5 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None - Not a college prep course

Description: Students will explore and research college and career choices after high school. The skills taught in this course are imperative to ensuring that all students have a clear understanding of how to succeed and thrive in college and at work. Students will develop soft skills, develop resumes, and portfolios. Students will have many opportunities to create presentations, including activities in public speaking.

### **Health**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets the Health requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: One Semester

Units: 5 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None - Not a college prep course

Description: Required of all high school students. The health component is designed to assist students with becoming health-literate individuals who can obtain accurate information, develop lifelong positive health-related attitudes and behaviors, and make wise decisions related to their personal health. The focus of this course is to empower students with the knowledge and skills to be their own health advocate. Topics discussed include personal and community health, first aid and CPR, mental, emotional and social health, nutrition and physical activity, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, human growth and development, chronic and communicable diseases and cancers, reproductive systems, and character development. To master the concepts, students will learn through modes of: tests, quizzes, activities, video lectures, writing in their journals, and a variety of guest speakers.

### **Entrepreneurship**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: None

Grade Level: 9-12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 5/semester

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

Description: In Entrepreneur Workshop, students will discover their God-given gifts and talents paired with their passion to do something that matters for Jesus Christ. Students will prepare, plan and launch their own entrepreneurial enterprise by creating a vision and mission for their business, learning from

experts in the field and developing their own project. The course will complete with a completed project that they will present to a panel and launch into the world.

### **English Foundations**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: BVCS Elective credit only

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: One Year

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; must be taken consecutively with a CP English class

Approval: None - Not a college prep course

Description: A support period for students who desire extended time with the CP English curriculum.

## **AP Psychology (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Elective credit

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU, meets G: College Prep Elective

Description: This is a California standards-based course. It is designed to introduce students to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes of humans. Students learn the Science and biological perspective as well as the history of Psychology. Students are exposed to psychological terms, principles, theories and phenomena associated with key components of Psychology. Some of these components include but are not limited to: ethics and research methods psychologists use in their applied science, psychological therapies and psychological disorders.

## **Student Chaplain**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: BVCS Elective credit only

Grade Level: 12

Duration: One Year

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Selected by application

Approval: None - Not a college prep course

Description: Student chaplains work with the Campus Pastor to provide worship experiences and opportunities for spiritual growth. The chaplains help to plan chapel, lead worship, communicate with speakers and lead the student body in prayer. The chaplains represent the student body to the Campus Pastor and communicate with students about upcoming events and opportunities. Chaplains meet weekly with the Campus Pastor and complete special projects independently as assigned.

## English

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### **English I (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets English requirement

Grade Level: 9

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: English I covers literary analysis, vocabulary development, critical thinking skills, research skills and interpretation of functional workplace documents. The writing process and language skills are emphasized.

### **English II (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets English requirement

Grade Level: 10

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: English II covers literary analysis, vocabulary development, critical thinking skills, research skills and interpretation of functional workplace documents. The writing process and language skills are emphasized.

### **English III (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets English requirement

Grade Level: 11

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: English III emphasizes literary analysis, vocabulary development, critical thinking skills and interpretation of functional workplace documents. It continues the development of composition and literary skills through the study of contemporary fiction and American literature.

### **English III Honors (H)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets English requirement

Grade Level: 11

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 10 with a grade of "A"

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: English III (H) will engage in careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through a close reading of selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. Students will consider the literatures structure, style, and themes as well as such small-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone. The course will include intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on the works of recognized literary merit. The writing component of the course will emphasize writing that reinforces the literature the students will be reading. Writing will include analysis of literature, and timed writing where students are under a time constraint to create, organize and put into writing an essay regarding a piece of literature. The prerequisite for this course is no less than a "B" in English II and a signed contract from the student and parent acknowledging the student's desire to take the class.

### **English IV (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets English requirement

Grade Level: 12

Duration: Year

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: English IV emphasizes literary analysis, vocabulary development, critical thinking skills and interpretation of functional workplace documents. It continues the development of composition and literary skills through the study of classic, contemporary, and world literature.

### **AP English Literature and Composition (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets English requirement

Grade Level: 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Completion of English 3 Honors with "A" or better

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: AP Language and Composition covers a syllabus equivalent to entry level college composition and necessary for students to pass the College Board exam in May for college placement and/or credit. Topics include diction and language analysis, forms of discourse, and refinement of rhetorical style.



# History

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## **World History (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Social Science requirement

Grade Level: 10

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Students will study major turning points that shaped the ancient and modern world. They discover the rise of democratic ideas and develop an understanding of the historical roots of current world issues. Students will develop an understanding of world issues and relate to historical, geographic, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Students will also express their creativity through Art projects, research assignments, and historical presentations.

## **U.S. History (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Social Science requirement

Grade Level: 11

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course is designed to survey American History beginning with pre-Columbian Native American societies and ending with international affairs and domestic changes in the twentieth century and beyond. This course will enhance the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems in American History and will help students develop the skills necessary to reach conclusions based on informed judgment and to present evidence persuasively both verbally and in writing.

## **AP U.S. History (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Social Science requirement

Grade Level: 11

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History with a grade of "A" or "B"

Approval: UC, CSU, NCAA

Description: This course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and themes in American History. Students will study themes and assess interpretations through analysis of historical evidence, lecture, and discussion. Essay writing will be stressed as a primary means for historical expression. Students will work extensively with primary sources. Students will be assigned and required to complete extensive summer coursework. Students will be properly prepared for and required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in United States History.

## **Government and Economics (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Social Science requirement

Grade Level: 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course concentrates on the political and constitutional organization of the United States. Major units include Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary, linkage institutions, civil liberties, and foundations of and participation in government. A secondary goal of this course is to help students discover their own political philosophy and to examine how we can navigate the political world in a Christian framework. The second half of the course is an introduction to Economics, which analyzes the economic principles and questions specifically arising from the American free enterprise system, emphasizing an examination of micro and macro economic concepts and data. Economic systems are compared, and international economic concepts are reviewed.

## Math

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### **Algebra A and B (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Two year course

Units: 20 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC/CSU - Must complete both Algebra A and B for one year of Algebra 1 credit

Description: This course is a two year course for students desiring extended time to master the standards of Algebra 1. Students are offered additional learning supports as they progress through the curriculum at a slower pace than Algebra I. Students with second semester Algebra I credit will not receive credits for this course.

Algebra A will cover topics from the first semester of Algebra I. They include: solving linear equations and inequalities, graphing, and writing linear functions and solving systems of linear equations. Students are offered additional learning supports as they progress through the curriculum at a slower pace than Algebra.

Algebra B: The topics covered are the same as those covered in the second semester of Algebra I. They include: exponential functions and sequences, polynomial equations and factoring, graphing quadratic functions, solving quadratic equations, radical functions and equations, and data analysis and displays. Students are offered additional learning supports as they progress through the curriculum at a slower pace than Algebra I. Students with second semester Algebra I credit will not receive credits for this course.

### **Algebra 1 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or better in PreAlgebra and teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Algebra 1 is the foundation course for all higher mathematics courses. This is a rigorous course which emphasizes the learning of essential concepts which are required for further success in mathematics. Students are required to complete daily assignments outside of class. Topics include: operations with integers, solving equations and inequalities, exponents, operations with polynomials, graphing in two variables, systems of equations and inequalities, rational algebraic expressions, radicals, and application problems.

### **Geometry 1 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Grade of "B" or better in Algebra 1 (CP) or Algebra A/B (CP) and teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Geometry provides a rigorous formal foundation in plane, solid and transformational geometry. Students are required to complete daily assignments outside of class. Material is presented in a variety of formats, which may utilize lecture, group investigations and activities. Topics include: basic constructions, coordinate geometry, problem solving, logical forms of reasoning, proofs, geometric figures, similarity, congruence, areas and volume.

### **Algebra 2 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Grade of “B” or better in Algebra 1 or Algebra A/B and Geometry

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course covers all the topics of Algebra 1 in greater depth, as well as imaginary numbers, powers, roots, logs, linear and quadratic equations, systems of equations, three unknowns and determinants. It is recommended that students take Geometry prior to Algebra 2 as a better preparation for the PSAT and SAT. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

### **Precalculus (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Grade of “B” or better in Algebra 2, along with teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Pre-Calculus prepares students for success in Calculus and higher mathematics. Units of instruction include the graphing of polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and identities, vectors, polar equations and limits. The use of graphing calculators is integrated into the course.

### **AP Calculus (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Grade of “B” or better in Precalculus, along with teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: AP Calculus is comprised of three main ideas: limits, derivatives and integrals. With a foundation of limits, students will learn techniques and applications of both differentiation and integration. The use of graphing calculators is integrated into the course. Students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam.

**Statistics (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Math requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in Algebra 2

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Statistics is comprised of three main ideas: describing data through graphs and measurements, probability of individual events and distributions of events, and inference using confidence intervals and hypothesis tests. Students will use both technology and traditional computational methods.

**AP Computer Science A (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets technology or math graduation requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science Principles and Algebra 2

Approval: UC, CSU - only accepted for credits after Algebra 2

Description: Students learn the basics of programming in the Java language.

## Physical Education

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### **Physical Education**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Physical Education requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

Description: This course offers the student the opportunity to develop competencies in the following areas: physical fitness (whole health fitness and nutrition), physical skills, social competence, and knowledge and understanding of team sports and lifetime sports. The student studies and participates in a variety of activities which may include: pickleball, basketball, field hockey, flag football, speedball, pilates, life fitness, soccer, weight lifting & conditioning, softball, volleyball. The students will be tested on rules and regulations for the activities listed above.

## Science

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### **Biology (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Life Science requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This is an introductory laboratory based course in which students study the fundamental concepts of Biology. The unity and diversity of life are emphasized through the studies of cells, the chemistry of life, genetics, ecology, and the structure and function of all life forms from bacteria to man. Students will develop the skills required for using the scientific method using hands-on exercises including gel electrophoresis and dissection. This is a foundational level Biology course that introduces students to topics such as cells, the chemistry of life, genetics, ecology, creation and evolution. Students will develop the skills required for using the scientific method using hands-on exercises including gel electrophoresis and dissection.

### **Honors Biology (H)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Life Science requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Junior High Life Science and Physical Science with a minimum of a "B" average for the four semesters, as well as teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: The core biology curriculum is designed to present an examination of the living world and related societal issues. Emphasis is placed on the scientific process, cells and cell processes, and the continuity and unity of life, including lab experiences. The course will include the characteristics and organization of life from the biosphere to the atom. This includes DNA, biochemistry, genetics, cell division, homeostasis and related processes. Honors Biology is a fast-paced, rigorous course in which the student is expected to be highly motivated to achieve at an honors level. This course is an in-depth, lab-oriented approach to the biological sciences with emphasis on practical encounters. Honors Biology investigates biological organization starting at a molecular level and culminating with living organisms and their inter-relationships. Students will develop the skills required for using the scientific method using hands-on exercises including gel electrophoresis and dissection.

### **Conceptual Physics (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Physical Science requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Conceptual Physics is a one-year college preparatory, activity-oriented class. In this course, students will explore topics including: motion and its causes, conservation laws, periodic motion, thermodynamics and heat theory, electricity, magnetism and electromagnetic radiation, light and optics, modern physics including fundamental particles, energy, and waves, with the use of introductory algebra skills.

### **Chemistry (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Physical Science requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: CP Biology and Algebra 1 with “C+” or higher in both

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course utilizes mathematics to solve chemical problems in organic and inorganic chemistry. Topics include measurements with the metric system, chemical reactions, compounds, elements, atomic structure, properties of solids, liquids and gases, and acid-bases-salts. Laboratory experiments are done using chemicals to prepare students for college laboratory work.

### **Chemistry - Honors (H)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Physical Science requirement

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Biology (CP) with a grade of “B+” or higher or Biology (Honors) with a grade of “C+” or higher and Algebra 1 with a grade of “B” or higher in addition to teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course utilizes mathematics through logarithms to solve chemical problems in organic and inorganic chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, and thermodynamics. Students should have a strong background in Algebra. Many laboratory experiments are done using chemicals to prepare students for college laboratory work.

### **Anatomy and Physiology (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Life Science requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of CP Biology (or Biology Honors) and Chemistry (or Chemistry Honors) with a “C” or higher and teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: This course is designed for the student who intends to pursue vocational preparation or a career at an entry level in the health career field. This laboratory science course will cover human anatomy and physiology. Dissection labs include individual organs and whole-animal, fresh, and preserved mammalian specimens.



### **Physics (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Physical Science requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra 2 with a “C” or better and teacher recommendation

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Students explore principles of Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. This is a standards based course in high school physics. This course covers physical laws and physical properties. Quantitative skills learned in second year Algebra/Trigonometry and Chemistry will be employed in the problem solving concepts covered. The course involves extensive laboratory work that is directed by the use of the scientific method.

### **AP Biology (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Life Science requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology Honors, Chemistry Honors, and Algebra 1 with a grade of “B” or better. Teacher recommendation and summer assignment required.

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes-energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. AP Biology is a year-long course that is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Exam in Biology. The course is designed around the new AP Biology curriculum framework that focuses on the Big Ideas in biology and their connections. The curriculum provides a basis for students to develop strong conceptual understanding in biology and the opportunity to integrate that knowledge through inquiry-based activities and laboratory investigations. There is less memorization and more content depth. Reading skills are extremely important for the format of the new test. The AP Biology curriculum is structured around four Big Ideas: Evolution, Energy Processes, Information and Interactions. These ideas encompass the core principles and theories of all living systems. To master the concepts, students will learn through modes of: tests, quizzes, labs, activities, video lectures, and current event articles.

### **AP Computer Science Principles (AP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets Technology or Science graduation requirements

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

Description: Students are introduced to the Big Ideas in Computer Science, including creativity, abstraction, data and information, algorithms, programming, the internet and global impact.

## Spanish

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### **Spanish 1 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets World Languages requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: UC, CSU

**Description:** This class develops language skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Emphasis is on teaching through linguistic patterns. A modified audio-lingual approach is used. Grammar is taught functionally. Specific objectives are to teach the student to use the Spanish language correctly in everyday situations, commensurate with his/her maturity and interest, and to develop an insight into Hispanic culture as expressed in the language.

### **Spanish 2 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets World Language requirement

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1 with a "C" or better

Approval: UC, CSU

**Description:** Sequential development based on Spanish 1 continues. More emphasis is placed on verbal and written expression. Specific objectives are to develop further the ability to comprehend and speak Spanish with a fluency within the scope of the student's vocabulary and maturity, to introduce the new grammatical patterns of level II, and to continue the study and appreciation of Hispanic Civilization.

### **Spanish 3 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets World Language requirement

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1 & 2 with a "C" or better

Approval: UC, CSU

**Description:** The aims of the course are to develop the skills of reading and speaking through the use of original oral presentations, both individual and group; to enrich the vocabulary and grammar of the student by analysis of the various meanings and uses of words from the required readings; to develop an ability to express oneself in written Spanish through the mode of original compositions; to further the knowledge of Spanish speaking people and their various cultures through the study of different art forms influenced by them; to continue the basics of Spanish grammar and study; to read and discuss selections from Hispanic literature; to conduct the class in Spanish as much as possible.

**Spanish 4 (CP)**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Meets World Language requirement

Grade Level: 12

Duration: Year Course

Units: 10 units

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1, 2, 3 with a “C” or better

Approval: UC, CSU

**Description:** The objectives of the course are to further develop the students' reading and writing ability; to read and discuss selections from Hispanic literature; to conduct the class in Spanish as much as possible; to achieve greater fluency in speaking and expressing oneself as clearly and accurately as possible in Spanish; to review and to continue the study of Spanish grammar. Students are required to speak Spanish as much as possible.

## Other Courses

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### Explore More

BVCS Graduation Requirement: may meet graduation requirements (See Guidance Counselor for approval).

Grade Level: 9-12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: 5 units

Prerequisite: 2.0 Cumulative GPA

Approval: UC, CSU IGETC lists only

**Description:** This course is designed to allow students to take college courses as enrichment and earn college credits while in high school. Students must be enrolled in GCU, MJC or other accredited colleges/universities and an official college transcript must be submitted to BVCHS at completion of class. Students will earn a letter grade. This course is not UC/CSU approved nor will count toward CSF/NHS.

### Ignitia Online Course

BVCS Graduation Requirement: None

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: 5 units

Prerequisite: None

Approval: None

**Description:** Student will complete an online course in a Study Hall environment through Ignitia Online Schools. See Counselor for list of available courses. Letter grade will be given at the end of each semester. This course is not UC/CSU approved nor will count toward CSF/NHS.

### Internship

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Elective credits only

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: 5 units - credit/no credit option only

Prerequisite: must have secured an unpaid position in a career field of your choice.

Approval: none

**Description:** The internship course allows students to explore career options and earn high school credits. Students and internship placements will have contact with the BVCS Guidance Counselor to verify hours and job responsibilities. 90 hours a semester are required and the student will submit a log at the end of each month. The student will be given a letter grade and credits. Internships are non-paid

positions. This course is not UC/CSU approved nor will count towards CSF/NHS.

### **Study Hall**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: None

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: No credits awarded

Prerequisite: None

Approval: Not UC or CSU approved

**Description:** Study Hall allows students a period to complete homework during the school day. This course does NOT award credits or a grade and will only be an option if the student has excessive graduation credits accumulated prior to the Study Hall. This course is not UC/CSU approved nor will count toward CSF/NHS.

### **Term Waiver**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: None

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: None

Prerequisite: must have an excess of graduation required credits

Approval: None

**Description:** Student may come to school late or leave early if excessive graduation requirements have been accumulated or student is taking additional courses outside of BVCS. Students will NOT earn credits for this course nor a grade, and it is not UC/CSU approved nor will count toward CSF/NHS.

### **Work Experience**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Elective credits only

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: 5 units

Prerequisite: must have a job with a work permit prior to enrolling in Work Experience

Approval: not UC or CSU approved

**Description:** Work Experience allows students to earn 10 credits for working 10 hours or more hours weekly. Pay stubs need to be submitted each month for verification. This course is not UC/CSU approved nor will count toward CSF/NHS.

**Work Experience**

BVCS Graduation Requirement: Elective credits only

Grade Level: 11, 12

Duration: Semester Course

Units: 5 units

Prerequisite: must have a job with a work permit prior to enrolling in Work Experience

Approval: not UC or CSU approved

**Description:** Work Experience allows students to earn 10 credits for working 10 hours or more hours weekly. Pay stubs need to be submitted each month for verification. This course is not UC/CSU approved nor will count toward CSF/NHS.