Revised Course of Study:

Modern Language – Spanish 4P & 4HP

This course seeks to perfect the student's fluency in Spanish and increase their ability to communicate complex ideas and concepts both written and orally. The curriculum and materials align with the Nations Standards for Foreign Language keeping in mind the "Five C's"; Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons and Communities.

- o SCAC Approved on February 28, 2018

Engineering of Mechanical Systems

Engineering of Mechanical Systems is a project based and lab based course which introduces students to key concepts and methodologies as they exist in the fields of science and engineering. The course engages students in learning foundational physical science concepts through engineering applications, specifically as they relate to the fields of mechanical and structural engineering. This course emphasizes problem solving, analytical thinking, and concept development by engaging students in the scientific and engineering methods of discovery, analysis, design and testing. Students complete a series of laboratory experiments and projects in a collaborative learning environment where they are asked to develop scientific models for describing and predicting physical phenomenon. These models are then used to inform the design, fabrication, and analysis of student solutions to specific engineering challenges.

- o UC Approved March 27, 2018

New Course of Study:

World Cultures P Honors

Honors World Cultures is a rigorous semester-length 9th grade course that offers students the opportunity to work at an accelerated pace to help prepare them for future advanced courses in Social Studies, including AP European History and AP US History. Students will develop their historical thinking skills through reading, writing, and discussion. Each unit asks students to consider a current issue within a country (or between multiple countries) and provides them with the historical context to analyze the issue. The course begins with a close study of different economic and political systems. Students will use this knowledge to analyze the impact of Raul Castro's leadership on Cuba, to participate in a Socratic Seminar on North Korea and nuclear weapons, to evaluate the impacts of China's rapid development, and to consider major obstacles to peace in the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

- o SCAC Approved on November 30, 2017

Journalism

Journalism is a writing-heavy course that emphasizes the publishing of student work in the student online newspaper, tentatively titled The San Rafael Times. This is a project-based learning model that encourages students to take pride in the regular production of an artifact that fosters academic learning, pre-professional experience, and community enrichment. Students will learn different journalistic writing styles, editorial approaches, and best practices, including AP Style and journalistic

New Course of Study: (continued)

ethics (including student press law). Students will participate in extensive reading of current literature and engage in continual critical thinking and analysis of published writing samples. Students will practice expository writing techniques in order to improve overall writing skills. The course will also feature other aspects of student journalism and newspaper/magazine production, such as copy-editing, photography, and blog/page design.

- o SCAC Approved on November 30, 2017

11th and 12th Grade English Courses for TLHS

Identity in Literature—this college prep English course teaches advanced reading, writing and analytical skills. The course theme focuses on identity and inclusion; students will explore readings from authors traditionally underrepresented, including female, minority, and other marginalized voices. Essential questions include: how do individuals define themselves, how does the definition affect interactions within the larger society, what is the role of voice and language in general in identity construction, and what is our collective and individual responsibility to the individuals around us? This course is designed for students who are interested in reading literature by underrepresented and diverse voices in order to complicate what it means to be American.

Literature and the Dynamics of Social Justice—this semester long English class deals with powerful and timely themes. It looks to the fields of psychology, history, and the arts in order to grapple with essential questions about human relationships, moral decision making and justice. It focuses on the study of literature, history, art, and film to examine issues of participation in democracy. The course includes extensive reading of a variety of literary genres, in depth discussion, and substantial practice in writing to encourage a critical examination of human behavior and choice.

Creative Writing: Short Fiction—the purpose of this semester-long senior English course is to develop students' abilities to craft and analyze short fiction through refining their understanding of setting, characterization, plot structure, perspective, and style. To achieve this goal, students will read and discuss short stories from a variety of time periods and genres, read about different writing approaches used by various authors, engage in the writing process to write and workshop their own stories, and write reflectively about their own writing. Texts will include On Writing by Stephen King, The Best American Short Stories: 2016 edited by Junot Díaz, The Elements of Style by E.B. White and William Strunk Jr., and a variety of essays and short stories. By the end of the semester, students will have drafted 5 short stories (3 of which will go through the full revision process), 1 multi-paragraph analysis of an author's style across multiple stories, and 1 multi-paragraph reflection on their own writing style.

The Art of Short Fiction—this is an upper level, 11th and 12th grade seminar examining the literary and rhetorical aspects of a variety of short stories. Students review grammar and citation practices, develop an awareness of audience and purpose and the features of different genres, including travel writing, science fiction, sports, and literary fiction. Students will read works by contemporary and historical authors, and write essays that demonstrate advanced literary analysis and critical reading skills.

- o SCAC Approved on February 28, 2018

New Course of Study: (continued)

Screenwriting/Film & Narrative Writing Course

Screenwriting is an intensive writing and reading, theory-based course aimed at enriching the experience of aesthetic cinematic storytelling concepts through the visual medium of film. The students begin to understand film narrative by researching periods of major story evolutions within film history and looking at many of the films that defined those periods. Narrative theory from Save the Cat and The Writer's Journey will help students understand how narrative and characters work in all literature, not just film. Students will use creative writing techniques when writing dialogue and action. Students will learn how to use Adobe Story, an industry standard program, to help perfect the art form in a way acceptable and appreciated by professional institutions. Students will learn best practices and advanced techniques that can be used during the writing process, and once finished students will know how to improve and distribute their screenplays.

- o SCAC Approved on February 28, 2018

Digital Art/Animation (GAME) Academy

Digital Art and Animation will provide a comprehensive base of foundational skills utilized throughout the animation and gaming industry. The course develops the student's computer software capabilities as they learn to produce original works of art within the environments of traditionally drawn 2D animation and 2D/3D digital animation. The course is designed to allow students to explore and apply the Elements of Art, Principles of Design, Principles of Animation, and relevant terminology as related to the animation industry.

Animation assignments will include pre-production elements - conceptualization of story, setting, character, determination of target audience, script writing, and storyboarding; production processes - layout, animation construction, rendering; and post production - effects, compositing, editing, and audio. Students will use traditional techniques and a variety of professional software (Maya, Mudbox, Blender, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Adobe AfterEffects, Krita).

Throughout the course students will complete a series of individual and group assignments, do written critiques of all major projects, participate in verbal classroom critiques of peer-generated work, and will finish the course by creating a digital portfolio for use in advanced studies or for career purposes. With the successful completion of the course, students will be prepared for the Capstone class in Game Design.

The students will apply skills in Mathematics, Physics, English Language Arts, and Social Science. Most importantly, students will learn the twenty-first century skills of creativity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and technical expertise, which will increase employment capacity across the job market.

- o SCAC Approved on February 28, 2018

Link Crew Leadership

Link Crew Leadership is a two-semester course that combines high-level critical thinking, writing, and analytical skills with mentorship and entrepreneurial project experiences and implementation. Students will participate in research and evaluation, project planning and execution, as well as leadership and critical thinking-based activities in order to further develop these key skills in tandem with mentorship

New Course of Study: (continued)

and counseling of fellow students. Students will learn vital theoretical lessons in the areas of interpersonal communications, diversity and inclusion, marketing, advertising, and pedagogy. Findings from these experiences will lead students to become empathic and responsible citizens who can apply their knowledge to larger-scale future projects as their ages, resources, and scopes increase. Students will be taught best practices in business development involving budgeting, marketing, target audience research, reporting, and pitching ideas for their leadership projects; subsequently, students will implement these concepts as they craft and execute their events, projects, and presentations. This class will require students to synthesize information obtained in core classes as well as work both individually and collaboratively.

- o SCAC Approved on March 22, 2018

Intermediate Algebra Class (Non-Math/Science Pathway)

Intermediate Algebra 2 P is a mathematics course designed for students who will NOT be pursuing a STEM pathway. In the sequence of math courses, it is an alternative to Algebra 2, coming after Geometry. Intermediate Algebra 2 P is designed to act as a bridge for students who need to strengthen their algebra skills before taking Algebra 2 P, Statistics P, or to prepare students for a college placement exam in Mathematics. Although this course will maintain the integrity Algebra 2 concepts, the concepts will be presented to students with emphasis on practical applications through the use of technology and project-based learning.

- o SCAC Approved on March 22, 2018

Textbooks:

Pre-Calculus (Advanced Math Concepts) by McGraw Hill Education Staff. Publisher: Glencoe McGraw Hill copyrighted 2014.

- o SCAC Approved on April 27, 2017

Intermediate Algebra by Bittinger. Publisher: Pearson copyrighted 2018
- o SCAC Approved on March 22, 2018

StudySync by McGraw Hill Education Staff. Publisher: BookheadEd Learning, LLC copyrighted 2018
- o May 24, 2018

Fuel Education. Publisher: Fuel Education, LLC copyrighted 2018
- o May 24, 2018