

## Senior Course Selection Guide

Class of 2023

Junior Advisement Day

*February 28, 2022*

### **Administration:**

Mrs. Grendell	Principal
Mrs. Lopez	A.P. of Academics
Mr. Martinez	A.P. of Student Life
Mr. Youngren	Registrar

### **Guidance Department:**

Mrs. Tortorella	Dir. of Guidance, Junior/Seniors
Ms. Ortega	Seniors/SETSS
Ms. Como	Sophomore/Seniors
Ms. Labate	Freshman/Seniors

## Required Senior Courses

All seniors must take the following courses to qualify for the diploma:

- English: Select Topic or AP English Literature
- History: U.S. Government (one semester) + Economics (one semester)
- Mathematics: Pre-Calculus or Financial Algebra or Financial Algebra & Calculus (SUNY credit available) or AP Calculus
- Physical Education (including PE Fitness)
- Theology: World Religions (one semester) + Becoming a Woman of Mature Faith (one semester)

In addition to these required courses, seniors must choose three\* elective courses.

\*Seniors who take two or more AP courses are granted a variance from this requirement and are considered to be carrying a full course load with only two electives on their schedule.

## 90/90 Rule

Seniors who maintain a 90% average for each quarter per course and uphold the PHS code of conduct for the first two quarters, will be exempt from taking the midterm. (Exceptions: Regents, AP classes and University course exams).

## **Elective Senior Courses**

Which electives should you choose?

First, do some research. Find out what courses, if any, are required or recommended by the colleges you are most interested in. Find out what courses are required or recommended for your potential academic major or career path.

For instance, if you are interested in a Pre-Med program, you will need to take a fourth year of science. If you are interested in languages, Foreign Service, the travel industry, business or public service, a fourth year of a Language Other Than English is recommended.

But also consider taking an elective in a subject that you simply want to know more about. After all, your goal as a Preston High School student is to graduate with a well-rounded education that will enable you to take on a leading role in the global community. Are you an artist who wants to be more tech-savvy or a techie who enjoys art? Try the Advanced Graphic Design course. Just want to learn more about movies? Try Film History.

Ask questions! Find out what the course prerequisites, requirements and instructor expectations are. But don't choose a course based on who you think will be teaching it because that could change! One of today's aims is to provide you with enough information to make well-reasoned course choices and thus avoid any course changes next fall.

What follows is a brief summary of your elective choices. Please mark up the text and be sure to write down your questions and concerns. We will have Q&A sessions between departmental presentations.

Preston's Advanced Placement Program offers you the opportunity to learn in a challenging but supportive academic environment and potentially to earn college credit and/or advanced standing. While AP classes generally have prerequisites, including department approval and often a summer assignment, the Senior Faculty feels very strongly that these courses are worth the effort.

Graduates of our program often comment on how much they learned from their AP experiences and on the advantages their AP classes give them in college. When deciding on your senior schedule, keep in mind that college admissions officers are looking at not only your GPA but also the level of challenge your academic transcript reflects.

## Senior General Electives

### English Department:

Seniors not in AP English Literature will take English 4 (1 credit). You may choose among the following topics:

- Food Ed
- Lean in and Leave Your Mark—Work, Etiquette and Dress for the Professional Woman
- Androids, Aliens, and Algernon-Oh My!
- College Communications (SUNY credit available)
- Multi-ethnic Literature and Reading Shakespeare (SUNY credit available)

#### **Food Ed: Think, Cook, Eat, and Reclaim Power Over Our Food System (1.0 credit)**

This Stone Barns's Food Education course intends to expose students to various ways Americans source and prepare their foods. Throughout this spring-semester, students will, most importantly, cook, eat, and on other days, engage in tastings: at least once per week and at most once per class, students should turn their classroom into a kitchen lab (complete with a portable sink) to master knife skills, natural seasoning techniques, and even the curing process—all to learn how they may exercise their own power over the food they eat. By the semester's end, students will teach others about their newly-garnered knowledge as they choose one group in their community (the fellow student body, faculty, attendees of the nearby nursing home or soup kitchen) to receive the class's 'Mindful Meal'—an event where students plan, source, prepare, and cook dishes that represent the principles they uncovered from this course. Stone Barns recently won a grant for Preston, providing the school with kitchen supplies and materials to enable this course's existence in perpetuity.

#### **Lean In and Leave Your Mark: Work, Etiquette, and Dress for the Professional Woman (1.0 credit)**

Since we currently live in a professionally competitive world, one may understand the need for a class that specifically targets professional skills and uses media (beyond classroom capabilities) to help students apply and earn real-world jobs that can help them throughout college and their future careers. 'Lean In and Leave Your Mark,' therefore, uses the English 4, spring-semester choice slot to teach students career-focused, twenty-first-century skills such as mission-statement writing, resume and cover letter construction, Linked-In profile-creation, networking methods, professional interviewing skills, digital portfolios, and business writing. With this course, students should understand the theoretical underpinnings and practical obligations to succeed in an actual work environment. Through varied assessments, trips, and panel discussions with actual professionals (ideally), students should practice and hone their skills for the real world, and all its competition.

#### **Androids, Aliens, and Algernon- Oh My! Exploring the world of Science Fiction (1.0 credit)**

As much of current pop culture has a basis in science fiction, this course aims to look at the roots by exploring the principles of science fiction and what they tell us about our own world through various texts, authors, and media in the English 4 second semester. Students will explore various angles of the question "What if?" and its implications (What if humanity ceased to exist but machines/systems didn't; what if humans lived on other planets; what if we could artificially enhance someone's intelligence; what if it became more difficult to tell humans and non-humans apart? Just because we can do something, does it mean we should? Etc.). Additionally, these students will analyze women writers and their scarcity in this genre and evaluate what it really means to be human.

### **College Communications Part 1 + College Communications Part 2 (SUNY credit available)**

This senior Communications course lasts one year, with part one during the fall and two during the spring, and offers six credits through the University of Albany. Students will write and deliver different types of speeches over the course of the semester, while also learning techniques to help them become more confident and effective public speakers. Anticipated types of speeches include informative, persuasive, group, and at least one speech using an audio-visual aid. Techniques to be taught include breathing techniques to help calm nerves, eye contact, vocal tone, modulation, and projection, as well as rhetorical appeals for persuasive speeches. Credits are applicable to general college communications course requirements and, upon successful completion, can earn SUNY Albany college credit.

### **Multi-ethnic Work Literature + Reading Shakespeare (SUNY credit available)**

In most colleges, students must take a World Literature and Shakespeare course to graduate—even as non-English majors. This year, Preston allows seniors to study these courses while still in high school, to earn a head-start. Through SUNY-Albany and FIT's University in the High School Program, students take these college courses their senior year and earn six credits towards their Literature courses, valid for any SUNY college. This course also enables students to explore authors from various cultures while also embracing Shakespeare in a way that makes the bard more accessible and engaging. The courses will, in the fall, study authors such as Isabel Allende, Gwendolyn Brooks, Amir Baraka, and Maxine Hong Kingston while also, in the spring, embrace Shakespeare's most interesting, relevant, and referenced plays such as *Othello*, *Richard III*, and *Twelfth Night*. The course also links these works with film so students not only read but see them as the playwright intended—alive.

### **AP English Literature (1.0 credit)**

This course focuses on an in-depth study of a wide range of literary texts. Literature studied has included Hamlet, Oedipus Rex, Death of a Salesman, Frankenstein, Wuthering Heights, The Awakening, The Things They Carried, as well as shorter works. Emphasis is also placed on the refinement of analytical writing skills, as well as preparation for the Advanced Placement exam given in early May. All students taking this course are expected to sit for this exam. Students are also required to complete several analytical research projects based on their reading. Enrollment in this class requires the permission of the course instructor or the department chairperson.

### *English Electives*

### **Film History (1.0 credit): A year-long elective course that does not count as an English class**

This full-year course involves an extensive study of the history of film. Both the technological, historical and sociological aspects of film are studied in a chronological pattern, enabling the student to evaluate the development of film as an art form and as a representation of modern culture. Both American and foreign films are studied and emphasis is given to specific periods in film history, such as Silent Film and Film Noir. Films are viewed and discussed in class. The writing aspects of this class include tests and essays. This course culminates in a research project or an oral or filmed presentation.

## **Independent Senior Project: A year-long elective that does not count as an English class**

Maybe you have some idea about your profession when you graduate high school or college, but you're not really sure since you have no experience with it. Perhaps, instead, you've always wanted to learn about a particular field or subject but could never access the time because school overpowers your schedule. With the Independent Senior Project, you can use classes to explore the profession or subject that has always interested you. Through carefully curated lessons, students can learn about the topics that pique their interests. The course, for a full year, will allow opportunities for research, interviews, and other hands-on experience so students acquire first-hand knowledge about their topics of choice while also creating artifacts that can help them when applying for jobs in the real world. The course culminates in an online portfolio and *TED-Ed Talk* presentation that the *TED* organization will feature on their *YouTube* channel.

## **Fine & Technical Arts Department:**

### **Handbuilding in Ceramics- 3D Design (1.0 credit)**

Students will explore and learn handbuilding techniques for creating functional and sculptural forms. Demonstrations include slab construction, coil building and pinching. Students will explore a wide variety of decorating techniques including: applied textures, colored slips, glazing and under glazing application to create dynamic surfaces.

### **Video Production (1.0 credit)**

Video Production is an elective at Preston High School that produces Panther Vision. Students will learn the basics for video and TV: Pre-Production (writing, planning and organization), Production (shooting footage, interviews and reportage) and Post-production (editing, color-correction, and file transport protocols). Students will be required to film content outside of the class and after school. Students will also produce our daily announcement show (“Nobody’s Listening”) during homeroom. Student projects will then be posted to our YouTube channel. Our midterm will be a full class production of a segment for the Archdiocese’s News & Views program, now renamed the Archies, pending it’s continuation.

### **AP Studio Art & Design (1.0 credit)**

AP Studio Art & Design is for students who are interested in the experience of the artist. Art is an open-ended process of investigation, speculation, imagination and experimentation. Students create a portfolio of work to demonstrate inquiry through art and design and development of materials, processes, and ideas over the course of a year. Portfolios include works of art, process documentation, and written information about the work presented. In this introductory college-level course students have the opportunity to earn college credit. Prerequisite: Art Portfolio.

### **Advanced Graphic Design (1.0 credit)**

Graphic Design is a course that explores graphic communication through the understanding of the elements and principles of design; as well as, the design process, from idea development through the final execution of a document. Professionals use the concepts explored in this course in the following disciplines: advertising, graphic design, web design, illustration, broadcast design, photography, game design and many others. Assessment will be based upon a rubric that takes into consideration effort, technical understanding and creative use of resources for the completion of various assignments using the Adobe Suite. Students will express their creativity every day. As well as picking color palettes and choosing imagery and type, they also have to think 'outside the box' to solve challenging briefs. If you're a creative type, with a good eye for detail, this class gives you the opportunity to bring your ideas to life. Prerequisite: Basic Graphic Design.

### **Yearbook (.25 each semester)**

In this course, students will gain skills in the following areas: page design, publishing techniques, copywriting, editing, photography, record keeping, time management, teamwork, marketing, and leadership skills. Students are tasked with producing a timeless, creative, and innovative publication which will record our school's community, memories and events.

Students will be challenged with real world projects and assignments. High quality work is expected at all times. Students are expected to fully participate in each activity they are tasked with. Students are also expected to participate in outside of class time activities and meetings. To produce a complete yearbook, students will be required to attend school activities to take photographs and gather information to be used in the yearbook. A positive attitude is essential in working successfully in our team environment.



## **History Department:**

### **Introduction to Law (1.0 credit)**

This year-long elective course will examine the American legal system and its varied fields, including Criminal, Constitutional, Employment, Family, and Tort law. We will look at the different ways in which laws are made, how laws affect citizens, what can be done to change the law, as well as the various legal tests that courts utilize and the different protection afforded to various groups in the legal system. In addition, the court structure, the role of judges, lawyers, and juries are all studied. Throughout the year, you will also learn to use appropriate legal terminology, to read and brief cases, to improve your critical thinking and problem solving skills, to debate, and to present effective written arguments. Consider this class a look behind the curtain of government, and a way to ensure that your rights are protected. This course will be conducted similar to a college-level seminar, with some use of the Socratic method. Presentations, position papers, debates, unit tests, and subject quizzes, and hypothetical analysis are all components of this course. No prerequisites.

### **History of Women and Social Change – Senior Research Seminar (1.0 credit)** (SUNY Credit Available)

This senior elective course is designed to increase student understanding of the history and experiences of women in the United States and around the world through two semesters of intensive study and inquiry. It features a dual enrollment option through the University at Albany, University in the High School Program (with additional fees required in Fall & Spring semesters ONLY IF students opt for receiving college credit). In the Fall semester, the course follows the syllabus for A HIS 259 - History of Women & Social Change (3 credits). This course introduces students to the political, economic, social, and cultural forces that have shaped the lives of women in America from the Colonial Period to the late 20th century. It takes a roughly chronological approach to the analysis of women's lives and women's activism. In the Spring semester, the course follows the syllabus for A HIS 220 - Public Policy in Modern America (3 credits). This course explores the history of public policy in twentieth-century America, focusing on four different public policy issues during the semester: poverty, health care, criminal justice reform, and immigration. The course's lectures and readings will focus on several questions: How and why does change come on a given public policy issue? (Conversely, why does change in public policy not occur?) What role do politics play in public policy-making? How do "average" Americans contribute to the policy-making process? How does public policy making differ between issues that are domestically-oriented in comparison with those that are globally-oriented? What type of leadership is most effective in the public policy-making process? Finally, can the study of history help public policymakers today – or help us better understand public policy issues today? Prerequisites for UHS Dual Enrollment Credit: Cumulative GPA of B or higher.

### **Honors Humanities: The U. S. Struggles for Equality: A Study of Race, Class, and Gender (1.0 credit)**

This course is a sociological study of the United States' ongoing struggle to provide civil rights to and protect civil liberties for all of its people. It will concentrate on groups who have been denied rights because of their race, gender, or class and how they have struggled to achieve equality through the Constitution. This class is meant to recognize and celebrate the diversity of the United States. We will

examine both the strengths and weaknesses of the United States and its people, and explore what it means to be American, with a focus on showing compassion for “the other”. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach allows students to apply different critical lenses to the material that is covered, while making connections between history, literature, art, movies, music, science, and religion. The seminar style will allow students to perform independent research which they will then present to the class, as well as allowing them to express themselves in reflection papers and projects. Admission to class based on past History class performance and Junior year teacher approval.

### **AP European History (1.0 credit)**

This year-long course focuses on cultural, diplomatic, economic, intellectual, political and social developments in Europe during the period of 1450 to the present. The course involves an examination of major historical facts and personalities as well as an analysis of important concepts and themes. This knowledge provides the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role for continuity and change in present day society and politics, and the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse.

Students will develop an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, develop the ability to analyze historical evidence, historical interpretation and the ability to express historical understanding in writing. Students are required to actively participate in classroom discussions, oral presentations and debates.

There will be a possibility that the course qualifies for dual enrollment college credits through the University at Albany, University in the High School program, as A HIS 131 History of European Civilization II (3 credits over the Fall & Spring Semesters). Prerequisites for UHS Dual Enrollment Credit: Cumulative GPA of B or higher.

## **Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Department:**

### **Italian 4/Italian 5 (1.0 credit) (SUNY credit available)**

A ITA 103 - Italian 4 - Intermediate Italian I (4 credits - Fall Semester)

Taught in Italian and in English. Modern Italian readings. Review of Italian grammar, composition, and conversation. Review sheets will be given before each test and written assignment. Models will be given for all assignments. The “Seal of Bilingualism” culminating project is included in this course. Prerequisite - Member of the Italian Honor Society. Must have completed Italian 2, FLACS exam or exemption or Italian 3 and FLACS exam or exemption.

A ITA 104 - Italian 5- Intermediate Italian II (4 credits- Spring Semester)

Taught in Italian and in English. Continuation of modern Italian readings, review of Italian grammar, composition and conversation. Review sheets will be given before each test and written assignment. Models will be given for all assignments. Prerequisite(s): A ITA 103 or placement.

### **AITA 206 A - Italian 6 - Conversation and Oral Grammar (1.0 credit) (SUNY credit available)**

**\*Full Year Course - (3 college credits)**

***\*As of 2022 - all students enrolled in Italian 6 will obtain a partial scholarship to assist in paying the UAlbany course fee.***

Students will be responsible for reading, translating, analyzing, and discussing ten short stories and two films. Grammar activities will be covered for each story. After each short story, students will be asked to prepare a project which will be graded in its written part and in its oral presentation to the class. Then, students will read, translate, and analyze ten short stories. Students will complete grammar exercises for each short story. A written and oral project will be given after each short story. One film will be shown in December and one film will be shown in April. The students will take a final exam. Fifty percent of the exam will be oral and fifty percent of the exam will be written. The oral portion of the exam will be taken from the short projects given after the short story readings. The written portion of the exam will be taken from the written portion of the project given after each short story. Students will choose one oral exam situation from ten. Students will choose one written essay from ten (250 word essay in Italian). Qualified students may earn college credit from SUNY Albany for the successful completion of this course. This course is open only to students who have successfully completed Italian 5 (A ITA 104)

### **Spanish 4 (Native Spanish Speaker): Basic Spanish for Heritage Speakers (ASPN 105) (1.0 credit) (SUNY credit available - 3 college credits - Full year course)**

Emphasizes the development of all four communicative skills (writing, reading, speaking, and listening), with special attention given to specific areas of language such as vocabulary building, grammar, and orthography. This course is for students who speak Spanish at home, but who have little or no formal training in the language. Native Spanish speakers may not have more than two years of formal Spanish education at the high school level. Taught in Spanish and in English. Prerequisite: placement.

**Spanish 4 (Non-Native Speakers) (1.0 credit) (SUNY credit available - Pending Approval from UAlbany 2022-2023) (3-4 college credits - Full year course)**

Taught in Spanish and in English. A continuation of the active development of the four communicative skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) within the context of the study of different topics of Hispanic culture. Course includes short compositions and students are expected to participate in all class activities. May not be taken for credit by heritage or native speakers. Prerequisite: three years of Spanish, member of the Spanish Honor Society, must have taken the FLACS or have been exempt from it.

## **Mathematics Department:**

Seniors not in AP Calculus may choose from Pre-Calculus, Financial Algebra or Financial Algebra & Calculus (college credit) and the elective, Statistics. Students seeking admission to a college level mathematics course must have taken and passed the Algebra 2/Trig course and received teacher/departmental approval.

### **Pre Calculus (1.0 Credit)**

Topics of study include: fundamental concepts of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, solving three by three systems, functions and graphs, polynomial functions, rational functions and functions involving radicals, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and conic sections. Additional topics such as matrices, sequences, series, introduction to limits and derivatives may also be covered. Students in this course will be required to sit for the Algebra 2 Common Core Regents in January if they did not pass it during the Algebra 2 course. Students must have passed Algebra 2 successfully. The successful completion of Algebra 2/Trigonometry and departmental approval is required.

### **Financial Algebra and Calculus (1.0 Credit ) (SUNY credit available)**

This is a course designed for students wishing to explore practical business problems and real-world personal financial issues. Topics in the first semester include investments, the stock market, business start-ups, banking, credit cards, insurance, income taxes, business planning, home buying, and budgeting are the framework in which students will explore and master mathematical concepts and skills such as data analysis (scatter plots, averages, frequency distributions, matrices); fitting data to equations; linear, quadratic, exponential, and piecewise models with limits; interest formulas (simple, compound, and continuous); and present and future value. In the second semester students will experience an integrated approach to precalculus and calculus. Elements of algebra and analytic geometry are necessary to study calculus of one variable. Functions, limits, continuity, differentiation of algebraic functions, applications of differentiation will be introduced and applied to real world problems. You must have successfully passed Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 courses and midterms with a 70. You must also have a previous teacher's recommendation.

### **Financial Algebra (1.0 Credit )**

This is a course designed for students wishing to explore practical business problems and real-world personal financial issues. Topics such as investments, the stock market, business start-ups, banking, credit cards, insurance, income taxes, business planning, home buying, and budgeting are the framework in which students will explore and master mathematical concepts and skills such as data analysis (scatter plots, averages, frequency distributions); fitting data to equations; linear, quadratic, exponential, and piecewise models; interest formulas (simple, compound, and continuous); and present and future value. Problem solving and communicating mathematically will be emphasized. Graphing calculators and/or computers will be used throughout the year.

### **AP Calculus AB (1.0 credit)**

This course offers the study of the Calculus AB curriculum, as set forth by The College Board, to students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, axiomatic geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry, rectangular and polar coordinates, equations and graphs, line, and conics. Calculus AB is a course in introductory calculus with elementary functions.

The scope of the course includes topics relating to functions and graphs, limits and continuity, differential calculus, and integral calculus. Students taking this course are expected to put in many hours of active reading of the textbook and solving problems outside of the classroom meeting. The purchase of a TI-83 Graphing Calculator is a requirement for this course. Students enrolled in this course take the AP examination in May. Prerequisite: You must have successfully passed Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 courses and midterms with a 75. You must also have a previous teacher's recommendation.

### ***Math Elective:***

#### **Statistics (1.0 Credit ) (SUNY credit available)**

An introductory course in statistics that will allow students to learn the vocabulary and methods for data collection and analysis. Students will work with data collection, descriptive/inferential statistics, frequency distributions and graphs, measures of central tendency, standard deviation and variance, probability, the normal and binomial distributions, and confidence intervals. Departmental approval is required.

### **Theology Department:**

#### ***Elective***

#### **Psychology and Faith (1.0 credit)**

This course examines how basic psychological theories provided by Freud, Jung, Erikson, Frankel, and Maslow can offer valuable insight into the challenges related to contemporary faith life and spirituality: primarily within, but not limited to a Christian Catholic experience. A primary goal is to provide students with basic reflective and analytical tools to intelligently examine their faith life from a psychological perspective. Key guiding assumptions for the course are: 1) to attain a meaningful, mature faith requires a degree of spiritual and psychological integration within the individual; 2) all of us have a religious and psychological dimension to our personality; and 3) what we have religiously we also have psychologically.

## **Science Department:**

### ***Electives:***

#### **Anatomy & Physiology (1.0 credit)**

This senior elective is designed for students who wish to pursue careers in areas such as medicine, nursing, physician assistant, physiotherapy, and many other health-related fields. Students begin by mastering the terminology and memorizing a substantial core of basic concepts related to the structure and function of the human body. In the process, they are also provided with a “mental framework” for organizing new information, the ability to access additional information when needed by referring to relevant print or electronic data sources, and the understanding of how to apply their knowledge to solve particular problems. Assessments include tests, practicals, labs, quizzes, homework assignments, and a final quarter project. Prerequisite: To enroll in this course, a student must have successfully passed the Earth Science and Chemistry Regents courses and received a 75% or above in Biology. Department approval is required.

#### **Forensic Science (1.0 credit)**

Forensic Science seeks to integrate and apply science concepts learned in biology, chemistry and physics. This course aims to define the important and unique role of science in the criminal justice system—a role that relates to the scientist’s ability to supply accurate and objective information that reflects the events that have occurred at a crime. It culminates in the processing of evidence from actual suspects using the skills learned throughout the year. Portfolios are built by logging all physical evidence of a crime scene, analyzing it and recognizing implications suggested by the evidence. Classes will combine PowerPoint lecture presentations with labs, videos and a field trip to the DNA Learning Center.

Prerequisite: Students must have successfully passed the Living Environment Regents examination (65%) or equivalent and passed Earth Science or Chemistry Regents course. Department approval is also required.

#### **Physics (1.0 credit)**

Physics is a laboratory-based science recommended for those who have not ruled out a science, math or health related career. The NYS Physical Setting/Physics Regents core curriculum is followed. The core topics include: mechanics, energy, electricity and magnetism, wave phenomena, and modern physics. Problem solving and mathematical applications are integral parts of this course and are subject to testing. Students are required to take the NYS Physical Setting: Physics examination. Prerequisite: Students must have earned or are currently maintaining a grade of 75% or higher in their Chemistry Regents course, and earn a final grade of at least 75% in the Algebra II/Trig course and have departmental approval.

#### **Environmental Science (1.0 credit) (SUNY 4- Credits)**

The overall objective of this course is to provide a survey of environmental science. Topics to be addressed include the nature of science, sustainability, environmental systems (including fundamental concepts from physics, chemistry, and biology), biodiversity, population growth, environmental policy,

environmental impacts due to land use, agriculture, forestry, and mining, and impacts on water, and the atmosphere. Global climate change and energy – sources, consumption, and choices will be addressed and waste, waste management, toxins, pollution, and their impact on health will be examined. This course will include a project-based learning component. The students will each maintain a laboratory notebook, present their data during “lab meetings”, write a final laboratory report modelling a scientific journal paper and present their work as a poster or presentation. Therefore, the students will become proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. This course will emphasize scientific literacy and data analysis skills to encourage students to think critically about environmental issues.

As a prerequisite, students must have achieved a passing score (65% or higher) on the NYS Regents exams (or course) in Living Environment and Earth Science.

### **AP Biology (1.0 credit)**

This course is a College-level introductory biology course which differs significantly from the usual high school course in terms of textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the laboratory work done by the students, and the time and effort required of the students. The course is designed to provide students with a conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and the analytical and writing skills necessary to deal critically with the complexity of biological science today. The content includes the following topics: molecules and cells--25%, heredity and evolution--25%, and organisms and populations--50%. Students entering the AP Biology course are required to complete a portion of the syllabus during the summer recess, devote more time to classroom instruction and be prepared for extensive homework assignments. Some of the advanced laboratory experiences will be completed during off site field trips. It is mandatory for all students enrolled to take the AP Biology Examination in May; a fee of approximately \$225 is required, which includes the examination. The school provides for all laboratory costs. AP Biology should not be substituted for Physics; however, students may take Physics and AP Biology simultaneously if planning to pursue a science track in college. Prerequisite: To enroll in this course, a student must received above 70% on the Chemistry Regents Exam and/or course, 70% or better on the Earth Science Regents exam and/or course and achieved 80% or better on the Living Environment Regents exam and/or Biology course.



When do the electives meet?

**2022-2023 (Draft)**

Block 4:	Block 5:	Block 7:
4060 Psychology & Faith 4255 History of Women 4260 Law 4410 Physics 4470 Environmental Science 4512 Spanish 4 (Native Speakers) 4535 Italian 6	4240 AP European History 4405 AP Biology 4430 Forensic Science 4513 Spanish 4 (Non-Native Speakers) 4715 Digital Design (formerly Advanced Graphic Design) 4775 Video Production 4780 Handbuilding in Ceramics	4170 Film History 4250 Honors Humanities 4330 Statistics 4420 Anatomy & Physiology 4700 A.P. Arts 4950 Independent Senior Project 3700 Graphic Design (formerly Basic Graphic Design)

Possible Career Bundles

Science/Pre-Med: Physics, AP Biology, Statistics

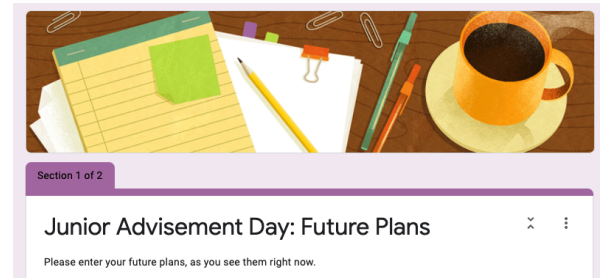
Nursing: Psych and Faith, Anatomy/Physiology

Law/Criminal Justice: Law, Forensics Science, Statistics

Communications/Media: (with E4-Communications), Psychology & Faith, Video Production, Film History

## Calendar for Registration for 2022-2023

- [Google Form: Future Plans & Elective Interests](#) (a poll we ask students to complete after the presentations, Q&A, and parent review) due during tomorrow's Home Room.
- [Panther Portal \(RenWeb\) Registration OPEN March 4th – 31st](#)

A screenshot of the Panther Portal (RenWeb) Course Request page. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Student Home, Homework, Lesson Plans, Report Card, Attendance, Behavior, Course Request (highlighted with a red arrow), Schedules, Family, and Resources. The main content area is titled "Welcome to course requests!" and asks the user to "Please select core courses below (you will be automatically assigned Go)". It includes dropdown menus for "Choose an English course:" and "Choose a Mathematics course:". A dropdown menu for "Choose a Mathematics course:" is open, showing options: 4300 AP Calculus, 4390 Statistics, 4345 Financial Algebra, and 4348 Financial Algebra & Calculus. Below this, there are sections for "Senior Electives" with instructions to "Please choose from each series: Primary AND Alternate:". This section contains three pairs of dropdown menus for "Block 4 Elective", "Block 5 Elective", and "Block 7 Elective", each with "Primary" and "Alternate" columns.

## University at Albany Classes at Preston High School

Dual credit classes are available to Juniors and Seniors who meet the minimum requirement of an 85% grade point average (GPA). These courses can be used to obtain both Preston High School and College credits. We offer the Dual Credit courses:

COURSE	CREDITS	PREREQUISITE(S)
AITA Italian 103	4 college credits	90% in Italian 2 and minimum 85% FLACS or passing Italian 3
AITA Italian 104	4 college credits	Passing AITA 103
AITA 206Y Italian 6	3 college credits	Passing AITA 104 (It 5)
AHIS 100 American Political & Social History I	3 college credits	Department Approval
ASPN 105 Spanish 4 Native Speakers	3 college credits	Department Approval
AHIS 100 American Political & Social History II	3 college credits	Department Approval
AHIS 220 Public Policy in Modern America	3 college credits	Department Approval
AHIS 259 History of Women and Social Change	3 college credits	Department Approval
AMAT 101 Math Financial Algebra & Calculus	3 college credits	Passing grade in course and midterm exam (70) in Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II
AMAT 108 Elementary Statistics	3 college credits	No prerequisite

**Cost per class: \$160 (3 / 4 credits); \$80 if eligible for free/reduced lunch (Need to submit - Form 1040).**

## University at Albany Classes offered at Preston – 2020-2022 (Approval Pending)

COURSE	CREDITS	PREREQUISITE(S)
AENG 144L Shakespeare	3 college credits	No prerequisite (Fall/Spring) *Approval Pending - Spring 2021
A ENV 105 & ENV 106 Environmental Science & Lab	4 college credits	Passing grade in course and Regents exam (70) in Earth Science and Biology *Approval Pending 2021-2022

SAVINGS @ PRESTON	3-Credit Course	Cost at Preston	Savings
Westchester Community	\$573.00	\$160.00	\$413.00
SUNY Albany University	\$885.00	\$160.00	\$725.00
CUNY Hunter College	\$1,860.00	\$160.00	\$1,700.00
Iona College	\$3,660.00	\$160.00	\$3,500.00
St. John's University	\$3,969.00	\$160.00	\$3,809.00
New York University	\$4,236.00	\$160.00	\$4,076.00

<b>Junior Advisement Day, February 28th 2022</b>	
<b>8:05-8:35</b>	<b>Sign-In, Transcript Review &amp; Breakfast</b>
<b>8:40-9:15</b>	AP Academics & Registrar: Requirements, Policies, and Logistics
<b>9:20-9:53</b>	Academic Session I: English & History & ISP (11 classes)
9:53-10:08	Q&A
<b>10:15-10:42</b>	Academic Session II: Math & Science (9 classes)
10:42 – 10:52	Q&A
<b>11:00 – 11:24</b>	Academic Session III: Fine & Technical Arts, LOTE and Psychology (8 classes)
11:24-11:35	Q&A
<b>11:45 – end</b>	Friendship Photos
<b>Survey due tomorrow, March 1st by Home Room</b>	<a href="#">Google Form “Future Plans” &amp; Course Poll</a>

## **Policies for Re-Registration**

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT & HONORS COURSES

Preston High School offers several Advanced Placement & Honors Courses. Due to the level of difficulty and the volume of material in these courses, a student who chooses an AP or Honors course and her parent/guardian must sign an agreement with the chairperson of the department.

The agreement will state that under NO CIRCUMSTANCES will a student be allowed to withdraw from an AP or Honors course once the next school year begins.

### *SCHEDULE CHANGES INITIATED BY STUDENT OR HER FAMILY*

Rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors are to view a course verification list for the upcoming academic year. It is requested that all students check this list for accuracy and that ALL changes be recorded with the Office of Academics by July 1st. ANY student-initiated changes made on or after August 1<sup>st</sup> will be made only upon payment of a \$25 fee. ANY student-initiated changes made after opening day of the academic year will incur a fee of \$100. [Note that withdrawals from AP courses are not allowed once the school year has begun.]