

RIO RANCHO CYBER ACADEMY

Program of Studies 2015-2016



**Rio Rancho Cyber Academy
1330 Jackie Road
Rio Rancho, NM
An Optional Educational Setting
Rio Rancho Public Schools**





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Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

1330 Jackie Road, NE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
(505) 892-7222

<http://cyberacademy.rmps.net/>



Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Vision
Create a model school for distance learning

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Mission
Enhance learning through effective technology

Student Achievement
Students will attain high levels of performance in academic and life skills.

Effective and Efficient Systems
System performance will be continually improved by using documented approaches/processes that are regularly evaluated.

RRCA at a Glance

RRCA is extremely proud of its accomplishments as a full-time, fully accredited through NCA CASI Hybrid Digital Learning high school and effective middle school environment. RRCA's curriculum is accepted by the NM PED and listed on the NM State Adoption List as Core Basal. We continue to be pro-active and collaborative to solve problems and be innovative in our planning and decision making. Our governance structure has provided a clear and thorough implementation of our vision and supports all stakeholders as a learning community. Our accomplishments are directly related to the collaborative process in place which includes a continuous professional development model. We are established as a credible learning environment with a rigorous curriculum that matches or exceeds that of the two comprehensive high schools in the district. Our efforts have not been shallow. We utilize data, organize, plan and research in-depth before taking on new projects. We have held ourselves to high standards and accountability and have been able to showcase our efforts. Because we are so different, there must be no space between our credibility and the questions that we are asked. RRCA has become a model Hybrid Digital Learning School known throughout the country. We have developed best practices for program implementation, teacher and student behaviors in this unique setting. As a common practice, we have freely shared our expertise, established networks of teachers and schools, learned from others and pioneered looking at teaching and learning from a different perspective. One of our most significant accomplishments is the outreach and support we have provided to other district programs and schools. Due to our being part of the Rio Rancho Public School district, we are able to partner with each of the district's high schools offering and receiving blended courses. These opportunities afford students with the most comprehensive and flexible program to complete their high school careers.

History of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

2005 – 2006	Rio Rancho Cyber Academy (7 th -12 th Grade) opens under the Leadership of Ms. Stephanie Belmore, Principal, with Penn Cyber Online Courses
2006 – 2007	Second Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Elaine Manicke, Principal
2007 – 2008	Third Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy, start of E2020 Online Courses, 6 th grade is added
2008 – 2009	Fourth Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy at new school site on 1330 Jackie Road SE
2009 – 2010	Fifth Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy
2010 – 2011	Sixth Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy
2011 – 2012	Seventh Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy, Start of HAM Radio
2012 – 2013	Eighth Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy
2013 – 2014	Ninth Year of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy
2014 – 2015	Ten Year Celebration of Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Jacquie Monclova, Principal

RRCA Goals:

- Maximize continuous improvement for every student
- Maintain a high-quality, interactive online learning platform
- Highly qualified teachers engaging students through a meaningful blended learning environment using 21st Century Skills
- Provide equitable and student-centered learning integrating technology and interactive curriculum
- Deliver an alternative modality of curriculum presentation to accommodate diverse learning styles

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy

Acceptance Guidelines

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy is an alternative school in the Rio Rancho Public School District. Students at our non-traditional school engage in blended learning, where virtual learning is combined with structured face-to-face instruction, allowing students to optimize their experience supported by highly qualified teachers on campus.

Every interested and prospective new student/parent must complete the following:

1. A pre-enrollment form.
2. Participate in an interview process along with their parent/guardian.
3. During the interview, prospective students must complete an approximately two-hour online skills assessment.

Other important information:

1. Previous attendance records, academic records, and behavior records are reviewed and could be a reason not to accept a student at RRCA.
2. If classes are filled, students are put on a waiting list for the following semester or school year.
3. Freshman, sophomore, and junior students are not accepted if they are more than 2 core credits behind.
4. We do not take seniors if they are behind 1 or more core credits and/or they have not passed all high school examinations required for graduation.
5. We do our best to work with those who are in need of additional support and each request will be considered based on the student's individual need and the ability of RRCA to meet the need.
6. We allow students to use RRPS/RRCA laptops while on the RRCA campus. (RRPS/RRCA laptops are never to leave the campus.) To maintain progress toward course completion, all students are expected to work on their courses even while not at school during designated days.
7. Students are expected to follow their Edgenuity online assignment calendar (or a teacher-provided calendar) in each course and they are expected to stay on target (in the blue or green) in their assignments. This may require a student to work 5-7 hours daily. Students who will not take initiative to stay on target may be asked to leave RRCA. Since much of the course work is independent, students must have adequate reading comprehension to complete online coursework at grade level.
8. Edgenuity is a mastery program that prepares students to be more successful in college classes, personal responsibility and scheduling. Students are expected to pass assignments and assessments with 70% mastery.
9. Although students do not physically attend school every weekday, they are expected to work at home. Rio Rancho Cyber Academy welcomes students who are serious in their drive to complete middle school and high school.
10. We offer an accepting, quiet setting with a low pupil to teacher ratio to help students through the rigorous, yet flexible, online courses.
11. Students are required by law to participate in standards based assessments.

For more information, contact, Rio Rancho Cyber Academy at 505-892-7222.

<http://cyberacademy.rmps.net/>

<http://www.edgenuity.com/the-experience/student-experience/>

RRCA Graduation Requirements*



Graduation Requirements*	Class of 2016	Class of 2017...
English 9, 10, 11, 12	4	4
Social Studies (0.5 New Mexico History, 1.0 World History, 1.0 US History, 0.5 Government, 0.5 Economics, 0.5 World Geography)	4	4
Math Algebra II is required unless a waiver is signed by the parent in the beginning of the student's 10 th grade year and noted on the NSP (Next Step Plan)	4 Includes Algebra II or waiver	4 Includes Algebra II or waiver
Science – all Sciences are Lab Sciences	3	3
Physical Education	1	1
Health	0.5	0.5
Fine Arts	1	1
World Languages** or Careers	1	1
Technology	1	1
Personal Finance	0.5	0.5
Electives (0.5 Strategies for Success – RRCA Recommended)	4	5
Total credits required to graduate	24	25

* **Graduation Testing Requirements** – Students must demonstrate proficiency on graduation assessments in Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Writing in order to obtain a diploma. The NM Standards Based Assessment / High School Graduation Assessment is the primary means of demonstrating competency in Reading, Math, and Science. Students demonstrate competency in Social Studies and Writing through State and/or district approved End of Course assessments. Alternate methods of demonstrating competency are also available. The requirements and options available vary by cohort year. Comprehensive information regarding the state requirements are located at: http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/Graduation_index.html

** **Two world language credits are recommended for four year college admission.** Two of the same world language credits are a UNM admission requirement. Starting with the class of 2012 students must complete 1 credit in either World Language, Career Cluster or Workplace Readiness as a requirement for graduation.

Students must earn one of the following: AP (Advanced Placement) course credit or a dual enrollment course credit or a distance-learning course credit.

Advanced Placement (AP) Course Credit – AP classes prepare a student to qualify for college. Students are encouraged to take an AP examination in the spring. Each test costs approximately \$91. Some students may qualify for a reduced fee. Many colleges award credit for courses based on AP examination scores. RRCA students may take AP courses online through Edgenuity or they may sign up for an AP course at the comprehensive high schools with permission from their advisor and the principal.

Dual Enrollment Course Credit – 1-2 college credits = 0.5 RRCA elective credit. 3-4 college credits = 1.0 RRCA elective credit - RRCA has dual credit agreements with Central New Mexico Community College (CNM), UNM/Los Alamos, and Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) that allow students to enroll in college courses with a tuition waiver. Students earn high school elective credit by passing the college course. Students may not use a dual enrollment course to meet a RRCA graduation requirement other than for a technology credit, fine arts credit or other elective credit.

Distance Learning Credit – A majority of RRCA courses fulfill the distance learning course credit requirement and RRCA is fully accredited by **NCA CASI** AdvanceED (North Central Accreditation Association). Accreditation completed in February 2011. Full accreditation without exceptions.

Academic Focus – All students are required to earn a minimum of six credits per year, 3 credits per semester to include English, Social Studies, Math, and (9-11) Science. This requirement is independent of whether or not the student has earned the necessary credits needed for graduation. All students must be enrolled in these four core classes every semester they are in attendance at RRCA.

Blended/Concurrent Enrollment with CHS/RRHS – Students enrolled full time at RRCA can take one or more courses through one of the comprehensive high schools in the RRPS district. Course availability is at the determination of the CHS or RRHS principal.

Additional Information

Edgenuity coursework from this school, designated by DL on students' transcripts, does meet NCAA nontraditional core-course legislation.

Classes for Students Eligible for Special Services - Rio Rancho Cyber Academy provides a continuum of services for students who are eligible as gifted and students who are eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Special education services are based on the individual needs of the students as noted in his or her Individual Education Plan (IEP). Services are developed by a team including education professionals, the parent and the student and are delivered in the least restrictive environment. Since our online program depends on self-monitoring and requires the ability to read and comprehend at/or near grade level, all students must take skills testing and must be interviewed for acceptance by RRCA. Due to FERPA regulations, we are prohibited from identifying these courses either in this document or on our website.

Core Template - Students attending RRCA must comply with the CORE TEMPLATE which requires English, Math, Science and Social Studies be taken for a full year, each year the student attends school.

Core Course Sequences - The student's core course sequence should be in line with their post-secondary educational goal and reflected on a student's Next Step Plan. Post-secondary education/training admission requirements vary. It is highly recommended that the student and parents become familiar with the basic requirements for the student's post-secondary plan. This is accomplished through student led credentialing meetings at each quarter. Students are encouraged to push themselves to perform with the "Most or Very Rigorous" sequence of courses offered by RRCA. Course content and length are consistent for all levels of class rigor.

What does a typical schedule at Rio Rancho Cyber Academy look like?

The courses in parenthesis are suggestions; there are many possible configurations for your schedule. You should take this suggestion with the advice of your Adviser and personalize it to meet your needs.

9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
*English 9	*English 10	*English 11	*English 12
*Math (Algebra 1)	*Math (Geometry)	*Math (Algebra 2)	*Math
*World Geography/ NM History	*World History	*US History	*Government / Econ
*Science (Earth/ Physics)	*Science (Biology)	*Science (Chemistry)	Science (optional)
Physical Education	Fine Arts	Careers	Personal Finance
World Language	Technology	Elective / Elective	Elective / Elective
Health/ Strategies for Success	Elective / Elective	Elective / Elective	---

***Courses in bold represent courses that are a part of the CORE TEMPLATE. Students attending RRCA must comply with the CORE TEMPLATE which requires English, Math, Science and Social Studies courses be taken for a full year, each year the student attends school.**

Electives Required for Graduation – 4.5 elective credits of your choice + 1 Technology credit + 1 Fine Arts credit + 1 Careers + .5 Strategies for Success + .5 Health. *Courses that satisfy these requirements are designated with a (t) for technology or an (f) for fine arts.*

Grade Classification Policy -

The minimum credits necessary for classification at the specified grade levels at RRCA are as follows:

Senior	18 credits	Junior	12 credits
Sophomore	6 credits	Freshman	0 credits

Credits toward Graduation - In the case of high school students, any credits students have earned will be evaluated and considered for application toward high school graduation requirements using the following guidelines:

1. For students transferring from accredited schools or programs, transfer credits will be allowed for courses that are comparable or equal to courses set forth in state statutes and regulations or in the Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Program of Studies. Such determination will be made by the Principal and/or designee in cooperation with the student and his/her parent/guardian.
2. For students transferring from non-accredited schools or programs:
 - a. Credits cannot be transferred from a non-accredited school or program.
 - b. Students transferring to RRCA from non-accredited schools or programs must earn a minimum of seven credits at RRCA to be eligible to receive a diploma from RRCA.

Class Rank

1. Students transferring to a Rio Rancho high school from non-accredited schools or programs will be ranked with the graduating class **only** if the final four semesters of high school are completed within the RRPS school program.
2. Students transferring to RRPS from accredited schools or programs will be ranked with the graduating class **only** if the final two semesters of high school are completed within the RRPS program.
3. Class rank will be determined at the beginning of the spring semester.

Grading Policy

Grading policy consists of letter grades and comments from teachers about skills, work habits, and knowledge.

"A" Level Performance: 90 % – 100 %	"D" Level Performance: 60 % – 69 %
"B" Level Performance: 80 % – 89 %	"F" Level Performance: Below 60%
"C" Level Performance: 70 % – 79 %	

Weighted Grades - Weighted grades are awarded only for Advanced Placement (AP) courses. 1.0 point is added to the semester grade value for a non-failing grade.

Prerequisites for Courses - Some course offerings have prerequisite courses. **Students and parents** are responsible for making sure that the student has the required prerequisites for requested classes and for registering after approval to take a course at RRCA.

Repeated/Duplicate Classes - When a student repeats a course, the highest grade will be recorded on the transcript. Credit can only be awarded one time for a repeated class. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with all classes they have taken and to alert their Advisor, the School Registrar or the Principal in the event they are mistakenly enrolled in a duplicate course. Credit can only be awarded once, so pay attention to your transcript and courses. Students needing credit recovery must go to the Secondary Learning Center (SLC), attend summer school or complete a correspondence course at their expense.

Next Step Plan / Naviance - Our Advisors, the School Registrar and the Principal provide a safety net and assistance in scheduling and meeting graduation requirements. Advisors meet with every student on a yearly basis to provide a **Next Step Plan**, which is a guide to the courses the student should take in subsequent high school years. Our district provides all students with a web-based service called **Naviance** that augments the Next Step Plan and provides additional resources for students to investigate career and academic interests online. RRCA's goal is to graduate the student by providing on-going accurate academic advisement.

Class Load - All students must be enrolled in a minimum of four courses each semester that include English, Social Studies, Math, and Science. This requirement is independent of whether or not the student has earned the necessary credits needed for graduation. All students must be enrolled at a minimum in these four core classes every semester they are in attendance at RRCA.

Course Request Change Procedure (Add/Drop) - A three week window is set aside after Registration to accommodate those students that wish to change their course requests. Students must contact their advisor to request a change in their schedule. The Advisor will complete a "Add/Drop" form and make changes on a student's Next Step Plan in order for this to take place. The Add/Drop form will be given to the school's registrar and Principal approval maybe required in some instances. Once the three week course change window passes there will be no additional course changes possible. Student schedules are created in the best interest of the student to obtain the necessary credits to fulfill graduation requirements. Very few schedule changes are possible after this time. Students must contact their advisor before the start of school and within the first three weeks of school in order for a schedule change to be considered. **It must be understood that no matter when a student starts a new course in a semester, the student will be starting at the beginning of the course and must complete the course by the end of the semester.**

Early Graduation - A student wishing to graduate prior to the spring of his/her scheduled senior year must complete an early graduation agreement that requires signatures from the student's parents/guardians, his/her Principal, Registrar, and counselor/advisor. A student completing graduation requirements at mid-year must notify his/her advisor and RRCA's registrar of his/her plans regarding continuation of class enrollment. A student completing graduation requirements at mid-year may participate in the spring commencement ceremonies. **Diplomas are awarded only at the end of the school year.**

Clubs & School Sponsored Activities - RRCA students may participate activities offered at the high schools provided that behavior and course progress is on target. Rio Rancho Cyber Academy promotes quality learning thus students must stay on top of their studies and provide quality results to maintain good standings to be eligible for extracurricular activities. See RRPS website for High School clubs and sponsored activities.

Interscholastic Athletics - Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Students may participate in athletics offered at the RRPS high schools provided that behavior and course progress is on target. RRHS and CHS Classification: AAAAAA; RRPS schools participate in District 1 – AAAAAA.RRCA is classified as AAAAAA. RRCA participates in District I-AAAAAA.

Scholastic Eligibility - In order to enjoy the privilege of participating in interscholastic athletics, students must meet academic standards established by the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) and the Rio Rancho Public School District. This academic eligibility includes students involved in athletics, band, orchestra, choir, speech, theater, cheerleading, drill team and all competitive academic teams sanctioned by the NMAA. To participate in any high school performance or competitive activity, a student must be enrolled in and must have passed at least four (4) subjects (excluding driver's education and courses that are non-graded) and have at least a 2.0 GPA while failing no more than one (1) class. Students may not fail any class if enrolled as less than a full time student. If a student does not have a full schedule (6 periods) the student must pass ALL classes to be eligible. If a student does not have a full schedule and fails one class, the student is not eligible, even if the GPA is a 2.0. A special education student, who is making adequate progress in meeting the goals and objectives on the Individualized Education Plan as assessed by the teacher, will be academically eligible. An academically ineligible student, with administrative and coach/director approval, may practice but cannot participate in any competitions or performances.

To Participate in Athletics - To participate in athletics at one of the comprehensive high schools, Rio Rancho Cyber Academy students must have the following forms signed (turned into the coach or athletic trainer) prior to try-outs and practice:

- Physical Exam (good for 12 months after April 1)
- Proof of Insurance
- Athlete Information Sheet
- Athletic Participation Contract
- Emergency Release and Contact Information
- Student Information Consent Form

Sports at RRHS or CHS that RRCA students may participate in:

- Fall Season: Boys/Girls Cross Country, Football, Boys/Girls Soccer, Volleyball, Cheer
- Winter Season: Boys/Girls Basketball, Boys/Girls Swimming, Wrestling, Cheer
- Spring Season: Baseball, Softball, Boys/Girls Golf, Boys/Girls Tennis, Boys/Girls Track

Courses Sequences								
English (4 credits required)					Social Studies (4 credits required)			
English 9 (1.0)					New Mexico History (0.5) and World Geography (0.5)			
English 10 (1.0)					World History (1.0)			
English 11 (1.0)					U.S. History (1.0)			
English 12 (1.0)					Government (0.5) and Economics (0.5)			
Math Sequences (4 credits required)								
Most to Very Rigorous					Less Rigorous			
Algebra 1 (1.0)					Applied Math or Math 1 (1.0)			
Geometry (1.0)					Algebra 1* (1.0)			
Algebra 2 (1.0)					Geometry (1.0)		Math 2 (1.0)	
4 th credit in math by one of the following: Left to Right = Most Rigorous to Rigorous Students are not limited to only 4 credits in Math								
Pre Calculus (1.0)	Trigonometry (1.0)	Math Analysis (1.0)	Financial Math (1.0)	Transitions to College Math (1.0)	Math 3 (1.0)	Transitions to College Math (1.0)	Financial Math (1.0)	Geometry (1.0)

*Requires Algebra II parent waiver prior to end of sophomore year.

Science Sequences (3 credits required)								
Most to Very Rigorous					Less Rigorous			
Physical Science (1.0)					Physical Science (1.0)			
Biology (1.0)					Astronomy (.5) and Geology (.5)			
Chemistry (1.0)					3 rd credit - one of the following:			
Students are not limited to only 3 credits in Science. 4 th Science credit Encouraged by one of the following: Left to Right = Most Rigorous to Rigorous								
Physics (1.0)	Environmental Science (1.0)	Chemistry in the Community (1.0)	Astronomy (.5)	Geology (.5)	Chemistry in the Community (1.0)	Biology (1.0)	Chemistry (1.0)	Environmental Science (1.0)

- 2 credits of Lab Science is required for graduation. Lab Sciences classes are Biology, Chemistry, Chemistry in the Community, or Physics

Sample Class Schedules

Listed below are sample course selections for students at each grade level. These examples would satisfy all graduation requirements imposed by the New Mexico Public Education Department and by Rio Rancho Cyber Academy while allowing flexibility in choice of electives by the student.


Grade 9			
Discipline	Course Title	Duration	Credits
English	English 9	Full year	1.0
Social Studies	New Mexico History / World Geography	Full year	1.0
Math	Algebra 1 or Applied Math or Math 1	Full year	1.0
Science	Physical Science	Full year	1.0
PE	Physical Education	Full year	1.0
Other	Strategies for Success (Recommended for 9 th graders)	Full year	0.5
Other	Health (Graduation requirement)	Semester	.5
Elective	Option: Choice/Foreign Language	Full year	1.0
Total			6.0 – 7.0
Total credits needed to advance to the next grade level:			6.0

Grade 10			
Discipline	Course Title	Duration	Credits
English	English 10	Full year	1.0
Social Studies	World History	Full year	1.0
Math	Geometry	Full year	1.0
Science	Biology	Full year	1.0
Technology	Technology	Full year	1.0
Elective	Choice Elective/Foreign Language	Full year	1.0
Other	Fine Arts	Semester	.5
Other	Fine Arts	Semester	.5
Yearly Total			6.0 – 7.0
Total credits needed to advance to the next grade level:			12.0

Grade 11			
Discipline	Course Title	Duration	Credits
English	English 11	Full year	1.0
Social Studies	US History	Full year	1.0
Math	Algebra 2	Full year	1.0
Science	Chemistry	Full year	1.0
Other	Careers	Full year	1.0
Elective	Choice Elective/Foreign Language	Full-year	1.0
Elective	Elective of Choice	Semester	.5
Elective	Elective of Choice	Semester	.5
Total			6.0 – 7.0
Total credits needed to advance to the next grade level:			18.0

Grade 12			
Discipline	Course Title	Duration	Credits
English	English 12	Full year	1.0
Social Studies	Economics	Semester	0.5
Social Studies	Government	Semester	0.5
Math	4 th year/credit of Math	Full year	1.0
Other	Personal Finance	Semester	0.5
Elective	Choice Elective/Foreign Language	Semester	0.5
Other	Elective of Choice	Full year	1.0
Elective	Optional: 4 th year/credit Science	Semester	.5 – 1.0
Total			5.5 – 6.0
Total credits needed for graduation:			25.0

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Course Offerings

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy courses are taken online via  Edgenuity which provides an instructional model grounded in research; Edgenuity courses combine rigorous content with direct-instruction videos from expert, on-screen teachers, multimedia, and interactive learning tools and resources to engage and motivate students. Students are required to attend RRCA during the week for actual face-to-face classes with our highly qualified teachers.

English Core Course Descriptions

English 9 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE will meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for English 9, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It is designed to improve students' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills to assist students in learning in all academic content areas.

STUDENTS WILL be exposed to a wide range of fiction and nonfiction is intended to increase comprehension and analytical skills. Expository writing assignments based on the literature will stress focus, support, and specific detail; creative writing will include short fiction and poetry. Students will also receive hands-on training in applying the writing process, evaluating essays using the Six Traits of Effective Writing, and using MLA style and documentation. By the end of the course, students will have composed and evaluated literary, persuasive, narrative, and informative essays. Paramount to their writing skills are the grammar lessons and practice provided in every unit throughout the year.

English 10 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: None

THE COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for English 10, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It places a balanced focus on composition and literature.

STUDENTS WILL learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions through the writing of multi-paragraph thematic process to produce persuasive, descriptive, and expository essays. They will study various genres of world literature to improve their reading rate and comprehension, and to develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme, and to recognize the techniques employed by the author to achieve the goal. The skills lessons equip students with the literary devices and terminology they will need to excel on high-stakes tests. Informational lessons connect literary text to other content areas or real-life fields. In the communication lessons, students practice debate, analysis of formal speech, visual media analysis, and mass media analysis. Grammar lessons reinforce and expand on the foundations of the English language.

English 11 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: None

THE COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for English 11, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It places a balanced focus on composition and literature.

STUDENTS WILL learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions through the writing of multi-paragraph thematic essays. The course is structured chronologically by time period and literary era. Each unit contains introductory lessons that set the state for the student to understand the background and historical events that have impacted American literary and expository texts. They will study various genres of American literature to improve their reading rate and comprehension, to develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme, and to recognize the techniques employed by the author to achieve the goal.

AP English 11 Literature and Composition A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Summer reading requirement is posted on RRCA website. The reading list is derived from the AP recommended reading list.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for English 11. This course requires students to read extensively.

STUDENTS WILL learn to write analytical essays on poetry, prose and the novel. Classroom discussions, timed writings and practice analysis are curriculum requirements. Students are expected to take the AP national exam which may lead to college credit. Students may be required to purchase supplementary novels. Those who elect to take the Advanced Placement exam will be required to pay the test fee. (Qualified students may apply for financial assistance.)

Rio Rancho Cyber Academy Program of Studies

English 12 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for English 12, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It places a balanced focus on composition and literature. Each student must write multiple paragraph essays to include a research paper to satisfy RRCA graduation requirements.

STUDENTS WILL study various genres of literature concentrating on non-fiction involving government, economics and modern social issues. They will develop skills to write persuasive, critical and creative multi-paragraph thematic essays and compositions. To add dimension to the British literary experience, students will be exposed to world literature with stories across the globe.

AP English 12 Language and Composition A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Summer reading requirement is posted on RRCA website. The reading list is derived from the AP recommended reading list.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for English 12 and mirrors college level English 101 and English 102.

STUDENTS WILL write analytical essays on readings organized thematically around a group of ideas or issues, using a variety of nonfiction works and examining rhetorical strategies and stylistic choices. Classroom discussion, timed writings and practice analysis are curriculum requirements. Students are expected to take the AP national exam which may lead to college credit. Students may be required to purchase supplementary novels. Those who elect to take the Advanced Placement exam will be required to pay the test fee. (Qualified students may apply for financial assistance.)

Social Studies Core Course Descriptions

New Mexico History

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course) (part of the 1.0 9th grade History credit to include .5 credit New Mexico History plus 0.5 credit Geography) (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9–12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE will meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for New Mexico history and can fulfill part of the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It will focus on New Mexico history from statehood to the present with special emphasis on resources, diversity, and economics.

STUDENTS WILL gain an understanding of the issues and events that have shaped the state of New Mexico. They will improve their geographic skills, as well as their reading and writing skills through critical thinking activities.

World Geography

Credit: 0.5 credit (One semester course) (part of the 1.0 9th grade History credit to include .5 credit New Mexico History plus 0.5 credit Geography) (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE will meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for New Mexico and Geography, aligned to National Social Studies standards, and can fulfill part of the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It focuses on New Mexico history as well as on the physical and human geography of the world. The history of New Mexico, from statehood to the present, will focus on the culture, geography, resources, diversity, and economic issues affecting the state. Each region of the world will be examined through the lens of the five themes of geography – location, region, place, movement, and environmental-human interaction.

STUDENTS WILL gain an understanding of the issues and events that have shaped the state of New Mexico, and improve their geographic skills, as well as their reading and writing skills, through critical thinking activities.

AP Human Geography A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and process that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface

STUDENTS WILL employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences. Methods and tools geographers' use in their science and practice will also be taught. Students are expected to take the AP national exam which may lead to college credit. Students may be required to purchase supplementary novels. Those who elect to take the Advanced Placement exam will be required to pay the test fee. (Qualified students may apply for financial assistance.)

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U.S. History 11 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for modern United States history, aligned to National Standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement.

STUDENTS WILL read, study and research the Civil War to the present period – exploring political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific and cultural developments. Upon completion students will be able to summarize important historical events such as the Civil War, America's westward expansion, the Great Depression, WW1, WW2, and the Cold War, as well as have the ability to analyze issues that are affecting the country today. They will investigate the evolution of technology, political thought, changing opinions, and life changing movements that have played a role in shaping this nation.

AP U.S. History 11 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Summer reading requirement is posted on RRCA website. The reading list is derived from the AP recommended reading list.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for U.S. History and Geography. It is designed for students planning to take the AP U.S. History test for college credit. AP U.S. History accents in narrative form the events and people which shaped the United States from 1607 to the present.

STUDENTS WILL learn to assess historical materials, and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. Students may be required to purchase supplementary novels. Those who elect to take the Advanced Placement exam will be required to pay the test fee. (Qualified students may apply for financial assistance.)

AP World History 10 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for World History, and will help a student earn college credit for World History. This course requires extensive reading and writing and prepares students to take the Advanced Placement World History exam.

STUDENTS WILL develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts in interaction with different types of human societies. Students will write extensively and learn to analyze historical documents. Students may be required to purchase supplementary novels. Those who elect to take the Advanced Placement exam will be required to pay the test fee. (Qualified students may apply for financial assistance.)

Economics

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Economics, aligned to national standards, and can fulfill part of the distance learning graduation credit requirement.

STUDENTS WILL apply the key microeconomic concepts of supply, demand, and the role of prices as they become familiar with how markets work. They will gain a new understanding of the world as they learn fundamentals of Macroeconomics including how economic performance is measured, the role of the government in the economy, and the basics of monetary and fiscal policy. Students will specifically target important aspects of the world economy including international trade and global economic challenges. They will also develop an understanding of economic systems and their impact on individuals, families, businesses, communities, and government.

Government

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Government, aligned to national standards, and can fulfill part of the distance learning graduation credit requirement.

STUDENTS WILL develop an understanding of the ideals, rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the content and history of the major government documents at the federal and state levels. Students will be presented opportunities to learn about the founding fathers, historical events, philosophers, and topical issues that helped shape the democratic foundations of this nation. The organization of the branches of government, government on a state and local level, civil liberties and laws, and how the US compares economically and politically on a global scale will be targeted.

Math Course Descriptions

Algebra I A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade level: 9-12

Prerequisite: 8th grade math

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators will be used.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Algebra I, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It is designed to teach students how to solve problems that involve variables and how to work rational numbers. It includes reinforcement of computational skills with extensions to problem-solving techniques. Modules supports skill development and academic proficiency in the core subject of Algebra I as well as life and job skills. Additionally, it promotes critical thinking skills for summarizing, synthesizing and analyzing.

STUDENTS WILL learn the basic structure of the real number system and recognize techniques for solving equations and inequalities, graphing, operations with polynomial expressions and equations, techniques of factoring, systems of equations, quadratic equations, and applying problem-solving strategies to real world situations. Students will be able to write, solve, and graph a variety of equations and inequalities, as well as linear systems. Functions are a central theme of the course which includes function notation, domain and range, rate of change, and transformations. Students use the properties of real numbers to explore, justify and simplify numeric and algebraic expressions, including laws of exponents, radicals and rational expressions.

Math 1 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade level: 9-10

Prerequisite: Attempted Algebra I

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators will be used.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department high school standards for Mathematics I or Algebra 1 and Geometry with an emphasis on application. The standards are used in a contextual environment. The fundamental purpose of this course is to extend the mathematics that students learned in Mathematics I or Algebra 1 and Geometry through applications.

STUDENTS WILL apply the concepts learned in Mathematics I or Algebra 1 and Geometry and this should not be the first time students learn these concepts. The critical areas deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships through analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions and expand and explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Math 2 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade level: 9–11

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or Attempted Geometry

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department high school standards for Mathematics II with a focus on quadratic expressions, equations, and functions; comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships.

STUDENTS WILL be introduced to real and complex numbers so that all quadratic equations can be solved. The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods, including their use in making and evaluating decisions. The study of similarity leads to an understanding of right triangle trigonometry and connects to quadratics through Pythagorean relationships. Circles are included with their quadratic algebraic representations. The six critical areas include: (1) extending the number system; (2) quadratic functions and modeling; (3) expressions and equations; (4) applications of probability; (5) similarity, right triangle trigonometry, and proof; and (6) circles with and without coordinates. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout this course and, together with the content standards, prescribe mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes sense of problem situations.

Math 3: A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Math 1, Geometry, Math 2 or Attempted Algebra 2

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department high school standards for *NM 9-12 Mathematics Content Standards: A.1.7, A.1.9-10, A.1.14, A.1.16, A.1.18, A.2.2-3, A.2.5-13, A.2.15, A.3.2-5, G.1.2-4, G.1.9, G.2.1-3, G.4.1, G.4.3, G.4.5-7, D.1.1-4*

STUDENTS WILL integrate and apply the accumulation of learning including: drawing inferences and conclusions from data; using polynomial, rational, and radical functions; expanding right triangle trigonometry to include general triangles; and creating models and solving contextual problems. Students will learn four critical areas to include: (1) inferences

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and conclusions from data; (2) polynomial, rational, and radical relationships; (3) trigonometry of general triangles and trigonometric functions; and (4) mathematical modeling. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout this course and, together with the content standards, prescribe mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes sense of problem situations.

Geometry A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10-11

Prerequisite: Algebra I (A/B)

NOTE: This course is for the student who has a working knowledge of the basic concepts and skills of Algebra I.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Geometry, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. Emphases is on abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry to include topics of inductive and deductive reasoning through construction and measurement solid and plane figures, postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; rules of congruence, similarity, parallelism, and perpendicularity; and rules of angle measurement in triangles, including trigonometry, coordinate geometry, and transformational geometry.

STUDENTS WILL develop geometric vocabulary, definitions, and theorems in proofs as applied to inter-relationships between lines, planes, polygons, circles, and polyhedrons. They will learn the basic concepts involving congruence and similarities between shapes, primarily triangles, quadrilaterals and circles. Students will learn geometric formulas and how to use and/or apply them in real world situations. They will be introduced to trigonometric identities and basic right triangle relationships of sine, cosine and tangent functions.

Algebra II A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra IB

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators will be used.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Algebra II, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It will continue the development of algebraic concepts. This course is highly recommended for the college-bound student, but is also important for a student considering technical type training at CNM or a similar school.

STUDENTS WILL continue to explore and develop their algebra skills in the areas of real numbers, imaginary numbers, equations and inequalities, linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions, advanced algebraic concepts, trigonometry, statistical analysis, permutations, sequences and series, and some conics as well as graphing analysis. Students learn to manipulate and use matrices in various formats to determine data relationships and also delve into function types such as polynomial, logarithmic, quadratic, exponential, and rational and periodic.

Financial Math A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra IIB

NOTE: Financial calculator required (online can be used)

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Business Math and/or Financial Literacy, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It is designed for high school students applying math and algebra concepts to a variety of business and financial situations.

STUDENTS WILL successfully gain an understanding of the concepts and principles involved in managing personal and company finances to include saving and investing, credit and debt, banking, income, insurance, taxes and social security, spending patterns, budget planning, banking, long-term investing, stocks and bonds, trusts and estates, buying a home, consumer, loans, contracts, and consumer protection. Additional topics on starting a business and analyzing business data will apply to real-life situations and growth through project based connections. Students will learn and apply algebra concepts with percents, proportions, probability, data analysis, linear systems, exponential functions and formulas to real life situations. Students successfully meeting the standards of the course will be better prepared to make informed and beneficial decisions regarding their own future finances in personal and business settings.

Trigonometry A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra IIB

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators will be required.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Trigonometry, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. Course is designed to help students understanding of the six basic trigonometric functions and their values, limitations, identities, proofs,

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graphs, inverses, and other relationships.

STUDENTS WILL investigate the applications of trigonometry in such fields as physics, engineering, electronics and mechanics. Students will be more prepared for work in calculus as they grasp and work with trigonometric and circular functions, identities and equations, relations among the parts of a triangle, solutions of right and oblique triangles, and complex numbers.

Pre-Calculus A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra IIB

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators are required.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation requirements for Pre-Calculus, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. The course will cover trigonometry, advanced algebra skills, nature of graphs, nonlinear systems, polynomial and rational functions, logarithms, trigonometric graphs and identities, vectors, parametric equations, sequences and series.

STUDENTS WILL employ graphical, numeric, and analytical techniques to analyze the derivative. Focus will be on application to interpret and understand the derivative as a rate of change. Students are expected to have a strong foundation in algebra and geometry. Students are introduced to calculus by exploring topics of limits, continuity, derivatives, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Transition to College Math A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra IIB

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators will be used.

THIS COURSE WILL assist the student who needs more time to develop algebraic concepts while building on entry level college algebra topics such as complex fractions, binomial expansions, graphing of polynomial relations, exponential and logarithmic functions. Furthermore, the course will meet the distance learning graduation credit requirement.

STUDENTS WILL strengthen their math skills so that they can be more successful with their first math class in college.

Math Analysis A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra IIB and Trigonometry B recommended

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus or TI-84 graphing calculators are required.

THIS COURSE WILL reinforce and build upon foundational concepts for the preparation of calculus. Furthermore, the course will meet the distance learning graduation credit requirement.

STUDENTS WILL focus on the connections of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and transcendental functions. They will develop deeper comprehension of the interrelationships and application of their previous math courses. Strategies for problem solving will be stressed throughout the course.

Science Course Descriptions

Physical Science A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement for Physical Science, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It covers the study of structures and states of matter.

STUDENTS WILL gain a basic understanding of chemistry, physics, and astronomy. Students will apply scientific information and hypotheses to show how the physical and chemical properties of materials can be explained and predicted in terms of atomic, molecular, and crystal structures and forces. Students will be exposed to matter, fields, forces, motion, energy, energy transformations, wave phenomenon, electromagnetism, physical and chemical interactions, along with scientific concepts regarding the Earth and its place in the universe.

Biology A/B

Lab science credit

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Complete Physical Science or Earth Science/Conceptual Physics or 9th Grade Science and Algebra IB

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement for Biology, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. It will cover the fundamental concepts of life and life processes to include cell structure and function, general plant and animal

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physiology, genetics, and taxonomy.

STUDENTS WILL be introduced to the study of living organisms and how they are inter-related. The topics of cell structure and function, organism classification, theory of evolution, genetics and comparative anatomy and physiology will be studied. Students will be encouraged to explore and apply critical analysis to the complexity and variety of life on Earth with awareness of simple organisms, plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates, as well as human biology.

Chemistry in the Community A/B Lab science credit

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Complete Physical Science or Earth Science/Conceptual Physics or 9th Grade Science and Algebra IB

NOTE: A scientific calculator is recommended for this class.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement, aligned to national standards, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. This class is accepted for college admission and was designed by the American Chemical Society for the general population of students that are pursuing a non-science post-secondary career.

STUDENTS WILL study topics of the traditional chemistry class but with less mathematics and more direct applications of chemical concept. Students will be exposed to composition, properties, and reactions of substances along with behaviors of solids, liquids and gases, atomic structure, chemical formulas, equations, and nuclear reactions.

Astronomy

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Complete Physical Science or Earth Science/Conceptual Physics or 9th Grade Science and Algebra IB

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement, aligned to state and national standards for Astronomy, and fulfills part of the distance learning graduation credit requirement. Provide students the opportunity to study the solar system, stars, galaxies, and interstellar bodies.

STUDENTS WILL study the atmosphere to include the weather and climate, Earth, Sun, Moon, Inner and Outer Planets, Stars, and Galaxies, and other objects in Space, along with theories regarding the origin and evolution of the universe, space, and time.

Geology

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Complete Physical Science or Earth Science/Conceptual Physics or 9th Grade Science and Algebra IB

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement, aligned to state and national standards for Geology, and fulfills part of the distance learning graduation credit requirement. Course provides an in depth study of the forces that formed and continue to affect the earth's surface to include earthquakes, volcanoes, and erosion.

STUDENTS WILL be exposed to an introduction to Earth Science and study mapping the Earth, minerals, rocks, Earth's energy resources, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, weathering and soil formation, erosion and deposition, Geologic Time, Earth's waters, and ocean zones.

Environment Science A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Complete Physical Science or Earth Science/Conceptual Physics or 9th Grade Science and Algebra IB

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement, aligned to state and national standards for Environment Science, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. The course examines the mutual relationships between organisms and their environment.

STUDENTS WILL study environmental science that will cover major aspects of ecology, biosphere, land, forests, soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Upon completion of the course students will be able to discuss global connections and real world issues pertaining to the environment.

AP Environmental Science A/B Lab science credit

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11–12

Prerequisite: Chemistry and Biology (Note: students may be concurrently enrolled in Biology)

THIS COURSE WILL introduce students to the natural sciences in an interdisciplinary context that includes consideration of people and how they have influenced natural systems. As such, environmental science encompasses a broad spectrum of topics from different branches of scientific study including geology, biology, chemistry, physics and geography. Advanced Placement Environmental Science (APES) is intended to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science. The goal of APES is 1) to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world; 2) to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made; 3) to evaluate the relative risks associated with

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these problems; and, 4) to examine alternative solutions for resolving and for preventing them. Strongly based in science, the course is designed to fulfill a basic lab science requirement at the college level. Data analysis, measurement, statistics, dimensional analysis and other operations that require mathematical skills are emphasized.

Chemistry A/B Lab science credit

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Complete Physical Science or Earth Science/Conceptual Physics or 9th Grade Science and Algebra IB

NOTE: A scientific calculator is required for this course. TI-83/83 Plus graphing calculator is preferred.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement, aligned to state and national standards for Chemistry, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. The course involves the composition, properties, and reactions of substances, classification of matter, atomic structure, periodic properties, chemical reactions, chemical quantities, gas laws and the basics of nuclear chemistry.

STUDENTS WILL apply scientific measurements, learn general properties of matter, and the structure of the atoms while diving into depth with the period tables, types of bonds, and working with chemical equations. Students will also explore states of matter, chemical reactions, and the energy involved in chemical changes.

AP Chemistry A/B Lab science credit

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Completed Geometry and Algebra II or higher.

THIS COURSE WILL cover topics of matter as it pertains to atomic theory, bonding, nuclear theory, and states of matter. Chemical reactions will be treated in depth by studying types, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinematics, thermodynamics, and periodic table relationships. Students are expected to take the AP exam in May and can earn up to eight (8) college credits, depending on their college choice and success on the national AP exam.

STUDENTS WILL regularly use mathematical methods for analysis of problems. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Scientific calculators will be used. Students who elect to take the Advanced Placement exam may be required to pay the test fee. (Qualified students may apply for financial assistance.)

Physics A/B Lab science credit

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: Complete Chemistry B and Algebra IIB

NOTE: TI-83/83 Plus graphing calculators will be used.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the New Mexico Public Education Department graduation science requirement, aligned to state and national standards for Physics, and fulfills the distance learning graduation credit requirement. Course involves the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter: equilibrium, motion, momentum, and the relationships between matter and energy. It will also include the examination of sound, light, magnetic, and electric phenomenon.

STUDENTS WILL study, explore, and manipulate the foundation for the laws that govern the concepts of motion and energy. Students will utilize mathematics to represent and illustrate different phenomena. Upon completion of the course students will be able to reflect upon the major themes of mechanics, states of matter, waves and light, energy and magnetism, and modern physics.

Elective Course Descriptions

Credit Codes: (t) = Technology credit (f) = Fine Arts credit (c) = Communication Skills credit (lcv) = Career
(d) = Health (p) = Physical Education (r) = Personal Finance (RRCA requirement)

Physical Education A/B (p)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL meet New Mexico PED graduation requirements for Physical Education and Health Education. Activities and lessons within this course develop personal practices that promote lifelong wellness. Program activities focus on specific issues affecting teens that encourage a healthy lifestyle.

STUDENTS WILL be encouraged to develop habits that promote overall good health.

NOTE: The New Mexico Public Education Department requires one full credit in physical education and health education to satisfy the graduation requirement.

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Health (d)

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL address community health, consumer health, disease prevention and control, environmental health, injury prevention and safety, mental and emotional health, nutrition, personal health, physical and social development, HIV-AIDS, and substance use and abuse.

STUDENTS WILL be aware of and be able to make responsible, respectful, informed and capable decisions about topics that affect the well-being of themselves and others. Students will learn how to improve their judgment and decision making skills to enhance their quality of life and reduce risky behaviors.

Health and Wellness for the Individual (d)

(Not a Science credit) Elective credit only

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

THIS COURSE emphasizes the importance of making responsible decisions for a young adults overall health and wellness. Awareness to disease prevention, products, services, and choices will be explored from an individual as well as a community perspective.

STUDENTS WILL learn goal-setting strategies, interpersonal communication skills, and health-enhancing behaviors to demonstrate a healthy lifestyle.

Business Computer Applications (t)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL focus on computer Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Publisher, Outlook)

STUDENTS WILL gain an understanding of the software most commonly used in today's businesses and produce final documents throughout the course to demonstrate knowledge, and skills.

Introduction to Art (f)

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL develop student understanding and skill in art. Various tools, media, and art techniques will be studied to develop a basic background in art fundamentals.

STUDENTS WILL define art, the cultural purpose of art, visual elements of art, terminology and principles of design, and two- and three- dimensional media and techniques. Students will learn to appreciate art in their everyday lives.

Art History (f)

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL introduce significant works of art, artists, and artistic movements that have shaped the art world and have influenced or reflected periods of history. The evolution of art forms, techniques, symbols, and themes will also be addressed.

STUDENTS WILL explore the historical, social, geographical, political, and religious context for understanding of art and architecture through the ages. The course is organized by chronological and historical order, and world regions.

Personal Finance (r)

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 B or an equivalent math course

NOTE: This course is a RRCA graduation requirement

THIS COURSE WILL provide an understanding of the concepts and principles involved in managing one's personal finances.

STUDENTS WILL be introduced to savings and investing, credit, insurance, taxes and social security, spending patterns and budget planning, contracts, and consumer protection. Upon completion students will have a better understanding of consumer skills to apply to their everyday lives in the real world.

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Strategies for Success

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL develop student knowledge of how to apply day to day study skills to gain the greatest amount of success. Learning styles and modalities will be addressed.

STUDENTS WILL comprehend study skills and strategies for high school students to include time management, note taking, online learning environment skills, and strategies for remembering key information, are taught using real-world activities.

Careers A/B (lcw) (c)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10–12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE WILL introduce students to the working world while exploring a wide variety of career opportunities while exploring communications skills, employability skills, basic life skills, thinking skills, and personal qualities, resources, interpersonal skills, information systems, and technology.

STUDENTS WILL investigate careers as they apply to personal interests and abilities, develop skills and job search documents needed to enter the workforce, explore the rights of workers and traits of effective employees, and address the importance of professionalism and responsibility as careers change and evolve. Students will learn to utilize sources of employment information, job seeking and interview techniques, applications and resumes, and the skills needed to remain and advance within the workplace. Students will also explore consumer education and personal money management topics.

Work Study I, II, III, IV (A/B)

Credit: 0.5 per semester. Students may earn a **maximum** of two elective credits toward graduation requirements for Work Study

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Employment

NOTE: Students must obtain their own employment and must provide their own transportation to the job site.

THIS COURSE WILL provide students with real work experience and reinforce employability skills including responsibility, teamwork, communications, and employer/employee relations, as well as skills specific to the occupation. Course grade is Pass or Fail resulting in credit or no credit for the course.

STUDENTS WILL gain an understanding of the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to be an effective and valued member of the work force in today's business community. Students will submit documentation of their position and hours worked to earn an elective credit.

High School Reading 1 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9,10

Prerequisite: None

Lab Fee: None

THIS COURSE IS an elective for students whose test scores indicate they need assistance with reading comprehension.

STUDENTS WILL improve vocabulary, word attack skills, reading comprehension, and reading analysis in this course.

High School Reading 2 A/B

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 11,12

Prerequisite: None

Lab Fee: None

THIS COURSE IS an elective for students whose test scores indicate they need assistance with reading comprehension.

STUDENTS WILL improve vocabulary, word attack skills, reading comprehension, and reading analysis in this course.

Literary Novels

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Prerequisite: None

Lab Fee: Students may be required to purchase supplementary textbooks for this course.

THIS COURSE WILL provide the opportunity for students to explore in greater depth classic novels.

STUDENTS WILL study Jorge Luis Borges and Flannery O'Connor along with students can select from a list of novels to read in an online format: 1984, A midsummer Night's Dream, Borges Author Study, Call of the Wild, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Gulliver's Travels, Heart of Darkness, Jane Eyre, Mrs. Dalloway, O'Connor Author Study, Portrait of the

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Artist, Robinson Crusoe, The House of Seven Gables, The Red Badge of Courage, and The Three Musketeers.

Psychology

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 10-12

THIS COURSE introduces students to the study of individual human behavior, human growth and development, personality and behavior, an overview of the field of psychology, and abnormal psychology.

STUDENTS WILL study the introduction of the history and research of psychology, an understanding of the biological aspects of psychology, learning and cognitive development, the stages of human development, aspects of personality and individuality, the development and management of psychological disorders, and the interactions of society as it relates to psychology.

Sociology

Credit: 0.5 (One semester course)

Grade Level: 10-12

THIS COURSE includes the study of human behavior in groups and will investigate topics such as socialization, culture, race and ethnic relationships, adolescent and adult group behavior, and social institutions.

STUDENTS WILL examine cultural diversity and conformity, basic structures of society, individuals and socialization, stages of human development as they relate to sociology, deviance from social norms, social stratification, racial and ethnic interactions, gender roles, family structure, the economic and political aspects of sociology, the sociology of public institutions, and collective human behavior both historically and in modern time.

Speech (c)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE meets the New Mexico PED high school graduation requirement for Communication Skills. It will focus on the skills necessary to gather, organize and present information to others.

STUDENTS WILL be introduced to the elements, principles, and characteristics of human communication and then progress into an exploration of self-awareness and perception in communication. Students will prepare to be effective communicators in a global society by gaining confidence in speaking before a group; organize information from a variety of sources to give well constructed presentations; develop leadership skills in small and large group verbal situations; and study how communication takes place through voices as well as nonverbal areas (body language).

Computer Graphics I A/B (f) (t)

Credit: .5 – 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9 -12

Prerequisite: See advisor/counselor for approval.

Note: Student must be in and remain in good standing in all subject areas to qualify for enrollment and allow for continued participation. Course is only available to RRCA full time RRCA students.

THIS COURSE WILL meet the state and national standards for Computer Graphics and require significant commitment of time outside class and the ability to meet deadlines. Students who enjoy creative writing, photography, desktop publishing, and computer graphics are encouraged to apply. Students spend the year gathering information, writing, and recording the activities at Rio Rancho Cyber Academy. This project based course will provide students the opportunity to explore the capability of the computer to produce visual imagery and to apply graphic techniques to programs, flyers, videos, and school publications. Students can expand their creativity by using simulation, animation, and image retouching as they complete the projects throughout the school year.

STUDENTS WILL represent their class as well as participate on a team of individuals working towards completion of project based assignments, major project will include the preparation, publication and distribution of the school yearbook (CD version and possibly printed version); another project will include a CD publication specific for graduation highlighting seniors. Students will learn photography, lighting, layout and format for publication, to include audio and video. Computer programs that are included in the course include desktop publishing and a variety of publishing formats, using programs such as (but not limited to) PageMaker, Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Publisher, Microsoft Office PowerPoint, ImageBlender, Corel Paint and Draw, Windows Media Player, Windows MovieMaker, and the Internet.

World Languages

Spanish, French, German, Chinese and Latin

Fluency in more than one language enhances any career with an international component and enriches travel and life experiences. Colleges and universities typically require completion of world language courses through Level 2 of the same language. More selective universities require completion of a minimum of three levels of the same language.

Level I A/B (Spanish, French, German, Chinese, and Latin)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

THIS COURSE meets state and national standards for modern and classical languages. Students are introduced to the language with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each week consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major speaking areas in the world. It includes basic communication skills in the chosen language, and introduces geography and culture (music, film, food) of the countries where the language is spoken. Personalized oral and written projects enrich the course. Students have opportunities to understand how language works and the relationship between language and culture.

STUDENTS WILL develop communication skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) for basic situations: language basics, greetings and introductions, work and school, shopping, descriptions of families and friends, and daily conversation.

Level II A/B (Spanish, French, German, Chinese, and Latin)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Level I course

THIS COURSE meets state and national standards for modern and classical languages and fulfills the distance learning graduation requirement. It builds upon basic communication skills in the chosen language, and enhances geography and culture (music, film, food) of the countries where the language is spoken. Students continue their introduction with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a vocabulary theme and grammar concept, interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension, speaking and writing, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in the world. Personalized oral and written projects enrich the course. Students continue to have opportunities to understand how language works and the relationship between language and culture. Upon completion of the course, students should have the necessary knowledge and skills to enroll in a second semester university language course.

STUDENTS WILL extend communication skills to other contexts: daily life, travel, past and future, friends, social life, dining, vacation, and community life. Authentic cultural documents (newspapers, magazines, film, and music) enrich the cultural component of the course.

Level III A/B (Spanish and French)

Credit: 1.0 (Full year course)

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Level II course

THIS COURSE meets state and national standards for modern and classical languages and fulfills the distance learning graduation requirement. Communication skills are extended in the chosen language and can provide the necessary knowledge and skills to enroll in a second year university language course. In this course, students deepen their focus on four key skills in foreign language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students read significant works of Spanish literature and respond orally or in writing to these works. Building on what students encountered in the first two years of Spanish, each week consists of a vocabulary theme and grammar concept, interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension, speaking and writing, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.

STUDENTS WILL continue to enhance their communication skills as they explore contexts of the usage of language with reading, writing, speaking, and listening in the context: home, health, life, world, everyday things, places and events. Authentic cultural projects (newspapers, magazines, film, food, presentations, historical figures, authors, artists, well known members of society, and music) enrich the cultural component of this course.