## Course Request Information for 2023-2024

Please be sure to review all the slides before choosing your students courses with him/her for 2023-2024

These requests are due by March 24, 2023

## ONLINE COURSE REQUESTS

- All course requests will be done online.
- Parents and students should complete this together.
- Students will only be able to enter one request.
- A link for schedule changes will be sent out late summer after schedules are completed and released.

We make every possible attempt to enroll all students in their desired courses but due to the many singular offerings, this is not always possible.
Preferential scheduling is given to Seniors then juniors then sophomores then freshmen for electives.

Academic classes are offered to maximize enrollment which sometimes leads to students needing to take a second or third choice on electives.
The dual enrollment (DE) options are offered through CCU, and are online. (see next slide)

## Things to Remember.

## DUAL ENROLLMENT OFFERINGS

Some important information you need to know about our new DE course offerings:
These courses are fully online and offered through Colorado Christian University.
CCU is responsible for all instruction and grading.
CCU will provide Valley with grades and that will be entered onto Students' Valley transcript, as is.

- Valley will provide a scheduled period for these classes, as well as a faculty member to assist in the navigation of the learning platform and answer questions, as possible.
- All DE classes are a semester long, earn 1 high school credit and earn 3-4 college credits.
- These courses are an additional cost (appx. \$300 per course), require a 3.0 GPA, and may require placement testing.
- The DE course offerings are accepted by most colleges, depending on their admission criteria and the major of study.
- DE classes are college level and will require additional study time and increased work volume.
- CCU's grading policy may be more stringent than Valley (e.g. 92\%+ is an A). Students not willing to risk receiving lower than an A, may want to consider grade level classes.


## Advanced Placement (AP)

- AP courses are offered at Valley and overseen by College Board.
- These are rigorous classes that will require additional work and study time. Students should plan on at least one hour per day of outside work.
- Students are required to take the AP exam in the spring following the course.
- Students need to pay approximately $\$ 95$ for each AP exam taken.
- Students may earn college credit if their score is a 3,4 , or 5 out of 5 , depending on where they attend college and their major of choice.
- All students pay for and commit to the AP exam in the fall and exams are given in the spring.
- These courses help prepare students for college and are a great way to boost SAT and ACT scores.
- Research shows that taking AP classes increases GPA in college, along with graduating on time.


## Let's Begin: English

- For students interested in Dual Enrollment English and AP English, be aware that these courses are more rigorous than their counterpart and will require additional time and commitment.
- All freshmen and sophomores will be taking Pre-AP English I and II respectively. These Pre-AP courses are for ALL levels and will be aligned through high school for greater mastery.
- Juniors have the choice of English 11 or AP English Language and Composition. All AP students are considered by the following: strength in English and have earned excellent grades in $9^{\text {th }}$ and $10^{\text {th }}$ grade, be recommended by a teacher and have AP Potential as indicated via their most recent PSAT results.

Seniors have the choice of English 12, AP English Literature or online dual enrollment English. AP students must take the AP exam in the fall and pay an additional test fee. The AP exam can college credit depending on the score achieved on the AP test and the university to which the student is applying.
Seniors can also choose DE English. These course, one in the fall and one in the spring are offered online, through Colorado Christian University CCU. Students are supported with a class period and a faculty member to help them learn and navigate the online platform.


## Moving on to Math!

- The sequence of math courses are as follows: Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, PreCalculus (or Advanced Math), AP Calculus AB (Calculus 1) and AP Calculus BC (Calculus 2).
- There is an online dual enrollment option for pre-calculus.
- Students should select the appropriate course that would come next in the sequence.
- If the student failed a math course, that course must be retaken. Please contact Michelle Cefola if you have any questions regarding failed courses.
- Students MUST complete 4 years of math to graduate.
- Colleges want the student to have completed at least one year past Alg.2. If you have any questions regarding the fulfillment of math requirement for college, please contact Mrs. Cefola.
- All AP students must take the AP exam in the spring and carry an additional testing fee. AP students earn college credit depending on the score they achieve and the university to which they are applying.
- The ONLY time a student can take two math course simultaneously is the year in which they take Geometry. Geometry and Algebra 2 can be taken together. If your student chooses this option, contact Mrs. Cefola.


All students are required to take three lab sciences to graduate. They include the following: Chem/Phys., Biology and Chemistry.


Valley also offers forensics and Anatomy as academic electives for Juniors and Seniors.


Please be aware that some universities are recommending 4 sciences. If you are considering any of these universities, please enroll in a fourth science senior year. For students considering a major in the STEM field, additional sciences is recommended. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Cefola.

## Science Anyone?

Four years of Bible are required for graduation from Valley.

All four years are chosen by the Bible department.

## Bible

All students are required to take three years of Social Studies staring in $10^{\text {th }}$ grade in the following order: World History, US History, and Economics/US Government.

US History, US Government and World History is offered as AP

The following things will be considered when placing students into AP courses: previous grades, teacher recommendations and AP Potential score as indicated by their most recent PSAT exam.

AP students must take the AP exam and it carries an additional test fee. College credit can be earned, depending on the score achieved on the AP test and the university to which the student is applying.

## Social Studies

## Spanish or American Sign Language?

Every student is required to take two years of the same foreign language to graduate.

Spanish is offered for four years and ASL is offered for two.

Most colleges accept ASL as a foreign language, but some do not.

Please consider that many universities are recommending three or even four years of foreign language.

If students have already completed this requirement for one of these, they can take the other as an elective.

## Electives

- Electives are classes that are not specifically required for graduation and allow the student to take some classes of interest and introduce them to topics that are unique and useful when they transition into college.
- Electives can be used to take academic courses as well e.g., Anatomy.
- Every student is required to take 4 "credit" elective classes, in addition to their required classes, over four years to meet the graduation requirement of 28 credits. Transfer students must meet core graduation requirements but not the 28 -credit requirement.
- One credit must be taken from one of the following or combination of the following: Art, Band, Choir, Theatre, Apparel Design.
- The remaining elective's can be taken from the Valley offerings.
- If a student has not taken Health, PE, or Speech and CCL, BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR THESE. They are graduation requirements.
- New offering this year: Theater II, advanced acting.

