

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## INTENSIVE CLASSES

These non-credit classes are designed to provide students with an opportunity to work in a small-group setting for intensive support in individually tailored programs. Students will create their own personal goals and objectives, as well as be provided with specific skills required for various classes. Instruction in basic study skills and time management may also be provided. Attendance in this class may be required in place of or in addition to other required classes.

## ART EDUCATION

### INTRODUCTION TO ART (1/2 Unit per semester)

A basic foundation course designed to build the student's confidence in using a variety of art media, to develop technical skills, and to encourage the student's creativity. The elements and principles of design found in the study of visual arts heritage will be applied to students' artworks.

### INTRODUCTION TO TWO DIMENSIONAL ART (1/2 Unit per semester)

A basic foundation course designed to develop creativity and technical skills in using a variety of art media (pencil, chalk, pastel, acrylic paint, and mixed media) as they work on two dimensional projects. Elements and styles found in the brief study of art history will be applied to students' artworks (Realism, Impressionism, Cubism, and Surrealism). They will also learn the principals of design and the basic color theory.

### INTRODUCTION TO THREE DIMENSIONAL ART (1/2 Unit per semester)

A basic foundation course designed to develop creativity and technical skills in using a variety of art media (paper, wax, clay, and mixed media) as they work on three dimensional projects. Students will create both *figurative and abstract forms*. Students will also learn the basics of hand built pottery including various methods of forming pieces, using molds, glazing techniques and firing.

## BUSINESS EDUCATION

### COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (1/2 Unit, 1 semester)

Required

Prerequisite: Keyboarding or Demonstration of Proficiency

This one-semester introductory course gives the student basic experience in Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

### ACCOUNTING (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

A course designed to introduce the student to basic accounting principles. The student will use the computer to reinforce concepts. Career education in the accounting field will be emphasized.

### INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS (1/2 Unit, 1 semester) 3 hours of college credit available

Prerequisite: Computer Applications

A course designed to explore and learn the field of computer technology and its impact on society and gain a practical experience in the use of typical office-suites applications. This course will consist of a combination lecture and laboratory experience. Students will complete projects using Microsoft Office—Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, and Publisher.

## ENGLISH

English classes at SVA will provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking which will give a thorough preparation for future application in the work force and/or academics

### ENGLISH I (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

This course will teach such skills as vocabulary, grammar, and critical thinking through reading and writing. Literature in English I will include short stories, poetry, drama, and longer works. Writing will teach the foundation skills that will contribute to students' future writing needs.

### ENGLISH II (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

Students will continue to develop reading, writing, and thinking skills that will prepare them for their future. In addition to vocabulary and grammar review, students will read literature that includes classic works of poetry, drama, and prose. In addition to persuasive, expository, and personal writing, a research project will be required.

**ENGLISH III** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

Emphasis is placed on the study of American literature from its beginning through the twenty-first century. Much emphasis is also placed on writing and the development of language skills and vocabulary knowledge. Grammar for writing will also be stressed.

**ADVANCED ENGLISH III** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Grade average of B+ or above in English III

This course will provide college-bound students with a more thorough background in the English language and American culture. Material covered is similar to that of English III but in greater depth and variety. This course is intended to prepare student to take Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition.

**ENGLISH IV** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required unless AP English IV is completed.

This course builds on the foundation established in the previous three years. A similar emphasis is placed on reading, writing, thinking, and language development. The literary emphasis focuses on the great works of the British heritage from the culture’s beginning through the twenty-first century.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) ENGLISH IV** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Advanced English III or Permission of Instructor

This course is an alternative to English IV. It prepares students for the Advanced Placement exam in English Literature and Composition at the end of the school year. Focus will be on the critical reading and composition skills needed to pass the standardized exam. Students who pass the exam will be eligible to receive college credit.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM**

Our ESL Program is designed to develop our students’ communicative and academic language competence in the four main areas of language usage: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Levels	English Courses	PBT/ITP	CBT	IBT
Basic	Emergent English I	310-397	57-93	17-31
Intermediate	Emergent English II	400-497	97-170	32-60
Bridge	English I-IV	500-547	173-210	61-78
Mainstream	English I-IV AP English	550-667	213-300	79-120

Levels	Writing Courses	TWE
Basic	Emergent Writing Lab I	1-2
Intermediate	Emergent Writing Lab II	2.5-3
Bridge	Advanced Writing	3.5-4.5
Mainstream	English I-IV/AP English	5-6

	Level 1 (Basic)	Level 2 (Intermediate)	Level 3 (Partial-Mainstream)	Level 4 (Total-Mainstream)
English Courses	Emg. Eng. I	Emg. Eng II	English I - IV	English I - IV
Writing Courses	Emg. Writing I	Emg. Writing II	Advanced Writing	

**EMERGENT ENGLISH 1** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester)

May be taken for up to two semesters for one credit, but may be required to be taken additionally without academic credits given

A study of basic patterns of English grammar and their usage in academic and conversational English. This course is designed to help students develop four basic language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing on the basic level. May be repeated for two semesters of credit.

### **EMERGENT ENGLISH 2** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester)

May be taken for up to two semesters for one credit, but may be required to be taken additionally without academic credits given.

A study of intermediate and advanced patterns of the English language and their usage in different formats. This course is designed to help students increase comprehension and speed in reading and listening. vocabulary expansion, summary writing and oral communication skills for effective class participation and presentations. May be repeated for two semesters of credit.

### **EMERGENT WRITING LAB 1**

(1/2 Unit, 1 semester) **May be taken for up to two semesters for one credit, but may be required to be taken additionally without academic credits given**

This course is designed to help students with academic writing, emphasizing improved fluency and accuracy, paragraph structure, summarizing and paraphrasing, writing short essays, and a final research project.

### **ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE LAB**

This course is for students whose English is proficient enough to be in regular English classes (TOEFL PBT 500), but still need to fine tune their grammar, usage, vocabulary, writing, and public speech. This transition course will serve as a bridge between the Emergent English courses and the mainstream English courses. It may be taken with regular English course. This course will also help them acquire higher scores for standardized tests such as TOEFL/ACT/SAT/ITED. Various writing assignments will be given and/or writing assignments from other classes will be assisted. Students will also actively participate in group discussions on readings, writings, or other course material.

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

### **SPANISH I** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required for Advanced Diploma

This introductory Spanish course emphasizes speaking, reading, writing, and listening to a foreign language. A study of grammar and the culture of Spanish-speaking people enrich the student's understanding of this language.

### **SPANISH II** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required for Advanced Diploma Prerequisite: Spanish I

The second year of Spanish is the continuation of the basic course with further emphasis on listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

### **SPANISH III** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required for Advanced Diploma 6 semester hours of college credit available Prerequisite: Spanish II

Further study of Spanish with emphasis on reading comprehension, correct written expression, spontaneous speaking, and listening skill. This course is equivalent to Beginning Spanish at the college level.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Admission to all math classes will be by placement testing

### **ALGEBRA I-A** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

This class is the first semester of Algebra I and is covered in two semesters. Topics covered include expressions, equations, functions, rational numbers, linear equations, proportional reasoning, graphing, and solving linear inequalities. Must have a grade of D or higher in first semester to continue in second semester of this class.

### **ALGEBRA I-B** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

This class is the second semester of Algebra I and is covered in two semesters. Student must have received a grade of D or better in the second semester of Algebra I-A to enroll in this class. Topics include solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, quadratic and exponential functions, rational and radical expressions, and equations. Must have a grade of D or higher in first semester of this class to enroll in the second semester.

### **ALGEBRA I** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required unless second semester of Algebra I-B has been completed

This is a study of the fundamental operations of algebra and their application to the solution of problems. Included in the course are such topics as sets, equations, inequalities, axioms, graphing, special products and factoring, and relations and functions. A Texas Instrument graphing calculator (Model TI-83 Plus or better) is required for this course.

### **ALGEBRA II** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required for Advanced Diploma. Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, or presently enrolled in Geometry.

A more extensive study of relations and functions including linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions. A Texas Instrument graphing calculator (Model TI-83 Plus or better) is required for this course.

**GEOMETRY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required Prerequisites: Algebra I

Students will study about lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, constructions, areas, and volumes of solids. Both deductive and indirect proofs will be used in the class. A Texas Instrument graphing calculator (Model TI-83 Plus or better) is required for this course.

**COLLEGE PRE-CALCULUS** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) 3 semester hours college credit available.

Required for Advanced Diploma. Prerequisites: B in Algebra I and II, or permission from the instructor.

This course will provide preparation for the student who intends to continue their study of mathematics, whether in the direction of the natural or physical science or in the direction of the social sciences. A Texas Instrument graphing calculator (Model TI-83 Plus or better) is required for this course. Successful completion of this course may earn college credit through CUC.

**AP CALCULUS AB** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) 5 semester hours of college credit available

Prerequisites: B in Algebra I and II, Geometry, and Pre-calculus or permission from the instructor.

This course will emphasize conceptual understanding; a multirepresentational approach to calculus. It will emphasize the use of technology and unifying themes, which include derivatives, integrals, limits, applications, modeling, and approximation. Functions, graphs, and limits are covered, including the analysis of graphs, the limits of the functions (including one-sided limits), along with any asymptotic behavior. The concept of derivatives, derivatives at a point, as a function, second derivatives, and applications of derivatives are also covered. The concept of integrals from the development of Riemann sums to the interpretations, properties, and applications of integrals will be explored. The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and the Second Fundamental Theorem of Calculus are included, as are techniques and applications of antidifferentiation. Some numerical approximations of definite integrals are studied. AP Exam is required.

**AP CALCULUS BC** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) 5 semester hours of college credit available

Prerequisites: Permission by instructor along with a 3 or better on the AP Calculus AB exam.

Includes all Calculus AB topics. Additional Topics covered include:

Parametric, polar, and vector functions; analysis of planar curves given in these forms: derivatives of parametric, polar, and vector functions; numerical solutions of differential equations using Euler's method; and L'Hospital's Rule. Antiderivatives of various functions, by substitution of variables, and simple partial fractions, Polynomial Approximations and series, and Taylor Series, and Maclaurin series. The course will meet three times per week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

## MUSIC

All music organizations are offered to our students by audition and each group requires formal dresses or tuxedos as uniforms at an additional charge to the student.

**PRIVATE LESSONS** (1/4 Unit per semester)

Private lessons are offered at all levels from beginning through advanced, in piano, organ, voice, wind, and string instruments, and percussion. It is highly recommended that all students involved in performance organizations and ensembles take private lessons. In certain instances, private lessons may be required to join performance groups.

**BRASS ENSEMBLE** (1/4 Unit per semester)

A select ensemble designed to challenge those who are capable of and interested in studying and performing more advanced ensemble literature. Emphasis is placed on balance, listening, and the pure sounds of a smaller group. Admission is by audition only. Private lessons are encouraged and in some cases mandatory. This group tours domestically and internationally.

**CONCERT BAND** (1/4 Unit per semester)

Open to any student with some proficiency on a wind or percussion instrument. Stress is placed upon ensemble techniques appropriate to each instrument and on the performance of the best in band repertoire. Numerous sacred and secular concerts domestically and internationally are given throughout the year.

**HANDBELL ENSEMBLE** (1/4 Unit per semester)

A select ensemble designed to challenge those who are capable of and interested in studying and performing more advanced ensemble literature. This group has performed handbell music of the highest difficulty level. Music ability, enthusiasm for playing and a demonstrated spirit of cooperation are vital for membership in this group. Admission to this group requires a commitment for the entire year. Strict attendance at rehearsals and performances is required.

### **SHENANDOANS** (1/2 Unit per semester)

This touring vocal ensemble is designed to challenge those who are capable of, and interested in studying and performing more advanced choral literature. Music ability, enthusiasm for singing, and a demonstrated spirit of cooperation are prerequisites for membership. Music, mostly sacred, of all periods of choral music history is studied and performed. Membership is by audition and/or invitation of the director. Membership is expected for the entire year, but is reevaluated each quarter. Continued membership is dependent on growth and contribution to the group.

### **CONCERT CHOIR** (1/4 Unit per semester)

A choral ensemble available to all interested and qualified students. Emphasis is on vocal and musical development. The music selected is chosen for its quality, interest factor, and appropriateness to the group. The course is designed in semester segments, so students can join or drop at the semester.

### **STRING ENSEMBLE** (1/4 Unit per semester)

The String Ensemble performs a variety of works taken from the standard classical/romantic string repertoire as well as works and transcriptions taken from the contemporary repertoire. Emphasis is placed on advanced string playing development. Individual lessons are strongly recommended.

### **SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** (1/4 Unit per semester)

The Symphony Orchestra performs works taken from the standard symphonic literature. Part of the repertoire covered over the year may include a selection of major works for choir and orchestra combined. The core of the Symphony Orchestra is made up of the String Ensemble plus selected players of the Concert Band, however additional players are welcome. Considering the difficulty inherent to the repertoire performed, a good level of proficiency on the instrument is necessary. Individual lessons are recommended and may be required.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (1.5 Units required for graduation)

PE classes are offered in semester increments. Freshmen are required to take a full year of PE. Sophomores ½ year combined with driver's education and health.

### **DRIVER EDUCATION** (1/4 Unit, 1 semester) Optional (for VA residents only)

Classroom instruction: includes study of the Virginia Highway Laws from the state manual. The course emphasizes the technique of driving all roadways defensively. This course fulfills the state Driver Education classroom requirement. The student must be 15 years old before completing the class, have an acceptable attendance record, and a GPA of 2.00 or above.

### **HEALTH** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester) required

Six basic areas are targeted: physical, intellectual, social, spiritual, sexual, and emotional. Students will learn the advantages of a healthy lifestyle and how to make healthy choices.

## **RELIGION**

### **BASIC CHRISTIANITY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required if student does not have a background in Christianity

Basic Christianity is offered to any student who has limited or no background knowledge of the Christian religion. The validity of the Bible as the source of Christian beliefs is the basis for studying the origin, history and doctrines of Christianity. This class may be substituted for one required religion class if the student does not have a background in Christianity.

### **RELIGION I** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

A study of the books of Genesis and The Gospels designed to introduce the student to the character of God and the story of Christ. Emphasis is placed on building knowledge and in-class discussion.

### **RELIGION II** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

This study begins with Moses and the Exodus, continues through the history of Israel and Judah, and examines one of the New Testament church through the Reformation. The concluding unit is the story of the Advent awakening and the beginning and growth of the SDA Church.

### **RELIGION III** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

This course begins with a study of making choices and facing challenges from a biblical perspective. The study of the Bible books of the Gospel of John and Romans will provide a deeper insight into the character of Christ and the process of salvation. The final quarter offers a detailed Bible study of the 28 Fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

### **KNOWING & SHARING CHRIST** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester) 3 semester hours of college credit available.

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior. May take the place of one semester of Religion III or Religion IV

The object of this class is to aid students in discovering God's purpose for their life and to help them develop and put into practice the talents that He has given them. In-depth Bible study will include a focus on God's guidance and how each individual is used for the spreading of Christianity. Practical life issues that include all aspects of life will also be discovered through Bible study. Active involvement and leadership in campus ministry and community outreach will be an important outcome of this class.

**JESUS AND THE GOSPELS** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester) 3 semester hours of college credit available

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior. May take the place of one semester of Religion III or Religion IV

An introductory study of Jesus' life and teaching through the close readings of the four canonical gospels. Open to juniors and seniors only.

**RELIGION IV** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

Religion IV covers life philosophies and moral issues, including worldviews and religions. Biblical principles are studied that are useful in personal development and relationships at home, the church, and the community. The study of the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation provide insights into distinct Adventist beliefs. God's plan for marriage and the family is studied to provide guidance in choosing a spouse and career that will result in a ministry for God.

**CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Prerequisite: Junior Senior. May be taken only once.

The object of this class will be to aid students in discovering God's purpose for their life and to help them develop and put into practice the talents that He has given them. In depth Bible study will include a focus on God's guidance and how He can use each of us for the spreading of Christianity. Practical life issues that include all aspects of life will also be discovered in Bible study. Active involvement and leadership in campus ministry and community outreach will be an important outcome of this class.

## SCIENCE

**CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

The student will be exposed to the major concepts in general physics and will develop an understanding of the conceptual structure of the physics processes of daily life through reading, watching demonstrations, and involvement in laboratory experiments. This course has very limited mathematical formulas and procedures. This class has a lab component.

**BIOLOGY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

Biology is intended to provide factual and conceptual knowledge, give an integrated overview of the central themes of modern biology, afford experience in obtaining and interpreting biological hypotheses, and develop thinking and writing skills. Topics are divided into four main areas each placing emphasis with God as our creator: cellular and molecular biology, genetics, plant morphology, and ecology.

**CHEMISTRY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required for Advanced Diploma Prerequisites for sophomores: B in Algr. I, 3.0 GPA and taking Algr. II  
Prerequisite for juniors: C in Algr. I.

Chemistry is a descriptive and quantitative science based on controlled experiments, logic, and theory. Emphasis is placed on measurement, problem solving, and the processes of physical and chemical change. Models are used to explain observable phenomena and are verified by experimentation and observation. Scientific laws, theories, principles, and concepts are taught from a perspective that promotes an appreciation for the wisdom and creative power of God.

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) 4 semester hours of college credit available

This course is an introduction to the anatomy and physiology of the human being. Evidence from animal dissection is used to identify the general principles of functional mechanisms. The subject matter includes metabolism and temperature regulation, nervous and endocrine system controls, integration, respiration and circulation, water and ion balance, excretion, digestion, reproduction, and immune system function. There is a weekly three-hour lab for this class.

**EARTH SCIENCE** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Earth Science is the study of the earth, its characteristics, its meteorological phenomena, astronomy, and the correlation of these topics to Scripture. As students study geomorphic features and major geologic processes of the past, present, and future, they should gain a greater appreciation of God as the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. Included as major topics are geology, astronomy, meteorology, and oceanography. Topics will be taught from a

content and concept basis with an emphasis on scientific processes and correlation to the Scriptural accounts of Creation and the Flood.

**PHYSICS** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Prerequisites: B in Algebra I and II, or permission from the instructor.

This course will provide preparation for the student to interpret and understand the physical world through lecture, problems, and experiments. The student will be introduced to the topics of mechanics, thermal physics, wave motion, sound, light, optics, electricity, magnetism, and as time permits, modern physics. A TI-83+ or higher calculator is required for this course. This class has a lab component.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

The social science curriculum is designed to help students understand human nature and its role in past, present, and future events. It is based on the belief that an understanding of the past is fundamental to an understanding of the present. The analysis and interpretation of geography, history, government, and human psychology is essential in evaluating contemporary institutions, politics, cultures, and modern society.

**COLLEGE AMERICAN HISTORY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) 6 semester hours of college credit available

This in-depth survey of American History from the Age of Exploration to the present provides students the opportunity to earn up to six hours of college credit. Students will use a college textbook and analyze primary source documents throughout the course. This class may be substituted for US History.

**COLLEGE PSYCHOLOGY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) 3 semester hours of college credit available

This is a survey course designed to introduce the student to the basic principles and concepts in psychology. The course will cover the history, development, and application of psychology. The student will study a variety of concepts such as motivation, personality, stress, abnormal behavior, consciousness, learning, cognition, and memory. Students will also learn to understand these concepts in the context of a Christian worldview.

**GEOGRAPHY** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester)

Required

This course focuses on the study of the world's people, places, and environments, with an emphasis on world regions. The knowledge, skills, and perspectives of the course are centered on the world's population and cultural characteristics, landforms, climates, economic development, migration, and settlement patterns. Using geographic resources, students will employ inquiry, research, and technology skills to ask and answer geographic questions. Particular emphasis is placed on students' understanding and applying geographic concepts and skills to their daily lives.

**U. S. HISTORY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

This course surveys the historical development of American ideas and institutions from the Age of Exploration to the present. While focusing on political and economic history, students will examine the American culture through a chronological survey of major issues, movements, people, and events in United States. Students will use historical and geographical skills to explore the events, people, and ideas that fostered our national identity and led to our country's prominence in world affairs. Intellectual skills required for responsible citizenship are also emphasized. Prerequisites: Geography, World History, English II

**PERSONAL FINANCE** (1/2 Unit, 1 semester) 3 semester hours of college credit available

Required

An overview of personal and family financial planning with an emphasis on financial recordkeeping, planned and budgeted spending, tax planning, consumer credit, making buying decisions, purchasing, and selecting from a variety of investments. Prerequisite: Senior class standing.

**US GOVERNMENT** (1 Unit, 2 semesters) required

All seniors are required to take 1 Unit of United States Government. This course is an introduction to the background, origins, development, and operations of the government of the United States.

**WORLD HISTORY** (1 Unit, 2 semesters)

Required

Prerequisites: Geography, English I

This course surveys the history of humanity with special emphasis on the development of Western Europe. Significant attention will be given to the correlation of man's history, Bible prophecy, ways in which scientific and technological revolutions created new economic conditions that produced social and political changes. Historical understanding requires students to engage in historical thinking, raise questions, and provide evidence to support

their answers. These skills are developed through the study of significant historical substance from the era or society that is being studied.

## **PRACTICAL ARTS**

**WELDING** (students receive a pass grade upon completion of the course)

Offered by a private master instructor on SVA campus (Randy Poehler). All financial cost will be in addition to SVA monthly tuition. Some financial aid may be available. Each class has a \$1,200 fee for each semester.

### **WELDING CERTIFICATION I**

#### Shop Certification (1 Unit)

This course will provide the necessary theory and practice for the student to become certified in shielded metal arc welding in the flat and horizontal positions. (Additional fees will apply and also requires additional labs as needed)

### **WELDING CERTIFICATION II**

#### Job Site Certification (1 Unit)

Prerequisites: Welding Certification I

This advanced course will provide the necessary theory and practice for the student to become certified in shielded metal arc welding in all positions. (Additional fees will apply and also requires additional labs as needed)

### **WELDING CERTIFICATION III**

#### Pipe Certification (1 Unit)

Prerequisites: Welding Certification I & II

Completion of this course will qualify the student to become certified in shielded metal arc welding for pipe.

### **ADVANCED MULTI-PROCESS WELDING (1 Unit)**

Prerequisites: Welding Certification I & II

This course will provide the necessary training and practice for proficiency in MIG, TIG, and oxyacetylene - welding and cutting.